Appendix B Panel recommended SUZ Schedule

SCHEDULE 9 TO THE SPECIAL USE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SUZ9**

TATURA MILK INDUSTRIES – HOGAN STREET, TATURA

Purpose

To promote the use and development of the land consistent with the *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Tatura Milk Industries Master Plan 2012.*

To provide for the continued use and development of the land by Tatura Milk Industries for the manufacture of milk-related or allied food products in a manner which minimises the impact on the amenity of surrounding areas.

To provide safe and efficient vehicle ingress to and egress from the land.

1.0 Table of uses

Section 1 - Permit not required

USE	CONDITION
Apiculture	Must meet the requirements of the Apiary Code of Practice, May 1997.
Carnival	Must meet the requirements of A 'Good Neighbour' Code of Practice for a Circus or Carnival, October 1997.
Circus	Must meet the requirements of A 'Good Neighbour' Code of Practice for a Circus or Carnival, October 1997.
Geothermal energy extraction	Must meet the requirements of Clause 52.08-4.
Greenhouse gas sequestration	Must meet the requirements of Clause 52.08-6.
Greenhouse gas sequestration exploration **Home occupation**	
Industry	Must be associated with the manufacture of milk-related or allied food products.
Informal outdoor recreation **Mineral exploration**	
Mining	Must meet the requirements of Clause 52.08-2.
Minor utility installation **Natural systems** **Railway** **Road**	
Search for stone	Must not be costeaning or bulk sampling.
Telecommunications facility	Buildings and works must meet the requirements of Clause 52.19.
Tramway	
Warehouse	Must be associated with the manufacture of milk-related or allied food products.

Section 2 - Permit required

USE	CONDITION
Agriculture (other than Apiculture and Intensive animal husbandry) **Caretaker's house** **Leisure and recreation (other than Informal outdoor recreation, Major sports and recreation facility, and Motor racing track)** **Manufacturing sales** **Mineral, stone, or soil extraction (other than Extractive industry, Mineral exploration, Mining, and Search for stone)** **Place of assembly (other than Carnival and Circus)**	
Shop (other than Adult sex bookshop)	The leasable floor area must not exceed 200 square metres.
tility installation (other than Minor utility installation and Telecommunications facility) **Any other use not in Section 1 or 3**	

Section 3 - Prohibited

USE
Accommodation (other than Caretaker's house) **Adult sex bookshop** **Brothel** **Cinema based entertainment facility** **Extractive industry** **Hospital** **Intensive animal husbandry** **Major sports and recreation facility** **Motor racing track** **Retail premises (other than Manufacturing sales and Shop)**

2.0 Use of land

Application requirements

An application to use land must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- The purpose of the use and the types of activities which will be carried out.
- The likely effects, if any, on adjoining land, including noise levels, air-borne emissions, emissions to land and water, traffic, the hours of delivery and dispatch of goods and materials, the hours of operation, light spill, solar access and glare.
- The means of maintaining land not required for immediate use.

An application to use land for an industry or warehouse must also be accompanied by the following information:

- The type and quantity of goods to be stored, processed or produced.
- Whether a Works Approval or Waste Discharge Licence is required from the Environment Protection Authority.

- Whether a notification under the Occupational Health and Safety (Major Hazard Facilities) Regulations 2000 is required, a licence under the Dangerous Goods Act 1985 is required, or a fire protection quantity under the Dangerous Goods (Storage and Handling) Regulations 2000 is exceeded.

3.0 Buildings and works

Permit requirement

A permit is not required to construct or carry out:

- A building or works generally in accordance with the *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Tatura Milk Industries Master Plan 2012*.
- A building or works which rearrange, alter or renew plant if the area or height of the plant is not increased.

A building or works generally in accordance with the *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Tatura Milk Industries Master Plan 2012* must be constructed or carried out in accordance with the following plans, as appropriate, prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- A **Design Plan** drawn to scale showing:
  - The boundaries and dimensions of the site.
  - Adjoining roads.
  - The location, height and purpose of buildings and works on adjoining land.
  - Relevant ground levels.
  - The layout of existing and proposed buildings and works.
  - Driveways, vehicle parking areas and loading and unloading areas.
  - Proposed landscape areas.
  - External storage and waste treatment areas.
  - Elevations, including the colour and materials of all buildings and works.
- A **Stormwater Management Plan** specifying details of how stormwater runoff will be conveyed into existing drainage works.
- A **Construction Management Plan** specifying the measures proposed to ensure that construction activity has minimal impact on surrounding areas.
- A **Fencing Plan** showing details of boundary fences, including the height, location, design and treatment of the fences.
- A **Landscape Plan** describing the vegetation species to be planted, the number of trees, planting formations, earth mounding, surface treatments and the method of preparing, draining, watering and maintaining the landscape areas.
- A **Traffic Management Plan** providing details on:
  - Vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle access points at the property boundaries.
  - The location and treatment of circulation areas, driveways and other access ways within and abutting the site.
  - The location, layout and treatment of all vehicle and bicycle parking areas and loading and unloading areas within and abutting the site.
- An **Environmental Management Plan** (EMP) showing the measures proposed to satisfy all relevant environmental requirements to ensure minimal impact on surrounding areas. The EMP must include all monitoring, auditing, reporting and mitigation measures that are relevant to the use and development of the land.
- A **Noise Reduction Plan** providing details on the expected levels of noise at the property boundaries and the ameliorating measures proposed to reduce the levels of existing noise.

- An **Air Emissions Reduction Plan** providing details on the expected levels of air emissions and the ameliorating measures proposed to reduce the levels of existing emissions.
- A **Staging Plan** identifying the likely sequence and timing of development and the obligations on the land owner to implement the landscaping and acoustic treatment requirements of the *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Tatura Milk Industries Master Plan 2012.*
- A Heritage **Maintenance Plan** identifying a regular maintenance program and the obligations on the land owner to implement scheduled works.

Before any of the above plans are approved for a building or works, the land owner must advise the responsible authority whether a Works Approval or Waste Discharge Licence is required from the Environment Protection Authority.

Except with the written consent of the responsible authority, the following must be constructed or carried out either before the occupation of an approved building or works; or within 24 months of the approval of Amendment C151 (whichever is the sooner):

- The landscaping in accordance with the Landscape Plan.
- The boundary fences in accordance with the Fencing Plan.
- The circulation areas, driveways and other access ways in accordance with the Traffic Management Plan.
- The drainage of the building or works in accordance with the Stormwater Management Plan.

4.0 Car parking

The number of car spaces to be provided on the land for an industry for the manufacture of milk-related or allied food products or an associated warehouse must be to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

5.0 Exemption from notice and review

An application under any provision of this scheme which is generally in accordance with the *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Tatura Milk Industries Master Plan 2011* is 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.

6.0 Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application to use or subdivide land, construct a building or construct or carry out works or the approval of a plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of Clause 3.0 of this schedule, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The *Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Tatura Milk Industries Master Plan 2011.*
- The views of the Environment Protection Authority on the Stormwater Management Plan, the Environmental Management Plan, the Noise Reduction Plan, the Air Emissions Reduction Plan and the Staging Plan.
- The effect that existing uses may have on the proposed use.
- The interface with adjoining areas, especially the relationship with residential areas.
- The interface with the streetscape, including the location of access points at the property boundaries and the landscaping of land adjoining a road.
- The design and elevation treatment of buildings and their appurtenances.
- The illumination of buildings and their immediate spaces.
- The interim use of those parts of the land not required for the proposed use.
- The drainage of the land.

- The availability of and connection to services.
- The effect of traffic to be generated on roads.
- Provision for vehicle and bicycle parking.
- Provision for the loading and unloading of vehicles.
- Provision for vehicles providing for supplies, waste removal and emergency services.
- The storage of rubbish and materials for recycling.
- The provision of solar access.

7.0 Maintenance

All buildings and works must be maintained in good order and appearance to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

8.0 Advertising signs

Advertising sign requirements are at Clause 52.05. This zone is in Category 2.

Appendix C Panel recommended Incorporated Document

Panel note: Only the text component of this version should be used. Maps 1-3 need to be amended in accordance with the instructions in Appendix D and a new Map 4 needs to be inserted.

Greater Shepparton City Council

Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme

Tatura Milk Industries Master Plan 2012

Incorporated Document

1. Introduction

This document is an Incorporated Document in the schedule to clause 81.01 of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.

The land identified in this Incorporated Document may be used, developed and subdivided in accordance with the specific controls contained in this document.

If there is any inconsistency between the specific controls in this document and the general provisions of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme, the specific controls in this document will prevail.

2. The Land

The land that is the subject of the specific controls in this document is in two parts (**Site 1** and **Site 2**).

Site 1 is that land bounded by Hogan Street, Hanlon Street, Brown Street and Mactier Park generally known as the Tatura Milk Industry site as indicated on the attached map.

Site 2 is that land bounded by Dhurringile Road, Mactier Street and the railway reserve generally known as the 'Warehouse' site as indicated on the attached map.

3. Purpose

To provide for the continued use and development of the land by Tatura Milk Industries for the manufacture of milk related or allied food products in a manner which minimises the impact on the amenity of surrounding areas.

To provide safe and efficient vehicle ingress to and egress from the land.

4. What does this document provide for?

4.1 Use

Use of the land must be in accordance with Schedule 9 to the Special Use Zone.

4.2 Development

Development on the land must be in accordance with Schedule 9 to the Special Use Zone.

4.2.1 Setbacks

Buildings must be setback from road boundaries in accordance with the following table:

- 5m Hogan Street.
- 10m Hanlon Street.
- 10m Brown Street.
- 10m Dhurringile Road.

4.2.2 Landscaping

Development must have a landscape treatment in accordance with the following table:

- 5m landscape setback to Hogan Street.
- 4m landscape setback to Hanlon Street.
- 4m landscape setback to Brown Street.
- 4m landscape setback to Dhurringile Road.

4.2.3 Building Heights

Buildings and works should not exceed the following heights in the precincts specified on the attached maps and in accordance with the following table:

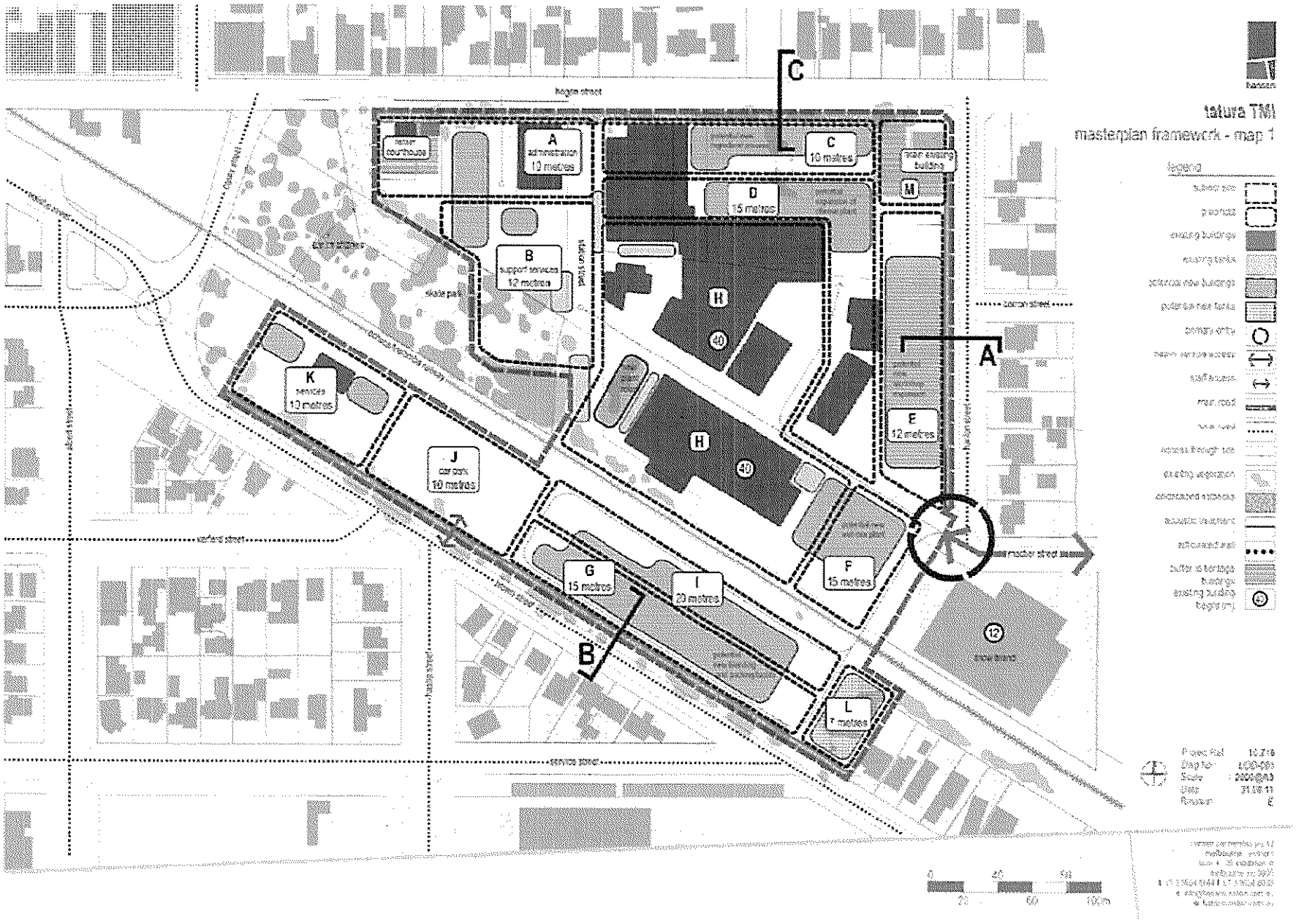
Site 1

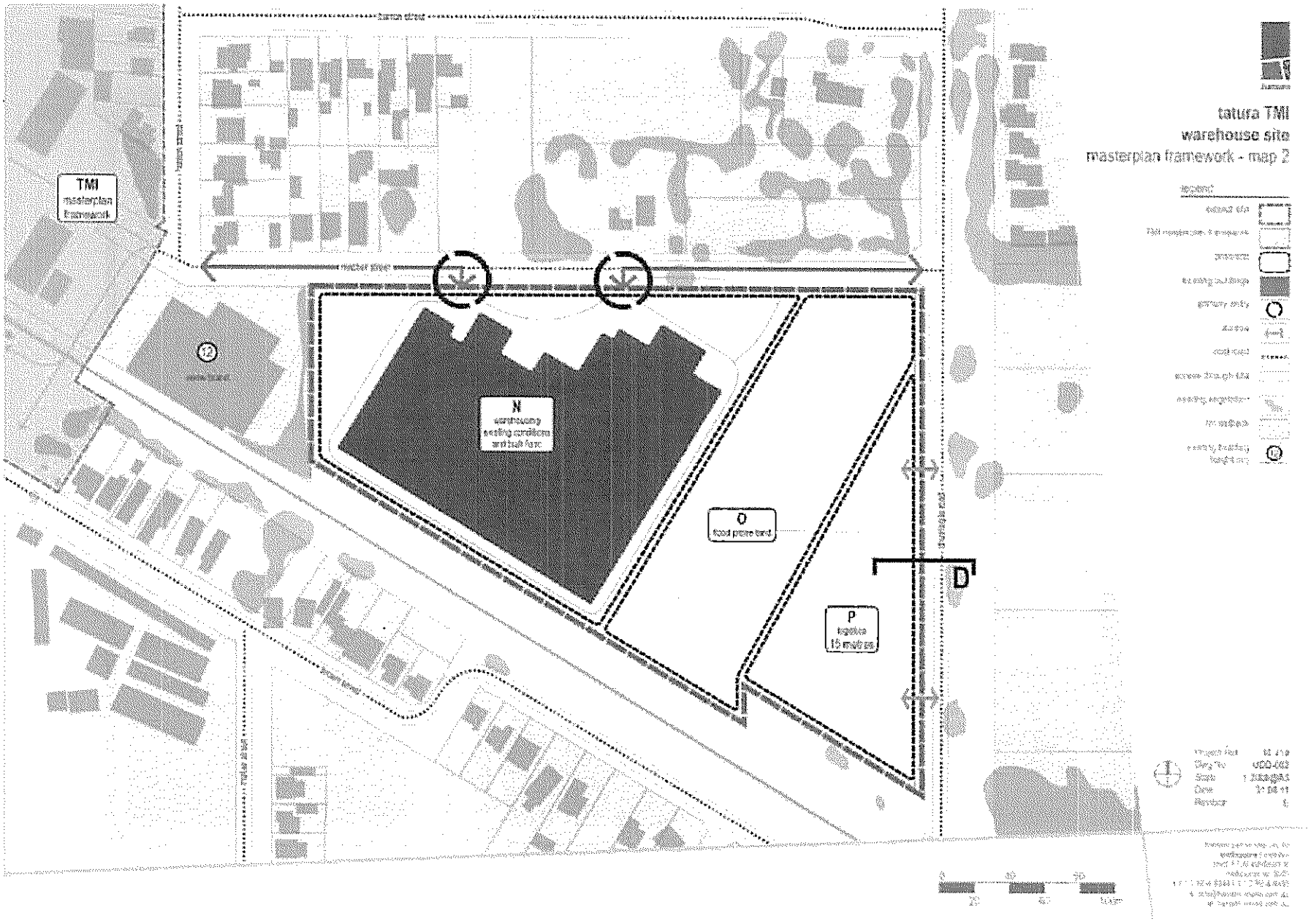
• Precinct A	10 metres
• Precinct B	12 metres
• Precinct C	10 metres
• Precinct D	15 metres
• Precinct E	12 metres
• Precinct F	15 metres
• Precinct G	15 metres
• Precinct H	40 metres
• Precinct I	20 metres
• Precinct J	None specified
• Precinct K	10 metres
• Precinct L	7 metres
• Precinct M	As per existing height

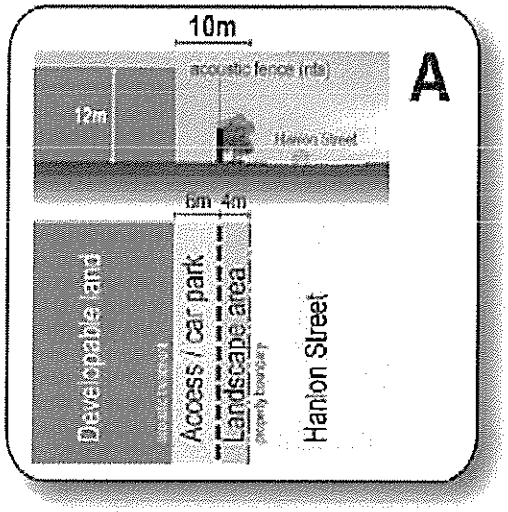
Site 2

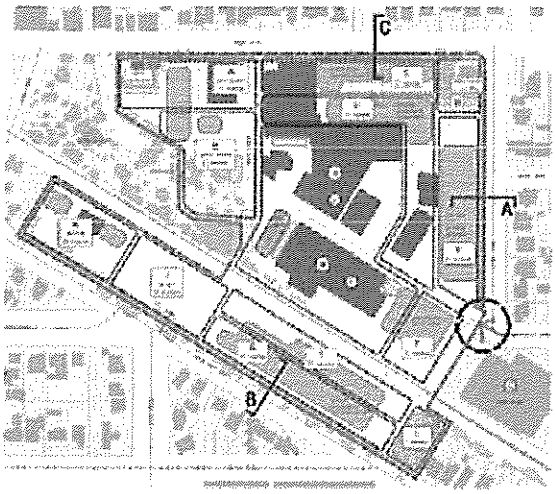
• Precinct N	As per existing heights
• Precinct O	None specified
• Precinct P	15 metres

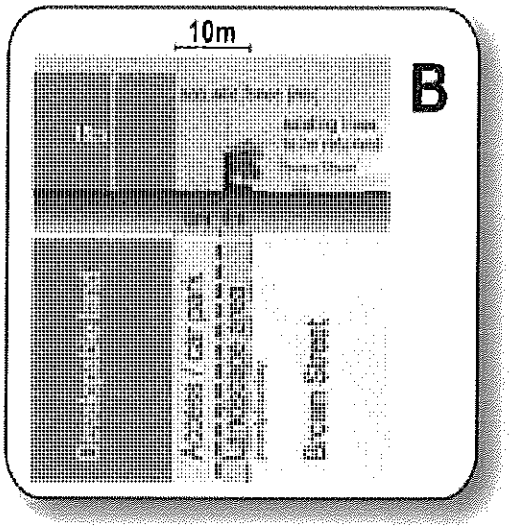
(The above building heights do not include air conditioning plants, exhaust stacks, lift overruns, parapets or service and maintenance equipment provided that it is no more than 10% of the total height of the building).

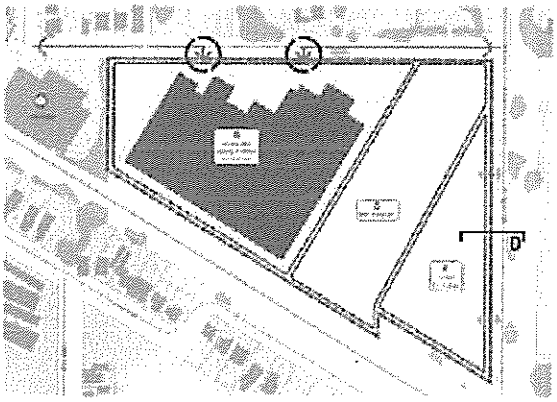

masterplan framework - map 1
legend
A
administration
10 metres
B
support services
12 metres
C
10 metres
D
15 metres
E
12 metres
F
15 metres
G
15 metres
H
40
I
20 metres
J
car park
18 metres
K
services
13 metres
L
7 metres
M
main existing building
12
snow board
A
B
C
hogan street
service zone
0
20
40
60
80
100m

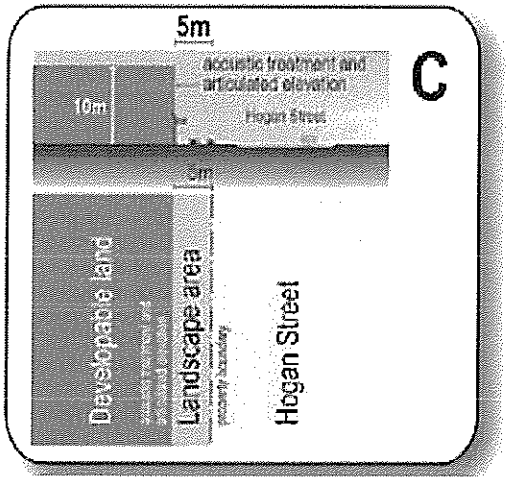

tatura TMI
warehouse site
masterplan framework - map 2
TMI
masterplan
framework
N
warehouse
existing conditions
and sub fare
O
food store land
P
logistics
15 metres
D

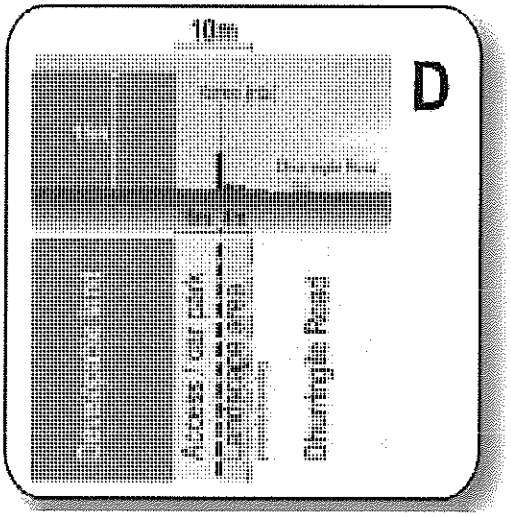

A
10m
acoustic fence (nts)
12m
Hanlon Street
6m
4m
Developable land
Access / car park
Landscape area
Hanlon Street


C
A
B


B
10m
Access / car park
Landscape area
Elgin Street


D


C
5m
acoustic treatment and articulated elevation
10m
Hogan Street
5m
Developable land
Landscape area
Hogan Street

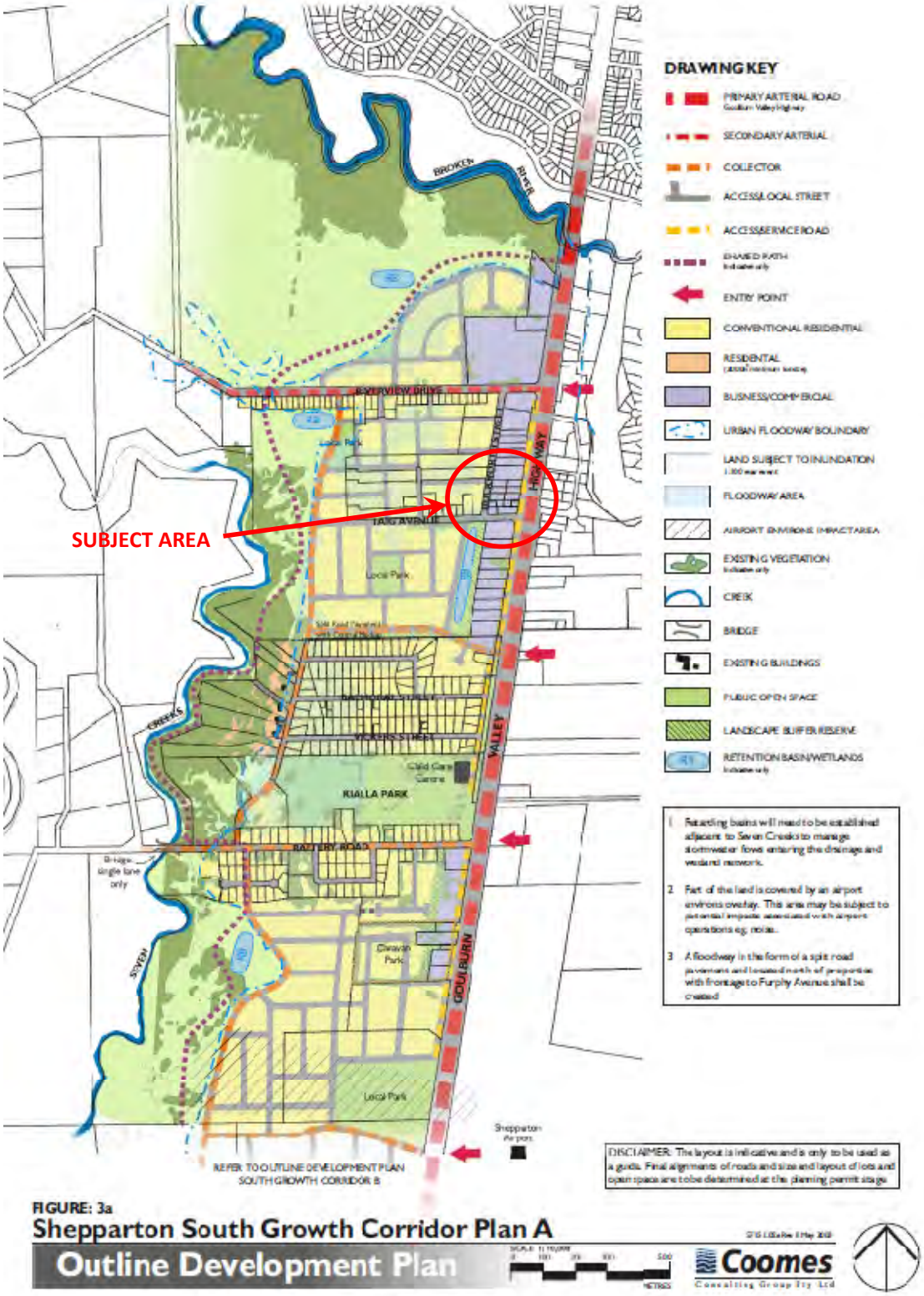

D
10m
Access / car park
Landscape area
Dhurringile Road

Appendix D Changes to be made to Master Plan mapping

	EXHIBITED	POST – EXHIBITION	POST – PANEL HEARING
Boundaries		Boundaries for Precincts K, O and P altered to show correct boundaries	
Precinct L		Addition of acoustic treatment and landscaped setback to be nearest the precinct edge, not near adjoining property boundary	Distance specified (to be annotated on map): **6m** between adjoining property boundary and acoustic fencing in Precinct L
Precinct A	'retain courthouse'	'retain courthouse' Addition of curtilage around heritage building and articulated wall/landscaped buffer altered	'retain courthouse and former police station' Curtilage area to be refined subject to surveying and informed by Amendment C110.
Precinct M			Curtilage area to be refined subject to surveying and informed by Amendment C110.
Legend	'potential new buildings' 'potential new tanks' 'primary entry' 'buffer to heritage buildings'	'potential new tanks (bunded)' 'primary entry (vehicles') Added: 'staff access point' Added: 'traffic treatment to restrict truck access' Added: 'restricted parking (time limits)'	'potential new buildings – indicative only' 'heritage buildings and curtilage area'
Staff access point		Added on legend and on Map 1 between Precincts H and I	
Traffic treatment		Added on legend and on Map 1 at either end of Hanlon Street	Dot identifying traffic treatment at southern end of Hanlon Street to be shifted north of the intersection to show that trucks will not be restricted from entering the TMI site via Mactier Street.
Restricted parking		Added on legend and on Map 1 along west side of Hanlon Street	

Map 3		Two small versions of Maps 1 and 2 to be removed from this page	'acoustic treatment' to be added to cross-sections B and D (as on cross-section A)
Map 4		Cross-sections added as 'Map 4' Two small version of Maps 1 and 2 to be updated to reflect final versions of these maps	

Attachment 1 – Shepparton South Growth Corridor Outline Development Plan A



Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Discussion Paper

Victorian Local Sustainability Accord

Sustainability Fund

State Government Victoria

GREATER SHEPPARTON

Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee

August 2012

Notes for the Reader

The Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy – Discussion Paper has been written by Travis Turner (Sustainability and Environment Officer) and the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference (Steering) Committee (SRC) to provide Council staff, Council stakeholders and the wider community with background information relevant to the development of the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy (to be completed in 2013).

The contents of this paper have been collated from relevant literature reviews, discussions held in Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee meetings, and responses to internal staff and community environmental sustainability surveys. This document is not necessarily representative of the views and opinions of Greater Shepparton City Council in relation to environmental sustainability management.

This discussion paper is open for public exhibition and comment for a period of 28 days from 1 to 28 October 2012. The closing date for submissions is 5.00pm on the 28 October 2012. Providing feedback to this discussion paper is one step in a series of opportunities that the community will have to actively participate in the development of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy. You can use the questions outlined on page 71 as a guide to writing your submission or feel free to include any other comments that you may have.

Written submission can be received by Council via:

1. Mail - Greater Shepparton City Council, Locked Bag 1000, Shepparton VIC 3632
2. Email - travis.turner@shepparton.vic.gov.au
3. In person - 90 Welsford St, Shepparton 3630

For further information regarding the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy please contact Travis Turner (03) 5832 9700 or visit our website (http://www.greatershepparton.com.au/council/environment).

To reduce the size and readability of this document, the Discussion Paper has been divided into two separate documents. The Discussion Paper and the Discussion Paper Appendices. Both documents are available on council's website.

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1 FOREWORD

Greater Shepparton City Council (Council) is very excited to be in the process of developing an Environmental Sustainability Strategy (the Strategy). The Strategy will help Council identify and prioritise environmental sustainability activities across Council strategies and plans and will increase the capacity and understanding of environmental sustainability issues across Council and the community. This important project is partially funded from the Victorian Government's Sustainability Fund under the Victorian Local Sustainability Accord.

The Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference (steering) Committee (the SRC) has been established to steer the development of the Strategy and is bound by the Council adopted Terms of Reference (Appendix I). The 19 member Stakeholder Reference Committee is comprised of key stakeholder groups and agencies such as the Department of Sustainability and Environment, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and the Department of Primary Industries. Three community representatives and several community groups also sit on the committee, which is chaired by Cr Chris Hazelman (Cr Michael Polan is deputy chair).

This discussion paper has been produced by the SRC to provide Council, Council stakeholders and the wider community with background information relevant to the development of the Strategy. The aim of this discussion paper is to increase the community‟s awareness of Council‟s goals, strategies and actions that address environmental sustainability issues and opportunities. This will ensure that anyone who has read this document will have the knowledge and understanding required to give input into the development of the Strategy.

Gavin Cator
CEO
Greater Shepparton City Council

Greater Shepparton City Council and the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which the City of Greater Shepparton stands.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Stakeholder Reference Committee (SRC) has divided our environmental sustainability issues, actions and topics into the following four broad strategic themes.

Each strategic theme contains information about why Council and the community should improve their environmental sustainability performance, an outline of Councils current environmental sustainability responsibilities and a list of future opportunities and activities that may improve Council‟s environmental sustainability performance.

This discussion paper will be out for public comment for a four week period. Feedback and discussions generated from this paper will be used to guide the development of the Draft Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy. Upon completion of this project, Greater Shepparton City Council will have a coordinated Strategy providing clear guidance on actions and targets addressing environmental sustainability issues.

Council can facilitate environmental cultural change within the Council organisation and the wider community via a range of mechanisms. Council has environmental management legislative responsibilities to fulfil but can

employ several different means to initiate improvements in environmental management performance.

Council has a wide range of roles to perform in regards to environmental sustainability management. These include advocator, manager, educator, facilitator, provider, regulator, lobbyer, encourager and community leader.

The greatest impact Greater Shepparton City Council can have on the environmental behaviours of our community is to demonstrate that our natural environment is valued through leading by example on environmental issues and fulfil its legislative and advocatory responsibilities. The development of the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy is going to identify a wide range of environmental sustainability actions and activities for Council to implement to demonstrate this commitment.

Figure 1: Reedy Swamp, Shepparton - part of the Lower Goulburn National Park

The terms "**Greater Shepparton City Council**" and "**City of Greater Shepparton**" are used throughout this document. "**Greater Shepparton City Council**" always refers to the activities or policies of Greater Shepparton City Council. "**City of Greater Shepparton**" refers to the geographical area of the municipality.

3 DISCUSSION PAPER RATIONALE

A major step in the development of the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy (the Strategy) was to produce this discussion paper to instigate community, stakeholder and internal staff discussion about Greater Shepparton City Council"s environmental sustainability management activities.

The purpose of this discussion paper is to acknowledge the work that Council is already doing to identify gaps in our current environmental sustainability performance whilst providing stakeholders and the general community with background information relevant to the development of the Strategy. This will ensure that anyone who has read this document will have the knowledge and understanding required to give input into the development of the Strategy. Feedback and discussions generated from this paper will be used to guide the development of the Draft Strategy (Figure 2).

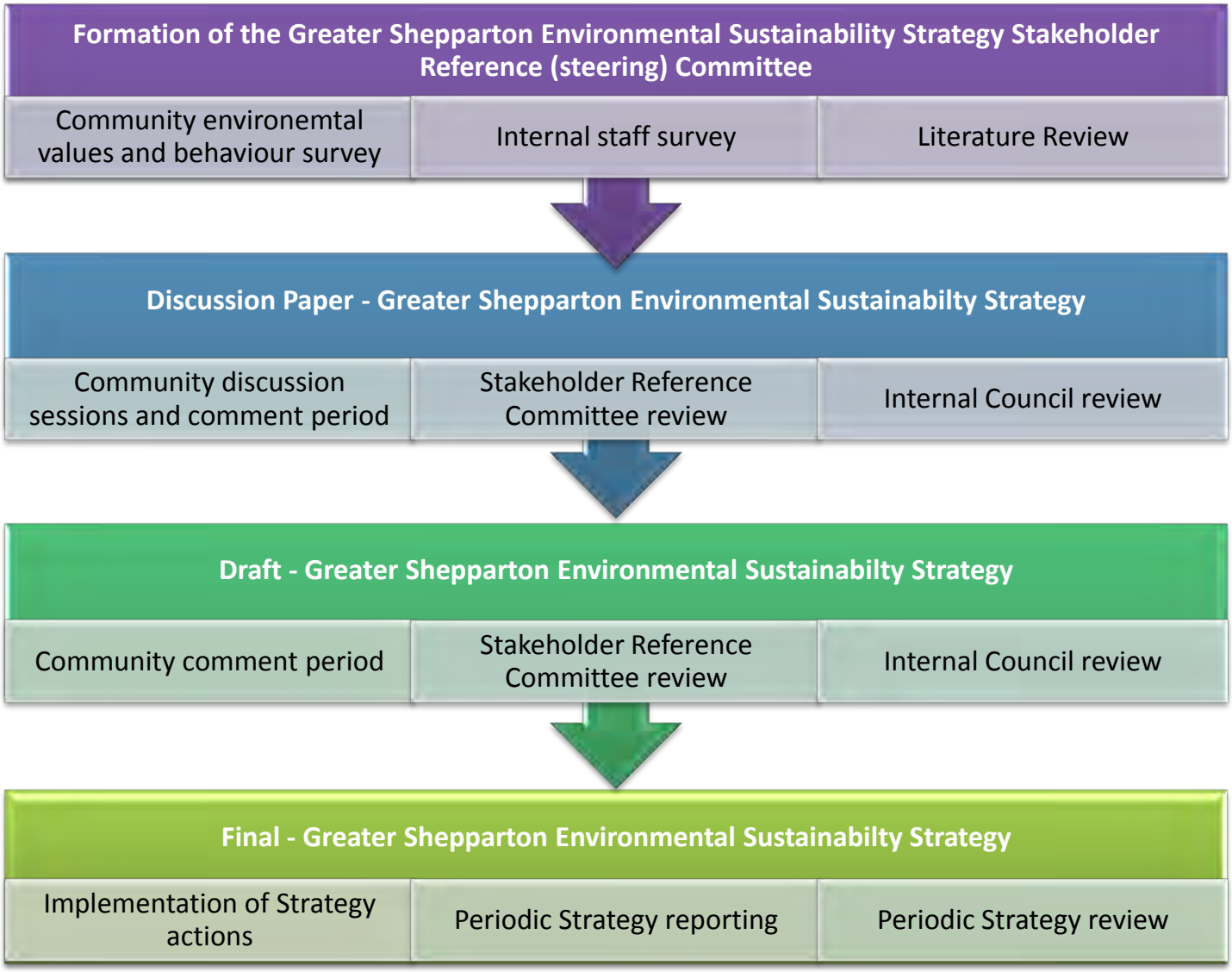


Figure 2: Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy – development process

4 WHAT IS THE VALUE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT?

4.1 Ecosystem services

Human health and survival is dependent upon pure water to sustain us, healthy soil that allows vigorous plant production to provide, us and the animals we consume, with essential vitamins, minerals and energy, and clean air to release this energy via respiration. The natural environment has provided these three vital elements by since the inception of land-based life on earth.

Man-kind has always been interconnected with these natural processes but since we moved away from our hunter gatherer existence and learned to alter our environment to suit our own needs, we have continued to view ourselves as beings that are separate to, and even "conquerors" of the natural environment, rather than a component of the complex natural systems that surround us. The result of this psychological shift has led to the dissociation of human behaviour and development from the often corresponding degradational impacts on our natural environment, regardless of the fact that we need a healthy natural environment to sustain us with the fore-mentioned vital elements.

This document refers to the outputs from complex natural environment systems as "**ecosystem services**" and defines this term as "**the conditions and processes through which natural ecosystems, and the species that comprise them, sustain and fulfil human life**" (CSIRO 2003, Daily 1997). Figure 3 contains some examples of the ecosystem services that our natural environment provides us.

Managing our natural environment in a sustainable manner is the only way to ensure that these ecosystem services continue to be provided into the future. It is therefore in our best interest to preserve and enhance our natural environment.

Our most pressing challenge is to re-establish the lost connection between large sections of our community and our environment. Our first step is to restore the value of our environment in our community's minds, because personal behaviours are dependent upon what a person values and the belief

that something valued is impacted by a particular positive or negative behaviour.

The incorrect perception that our natural environment has no value is the fundamental barrier preventing environmentally sustainable behaviour in our municipality. This perception has led to the justification of significant native vegetation clearing across the City of Greater Shepparton region so that only 2.5% of the pre-European settlement native vegetation now remains (which is usually in a poor ecological state and under constant threat from further degradation).

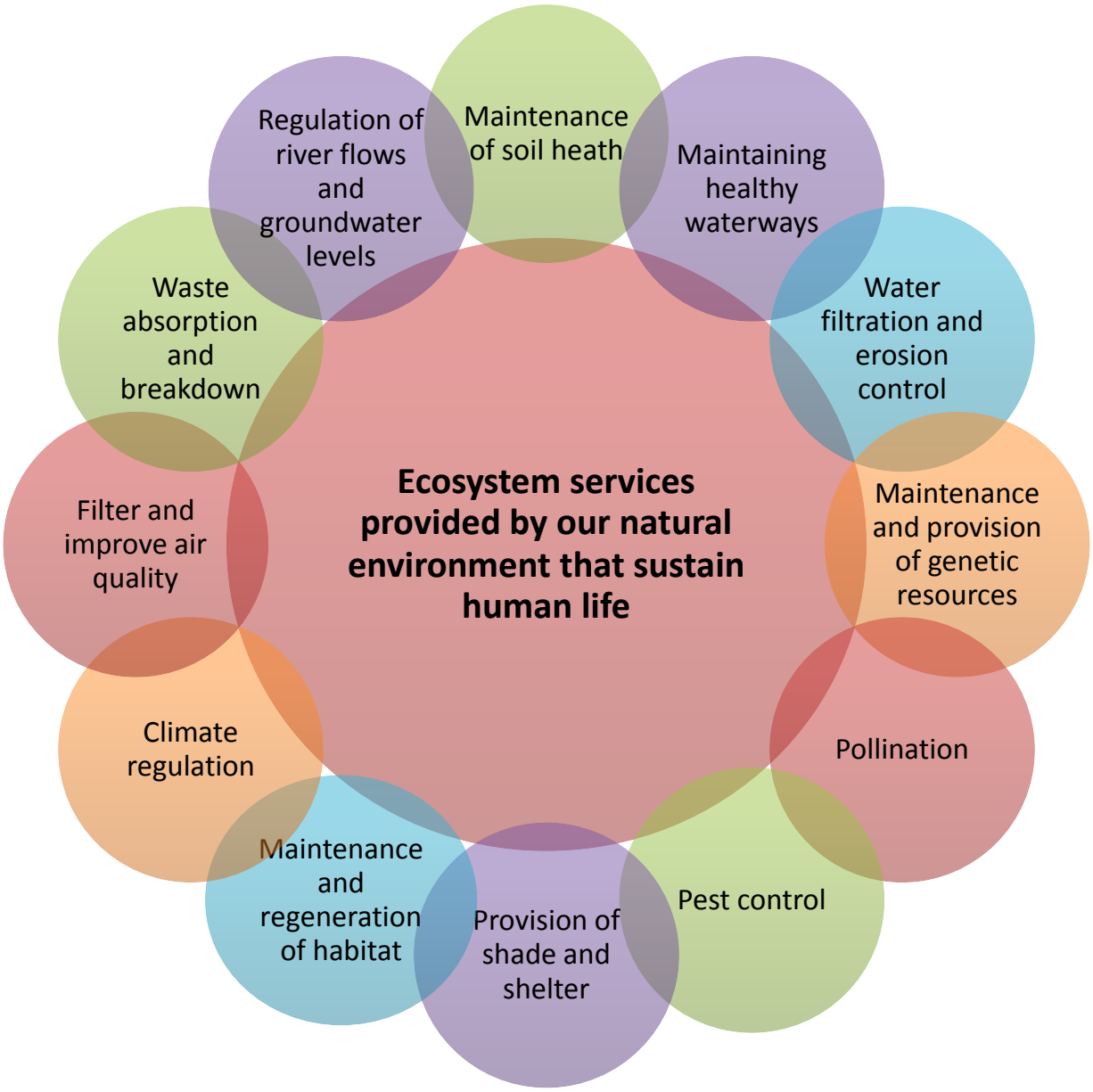
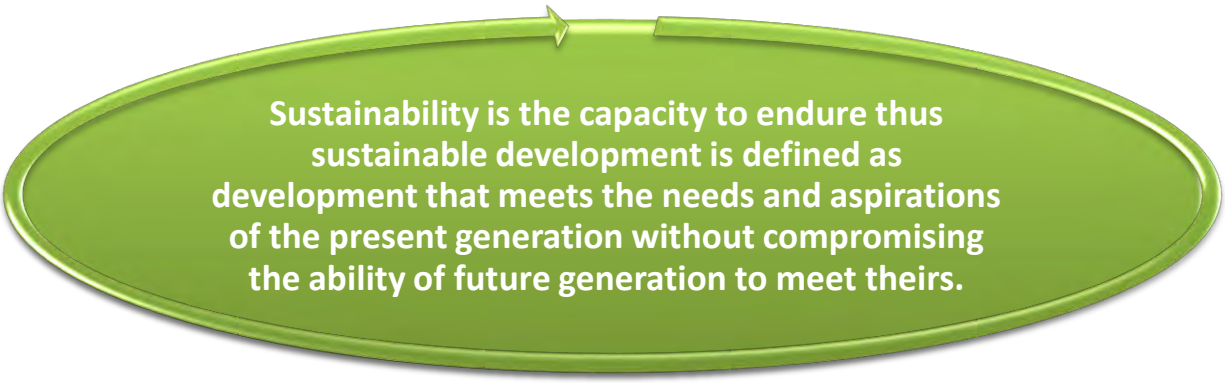


Figure 3: Ecosystem services provided by our natural environment (even by a single paddock tree!) that sustain life

This discussion paper and the proceeding community engagement process during the development of the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will be a positive start to awakening our community"s understanding of the value of our natural environment.

4.2 Sustainability principles and important terms

There is widespread agreement that solving environmental problems requires the adoption of policies and programs that lead to sustainable development.



In the 21st century the vast majority of large organisations (Greater Shepparton City Council is no exception) are committed to the triple bottom line principle of conducting business in a manner that ensures economic, social and environmental success and sustainability. As demonstrated in Figure 4, our economy is limited by the constraints of our society, whilst both our economy and society lie atop the foundation of our environment and are dependent on the services it provides.

Figure 4: The three components of the triple bottom line principle. Our economy is limited by the constraints of our society, whilst both our economy and society lie atop the foundation of our environment and are dependent on the services it provides.

Greater Shepparton City Council is committed to sustainable development that considers all three triple bottom line pillars to ensure the long term viability of our organisation, our natural environment and our community.

The Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will explore issues relating to the environment pillar of the triple bottom line. The impacts of environmental factors (eg. water availability, climate variability) on our social and economic pillars (eg. infrastructure and industry) lie outside the Strategy's scope because they have already been investigated by other Council strategies (Integrated Planning for a Sustainable Shepparton Community Strategy and the Adaptation Toolkit for a Future with Less Water Strategy).

It is important to understand the following key terms concerning sustainable environmental management:

Biodiversity	• refers to the biological diversity of life at the genetic, species or functional levels.
Ecosystem	• refers to a community of diverse living organisms, their interactions with other living organisms and the physical elements of the environment of which they are found.
Resilience	• is the ability of something to 'bounce back' from a disturbance or hard times. Resilience also refers to the ability of a system to retain function after a shock. For example, a resilient woodland will be able to withstand shocks such as flood, fire or drought because of its biodiversity on a number of levels (genetic, species and functional).

Figure 5: Murray pine (*Callitris glaucophylla*) Woodlands (an endangered EVC) was once common but now has a limited distribution in the City of Greater Shepparton and important remnant patches mostly remain on private land. A resilient community will be able to survive through and recover from drought or other disturbances.

5 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

5.1 Project background

Greater Shepparton City Council is in the process of developing an Environmental Sustainability Strategy, a project that is partially funded from the Victorian Government's Sustainability Fund under the Victorian Local Sustainability Accord. Upon completion of this project, Greater Shepparton City Council will have a coordinated Strategy providing clear guidance on actions and targets addressing environmental sustainability issues. We are also aiming to increase our community‟s participation and awareness of Council goals, strategies and actions to address environmental sustainability issues and opportunities.

A Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee has been established to steer the development of the Strategy and is bound by the Council adopted Terms of Reference (Appendix I). The 19 member Stakeholder Reference Committee is comprised of key stakeholder groups and agencies such as the Department of Sustainability and Environment, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and the Department of Primary Industries. Three community representatives and several community groups also sit on the committee, which is chaired by Cr Chris Hazelman (Cr Michael Polan is deputy chair).

5.2 Document outline

This document provides a quick snapshot of the Greater Shepparton region. The major over-arching Federal, State and regional environmental legislation that Council must adhere to are listed and Council‟s current policies and the resources allocated to environmental sustainability management are outlined. The paper is then sectioned into the major environmental themes of the Strategy. The current state of our environment and threats specific to each theme are discussed. Council‟s roles and responsibilities and some potential management opportunities Council could undertake to address environmental sustainability issues are then explored.

5.3 Project scope

The Stakeholder Reference Committee (SRC) has divided the proposed strategy topics into four broad strategic themes. Table 1 provides an outline of the topics corresponding to each of the following strategic themes:

Table 1: Proposed Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy strategic themes, topics and outcomes*

Strategic Themes	Protecting and enhancing our natural assets		Healthy, productive and sustainable water resources	Using our resources wisely	Leading by example to encourage and support a resilient and informed community
Themes	**Biodiversity**	**Land**	**Water**	**Energy & Waste**	**Building Council & Community Resilience**
Topics, actions or outcomes	• Native vegetation • Native fauna • Healthy sustainable landscapes • Pest plant and animal control • Firewood management • Road reserves • Native vegetation offsets	• Urban settlements • Urban development • Public land management • Land use planning • Sustainable productive lands • Healthy soils • Salinity management • Fire management • Sustainable agriculture • Resilient food supply • Farming/ agriculture	• Water conservation • Water quality • River, wetlands and waterway health • Septic tank management • Domestic wastewater reuse • Water restrictions • Storm water management & reuse • Recreational lakes • Aquatic pests • Floodplain management • Flood emergency management • Groundwater management	• Waste reduction • Resource recovery/ recycling • Illegal dumping of rubbish • Organic waste • Industrial waste • Landfill management • Energy conservation • Greenhouse gas emission targets • Street lighting • Carbon offset management • Sustainable building materials • Sustainable buildings	• Supporting a culture of sustainability • Resilience to climate change impacts • Cultural heritage • Sustainability based decision making tools • Sustainable population • Sustainable amenities • Transport/ reduce vehicle use. • Services and infrastructure • Sustainable events

*Although Greater Shepparton City Council will not be the responsible authority for many of the topics listed, there may be scope for Council to encourage or support the relevant authorities, agencies or organisations

6 THE CITY OF GREATER SHEPPARTON

6.1 Our region, population and economy

The City of Greater Shepparton is situated in the Goulburn Valley, approximately 180km north of Melbourne with a population of approximately 62,000 people over 2,421km^2 (Figure 6). It is the fourth largest provincial centre in Victoria and is one of the fastest growing regions in the State. 61% of the population live in the urban settlements of Shepparton and Mooroopna, whilst the remaining 39% live in or adjacent to smaller townships including Congupna, Dookie, Katandra, Kialla West, Merrigum, Murchison, Tallygaroopna, Tatura, Toolamba, and Undera (Figure 7) (ABS 2012).

The Traditional Owners of our region are represented by Yorta Yorta Nation. Yorta Yorta Nation is defined by eight clan groups: Moira, Kailtheban, Wollithiga, Nguaria-iiliam-wurrung, Ulupna, Kwat Kwat, Bangerang, and Yalaba Yalaba, however some Bangerang people prefer to be recognised as a distinct cultural group (GB CMA 2012). The Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation (YYNAC) is the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

Approximately 3.2% of our residents have an indigenous heritage which makes it the largest Indigenous community outside Melbourne (ABS 2012). The region boasts a strong history of Indigenous advocacy and leadership locally, nationally and internationally and improving our understanding of Indigenous cultural heritage is very important, particularly in regards to land management and caring for and nurturing local flora and fauna.

Greater Shepparton is among the most culturally diverse municipalities in regional Victoria with high populations originating from Albania, Turkey, India, Greece, and more recently, Iraq, Afghanistan, Congo and Sudan. The 2011 Census has revealed that 14% of the total population identified as being born overseas (11% in countries where English is not a first language) (ABS 2012).

The estimated gross economic output of the region is $6.9 billion per annum, with agriculture producing about 25% of the total value of Victoria's agricultural production. Dairying and fruit growing are the major primary industries, with substantial growth (and subsequent contraction) occurring in the viticulture and tomato industries.

The terms "**Greater Shepparton City Council**" and "**City of Greater Shepparton**" are used throughout this document. "**Greater Shepparton City Council**" always refers to the activities or policies of Greater Shepparton City Council. "**City of Greater Shepparton**" refers to the geographical area of the municipality.

Figure 6: Location of the City of Greater Shepparton, Victoria

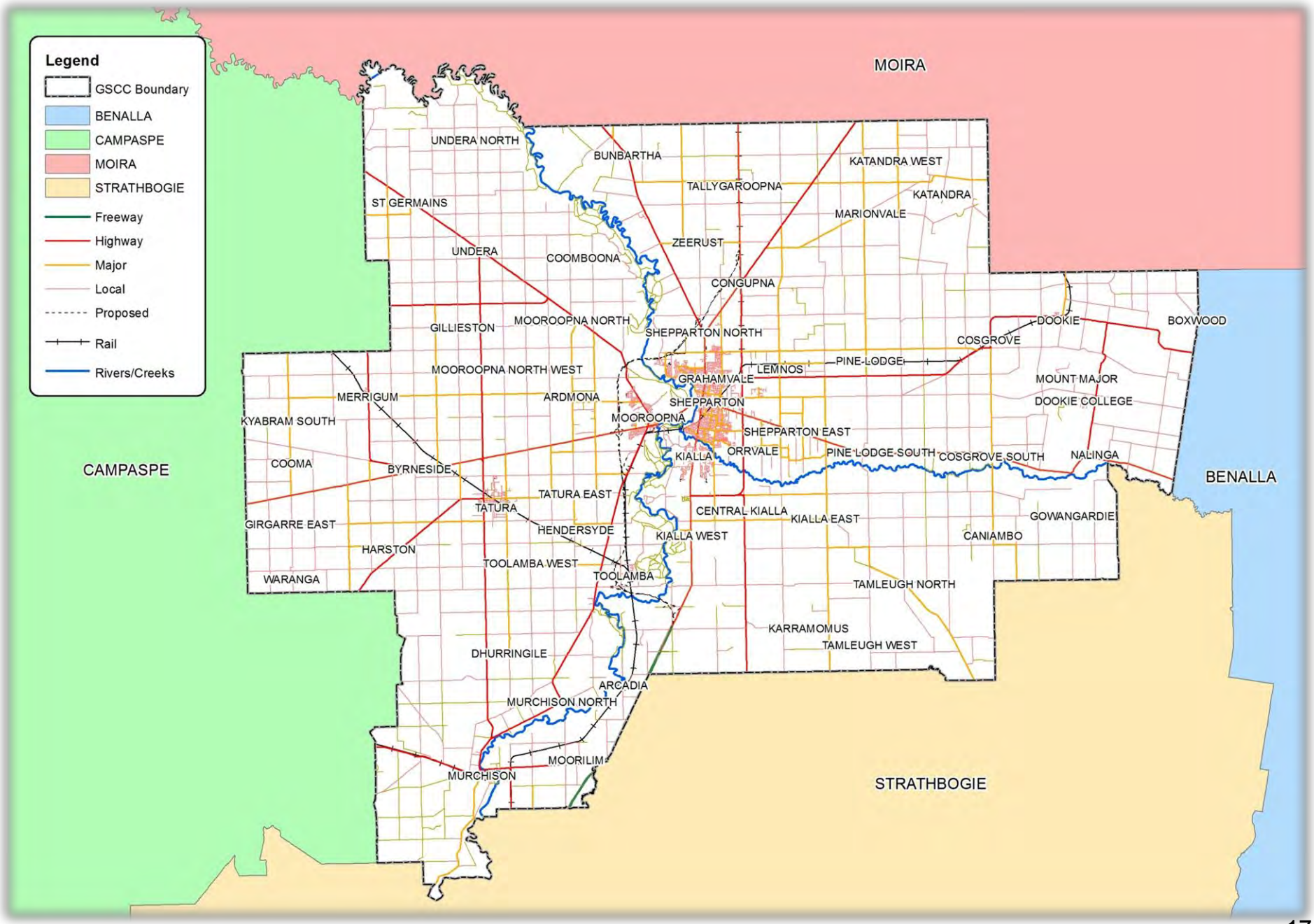


Figure 7: City of Greater Shepparton townships, localities and neighbouring municipalities

Our farming community has experienced difficult times with a prolonged drought followed by unseasonable wet weather, diminished confidence in water security, biosecurity (eg. locust plagues, fruit fly), extreme weather patterns and variability, the global financial crisis, continued globalisation of manufacturing, the high Australian dollar and input price increases, particularly for water, energy, fuel and fertiliser.

Irrigated agriculture is supported by a vast network of irrigation infrastructure which is currently undergoing a $2 billion upgrade to automated technology and the repair and rationalisation of outdated channel systems that aims to dramatically improve water delivery and efficiency. Our municipality has strong processing, manufacturing and commercial industries supporting our agriculture sector.

Shepparton has a strong retail sector that provides service to the wider region drawing on a regional population of 160,000 people. Almost 40% of employed people in our region work in the finance, health, education, government and trade sectors, 13.5% are employed in manufacturing, 13.2% in retail, 10% in agriculture, forestry and fishing and construction (7.4%) (ABS 2012).

6.2 Our regions climate

The Shepparton region has a temperate climate, with average maximum temperatures ranging from 13.2 ^{o}C in winter to 31.8^{o}C in summer (BOM 2012). Average minimum temperatures range from 3.2 ^{o}C in winter to 15.1^{o}C in summer (BOM 2012). Rainfall averages approximately 450mm per annum, most of which historically falls in winter and spring (Figure 8) (BOM 2012). These figures, however, hide significant variations, with summer temperatures known to exceed 45°C and rainfall can exceed 1000mm per annum. Our region is greatly impacted by El Nino (drought) and La Nina (flooding) climatic variations. Temperature and sunlight are influential factors in determining the regions energy use.

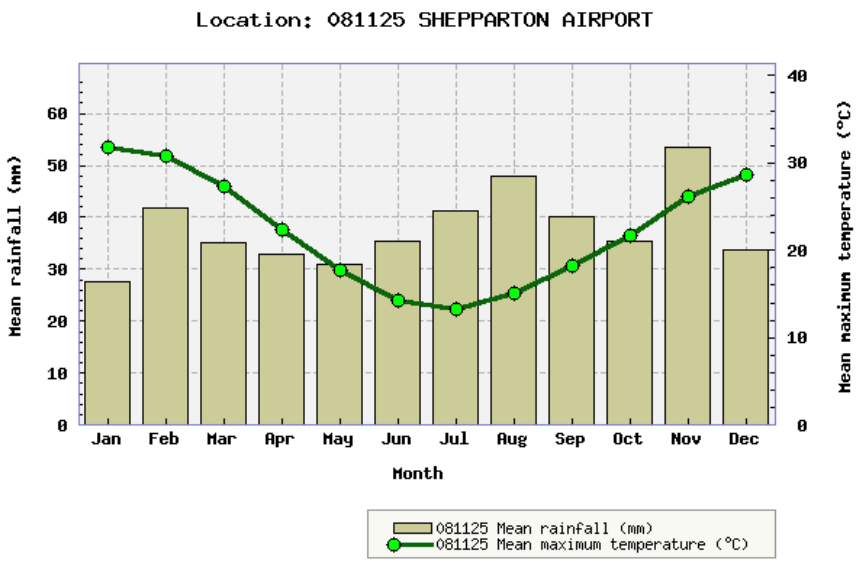


Figure 8: Average annual rainfall and maximum temperature between 1996- 2012 (BOM 2012)

7 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS

This chapter lists the major environmental sustainability legislative and policy frameworks at the Federal Government, State Government and regional levels (and the relevant departments and agencies responsible for implementing them) that regulate Councils environmental sustainability management.

7.1 Responsible departments and agencies

Table 2 provides a list of the stakeholder departments, agencies and environmental organisations that are responsible for sustainable environmental management in the City of Greater Shepparton. Appendix II provides further information on the objectives and responsibilities of these stakeholders.

Table 2: Environmental management agencies and organisations

Federal	State	Regional
• Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPaC) • Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) • Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE) • Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (DRET) • Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) • National Environment Protection Council (NEPC)	• Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) • Department of Primary Industries (DPI) • Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) • Department of Transport (DoT) • Department of Human Services (DHS) • Department of Health (DoH) • Sustainability Victoria (SV) • Parks Victoria (PV) • Environment Protection Authority (EPA) • Catchment Management Authorities (CMA) • WorkSafe • Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) • Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability	• Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GB CMA) • Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance (GBGA) • Goulburn Broken Local Government Biodiversity Reference Group (GBLGBRG) • Resource GV • Goulburn-Murray Water (G-MW) • Goulburn Valley Water (GVW)

7.2 Environmental Acts, plans & strategies

The following tables present an outline of the Federal, State and regional legislation, policies, strategies and plans relevant to the environmental sustainability management responsibilities of Greater Shepparton City Council. Further details on the content and relevance of the following legislation, strategies and plans are provided in Appendix III.

Table 3: Federal Government legislation, policies and plans and the Strategy strategic themes they are relevant to.

Federal legislation, policies and strategies	Protecting and enhancing our natural assets (land & biodiversity)	Healthy, productive & sustainable water resources	Using our resources wisely (energy & waste)	Leading by example to encourage & support a resilient and informed community
Federal legislation				
Clean Energy Act 2011			✓	
Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999	✓			
Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989			✓	
National Environment Protection Council Act 1994	✓			
National Environment Protection Measures Act 1998	✓			
Natural Heritage Trust of Australia Act 1997 (since replaced by the Caring for Our Country Program)	✓			
Natural Resource Management Act 1992	✓			
Regional Forests Agreements Act 2002	✓			
Renewable Energy Act 2000			✓	
Water Act 2007	✓	✓		
Federal policies and strategies				
Australia"s Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030	✓			
Australia"s Farming Future	✓		✓	
Australia"s Strategy for National Reserve System 2009-2030	✓			
Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2007	✓			
Australian Weed Strategy 2007	✓			
Basin Salinity Management Strategy (BSMS) 2001-2015	✓	✓		

Federal legislation, policies and strategies	Protecting and enhancing our natural assets (land & biodiversity)	Healthy, productive & sustainable water resources	Using our resources wisely (energy & waste)	Leading by example to encourage & support a resilient and informed community
Carbon Farming Initiative			✓	
Climate Change Adaptation Program			✓	
Decade of Landcare Plan	✓			
Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment	✓			
National Environmental Health Strategy 2007		✓		✓
National Forests Policy Statement 1992	✓			
National Framework for Management and Monitoring of Australia‟s Native Vegetation	✓			
National Greenhouse Strategy	✓			
National Strategy for Ecological Development 1992	✓			
National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia‟s Biological Diversity	✓			
National Strategy for the Management of Scheduled Waste 1992			✓	
National Waste Policy 2009			✓	
National Water Initiative		✓		
Natural Heritage Trust Partnerships Agreement	✓			
Strengthening Basin Communities Program		✓		
Water Efficiency Opportunities Program		✓		
Water for the Future Initiative		✓		

Table 4: State Government legislation, policies and plans and the Strategy strategic themes they are relevant to.

State legislation, policies and strategies	Protecting and enhancing our natural assets (land and biodiversity)	Healthy, productive and sustainable water resources	Using our resources wisely (energy & waste)	Leading by example to encourage & support a resilient and informed community
State legislation				
Aboriginal Heritage Act	✓			✓
Catchment and Land Protection Act	✓	✓		
Climate Change Act 2010			✓	
Environmental Effects Act	✓			
Environment Protection Act 1970	✓		✓	
Environment Protection (Industrial Waste) Act 1985			✓	
Environment Protection (Resource Efficiency) Act 2002			✓	
Fisheries Act 1995		✓		
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1994	✓	✓		
Heritage Rivers Act 1992		✓		
Information Privacy Act 2000			✓	
Local Government Act 1989			✓	✓
National Parks Act 1975		✓		
Planning and Environment Act 1987	✓	✓		
Pollution of Waters by Oil and Noxious Substances Act 1986		✓	✓	
State Environment Protection Policy (Water of Victoria)	✓	✓		
Water Act 1989	✓	✓		
Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005		✓		
Water Industry Act 1994		✓		
Water (Irrigation Farm Dams) Act 2002		✓		
Wildlife Act 1975	✓			

State legislation, policies and strategies	Protecting and enhancing our natural assets (land and biodiversity)	Healthy, productive and sustainable water resources	Using our resources wisely (energy & waste)	Leading by example to encourage & support a resilient and informed community
State policies and strategies				
Biosecurity Strategy for Victoria 2009	✓			
Catchment and Land Protection Act Statement of Obligations	✓	✓		
Climate Change White Paper: Taking Action for Victoria"s Future 2009 Strategy			✓	
Code of Practice for Timber Production 2007	✓			
Environment Protection (Prescribed Waste) Regulations 1998			✓	
Environment Protection (Vehicle Emissions) Regulations 2003 (Currently under Review)			✓	✓
Future Farming Strategy – Productive, Competitive, Sustainable 2008	✓			
Growing Victoria Together	✓			
Invasive Plant and Animals Policy Framework (IPAPF)	✓			
Our Environment, Our Future Policy	✓			
Our Forests, Our Future – Balancing Communities, Jobs and the Environment 2002	✓			
Ready for Tomorrow: A Blueprint for Regional and Rural Victoria 2009	✓			
Resource Smart program			✓	✓
Rural Land Use Planning Program	✓			
Securing Our Natural Future: Land and Biodiversity White Paper 2009	✓			

State legislation, policies and strategies	Protecting and enhancing our natural assets (land and biodiversity)	Healthy, productive and sustainable water resources	Using our resources wisely (energy & waste)	Leading by example to encourage & support a resilient and informed community
Securing Our Water Future Together/Our Water Our Future 2004		✓		
State Environment Protection Policy (SEPP) Ground waters of Victoria		✓		
State Environment Protection Policy (SEPP) Waters of Victoria		✓		
Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2005 & Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2009-10 Progress Report			✓	
Victoria"s Biodiversity Strategy 1997 (Currently under review)	✓			
Victorian Cycling Strategy 2009			✓	✓
Victoria"s Firewood Collection Strategy 2010	✓			
Victoria"s Litter Strategy 2009 & Action Plan 2010-2014			✓	
Victoria"s Native Vegetation Management Framework for Action 2002 (Currently under review)	✓			
Victoria"s Nature Based Tourism Strategy 2008 -2012	✓		✓	✓
Victorian River Health Strategy (VRHS) 2002 Currently under review: The Victorian Strategy for Healthy Rivers, Estuaries and Wetlands (VSHREW) is currently being developed and will replace the VRHS	✓	✓		
Victoria"s Transport Plan 2008			✓	✓
Victoria"s Waste Policy Framework			✓	
Victoria"s Water Allocation Framework		✓		
Water Act Statement of Obligations	✓	✓		

Table 5: Regional plans and strategies

Regional plans and strategies	Protecting and enhancing our natural assets (land and biodiversity)	Healthy, productive and sustainable water resources	Using our resources wisely (energy & waste)	Leading by example to encourage and support a resilient and informed community
Balancing the Salt Budget for the Shepparton Irrigation Region 2005		✓		
Biodiversity Action Planning for the Goulburn Broken Catchment	✓			
Goulburn Broken CMA Biodiversity Strategy 2010-15	✓			
Goulburn Broken CMA Climate Change Integration Strategy (under development)			✓	✓
Goulburn Broken Dryland Salinity Strategy& Management Plan Review 2002	✓	✓		
Goulburn Broken Invasive Plant and Animal Strategy 2011	✓			
Goulburn Broken Local Government Regional Climate Change Adaptation Plan			✓	✓
Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Management Strategy 2003 (under review)	✓	✓		✓
Goulburn Broken Regional River Health Strategy 2005-2015 (Currently under review)	✓	✓		
Goulburn Valley Water plan 2012-2018 (currently being developed)		✓	✓	
Mid Goulburn Broken & Upper Goulburn Sustainable Irrigation Action Plan 2008-2013		✓		
Murray-Darling Basin Authority Basin Plan - Draft	✓	✓		
Native Vegetation Retention Controls: Regional Guidelines for the Goulburn Broken Catchment 2003	✓			
Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy		✓		
Regional Waste Management Plan			✓	✓
Shepparton Irrigation Region Catchment Implementation Strategy 2000 (formerly the Shepparton Irrigation Region Land and Water Salinity Management Plan)	✓	✓		
Surface Water Management Strategy Review – Strategic Plan, SIR 2002	✓	✓		
The Living Murray	✓	✓		

8 COUNCIL‟S CURRENT POLICY AND RESOURCES ALLOCATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT

This chapter explores Council‟s current internal environmental legislative and aspirational commitments and the resources available to achieve them.

8.1 Council departments, branches and teams involved in fulfilling Councils environmental sustainability roles and responsibilities

The over-arching role of Greater Shepparton City Council is to provide peace, order and good governance across the City of Greater Shepparton by performing five major functions.

1. Asset management (eg. roads, public spaces and public facilities).
2. Planning and development (enforcing the planning scheme, services to support sustainable development and environmental management).
3. Economic development (business support).
4. Community development (community services and education programs).
5. Organisational corporate requirements (eg. finance, human resources and information services).

Council has a directorate for the provision of each of these functions. All five directorates have some environmental sustainability responsibilities but sustainable environmental management primarily falls within the Sustainable Development Directorate.

Greater Shepparton City Council is committed to best practice environmental policies, and is involved in many programs to enhance environmental outcomes in the region. Council has four main areas of environmental responsibility:

- ✓ Water management
- ✓ Energy and greenhouse emission management
- ✓ Biodiversity conservation and native vegetation management
- ✓ Waste management

The two teams that are responsible for the four areas of environmental sustainability management are the Sustainability and Environment Team and the Strategic Waste Team. Both of these teams sit within Council‟s Sustainable Development Directorate. The Sustainability and Environment Team has the role of facilitating sustainable environmental growth and development within Greater Shepparton. This team manages projects and strategic development of matters relating to water, energy, and biodiversity conservation and native vegetation management. Council‟s strategic waste management is performed by the Strategic Waste Team. Appendix IV provides an outline of other Council teams and departments with some environmental management responsibilities (including strategic and statutory land use planning which involves all four areas).

8.2 Council policy governing environmental sustainability

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy will be consistent with the objectives, strategies and actions outlined in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme, *Council Plan 2009-2013* and the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy*. Figure 9 provides a hierarchical overview of where the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will sit within Council"s existing strategic structure.

Figure 9: Hierarchical overview of where the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will sit within Council"s existing strategic structure

8.2.1 Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy Plan

The Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy Plan (GS2030) was developed to provide a blueprint for building sustainable economic activity and maximising the quality of life in the municipality for the next 30 years. Central to GS2030 are the principles of sustainability, innovation, partnership and inclusiveness, leadership, equity, adaptability and integrated planning. The GS2030 is guided by the following vision:

"Greater Shepparton 2030 – the regional centre distinguished by the range of its sustainable achievements"

The overarching environmental issues are biodiversity and the protection and enhancement of the earth‟s basic elements of air, water, soil and nutrients and the protection of its intricate web of flora and fauna ecosystems. The stated direction for the environment strategic theme is:

"Conservation and enhancement of significant natural environments and cultural heritage".

There are four environmental themes in the GS2030 Strategy relevant to the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy. Each environmental theme contains key objectives and an outline of the strategies and actions to achieve each objective. Further details on the content of the environment section of the GS2030 Strategy are outlined in Appendix V.

8.2.2 Council Plan 2009-2013

The *Local Government Act 1989* requires all municipal councils to prepare and approve a Council Plan. The *Council Plan 2009-2013* guides the organisation‟s budget-setting and reporting processes and draws on the issues identified during development of Council‟s Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy. The strategic direction of the *Council Plan 2009-2013* environment theme is:

"To conserve and enhance significant natural environments and cultural heritage"

The environment theme of the *Council Plan 2009-2013* contains three key strategic objectives and a list of actions for implementation to achieve them:

- Promote and demonstrate environmental sustainability.
- Identify and respect our significant cultural and environmental assets.
- Enhance the community‟s use and appreciation of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers.

Appendix VI contains further detail on why these strategic objectives are important and a complete action list for each objective.

The *Council Plan 2009-2013* will be reviewed in 2012 with the intention of producing a new four year Council Plan (2013-2017). Council has been collecting views and ideas from the community to help shape the new Council Plan via a short open response survey. These ideas will be gathered and presented to the new Council

after the elections in October. The Council Plan (2013-2017) will then be developed with further community involvement in the first half of 2013.

8.2.3 The Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme and Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS)

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* requires all planning authority municipal councils to prepare a Municipal Strategic Statement that resides within the Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) of their Planning Scheme. The MSS outlines Councils strategic planning objectives, the strategies for achieving these objectives, and a general explanation of the relationship between the objectives and strategies and the controls on the use and development of land in the planning scheme.

The environment theme of the MSS is divided into four sections. Each section contains objectives, a list of strategies and actions to achieve them. Further details on the content of each section are outlined in Appendix VII.

8.2.4 Local Environmental Sustainability Priority Statement (LESPS)

On 5 August 2008 Greater Shepparton City Council adopted a Local Environmental Sustainability Priority Statement (LESPS) that was developed in conjunction with the Victorian Government. The LESPS acknowledges that the Goulburn and Broken River corridors are key natural features in Greater Shepparton. Together with roadside areas they provide the most significant stands of remnant vegetation with associated habitat values and that they also have obvious functions in flood management.

By adopting the LESPS, Council committed to creating better environmental sustainability outcomes and recognised the importance and responsibility of Council to influence the wider community. The adoption of the LESPS was a formal commitment by Council to recognise the importance of conserving our environment for future generations. Appendix VIII outlines the key priority actions contained in the LESPS. The Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will further develop and implement these actions.

8.2.5 Greater Shepparton City Council Sustainability Policy 2011

In October 2011 Council adopted a Sustainability Policy with the aim of promoting and developing sustainable practices as a strategic and operational function of the Council. Council recognises its community leadership role and responsibilities by incorporating sustainability principles into the organisation through its interactions within the organisation and the broader community.

The policy also demonstrates Council"s commitment to sustainability principles, such as sustainable development, to enhance the health of the community and our natural environment while ensuring social justice, ethical governance, improved quality of life and economic prosperity. The Sustainability Policy contains the following commitment statement:

"The Councillors and all staff of the Greater Shepparton City Council are committed to the achievement of a sustainable way of life for current and future generations through a shared understanding of sustainability."

9 PROTECT AND ENHANCE OUR NATURAL ASSETS (LAND AND BIODIVERSITY)

9.1 The state of our land and biodiversity assets

9.1.1 Our landscape

The City of Greater Shepparton is situated in the Shepparton Irrigation Region, in the lower country of the Goulburn Broken Catchment (Figure 6). The confluence of three major streams (the Goulburn River, the Broken River and the Seven Creeks) is located in the geographical centre of the municipality. These streams have a large catchment and can cause floods of various magnitudes.

The landscape is dominated by floodplain features that have been present since the early Tertiary Period. The geomorphology is mostly flat with undulating soils and sandy rises. The dominant geological features include the ancient volcanic granite hills rising from the plains around Dookie in the east of the municipality and the north eastern extent of the uplifted Goldfields and Box Ironbark hills in the south west of the municipality. Some of the most significant environmental assets within the City of Greater Shepparton are the Lower Goulburn National Park, the Dookie Bushland Reserve, Loch Garry, Gemmill‟s Swamp and Reedy Swamp.

9.1.2 Our biodiversity assets

The Victorian landscape is divided into large geographically distinct areas called bioregions which are characterised by landscape scale natural features and ecological processes that influence the function of entire ecosystems. Four bioregions are located in City of Greater Shepparton, the most dominant being Victorian Riverina. Murray Fans is found in the north west of the shire trailing along the Goulburn River to Zeerust, Northern Inland Slopes are found on the eastern edge of the shire around Dookie and Gowangardie and a small area of Goldfields is found on the south western boundary near Murchison (Figure 10).

Victoria‟s bioregions are further divided into floristic communities or Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVC‟s) that are associated with a recognisable environmental niche, and can be characterised by a number of their adaptive responses to ecological processes that operate at the landscape scale (Figure 11).

Prior to European settlement our landscape contained a richly diverse and complex mosaic of various EVC‟s from dry granite hills to wet riparian environments (Figure 11) but around 80% of the Greater Shepparton landscape contained EVC 803 - Plains Woodland.

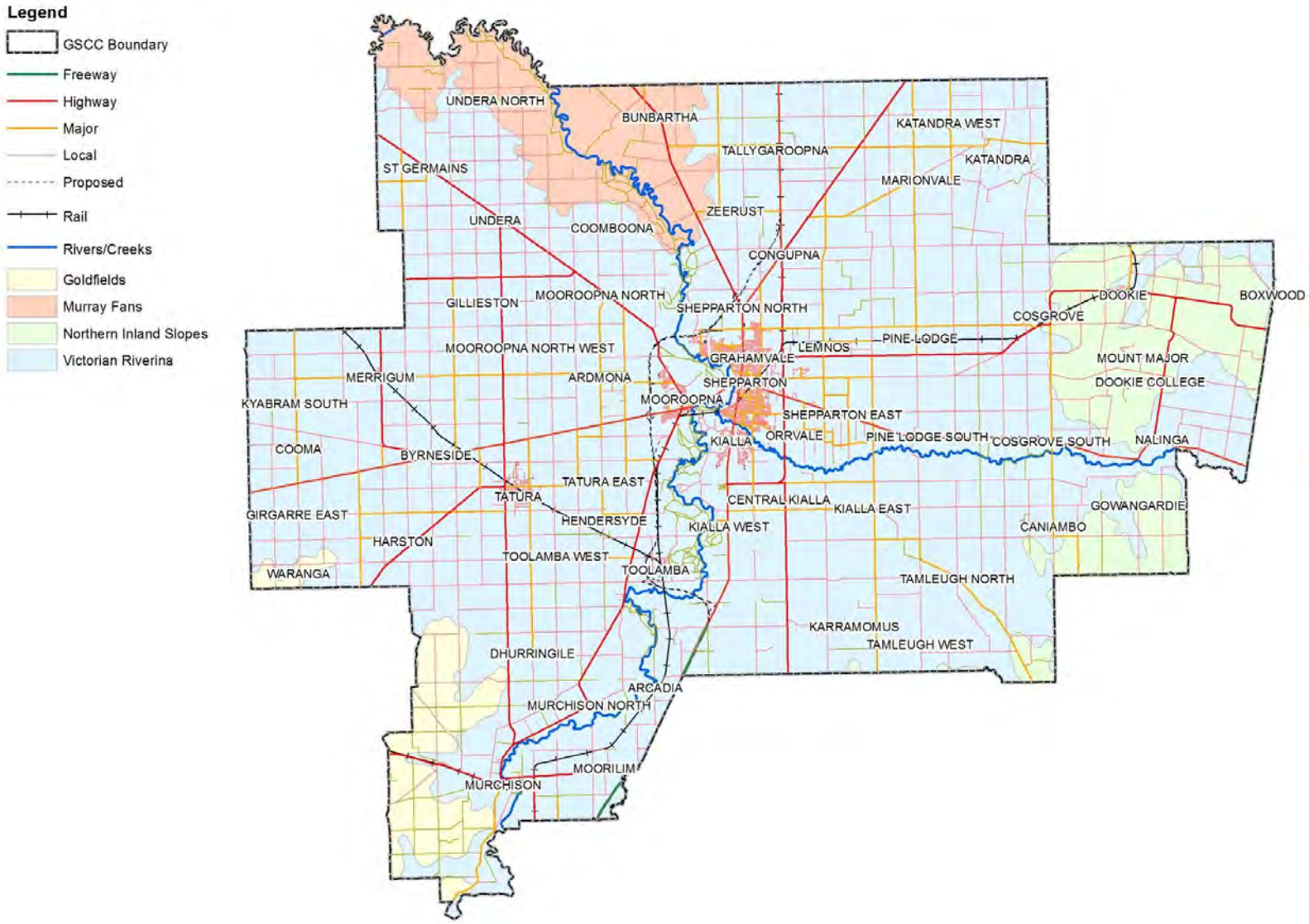


Figure 10: The four bioregions within the City of Greater Shepparton

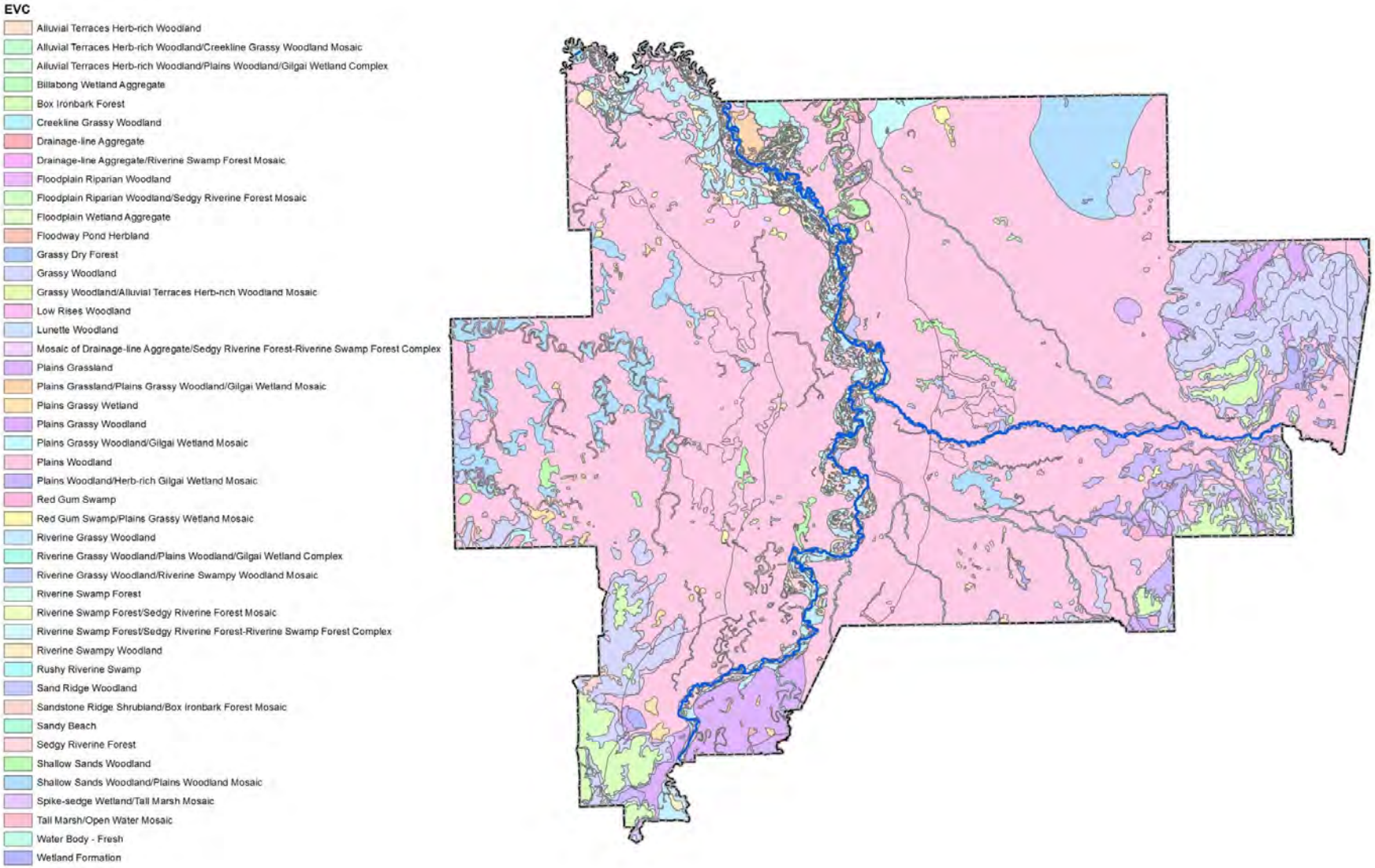


Figure 11: Native vegetation cover by Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) present in the City of Greater Shepparton prior to European settlement (1750).

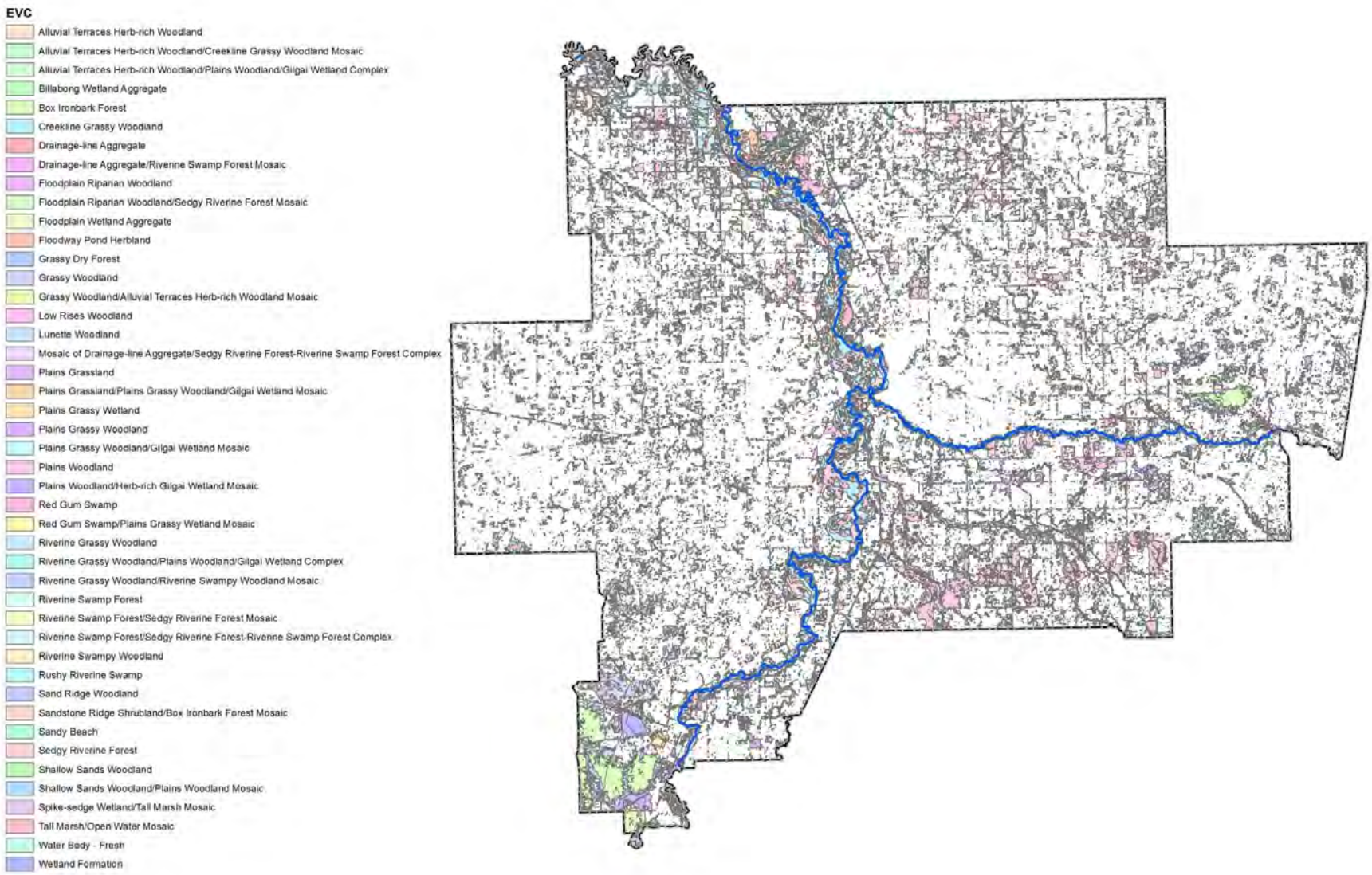


Figure 12: Native vegetation cover by Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) in the City of Greater Shepparton according to the most current data available from the Department of Sustainability and Environment (2005)

This EVC is described as an open, eucalypt woodland occurring on various soil types, flat to undulating plains with a sparse understorey of shrubs and a grass and herb rich ground layer. This EVC, with its fertile soils, is ideal for agriculture, is now listed as endangered in the City of Greater Shepparton (Figure 11 & Figure 12) At least 45 (including sub-categories) EVC‟s are present in Greater Shepparton. Of these, 21 are listed as endangered in at least one of the bioregions and at least one is listed as extinct.

The City of Greater Shepparton‟s current natural landscapes environmental values are severely degraded due to human imposed modifications since European settlement. These actions have seriously altered the natural landscape resulting in our indigenous flora and fauna largely restricted to refugia along roadsides and riparian bushland. There are also some existing patches of remnant vegetation and significant remnant scattered trees on private land providing vital habitat connectivity for these species.

The Greater Shepparton region has less than 2.5% of its pre-European settlement native vegetation remaining which is usually in a poor ecological state and under constant threat from further degradation (Figure 12). Conserving and enhancing the native vegetation remaining is vital to provide habitat links to other areas of native vegetation and for the preservation of biological and genetic diversity of our indigenous species.

It is imperative that human induced damage and alterations to our natural environment are prevented and measures undertaken to restore the functionality of the natural environment to provide the ecosystem processes and services mentioned above that also sustain human life (see Chapter Four).

9.1.2.1 Native fauna

There are 324 native fauna species recognised to have distribution ranges within the City of Greater Shepparton. The diversity of fauna within Greater Shepparton has greatly declined since European settlement with many species now extinct from the area. All native animals are protected but species that are considered to be uncommon and/or at risk of extinction can be listed for protection under *The Flora and Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988*, *The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999* or placed on the Department of Sustainability and Environment‟s (DSE) Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) list.

Approximately 22% or 72 of Greater Shepparton‟s fauna species are listed as VROTS, 45 species are listed under *The FFG Act 1988* and eight are listed under *The EPBC Act 1999*. It is worth noting that the DSE has considered all of the information available for every Victorian species and assigned protection status as required. *The FFG Act 1988* and *The EPBC Act 1999* consider nominated species

only so a species not currently protected under these Acts may still be awaiting a nomination to be assessed.

Table 6 provides an inventory of all the fauna species that are listed as critically endangered or endangered in Victoria that are recognised as having a distribution range within the City of Greater Shepparton. A complete list of all significant Victorian fauna species with distributions in the city of Greater Shepparton and a description of what these statuses mean can be found in Appendix IX.

Table 6: Endangered and critically endangered fauna species listed as present in the City of Greater Shepparton (Weber 2012)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 status	Flora and Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 listed
Squirrel Glider	*Petaurus norfolcensis*	Endangered		Yes
Broad-shelled Turtle	*Macrochelodina expansa*	Endangered		Yes
Freshwater Catfish	*Tandanus tandanus*	Endangered		Yes
Macquarie Perch	*Macquaria australasica*	Endangered	Endangered	Yes
Murray Cod	*Maccullochella peelii peelii*	Endangered	Vulnerable	Yes
Silver Perch	*Bidyanus bidyanus*	Critically endangered		Yes
Brown Toadlet	*Pseudophryne bibronii*	Endangered		Yes
Giant Bullfrog	*Limnodynastes interioris*	Critically endangered		Yes
Growling Grass Frog	*Litoria raniformis*	Endangered	Vulnerable	Yes
Australasian Bittern	*Botaurus poiciloptilus*	Endangered		Yes
Australian Bustard	*Ardeotis australis*	Critically endangered		Yes
Australian Painted Snipe	*Rostratula australis*	Critically endangered	Vulnerable	Yes
Barking Owl	*Ninox connivens*	Endangered		Yes
Blue-billed Duck	*Oxyura australis*	Endangered		Yes
Bush Stone-curlew	*Burhinus grallarius*	Endangered		Yes
Freckled Duck	*Stictonetta naevosa*	Endangered		Yes
Grey-crowned Babbler	*Pomatostomus temporalis*	Endangered		Yes
Intermediate Egret	*Ardea intermedia*	Critically endangered		Yes
Little Bittern	*Ixobrychus minutus*	Endangered		Yes

Common Name	Scientific Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 status	Flora and Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 listed
Little Egret	*Egretta garzetta*	Endangered		Yes
Regent Honeyeater	*Anthochaera phrygia*	Critically endangered	Endangered	Yes
Superb Parrot	*Polytelis swainsonii*	Endangered	Endangered	Yes
Swift Parrot	*Lathamus discolor*	Endangered	Endangered	Yes

Figure 13: Squirel Gliders (above) were once common throughout the our region but are now largely restricted to major waterways (photo: Keith Ward)

Figure 14: Eastern bearded dragon (*Pogona barbata*) (photo: Sharon Terry)

9.1.2.2 Native flora

There are a total of 719 plant species found in the City of Greater Shepparton, of which only 436 are native. Some of the most significant native flora species recorded within the City of Greater Shepparton are listed in (Table 7). Please refer to Appendix X for a complete list of protected flora species located within the City of Greater Shepparton and a description of what these statuses mean.

Common flora species that are characteristic of our region include:

- Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa)
- River Red Gum (Eucalyptus camaldulensis)
- Silver Wattle (*Acacia dealbata*)
- Gold Dust Wattle (*Acacia acinacea*)
- Wedge Leaf Hop Bush (Dodonea viscosa ssp. cuneata)
- Common Eutaxia (Eutaxia microphylla)
- Blue bell species (*Wahlenbergia ssp.*)
- Spreading Flax-lily (*Dianella revoluta*)
- Drumsticks (Pycnososorus globosus).

Figure 15: Scaly buttons (Leptorynchos quamatus) (left) and Sticky everlasting (Xerochrysum viscosum) (below) were once widely distributed across the City of Greater Shepparton. (Photos: Sharon Terry)

Table 7: Some significant flora species of the City of Greater Shepparton region (Weber 2012)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 Status	Flora & Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 Listed
Jericho Wire-grass	*Aristida jerichoensis var. subspinulifera*	Endangered		Yes
Grey Billy-buttons	*Craspedia canens*	Endangered		Yes
Yarran Wattle	*Acacia omalophylla*	Endangered		Yes
Small Scurf-pea	*Cullen parvum*	Endangered		Yes
Mountain Swainson-pea	*Swainsona recta*	Endangered	Endangered	Yes
Yellow-tongue Daisy	*Brachyscome chrysoglossa*	Vulnerable		Yes
Slender Club-sedge	*Isolepis congrua*	Vulnerable		Yes
Striped Water-milfoil	*Myriophyllum striatum*	Vulnerable		Yes
Silky Swainson-pea	*Swainsona sericea*	Vulnerable		Yes
Velvet Daisy-bush	*Olearia pannosa subsp. cardiophylla*	Vulnerable		Yes
Dookie Daisy	*Brachyscome gracilis*	Vulnerable		Yes
Ridged Water-milfoil	*Myriophyllum porcatum*	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Yes
Western Water-starwort	*Callitriche cyclocarpa*	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Yes
Ausfeld's Wattle	*Acacia ausfeldii*	Vulnerable		
Straw Wallaby-grass	*Austrodanthonia richardsonii*	Vulnerable		
Australian Broomrape	*Orobanche cernua var. australiana*	Vulnerable		
Late-flower Flax-lily	*Dianella tarda*	Vulnerable		
Button Rush	*Lipocarpha microcephala*	Vulnerable		
Twiggy Sida	*Sida intricata*	Vulnerable		
Western Silver Wattle	*Acacia decora*	Vulnerable		
Buloke	*Allocasuarina luehmannii*	Depleted		Yes
River Swamp Wallaby-grass	*Amphibromus fluitans*		Vulnerable	

9.2 Threats to our land and biodiversity assets

9.2.1 Land management threats

The Greater Shepparton region has less than 2.5% of its pre-European settlement remnant vegetation remaining with most being in a poor ecological state and under constant threat of degradation. These areas of remnant native vegetation are generally confined to refugia along creek reserves and road reserves, although there are patches of remnant vegetation and some significant remnant scattered trees on private land. Significant native vegetation on private land may be vulnerable to clearing and can be subjected to continuous health stresses in the form of high nutrient loads, stock camping, soil compaction, weed invasion and an altered hydrological regime.

Our municipality‟s population is forecast to grow towards 71,000 people in 2021 and to around 75,000 people by 2030. Continuing urban development pressure will continue to threaten greenfield sites adjacent to current urban areas, coinciding with the removal of native vegetation. This vegetation may be sparse but are fulfilling vital functional connectivity in the landscape, providing refugia and important linkages between areas for the movement of fauna. Rural development (eg development of whole farm plans (WFP‟s) or centre pivot irrigation systems) without appropriate native vegetation considerations can have serious impacts on the retention of remnant native vegetation.

Decades of native vegetation clearing and agricultural practices have changed the region‟s natural hydrological balance resulting in soils with elevated water tables. These changes have led to salinity problems for much of the municipality and downstream of our catchment. Salinity is a major threat to our environment in both irrigated and dryland agricultural landscapes killing remnant trees and has the potential to render large areas of land unproductive and inhabited by only the most salt-tolerant plant species. The prolonged drought experienced during the previous decade significantly reduced water tables across the City of Greater Shepparton but the high rainfall of the last two years has already resulted in a sharp increase in water tables back towards pre drought levels. Council needs to be prepared to tackle the return of salinity as a major issue in our municipality now that the prolonged drought has ended.

Firewood collection is a threat to our biodiversity particularly on Council roadsides. This threat has been exacerbated by the State Government‟s recent decision to remove the need for collectors of firewood to obtain a permit prior to collection of firewood. Firewood can still only be collected from designated coops during certain periods but this is poorly understood in the community. Council‟s Roadside Management Strategy prohibits the collection of firewood from Council roadsides. The collection of firewood is also prohibited on VicRoads managed roadsides.

9.2.2 Water management threats to our biodiversity assets

Changes to our river systems‟ natural environment through damming and regulating stream flows have had significant impacts on aquatic biodiversity. Native fish and other aquatic fauna have difficulty surviving in streams that are regulated, as depth of water is important for breeding and migration whilst constant changes in stream flows also impact upon the lifecycles of aquatic plant species. Degradation of water quality including elevated nutrient loads and impurity levels have had, and continue to have, significant negative impacts on our native species and ecosystems.

9.2.3 Pests, weeds and diseases

Foxes, feral cats, rabbits, rats and mice are the most common pest mammal species within the City of Greater Shepparton and have had significant impacts on native fauna and flora populations. Table 8 contains a list of some of the most common and problematic introduced fauna inhabiting our region.

Table 8: Problematic introduced fauna species in the City of Greater Shepparton

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Black rat	*Rattus rattus*	European carp	*Cyprinus carpio*
Cat	*Felis catus*	European rabbit	*Oryctolagus cuniculus*
Common blackbird	*Turdus merula*	House mouse	*Mus musculus*
Common myna	*Acridotheres tristis*	House sparrow	*Passer domesticus*
Common starling	*Sturnus vulgaris*	Northern mallard	*Anas platyrhynchos*
European hare	*Lepus europeaus*	Red fox	*Vulpes vulpes*

367 exotic flora species have been recorded in the City of Greater Shepparton. Weeds can be declared noxious under State and Federal Law and the major weed species that are a control priority in Greater Shepparton are shown in Table 9. Appendix XI contains a full list of noxious weed species in the City of Greater Shepparton and their corresponding noxious weed listing status.

A recent fungal disease identified within Greater Shepparton is Myrtle Rust (*Puccinia psidii*). This disease has the potential to have a devastating impact on indigenous plant species of the Myrtaceae family, such as eucalypts (*Eucalyptus* spp.), bottlebrushes (*Callistemon* spp.) and tea-trees (*Leptospermum* spp.).

Table 9: Priority weed species for control in the City of Greater Shepparton

Common name	Botanical name	Victorian noxious weed category	Weed of National Significance (Federal)
African boxthorn	*Lycium ferocissimum*	Regionally controlled	Yes
African love-grass	*Eragrostis curvula*	Regionally controlled	
Bathurst burr	*Xanthium spinosum*	Regionally controlled	
Blackberry	*Rubus fruticosus*	Regionally controlled	Yes
Bridal creeper	*Asparagus asparagoides*	Restricted	Yes
Caltrop, Bindii	*Tribulus terrestris*	Regionally controlled	
Chilean needle grass	*Nassella neesiana*	Restricted	Yes
Gorse	*Ulex europaeus*	Regionally controlled	Yes
Hawthorn	*Crataegus monogyna*	Regionally controlled	
Horehound	*Marrubium vulgare*	Regionally controlled	
Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Undeclared	Yes
Paterson's curse	*Echium plantagineum*	Regionally controlled	
Peppercorn	*Schinus molle*	Undeclared	
Prairie ground cherry	*Physalis hederifolia*	Regionally controlled	
Serrated tussock	*Nassella trichotoma*	Regionally prohibited	Yes
St. John's wort	*Hypericum perforatum*	Regionally controlled	
Sweet briar	*Rosa rubiginosa*	Regionally controlled	
Thistle - Artichoke	*Cynara cardunculus*	Regionally prohibited	
Thistle - Nodding	*Carduus nutans*	State prohibited	
Thistle - Scotch	*Onopordum acanthium*	Regionally controlled	
Thistle - Variegated	*Sylibum marianum*	Regionally controlled	
Olive	*Olea europaea*	Undeclared	

9.3 Councils land and biodiversity roles and responsibilities

Greater Shepparton City Council can conserve and enhance our land and biodiversity assets by fulfilling the following roles and responsibilities:

- Protect remnant native vegetation and maintain biodiversity across Greater Shepparton.
- Sustainable management of land under Council ownership or control.
- Regulation of land use, development and amenity within the Municipality.
- Rehabilitate environmentally vulnerable land and increase plantings of native flora.
- Contain urban growth to identified urban growth areas and release land efficiently in terms of location, supply of services and infrastructure.

9.4 Council‟s current land and biodiversity asset protection plans, programs, strategies and projects used to accomplish the above responsibilities.

Some of the plans, programs and strategies implemented by Greater Shepparton City Council to fulfil its land and biodiversity roles and responsibilities are:

- In conjunction with Moira Shire Council and Campaspe Shire, Council is developing a Rural Land Use Strategy with the main focus of „securing and promoting the future of agriculture across the region through the respective Council planning schemes‟. This document will include a series of recommendations as one of the key outcomes, including the appropriate recognition and protection for areas of environmental significance.
- Council‟s Roadside Management Plan (2008) seeks to maintain and enhance the biodiversity values of Greater Shepparton roadsides while maintaining an efficient and safe road system. This plan recognises the importance of protecting and enhancing roadside vegetation and that the majority of native vegetation on Greater Shepparton City Council managed land is located on road reserves. This strategy was recently reviewed to include current standards and provide easy-to-use handbooks.
- The Strategic Framework for Managing Native Vegetation on Road Reserves (2009) provides mechanisms to protect and enhance remaining areas of native vegetation on Council managed land and guides strategic development of linkages between fragmented patches of remnant vegetation.
- Rate rebate for Trust for Nature covenanted areas – Greater Shepparton City Council offers a rate rebate to landholders with a Trust for Nature conservation covenant.
- One million trees program – This project had the aim of planting one million trees, shrubs and grasses by Council and other agencies, organisations and groups across the City of Greater Shepparton over a five year time period. There were a lot of difficulties meeting this target largely due to the prolonged drought conditions. A review of this project will be undertaken with the intention of developing a more strategic revegetation project that incorporates key learning‟s from the successes and failures of the original program.
- Council has implemented a roadside weed control program since 2010 via funding received from both the State and Federal Governments. This program has been targeting a range of weeds listed as Regionally Controlled (eg blackberry, Bathurst burr) or Weeds of National Significance (eg Chilean needle grass, bridal creeper). The distribution of targeted weed species within the City of Greater Shepparton has been monitoring weed spread and herbicide control success.

- Council contributes 17% towards the costs of operating and maintaining the Public Salinity Control Assets implemented under the Shepparton Irrigation Region Catchment Implementation Strategy.
- The Crouching Emu Revegetation Project is a partnership program managed by Council, the Department of Primary Industries (DPI), Dhurringile and District Landcare Group, Dhurringile and District Local Area Plan, Tatura Revitalisation Committee, Generations Church ACC, and the Goulburn Murray Landcare Network (GMLN). The project‟s mission of establishing an environmental corridor containing indigenous species along Dhurringile Road, Tatura has almost been completed (Figure 16). The project has been very successful because of the high importance placed on community engagement and participation and the project has been recognised as a great case study for achieving both environmental and community objectives. The project was nominated for two Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards in 2011 and was a State finalist in the Community-Government Partnership category.

Figure 16: Crouching Emu roadside revegetation site in Tatura. Site was planted in 2008 (left). The same site three years later on the right)

- Council is also a project partner of the Dookie Biolinks Project. The Dookie Biolinks Project is another community driven program that implements the Dookie Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority actions (developed by DSE and the GBCMA) and aims to achieve landscape-scale change in the extent, quality and connectivity of habitat to help improve resilience within the district‟s biodiversity assets. The Dookie district is high a priority area for biodiversity protection and enhancement due to the existence of distinct environmental features including Dookie College Bushland Reserve, several wetlands, Nine Mile Creek and rare remnant vegetation on the rocky hills.

9.5 Council‟s land and biodiversity and opportunities for improvement

Table 10 outlines potential land and biodiversity management opportunities that may become actions in the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Table 10: Potential land and biodiversity opportunities for improvement

Undertaking further strategic work
• Identify the municipality‟s key assets of environmental significance.
• Identify natural landscape features to be protected and managed.
• Implement recommendations and actions included in Council‟s Roadside Management Strategy and the Strategic Framework for Managing Native Vegetation on Road Reserves Strategy.
• Develop a strategic revegetation program at a catchment level
• Develop a strategic native vegetation offset program at a catchment level.
• Foster regional cooperation and resource sharing regarding best practice land management.
• Prepare environmental development guidelines to encourage sustainable land use and development that is sensitive to our natural landform environments.
• Incorporate land capability studies into Rural Land Use Strategy
• Ensure biodiversity GIS data layers are current and readily accessible on Councils GIS program
• Continue Council‟s data share agreement with DSE and amend overlays or zones as required.
• Council staffs to record the location of any significant indigenous flora and fauna then update this data to Council‟s GIS database.
• Outdoor crews required to check GIS mapping program before they undertake any road/roadside works and contact sustainability and Environment Officers when necessary.
• Prepare a salinity management strategy as part of the Rural Land Use Strategy.
• Implement the actions of the Rural Land Use Strategy.
Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme, zones and overlays opportunities
• Significant patches of native vegetation and scattered remnant trees on private land need to be recorded and protected in the Planning Scheme. Biodiversity spatial data from DSE and GB CMA should be overlayed in the Rural Land Use Strategy and the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme to determine areas unsuitable for urban or agricultural development to protect local biodiversity assets.
• Locations of threatened and protective Act listed flora and fauna species also need to be recorded and protected in protective zones and overlays in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.
• Apply the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) to Ramsar wetlands.
• Apply the Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO) to areas of significant riparian vegetation.
• Apply the Salinity Management Overlay (SMO) to recharge areas.
• Use the Schedule to Farming Zone to allow the preparation of Whole Farm Plans (WFPs).

• Apply the Environmental Rural Zone (ERZ) to sensitive rural areas.
Other opportunities
Develop and implement a community environmental action program that could pursue a number of measures; environmental trust funds; management plans; voluntary conservation agreements; rate rebates; and land for wildlife agreements.
Publish a Sustainability Indicator Checklist for planning applications, and include in the assessment criteria.
Encourage State Government to amend legislation to clarify roadside weed management responsibility and to fund these programs appropriately.
Seek greater assistance and consistency from DSE in relation to the Native Vegetation Policy Framework.
Support the undertaking of a study on the assessment of different irrigated industries in the region
Investigate the expansion of rural rebate scheme as incentive for positive land management practice.
Continue to support salinity management programs initiated by DPI, DSE, GB CMA etc
Encourage sustainable farming practices on irrigated and non-irrigated land for long-term sustainable production purposes.
Expanded Whole Farm Plans (WFPs) to include sustainability principles to reduce nutrient run off, improve on site water quality, offer better protection of natural ecosystems and ensure longer term productive viability.
Council, DPI and GBCMA need to ensure that all designers and engineers develop and submit their WFPs with clear information for any proposed works, select land free from native vegetation and fully explain to the landholder the steps involved in native vegetation removal and promote the protection and conservation options available.

10 HEALTHY, PRODUCTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES

10.1 State of our water environment

The river systems within our municipality are under pressure to provide water for agriculture and industry, safe drinking water and support recreational activity and regional tourism. These systems support highly significant ecosystems and their riparian zones often contain the only remaining native vegetation in the surrounding landscape. Our river systems and their surrounding floodplains enable our community to connect with their natural and cultural environments, therefore strengthening our sense of custodianship and belonging.

Our municipality is located on a major floodplain at the confluence of three major river systems and our region is characterised by its flat topography. Flooding in the Shepparton-Mooroopna area happens as a consequence of the interaction of floods in the Goulburn River, Broken River and Seven Creeks. Flooding is a natural phenomenon in our region, providing a range of environmental benefits including the provision of the productive soils. Floodplain management is one of the key land use and development issues for our municipality.

Decades of open pasture farming and irrigated agriculture have changed the region‟s natural hydrological balance resulting in soils with higher than average moisture content, high water tables and higher rainfall run-off. These changes have degraded our waterways and lead to high nutrient run off and salinity problems for much of the municipality and downstream of our catchment.

Figure 17: The Goulburn River, Toolamba. We have been using our rivers primarily as conduits for human water use and their health has suffered accordingly.

10.2 Threats to our water assets

10.2.1 Water availability

The Goulburn River supplies water to irrigated farmland, industry and our urban water supply that is critical to sustain our region‟s economy and community. Maintaining our current anthropogenic water use supply whilst ensuring that our environmental assets are protected from further degradation will require diligent water management governance.

10.2.2 Water quality

Decades of open pasture farming and irrigated agriculture have changed the region‟s natural hydrological balance resulting in soils with higher than average moisture content, high water tables and higher rainfall run-off. These changes have led to high nutrient run off and salinity problems for much of the municipality and downstream of our catchment.

Dairy and mixed farming enterprises contribute to the nutrient load in our waterways by the way of irrigation run-off carrying fertiliser that has been applied to the pasture paddocks and dairy wash down waste can overflow from effluent ponds or from below ground sumps and spill to the surface drainage system or to streams that outfall into major rivers. High nutrient levels and low flow streams result in the blue green algae blooms that develop and restrict the use of water for human and animal consumption.

There are approximately 7,000 septic tanks in our municipality that require periodic maintenance and inspections to ensure that they do not become a water quality threat.

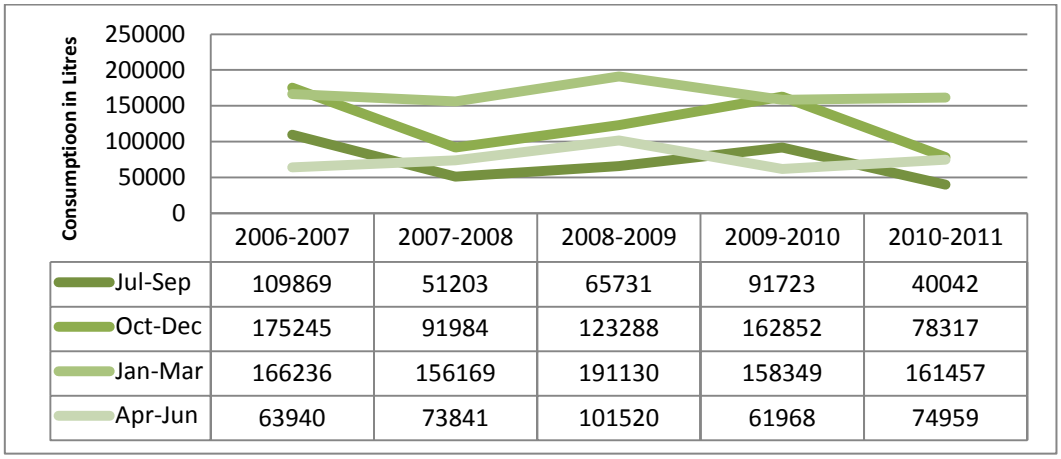
10.2.3 Flooding

Floodplain management attempts to reduce the direct flooding costs in terms of loss of stock and damage to property, and the indirect costs of reduced productivity, road rebuilding, and inconvenience. The key issue is for the effective drainage of land without causing other environmental impacts. It is important that flood management controls do not move or create a surface water management problem to another area, either within or outside the municipality.

10.3 Councils water use

Council has been monitoring its water consumption via Planet Footprint (an independent contractor) for the last 4 years. Planet Footprint produces quarterly reports that track our water usage straight from the utility invoices. Five key high consumption facilities that Council receives water reports on are: Aquamoves, Arthur Dickman Childcare Centre, Doyle‟s Road Complex, Shepparton Sports Stadium, and the Council Offices, Eastbank, Library and the Shepparton Art Museum block

Council‟s water consumption is responsive to seasonal conditions with the warmer months showing higher use than the cooler months. There has been a steady increase in the amount used over the summer period apart from 2010-2011 when the wet summer experienced decreased the watering demand (Figure 18).

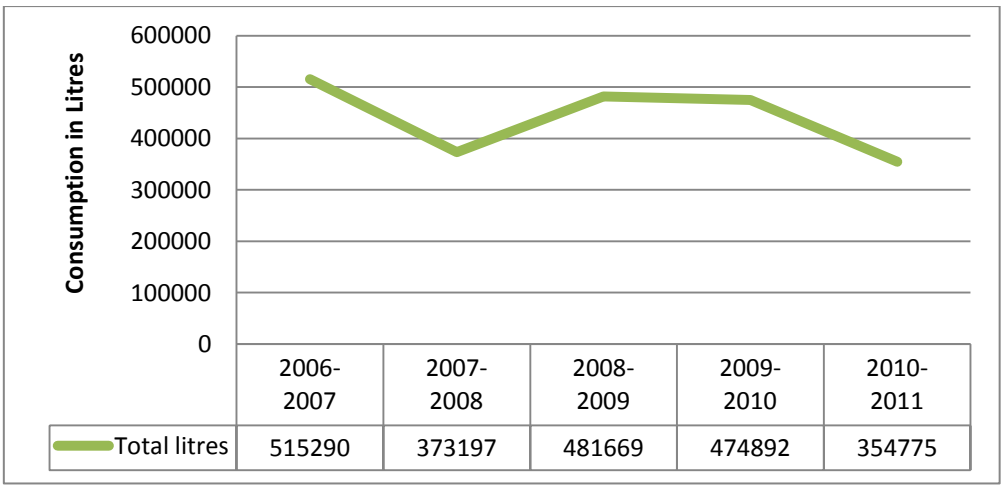


	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Jul-Sep	109869	51203	65731	91723	40042
Oct-Dec	175245	91984	123288	162852	78317
Jan-Mar	166236	156169	191130	158349	161457
Apr-Jun	63940	73841	101520	61968	74959

Figure 18: Potable Water consumption according to season between 2006 and 2011*

Overall, Council‟s annual consumption of potable water has been decreasing since the 2008-2009 financial year (Figure 19). Council has significantly reduced its water consumption by 120,117 litres over the last two financial years. Prior water usage reporting has been restricted to urban water use purchased through Goulburn Valley Water. Rural water consumption will be collected and reported on from July 2012. It is expected this will see a sharp increase in Council water usage.

The overall decline in water consumption is almost certainly due to the wet climatic conditions the region has experienced over the previous two years rather than any significant water saving measures that council has implemented. The data used in the first 2 financial years of this figure is largely based on estimates.



	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Total litres	515290	373197	481669	474892	354775

Figure 19: Annual total potable water consumption per financial year 2006-2011. The data used in the first 2 financial years is largely based on estimates.

10.4 Council‟s water management roles, responsibilities

Council complies with best practice water management by:

- Assessing Council‟s potable water use and develop targets for sustainable water use reductions.
- Assessing Council‟s non-potable water use and develop targets for sustainable water use reductions.

Council guides best practice water management in the community via:

- The Victoria Planning Provisions requires that Council is involved in the development of the Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy and use this document to guide council‟s water management activities
- Council is responsible for the management of urban stormwater, some rural drainage schemes and certain aspects of floodplain management. Performances in these areas have vital implications on our regions waterway health and in the broader context of the catchment.
- Ensure that all new developments are consistent with river health and catchment management objectives in accordance with statutory planning requirements and development controls.
- Work with the stakeholders and the wider community to ensure long-term sustainable environmental provision and anthropogenic access to water due to its importance to our regional economy.
- Ensure the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan continues to protect ground and surface water and initiate education programs for the community.

10.5 Council‟s current water management plans, programs, strategies and projects implemented to accomplish the above responsibilities

- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan (2008) – This plan identifies actions to protect ground and surface waters from domestic wastewater including community education programs. An inspection program to ensure the effectiveness of maintenance of septic tanks is currently under consideration.
- Council is a member of the Northern Region Water Monitoring Partnership program which monitors water quality and quantity in the region. Council is responsible for the maintenance of a number of monitoring sites.
- Sensitive Water Use Plan (2007) – This plan identifies where Council uses potable water, how much potable water is used and actions for Council to reduce potable water consumption.
- Greater Shepparton Stormwater Management Plan (Review 2009) – This plan identifies actions to improve the environmental management of urban stormwater to protect our environmental values and beneficial uses of receiving environments.

- Stormwater education officer – Greater Shepparton, Moira Shire, Mitchell Shire, GB CMA and Goulburn Valley Water jointly employ a stormwater education officer to address stormwater issues regionally with a major focus on schools and the building industry.
- River Connect Project – Greater Shepparton City Council employs a Project Officer and an Education Officer to coordinate the River Connect project and raise the community"s awareness and understanding of the importance of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers.
- Council and the GB CMA have worked in partnership to install a number of Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs) in key locations to minimise the amount of rubbish entering our waterways.
- ICLEI Water Campaign – This is an international freshwater management campaign that aims to build capacity in local government to reduce water consumption and improve local water quality.
- Stage One of the Lake Bartlett Master Plan involved revegetating the lake with native plants which has achieved the major project objective of improving water quality measurements by 20% and the site is also home to a variety of native bird species (Figure 20). This is a significant improvement in water quality, although recent vegetation removal may have since undone some water quality improvements.

Figure 20: Pelican landing at Lake Bartlett, Tatura. Revegetating the lake with native species has achieved the Master Plan"s objective of improving the lake"s water quality measures and increased the lakes use by native birds. The water quality objectives of the project may not have been well communicated to the community as some Tatura residents are concerned with the "natural" look of the lake.

- Council has undertaken a number of floodplain management projects including the *Shepparton Mooroopna Floodplain Study 2002* that provided the rationale for the Floodplain Management Plan in the urban areas of Shepparton and Mooroopna. These projects have assisted in determining appropriate planning zones and overlays from a flooding perspective.
- Council uses three distinct flood levels in the application of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Provisions based on flood levels prepared by the GBCMA in accordance with the *Water Act 1989*.
- Land Subject to Inundation Overlay: This applies to land in flood fringe or flood storage areas that is subject to inundation in a 100 year flood.
- Floodway Overlay: These areas are largely discretionary with developments assessed on performance based criteria.
- Urban Floodway Zone: Contains restrictions on the use and development of land.

10.6 Council‟s water management opportunities for improvement

Table 11 outlines potential water management opportunities that may become actions in the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Table 11: Potential water management opportunities for improvement

Undertaking further strategic work
• Implement Storm Water Management Plan and ICLEI–Water Campaign/Sustainable Water Use Plan.
• Undertake floodplain management studies for the smaller rural towns (where necessary).
• The Shepparton Mooroopna Floodplain Management Plan requires review.
• Review Domestic Wastewater Management Plan to ensure it contains data that assesses the possibility of priority towns receiving sewer access.
• Enhance the community‟s connection to and appreciation for the Goulburn and Broken river environments by implementing the recommendations of the RiverConnect Strategy.
• Assist in the implementation of the irrigation modernisation project.
Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme, zones and overlays opportunities
• Use planning controls to identify areas prone to flooding and limit developments that will impede natural surface water flows.
• Apply the Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ) to publicly owned land in the catchment and to significant waterways.
• Apply the Urban Floodway Zone (UFZ) to active floodplain areas and strictly control use.
• Apply the Floodway Overlay (FO) to land that has significant risk of flooding in active floodplain areas with high hazards.
• Apply the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) to land subject to 1 in 100 year

flooding.
• Apply the Special Building Overlay (SBO) to urban land areas subject to flows from drainage systems.
Other opportunities
• Require all developments near waterways to be connected to reticulated sewer or septic systems complying with the Code of Practice for Septic Tanks and Council‟s Domestic Waste Water MP.
• Implement the CMA Floodplain Management Strategy for surface water management.
• Pursue an integrated approach to floodplain management between GSCC, GB CMA and DPI.
• GSCC and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority to produce joint information about flooding facts. Include emergency recommendations of the floodplain plan.
• Publish standards for Council‟s use of water for community purposes.
• Implement an inspection program to ensure the effectiveness of maintenance of septic tanks.
• Encourage the appropriate authority to prepare a Community Response Plan, to reduce and manage incidences of toxic blooms in watercourses in the event of blue-green algal outbreak.
• Advocate for a land degradation map identifying actions to rehabilitate land degraded through erosion and salinity.
• Encourage best practice via Rural Land Use Strategy, which identifies relative land quality, preferred sustainable uses, the productive capacity of land, and the risk of salinity if vegetation is removed.
• Support a co-ordinated education campaign in conjunction with the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and Department of Primary Industry.
• Encourage water efficient irrigation practices.
• Encourage residents to adopt micro-irrigation methods to irrigate orchards, vines and vegetables to minimise impacts to groundwater levels.
• Continue the co-operative and productive relationship with the GB CMA
• Landholders could use an on-farm Environmental Management System (EMS) to manage nutrient run-off including regular monitoring and audits to ensure nutrients are substantially reduced and managed, to prevent waterway degradation. This could become a component of Whole Farm Plans.
• Explore the opportunities for stormwater reuse in the municipality (including a trial).

11 USING OUR RESOURCES WISELY - ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

11.1 Probable changes to our regions climate as a result of climate change.

By 2030, average annual temperatures in the Goulburn Broken Catchment are projected to be around 0.8°C warmer, with the greatest increases expected in spring and summer. By 2070, average annual temperature is predicted to increase by a further 1.4°C in the Goulburn Broken under a lower emissions scenario. Under a higher emissions scenario, this increase nearly doubles to 2.7°C (DSE 2008).

Meanwhile, rainfall is expected to decline by 3% with greatest reductions expected in spring and winter. Both the lower and higher emission scenarios predict that the greatest reductions in rainfall are likely to occur in spring (DSE 2008). Although rainfall is expected to decrease overall, our rainfall events will be less frequent but much heavier than our region has historically experienced.

Although average temperature and rainfall can affect the regional distribution of some species and the agricultural crops suited to production in a region, the most significant impacts of climate change are more likely to be felt through changes in the frequency and intensity of extreme events, such as frosts and heatwaves, droughts and floods, and storms and bushfires. Frosts can cause fruit to be burnt and flowering to be reduced

Heatwaves (successive hot days) are one of the leading causes of mortality in the developed world. Hot days can stress livestock, cause lower bud and fruit development and burn fruit. Days above 30°C, 35°C and 40°C are projected to increase (Figure 21) with averages for 2070 under the high emissions scenario projected to be similar to those experienced in 2009 in which the region experienced five days in February above 40°C and a hottest day of 44.3^{o}C.

Over the past 15 years the Goulburn Broken region has experienced the extremes of a prolonged drought and widespread flooding. Between 1997 and 2009, reductions in rainfall of up to 30% from the average were experienced in some parts of the region. Since 2010 the region experienced significant rainfall that caused flooding in the City of Greater Shepparton and across the northern floodplains.

While droughts reduce agricultural output, reduce flows in rivers and cause ground shrinkage and damage to buildings, intense rainfall causes flooding of houses and shops, livestock losses and crop damage, water logging and erosion of farm land, increased threat of pest and disease incursion and damage to fences. Importantly, the particularly dry year of 2002 and the particularly wet year of 2010 were not the most extreme this region has experienced in recent times, but instead falling between the lowest and highest for the reference period 1961 – 1990 (Figure 22).

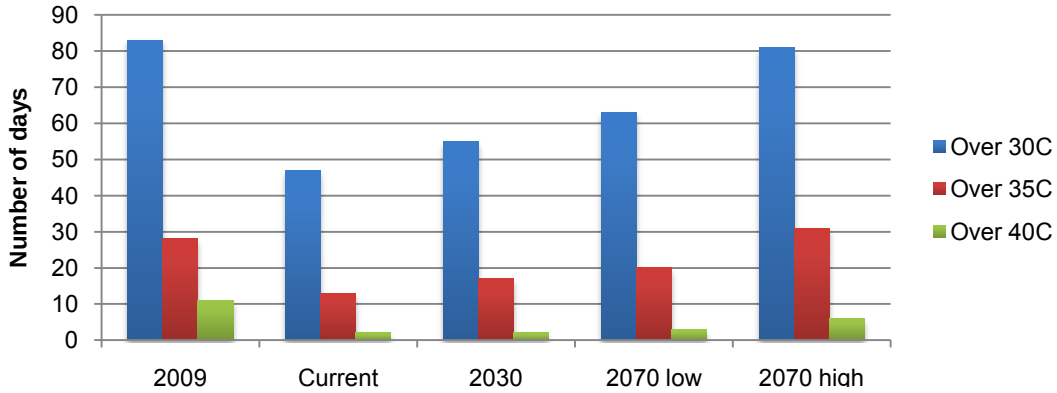


Figure 21: Number of hot days at Mangalore – current and projected (RMCG 2011)

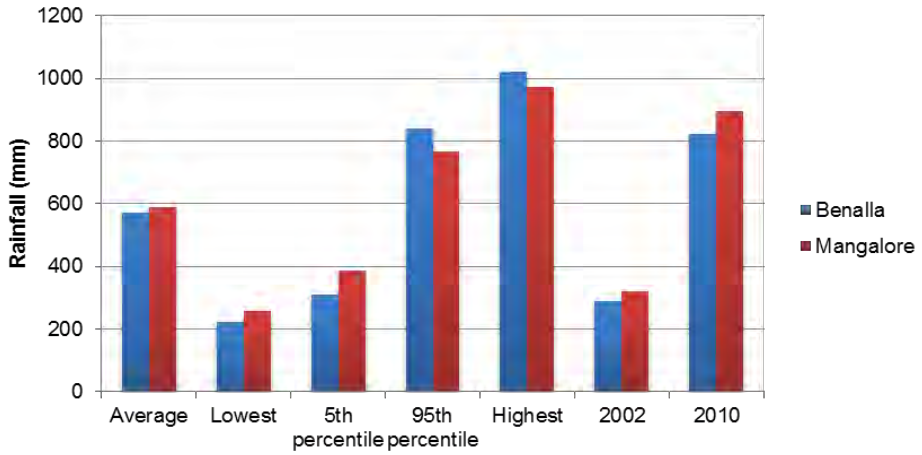


Figure 22: Historical (1961 – 1990) rainfall in the Goulburn Broken Catchment compared to 2002 and 2010 (RMCG 2011)

By 2030, increases in potential evaporation and reductions in relative humidity are expected to contribute to drier conditions, while fewer rain-days (>1 mm) are projected, increasing the incidence of drought (DSE 2008). By 2070, conditions will become increasingly drier as potential evaporation continues to increase and relative humidity decreases (DSE 2008). Although the intensity of rainfall is expected to rise in most seasons, lower soil moisture may reduce the incidence of flooding.

Hail and wind cause damage to buildings, including houses and schools, and affect commercial fruit crops by damaging the fruit prior to picking. High winds can also disrupt electricity supply and traffic due to fallen trees. Bushfires similarly damage and, in some cases, destroy buildings and disrupt the supply of most major services. In March 2010, winds of up to 156km/hr and rainfall up to 3mm per minute damaged houses and crops, mainly in the northern part of the region.

In February 2009, the southern part of the Goulburn Broken region experienced the worst bushfires on record as a result of high temperatures and wind speeds and extremely low soil moisture and humidity. The Kinglake fire complex killed 159 people and destroyed 1,800 houses and 330,000 hectares of land. With an expected decline in average annual and seasonal total rainfall and reduced soil moisture, the

prevalence of bushfires is expected to increase. An increase in the intensity of rainfall indicates there may be more storms, however, changes in wind speeds are expected to be negligible (DSE 2008).

11.2 Threats relating to our environmental assets from energy use and climate change

Environmental changes associated with climate change will impact our natural assets that include waterways, wetlands, ecological communities and species, recreational parkland, waterway frontages, wetlands, fishing locations, parks with high cultural or historical significance and stands of intact remnant native vegetation. The immediate risks to our region‟s natural assets arise from the effects of the climate variability on our natural assets, Council‟s management of native vegetation and from the community‟s response to extreme events.

Average changes in temperature and rainfall are likely to modify the diverse habitats currently present in the Goulburn Broken region, increasing the opportunity for weed invasion, decreasing connectivity and contributing to decline in ecological quality, in turn leading to loss of biodiversity, soil erosion, runoff and reduced regional ecosystem services (e.g. carbon cycling, land productivity, air and water quality). At the same time, low, high and unseasonal flooding and flow regimes may reduce the water quality and hence biodiversity of the region‟s wetlands and waterways.

Changes in rainfall can affect councils‟ ability to improve native vegetation with unseasonal rain events increasing environmental and noxious weed invasion and abundance and therefore management, and dry conditions and heatwaves requiring more staff resources to establish and maintain plantings.

Finally, fire and flood recovery efforts have in some cases included removal of native vegetation, which results in greater damage and fragmentation of habitat reducing biodiversity and its associated ecological functions.

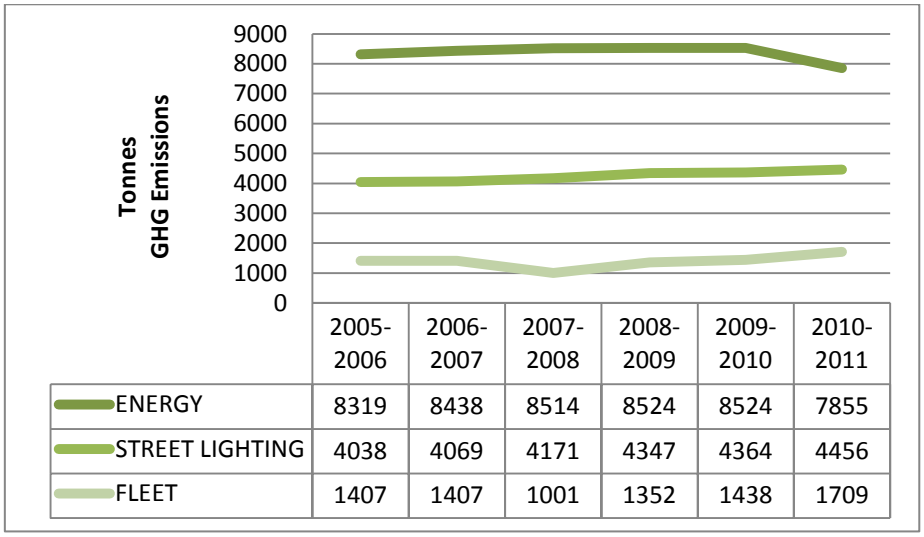
11.3 Council‟s energy use

Council has been monitoring its energy consumption via Planet Footprint (an independent contractor) for the last 4 years. Planet Footprint produces quarterly reports that track our energy usage straight from the utility invoices. Council also receive reports on fleet fuel use and street lighting and all energy reports contain information on financial costs, fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Five key high consumption facilities that Council receives energy reports on are: Aquamoves, Arthur Dickman Childcare Centre, Doyle‟s Road Complex, Shepparton Sports Stadium and the Council Offices, Eastbank, Library and Shepparton Art Museum building.

From the data analysed by Planet Footprint, Councils emissions from the consumption of electricity and gas have decreased over the last two financial years

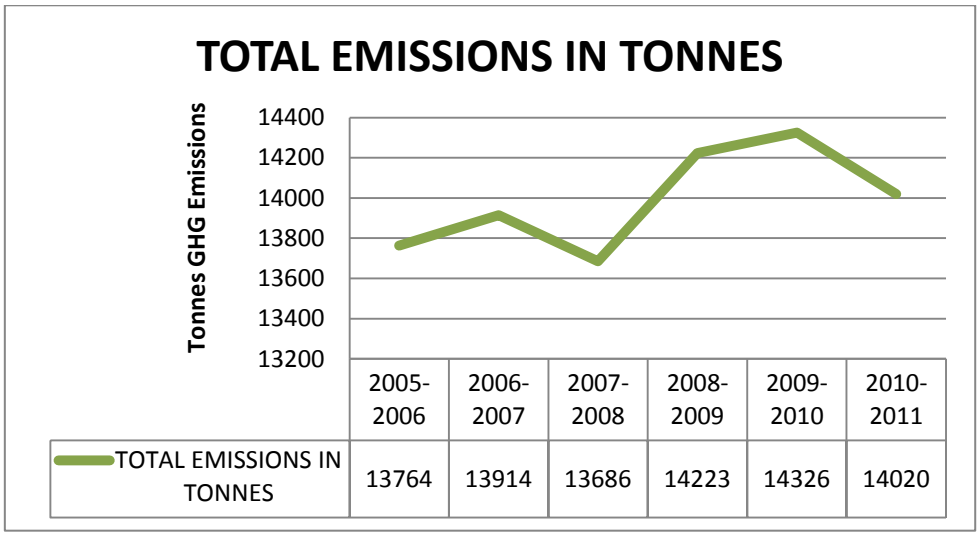
yet the emissions from fleet and street lighting have increased slightly (Figure 23). This data relates to the total Green House Gas (GHG) emissions attributable to Greater Shepparton City Council and includes emissions from all council managed buildings, lighting and vehicles.

Energy, or electricity and gas consumption, has been relatively stable over the 6 years of reporting. There was a decrease in GHG emissions from electricity and gas usage of 669 tonnes reported in 2010/2011 financial year compared to the previous year. Street Lighting has increased slightly each year of reporting. Fleet emissions have likewise increased in the previous three financial years. This equates to an overall decrease in total emissions of 300 tonnes for the financial year 2010-2011 compared to the previous year (Figure 24). Unfortunately some data in these reports have been based on estimations, particularly in the first 3 years of reporting so this information is to be used as a guide only.



	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
ENERGY	8319	8438	8514	8524	8524	7855
STREET LIGHTING	4038	4069	4171	4347	4364	4456
FLEET	1407	1407	1001	1352	1438	1709

Figure 23: Council total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions excluding waste



	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
TOTAL EMISSIONS IN TONNES	13764	13914	13686	14223	14326	14020

Figure 24: Total Council GHG emissions excluding waste*

There are a number of possible reasons for the decline in energy use over the last two financial years including:

- Implemented energy efficiency measures are beginning to have an impact;
- The milder climatic conditions have reduced the demand for heating/cooling;
- Reporting may have discrepancies such as some energy accounts may not be being reported against. For example, the reporting organisation estimates the usage of gas and electricity accounts that are closed if they are not notified. Likewise, the reporting organisation is unable to report on new accounts if they are not informed that new accounts are opened.
- It is expected that energy consumption will spike this financial year as the Aquamoves gas account has not been reported on until recently.

11.4 Council"s greenhouse gas reduction target

On September 19 2000, Council resolved to participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Program. Milestone 3 of the program required the development and adoption of a *Greenhouse Local Action Plan 2005* that identified greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Council"s target was a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 20% of 1999 emission levels by 2010.

A formal audit of the greenhouse gas emissions reduction target is in the process of being completed, but some preliminary figures show that on all available figures (buildings, fleet and streetlights) council emissions have increased on the business as usual scenario (Table 12). In light of the increase in the Building, Fleet and Streetlights, the assumption is that there is an increase in emissions in 2010 compared to 1999 emission levels.

Table 12: Council greenhouse gas emissions and targets

Sector	1999 Actual (Equivalent CO2e tonnes)	2010 „Business as usual" (Equivalent CO2e tonnes)	2010 20% Reduction target (Equivalent CO2e tonnes)	2010 Actual (Equivalent CO2e tonnes)*
Buildings	6,110	6,593	4,888	7,918
Vehicle Fleet	1,265	1,326	1,012	1,542
Streetlights	3,737	3,886	2,990	4,405
Waste	17	29	13	N/A
Water/Sewage	7,353	7,736	5,882	N/A
Total	**18,482**	**19,570**	**14,785**	**13,865**

*Data from CCP™ Greenhouse Software except for data from Planet Footprint Quarterly reports (End of financial 2, 2012-2011)

11.5 Councils energy efficiency and climate change roles and responsibilities

- Reduce Council‟s and the community‟s greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate (reducing the severity of) the impacts of climate change.
- Implement adaptation measures to ensure Council is prepared to respond to the climate change impacts.
- Raise community awareness of the relevance of climate change and the impacts it will have on our environment and way of life.

11.6 Council‟s current energy efficiency and climate change plans and programs being implemented to accomplish the above responsibilities

- Greater Shepparton City Council joined the ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) program in 2000. The aims of this program were to evaluate and set targets for greenhouse gas emissions for council and community activities, promote energy efficient subdivision and house design and to provide incentives and education. Council has completed all five milestones of the program.
- ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Plus – This is a program for councils that have completed milestone five of ICLEI‟s CCP Program. CCP Plus offers a framework for supporting councils that have moved beyond the milestone framework to continue to strive towards their corporate and community emission reduction goals.
- Council is a foundation member of the Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance (GBGA) which was established in 2007 to promote regional action on climate change. The seven founding councils and supporting agencies are working together to achieve catchment wide climate change mitigation, adaptation and education actions.
- Planet Footprint captures Council‟s energy consumption, fleet fuel, greenhouse gas emissions and energy costs data (directly from the energy provider) to measure and compare Council‟s energy performance over time and against other Councils (nationally and internationally). This data is used to support and encourage managers to improve their branch‟s environmental and financial performances.

11.7 Council‟s energy efficiency and climate change opportunities for improvement

Table 13: Council‟s opportunities for improved energy efficiency and climate change mitigation, adaptation and education.

Undertaking further strategic work
• Review CPP Milestones, the *Greenhouse Local Action Plan 2005* and municipal targets of reducing corporate greenhouse gas emissions from 1999 levels by 20% by

2010 and community greenhouse gas emissions from 1999 levels by 20% by 2010.
• Adopt and implement actions outlined in the Greater Shepparton Cycling Strategy2012 to encourage less motor vehicle use in the municipality.
• Update the Economic Development strategy for to target the clean energy industry.
• Continue to participate in ICLEI Energy Programs such as Cities for Climate Protection.
Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme, zones and overlays opportunities
• Protecting native vegetation and minimising native vegetation removal as a mitigation action
• Protect bushlands and wetlands, for carbon sequestration.
Other opportunities
• Include actions identified in the GBGA Goulburn Broken Local Government Regional Climate Change Adaptation Plan and Business Plan (eg. streetlight program, community and local government education, and implementation of mitigation and adaptation actions.
• Implement fleet policy guidelines by purchasing of low emission vehicles.
• Endorse an urban design approach that includes an assessment of climate and energy costs.
• Assist with carbon sequestration by encouraging development plans to include increased indigenous plantings on private and public land and decrease carbon emissions by reducing reliance on motorised transport.
• Support renewable energy use by switching to green energy.
• Conduct feasibility studies to establish a community solar energy hub and to install solar panels on Council buildings.
• Reduce the areas of dark roofs and pavement in urban areas, which cause temperatures up to 10 degrees hotter than the surrounding countryside.
• Increase carbon sinks via carbon stores in trees, shrubs and soil.
• Publish an information sheet for developers to promote the use of energy and water efficient devices in new developments.
• Create innovative solutions to implement sustainable energy options with all stakeholders.
• Initiate and co-ordinate a program of community education including initiatives such as energy efficient lighting rebates, solar energy initiatives or a revolving energy fund.
• Promote the design of guidelines/fact sheets for passive solar design, smart lot design & building star ratings.

12 USING OUR RESOURCES WISELY – WASTE MANAGEMENT

12.1 State of our environment

Greater Shepparton City Council provides numerous waste services and facilities for residents including a weekly kerbside waste collection service and fortnightly recycling service to 26,000 properties and a green organics collection service to 15,612 premises. Public recycling and waste disposal facilities are available at three transfer stations (Ardmona, Shepparton and Murchison) and a commercial waste disposal facility is located at Cosgrove. The Cosgrove facility is the only active landfill site in the municipality.

During the 2010/2011 financial year a total of 46,457 tonnes of material was sent to landfill. This figure is down 1,500 tonnes from 2009/2010 and represents a thirty per cent decrease (20,000 tonnes less) than in 2002/2003. Kerbside waste services sent 12,978 tonnes to landfill after diverting 6,114 tonnes of green organic waste and 7,890 tonnes through recycling. Council transfer stations contributed 2,334 tonnes to landfill but diverted approximately 32,000 tonnes from landfill through the recycling of concrete, brick, green organics, plasterboard, metal, cardboard, polystyrene, e-waste, plastics, tyres, mattresses and a few other materials.

Figure 25: Councils green waste collection service has drastically reduced the total amount of waste going to landfill.

The Greater Shepparton City Council supports the State Governments objective of approaching zero waste and the targets set to accomplish this goal. Greater Shepparton City Council achieved the target of a 45 percent recovery rate of

municipal waste by 2008/09. The next target for Council is to achieve a 65 percent municipal waste recovery rate by 2014 (on 2002/2003 levels). There is great potential for continued recovery of food waste, green organics and construction and demolition materials in the municipality.

Commercial and industrial waste accounts for a high percentage of the overall waste produced and disposed of in greater Shepparton. In 2008/09 Council achieved the State Government"s *Towards Zero Waste* commercial and industrial waste recovery target of sixty five per cent. The 2014 target is set at an eighty percent recovery rate. The Shepparton transfer station takes industrial waste in the forms of concrete, bricks and green waste, while a high portion of the loads entering the Cosgrove landfill are of commercial/ industrial origin. Council recognises that great potential exists to heavily reduce the amount of commercial and industrial waste material going to landfill via diversion, recovery and recycling.

The amount of electronic waste or e-waste has been on the increase for many years. E-waste includes most electrical appliances and their components that are used regularly around the home or office. The Shepparton, Ardmona and Murchison resource recovery centres all accept and recycle electronic waste. The e-waste taken to the Murchison and Ardmona transfer stations are left intact and transported to a recycling facility, whilst a large number of the e–waste items delivered to the Shepparton transfer station are dismantled by Council staff before the various components are sent off to different receivers for further processing. White goods such as refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners are also recycled at the Shepparton resource recovery centre.

12.2 Threats relating to waste management

An increasing population brings with it an increase in waste generated. Demand for waste management services is an issue of concern and will continue to be so in the future. Council needs to continue to meet resource recovery targets and decrease the amount of waste going to landfill whilst our population produces a greater quantity of total waste. Inappropriate and poorly performed waste management is likely to lead to contamination of healthy soil and water resources, resulting in flora and fauna loss and human health problems.

Other major issues are illegal dumping of rubbish and roadside litter, and whether the costs associated with proper waste disposal are contributing to these practices. The Strategy will explore actions and opportunities to address these threats.

12.3 Council"s waste management roles and responsibilities

Ensure the Greater Shepparton Waste Management Strategy continues to meet the needs of residents and aims for the State Governments “towards zero waste” targets.

12.4 Council"s current waste management plans, programs, strategies and projects

- Waste Management Strategy (2005–2015) strengthens Council"s commitment to minimising environmental impacts associated with its waste management activities, and also supports the provision of best practice waste services and facilities. The Waste Management Strategy was reviewed 2010.
- There are a number of internal stakeholders that influence the management of waste by the Council. Organisations such as the EPA, Sustainability Victoria, WorkSafe and Resource GV implement state and federal government legislation and Council is either required or encouraged to perform in accordance with their guidelines and recommendations.
- Council is a participant in the nationwide drumMUSTER program that provides safe and proper disposal of clean farm chemical drums. Around 10,000 drums are collected per annum under this program which represents around 10% of drums sold in the local area.
- Council also supports the MobileMuster program provided by the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association. Old, unwanted mobile phones are collected and recycled to prevent them from ending up in landfill.
- The Council is a Plasback program partner providing for the recycling of farm plastics, which have historically been taken to landfill or illegally burnt. Farm plastics including silage wrap is accepted at the Shepparton, Ardmona and Murchison transfer stations.
- Council supports the "Detox your home program" a Sustainability Victoria household chemical collection program and provides permanent collection points for most unwanted household chemicals and paints.
- Council also has a resource recovery sales program where items in good condition and working order are recovered and sold for very low prices at the Shepparton and Ardmona resource recovery centres rather than sent to landfill.
- Greater Shepparton City Council' has implemented a household battery recycling initiative in partnership with Sustainability Victoria. Almost all household batteries including; AA, AAA, C, D, 6 and 9 volt types, rechargeable batteries, power tool batteries, torch batteries and other various batteries used around the house (Figure 26).

Figure 26: Look out for these battery recycling containers at Council facilities including the Welsford St offices and Municipal libraries

12.5 Council's waste management opportunities for improvement

Table 14: Council's waste management opportunities for further improvements

Undertaking further strategic work
• Continue to explore avenues to reduce the amount of industrial and commercial waste material going to landfill through diversion, recovery and recycling to achieve the Towards Zero Waste target of an 80 percent municipal waste recovery rate.
• Support the integrated effluent disposal strategy with EPA and GB CMA.
Other opportunities
• Control the impact of rubbish dumping, possibly in response to higher gate fees. Explore funding for education and awareness programs to address this problem
• Re-develop existing transfer stations to obtain higher separation and recycling capacity
• Explore pre-sorting processes for the commercial/industrial and construction/demolition waste.
• Council continue to broaden spectrum and improve the efficiency of e-waste recycling.
• Explore options for moving the processing of electronic waste to an outside contractor; allowing resource recovery centre operators to focus more of their attention on diverting recyclables from the waste stream.
• Investigate the possibility of dismantling mattresses" on site and have the components separately recycled.
• Further organics diversion including an assessment of collecting full food in the green organics kerbside bin.
• Continued work to ensure that contaminants in the organics and recyclables stream stay within industry benchmarks.
• Address the major issue of roadside litter by providing support for Adopt a Roadside program participants
• Explore opportunities to purchase roadside litter collection equipment.

13 LEADING BY EXAMPLE TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT A RESILIENT AND INFORMED COMMUNITY.

The following information is also relevant to all the other discussion paper themes but is located in this section because it provides avenues for Council to lead by example and support a resilient and informed community.

13.1 Council‟s role in regards to building Council & community resilience

Council can facilitate environmental sustainability cultural change within the Council organisation and the wider community via a range of mechanisms. Council has environmental management legislative responsibilities to fulfil but can employ several different means to initiate improvements in environmental management performance. Council‟s role can be one of advocator, manager, educator, facilitator, provider, regulator, lobbyer, encourager and community leader.

13.2 Threats to Council leading by example and supporting a resilient and informed community

Significant challenges and obstacles exist that can prevent or slow Council‟s progress towards leading by example and supporting a resilient and informed community. Most organisational challenges that impact and shape Greater Shepparton‟s approach to environmental sustainability can be categorised into two distinct groups: jurisdictional or legislative, and operational.

13.2.1 <u>Jurisdictional or legislative challenges</u>

- Issues arise regularly with the implementation of the Native Vegetation Framework, including limited DSE resources, and the provision of appropriate training and support for Council staff who are not native vegetation experts.
- Electricity retailers are the owners of street lighting assets and can be uncooperative in considering the implementation of more efficient street lighting.
- Government is not providing clear advice on the responsibility of roadside native vegetation and weed management.
- Reliability of water supply for industry and our environment.
- Planning Scheme Zone/Overlays can act to enhance environmental protection. These are unlikely to be developed with limited funding available and lack of direction and support from key natural resource management agencies.
- Several environmental sustainability acts of legislation introduced by the former State Labour Government are currently under review or in the process of being modified by the incumbent State Government. Uncertainty surrounding such changes and the uncertain implications of these changes make future environmental sustainability planning difficult.

13.2.2 Operational challenges

- Council‟s Sustainability and Environment Team is a small team with very limited time and financial resources. Further support is required for the successful implementation of organisational behaviour change and to ensure Council is complying with its legislative requirements and responsibilities as they continue to increase. Limited financial and staffing resources have led to reactive implementation of projects and reduced the team‟s capacity to undertake strategic environmental projects. Funding is often available for environmental projects which only require in-kind contributions from Council but unfortunately the team doesn‟t have the time resources to allocate towards any further projects.
- Limited funding and resource availability to undertake increasing strategic environmental projects which leads to a reactive implementation of projects.
- Limited opportunity to access ongoing funding to support existing programs as funding is normally available for a short period of time. These programs build expectations within the community, with local government required to continue funding.
- Timing of funding does not always coincide with Council‟s budgetary process.
- Continued growth of municipality while trying to meet targets for reductions in water use, energy use and waste generation. This is basically the challenge of „sustainable growth‟.
- Current water prices and significant pay-back periods prohibit some improvement works to reduce water consumption.
- Greater competition for environmental projects due to the decrease in Council‟s capital budget.
- Purchase of green power is difficult due to the increase in costs.
- There is quite often a high turnover of staff from state government and Council departments which can result in inconsistent advice and loss historical knowledge.
- Lack of capacity to achieve behaviour change to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions.

13.3 Council‟s current environmental sustainability plans, programs, strategies and projects to build Council & Community Resilience

- Greater Shepparton, Moira Shire, Campaspe Shire and the GB CMA employ a municipal catchment coordinator to address planning and environmental issues regionally.
- Sustainable Purchasing Policy (2002) – This policy encourages Council to purchase products which are environmentally more sustainable than other products/services that perform the same function.

- In 2011 the Council commissioned a Sustainable Community Strategy (funded through the Federal Government‟s Strengthening Basin Communities Program) which focuses on the impacts of climate change and reduced water availability across four themes; the regional economy, utilities infrastructure, community Infrastructure – libraries, town halls, parks and gardens, Council‟s capacity to meet the needs of its community as the climate and water availability change.
- Council is developing a report and adaptation toolkit called "a future with less water project". This project is also funded through the Federal Government‟s Strengthening Basin Communities Program to help Council adapt and mitigate the likely social and economic impacts of future reductions in water availability on the Greater Shepparton community.
- Council provides a financial contribution towards the GB CMA Cultural Heritage Officer and receives services such as the development of Cultural Heritage Management Plans in return.

13.4 How is Council currently performing at leading by example to encourage and support a resilient and informed community?

In late 2012 the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee produced two surveys to gain an understanding of Councils current environmental sustainability management performance and to ensure that the contents of the Strategy reflect the community‟s environmental priorities and values. Responses to the community environmental sustainability values and behaviours survey and the internal Council staff environmental sustainability survey are summarised below but the full reports are included in Appendices XII and XIII respectively.

13.4.1 Greater Shepparton community environmental sustainability values and behaviours survey

Community engagement is paramount to the development of a relevant and comprehensive Environmental Sustainability Strategy (the Strategy). The Greater Shepparton community environmental sustainability values and behaviours survey was a key step in ensuring that our community have input into the contents of the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

An open response survey format was used as it was very important that Council develop a survey without any preconceived ideas about what the community responses may have been. Although we would have preferred to have higher numbers of participants in the youth categories, it was very pleasing to receive input into the Strategy‟s development by 143 community members.

The City of Greater Shepparton lies at the confluence of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers so it is not surprising that our river environment was confirmed by 84% of respondents as the region‟s greatest environmental asset. Our remnant vegetation

and bushland, and our wetlands were the next highest responses. Victoria Park Lake (Figure 27) was listed as the equal forth greatest environmental asset in the municipality, which is great recognition of Council‟s recent re-development works.

Of greatest concern was that a third of the Greater Shepparton community has either a lack of knowledge or a negative perception relating to Councils environmental management. 16% of respondents were unsure of what Council currently did to protect and enhance our environment (the second highest response), while 12% of respondents believed that Council does nothing or very little to protect and enhance our environment.

Reducing vehicle use (44%), reducing and energy use (42%) and specifically installing solar panels (30%) were the highest responses received to the environmentally sustainable action you would most like to undertake. The community also stated that community engagement is vital to the development of a relevant and comprehensive Environmental Sustainability Strategy. The full community survey report is included in Appendix XII.

Figure 27: The redeveloped Victoria Park Lake (photo taken February 2012), was the equal forth most valued environmental asset identified in the community survey.

13.4.2 Council staff environmental sustainability survey

A vital component of strategy development was to commence engagement with Council staff via an environmental sustainability survey to determine their environmental sustainability behaviours, values and concerns. It was very important that Council develop a survey without any preconceived ideas about what the responses may have been, so an open response survey format was created.

Although we would have preferred to have higher numbers of staff complete the survey, it was pleasing to receive input into the Strategy"s development by 27 staff members and that staff from all five Council departments were represented in the results. The results from this survey will be very useful for comparative analyses with any future survey results, and will guide the development of the Draft Sustainability and Environment Strategy.

Major findings from the survey was that over half (58%) of the survey respondents stated that they either had a limited knowledge of the Sustainability and Environment Branch"s role in the organisation (37%) or gave no response to the question. Council becoming a leader in environmental management was the highest response received for the question: what would you think Council could do to address environmental issues. After financial constraints the next highest barriers identified in the survey were: an entrenched culture of staff with cynical attitudes towards environmental issues within the organisation; and a lack of will and commitment (political and organisational). The full results of the Council staff survey can be found in Appendix XIII.

13.5 Potential opportunities to build Council & community resilience

Table 15: Potential opportunities to build Council and community resilience

Undertaking further strategic work
• Encourage the adoption of ecologically sustainable development principles and technologies in the future development of both urban and rural areas.
• Adopt and implement actions outlined in the Greater Shepparton Cycling Strategy 2012
• Develop programs for behavioural change in the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the ICLEI – CCP Program initiatives and Resource Smart Program.
• Adopt a new Sustainable Purchasing Policy.
• Update the Economic Development strategy to target the clean green food industry.
Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme, zones and overlays opportunities
• Ensure that the Environmental Sustainability Strategy is incorporated into the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme to maximise its relevance and capability to facilitate environmental sustainability improvements within the organisation and community.
• Develop environmental zones/overlays through the outcomes of the Rural Strategy and other regional initiatives.

Other opportunities
• Explore opportunities to increase support for the Sustainability and Environment Team. Further assistance is required for the successful implementation of organisational behaviour change and to ensure Council is compiling with its legislative requirements and responsibilities as they continue to increase. Limited financial and staffing resources have led to reactive implementation of projects and reduced the team‟s capacity to undertake strategic environmental projects. Funding is often available for environmental projects which only require in-kind contributions from Council but unfortunately the team doesn‟t have the time resources to allocate towards any further projects.
• Continue to explore and provide environmental sustainability solutions and opportunities via Council‟s Sustainable Development Working Group to reduce energy and water use and waste production. Utilise this group to drive organisational behavioural change.
• Landcare and other local environment groups contain dedicated, passionate individuals with extensive knowledge, skills, equipment and volunteer labour resources. These groups often get little support and are usually limited by financial constraints. How can Council optimise our partnerships with these groups beyond National Tree Day assistance?
• Improve the limited funding and resources available to undertake increasing environmental management responsibilities through further allocation of State Government funds.
• Investigate the value of applying a performance based rate as an “Environmental Rate” at the local or state level or a rate rebate to encourage sustainable environmental practices.
• Develop a sustainable Council building/s.
• Encourage innovative, appropriate and sustainable housing solutions via a Housing Strategy.
• Ensure that environmental sustainability considerations are included in Council‟s Fleet Management Policy Review.
• Introduce a sustainability and environment checklist that must be completed for all projects as part of the Prince 2 project management process.
• Introduce an environmental sustainability section into the Council Meeting Report Template to ensure these issues are considered and discussed for all Council projects and matters.
• Commence a regular septic tank assessment program to ensure compliance with the Code of Practice for septic tanks.
• Encourage the use of recycled, re-used and green products across Council.
• Work in a cooperative manner with stakeholders and environmental groups.
• Improve enforcement of septic tank maintenance regulations.
• Engage and educate the Greater Shepparton community on environmental matters.
• Determine City of Greater Shepparton‟s ideal ecological footprint.

14 WHERE TO NOW?

Feedback and discussions generated from this discussion paper now will be used to guide the development of the Draft Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability (Refer to Figure 2). The Draft Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will also be available for public comment next year.

Several community discussion sessions will be scheduled during the discussion paper comment period to help initiate community discussion. Please check for details on the Council website: (http://www.greatershepparton.com.au).

The following questions can be used as a guide for the contents of your submission, or feel free to provide any other comments that you may have.

1.	Are the topics, actions and outcomes listed in Table 1 comprehensive enough? Have we left anything out? Have we included something that we shouldn"t have?
2.	What do you think of the four strategic themes identified for the Environmental Sustainability Strategy? Do they cover the topics, actions and outcomes appropriately?
3.	Do you think it is important that Council develop and implement a Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy?
4.	Is the information presented in the state of the environment sections accurate?
5.	Are there any other threats that we have failed to identify?
6.	Have we left out any policies or strategic documents relevant to any of the strategic themes?
7.	Should Greater Shepparton City Council be addressing environmental issues?
8.	How well do you believe Council has been performing at fulfilling its Federal and State Government legislative obligations?
9.	How well do you believe Council has been fulfilling the environmental sustainability objectives set for itself in the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy, Council Plan 2009-13 and the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme/ Municipal Strategic Statement?
10.	Do you believe that council should be increasing its resources (financial and/or staff) allocated to fulfil the environmental sustainability objectives and actions outlined in the policy documents mentioned above?
11.	What other opportunities are there for Council to achieve positive outcomes on environmental issues?
12.	Are there any other recommendations you would make to Council based on this discussion paper?
13.	Do you think this discussion paper provides a good summary of the environmental issues and potential opportunities for better environmental management in the City of Greater Shepparton?

15 CONCLUSIONS

The primary objective of Councils environmental management activities is to apply best practice environmental sustainability management to all of Council business and service delivery. It is only by satisfying this objective and transitioning to an environmentally sustainable organisation can Council provide our community with the leadership required to ensure that Greater Shepparton fulfil the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy Plan objective of becoming:

"The regional centre distinguished by the range of its sustainable achievements."

As outlined in this discussion paper, Greater Shepparton City Council has environmental sustainability legislative responsibilities to comply with, and many environmental policies, strategies and projects to implement. There are however, many opportunities present that might bring about better environmental sustainability outcomes and address previously identified challenges and barriers. The Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will be the driving document to transition Greater Shepparton to an environmentally sustainable region.

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Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Discussion Paper – Appendices

Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee

August 2012

Victorian Local Sustainability Accord

Sustainability Fund

State Government Victoria

Greater Shepparton

Notes for the Reader

The Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy – Discussion Paper has been written by Travis Turner (Sustainability and Environment Officer) and the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference (Steering) Committee (SRC) to provide Council staff, Council stakeholders and the wider community with background information relevant to the development of the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy (to be completed in 2013).

The contents of this paper have been collated from relevant literature reviews, discussions held in Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee meetings, and responses to internal staff and community environmental sustainability surveys. This document is not necessarily representative of the views and opinions of Greater Shepparton City Council in relation to environmental sustainability management.

This discussion paper is open for public exhibition and comment for a period of 28 days from 1 to 28 October 2012. The closing date for submissions is 5.00pm on the 28 October 2012. Providing feedback to this discussion paper is one step in a series of opportunities that the community will have to actively participate in the development of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy. You can use the questions outlined on page 71 of the Discussion Paper as a guide to writing your submission or feel free to include any other comments that you may have.

Written submission can be received by Council via:

1. Mail - Greater Shepparton City Council, Locked Bag 1000, Shepparton VIC 3632
2. Email - travis.turner@shepparton.vic.gov.au
3. In person - 90 Welsford St, Shepparton 3630

For further information regarding the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy please contact Travis Turner (03) 5832 9700 or visit our website (http://www.greatershepparton.com.au/council/environment).

To reduce the size and readability of this document, the Discussion Paper has been divided into two separate documents. The Discussion Paper and the Discussion Paper Appendices. Both documents are available on council's website.

Purpose of the Discussion Paper - Appendices document

The Discussion Paper - Appendices is a complementary document paper for the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy – Discussion Paper. The contents of this paper are much more in-depth and were written for any reader of the Discussion Paper that is seeking further knowledge on topics, documents and legislation relevant to the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy – Discussion Paper.

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APPENDIX I - ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY STAKEHOLDER REFERENCE COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE

4. Background

Greater Shepparton City Council has received funding from the Victorian Sustainability Accord for the preparation of an Environmental Sustainability Strategy. The development of the Strategy will enable Council to identify and prioritise sustainability and climate change activities with improved integration across Council strategies and plans.

The project supports local capacity building through a strong engagement program both across Council business units and within the local community.

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy will address issues that have arisen through the development of Council‟s Local Environmental Sustainability Priority Statement (LESPS), and strategic implementation actions identified in the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) namely:

- Prepare an Environmental Strategy incorporating Local Biodiversity Action Plans.
- Prepare an integrated strategy to address all aspects of our environment and to cooperate in the development of regional environmental plans.
- Proactively incorporate sustainability and environmental issues into Council projects and programs.
- Communicate and promote Council‟s environmental and sustainability commitment and achievements, internally as well as to ratepayers and the wider community.
- The Environmental Sustainability Strategy will also:
- Identify an overall vision, broad directions and targets
- Provide a framework for coordinating and regularly reviewing existing environmental sustainability policies, plans and projects
- Assist Council to involve community and cross-Council business units in local sustainability goals and activities
- Identify priority projects and commence action planning.

5. Purpose of Committee

The Greater Shepparton City Council (Council) has resolved to appoint a Stakeholder Reference Committee to inform the development of Council‟s Sustainability and Environmental Strategy (Strategy).

The Stakeholder Reference Committee (SRC) will have input into the development of the Strategy. The Committee‟s role is one of providing advice. It is not delegated to make decisions on behalf of the Council.

6. Functions of the Committee

The Stakeholder Reference Committee will have the following functions:

- To advise and assist in the development and review of Council‟s Environmental Sustainability Strategy.
- To advise and assist in determining the Environmental Sustainability Strategy scope.
- Engage and communicate with the wider community according to the guidelines and requirements of the Strategic Community Engagement Plan and Communications Plan developed from the Greater Shepparton Community Engagement Strategy and Community Engagement Toolkit.

Stakeholder Reference Committee members may be called upon to vote on decisions concerning the development of the Strategy. Each committee member will have one (1) vote to give towards the specified options, if and when this occasion occurs. The quorum for the Stakeholder Reference Committee is eleven (11) people.

The term of office for Stakeholder Reference Committee members will be one year, unless otherwise extended or revoked in writing by the Council.

The Stakeholder Reference Committee Terms of Reference will be reviewed once the Strategy has been completed. It is possible that the Stakeholder Reference Committee may continue to function as an implementation committee after the Strategy has been adopted by Council. Decisions on this matter will finalise once the Strategy has been completed.

7. Stakeholder Reference Committee Membership

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee shall comprise of nineteen (19) members appointed by resolution of Council as follows:

- Councillor (Chair), Greater Shepparton City Council Councillor – Cr Chris Hazelman
- Councillor (Deputy Chair), Greater Shepparton City Council Councillor – Cr Michael Polan
- Manager, Sustainability and Environment, Greater Shepparton City Council – Greg McKenzie
- Sustainability and Environment Officer, Greater Shepparton City Council – Travis Turner

- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority nominee (GB CMA) (1)
- Department of Sustainability and Environment nominee (DSE) (1x Accord Project Officer + 1x Biodiversity Officer)
- Parks Victoria (PV) nominee (1)
- Resource GV nominee (1)
- Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance nominee (GBGA) (1)
- Department of Primary Industries nominee (DPI) (1)
- Goulburn Murray Landcare Network nominee (GMLN) (1)
- Goulburn Valley Environment Group nominee (GVEG) (1)
- Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation nominee (YYNAC) (1)
- Goulburn-Murray Water nominee (G-MW) (1)
- Goulburn Valley Water nominee (GVW) (1)
- Community representatives (3).

8. Expression of interest and selection process

The Council will call for written expressions of interest from members of the community to fill the three community representative positions. Expressions of Interest will be assessed against the following selection criteria:

- Demonstrated experience in environment management, within a community setting.
- Knowledge of environmental issues affecting the City of Greater Shepparton.
- The ability to access networks and stakeholder groups within the community.
- Experience facilitating/ leading community-based committees.

Formal qualifications in environmental management, or a related discipline would be well regarded, but not essential.

A selection panel consisting of members of Council‟s Sustainability and Development Working Group, the Councillor Chair and Deputy Chair will undertake the assessment of submissions, interview applicants (at its discretion) and make recommendations to Council on Committee appointments.

Council will invite the nominated agencies (DSE, DPI, GB CMA, G-MW, GVW, GMLN, YYNAC, GVEG, Resource GV, GBGA and PV) to nominate representatives to the Committee.

9. Financial arrangements

Contributions from each participant to the committee are in-kind.

10. Meeting arrangements

The Greater Shepparton City Council Sustainability and Environment Branch representative will convene the meetings of the committee. The committee will meet approximately monthly. Meetings will be structured, with agenda‟s prepared and minutes recorded. A copy of the meeting minutes will be forwarded to the Councils Sustainability and Development Working Group.

All members of the committee will:

- Respect and value the views of every member of the committee
- Encourage every member of the committee to contribute to the committee‟s deliberations;
- Honestly express opinions
- Remain objective and focused on the role of the committee
- Personally accept responsibility for individual actions and as a committee, accept responsibility for committee‟s decisions.

APPENDIX II - ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES AND ORGANISATIONS AND THEIR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FEDERAL	
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPaC)	Is the lead Government agency for developing and implementing national policy, programs and legislation to protect and conserve the natural environment. This department is responsible for all environmental issues except for climate change and primary industries.
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)	Manages primary industries issues.
Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE)	Oversees matters concerning energy and climate change.
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (DRET)	Covers some areas of energy management.
National Environment Protection Council	The NEPC has two major functions: to create framework statutory instruments called National Environment Protection Measures (NEPMs) that outline national objectives for protecting or managing particular aspects of the environment; and to evaluate, review and report on the implementation and effectiveness of NEPMs in participating jurisdictions.
STATE	
Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE)	Is responsible for the conservation of Victoria's natural and cultural heritage on public land. This includes the management of Victorian water resources and catchments, bushfires, parks and other public land, forests, biodiversity and ecosystem conservation exploring options to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change (Minister for Environment & Climate Change and the Minister for Water).
Department of Primary Industries (DPI)	Is the responsible agency for agriculture, fisheries, earth resources, energy and forestry (Minister for Energy and Resources and the Minister for Agriculture). DPI provides information to primary producers on sustainable agriculture, water management, weed and pest management, on farm biodiversity enhancements and reducing carbon emissions.
The Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD)	Is responsible for managing Victoria‟s growth and development, and building stronger communities. The DPCD coordinates responses to a broad range of economic, social and environmental issues at a local, regional and state-wide level (Ministers‟ for Regional and Rural Development, Planning, Aboriginal Affairs and Local Government).
Department of Transport	Aims to build a safer, fairer and greener transport system to create a more prosperous and connected community. (Minister

	for Roads, Minister for Public Transport and the Minister for Ports).
Department of Human Services and Department of Health	Are both involved with the implementation of actions relating to the social and human health impacts of climate change.
Sustainability Victoria (SV)	Is a government agency that aims to integrate sustainability into all aspects of Victorian life.
Parks Victoria (PV)	Manages National, State, Wilderness and Regional Parks.
Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria	Is an environmental regulator and environmental impacts authority that was established in 1971 in accordance with the *Environment Protection Act 1970*. The EPA administers more specific laws to protect water environments including the *Pollution of Waters by Oil and Noxious Substances Act 1986*, which deals with waste such as oil, chemicals and litter.
Catchment Management Authorities (CMA"s)	Manage land and water issues on a catchment scale and have regional waterway, floodplain, drainage and environment water reserve powers under *The Water Act 1989*. CMA"s are also responsible for providing major strategic direction for biodiversity issues and set catchment targets to ensure the ongoing protection of biodiversity in the state.
REGIONAL	
Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority	The GB CMA is the peak natural resource authority in the City of Greater Shepparton. The GB CMA works to ensure the region"s land and water resources are protected and enhanced whilst ensuring the region's social wellbeing, environmental quality and productive capacity are maintained in a sustainable manner. Greater Shepparton City Council works closely with the GB CMA to ensure our environmental activities are aligned with the strategic objectives outlined in the GB CMA Regional Catchment Strategy.
Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance	Seeks to promote regional action on climate change and Greater Shepparton City Council has been a member since the project inception in 2007. The Alliance aims to ensure that current climate change mitigation and adaptation information is shared and networking opportunities are maximised to develop and implement regional projects through targeted funding opportunities. Strategic priorities of the Alliance are to increase community and corporate awareness and understanding of the impacts of climate change and to build the capacity of our regional communities to adapt to our changing climate and mitigate the potential impacts. Alliance objectives are to: • Develop a Goulburn Broken Local Government Regional Climate Change Adaptation Plan for member Councils.

	• Develop a regional Climate Change Travelling Display. • Deliver a training program on sustainability for Greater Shepparton City Council Councillors, senior management and all levels of Council employees of all council members of the alliance.
Goulburn Broken Local Government Biodiversity Reference Group	The Goulburn Broken Local Government Biodiversity Reference Group led by Moira Shire Council (with funding support from Caring for our Country) on behalf of all partner councils (Benalla, Campaspe, Greater Shepparton, Mansfield, Mitchell and Murrindindi), agencies (DSE) and regional authorities (Goulburn Broken CMA, VicRoads and Goulburn Murray Water) in the Goulburn Broken Catchment. Local government authorities in the Catchment are responsible for the management of approximately 17,000 km of road, an important asset for biodiversity conservation, and recognise the importance of ensuring these vital areas of roadside are considered in biodiversity conservation planning and management. The Group is pivotal in building the capacity of local government to play an active role in natural resource management (NRM) and achieves this through developing skills, knowledge and most importantly strong, collaborative partnerships.
Resource GV	Resource GV prepares and implements environmental (waste management) plans and reports, as part of its core functions and statutory obligations. In doing so Resource GV works in partnership with other Government Agencies to promote and to maintain the principles of sustainability. Resource GV articulates its long-term strategic position on the environment through the regional waste management plan, which is implemented through the business plan and reported on through this annual report. Resource GV operates in partnership with the Environment Protection Authority, Sustainability Victoria and local authorities to implement state policies and strategies, relating to solid waste management and resource efficiency, in a regional and local setting. Resource GV"s primary role in strategic planning relates to working with its Member councils to determine proposed siting of waste facilities. Siting of facilities is locked into the regional waste management planning process, which involves consultation with local government. Ultimately, approval of the plan stands with the Environment Protection Authority.

APPENDIX III - ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION, POLICIES & STRATEGIES

FEDERAL LEGISLATION	
Clean Energy Act 2011	The Federal Government‟s Clean Energy Legislative Package including the *Clean Energy Act 2011*, a component of the Clean Energy Plan, was passed in November 2011 and outlines how Australia will move to a clean energy future. Focal to the plan is the implementation of a wide range of measures and incentives (including the introduction of a carbon price in July 2012) that aim to dramatically cut pollution, unleash innovation and investment worth billions of dollars in renewable energy and help avoid the increased costs associated with delayed action on climate change.
Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999	The *EPBC Act 1999* provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places.
Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989	Regulates the export and import of hazardous waste to ensure that hazardous waste is disposed of safely so that people and the environment are protected from the harmful effects of the waste.
National Environment Protection Council Act 1994	The National Environment Protection Council (NEPC) was established under the *National Environment Protection Council Act 1994*.
National Environment Protection Measures Act 1998	Introduced to implement environmental protection measures performed by or on behalf of the Commonwealth.
Natural Heritage Trust of Australia Act 1997 (since replaced by the Caring for Our Country Program)	Aims to achieve an environment that is healthier, better protected, well managed, resilient, and is able to provide essential ecosystem services in a changing climate. Funding is provided for projects that improve biodiversity and sustainable farm practices. Two billion dollars has been allocated over a five year period to support regional natural resource management groups, local, state and territory governments, indigenous groups, industry bodies, land managers, farmers, Landcare groups and communities
Water Act 2007	The key water legislative Act for the Federal Government and its inception commenced implementation of key reforms for water management in Australia. The Act establishes the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) with the responsibility of ensuring that water resources are

	managed in an integrated and sustainable way. The Act requires that the MDBA prepare the Basin Plan to fulfil these obligations.
FEDERAL POLICIES & STRATEGIES	
Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030	A guiding framework for biodiversity conservation. This Strategy sets out priorities to direct government, business and community efforts to achieve healthy and resilient biodiversity and provide us with a basis for living sustainably. The vision of this Strategy is that Australia's biodiversity is healthy and resilient to threats, is valued both in its own right and recognised for its essential contribution to our existence.
Australia's Farming Future	A major Australian Government initiative for primary industries. Funding is available for primary producers to adapt and adjust to the impacts of climate change.
Australia's Strategy for National Reserve System 2009-2030	Provides national guidance for improved cross-jurisdictional Commonwealth, State and Territory Government coordination and collaborative action for work on the National Reserve System. Each state and territory will prepare a five-year plan to implement the Strategy.
Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2007	Federal Government‟s strategy addressing the undesirable impacts caused by exotic vertebrate animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish) and to prevent the establishment of new exotic vertebrate pests. The major objective of the *Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2007* is that Australia‟s biodiversity, agricultural assets and social values are secure from the impacts of vertebrate pest animals. The *Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2007* also focuses on early intervention, prioritisation of specific species and building the capacity of natural resource managers to respond to pest threats.
Australian Weed Strategy 2007	This strategy provides a framework to establish consistent guidance and identifies priorities for weed management across the nation to minimise the impact of weeds on Australia's environmental, economic and social assets. The Strategy focuses on early intervention, prioritisation of specific species and building the capacity of natural resource managers to respond to weed threats.
Basin Salinity Management Strategy (BSMS) 2001-2015	Guides communities and governments in working together to control salinity in the Murray-Darling Basin to protect key natural resource values within their catchments.
Carbon Farming Initiative	The Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) allows farmers and land managers to earn carbon credits (that can then be

	sold to people and businesses wishing to offset their emissions) by storing carbon or reducing greenhouse gas emissions on their land. The CFI aims to prevent 460 million tonnes of carbon pollution from entering our atmosphere by reducing emissions and carbon storage by 2050.
Climate Change Adaptation Program	Funding is available to build the capacity of local government to respond to climate change impacts through the Climate Change Action Fund (Climate Change Adaptation Program).
Decade of Landcare Plan	
Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment	
National Forests Policy Statement 1992	Outlines agreed objectives and policies for the future of Australia's public and private forests. The *National Forest Policy Statement* provides the framework within which the governments can cooperatively achieve their vision for sustainable management of Australia‟s native forests whilst ensuring that community expectations are met.
National Framework for Management and Monitoring of Australia's Native Vegetation	Aims to reverse the long-term decline in the quality and extent of Australia's native vegetation cover. The Framework sets out a national approach to the management and monitoring of Australia's native vegetation and provides a process through which Commonwealth, State and Territory native vegetation commitments can be implemented.
National Greenhouse Strategy	
National Strategy for Ecological Development 1992	Provides strategic directions and framework for governments to direct policy and decision-making. The Strategy was adopted by all levels of Australian government to facilitate a coordinated and co-operative approach to ecologically sustainable development and encourages long-term benefits for Australia over short-term gains.
National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia's Biological Diversity	
National Strategy for the Management of Scheduled Waste 1992	Provides for the safe management of scheduled waste. Scheduled waste is chemical waste that can be difficult to dispose of without special technologies and facilities. The ChemCollect, ChemClear® and drumMuster chemical and

	chemical container collection programs have been very successful components of this strategy.
National Waste Policy 2009	Sets Australia's waste management and resource recovery direction to 2020 and was agreed to by all Australian environment ministers in November 2009. The *National Waste Policy 2009* provides direction to produce less waste for disposal and manage waste as a resource to deliver economic, environmental and social benefits over the next 10 years. Key objectives of the policy are to avoid the generation of waste, reduce the amount of waste disposed, manage waste as a resource and ensure that waste treatment, disposal, recovery and re-use is undertaken in a safe, scientific and environmentally sound manner, and contribute to the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
National Water Initiative	The NWI is an intergovernmental agreement between Federal, State and Territory Governments that aims to improve the management of Australia‟s water resources and provide greater certainty for future investment.
Natural Heritage Trust Partnerships Agreement	
Strengthening Basin Communities Program	Greater Shepparton City Council has twice received funding from the Strengthening Basin Communities Programs to assist development of programs that help communities adapt to a future with less water.
Water Efficiency Opportunities Program	Program supports and encourages water efficiency within Australia's commercial and industrial sectors. The commercial and industrial sectors are very large consumers of water and have an important role to play in securing water supplies.
Water for the Future Initiative	A long-term initiative that aims to better balance the water needs of communities, farmers and the environment. The program is built around four key priorities: taking action on climate change; using water wisely; securing water supplies; and supporting healthy rivers and wetlands. Significant funding opportunities are available for water purchase, irrigation modernisation, desalination, recycling, and stormwater capture. Many local landholders have applied for funding under the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program component of *Water for the Future* initiative. The program aims to assist irrigators to modernise their on-farm irrigation infrastructure while returning water savings to the environment.

STATE LEGISLATION	
Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006	The Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 commenced operation on the 28 May 2007 and provides for the protection and management of Victoria‟s Aboriginal heritage with streamlined processes linked to the Victorian planning system. The key features of the Act are: • the establishment of a Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council to provide a state-wide voice for Aboriginal people and to advise the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs on issues relating to the management of cultural heritage • introduction and management of a system of Registered Aboriginal Parties that allows for Aboriginal groups with connection to country and others - such as Aboriginal groups with contemporary or historical interests - to be involved in decision making processes around cultural heritage • establishment of Cultural Heritage Management Plans and Cultural Heritage Permit processes to manage activities that may harm Aboriginal cultural heritage • a system of cultural heritage agreements to support the development of partnerships around the protection and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage
Catchment and Land Protection(CaLP) Act 1994	The objectives of the *Catchment and Land Protection* (CaLP) *Act 1994* are to establish a framework for the integrated and coordinated management of catchments that maintains and enhances long-term land productivity while also conserving the environment. *The CaLP Act 1994* aims to ensure that the quality of the State‟s land and water resources and their associated plant and animal life are maintained and enhanced. *The CaLP Act 1994* also established ten Catchment and Land Protection Boards (nine of which have since become Catchment Management Authorities) and provides for the development of Regional Catchment Strategies. *The CaLP Act 1994* contains legislation concerning noxious weeds and pest animal management in Victoria. Species of plants and animals can be declared as noxious weeds and pest animals under the Act and then managed accordingly. Under *The CaLP Act 1994* all land owners have legal obligations to take all reasonable steps to eradicate regionally prohibited weeds, prevent the growth and spread of regionally controlled weeds, and prevent the spread of - and as far as possible eradicate - established

	pest animals on their land.
Climate Change Act 2010	Creates a legal framework for key actions and initiatives to respond to climate change in Victoria. The *Climate Change Act* requires a Climate Change Adaptation Plan to be developed every four years, outlining the climate change impacts and risks to Victoria and the government‟s priority areas for response. Other key measures introduced by this Act are: • Requires the government to report every two years on climate change science and emissions data. • Enables the government to enter into Climate Covenants with communities, regions, industry and other stakeholders, enabling them to take ownership of climate change issues and empowering them to be innovative and proactive in their response to climate change. • Requires decision makers to take climate change into account when making specified decisions under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994, Coastal Management Act 1995, Environment Protection Act 1970, Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988, Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and *Water Act 1989*. • Amends the *Environment Protection Act 1970* to enable the Environment Protection Authority Victoria to regulate greenhouse gases. • Creates new arrangements for the ownership, registration and transfer of forestry and carbon sequestration rights to facilitate development of the emerging carbon sequestration industry, bring Victoria‟s legal framework in line with national approaches and allow Victorians to easily participate in State and national sequestration efforts. • Outlined Victoria‟s emissions reduction targets of 20% by 2020 (based on 2000 levels) but these targets have since been repealed.
Environmental Effects Act	
Environment Protection Act 1970	Establishes the Environment Protection Authority and makes provision for the Authority‟s powers, duties and functions. These relate to improving the air, land and water environments by managing waters, control of pollution. This Act also creates the statutory office of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and the Environmental Protection Board. The EPA Act also provides the basis for protecting our water environments from pollution and is administered by

	the Environment Protection Authority (EPA). This Act specifies that individuals and organisations cannot pollute water environments, so that water is safe for humans, animals and plants, and suitable for other important uses and values.
Environment Protection (Industrial Waste) Act 1985	The Council‟s waste services and facilities are subject to a number of legislative requirements. The *Environment Protection Act 1970* is the most important State Government waste legislation and was amended by the *Environment Protection (Industrial Waste) Act 1985* to improve the management of industrial wastes via industrial waste management policies (IWMP‟s).
Environment Protection (Resource Efficiency) Act 2002	Allows the Environment Protection Authority scope to develop Waste Management Policies (WMPs). This change allowed for policies dealing with municipal waste to also be developed, thereby complementing existing arrangements and ensuring that a comprehensive framework of statutory policy can be maintained and strengthened.
Information Privacy Act 2000	
Fisheries Act 1995	
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1994	*1988* provides the main legal framework for the protection of Victoria‟s biodiversity, native plants and animals and ecological communities. Individual species, ecological communities and potentially threatening processes can be listed under the Act via action statements that identifies actions to be undertaken to conserve the species or community or manage the potentially threatening process. Major objectives of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1994* are: • To guarantee that all Victorian flora and fauna species can survive, flourish and retain their potential for evolutionary development in the wild. • Conserve Victoria‟s flora and fauna communities to ensure their genetic diversity. • Manage any potentially threatening processes. • Ensure that any human use of Victorian flora or fauna be performed in a sustainable manner.
Heritage Rivers Act 1992	
Local Government Act 1989	Provides a framework for the establishment and operation of Victoria‟s 79 Councils. The Act states the constitutional recognition of local government as a distinct and essential tier of government and describes the purpose, objectives

	and functions of council. Local government‟s waste management responsibilities are set out in the *Local Government Act 1989*, and other legislation providing direction on issues such as health and planning.
National Parks Act 1975	
Planning and Environment Act 1987	Establish a framework for planning the use, development and protection of land in Victoria in accordance with the present and long-term interests of all Victorians. This Act provides for the State Planning Policy Framework/ Victoria Planning Provisions (standard provisions from which all Victorian Local Government planning schemes are constructed) and allows for the creation and amendment of planning schemes. This Act is the regulates the loss of native vegetation in Victoria.
Pollution of Waters by Oil and Noxious Substances Act 1986	This Act deals with waste such as oil, chemicals and litter.
Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985	
Water Act 1989	Under the *Water Act 1989* the State Government retains the overall right to the use, flow and control of all surface water and groundwater on behalf of all Victorians. The *Water Act 1989* defines water entitlements and governs the way that water entitlements are issued and allocated. The *Water Act 1989* also establishes the mechanisms for managing Victoria's water resources and defines water that is set aside for the environment under the Environmental Water Reserve.
Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2005	
Water Industry Act 1994	
Water (Irrigation Farm Dams) Act 2002	
Wildlife Act 1975	Establishes management procedures to protect and conserve wildlife in Victoria. The Act regulates or prohibits the conduct of persons engaged in activities concerning or relating to wildlife to prevent any wildlife taxa from becoming extinct. The Act also requires people engaged in wildlife activities to obtain a permit to ensure that these activities are undertaken in a sustainable manner that is consistent with the appropriate controls.

STATE POLICIES AND STRATEGIES	
Biosecurity Strategy for Victoria 2009	Outlines a vision to protect Victoria from biosecurity threats that affect primary industries, environment, social amenity and human health and to understand and address emerging risks that may arise from climate change, changes in land use and increasing global travel and trade. The *Biosecurity Strategy for Victoria 2009* outlines a strategic approach to managing invasions at the state-wide scale with a focus on prevention and early eradication. However, once a pest or weed species becomes established, the management strategy switches to a containment and asset protection program.
Catchment and Land Protection Act Statement of Obligations	Clarify the broad legislative functions and policy responsibilities of Victoria‟s Catchment Management Authorities.
Climate Change White Paper: Taking Action for Victoria's Future 2009 Strategy	Outlines the objectives included in the *Climate Change Act 2010* and provides strategic direction in the implementation of these actions. This strategy and the *Climate Change Act 2010* are currently under review by the State Government.
Code of Practice for Timber Production 2007	Established to ensure that commercial timber growing and timber harvesting operations (on public land and private land) are carried out in such a way that permits an economically viable, sustainable timber industry that is compatible with the conservation of the wide range of environmental, social and cultural values associated with timber production forests.
Environment Protection (Prescribed Waste) Regulations 1998	
Environment Protection (Vehicle Emissions) Regulations 2003 (Currently under Review)	Specifies standards and methods for motor vehicle air and noise emissions.
Future Farming Strategy – Productive, Competitive, Sustainable 2008	Aims to improve the productivity, competitiveness and sustainability of farm businesses by assisting with decisions about meeting the challenges of uncertain prices and demand, climate change and competitive global markets.
Growing Victoria Together	Outlined the State Government‟s broad strategic vision for Victoria‟s future to 2010 and beyond. This strategy strives to balance economic, social and environmental goals and actions by linking issues important to Victorians with

	priority actions required to build a fair, sustainable and prosperous future for tomorrow. A key vision of this strategy was that by 2010 Victoria will be a State where "protecting the environment for future generations is built into everything we do".
Invasive Plant and Animals Policy Framework (IPAPF)	Presents the overarching Victorian Government approach to the management of existing and potential invasive species. The IPAPF sets out a vision for what invasive species management can be achieved and includes a Biosecurity approach that maintains a comprehensive planning framework to guide future policy, planning and community activity specific to invasive species.
Our Environment, Our Future Policy	Was introduced in 2005 with the overarching goal of creating a more environmentally sustainable Victoria. NOTE: The *Our Environment, Our Future policy and s*everal other environment focused plans and strategies introduced by the former Labour State Government that are relevant to the Strategy, have been omitted from this discussion paper because they are under review by the current State Government.
Our Forests, Our Future – Balancing Communities, Jobs and the Environment 2002	Contains initiatives to ensure the sustainable future of Victoria‟s native forests and the timber-dependent communities they support.
Ready for Tomorrow: A Blueprint for Regional and Rural Victoria 2009	Victorian State Government‟s plan for a sustainable and prosperous regional and rural Victoria. $630.7 million was available to encourage individual regions to make their own strategic regional development decisions and plans.
Rural Land Use Planning Program	Greater Shepparton City Council, Moira Shire Council and the Shire of Campaspe are recipients of *Rural Land-Use Planning Program* funding for the development of a Regional Rural Land Use Strategy that will improve the protection and management of rural land within their respective planning schemes.
Securing Our Natural Future: Land and Biodiversity White Paper 2009 (Currently under review)	Long-term, strategic framework to secure the health of Victoria‟s land and biodiversity in the face of ongoing pressures and climate change. Major objectives of the framework are to build ecosystem resilience across Victoria, manage targeted flagship areas to maintain ecosystem services, and improve connectivity in areas identified as biolinks.
Securing Our Water Future Together/ Our Water Our	Outlines actions for sustainable water management to secure water supplies and sustain long term growth. *The*

Future 2004	*Our Water Our Future/The Next Stage of the Government's Water Plan 2007* built upon the Strategy and included the construction of a desalination plant for Melbourne, reducing water loss in Victoria‟s food bowl through a major irrigation modernisation project (NVIRP) and expanding Victoria‟s water grid by constructing a "super-pipe" connecting Bendigo and Ballarat to the Goulburn River and the "Sugarloaf" pipe connecting Melbourne to the Goulburn River.
State Environment Protection Policy (SEPP) Groundwaters of Victoria	Aims to maintain and, where necessary, improve groundwater quality to a standard that protects existing and potential beneficial uses of groundwater. This policy sets a consistent approach to, and provides quality objectives for groundwater protection throughout Victoria. This policy overrides all existing groundwater protection provisions in other SEPPs.
State Environment Protection Policy (SEPP) Waters of Victoria	Applies to all surface waters of Victoria and aims to provide a coordinated approach to protect and, where necessary, rehabilitate the health of Victoria‟s water environments. This policy protects the environmental values, beneficial uses and associated social and economic values of the water environment to ensure that the needs of current and future generations are met. The SEPP (Waters of Victoria) requires that water bodies reduce the annual nutrient load leaving the Goulburn Valley via Goulburn- Murray Water (G-MW) surface drainage schemes that discharge into major rivers and streams.
Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2005 & Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2009-10 Progress Report	The *Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2005* sets four state-wide targets for waste reduction, resource recovery and littering, and specific targets and actions for Victoria's municipal and business sectors to deliver more sustainable use of resources by 2014. The *Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2009-10 Progress Report* provided an assessment of Victoria's progress for *Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2005* targets for the 2009-10 year and was produced to assist investment and policy decisions for the waste and resource recovery sector.
Victoria's Biodiversity Strategy 1997 (Currently under review)	Establishes the strategic direction for the protection, enhancement and revegetation of native vegetation across the state and fulfils commitments and requirements outlined in the *National Strategy for the Conservation of Biodiversity1996* and the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act*

	1994. The Strategy also sets objectives and management approaches that are focused on living assets and the biodiversity condition in all of Victoria‟s bioregions.
Victorian Cycling Strategy 2009	Aims to increase cycling levels across Victoria and position cycling alongside cars, trains, trams and buses as a viable and attractive transport option.
Victoria's Firewood Collection Strategy 2010	Introduced to ensure the sustainable supply of firewood from public land for households in regional Victoria. The Strategy is based around a firewood permit system to monitor and regulate firewood collection from designated collection areas within State Forests during designated collection seasons. The current State Government has since removed the permit requirement for firewood. *Victoria's Firewood Collection Strategy 2010* also directs the public to contact the relevant authority (local government or VicRoads) to seek permission for roadside firewood collection. Roadside firewood collection is prohibited within the City of Greater Shepparton.
Victoria's Litter Strategy 2009 & Action Plan 2010-2014	2014 presents the next steps in litter prevention and management and sets the direction to help Victoria achieve its commitments. Major objectives are to prevent litter, improve litter management practices and to meet the Towards Zero Waste target to improve littering behaviours by 25% by 2014, compared to 2003 levels to achieve clean and safe public places. Resource GV received funding through this program to target tourism litter in Northern Victoria.
Victoria's Native Vegetation Management Framework for Action 2002 *(Currently under review)*	The Framework was developed to implement the objectives of Victoria‟s Biodiversity Strategy 1997 and the National Framework for the Management and Monitoring of Australia‟s Native Vegetation 1999 with the major objective of achieving a reversal, across the entire landscapes of the long term decline in the extent and quality of native vegetation, leading to a net gain. The framework provides for a transparent and consistent approach to valuing native vegetation (habitat hectares assessment scoring) and a reporting method which enables accounting for progress toward the Net Gain outcome. The framework is linked to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.
Victorian River Health Strategy (VRHS) 2002	Outlines the State Government‟s long term direction for the management of Victoria‟s rivers. The Strategy provides a

Currently under review: The Victorian Strategy for Healthy Rivers, Estuaries and Wetlands (VSHREW) is currently being developed and will replace the VRHS	vision for the management of rivers via policy direction on issues affecting river health and seeks to ensure that the most effective river health benefits are achieved for the effort and resources invested. The VRHS recognises that local government as a crucial player in the management of river health and provides a list of specific functions identifying local government as having the lead responsibility. The Goulburn and Broken Rivers were identified as high priority rivers in the VRHS and actions to undertake restoration works to significantly improve flows were committed. The *Victorian River Health Program Report Card 2002 – 2009* contains an overview from the Goulburn Broken CMA that tracks progress against the targets set in the VRHS.
Victorian Transport Plan 2008	Outlines key steps to move towards a sustainable and lower emissions transport system.
Victoria's Waste Policy Framework	The Department of Sustainability and Environment, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Sustainability Victoria and the Metropolitan and Regional Waste Management Groups are currently leading a review of Victoria‟s waste policy framework to recommend a new Victorian Waste Policy.
Victoria's Water Allocation Framework	Provides the basis for the management of Victoria‟s water resources and takes a whole-of-system water management approach. It considers all water resources (surface water and groundwater) for both consumptive and environmental purposes at all phases of the water cycle.
Water Act Statement of Obligations	Clarifies the broad legislative functions and policy responsibilities of Victoria‟s Catchment Management Authorities.
REGIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS	
Balancing the Salt Budget for the Shepparton Irrigation Region 2005	
Biodiversity Action Planning for the Goulburn Broken Catchment	The ultimate aim of BAP is to achieve broad-scale conservation of native biodiversity. BAP identifies priorities for the conservation of native biodiversity, as part of the implementation of the Victorian Biodiversity Strategy 1997.
Goulburn Broken CMA Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2015	Describes the general direction for biodiversity conservation in the Goulburn Broken Catchment over the next five years. The GBCMA Biodiversity Strategy provides a catchment wide perspective on biodiversity

	priorities to enable effective collaboration with local government staff and councillors. The long-term vision for biodiversity in the Goulburn Broken Catchment is “Healthy ecosystems supporting viable populations of flora and fauna”. The GBCMA‟s biodiversity vision is to be achieved by working towards the following three targets: Maintain extent and quality of all native habitats at 2005 levels in keeping with the goal of „net gain‟ listed in Victoria‟s Biodiversity Strategy 1997. Increase the extent of native vegetation in fragmented landscapes by 70,000 ha by 2030 to restore threatened Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) and improve landscape connectivity. Improve the quality of 90% of existing (2005) native vegetation by 10% by 2030.
Goulburn Broken CMA Climate Change Integration Strategy (currently under development)	Aims to increase the catchment‟s adaptation capacity and reduce the risks of climate change impacts. This plan discusses potential climate change scenarios then proposes actions for implementation by the GB CMA and other relevant stakeholders, including local government, to respond to these climatic changes.
Goulburn Broken Dryland Salinity Strategy *Goulburn Broken Dryland Salinity Management Plan Review 2002*	Salinity is a major threat to the environment and both irrigated and dryland agricultural landscapes. Council have been and will continue to implement the recommendations and actions of these plans.
Goulburn Broken Invasive Plant and Animal Strategy 2011	
Goulburn Broken Local Government Regional Climate Change Adaptation Plan	This plan outlines key actions and an implementation schedule for the Alliance and its member councils to respond to the challenges of climate change across the Goulburn Broken region.
Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Management Strategy2003 *(currently under review)*	Provides the blueprint for integrated natural resource management across the municipality (and the wider region) and in part forms the regional component of the state‟s Biodiversity Strategy. The *Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy* seeks to maintain and enhance biodiversity of native flora and fauna communities and protect the region‟s land and water resource base through the management of key threats. Local planning schemes must have regard for Regional Catchment Strategies which assess the nature, causes,

	extent and severity of land degradation of the regions catchments and identify areas for priority attention.
Goulburn Broken Regional River Health Strategy 2005-2015 *(Currently under review)*	Identifies river-related assets and services, outlines the value of these services and assesses the threats and relative risks to these assets. This asset-based approach integrates environmental, economic and social considerations across the range of threats that are facing our rivers. The four objectives of the Goulburn Broken Regional River Health Strategy are to: 1. Protect the rivers that are of highest community value from any decline in condition. 2. Maintain the condition of ecologically healthy rivers (as defined in the Victorian River Health Strategy). 3. Achieve an "overall improvement" in the environmental condition of the remainder of rivers. 4. Prevent damage from future management activities. The four objectives of the Strategy will be achieved by: • Identifying the values associated with our riverine systems. • Identifying stresses which impact on environmental, economic and social values. • Providing a framework for the development and implementation of issues-based action plans. • Developing local riverine health goals and targets. • Providing a basis for the development and implementation of multi-benefit works and activity programs. • Identifying gaps in the current management of river health.
Hume Strategy for Sustainable Communities 2010-2020 *(Hume Strategy)*	The following four key directions together with their respective priority strategies are included under the environment theme of the Hume Strategy. 1. Anticipating and adapting to the effects of climate change: a) Reducing the Hume Region"s carbon footprint b) Being informed about climate change c) Local leadership supporting local initiatives d) Harnessing opportunities e) Integrated planning approaches 2. Managing our water resources sustainably: a) A water view for the region b) Water management through innovation c) Water guiding planning outcomes d) Valuing ecosystem services of rivers, streams and wetlands. 3. Protecting native habitat and biodiversity:

	a) Management of regional biodiversity b) Land use planning and biodiversity c) Protection and management of native habitat d) Education, incentives and community. 4. Harnessing renewable energy sources, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pursuing innovative waste management approaches: a) Regional energy planning b) Energy and innovation c) Regional energy action d) Waste management and innovation.
Mid Goulburn Broken & Upper Goulburn Sustainable Irrigation Action Plan 2008-2013	
Murray-Darling Basin Authority Basin Plan –Draft	The key document for the management of water in the region includes the draft Murray-Darling Basin Authority Plan which is yet to be adopted. The management objectives and outcomes for the basin plan are contained within Chapter 5 of the Plan
Native Vegetation Retention Controls: Regional Guidelines for the Goulburn Broken Catchment 2003	An important set of guidelines that provide landholders, local government, referral agencies and other stakeholders with a consistent regional interpretation of the Victorian State Government‟s Net Gain Policy (DNRE 2002) and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*). These guidelines outline the offsets required for the removal of in native vegetation through the planning permit system and contain information on the remaining extent of native vegetation left in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.
Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy	Released in 2009 to secure the water future for urban, industrial, agricultural and environmental water users. Sustainable water strategies fulfil Victoria‟s commitment to the National Water Initiative to carry out open, statutory-based water planning and guide the development, integration and implementation of management plans prepared by water corporations and catchment management authorities operating within each region. Under *The Water Act 1989*, the role of sustainable water strategies is to identify: • Threats to the reliability of supply and quality of water for both environmental and consumptive uses in the region; • Ways to improve and set priorities for improving the reliability of supply and quality of water for existing and future consumptive users; • Ways to improve protect and increase the

	environmental water reserve to improve the environmental values and health of water ecosystems.
Regional Waste Management Plan	Resource GV is required to produce a 5-yearly Regional Waste Management Plan (RWMP) under the *Environment Protection Act 1970*. The RWMP sets the strategic direction for regional waste policy in accordance with the current State Government waste policy. Resource GV uses the RWMP as the key tool in the protection, restoration and enhancement of our environment and is accountable to the State Government Minister for the Environment.
Shepparton Irrigation Region Catchment Implementation Strategy (formerly the Shepparton Irrigation Region Land and Water Salinity Management Plan)	Salinity is a major threat to the environment and both irrigated and dryland agricultural landscapes. Council have been and will continue to implement the recommendations and actions of these plans.
Surface Water Management Strategy Review – Strategic Plan, SIR 2002	An infrastructure project aiming to remove excess runoff, provide outfall for ground water pumps and preserve wetlands and areas of native vegetation. Such infrastructure includes: community surface drains; Goulburn-Murray Water primary drains, drainage course declaration and drain upgrading. The proposed capital works program was scheduled to be completed by 2020 (subject to funding). Many environmental benefits of the program include the conservation of 22 wetlands listed within the Shepparton Irrigation Region, protection of native fish habitat in the Lower Goulburn River, Broken River and Broken Creek, and protection of habitat for a number of threatened species.
The Living Murray	

APPENDIX IV - COUNCIL STAFF WITH ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES OTHER THAN THE SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT TEAM

Teams other than the Sustainability and Environment Team that have some involvement in environmental management whilst fulfilling their work responsibilities are listed in below under the relevant Council Directorates. The Sustainability and Environment Team provide technical support and guidance to all of the teams and officers below when required. Please note that all of these teams and departments are currently under review under the organisational scan process.

Directorate - Sustainable Development
The RiverConnect Project"s mission is to create a vibrant, more cohesive Greater Shepparton community through developing a strong sense of belonging and connection to our rivers. Environmental education and extending the shared path network along the Goulburn River are major objectives of the project.
The use, development, protection and conservation of land in the City of Greater Shepparton are governed by the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme. The Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme is a statutory document that sets out the objectives, policies and provisions to regulate the use and development of land. The Statutory Planning Team is responsible for ensuring that all decisions are determined according to the constraints of the Planning Scheme.
The Strategic Planning Team is responsible for the development of strategies, policies and frameworks which aim to ensure that planning, investment and decision making is relevant to the needs of the community and provides a sustainable base for future generations.
The Planning and Development Branch also employ a Planning Investigations and Enforcement Officer to enforce the Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme, including the removal of native vegetation without a planning permit.
The Planning and Development Engineering Team ensure that all new developments and subdivisions adhere to the best practice management provisions of Clause 56 in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme and are designed accordingly. The Greater Shepparton City Council Infrastructure Design Manual also assists developers to identify the requirements of the Council in design of developments and subdivisions. Clauses 56.07 and 56.08 in particular are very important for limiting on- and off-site environmental degradation, including from stormwater run-off, site water conservation and site generated waste. The team assist in the design of constructed wetlands and operate under the guidelines of the Greater Shepparton Stormwater Management Plan and water sensitive urban design principals.
The Strategic Waste Team is responsible for waste management services. Major achievements of the Waste Team include the development of a World Environment Day Award winning resource recovery precinct allowing residents to deposit household waste and

recyclables that are not applicable to their household bins, and the installation of a gas collection system at Cosgrove landfill which is used to generate electricity that is directly input into the cities power grid, significantly reducing the landfills greenhouse gas emissions.
The Local Laws Team is responsible for enforcement of Local Laws relating to our environment. Some local law examples are illegal collection of roadside firewood, residential burning off, and illegal dumping of rubbish.
Directorate - Infrastructure
Parks and Recreation are responsible for urban native and exotic vegetation management and have a wetland work crew employed especially for the maintenance of Council wetlands and native gardens.
The Asset Maintenance Team are responsible for maintaining the road safety envelope along Council managed roads and perform tree maintenance inside of this envelope with guidance from the Sustainability and Environment Team and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE).
The Asset Development Department also employ a Workgroup Coordinator that specialises in tree health and maintenance.
The Engineering Projects Branch designs and implements plans for major projects, strategic transport planning and changes to existing infrastructure.
Directorate - Community
The Culture and Community Strengthening Department have a Community Connections Officer who is developing a Greater Shepparton Cycling Strategy.
Directorate - Business
The procurement team have recently developed a Sustainable Procurement Policy that includes the following commitments:
Ensure that council give preference to environmentally preferred products and services where performance and price are comparable to conventional products.
Ensure that “green” products and resources are given a specific weighting in quotation/tender evaluation criteria.
Promoting and ensuring a sustainable approach to decisions based on the social, environmental and financial aspects of procurement.

APPENDIX V - GREATER SHEPPARTON 2030 STRATEGY PLAN

The Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy Plan (GS2030) was developed to provide a blueprint for building sustainable economic activity and maximising the quality of life in the municipality for the next 30 years. Central to GS2030 are the principles of sustainability, innovation, partnership and inclusiveness, leadership, equity, adaptability and integrated planning. Overall, GS2030 is guided by the following vision:

"Greater Shepparton 2030 – the regional centre distinguished by the range of its sustainable achievements"

GS2030 is divided into a number of key topic areas. For each topic area, a list of objectives is provided which in turn have corresponding strategies and actions (which are also prioritised). Regular progress reports are undertaken on these actions and Council intends to formally review GS2030 on an ongoing basis.

The environment is one of six key topic areas and includes of a range of subtopics, or themes, that are interrelated and often interdependent. The overarching environmental issues are biodiversity and the protection and enhancement of the earth‟s basic elements of air, water, soil and nutrients and the protection of its intricate web of flora and fauna ecosystems. The stated direction for the environment strategic theme is:

"Conservation and enhancement of significant natural environments and cultural heritage".

There are four environmental themes in the GS2030 Strategy relevant to the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy. Each environmental theme contains key objectives and an outline of the strategies and actions to achieve each objective. The four environmental themes relevant to the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy are:

1. The natural environment
2. Floodplain management
3. Best practice land management
4. Cultural heritage.

1. The natural environment

A major focus of the GS2030 environmental theme is to recognise, protect and enhance the remaining natural environment and biodiversity assets within the municipality. The Greater Shepparton region has less than 2.5% of its pre-European settlement remnant vegetation remaining. The remaining native vegetation is recognised as usually existing in a poor ecological state and under constant threat of degradation.

Key objectives and strategies for the natural environment are:

1. To maintain and enhance biodiversity of native flora and fauna communities.
   a) Protect and enhance significant remnant native vegetation on both public and private land.
   b) Ensure appropriate identification of native vegetation on land to be developed or subdivided.
   c) Protect and enhance the biodiversity assets of the municipality, with the preparation of detailed Local Biodiversity Action Plans
   d) Promote sensitive design responses and recognition be given to the identification of native vegetation.
2. To protect and manage the natural resources of water air and land
   a) Promote energy efficient and sustainable built forms and development proposals.
   b) Continue to ensure new developments are connected to reticulated services or have provision for adequate on-site disposal with no advised impacts on nearby watercourses.
   c) Protect productive agricultural land from soil pollution.

2. Floodplain management

Diligent Floodplain management and planning is essential for Greater Shepparton as our municipality is located on a major floodplain at the confluence of two major rivers and our region is characterised by its flat topography. Flooding is a therefore a natural phenomenon in our region and floodplain management is one of the key land use and development issues for our municipality. Our key issue is to facilitate the effective drainage of land without causing environmental impacts. Floodplain management also attempts to reduce the direct costs in terms of loss of stock and damage to property, and the indirect costs of reduced productivity, road rebuilding, and inconvenience.

Key objectives and strategies for floodplain management are:

1. To recognise the constraints of the floodplain on the use and development of land and minimise the future economic impacts of flooding.
   a) Minimise the impacts of flooding to people and property by controlling development in flood prone areas and encouraging development and subdivision on land not subject to flooding.
   b) Protect wetlands of significance.
   c) Ensure that planning decisions and approval of development plans have regard to the goals and priorities of the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management RCS.
   d) Ensure that all new developments maintain the free passage and temporary storage of floodwater, minimises flood damage, is compatible with flood hazard and local drainage conditions, and minimises soil erosion, sedimentation and silting and has a neutral impact up and down stream.
   e) Promote increased community awareness of floodplain management with the advance community flood warning system. Prevent removal of native vegetation and grasses to minimise loss of riparian vegetation as a result of development on the floodplain.
   f) Encourage landholders to carry out works that are compatible with existing and proposed drainage schemes, preferably as part of the Whole Farm Plan certification process.
2. To provide a supply of high quality water for urban and agricultural use.
   a) Ensure all new developments have adequate reticulated services or effluent disposal systems to protect watercourses and water quality, and to maintain and enhance water quality for both urban and rural use.
   b) Support and promote approved innovative methods of effluent disposal e.g. composting.
   c) Promote regular water-wise messages to the community and encourage community wide use of drought resistant plantings.
3. To minimise the degree of salinity through an integrated regional surface water management program.
   a) Prevent the detrimental impacts of saline water drainage by encouraging best practice water use.
   b) Assist in the rehabilitation of areas affected by salinity, as identified in the proposed Rural Land Strategy.
   c) Encourage the development of surface water management systems with runoff into natural systems or into reuse storage for irrigation at a later date

d) Promote community awareness of groundwater control, salinity management and water usage.

3. Best practice land management

Land use and development in Greater Shepparton must be compatible with Council‟s protection and enhancement of the natural environment goals. Land use and development management needs to be based around environmental, economic and social sustainability principles. This sustainable development approach to land management requires Council and individual landowners to undertake a rigorous planning approval process whereby the total future impacts of a development and/or use is assessed, including long term impacts on neighbouring properties, native vegetation, water and soil resources. The first step towards managing the land resource of Greater Shepparton in a sustainable manner is to identify significant land resources and potential threats to their longevity. Managing Council‟s green house gas emissions and the impacts of climate change are also discussed in this section.

Key objectives and strategies for best practice land management are:

1. To identify natural landscape features to be protected and managed.
   a) Provide for the identification of the municipality‟s assets of environmental significance.
   b) Promote the protection of significant areas of the natural landscape.
2. To manage irrigated and non-irrigated land for long-term sustainable production purposes.
   a) Encourage the adoption of ecologically sustainable development principles and technologies in the future development of both urban and rural areas.
   b) Encourage sustainable farming practices.
3. To prepare an integrated strategy to address all aspects of the environment and to cooperate in the development of regional environmental plans.
   a) Foster regional cooperation and resource sharing regarding best practice land management.
   b) Investigate the value of applying a performance based rate as an “Environmental Rate” at the local or state level or a rate rebate to encourage sustainable environmental practices.
   c) To reduce greenhouse gas emissions by local actions, in the interests of current and future generations.

d) Endorse an urban design approach that includes an assessment of climate and energy costs.
e) Support non-renewable energy use by fuel switching and the use of green energy.
f) Support the goal of reducing Community greenhouse gas emissions from 1999 levels by 20% by 2010.
g) Assist carbon reduction by encouraging development plans to include increased indigenous plantings on private and public land and reduced reliance on motorised transport.

APPENDIX VI - GREATER SHEPPARTON *COUNCIL PLAN 2009-2013*

The environmental themes and corresponding strategic objectives in the Council Plan 2009-2013 are as follows:

The natural environment

- To protect and manage the natural resources of water air and land.
- To maintain and enhance biodiversity of native flora and fauna communities.

Floodplain management

- To minimise the degree of salinity through an integrated regional surface water management program.
- To provide a supply of high quality water for urban and agricultural use.
- To recognise the constraints of the floodplain on the use and development of land and minimise the future economic impacts of flooding.

Best practice land management

- To identify natural landscape features to be protected and managed.
- To manage irrigated and non-irrigated land for long-term sustainable production purposes.
- To prepare an integrated strategy to address all aspects of the environment and to cooperate in the development of regional environmental plans.
- To reduce greenhouse gas emissions by local actions, in the interests of current and future generations.

Cultural heritage

- To conserve and protect identified sites of cultural heritage significance.
- To involve local indigenous communities in the collection, identification and promotion of places and items of cultural heritage significance.

Other *Council Plan 2009-2013* strategic objectives that are within the scope of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy are to:

- Encourage innovative, appropriate, sustainable and affordable housing.
- Encourage sustainable municipal growth and development.
- Redevelop the Victoria Park precinct.
- Develop a range of active and passive recreational facilities at the former Kialla landfill site.
- Undertake beautification works for the main streets and entrances to urban areas and townships.
- Engage our community when making decisions.
- Develop strong partnerships with the State and Federal Governments.
- Pursue organisational development and improvement.
- Ensure our long term strategic vision for Greater Shepparton remains relevant and accurate.
- Provide best practice management and administrative systems and structures to support the delivery of Council services and programs.

APPENDIX VII - ENVIRONMENTAL CONTENTS OF THE GREATER SHEPPARTON PLANNING SCHEME AND MUNICIPAL STRATEGIC STATEMENT

Natural environment and biodiversity

This section recognises that the key biodiversity issues in the City of Greater Shepparton are associated with native vegetation and with the myriad of river, floodplain and wetland systems. The natural landscape of the municipality and wider region has been significantly modified as a result of pastoral activities and more recently through extensive irrigation activities. As a result, areas of remnant native vegetation are now primarily limited to waterways, road reserves and corridors. These corridors (as well as native vegetation stands on private property) are recognised for the important habitat links they provide for flora and fauna and for the fostering of biodiversity.

Objectives for the natural environment and biodiversity section are:

- To maintain and enhance biodiversity of native flora and fauna communities
- To protect and manage the natural resources of water, air and land
- To identify natural landscape features which are to be protected and managed.

The key strategies to achieve these objectives are:

- To protect remnant areas of native vegetation, streamlines, wetlands and other environmentally sensitive features
- Ensure appropriate identification of native vegetation on land to be developed or subdivided.

Floodplain and drainage management

The catchments of the various rivers and streams within the municipality include large areas of flood prone land. Floods are recognised as naturally occurring events and the inherent functions of the floodplains to convey and store floodwater should be recognised and preserved to minimise the deterioration of environmental values, the long term flood risk to floodplain production, assets and communities. Natural flooding of floodplains and their associated wetlands provide essential breeding habitats for bird and aquatic species, and promotes the health of rivers and floodplains. Sound floodplain management minimises the economic, social and environmental risks associated with floodplain use and development.

Objectives for the floodplain and drainage management section are:

- To recognise the constraints of the floodplain on the use and development of land.

Key strategies to achieve these objectives are:

- Discourage development and subdivision on land subject to flooding.
- Ensure that all new development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwater, minimises flood damage is compatible with flood hazard and local drainage conditions, and minimises soil erosion, sedimentation and silting.
- Prevent tree removal to minimise loss of riparian vegetation as a result of development on the floodplain.

Best practice land management

This section recognises that decades of open pasture farming and irrigated agriculture has changed the natural hydrological balance. Drainage management is again discussed as a key issue relating to the provision of efficient drainage of land without causing other environmental impacts. Land use and development should be based on land capability and suitability and be mindful of potential external impacts. Council encourages the preparation of whole farm plans to assist farming enterprises to reduce downstream impacts of nutrients on water quality, protection of natural ecosystems, reduce water logging and salinity and sustain viable farming enterprises.

The best practice land management section also mentions Council‟s commitment to evaluate and set targets for greenhouse gas emissions for both council and community activities, promote energy efficient subdivision and house design, promote municipal domestic wastewater management and provide corresponding incentives and programs. It also points out that Council is evaluating and planning for appropriate water saving measures relating to its own water use.

Objectives for the best practice land management section are:

- To provide a supply of high quality water for urban and agricultural use.
- To minimise the degree of salinity through an integrated regional surface water management program.
- To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- To direct development according to identified land capability and suitability.
- To recognise the threat posed to surface water and groundwater quality by nonreticulated domestic wastewater systems.

Strategies to achieve these objectives are to:

- Promote energy efficient and sustainable built form and development.
- Ensure all new developments have adequate reticulated services or effluent disposal systems to protect watercourses and water quality.
- Support innovative methods of effluent disposal such as composting.
- Encourage the development of surface water management systems with run-off into natural systems or into reuse storage for irrigation.
- Encourage ecologically sustainable development principles and technologies.
- Assist carbon emission reduction.
- Promote the use of appropriate water saving measures.

Cultural heritage

Council wants to ensure that the pre settlement and post settlement cultural heritage of the municipality is preserved for future generations. Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land which now comprises Greater Shepparton, whose descendants have a long ancestral history in the area.

Objectives for the cultural heritage section are:

- To identify, conserve and protect sites of cultural heritage significance.

Strategies to achieve these objectives are to:

- Assess applications within the Heritage Overlay in accordance with State Government heritage policy guidelines.
- Consider the Heritage Study when assessing proposals for redevelopment of heritage sites or infill development in areas of identified heritage significance.
- Identify places of Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- Protect heritage buildings and sites so that heritage significance is not diminished or irreversibly damaged through proposed use or development.
- Encourage the retention, adaptation and renovation of significant historic buildings and works, gardens and other areas as a viable alternative to demolition.
- Ensure that any alteration or addition to identified heritage buildings and areas, or redevelopment on adjacent land, is in keeping with an identified streetscape or neighbourhood character and appearance.
- Ensure that new developments and the construction of external alterations to buildings make a positive contribution to the built form and amenity of the area and are respectful of the architectural or historic character and appearance of the streetscape and the area.

Strategic Work Program

Each theme of the MSS also contains a Strategic Work Program section that identifies key strategic actions to address the objectives of that specific theme. Strategic actions outlined in our environment theme are to:

- Prepare an Environmental Strategy incorporating Local Biodiversity Action Plans.
- Apply the Wildfire Management Overlay after consultation with the CFA.
- Undertake floodplain management studies for the smaller rural townships and villages.
- Prepare an integrated effluent disposal strategy in conjunction with relevant agencies.
- Prepare a Municipal Domestic Wastewater Management Strategy.
- Update the Economic Development strategy.
- Prepare heritage design guidelines for the assessment of development applications of significant buildings and sites.
- Continue further investigation of places identified in the Heritage Study.

APPENDIX VIII - LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITY STATEMENT (LESPS)

On 5 August 2008 Greater Shepparton City Council adopted a Local Environmental Sustainability Priority Statement (LESPS) that was developed in conjunction with the Victorian Government. The purpose of this document was to enable recognition of the unique character of our region and identify future environmental sustainability priorities for collaborative work with the State Government.

The LESPS reviewed Council"s sustainability achievements and identified future opportunities. By adopting the LESPS, Council committed to creating better environmental sustainability outcomes and recognised the importance and responsibility of Council to influence the wider community. The adoption of the LESPS was a formal commitment by Council to recognise the importance of conserving our environment for future generations. There are six key priority actions contained in the LESPS. The Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will further develop and implement these actions.

Key priority actions outlined in the LESPS:

1. Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance

To support and encourage the formation of the Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance Greater Shepparton City Council, Moira Shire Council, Campaspe Shire Council, Strathbogie Shire Council, Rural City of Benalla, Mitchell Shire Council, Murrindindi Shire Council, Resource GV and GBCMA to deliver greenhouse abatement outcomes across the region. The alliance may consider inclusion of industry in the future. The alliance will ensure:

- Information is shared and networking opportunities are created.
- Projects across the region are identified and implemented.
- Tools are provided to deliver projects.
- Funding opportunities are targeted.

If funding opportunities are successful, the alliance will initially deliver major projects that:

- Develop energy management training for small to medium-size businesses.
- Develop the Goulburn Broken Catchment Climate Change Adaptation Plan.
- Develop the Regional Organics Waste Strategy.

2. Council Sustainable Developments Program

- Construct a sustainable Council building to showcase Council as a leader in sustainable development. Audit council buildings, retrofit existing buildings and consider purchase of green power.

3. Council‟s vehicle fleet

- Review the vehicle policy to ensure Council‟s fleet reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Consider alternative fuel sources with the development of a Peak Oil Policy.

4. Roadside vegetation management

- Enhance and conserve roadside vegetation through an assessment of roadside conservation values that will be accessible internally and externally. This program will also develop a strategic revegetation program.

5. Environment overlays

- The Rural Strategy offers the potential to explore the adoption of zones/overlays on land where remnant vegetation and biodiversity are still strong. Environmental overlays should be explored with consideration of regional initiatives.

6. Water management

- Audit and retrofit existing buildings and identify opportunities for substitution of potable water and water quality improvements.

The LESPS acknowledges that the Goulburn and Broken River corridors are key natural features in Greater Shepparton. Together with roadside areas they provide the most significant stands of remnant vegetation with associated habitat values and that they also have obvious functions in flood management. It also recognises that Greater Shepparton‟s agricultural and horticultural industries are reliant on irrigation water and effective water management practices play a key role in the region‟s development and sustainability.

APPENDIX IX - PROTECTED FAUNA SPECIES WITH DISTRIBUTIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF GREATER SHEPPARTON AND A DEFINITION OF TERMS.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Flora & Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 listed	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 status	*CAMBA (C) and/ or JAMBA (J) International protection agreements.	Habitat
Australasian Bittern	*Botaurus poiciloptilus*	Ardeidae	Endangered	Yes			Wetland
Australasian Shoveler	*Anas rhynchotis*	Anatidae	Vulnerable				Wetland
Australian Bustard	*Ardeotis australis*	Otididae	Critically endangered	Yes			Wetland
Australian Painted Snipe	*Rostratula australis*	Rostratulidae	Critically endangered	Yes	Vulnerable	C	Wetland
Azure Kingfisher	*Alcedo azurea*	Alcedinidae	Near threatened				Wetland
Baillon's Crake	*Porzana pusilla*	Rallidae	Vulnerable	Yes			Wetland
Bandy Bandy	*Vermicella annulata*	Elapidae	Near threatened	Yes			Woodland
Barking Owl	*Ninox connivens*	Strigidae	Endangered	Yes			Woodland
Bearded Dragon	*Pogona barbata*	Agamidae	Data deficient				Woodland
Black Falcon	*Falco subniger*	Falconidae	Vulnerable				Woodland
Black-chinned Honeyeater	*Melithreptus gularis*	Meliphagidae	Near threatened				Woodland
Black-eared Cuckoo	*Chrysococcyx osculans*	Cuculidae	Near threatened				Woodland
Blue-billed Duck	*Oxyura australis*	Anatidae	Endangered	Yes			Wetland
Broad-shelled Turtle	*Macrochelodina expansa*	Chelidae	Endangered	Yes			Wetland
Brolga	*Grus rubicunda*	Gruidae	Vulnerable	Yes			Wetland

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Flora & Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 listed	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 status	*CAMBA (C) and/ or JAMBA (J) International protection agreements.	Habitat
Brown Quail	*Coturnix ypsilophora*	Phasianidae	Near threatened				Woodland
Brown Toadlet	*Pseudophryne bibronii*	Myobatrachidae	Endangered	Yes			Woodland
Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern ssp.)	*Climacteris picumnus victoriae*	Climacteridae	Near threatened				Woodland
Brush-tailed Phascogale	*Phascogale tapoatafa*	Dasyuridae	Vulnerable	Yes			Woodland
Bush Stone-curlew	*Burhinus grallarius*	Burhinidae	Endangered	Yes			Woodland
Caspian Tern	*Hydroprogne caspia*	Laridae	Near threatened	Yes		C / J	Wetland
Crested Bellbird	*Oreoica gutturalis*	Pachycephalidae	Near threatened	Yes			Woodland
Crimson-spotted Rainbowfish	*Melanotaenia fluviatilis*	Melanotaeniidae	Data deficient	Yes			Wetland
Diamond Dove	*Geopelia cuneata*	Columbidae	Near threatened	Yes			Woodland
Diamond Firetail	*Stagonopleura guttata*	Passeridae	Vulnerable	Yes			Woodland
Eastern Great Egret	*Ardea modesta*	Ardeidae	Vulnerable	Yes		C / J	Wetland
Fat-tailed Dunnart	*Sminthopsis crassicaudata*	Dasyuridae	Near threatened				Woodland
Flat-headed Galaxias	*Galaxias rostratus*	Galaxiidae	Vulnerable				Wetland
Freckled Duck	*Stictonetta naevosa*	Anatidae	Endangered	Yes			Wetland
Freshwater Catfish	*Tandanus tandanus*	Plotosidae	Endangered	Yes			Wetland

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Flora & Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 listed	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 status	*CAMBA (C) and/ or JAMBA (J) International protection agreements.	Habitat
Giant Bullfrog	*Limnodynastes interioris*	Myobatrachidae	Critically endangered	Yes			Woodland
Glossy Ibis	*Plegadis falcinellus*	Threskiornithidae	Near threatened			C	Wetland
Golden Perch	*Macquaria ambigua*	Percichthyidae	Vulnerable				Wetland
Grey-crowned Babbler	*Pomatostomus temporalis*	Pomatostomidae	Endangered	Yes			Woodland
Growling Grass Frog	*Litoria raniformis*	Hylidae	Endangered	Yes	Vulnerable		Woodland
Hardhead	*Aythya australis*	Anatidae	Vulnerable				Wetland
Hooded Robin	*Melanodryas cucullata*	Petroicidae	Near threatened	Yes			Woodland
Intermediate Egret	*Ardea intermedia*	Ardeidae	Critically endangered	Yes			Wetland
Lace Goanna	*Varanus varius*	Varanidae	Vulnerable				Woodland
Latham's Snipe	*Gallinago hardwickii*	Scolopacidae	Near threatened			C / J	Wetland
Little Bittern	*Ixobrychus minutus*	Ardeidae	Endangered	Yes			Wetland
Little Egret	*Egretta garzetta*	Ardeidae	Endangered	Yes			Wetland
Long-toed Stint	*Calidris subminuta*	Scolopacidae	Near threatened			C / J	Wetland
Macquarie Perch	*Macquaria australasica*	Percichthyidae	Endangered	Yes	Endangered		Wetland
Magpie Goose	*Anseranas*	Anseranatida	Near threatened	Yes			Wetland

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Flora & Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 listed	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 status	*CAMBA (C) and/ or JAMBA (J) International protection agreements.	Habitat
	semipalmata	e					
Murray Cod	*Maccullochella peelii peelii*	Percichthyidae	Endangered	Yes	Vulnerable		Wetland
Murray River Turtle	*Emydura macquarii*	Chelidae	Data deficient	Yes			Wetland
Murray Spiny Cray	*Euastacus armatus*	Parastacidae	Data deficient	Yes			Wetland
Musk Duck	*Biziura lobata*	Anatidae	Vulnerable				Wetland
Nankeen Night Heron	*Nycticorax caledonicus*	Ardeidae	Near threatened				Wetland
Pacific Golden Plover	*Pluvialis fulva*	Charadriidae	Near threatened			C / J	Woodland
Painted Honeyeater	*Grantiella picta*	Meliphagidae	Vulnerable	Yes			Woodland
Pied Cormorant	*Phalacrocorax varius*	Phalacrocoracidae	Near threatened				Wetland
Powerful Owl	*Ninox strenua*	Strigidae	Vulnerable	Yes			Woodland
Red-chested Button-quail	*Turnix pyrrhothorax*	Turnicidae	Vulnerable	Yes			Woodland
Regent Honeyeater	*Anthochaera phrygia*	Meliphagidae	Critically endangered	Yes	Endangered		Woodland
Regent Parrot	*Polytelis anthopeplus*	Psittacidae	Vulnerable	Yes	Vulnerable		Woodland
River Blackfish	*Gadopsis marmoratus*	Gadopsidae	Data deficient				Wetland
Royal Spoonbill	*Platalea regia*	Threskiornithidae	Vulnerable				Wetland

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Flora & Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 listed	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 status	*CAMBA (C) and/ or JAMBA (J) International protection agreements.	Habitat
Silver Perch	*Bidyanus bidyanus*	Terapontidae	Critically endangered	Yes			Wetland
Southern Myotis	*Myotis macropus*	Vespertilionidae	Near threatened				Woodland
Speckled Warbler	*Pyrrholaemus sagittatus*	Pardalotidae	Vulnerable	Yes			Woodland
Spotted Quail-thrush	*Cinclosoma punctatum*	Cinclosomatidae	Near threatened				Woodland
Square-tailed Kite	*Lophoictinia isura*	Accipitridae	Vulnerable	Yes			Woodland
Squirrel Glider	*Petaurus norfolcensis*	Petauridae	Endangered	Yes			Woodland
Superb Parrot	*Polytelis swainsonii*	Psittacidae	Endangered	Yes	Vulnerable		Woodland
Swift Parrot	*Lathamus discolor*	Psittacidae	Endangered	Yes	Endangered		Woodland
Turquoise Parrot	*Neophema pulchella*	Psittacidae	Near threatened	Yes			Woodland
Whiskered Tern	*Chlidonias hybridus*	Laridae	Near threatened				Wetland
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	*Haliaeetus leucogaster*	Accipitridae	Vulnerable	Yes		C	Wetland
Wood Sandpiper	*Tringa glareola*	Scolopacidae	Vulnerable			C / J	Wetland
Woodland Blind Snake	*Ramphotyphlops proximus*	Typhlopidae	Near threatened				Woodland

*The China-Australian Migratory Birds Agreement (CAMBA) and Japan-Australian Migratory Birds Agreement (JAMBA) are International protection agreements for migratory birds.

Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status definitions - Fauna

Critically endangered	A species that is rare and the best available evidence indicates that the species is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
Endangered	A species that is rare and the best available evidence indicates that the species is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.
Vulnerable	A species that is rare and the best available evidence indicates that the species is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
Near threatened	A species that has been evaluated and doesn"t meet the criteria for the above categories but is close to qualifying or is likely to qualify for a threatened category in the near future.
Data deficient	There is inadequate information available on the species" distribution and/or population to make a direct or indirect assessment of its extinction risk. Future research on these species may demonstrate the need for a threatened species classification.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 status definitions – Fauna & Flora

Critically Endangered	A species that is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future.
Endangered	A species that is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future.
Vulnerable	A species that is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future.

APPENDIX X - SIGNIFICANT FLORA SPECIES WITH DISTRIBUTIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF GREATER SHEPPARTON AND A DEFINITION OF TERMS.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Flora and Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 Listed	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 Status
Ausfeld's Wattle	Acacia ausfeldii	Mimosaceae	Vulnerable		
Austral Trefoil	Lotus australis var. australis	Fabaceae	Data deficient		
Australian Broomrape	Orobanche cernua var. australiana	Orobanchaceae	Vulnerable		
Bent-leaf Wattle	Acacia flexifolia	Mimosaceae	Rare		
Blue Burr-daisy	Calotis cuneifolia	Asteraceae	Rare		
Branching Groundsel	Senecio cunninghamii var. cunninghamii	Asteraceae	Rare		
Broom Bitter-pea	Daviesia genistifolia s.s.	Fabaceae	Rare		
Brown Beetle-grass	Leptochloa fusca subsp. fusca	Poaceae	Rare		
Buloke	Allocasuarina luehmannii	Casuarinaceae	Depleted	Yes	
Button Rush	Lipocarpha microcephala	Cyperaceae	Vulnerable		
Chinese Lespedeza	Lespedeza juncea subsp. sericea	Fabaceae	Rare		
Common Joyweed	Alternanthera nodiflora	Amaranthaceae	Data deficient		
Cotton Sneezeweed	Centipeda nidiformis	Asteraceae	Rare		
Dookie Daisy	Brachyscome gracilis	Asteraceae	Vulnerable	Yes	
Ferny Small-flower Buttercup	Ranunculus pumilio var. politus	Ranunculaceae	Data deficient		
Giant Honey-myrtle	Melaleuca armillaris subsp. armillaris	Myrtaceae	Rare		
Granite Love-grass	Eragrostis alveiformis	Poaceae	Data deficient		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Flora and Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 Listed	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 Status
Grey Billy-buttons	Craspedia canens	Asteraceae	Endangered	Yes	
Hydrilla	Hydrilla verticillata	Hydrocharitaceae	Rare		
Jericho Wire-grass	Aristida jerichoensis var. subspinulifera	Poaceae	Endangered	Yes	
Late-flower Flax-lily	Dianella tarda	Hemerocallidaceae	Vulnerable		
Mountain Swainson-pea	Swainsona recta	Fabaceae	Endangered	Yes	Endangered
Plains Joyweed	Alternanthera sp. 1 (Plains)	Amaranthaceae	Data deficient		
Ridged Water-milfoil	Myriophyllum porcatum	Haloragaceae	Vulnerable	Yes	Vulnerable
River Swamp Wallaby-grass	Amphibromus fluitans	Poaceae			Vulnerable
Sand Rush	Juncus psammophilus	Juncaceae	Rare		
Short-awned Wheat-grass	Elymus multiflorus	Poaceae	Data deficient		
Silky Swainson-pea	Swainsona sericea	Fabaceae	Vulnerable	Yes	
Slender Club-sedge	Isolepis congrua	Cyperaceae	Vulnerable	Yes	
Slender Tick-trefoil	Desmodium varians	Fabaceae	Data deficient		
Slender Water-ribbons	Triglochin dubia	Juncaginaceae	Rare		
Small Scurf-pea	Cullen parvum	Fabaceae	Endangered	Yes	
Smooth Minuria	Minuria integerrima	Asteraceae	Rare		
Straw Wallaby-grass	Austrodanthonia richardsonii	Poaceae	Vulnerable		
Striped Water-milfoil	Myriophyllum striatum	Haloragaceae	Vulnerable	Yes	
Twiggy Sida	Sida intricata	Malvaceae	Vulnerable		
Veiled Fringe-sedge	Fimbristylis velata	Cyperaceae	Rare		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status	Flora and Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act 1988 Listed	Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 Status
Velvet Daisy-bush	Olearia pannosa subsp. cardiophylla	Asteraceae	Vulnerable	Yes	
Waterbush	Myoporum montanum	Scrophulariaceae	Rare		
Western Silver Wattle	Acacia decora	Mimosaceae	Vulnerable		
Western Water-starwort	Callitriche cyclocarpa	Veronicaceae	Vulnerable	Yes	Vulnerable
Wetland Blown-grass	Lachnagrostis filiformis var. 2	Poaceae	Data deficient		
Winged Water-starwort	Callitriche umbonata	Veronicaceae	Rare		
Yarran Wattle	Acacia omalophylla	Mimosaceae	Endangered	Yes	
Yellow-tongue Daisy	Brachyscome chrysoglossa	Asteraceae	Vulnerable	Yes	

Victorian Rare or Threatened Species (VROTS) status definitions - Flora

Endangered	The species is considered to be **endangered** in Victoria and at risk of disappearing from the wild if present land-use and other causes continue.
Vulnerable	The species is considered to be **vulnerable** in Victoria. The species is not presently endangered but is likely to become so soon due to continued depletion; **or** occurring mainly on sites likely to experience changes in land-use which could threaten the survival of the species in the wild; **or** species whose total populations are so low that recovery from local disturbance could be unlikely.
Rare	The species is considered to be **rare** in Victoria but not considered otherwise threatened. This category does not necessarily imply that the species is substantially threatened, but merely that there are relatively few known stands.
Data deficient	The status of the species is **poorly known** in Victoria and is suspected, but not definitely known, to belong to categories r, v or e.

APPENDIX XI - GOULBURN BROKEN CATCHMENT NOXIOUS WEED LIST*

Common name	Botanical name	Victorian noxious weed category	Weed of National Significance (WONS)
African boxthorn	Lycium ferocissimum Miers	Regionally controlled	Yes
African daisy	Senecio pterophorus DC.	Regionally prohibited	
African feather grass	Pennisetum macrourum Trin.	Regionally prohibited	
African love-grass	Eragrostis curvula (Schrad.) Nees	Regionally controlled	
Alligator weed	Alternanthera philoxeroides (Mart.) Griseb.	State prohibited	Yes
Almond	Prunus dulcis	Undeclared	
Amsinckia	Amsinckia spp.	Regionally controlled	
Angled onion	Allium triquetrum L.	Restricted	
Asparagus - Climbing	Asparagus plumosus	Undeclared	Yes
Asparagus - Fern	Asparagus scandens	Undeclared	Yes
Asparagus - Ground	Asparagus aethiopicus	Undeclared	Yes
Asparagus - Ornamental	Asparagus africanus	Undeclared	Yes
Athel pine	Tamarix aphylla	Restricted	Yes
Bathurst burr	Xanthium spinosum	Regionally controlled	
Bear-skin fescue	Festuca gautieri (Hack.) K. Richt.	State prohibited	
Bindweed	Convolvulus arvensis L.	Restricted	
Black knapweed	Centaurea nigra L.	State prohibited	
Blackberry	Rubus fruticosus L. agg. -	Regionally controlled	Yes
Boneseed	Chrysanthemoides monilifera (L.) Norl.	Regionally controlled	Yes
Branched broomrape	Orobanche ramosa L.	State prohibited	
Bridal creeper	Asparagus asparagoides (L.) Druce	Restricted	Yes
Bridal veil	Asparagus declinatus	Undeclared	Yes
Broom - English / Scotch	Cytisus scoparius (L.) Link	Regionally	Yes

Common name	Botanical name	Victorian noxious weed category	Weed of National Significance (WONS)
		controlled	
Broom - Montpellier	Genista monspessulana (L.) L.A.S. Johnson	Regionally controlled	Yes
Buffalo burr	Solanum rostratum Dunal	Regionally controlled	
Cabomba	Cabomba caroliniana A.Gray	Restricted	Yes
Caltrop, Bindii	Tribulus terrestris L.	Regionally controlled	
Camel thorn	Alhagi maurorum Medik.	State prohibited	
Cape tulip (one-leaf)	Moraea flaccida (Sweet) Steud.	Regionally prohibited	
Cape tulip (two-leaf)	Moraea miniata Andrews	Regionally prohibited	
Chilean cestrum	Cestrum parqui L"Her.	Regionally controlled	
Chilean needle grass	Nassella neesiana (Trin. & Rupr.) Barkworth	Restricted	Yes
Devil's claw (purple flower)	Proboscidea louisianica (Mill.) Thell.	Regionally controlled	
Devil's claw (yellow flower)	Proboscidea lutea (Lindl.) Stapf	Regionally controlled	
Dodder	Cuscuta spp.	Regionally controlled	
Fennel	Foeniculum vulgare Mill.	Restricted	
Fireweed	Senecio madagascariensis	Undeclared	Yes
Flax-leaved broom	Genista linifolia L.	Restricted	
Giant knotweed	Fallopia sachalinensis (F. Schmidt ex Maxim) Ronse Decr.	State prohibited	
Giraffe thorn	Vachellia erioloba (E. Mey) P.J.H. Hurter	State prohibited	
Gorse	Ulex europaeus L.	Regionally controlled	Yes
Great mullein	Verbascum thapsus L.	Regionally controlled	
Hardhead thistle	Rhaponticum repens (L.)	Regionally	

Common name	Botanical name	Victorian noxious weed category	Weed of National Significance (WONS)
	Hildalgo	controlled	
Hawkweeds	Hieracium spp.	State prohibited	
Hawthorn	Crataegus monogyna Jacq.	Regionally controlled	
Hemlock	Conium maculatum L.	Regionally controlled	
Hoary cress	Lepidium draba L.	Regionally controlled	
Horehound	Marrubium vulgare L.	Regionally controlled	
Horsetail	Equisetum spp.	State prohibited	
Hymenachne	Hymenachne amplexicaulis (Rudge) Nees	Restricted	Yes
Ivy-leaf sida	Malvella leprosa (Ortega) Krapov.	State prohibited	
Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica (Houtt.) Ronse Decr.	State prohibited	
Japanese knotweed hybrid	Fallopia x bohemica (Chrtek & Chrtkova) J.P.Bailey	State prohibited	
Karoo thorn	Vachellia karroo (Hayne) Banfi & Galasso	State prohibited	
Khaki weed	Alternanthera pungens Kunth.	Regionally controlled	
Lagarosiphon	Lagarosiphon major (Ridl.) Moss	State prohibited	
Lantana	Lantana camara L.	Restricted	Yes
Lobed needle grass	Nassella charruana (Arechav.) Barkworth	State prohibited	
Madeira vine	Anredera cordifolia	Undeclared	Yes
Marijuana	Cannabis sativa L.	State prohibited	
Mesquite	Prosopis spp.	State prohibited	Yes
Mexican feather grass	Nassella tenuissima (Trin.) Barkworth	State prohibited	
Mimosa	Mimosa pigra L.	Restricted	Yes
Noogoora burr	Xanthium strumariam L.	Regionally controlled	

Common name	Botanical name	Victorian noxious weed category	Weed of National Significance (WONS)
Olive	Olea europaea	Undeclared	
Onion weed	Asphodelus fistulosus L.	Restricted	
Ox-eye daisy	Leucanthemum vulgare Lam.	Regionally controlled	
Pampas grass	Cortaderia selloana	Undeclared	
Pampas lily-of-the-valley	Salpichroa origanifolia (Lam.) Thell.	Restricted	
Parkinsonia	Parkinsonia aculeata L.	Restricted	Yes
Parthenium weed	Parthenium hysterophorus L.	State prohibited	Yes
Paterson's curse	Echium plantagineum L.	Regionally controlled	
Peppercorn	Schinus molle	Undeclared	
Perennial ragweed	Ambrosia psilostachya DC.	State prohibited	
Pond apple	Annona glabra L.	Restricted	Yes
Poverty weed	Iva axillaris Pursh.	State prohibited	
Prairie ground cherry	Physalis hederifolia A. Gray	Regionally controlled	
Prickly acacia	Acacia nilotica (L.) Delile subsp. indica (Benth.) Brenan	Restricted	Yes
Prickly pear (drooping)	Opuntia monacantha Haw.	Restricted	Yes
Prickly pear (erect)	Opuntia stricta (Haw.) Haw.	Restricted	Yes
Ragwort	Senecio jacobaea L.	Regionally prohibited	
Rubber vine	Cryptostegia grandiflora R. Br.	Restricted	Yes
Sagittaria	Sagittaria platyphylla	Undeclared	Yes
Salvinia	Salvinia molesta D.S. Mitch.	State prohibited	Yes
Sand rocket	Diplotaxis tenuifolia (L.) DC.	Restricted	
Serrated tussock	Nassella trichotoma (Nees.) Hack.ex Arechav.	Regionally prohibited	Yes
Silverleaf nightshade	Solanum elaeagnifolium Cav.	Regionally controlled	Yes
Skeleton weed	Chondrilla juncea L.	Restricted	

Common name	Botanical name	Victorian noxious weed category	Weed of National Significance (WONS)
Soursob	Oxalis pes-caprae L.	Restricted	
Spiny broom	Calicotome spinosa (L.) Link	Restricted	
Spiny burr grass	Cenchrus longispinus (Hack.) Fernald	Regionally controlled	
Spiny emex	Emex australis Steinh.	Regionally controlled	
Spiny rush	Juncus acutus L.	Regionally controlled	
St Barnaby's thistle	Centaurea solstitialis L.	Regionally controlled	
St. John's wort	Hypericum perforatum L.	Regionally controlled	
St. Peter's wort	Hypericum tetrapterum Fr.	Restricted	
Stinkwort	Dittrichia graveolens (L.) Greuter	Restricted	
Sweet briar	Rosa rubiginosa L.	Regionally controlled	
Tangled hypericum	Hypericum triquetrifolium Turra	State prohibited	
Thistle - Artichoke	Cynara cardunculus L.	Regionally prohibited	
Thistle - Golden	Scolymus hispanicus L.	Regionally controlled	
Thistle - Illyrian	Onopordum illyricum L.	Regionally prohibited	
Thistle - Nodding	Carduus nutans L.	State prohibited	
Thistle - Perennial	Cirsium arvense (L.) Scop.	Regionally controlled	
Thistle - Saffron	Carthamus lanatus L.	Regionally controlled	
Thistle - Scotch	Onopordum acanthium L.	Regionally controlled	
Thistle - Slender	Carduus tenuiflorus Curtis/ C. pycnocephalus L.	Restricted	
Thistle - Soldier	Picnomon acarna (L.) Cass.	Regionally controlled	

Common name	Botanical name	Victorian noxious weed category	Weed of National Significance (WONS)
Thistle - Spear	Cirsium vulgare (Savi) Ten.	Restricted	
Thistle - Star	Centaurea calcitrapa L.	Restricted	
Thistle - Stemless	Onopordum acaulon L.	Restricted	
Thistle - Variegated	Sylibum marianum (L.) J. Gaertn.	Regionally controlled	
Thorn apple (common)	Datura stramonium	Regionally controlled	
Thorn apple (long-spine)	Datura ferox	Regionally controlled	
Thorn apple (recurved)	Datura iNoxiousia Mill.	Regionally controlled	
Topped lavendar	Lavandula stoechas L.	Restricted	
Tree of heaven	Ailanthus altissima (Mill.) Swingle	Regionally controlled	
Tufted honeyflower	Melianthus comosus Vahl	Regionally controlled	
Tutsan	Hypericum androsaemum L.	Regionally controlled	
Viper's bugloss	Echium vulgare L.	Regionally controlled	
Water hyacinth	Eichhornia crassipes (Mart) Solms	State prohibited	Yes
Wheel cactus	Opuntia robusta H.L. Wendl. ex. Pfeiff.	Restricted	Yes
Wild garlic	Allium vineale L.	Regionally prohibited	
Wild mignonette	Reseda luteola L.	Restricted	
Wild teasel	Dipsacus fullonum L. subsp. fullonum	Restricted	
Wild watsonia	Watsonia meriana (L.) Mill. Var bulbillifera (J.W. Mathews & L. Bolus) D.A. Cooke	Restricted	
Willows	Salix spp.	Restricted	Yes

* DPI, weeds.org, Weeds of the GB Catchment.

APPENDIX XII - GREATER SHEPPARTON COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS SURVEY – A SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

Purpose and Background

Community engagement is paramount to the development of a relevant and comprehensive Environmental Sustainability Strategy (the Strategy). A key stage in the development of the Strategy was to survey the Greater Shepparton community to ensure that the community informs Greater Shepparton City Council (Council) about their environmental sustainability values and concerns. An open response survey format was used as it was very important that Council develop a survey without any preconceived ideas about what the community responses may have been. The downfall of an open response survey format is that it is more time intensive to collate and analyse the data received.

The Greater Shepparton community environmental sustainability values and behaviours survey (the Survey) was available on Council‟s external and internal websites, emailed to all primary and secondary schools, key stakeholder groups and community organisations within the municipality, and to targeted community members previously involved with Council‟s community planning program. Several media releases were released and newspaper articles published. The project officer spoke twice on ONE FM to invite community participation. Paper copies were also available for collection and completion from Council‟s Welsford Street and Doyle‟s Road offices and the Shepparton, Mooroopna and Tatura Public Libraries.

Results and Discussion

A total of 143 community members commenced the survey whilst 85 people completed the survey in full. The percentage of males and females who completed the survey in full was fairly even (47% female, 53% male). Figure 1 provides a breakdown of the survey respondents via age category. A good representation of respondents was received in the 26-40, 41-60 and 61-81 age categories but less than 6% of respondents were aged under 26 years old (and only one respondent less than 18 years of age).

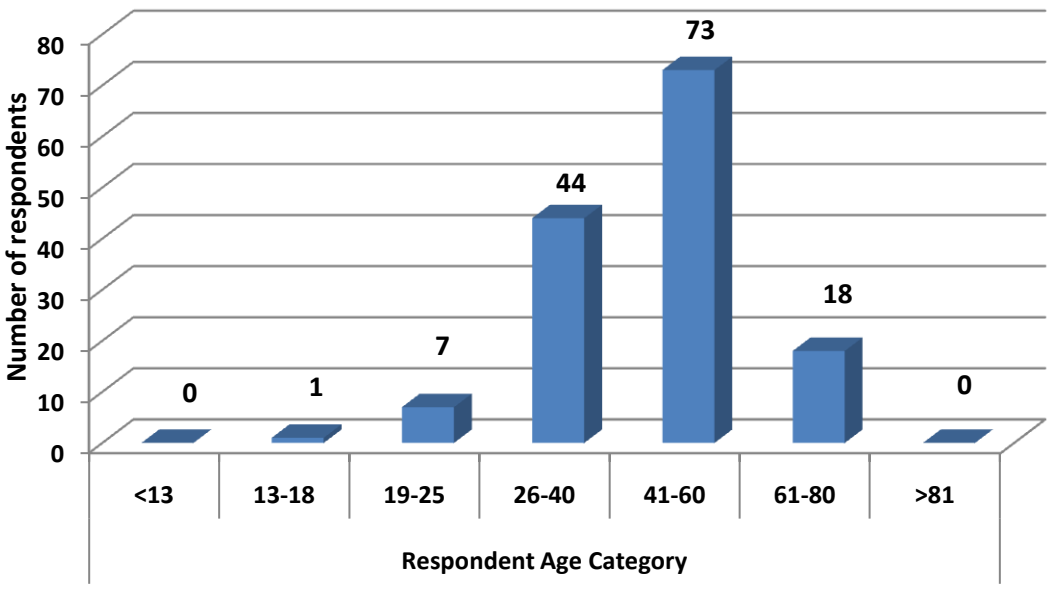

Figure 1: Age categories of survey respondents

During the survey development stage, the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Stakeholder Reference Committee (the SRC) discussed and voted in favour of creating Facebook and Twitter pages to maximise the opportunity for our region"s young people to complete the community survey. Although we did not create a standalone Facebook page for the Strategy, information about the survey was included on Council"s generic web, Facebook and Twitter sites (41 people actively viewed the information on Facebook).

Council also provided the survey to administrative staff at all of the primary and secondary schools in the region, and encouraged engagement through traditional media avenues (newspaper, radio and television), as well as Council"s regular newsletter advertisement in Shepparton News and the Advisor. Information was also included on Council"s web site and placed at local libraries.

The survey participant demographics demonstrate the importance of engaging the region"s youth and the environmental actions and inactions of today are going to determine the environmental legacy the youth of the region will inherit. A more comprehensive engagement plan that actively targets the youth space with a blend of face to face and online interactions is planned for the next stage.

Section One: Greater Shepparton's environmental assets

To identify and prioritise key areas of environmental management for inclusion in the Strategy, the SRC needed to establish what environmental assets the Greater Shepparton community valued the highest. Personal behaviours are dependent upon a person"s values and the belief that something valued is impacted on by a particular positive or negative behaviour. For example, a person may not value the city centre environment of Shepparton but value the Greater Shepparton river environment. This person may exhibit littering behaviours within the city centre

because they do not value this environment and are unaware that this behaviour has negative consequences for their valued asset, the river. Increasing public awareness may result in this individual realising that this negative behaviour is linked to the asset of value and result in a change in that behaviour.

The subsequent questions were included in the survey to identify the environmental assets the community values so the Strategy and Council can prioritise these assets for protection.

1. *What are the greatest environmental assets within Greater Shepparton?*

The City of Greater Shepparton lies at the confluence of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers so it is not surprising that our river environment was confirmed by 84% of 111 survey respondents as the region‟s greatest environmental asset (Table 1). Our remnant vegetation and bushland, and our wetlands were the next highest responses at 58% and 26% respectively. Victoria Park Lake was the equal forth highest response (11%), which is great recognition of Council‟s recent re-development along with urban parks and gardens and open space areas in general (also at 11%). Our clean healthy air, remnant vegetation on road reserves and the regions potential for high cycling use were some other common responses.

Table 1: Highest responses to Question 1 - What are the greatest environmental assets within Greater Shepparton?

Response	Percentage of respondents
Our river environments	84%
Our remnant vegetation and bushland	58%
Our wetlands	26%
Victoria Park Lake	11%
Our urban parks, gardens and open space areas	11%
Our clean, healthy air	9%
Flat Topography and the opportunities for walking and cycling and the paths present	7%
Remnant vegetation on road reserves and unused roads	7%

2. *What do you value most about our environment?*

A broader variety of answers was received for question two (Table 2). The value that received the highest number of responses at 37%was our remnant vegetation and bushland, and the biodiversity values they provide. Native fauna (22%), trees and native flora (21%), and our clean healthy air (19%) were the next highest responses.

Table 2: Highest responses to Question 2 – What do you value most about our environment?

Response	Percentage of respondents
Our remnant vegetation and bushland and their high biodiversity values.	37%
Native fauna	22%
Trees and native flora	21%
Our clean, healthy air	19%
Our river environments	18%
That our environmental assets are readily accessible	17%
Our clean, healthy water	16%
The ecosystem services vital to sustaining life that our environment provides.	11%
That our environment is valued, enhanced and protected by government agencies and community groups	11%

Section Two: Council's role in environmental management

This section of the survey was included for two major reasons. Firstly to ascertain community knowledge and opinions regarding Greater Shepparton City Council‟s role and current activities in environmental management, and secondly to identify environmental themes and topics the community would like the Strategy to target. The community‟s knowledge and understanding of Councils environmental roles and activities needed to be determined before any attempts are undertaken to improve them. The results obtained from our survey will enable Council to assess post Strategy successes via measurable data.

3. What does Council currently do to protect and enhance our environment?

Some very notable responses were received for this question (Table 3). Of greatest concern was that 18% of respondents were unsure of what Council currently did to protect and enhance our environment (the second highest response) whilst a further 12% of respondents believed that Council does nothing or very little to protect and enhance our environment. A major priority for the Strategy will be to address the statistic that almost a third of the Greater Shepparton community survey respondents have either a lack of knowledge, or a negative perception relating to Councils environmental management. Recent internal staff discussions have suggested that Council needs to focus more attention on celebrating and promoting our positive environmental achievements. If previous successes had been better celebrated perhaps the community may have responded differently to this question. The Strategy will explore different methods to address this knowledge gap.

Table 3: Highest responses to Question 3 – What does Council currently do to protect and enhance our environment?

Response	Percentage of respondents
Protection and revegetation of native vegetation on roadsides and Council reserves	21%
Unsure / don't know	18%
Parks & garden maintenance	16%
Waste management	13%
Not much / very little / nothing	12%
Annual tree plantings / plant trees	11%
Protection of native vegetation through the planning scheme	10%
Develop and implement environmental management policies and strategies	9%
Community education and awareness programs	9%

Other common responses were: protection and revegetation of native vegetation on roadsides and Council reserves (21%); parks and garden maintenance (16%); and waste management (13%). When the responses were sorted into themes (Table 4) the areas of environmental management with the highest results were: protect and enhance native vegetation (36%); legislation and policy including enforcement (24%); and waste management (19%).

Table 4: Responses to what does Council currently do to protect and enhance our environment (question 3) sorted by theme.

Theme	Percentage of respondents
Protect and enhance native vegetation	36%
Don't know or not much/very little	30%
Legislation, policy & enforcement	24%
Waste management	19%
Parks & Recreation	19%
Community education & awareness	14%
Wetland management	8%
Water management	7%
Transport management	6%
Energy management	3%

Unfortunately the survey responses indicate that the community has quite poor knowledge of Council‟s current actions and role in environmental management. The Strategy will seek to identify and explore actions to address these findings.

4. *What do you think are the most important environmental issues that you would like Council to address?*

Protection and enhancement of remnant vegetation (21%) was the highest individual response received for question 4 (Table 5). Investigate and promote energy use reductions across the municipality (19%) and Council to maximise renewable energy usage (13%) were the second and third highest responses. Interestingly only 3% of respondents listed energy management as an environmental action currently being performed by Council but the second and third highest responses for what the public would like Council to address were related to energy management. Another priority for Council to address is reducing municipality vehicle usage via greater promotion and provision of public transport (9%) and improving walking and cycling accessibility and safety within the municipality (9%). Weed control (10%) and addressing the ongoing problem of illegal rubbish dumping (10%) were other high responses.

Table 5: Highest responses to Question 4– What do you think are the most important issues you would like Council to address.

Response	Percentage of respondents
Protection and enhancement of remnant vegetation	21%
Investigate and promote energy use reductions across the municipality.	19%
Council to maximise renewable energy usage	13%
Address illegal dumping of rubbish	11%
Weed control (along roads, paths and rivers)	10%
Improve enforcement of planning scheme and local-laws	10%
Increase education and awareness of environmental issues in the community.	10%
Stormwater management including wetland creation and management.	10%
Protect and enhance waterways to improve health and quality.	9%
Beautify and maintain public space and urban areas including "greening up"	9%
Greater promotion and provision of public transport.	9%
Improve walking and cycling accessibility and safety within the municipality.	9%

Table 6 provides an outline of the responses to question 4, categorised according to theme. Energy efficiency and climate change preparedness was mentioned by 26% of respondents as an important environmental issue they would like Council to address. A theme that received lower responses for current Council activities (in question 3) but higher responses (30%) for what the community would like Council to address was water and waterway conservation management.

Table 6: Responses to what do you think are the most important issues you would like Council to address (question 4), sorted by theme.

Theme	Percentage of respondents
Conservation of native vegetation and fauna	39%
Water and waterway conservation management	30%
Energy efficiency and climate change preparedness	26%
Waste management	24%
Environmental protection through planning and enforcement	18%
Reducing municipality vehicle use	15%
Community engagement and increasing environmental awareness	14%
Parks and recreation management	14%

5. *What do you think are the most important environmental issues that Council needs to address in the next ten years?*

Question five was included to determine the respondents‟ longer term ideas and topics that the Strategy could focus on. Due to our location at the convergence of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers and the regions dependence on a reliable water supply for agricultural demands, it was not surprising that water related issues and themes received the highest responses (Table 7). Water quality and conservation (28%) was the highest individual response and water and waterway conservation management (41%) was the highest response theme (Table 8).

The protection and enhancement of native vegetation (24%), Council to reduce energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions (14%), sustainable urban development‟s (14%) and reducing municipality vehicle use via encouragement of cycling and walking (12%) were other high individual responses.

Energy efficiency and preparing for the impacts of climate change (37%) was the second highest response theme (Table 8). Many respondents mentioned that environmental protection through planning and enforcement (28%) and reducing municipality vehicle use (18%) were very important themes for Council to focus on.

Table 7: Highest responses to Question 5 – What do you think are most important environmental issues that Council needs to address in the next ten years.

Response	Percentage of respondents
Water quality and conservation.	28%
Protection and enhancement of remnant vegetation.	24%
Protection and enhancement of waterways.	14%
Council to reduce energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions.	14%
Sustainable urban developments.	14%

Response	Percentage of respondents
Reducing municipality vehicle use via encouragement of walking and cycling.	12%
Engage, educate and encourage Shepparton community to appreciate, respect and value our environment with the aim of becoming a long term environmentally sustainable municipality.	12%
Sustainable agriculture and supporting local produce.	12%
Council to encourage municipality to reduce energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions.	11%
Council to become a long term sustainable organisation and lead by example.	11%
Implement adaptation and mitigation measures to combat the impacts of climate change.	9%
Actively encourage and provide improved public transport to reduce road vehicles.	9%

Table 8: Responses to the most important environmental issues that Council needs to address in the next ten years (question 5), sorted by theme.

Theme	Percentage of respondents
Water and waterway conservation management	41%
Energy efficiency and climate change preparedness	37%
Conservation of native vegetation and fauna	34%
Environmental protection through planning and enforcement	28%
Waste management	18%
Reducing municipality vehicle use	18%
Community engagement and increasing environmental awareness	16%
Sustainable agriculture and food security	12%

Section Three: Community Behaviours

The community behaviours section of the survey was included to identify the environmentally sustainable behaviours the community is currently performing which will then help Council determine which behaviours we should target. This section also seeks to identify any barriers preventing the community from participating in environmentally sustainable behaviours, because in order to influence peoples" behaviours, Council will need to address these barriers.

6. What do you currently do at home or work that is environmentally friendly?

Almost two-thirds of respondents (64%) stated that they recycle their household waste which was the highest environmentally friendly response (Table 9). It is possible that all respondents recycle their household waste but due to the open

survey method used only 64% of respondents wrote this down. Council has traditionally spent more time and resources on community education and promotion regarding environmentally friendly waste behaviours than other areas of environment management. Perhaps this response is a result of this greater investment. Therefore in the future, Council needs to target education programs to influence the community‟s environmental behaviours.

Table 9: Highest responses to Question 6 – Environmentally friendly behaviours performed at home or work.

Response	Percentage of respondents
Recycle household waste	64%
Solar electricity panels	35%
Plant and protect native trees and native gardens	31%
Ride a bike or walk to work or the shops	27%
Use electricity carefully and sparingly	25%
Grow vegies and herbs at home	24%
Home composting	21%
Solar hot water system	18%
Minimise water use and maximise water efficiency	18%
Use energy efficient light bulbs	15%
Limit reliance on natural resources and use resources efficiently	11%
Collect and use rainwater in tanks for garden use	11%
Collect and use rainwater in tanks for household use	9%

Community installation of solar PV (35%) and solar hot water system (18%) panels have been on the increase in the municipality. Anecdotally, this is largely due to the Federal Government‟s rebate/subsidy scheme so it will be interesting to monitor how the changes to this program correspond with future installations of these technologies. Council could help promote such programs to our community to ensure the continued uptake of these initiatives and programs which support environmentally friendly behaviour.

Current environmental behaviours were categorised into major themes and the results are displayed in Table 10 below. Reducing waste and recycling (78%), energy efficiency and climate change preparedness (66%), sustainable water use (38%) and reducing vehicle use (31%) were some of the highest response themes.

Table 10: Responses for what environmentally friendly behaviours do you perform at home or work (question 6) sorted by theme

Theme	Percentage of respondents
Reducing waste and recycling	78%
Energy efficiency and climate change preparedness	66%
Sustainable water use	38%
Protect and enhance biodiversity, native vegetation and fauna	33%
Reducing municipality vehicle use	31%
Grow food at home and purchase local food	27%
General lifestyle choices	11%
Volunteering	8%
Reduce chemical use /purchase environmentally friendly chemical products	7%

7. *a) What is it that stops you from behaving in a more environmentally sustainable manner?*

Question 7 was included to identify barriers preventing environmentally sustainable behaviour. The highest response received was the financial costs associated with environmentally sustainable choices (30%) and 10% of respondents specifically mentioned the costs associated with the installation of solar panels (Table 11). Greater provision of and safer walking paths and cycling lanes (17%) and the lack of a frequent, fast, reliable public transport system (locally and to Melbourne, 14%) were the second and third highest individual responses.

Table 11: Identified barriers to environmentally sustainable behaviours

Barrier	Percentage of respondents
Financial costs	30%
Greater provision of walking paths and cycling lanes and improve safety at existing locations.	17%
Lack of a frequent, fast, reliable public transport system (locally and to Melbourne).	14%
Nothing	14%
Time	12%
Cost of solar panels	10%
Lack of Government leadership, support and encouragement	6%
Lack of community support.	6%
Lack of resources	5%
Lack of knowledge	5%

Reducing municipality vehicle use barriers (27%) was the second highest response theme whilst 14% of respondents felt that there were no barriers preventing them from behaving in an environmentally sustainable manner. Reducing waste (7%) and native vegetation (2%) received low responses to question 7 but were high responses to question 6. This indicates a strong correlation of the community performing sustainable behaviours if perceived barriers are absent or removed.

Table 12: Barrier themes

Barrier themes	Percentage of respondents
Financial costs	30%
Reducing municipality vehicle use	27%
Nothing	14%
Energy management	13%
Time	12%
Government	8%
Waste management	7%
Community / Social expectations	7%
Lack of resources	5%
Lack of knowledge	5%
Plant and protect native vegetation	2%

7. b) What actions would you most like to undertake?

This question was included to identify specific environmentally sustainable behaviours the community would like to perform. The highest responses (Table 13) were install solar panels (30%), walk and cycle more (28%) and use public transport more (21%). The Strategy will seek to identify barriers preventing these behaviours and explore ways in which Council can directly and indirectly reduce them.

Table 13: Highest responses to desired environmental activities

Response	Percentage of respondents
Install solar panels	30%
Walk and cycle more	28%
Use public transport more	21%
Install water reuse systems including water tanks	11%
Grow fruit and vegetables at home	9%
Creation of a community garden	5%
Protect more native vegetation	5%
Install solar hot water system	5%
Reduce my energy consumption	5%
Increase sustainability of buildings	5%

The responses received for question 7b (Table 14) indicate that the community is very eager to reduce their vehicle use (44%) and energy use (42%). Again, the community has identified behaviours that they are keen to perform but there are

barriers in place preventing them from doing so. The financial costs associated with installing solar panels is a barrier to implementation whilst many community members stated that safety concerns associated with road cycling has prevented them from cycling instead of using their car.

Table 14: Categorised desired community behaviours

Response theme	Percentage of respondents
Reduce vehicle use	44%
Reduce energy consumption	42%
Reduce waste	14%
Reduce water use	11%
Grow fruit and vegetables at home	9%
Increase community involvement	7%
Native vegetation protection	5%

8. Do you have any other thoughts or ideas that you would like us to consider?

This last question was included to ensure that participants could provide any other comments about the project or other general ideas they would like us to consider. Many respondents mentioned that community engagement and empowerment was very important for the development of the Strategy and for the implementation of proposed strategy actions. Many participants also requested that Council lead by example on environmental issues and demonstrate a long term commitment to achieving environmentally sustainable outcomes. Other responses included the importance of protecting our environmental assets, supporting community groups, and “green scaping” the city.

Conclusions

As outlined by the community respondents themselves, community engagement is vital to the development of a relevant and comprehensive Environmental Sustainability Strategy. Although we would have preferred to have higher numbers of participants in the youth categories, it was very pleasing to receive input into the Strategy‟s development by 143 community members.

The open response survey format was successful in obtaining the community‟s major environmental values, concerns, behaviours and barriers without any preconceived funnelling of responses. Community participants have not only provided guidance in the development of the Strategy, but have also supplied specific thoughts and ideas for activities that will help influence the actions in the final strategy.

The Greater Shepparton community environmental sustainability values and behaviours survey was a key step in ensuring community input into the contents of the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

APPENDIX XIII - INTERNAL STAFF SURVEY – A SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

Purpose and Background

The development of the Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy (the Strategy) will help Greater Shepparton City Council (Council) to identify and prioritise environmental sustainability activities across Council strategies and plans. The Strategy will also increase the capacity and understanding of environmental sustainability issues across Council and the community. To develop a comprehensive and relevant strategy Council staff must be engaged to ensure Council‟s current environmentally sustainable behaviours are collated.

A vital component for the Strategy development was to commence engagement with Council staff via an environmental sustainability survey to determine their environmental sustainability behaviours, values and concerns. Survey responses will help guide the development of the Draft Environmental Sustainability Strategy and assist with the scheduling of internal stakeholder meetings. It was very important that Council develop a survey without any preconceived ideas about what the responses may have been, so an open response survey format was created.

Council staff members were invited to complete the online survey via COGSpeak (Council‟s internal fortnightly newsletter) articles, InSite (Councils intranet site) announcements, an email was sent to the Welsford Street, Doyle‟s Road Complex, Business Centre and Aquamoves email distribution lists and hard copies of the survey were left in the Doyle‟s Road Complex tearoom. Paper or electronic copies of the survey were also available upon request.

Results and Discussion

A total of 27 council staff members commenced the survey whilst 17 completed the survey in full. Figure 2 provides a breakdown of survey respondents via Department. Ideally it would have been better to have a greater number of staff members complete the survey, but it is hoped that increased interest and participation from staff members in the development of the Strategy will lead to an increase in participants for any future surveys. The community development department had the highest number of survey respondents (9) and representatives from all five Council Directorates completed the survey.

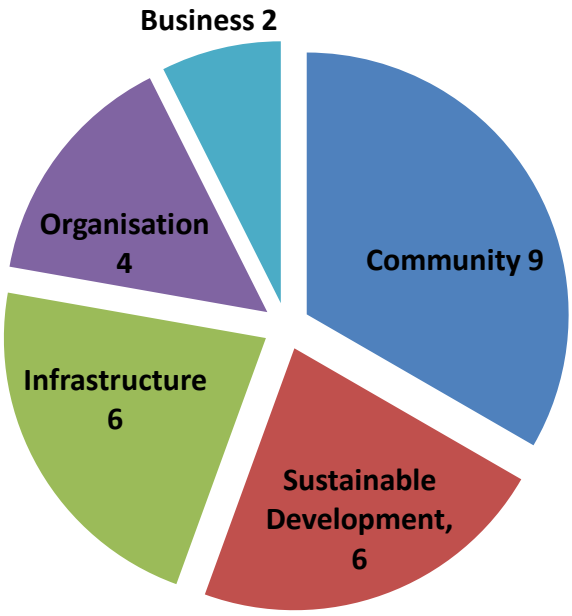

Figure 2: Number of survey respondents from each Council Directorate (total 27)

Section One: Current environmentally sustainable behaviours and barriers

This section of the survey was included to identify the environmentally sustainable behaviours staff are currently performing and determine which behaviours Council should target for improvement. This section also seeks to identify any barriers preventing environmentally sustainable behaviours because in order to influence peoples‟ behaviours, we need to overcome these barriers.

1. *a) Currently, do you do anything in your job that involves environmental sustainability considerations?*

Figure 3 outlines the highest responses received to Question 1. Performing general office duties including printing double sided and reducing paper use (30%) was the highest response received, followed by energy management (15%) and a simple yes statement (15%). Only two staff members said that their role with Council lacked any environmentally sustainable considerations.

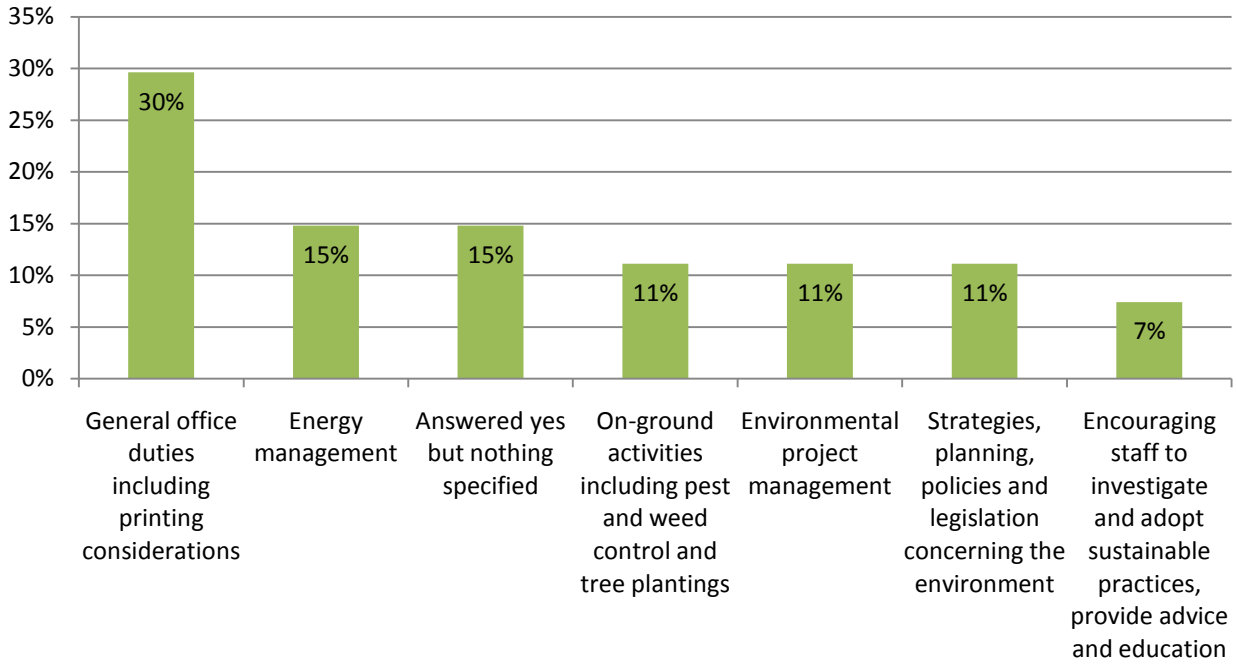

Figure 3: Highest responses to environmentally sustainable behaviours currently performed by Council staff

1. *b) What are the major barriers to performing your job in a more environmentally sustainable manner?*

This question was included to identify any barriers currently preventing environmentally sustainable behaviour. The highest responses to this question are displayed in Figure 4. Limited time resources, an outdated organisational culture, a lack of relevant knowledge and awareness, and limited financial resources were some of the highest responses received.

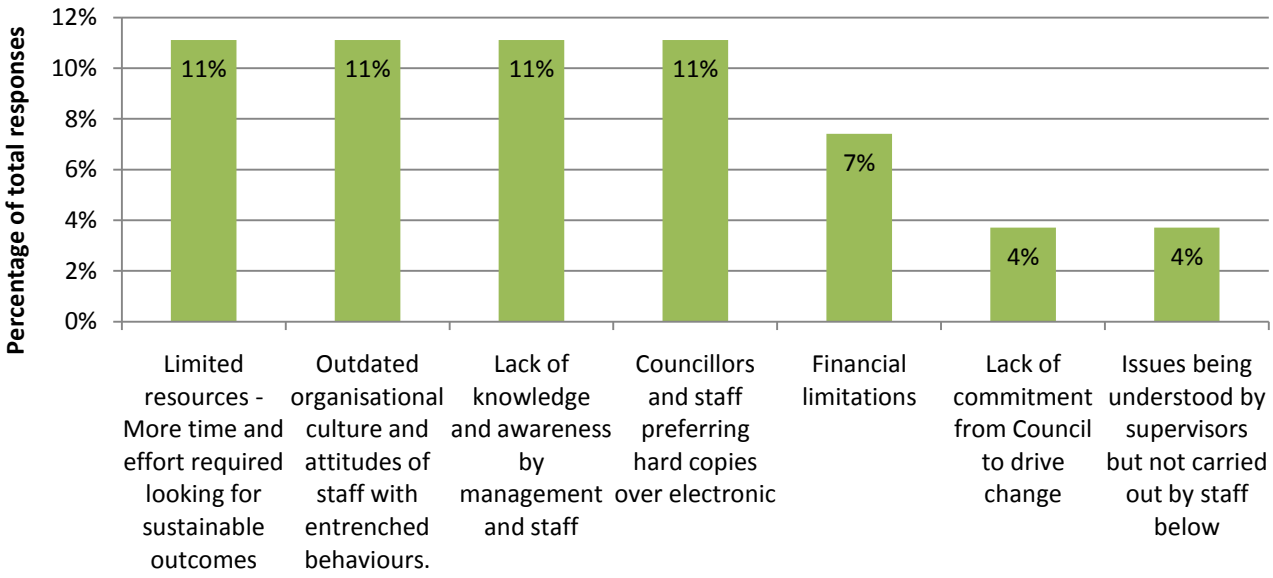

Figure 4: Highest responses to barriers currently preventing current environmentally sustainable behaviours

Section Two: Council's roles and responsibilities

This section aims to determine Council staff members‟ current level of understanding of the roles and responsibilities of local government in regards to environmental management and identify areas that staff members believe Council can improve. It is anticipated that the development of the Strategy will increase the environmental management knowledge and understanding of Council staff members and the results from this section will be used as a comparison with future studies to measure such changes.

2. To your knowledge, how does Council manage its environmental responsibilities?

A variety of responses was received for this question. Some respondents commented on Councils environmental management performance or gave a general statement on how we manage our environmental responsibilities, whilst others mentioned areas of environmental management or gave very specific examples of projects undertaken.

The highest response received by staff members who commented on Council‟s environmental performance felt that Council was doing well or heading in the right direction (Table 15). Almost one-fifth (19%) of respondents commented that council could improve its environmental performance and 15% of respondents felt that they were unsure of how Council was fulfilling its environmental responsibilities. The highest response from staff members that gave specific examples of Councils environmental roles or tasks performed (Table 16) was that Council increase environmental awareness and provide advice.

Table 15: Comments on Council's overall environmental performance

Response	Percentage of respondents
Council is doing well or heading in the right direction	44%
Could improve performance	19%
Unsure	15%
Has good intentions	4%
Needs more drive and awareness	4%
Needs more resources	4%
Visions are too short term	4%

Table 16: Comments about Council's environmental roles and tasks

Response	Percentage of respondents
Increase environmental awareness and provide advice	15%
Consideration of environmental issues when planning, developing and maintaining projects	7%
Waste management	7%
EcoBuy / green purchasing	4%
Native vegetation management	4%
Energy management	4%
Reduce paper use	4%
Water management	4%
Rehabilitation of land	4%

3. *What do you know about the role of Council's Sustainability and Environment Officers and the Sustainability and Environment Branch?*

Over half (56%) of the respondents participating in the survey stated that they either had a limited knowledge of the Sustainability and Environment Branch‟s role in the organisation (37%) or gave no response to the question (19%). Native vegetation management (22%), water management (19%) and development and implementation of environmental policies strategies and plans (19%) were the highest specific roles mentioned (Figure 5). Some of the other comments received for this question were that the branch has good environmental knowledge, have an important role in the organisation, are helpful and supportive, and that the branch is under-resourced.

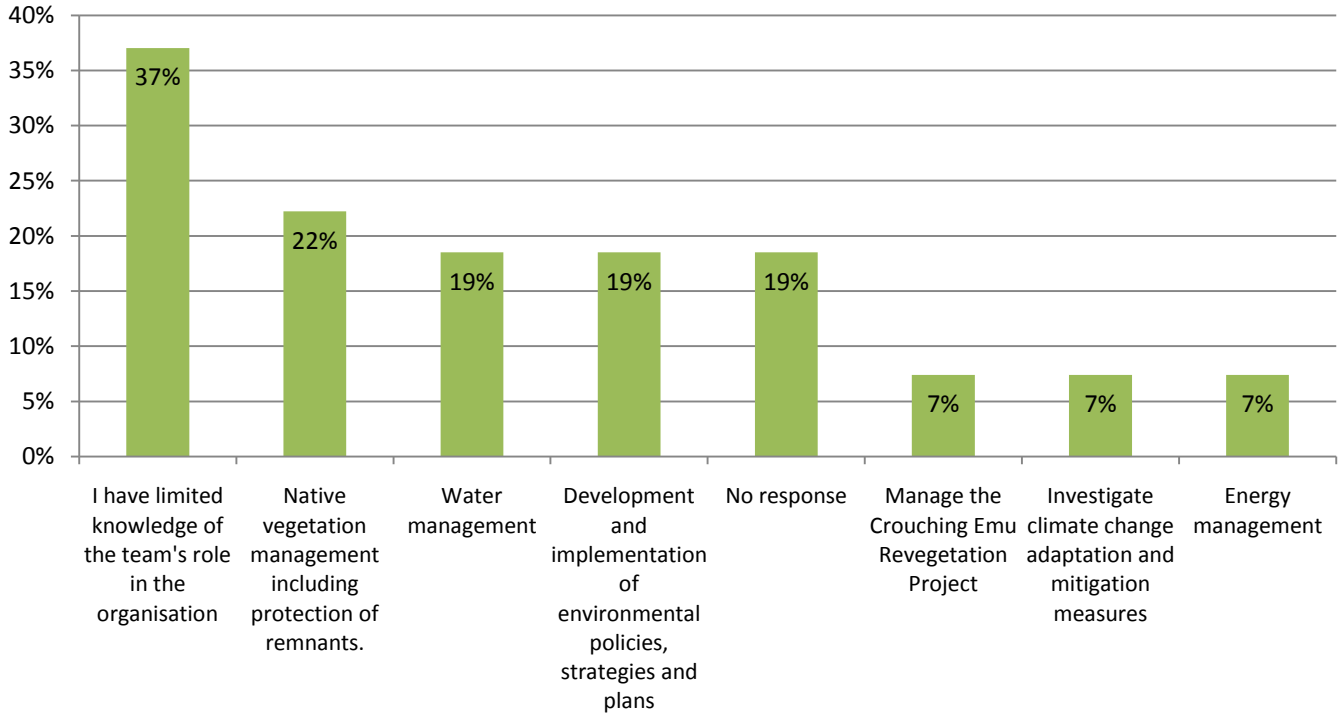

Figure 5: Highest responses for the role of the Sustainability and Environment Branch of Council.

4. *What are the key environmental issues in Greater Shepparton that Council should be addressing?*

Responses to this question indicate that council staff would like Council to continue focusing on sustainable water use and quality issues (26%) and protection and restoration of the natural environment (Table 17). Minimise waste (15%), reduce Council and community vehicle use (15%), encourage and support sustainable agriculture (11%) and increase renewable energy use (11%) were other high responses.

Table 17: Highest responses to key environmental issues that Council should be addressing

Response	Percentage of respondents
Sustainable water use and quality issues.	26%
No response / don't know	22%
Protection and restoration of the natural environment	19%
Minimise waste - Reduce reuse recycle	15%
Reduce council and community vehicle /petrol use - alt transport	15%
Increase renewable energy use within Council and the wider community	11%
Encourage and support sustainable agriculture and other environmentally friendly industries / businesses.	11%
Storm water management including domestic and industry runoff	11%
Develop an environmentally sustainable attitude in the urban and rural communities via community increased awareness and education.	11%

5. *In addition to what Council already does, what else do you think Council could do to address environmental issues?*

A key objective of the Strategy will be for Council to demonstrate to the community that we are an environmentally responsible organisation. There is a strong desire amongst Council staff for this objective to be achieved with 21% of respondents stating that Council needs to lead by example on environmental matters (Table 18). Other high responses to this question were to focus on designing and developing sustainable buildings (16%), reduce vehicle use (16%) and purchase more energy efficient vehicles (16%), and storm water management (16%). Many of the responses received from staff members to this question were quite similar to the responses received from the public in the community survey.

Table 18: Highest responses to other actions Council could do to address environmental issues

Response	Percentage of respondents
Lead by example	21%
Design and develop sustainable buildings	16%
Reduce vehicle use and purchase more energy efficient vehicles	16%
Storm water management including building site, domestic and industry runoff	16%
Sustainable urban development	11%
Set meaningful energy reduction targets and increase renewable energy use.	11%
We are well behind other Councils in regards to environment management	11%
Increase enforcement of local laws and planning scheme	11%
Promote our actions and partnerships with other agencies.	11%

6. What are the major barriers to implementing these actions?

This question was again asked to identify key barriers currently preventing environmentally sustainable behaviour within the organisation. Limited financial resources (35%) was the highest response received (Figure 6). An entrenched culture of staff with cynical attitudes towards environmental issues (29%), a lack of will and commitment (political and organisational) (24%) and staff lack of awareness and understanding of environmental issues (24%) were the next highest responses.

These barriers are going to require a lot of attention and effort to overcome but fortunately we are not the first organisations to attempt to overcome undesired cultural attitudes and behaviours. There are many examples and case studies of organisations that have been very successful at implementing organisational behaviour and attitudinal change to study and learn from.

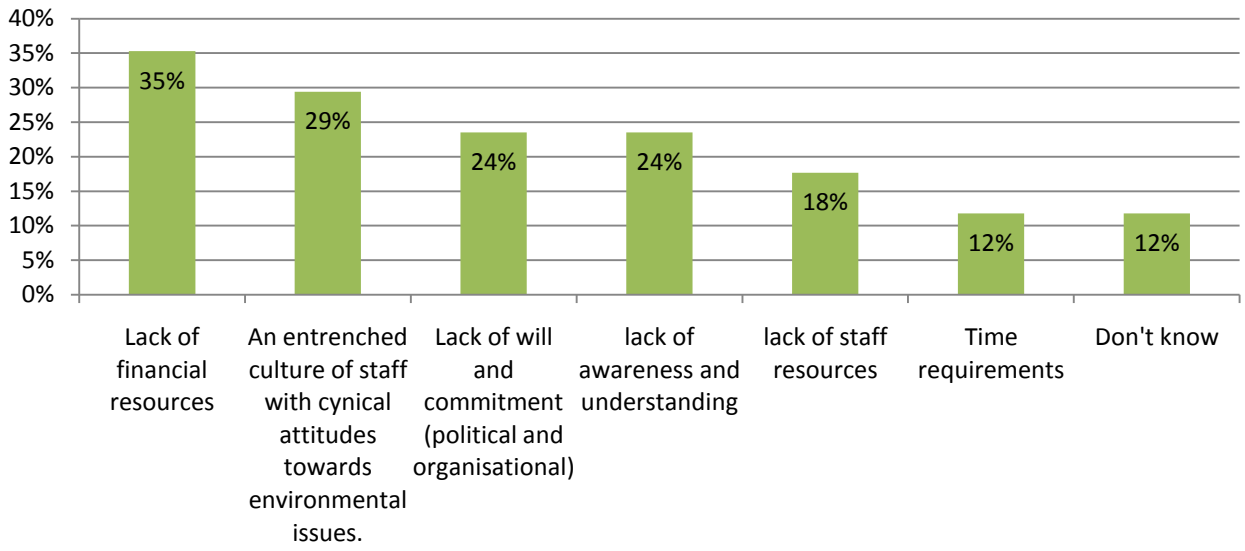

Figure 6: Highest survey responses to barriers preventing actions that Council could do to address environmental issues

Council staff survey conclusions

The essential first step of commencing engagement with Council staff members via the environmental sustainability survey was successful in determining a range of environmental sustainability behaviours, values and concerns for the Strategy to address. Although we would have preferred to have higher numbers complete the survey, it was pleasing to receive input into the Strategy‟s development by 27 staff members and that all five Council Directorates were represented.

The open response survey format was successful in obtaining staff member‟s major environmental values, concerns, behaviours and barriers without any preconceived funnelling of responses. The downfall of the open response survey format was that it involved a lot more time to collate and analyse the data received.

Council staff members have not only provided guidance in the development of the Strategy, but have also supplied specific thoughts and ideas for activities that may become actions in the final strategy. Major findings from the survey that the Strategy must address are that over half of the survey respondents stated that they either had a limited knowledge of the Sustainability and Environment Branch‟s role in the organisation or gave no response to the question. Many staff members also felt that there was an element of an entrenched culture of staff with cynical attitudes towards environmental issues within the organisation.

The results from this survey will enable comparative analysis with any future survey results, will guide the development of the Draft Environmental Sustainability Strategy and assist with the scheduling of internal stakeholder meetings.

DISCUSSION PAPER APPENDICES CONCLUSION

The primary objective of Councils environmental management activities is to apply best practice environmental sustainability management to all of Council business and service delivery. It is only by satisfying this objective and transitioning to an environmentally sustainable organisation can Council provide our community with the leadership required to ensure that Greater Shepparton fulfil the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy Plan objective of becoming:

"The regional centre distinguished by the range of its sustainable achievements".

As outlined in the accompanied Discussion Paper, Greater Shepparton City Council has environmental sustainability legislative responsibilities to comply with, and many environmental policies, strategies and projects to implement. There are however, many opportunities present that might bring about better environmental sustainability outcomes and address previously identified challenges and barriers. The Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy will be the driving document to transition Greater Shepparton to an environmentally sustainable region.

City of Greater Shepparton
Draft Municipal Fire Management Plan

DRAFT V3

GREATER SHEPPARTON

State Government Victoria

Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee, 2012

Preface

The City of Greater Shepparton Municipal Fire Management Committee (MFMPC) is responsible for providing a strategic and integrated approach to fire management within the municipality. This task forms part of a broader state and regional framework established under the Emergency Management Act (1986) and is supported by the State Fire Management Planning Committee and the Hume Regional Strategic Fire Management Planning Committee (HRSFMPC).

A key responsibility of the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC is the development of a draft Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP) on behalf of the City of Greater Shepparton Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) for considered endorsement by the Greater Shepparton City Council. This plan, which aligns with the Hume Regional Strategic Fire Management Plan 2011-2021, describes how regional authorities, local government, fire agencies and other relevant organizations can work together to effectively anticipate, respond to and recover from bushfire events affecting Greater Shepparton.

While the management of all types of fires is important, this plan has focused on bushfire in the first instance. The life of this plan is for three years and it is envisaged that future updates of this plan will include planning for other types for fire. Furthermore it is important to note that this plan recognizes, but does not duplicate, the extensive work already being undertaken in fire management across the municipality. This document is essentially a plan for improving integration of this existing work and developing improved methods for working together.

I join with the members of the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC in commending this document to you. We see the development and implementation of this plan as important step in the ongoing journey to securing a safer, more resilient community, healthier environment and a prosperous economy for our municipality.

Greg McKenzie
Chair
City of Greater Shepparton Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee

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Version Control Table

Version number	Date of issue	Author(s)	Brief description of change
Version 1.0	4/5/12	C. Hajek and C. Price	Draft MFMP for Comment
Version 2.0	31/5	C. Price	Edits included from MFMPC M4 on 18/5/12
Version 3.0	7/6/12	C. Price	Edits included from MFMPC M4.2 on 5/6/12

Authorisation

This integrated MFMP was adopted as the first iteration of the City of Greater Shepparton MFMP. This Plan was endorsed through a formal motion by the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC at their meeting on …….. 2012, for which the Chair of the committee will sign for and on behalf of all members of the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ **Plan endorsed by:**

Greg McKenzie

Manager, Sustainability and Environment
Municipal Fire Prevention Officer
Greater Shepparton City Council
Chairperson
City of Greater Shepparton Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee

Signed: _____ Date: _____ **Plan endorsed by:**

Peter Brereton

Operations Officer
Country Fire Authority

Signed: _____ Date: _____ **Plan endorsed by:**

Alan Dobson

Land and Fire Regional Manager
North East Region
DSE

DRAFT V3

Signed: _____ Date: _____ **Plan endorsed by:**

Steve Allen

Operations Manager District 22
CFA

Signed: _____ Date: _____ **Plan endorsed by:**

Craig Stubbings

District Chief Ranger
River Red Gum District
Parks Victoria

Signed: _____ Date: _____ **Plan adopted by Council**

Gavin Cator

Chief Executive Officer
Greater Shepparton City Council

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1 Introduction

1.1 Context and Background

Victoria has a long history of community, government and organisations working cooperatively to combat the threat of bushfire. However recent challenges such as the decade of dry conditions, an increase in people living in high risk areas and the occurrence of a number of major fires, prompted the need for increased coordination and cooperation to secure fire safety across the state.

In response to these challenges the Victorian Government established an Integrated Fire Management Project (IFMP) Framework for Victoria in 2008.

> *IFMP aims to achieve a consistent and effective means for fire management planning within Victoria through a commitment to cooperation, including information sharing and the building of collective knowledge.*
>
> – The Integrated Fire Management Planning Framework, State Fire Management Planning Committee

IFMP provides a framework for consistent and effective fire management planning (see figure 1) across the fire management continuum, by providing a multi-agency approach, bringing together fire management planners and other stakeholders, including emergency service agencies, government departments, private organisations and the community. Working together they build relationships and share information to plan across public and private land tenures for all types of fire. IFMP is based on analysis and management of risk, uses best practices, considers the unique environmental circumstances in Greater Shepparton and builds on existing information.

Figure 1: Fire Management Planning

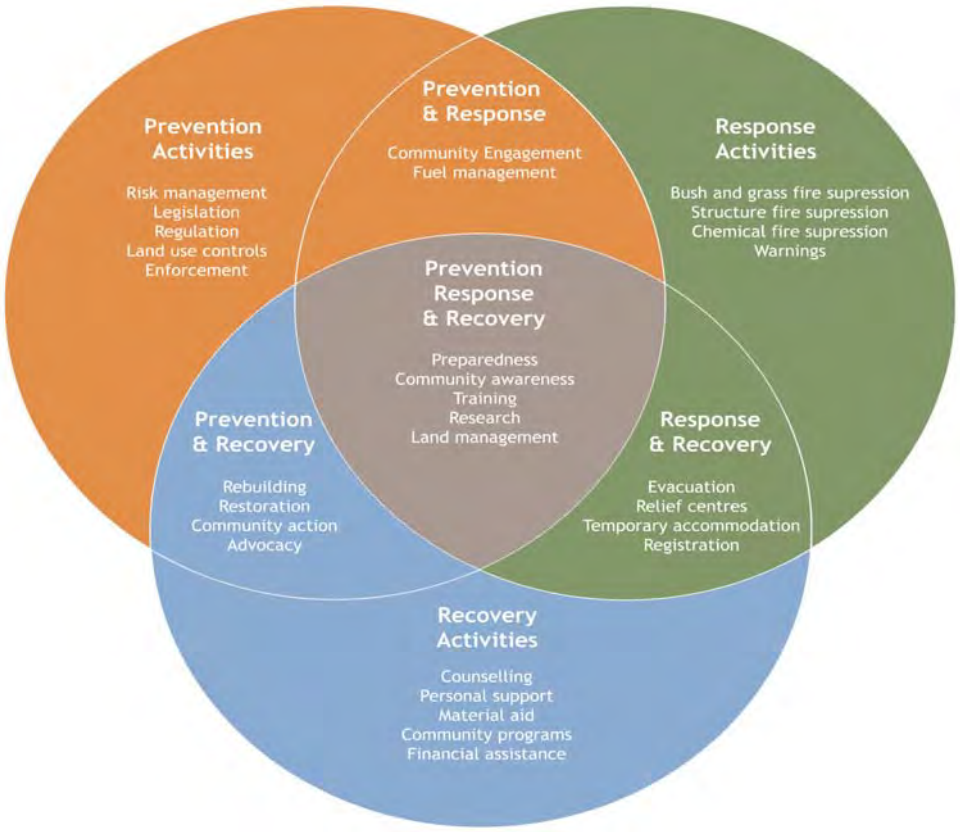
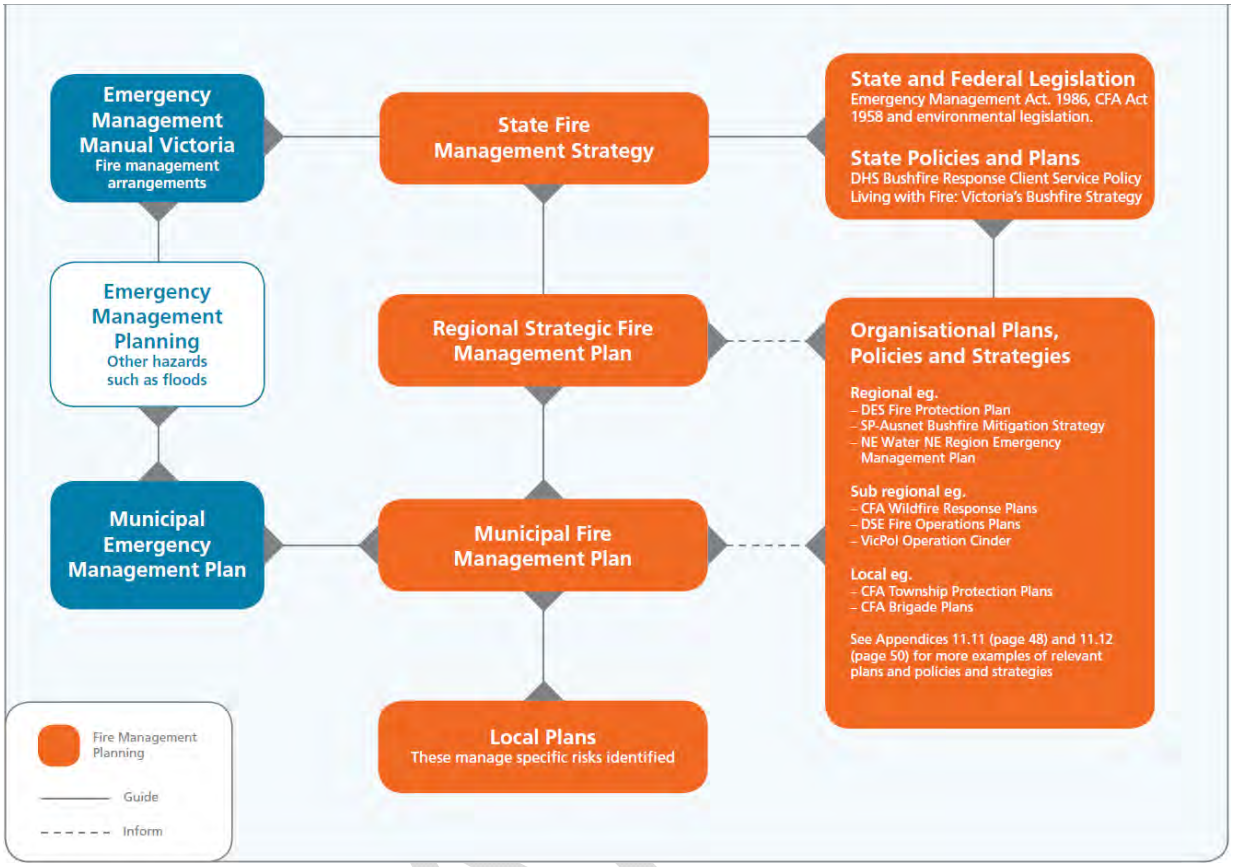


Figure 2: Victorian Management Plans and Policies



The framework provides structures, policies and procedures to help build on the existing spirit of cooperation and networks that already exist in fire management. It establishes a tiered system of state, regional and municipal plans that provide strategic direction to fire management in Victoria, as illustrated in figure 2.

The purpose of Municipal Fire Management Committees is to provide a municipal level forum for building and sustaining organisational partnerships with regards to fire management; and to ensure that plans of individual agencies are linked effectively so as to complement each other. This is facilitated by MFMPCs having a membership consisting of representatives from key stakeholder organisations with respect to fire management within the municipality.

City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC membership consists of:

- Greater Shepparton City Council
- CFA
- DSE
- Parks Victoria
- Victoria Police

MFMPCs also act as a sub-committee of their respective Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC). *Part 6A: Guidelines for Municipal Fire Management Planning*, of the *Emergency Management Manual of Victoria,* outlines the terms of reference for these committees, identifies their minimum core membership and requires the development of a Municipal Fire Management Plan.

The formation of an MFMPC and the development of a MFMP signify an important first step in the transition from Municipal Fire Prevention Plans developed under the guidance and direction of Municipal Fire Prevention Committees, to a MFMP developed under the guidance and leadership of a MFMPC.

1.2 Period and Purpose

Organisation and agencies involved in fire management already have a range of activities, plans, policies and procedures that are directly involved with, or that impact on fire management. This MFMP builds on this existing work, so as to chart and coordinate the implementation of measures in use across the municipality designed to minimise the occurrence and mitigate the effects of fire. It also seeks to identify the need for adopting or developing new activities, processes and policies, and communicating this need to the relevant responsible authority.

In doing so it takes into consideration all aspects of fire management:

- Prevention – Regulatory and physical measures to ensure that emergencies are prevented, or their effects mitigated
- Preparedness – Arrangements to ensure that in the event of an emergency occurring all those resources and services that area needed to cope with the effects can be efficiently mobilised and deployed
- Response – Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after an emergency, to ensure its effects are minimised and that people affected are given immediate relief and support
- Recovery – The coordinated process of supporting emergency affected communities in the reconstruction of the physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing.

MFMPs have a three year planning cycle and this plan has a three year duration commencing from the date of council endorsement. However it will be subject to annual review and modification as appropriate. This MFMP concentrates on bushfires; however it is expected that future versions of the plan will incorporate management of structural and chemical fires as well as the use of fire for a variety of purposes.

1.3 Preparation Process

This MFMP has been developed in accordance with Part 6A of the Emergency Management Manual of Victoria and using the IFMP planning process as described in the IFMP Guide. This process follows a seven stage planning cycle as illustrated in figure 3.

Stage 1: Environmental Scanning – establish a municipal base line from which fire management planning and decision making can be made and measured, including development of fire management objectives.

Stage 2: Risk Assessment – identification, analysis and evaluation of the fire risks that potentially impact on the municipality.

Stage 3: Analysis – analysis of treatment options for achieving the fire management objectives.

Stage 4: Decide – select the most appropriate risk treatment options to achieve the fire management objectives.

Stage 5: Publish –once the community and stakeholders have validated the draft MFMP, the relevant authorities endorse, publish and distribute it.

Stage 6: Deliver - relevant organisations implement the agreed risk treatments in the MFMP.

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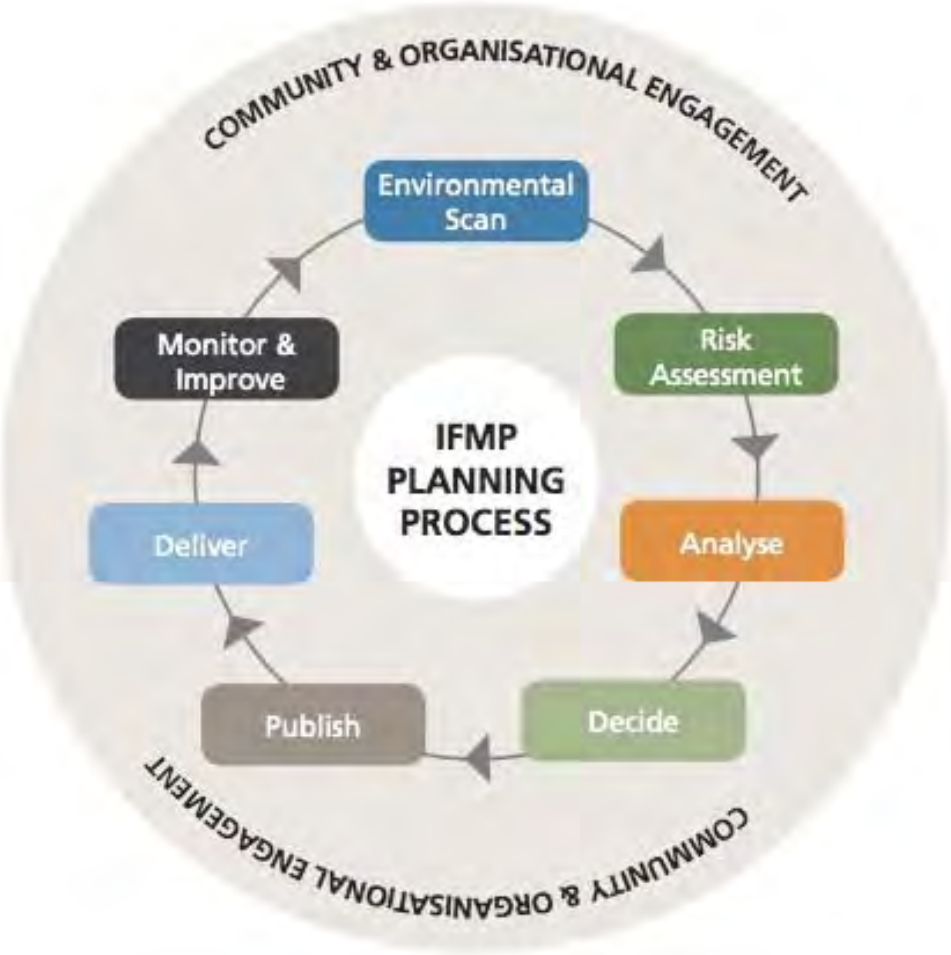
Stage 7: Monitor and Improve – track delivery and effectiveness of risk treatments so as to continually improve the MFMP's contribution to realising the fire management objectives.

Figure 3: Integrated Fire Management Planning Process



Over a period of 12 months members of the committee met on a regular basis to work through the steps outlined above for the purpose of developing this plan. This commenced with formally establishing the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC as a subcommittee of the City of Greater Shepparton MEMPC and endorsing the terms of references based on those in Part 6A of the Emergency Management Manual of Victoria.

Subsequent activities include undertaking a stakeholder analysis, developing a communications strategy, identifying and assessing fire risks of concern with the municipality and assigning appropriate treatments to address them.

This planning process is risk based and aligns with the Australian Standard AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines, figure 4 (page 11) describes how this is achieved.

All concerns identified were considered and defined as risk statements with the cause and impact clearly described. Each of these risk statements were then assessed using the State Bushfire Consequence Table, Likelihood table and Risk Assessment matrix (See Attachment 1) as endorsed by the State Fire Management Planning Committee.

Figure 4: IFMP Alignment with AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009

Stage of the IFMP planning cycle	Relevant aspect of the AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines
Engagement Plan	Communicate and consult
Environmental Scan	Establish the context
Risk Assessment > Analyse	Identify the risk > Analyse the risk > Evaluate the risk
Decide > Publish	Determine and document treatment options
Deliver	Treat the risk
Monitor and Improve	Monitor and review

2 Engagement and Communications

Stakeholder engagement and participation is an essential element of fire management planning. Stakeholders are required to participate for a range of reason, including (but not limited to):

- Legislative responsibilities in relation to fire management.
- Leadership
- Provision of hazard expertise and technical advice
- Subject to hazard impact – directly and/or indirectly
- Land tenure and management arrangements
- Expressed expectation
- Influenced and/or support mitigation.

Stakeholder engagement is required during all seven stages in the IFMP planning cycle, the aim being for them to participate together in the collaborative development, delivery and monitoring of the MFMP.

Engaging with stakeholders in the development and implementation of the MFMP is an essential tool for drawing on existing knowledge and experience and to build support for and involvement in this plan.

These communication and engagement tasks have been built around the model of public engagement developed by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2). This model is called the Public Participation Spectrum and is detailed in figure 5 below. This spectrum provides a framework for planning effective stakeholder engagement about any issue or plan. It is used as the basis for communication and engagement planning during the development and subsequent implementation phases

Figure 5: IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum

Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
Provide balanced information to stakeholders	Obtain feedback on analysis and decisions	Work directly together to ensure issues are understood	Partner in each aspect of decision making	Place final decision making in the hands primary stakeholders

2.1 Community and Organisational Engagement Plan

In accordance with the IFMP planning guide the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC undertook a stakeholder analysis and used this as a basis for the development of a Communication and Engagement Plan concerning the MFMP.

The stakeholder analysis consisted of a two part process; first identifying the key stakeholders who needed to be engaged in the MFMP's development and secondly determining the nature and level of their interest in fire management planning. This second step involved considering each stakeholder in relation to eight different fire management roles which are described in figure 6 and four different stakeholder types as outlined in figure 7.

Figure 6: Fire Management Roles

Role	Description
Fire Coordination	Bringing together of fire management agencies and elements to ensure effective response to an incident or emergency. CFA has legislated responsibility under the *CFA Act 1958* for the prevention and suppression of fires and for the protection of life and property in the Country Area of Victoria. In accordance with provisions in the *CFA Act 1958* and the *Forest Act 1958*, DSE has fire management and fire suppression responsibilities for state forests and national, state and regional parks.
Land Owner/Manager Responsibilities	Landholder/managers are heavily involved in fire prevention and fire suppression on land under their control. They have legislated responsibilities to extinguish a fire burning on their land and to prevent fires from starting from the use of equipment and vehicles (*CFA Act 1958, Crimes Act 1958*). They are also required to comply with relevant local government laws, relevant planning or building permit conditions and conditions associated with permits to burn.
Response	Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after a fire incident to minimise the impact of the fire.
Recovery	A coordinated process of supporting emergency affected communities in the reconstruction of physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical well being.
Community Education	Community education is learning and social development, working with individuals and groups in their communities using a range of formal and informal methods
Community Care	Community care is about identifying and catering for groups or individuals with specific needs, before during and after fire.
Asset Protection	Asset protection involves protecting key community infrastructure such as power, water supplies, roads, gas pipes and protecting community assets such as parks and the environment. Asset protection can also involve the protection of private assets such as housing, plantations, crops and fences.
Regulatory	The issuing of permits for lighting fires. The development of and compliance with planning controls and permits for developments and building that take into account fire risk/management. The regulation and issuing of permits involving vegetation removal or fuel reduction activities for fire management purposes.

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Once a stakeholder had been categorised, the appropriate level of participation in the process and the different types of engagement activities required were determined. The results of this stakeholder analyses and the resulting Communication and Engagement Plan can be found in Attachment 2.

Figure 7: Stakeholder Type and Engagement Level

Stakeholder Type	Description	Participation Level
Internal	Formal responsibilities for IFMP process and outcomes	Collaborate and empower
Primary	MFMPC membership, responsibility for development of the plan, communication and engagement across and within organisations rest with these organisations	Collaborate and empower
Secondary	RSFMPC membership or fire management role within municipality, may be requested to provide specific inputs, dependent upon outputs, or requested to be involved in specific tasks,	Involve and consult
Tertiary	Strong interest in outcomes and may have valuable information/viewpoints to share	Inform and consult

2.2 Community Engagement

During the development phase of the MFMP the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC's communication and engagement efforts were focused primarily upon the key stakeholders. However a number of community groups were identified as Tertiary stakeholders and engaging with them and the broader community is seen as a critical component to the long term success of MFMP.

This community engagement process is very much seen as an ongoing responsibility of the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC and it is expected to gain prominence going forward once the plan is endorsed and especially during review periods. Consequently the Communication and Engagement Plan should be viewed as a live and evolving document that will be shaped according to the MFMPC's needs over time. In this manner it will be able to guide the process of broader community engagement with additional activities and details being incorporated as required.

It is also anticipated that in addition to the activities attributed to the MFMPC, individual key stakeholders will be utilising their existing processes and undertaking their own community engagement activities in support of IFMP and the MFMP.

3 Environmental Scan

Environmental scanning involves identifying key themes, issues, trends and gaps that may affect or influence fire management. It establishes the base level of knowledge and understanding required for supporting risk identification, risk assessment and risk treatment within a fire management context.

It involves gathering and interpreting data and information relevant to fire management, so as to make predictions, assumptions and conclusions concerning fire risk for the municipality over the period of the plan. It also provides the basis for identifying fire management objectives and decision making with regard to selecting strategies to achieve these objectives.

3.1 Municipal Profile

3.1.1 Location and Tenure

The Greater Shepparton region located at the confluence of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers is northern part of the state, approximately two hours north of Melbourne. It has an area of 2,420 square kilometres and has an estimated population of 63,335. Shepparton combined with Mooroopna is the fourth largest

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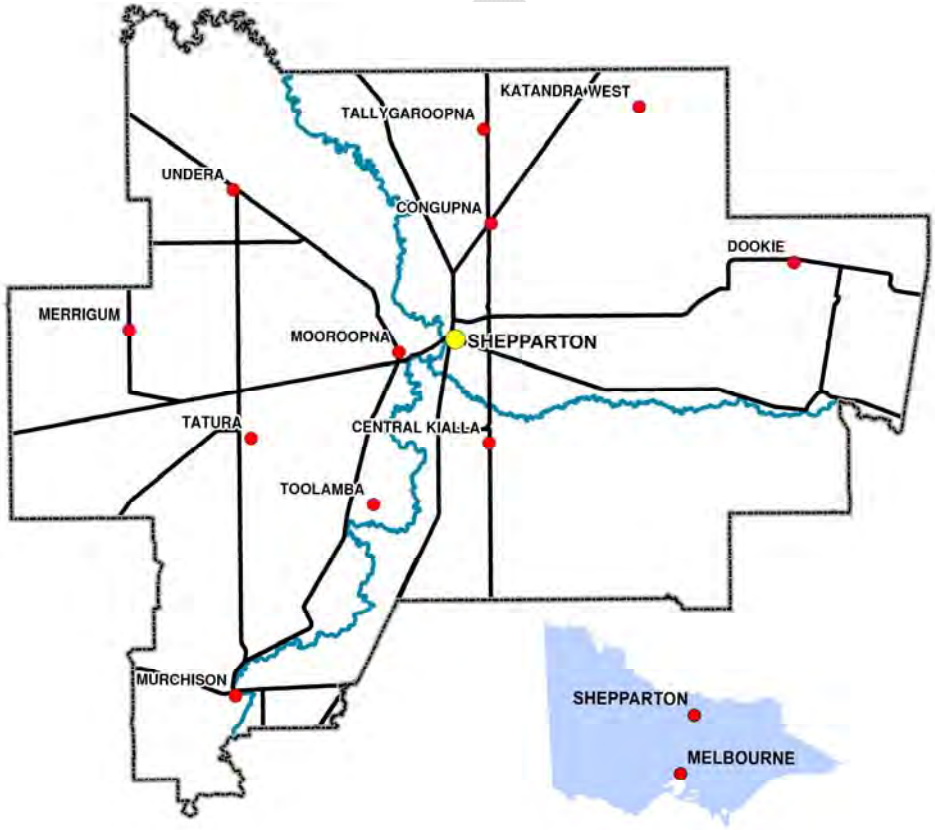
regional city in the State after Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo. As a region, the City of Greater Shepparton is also one of the fastest growing in Victoria.

The City of Greater Shepparton is the major manufacturing, commercial and transport capital of the Goulburn Valley. It is one of Australia's major horticultural and food production areas and is responsible for approximately 25% of Victoria's agricultural production.

The City of Greater Shepparton was formed in 1994 from the merger of the City of Shepparton, Shire of Shepparton and parts of the Shires of Rodney, Euroa, Goulburn, Tungamah, Violet Town and Waranga. Major waterways including the Broken and Goulburn rivers flow through the area. It is also home to the Waranga Basin.

The majority of Shepparton lies in the 'Victorian Riverina' bioregion and forms part of the Goulburn-Broken Catchment. Across the catchment, 97% of the Victorian Riverina area has been cleared of its native vegetation. Land in the Shepparton region is approximately 85% privately owned with the remaining public land generally being managed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and the Greater Shepparton City Council.

Figure 8: City of Greater Shepparton



3.1.2 Population and Demographics

Greater Shepparton's population of over 60,000 people is nearly evenly split between the major urban centres of Shepparton and Mooroopna (53%) and the surrounding rural areas including the smaller townships of Tatura, Murchison, Dookie, Merrigum, Congupna, Toolamba, Undera, Katandra and Tallygaroopna (47%) Since 2007, the unemployment rate in the greater City of Shepparton has risen from 4.7% to 5.6%. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing are the major employers in the region.

The City of Greater Shepparton is more culturally diverse than many of its' neighbouring Shires. Approximately 11 % of its residents were born overseas and 3.5% of its population are Indigenous Australians. Shepparton city has the second largest Indigenous community in Victoria after Melbourne and is four times larger than any other rural city in Victoria.

Greater Shepparton's population expanded rapidly after World War Two, largely as a result of immigration. As a result there are large groups of people from a diverse number of countries in the municipality including Italy, Turkey, Greece, Albania, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany, India, New Zealand, Philippines, Iraq and more recently the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan. 10.4% of the population speak a language other than English at home.

Shepparton City is growing, as is the rest of the municipality. It is estimated that by 2031, the population of the City of Greater Shepparton will have increased to 80,681 which is an increase of 35.8%, or 21,256 persons, over the 2006 population. This equates to an annual population increase of 1.23%.

In the 2006 census, the most populous age group in municipality was the 10-14 year age group with 4,623 persons. Analysis of the 2006 census reveals that17.6% of the Greater Shepparton population is over 60 compared with an average of 19.3% for the rest of the Hume Region.

The City of Greater Shepparton had the second lowest score in the Hume Region in the 2006 Socio Economic Indices for Areas (SEIFA). SEIFA is a measure of social disadvantage. Lower scores indicate that the area is more disadvantaged with families having low income, low rates of training and many having unskilled occupations. Benalla Rural City is the only municipality with a lower score in the Hume Region.

3.1.3 Natural Environment

The City of Greater Shepparton's natural environment is centred on the floodplains and river systems that also support the agricultural base of the region. Areas of remnant vegetation are generally confined to river corridors and roadside areas with some areas of native vegetation on private land. The protection and enhancement of these wildlife corridors is important to provide habitat links for native flora and fauna to large areas of native remnant vegetation and areas of greater biological diversity.

The municipality includes areas of the Lower Goulburn National Park and the Coomboona State Forest. The Broken and Goulburn River reserves (including these parks) contain large stands of River Red Gum *(Eucalyptus camaldulensis)* and form important wildlife corridors. Understorey plants along these river corridors include Golden Wattle *(Acacia acinacia)*, Dwarf Native Cherry *(Exocarpus stricta)* and Silver Wattle *(Acacia dealbata)*. Reedy Swamp, located in the Lower Goulburn National Park, adjacent to Shepparton is home to a large number of waterbirds (both migratory and local).

Major threats to the environment in the Shepparton region include a decline in water quality, flooding, pest plants and animals, salinity, soil degradation and the degradation of ecosystem process resulting in a loss of biodiversity. These elements not only threaten the region's natural assets but also threaten the economy and social assets of the City of Greater Shepparton

The Goulburn River, running essentially south-north, forms a major physical barrier through the centre of the Municipality. This river may form a natural control line, but also severely limits access to either side. The Municipality is also traversed by a large number of smaller creeks and tributaries. These creeks in many instances are difficult to cross as the creek gullies are deeply embedded in the surrounding land and access from one side to the other is often difficult.

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3.1.4 Land use, Economy and Employment

The management of the floodplains in the City of Greater Shepparton is one of the main land use and development issues for the Municipality. The municipality is characterised by flat topography and is located on a floodplain at the confluence of the Broken and Goulburn Rivers. Flooding in the City of Greater Shepparton is a result of the interaction of the Seven Creeks, Broken River and Goulburn River

Known as the 'Food bowl of Victoria' and responsible for producing approximately 25% of Victoria's agricultural production, the economy of the Shepparton region is largely based on agriculture which utilises over 190,000 hectares of Municipality land and grosses $486 million annually. There are large orchards in the municipality including stone fruits, pear and apple production covering 8000 hectares of land. High intensity dairying including 112,000 dairy cows is a major industry for the municipality. Animal production is also a large industry consisting of over 150,000 sheep and lambs, close to 40,000 beef cattle and over 50,000 pigs. Dairying and fruit production generally occur within the irrigated areas of the municipality with mixed farming predominating outside these areas including wool, cattle and cropping. Grain production is popular in the non-irrigated areas and utilizes approximately 20,000 hectares of Greater Shepparton land.

Strong regional growth in the City of Greater Shepparton is based on a strong industry and Shepparton is one of the five fastest growing regional centres in Australia. Aside from agriculture, the Shepparton region's economy is based on food processing, retailing and road transport. Large volumes of foodstuffs are produced and processed in the region which generates a large number of freight movements throughout the municipality. This road transport industry is a substantial contributor to the economy of the region as is the support industry of truck servicing and sales.

Greater Shepparton, a regional hub for the region, provides a range of goods and services to over 160,000 people spread over this area of Victoria. This allows the city to support a strong and diverse retail sector. Retail trade is centred in the city of Shepparton and Mooroopna with smaller retail areas in the other larger towns scattered around the municipality such as Tatura.

Shepparton is also serviced by high quality medical services and offers a number of tertiary level training institutions including Latrobe University and the Goulburn-Ovens TAFE. Tourism is also a key supporting industry in the region and the city has a strong history of attracting major tourism events to the region.

Shepparton also has a large number of manual workers employed in the fruit and food processing industries. Much of this work is seasonal and many of the workers speak a language other than English.

The City of Greater Shepparton is currently experiencing rapid population growth. As part of this growth, many people are moving into lands traditionally managed by farming communities and a landscape-wide shift in land management practices is occurring. Many farms have been sold divided into 'lifestyle' blocks, many of which are being re-vegetated or alternatively being developed as hobby farms which increases the interface between farming and residential areas. Some areas that were irrigated farms also no longer utilize channel infrastructure or utilise channel water for crops. This places financial pressures on those remaining irrigators to maintain the same infrastructure with fewer users. Those areas that were previously irrigated have had an increase in the area of 'dry land' which has also increased the length of the fire season. For example, grain crops only pose a fire risk when they are almost ready to harvest whereas grass that has dried out over summer may remain dry and therefore a fire risk until extended rains occur. This landscape change also increases the potential for fires started on farms to directly impact residents. Conversely, due to increased number of residents, the potential for fire ignitions has also increased which may cause fires to impact farms.

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The municipality is dissected by two major highways that meed in Shepparton; the Goulburn Valley Highway running north-south and the Midland Highway running east-west. A number of other major roads traverse the municipality and there is generally good access for emergency vehicles. However there are also a high number of watercourses and major rivers spread throughout the municipality. Although these water bodies provide access to reliable water to fight fires, they may also inhibit emergency vehicle access as crossing them is restricted to bridges and fords.

Rail corridors in the municipality include the lines to Shepparton, Strathmerton-Cobram, Dookie and Echuca.

3.1.5 Traditional Owners

There is one Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) that encompasses the entire geographic area of Shepparton: the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation (YYNAC). RAPs have responsibilities relating to the management of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* 2006. These responsibilities include evaluating Cultural Heritage Management Plans, provide advice to applications for Cultural Heritage Permits, make decisions on Cultural heritage Agreements and offer advice or applications for Protection Declarations.

The YYANC RAP covers the northern area of Benalla Rural City, the whole of the Greater City of Shepparton and Moira Shire and extends to the north into NSW. It also continues west into the Shire of Campaspe and east into the Rural City of Wangaratta . Traditionally Yorta Yorta's activities were concentrated around the major rivers, wetlands and forests in the Central Murray-Goulburn region. Their lifestyle was based on hunting, fishing and collecting food from a variety of sources.

Areas of potential sensitivity for Indigenous cultural heritage include:

- Riparian corridors of the Goulburn and Murray Rivers, and numerous other tributaries and creeks;
- Sand dunes adjacent to flood plains;
- Areas of native vegetation;
- Raised edges of billabongs and creeks; and
- Raised ridges on flat land adjacent to the flood plain.

For further information about RAPs and their contact details see:

- http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/indigenous/aboriginal-heritage-council/registered-aboriginal-parties

3.1.6 Climate

The City of Greater Shepparton is characterised by a temperate climate with cool winters. Average rainfall is approximately 450mm through most of the municipality although generally, average rainfalls are higher in the east (e.g. Dookie with an average of 553.5mm). Summer temperatures average approximately 30-31 C° during the day throughout most of the municipality and nigh time summer temperatures are between 13-14.5 C°. Winter maximums average around 14 C° and minimums around 3.5 C°. Flooding is a natural phenomenon throughout the Shepparton region.

From 2000-2009 the Shepparton region and many other parts of Victoria experienced a prolonged drought. More recently large rain events have occurred in 2010, 2011 and particularly in 2012 causing extensive flooding in low lying areas. This variance in annual weather patterns is becoming increasingly erratic and harder to predict.

The future climate in the greater Goulburn-Broken region is expected to become hotter and drier than it is today. It is also expected that there will be a larger proportion of hotter days, fewer frosts and a greater incidence of drought. Higher intensity, but lower predictability, of rain events is also likely to occur with

less rain available for irrigation. These climactic changes will influence and possibly increase the likelihood of fire in the municipality.

By 2030 it is predicted that the average temperatures in the region will increase by 0.8°C and by 2070, depending on emissions, temperatures will increase on average by 1.4°C to 2.7°C. The climate is likely to become increasingly erratic with higher occurrences of heat waves, storms and frosts. These climactic changes will also make fire behaviour harder to predict.

3.1.7 Fire History

Although there is a fire season every year, there have been only a small number of major outbreaks in the last 10 years. There was a large commitment of personnel and resources made by the fire services, from the Municipality to the 2006/07 North East fires. The most notable structure fire within the Municipality was the Anspac Cool-store fire in August 1997 that caused damage in the order of $11,000,000.

There are 22 Fire Brigades that have all or part of their area within the Greater Shepparton City Council area. They are as follows:

Arcadia, Caniambo, Cooma, Cosgrove & Pine Lodge, Currawa, Dookie, Earlston, Katandra, Karramous, Kialla & District, Merrigum, Moorilim, Mooroopna, North West Mooroopna, Murchison, Stewarton, Shepparton, Shepparton East, Tallygaroopna, Tatura, Toolamba, and Undera.

All CFA Brigades are well equipped, with a number of the brigades having four wheel drive vehicles.
DSE, with the support of Parks Victoria, also maintain an active fire fighting role, particularly in relation to bush fire, and have well-resourced work centres spread throughout the Municipality.

To describe the effect of fire in the municipality it is necessary to understand the fire history of the municipality. This can be done by examining the number and type of Fire Danger Indexes (FDI) and Total Fire Bans (TFBs) for the municipality. FDIs are determined based on a range of meteorological factors including historical data (days since last rain, drought index) and current data (temperature, humidity, wind speed). Fire Danger Ratings (FDR) describe ranges of FDIs, and can be based on either historical data (actual FDR) or a combination of historical or forecasted weather parameters when predicting future FDRs. FDR is therefore a function of climate, however due to the significant difference between forest fire and grass fire conditions, two different FDI meters have been developed. FDI is also a factor used in the decision making process concerning the declaration of Total Fire Ban (TFB) days.

The following figures provide a historical picture of the fire situation in the Municipality. Figure 9 gives us the average breakdown of the Municipalities fire season across the Moderate to Code Red categories of the FDR range, where 1 = forest and 2 = grassland. Whereas figure 10 describes the annual variation between each FDR category over different fire seasons for the last seven years. Finally figure 10 is a record of the number of TFBs declared within the Municipality (Statewide & Regional) over the last 10 years. What these statistics indicate is that the Municipality has a highly variable fire season, but it can expect to experience some “Moderate” to “High” FDR level days every year, with more severe conditions occurring on a regular if not annual basis.

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Figure 9: City of Greater Shepparton Fire Danger Rating History

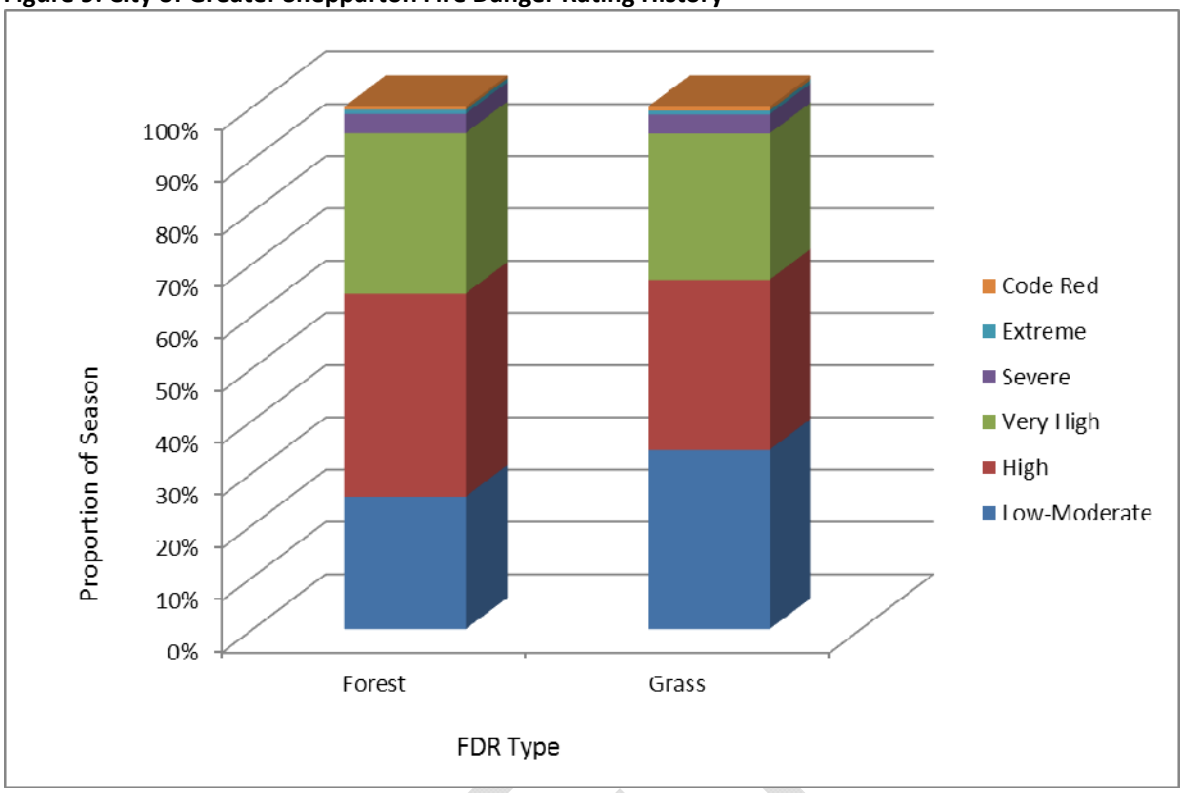


Figure 10: Historical Total Fire Day Declarations for the City of Greater Shepparton

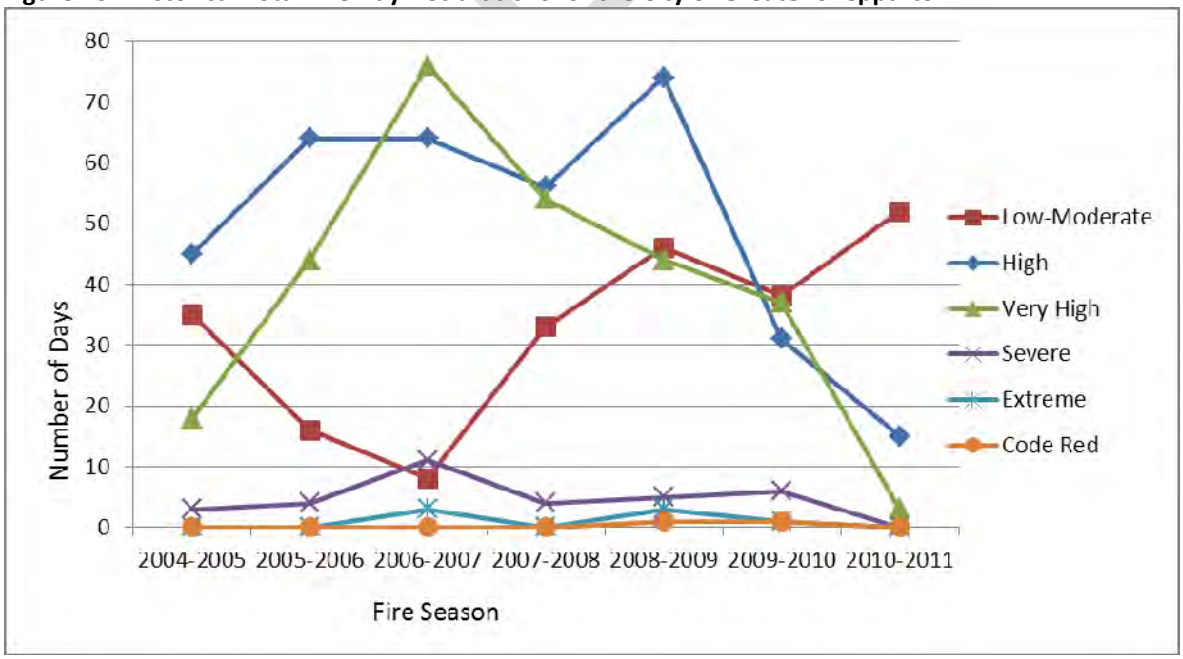
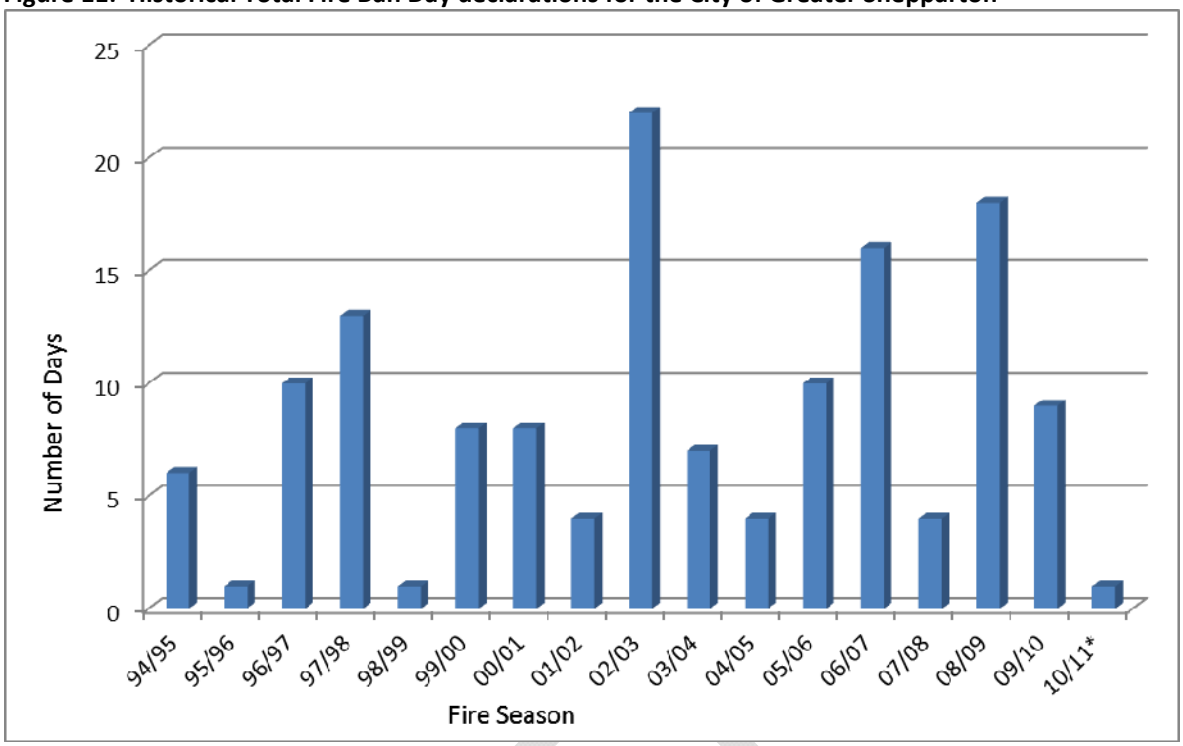


Figure 11: Historical Total Fire Ban Day declarations for the City of Greater Shepparton



3.2 Strategic Implications

Bushfire can occur in any type of vegetation, such as grassland, trees, crops or shrubs. This section describes the Greater Shepparton municipality and factors that increase the likelihood of a fire starting and spreading across this area. Ensuring the municipality is a safe and healthy place to live and work, involves protecting the social, environmental and economic fabric of the municipality.

The City of Greater Shepparton has a range of assets and features which make it a vibrant place to work live or visit. These include large townships, small communities, and rural areas, industries such as agriculture, agribusinesses and tourism and important infrastructure for essential services such as transport, power, and communications. In addition to the built environment the municipal boasts a range of natural assets such as good quality water resources and extensive native forests which are valued for their environmental, commercial and visual appeal.

The vegetation and topography of the Municipality create a number of challenges for fire management. Along watercourses in the municipality, there are a number of large public parks and reserves containing remnant vegetation and associated fuel loads. These areas have can delay response times as locating and accessing fires with emergency equipment can be difficult.

3.2.1 Vegetation

The woodlands and grasslands of the City of Greater Shepparton present a number of fire safety challenges as do the major wetlands as they often dry out over summer. Much of the vegetation in the municipality is confined to river corridors and parks associated with the major rivers. Although fuel loads in these areas may be relatively low, they have the potential to easily burn most summers. Consequently fire management in and about these areas is an annual task.

Bushfire threat is not confined to forested environments and the threat of grass fires is a significant one throughout Greater Shepparton. While grassfires may have lower intensities and flame heights than forest fires, the combination of open ground and fine fuels can produce very fast moving destructive fires.

3.2.2 Weather and Climate

Weather conditions and climate also impact on fire management in the City of Greater Shepparton. For instance the bushfire season and associated restrictions is generally longer that of other areas. Typically the municipality experiences spring rains and mild conditions that promote growth followed by hot summers which lead to high fuel loads.

The usual pattern during summer months of north westerly winds accompanied by high day time temperatures and low relative humidity building up over several days to a storm event with a change to south westerly winds. This creates a situation whereby fire ignition from lighting becomes a likely possibility, with a propensity for the fire to run quickly in one direction before changing direction quickly, thus transforming the fires extensive flank into the new fire front.

With current trends and thinking in climate change, research modelling suggests the future climate will be warmer, drier and less predictable. We can therefore expect an increase in the number of extreme fire danger days as well as longer fire seasons.

3.2.3 People

The City of Greater Shepparton has a large influx of people in the summer months, drawn to the area by the combination of water recreation and camping in remnant bushlands along the major rivers in the municipality.

Greater Shepparton has experienced a number of fires over the years. Its' combination of rural lifestyle living, climate and vegetation coupled with the increasing number of people living in and visiting high fire risk localities during the fire danger period poses a significant issue for the municipality.

The municipality has people with different perspectives and different needs in regard to fire and fire safety. Understanding these needs is central to delivering effective community safety initiatives. This is particularly important for people new to the area or those that speak a language other than English. Shepparton has a number of overseas workers who are seasonally employed in the fruit and food processing industries that speak a language other than English. Many of these people do not have an understanding of the potential impact of bushfires and may require information to be translated.

The impact of a bushfire increases if the fire occurs in areas where people live, work and visit, so consequently, settlement patterns are important when understanding bushfire risk. As stated in section 3.1.4 above, landscape-wide changes are taking place in the Greater Shepparton area where farms are being surrounded by residential developments with a corresponding increase in the density of people. These patterns of human settlement have increased the amount of urban rural interface that requires intensive fire management. This situation places residential owners in these areas at a greater risk of being impacted by fires beginning on farms. Similarly, due to higher populations there is also greater potential for an increase in fire ignitions from the residential areas which also has the potential of fires impacting farmers and crops. Also in those areas that have previously been used as irrigated farms and are now utilised as lifestyle blocks, the potential to burn has also increased due to a reduction in water use resulting in the land being consistently dry.

Tourism also has considerable impact on human movement during the fire danger period, interacting with fire management at a several points. The same landscape features that may lead to increased fire danger,

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can also be underpinning elements of what makes the site attractive for tourism. Furthermore visitor numbers tend to increase as the fire season advances creating a situation of increasing potential impact as the fire risk rises.

4 Municipal Fire Management Objective

The Municipal Fire Management Objective provides a framework for considering, selecting and evaluating fire management activities. This objective was developed using the information examined during the environmental scanning process, as well as being informed by the Hume Regional Fire Management Plan and relevant issues and priorities from regional stakeholders and adjoining municipalities.

4.1 Municipal Objective

The fire management objective of City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC is;

> *The community of Greater Shepparton working together to plan and prepare for, respond to and recover from fire - to reduce the risk and consequence of fire to the community, environment and the economy*.

4.2 Strategic Direction

In developing strategic directions for the MFMP the MFMPC was mindful of the planning context within which they were undertaking this task. As illustrated in figure 2 the MFMP forms a critical third tier in the State of Victoria's Fire Management Planning hierarchy and therefore must not be developed in isolation from State and Regional level fire management plans. The MFMPC are keen to ensure any actions within the MFMP's support and compliment any relevant State objectives and strategies with regard to fire management. Consequently they have adopted the following broad strategic directions from the State Fire Management strategy 2009

- Active participation of the community, the sector and government, working together in fire management planning to reduce the destructive impact of fire on communities and the environment.
- Communities that are resilient to fire.
- Greater understanding of the fire sector within the community.
- Healthy natural, social and built economic environments.

4.3 Alignment of Regional & Municipal Objective

The CITY OF GREATER SHEPPARTON municipal fire management objective aligns closely with the Hume RSFMP objectives and vision for fire management.
The development and implementation of this plan will therefore contribute significantly to the realisation of the Hume RSFMP's vision.

Furthermore the formation of the MFMPC and the development of a MFMP using the designated IFMP guide have strongly supported

Hume Regional Fire Management Vision
The Hume Region working together to effectively anticipate, respond to and recover from major bushfire – to secure a safer region, more resilient community, healthier environment and a prosperous economy.

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several of the RSFMP's key objectives. Evidence of this is described in the following table.

Figure 12: Alignment of MFMP & RSFMP objectives

RSFMP element	RSFMP objective	MFMP contribution
Planning together	Develop state, regional, municipal and local fire management plans and planning with a clear purpose and a consistent assessment of risk.	The MFMP provides the third tier in the IFMP process and utilises the same risk base approach as used with State and Regional plans
Collaborative implementation	Develop and implement fire management programs and activities in a collaborative manner.	The MFMPC consists of multiagency representation and has incorporated community engagement strongly into the development of the MFMP. It therefore exemplifies collaborative implementation.
Building knowledge & capacity:	Build and share knowledge in the fire management sector and across the community. Improve the capability of communities, the fire management sector and the government to deal with fires.	The aspirations of the MFMPC converge with the regions in seeking to build both its members and the communities' knowledge and understanding of fire management.
Implementation support	Support the implementation of the IFMP framework in the Hume region	The development of this MFMP clearly demonstrates support for IFMP at a municipal level.

5 Fire Management Risk Strategies

Integrated fire management planning is the risk management process to establish priority setting for fire management activities and is consistent with the international standard for risk Management ISO 31000. Risk is described within the standard as;

Risk Analysis = Consequence x Likelihood

And the standard emphasises the need to establish and manage the risk to the objectives that you have set during the plan development process.

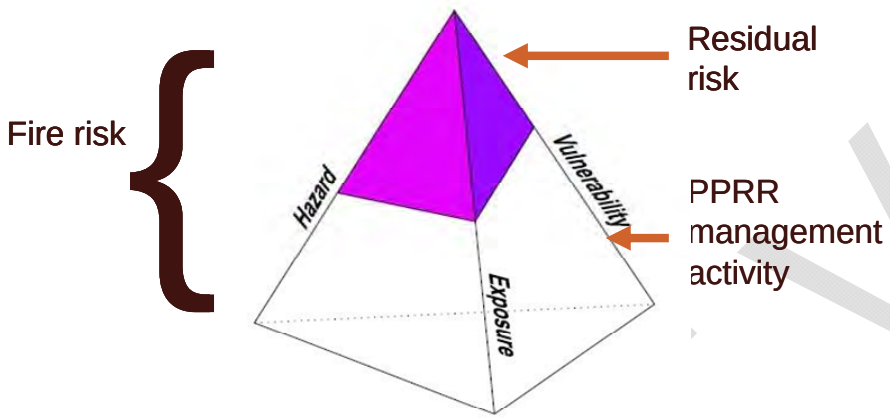
5.1 Risk Identification Process

These objectives and risks were identified through the environmental scanning process and primary to this process is Chrighton's Risk Pyramid. Chrighton's Risk Pyramid provides a framework for sorting, analysing and assessing information with respect to fire risk. It helps identify the amount of risk generated by the hazard x exposure x vulnerability relationship within the context (people, property, infrastructure, social and economic, biodiversity, the economy and heritage values) of a location or situation. Where;

- Hazard - is a specific event characterised by a certain magnitude and likelihood of occurrence

- Exposure - refers to the factors, such as people, buildings, networks the environment and economy that are subject to the impact of a specific hazard
- Vulnerability - refers to the characteristics of an element exposed to a hazard - road, building, person, and economy – that contributes to the capacity of that element to resist, cope with and recover from the impact of a natural hazard.

Figure 13: Chrighton's Risk Pyramid



By this means the MFMPC was able to generate a list of bushfire risks for the municipality. As IFMP encompasses planning across all fire hazard environments, hazards need to be considered within a range of categories, so as to better understand the likely consequences and recovery risks involved. A copy of these categories can be found in Figure 14 below.

5.2 Risk Assessment Process

Risk is assessed by determining consequences and the likelihood of the consequence occurring, and the elements at risk. An event or set of circumstances may have multiple consequences and may affect multiple objectives. Existing risk treatments and their effectiveness should be taken into account when rating the level of risk.

As a first step in the assessment process each of the identified risks were refined into succinct risk statement and entered into the Risk Register. Risk statements are a description of the risk and simply describe the risk in terms of the source through to the impact. Each risk statement should outline:

- the hazard (source of risk)
- the element at risk
- the consequence of the interaction as a result of an event.

Each of these statements was then qualitatively assessed for their impact using the State Fire Management Planning Committee's State Bushfire Consequence Table (Attachment 1). Each consequence was considered in terms of both damage and disruption (loss of service or function) and in some cases, the consequence of an event was not realised at the local, level but was of a significant impact at regional and/or state level. In addition the committee took into account existing treatments and their impact on the risk level. Consequence ratings were then entered into the risk register.

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The likelihood of each an event being realised was assessed using the data derived from the environmental scan and the *Likelihood Table* (Attachment 1). Where the committee did not believe it held the necessary technical expertise to make an assessment, advice was sought from relevant authorities outside the committee. Once agreement as to *Consequence* and *Likelihood* was reached the *Likelihood x Consequence matrix* (Attachment 1) was used to assign a risk level to each risk statement.

Once assessed, risks were also given categories using the following table (figure 14). This was done to group 'like' risks together. Primacy of life is the most essential element of the MFMP and is represented by the Risk Group – Social, and by the Risk Category- People and Social Setting. Other risk groups include economic risks, environmental risks and planning risks. The use of these categories and groups is utilised in both the risk assessment (figure 15, page 20) and the Risk Management Strategy (figure 16, page24).

Figure 14: Risk Categories Table

Risk Group	Risk Category	Risk Element	
SOCIAL	People & Social Setting	*Life & injury:* *Social services*: *Health & wellbeing:* *Displacement of people:*	Public Safety Functional continuity Social networks Employment/income
	Infrastructure	*Residential:* *Public accommodation* *Public assembly:* *Health care:*	House, flat, caravan, apartments Boarding house, hotel, hostel, correctional facilities Education, hall, theatre, stadium, cafe, restaurant Special accommodation homes, nursing homes and hospitals
	Cultural, Heritage	*Heritage sites and buildings* *Indigenous sites* *Iconic sites and features*: e.g. Puffing Billy	
ECONOMIC	Infrastructure	*Commercial:* *Industrial:* *Essential Infrastructure:* *Transport:*	Shopping complex, office Factory (heavy, light, special), warehouse, silo, chemical, petrol Pipelines, Power, public transport systems, Water Catchments, Power Water & Sewerage, Gas, Communications Road, rail, bridge, tunnel, port, marine, airport
	Production	*Agriculture and Farming:* *Business/Industrial* *Capacity* *Tourism*	Plantation, crop, pasture, poultry, feedlot, sawmill
ENVIRONMENT	Biodiversity	*Assets that provide biological based ecosystem functions and/or services considered of value.*	
	Water	*Assets that provide of atmospheric/climatic ecosystem functions and/or services considered of value*	
	Air	*Assets that provide water-based ecosystems functions and/or services considered of value.*	
PLANNING	Governance & Regulation	*Corporate Governance Issues, including organisation structures; Boundary issues, Inter-Agency Agreements; Environmental scans; Population projections; urban development projections/planning; Volume projections; Long term/short term solutions; Infrastructure requirements to meet projected community needs*	
	Planning & Communication	*Internal, external, multi-municipal, communications strategies*	
	Stakeholder Management	*Community Expectations; Government expectations;* *Business and Industry Issues, including risks associated with developing and implementing programs to minimise the impact of fire on business and industry;*	
	Operational	*Encompasses the planning, daily operational activities, resources (including people) and support required within the 'area of interest', that results in the successful development and delivery of products/ services.*	
	Financial	*Ability to allocate limited financial resources to maximum effect; Ability to fund adequate resources to meet community needs; Skills & technical expertise; Management skills; Equipment maintenance, upgrades, and replacement funding; Geographical remoteness location needs; Government's ability to fund requirements to meet population growth needs*	

Figure 15: Risk Assessment

ID #	RISK DESCRIPTION (Defined)	RISK GROUP	RISK CATEGORY	CAUSE	IMPACT	COMMENT	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING
1	Risk to community being impacted by fire in Murchison East (Goulburn River) on high and above FDR days	Social	People & Social Setting	Murchison East is open to grasslands to north and east, contains a river corridor and fire direction has historically been driven by hot northerly and north-westerly winds. A south westerly change may also occur. Change in farming practices from irrigated land to dry land farming	Loss of life, residences, assets, cost and time or recovery, economic loss from closure of major roads and rail, communications	Access / egress issues, Flow through traffic from Melbourne to Goulburn Valley (Risk to and from heavy transport), Very poor reticulated water, Limited access to river water, Main rail link to North - Risk to and from railways, Wheat silos / infrastructure, 2 caravan parks	Unlikely	Low
2	Risk to Radio Australia Broadcasting Towers from fire, north of Shepparton, on high and above FDR days	Social	People & Social Setting	Surrounded by grassland (farming), and native grasslands, tower can 'earth' starting fire	Loss of assets, cost and time or recovery, communications loss	Radio national for Asia, Grass fuel loads around, Educational complexes within footprint, residences in proximity	Possible	Low
3	Risk to Dookie community and township (people, residences and infrastructure) from fire on high and above FDR days	Social	People & Social Setting	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of life, residences, infrastructure/assets, time and cost of recovery	Vulnerable people (+65, low income, old infrastructure etc), Significant infrastructure, Fire risk from crops / grass	Unlikely	Low
4	Risk to residential and commercial areas and assets on the urban/forest interface throughout the City of Greater Shepparton on high and above FDR days	Social	People & Social Setting	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of life, residences, infrastructure/assets, time and cost of recovery	Interface public land / private land, Risk to and from commercial / industrial structures and areas (Cool stores etc)	Possible	Low
5	Risk of fire impacting upon land which has changed farming methods from irrigation (lower risk) to dry land creating large areas of fire prone country with high fuel loads on high and above FDR days	Social	People & Social Setting	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of life, infrastructure/assets, time and cost of recovery	This has the potential to impact large areas of the Greater Shepparton area including people, residences, infrastructure and employment, Lack of water, Higher fuel loads	Possible	Low
6	Risk to people, infrastructure and assets in riparian and adjoining areas from fire	Social	People & Social Setting	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of life, residences, infrastructure/assets, time and cost of recovery	low to moderate fuel levels in riparian areas, lack of knowledge of fire, risk of fire being started in area by people, includes all level 1 VFRR risks in riparian zone	Possible	Low

Figure 15: Risk Assessment

ID #	RISK DESCRIPTION (Defined)	RISK GROUP	RISK CATEGORY	CAUSE	IMPACT	COMMENT	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING
7	Risk to community (residences, people and infrastructure) at Gemmils Swamp, Reedy Swamp, Frank Puller Childcare and Mooroopna from fire on high and above FDR days	Social	People & Social Setting	Surrounded by riparian bush	Loss of residences, assets, cost and time or recovery, loss to tourism	Access/egress issues, surrounded by wetlands	Possible	Low
8	Risk to Kialla Settlement (people, residences and infrastructure) from fire on high and above FDR days	Social	People & Social Setting	Within forest, lightning	Loss of life, residences, infrastructure/assets, time and cost of recovery	Surrounded by bush, Access / egress, No reticulated water/dams – River complicates access, Vulnerable / low socio / economic, Isolated residences, Railway line	Unlikely	Low
9	Risk to capacity of Goulburn Valley Water treatment plant to produce high water quality	Social	People & Social Setting	Fires affecting water quality by increasing turbidity of water	Higher cost to treat water, slower treatment of water, water restrictions	Majority of catchment is outside of the City of Greater Shepparton and local controls are of less importance	Possible	Low
10	Risk to and from campers / recreational users along rivers from fire during fire danger period	Social	People & Social Setting	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of life	People camp in large numbers on weekends and during school holidays in river reserves (particularly along the Goulburn River)	Unlikely	Low
11	Risk to Kids Town Adventure Playground (children, other people, infrastructure, employment) from fire	Social	People & Social Setting	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of life, infrastructure/assets, time and cost of recovery	Access / egress – east or west on causeway only, Lack of transport (buses taken away), Smoke impact, Public panic, Large number of kids	Possible	Low
12	Risk to people and communities on "life style" type blocks from fire on high and above FDR days	Social	People & Social Setting	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of life, infrastructure/assets, time and cost of recovery	Lack of fire preparation/awareness, increasing population	Possible	Low
13	Risk to cultural heritage (both indigenous and non-indigenous) in City of Greater Shepparton from fire on high and above FDR days	Social	Cultural, Heritage	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of assets, loss of scar trees, secondary impacts on burial sites and stone scatters	Information regarding Indigenous heritage sites may have limited access, knowledge of location of Indigenous sites may be limited	Possible	Moderate

Figure 15: Risk Assessment

ID #	RISK DESCRIPTION (Defined)	RISK GROUP	RISK CATEGORY	CAUSE	IMPACT	COMMENT	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING
14	Risk to Murchison East Bridge (contains telecommunications and water infrastructure) from fire on high and above FDR days	Economic	Infrastructure	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of assets, cost and time or recovery, economic loss from closure of major road, communications	Water mains on bridge - no ring main – only 1 feed	Rare	Low
15	Risk to telecommunications and communications at Mt Major Complex from fire on high and above FDR days	Economic	Infrastructure	On top of hill, surrounded by grasslands, lightning	Loss of assets, cost and time or recovery, communications loss	All TV, ABC Radio, Phones, CFA, Victoria Police, Ambulance, Bureau of Meteorology, On top of grassy hill, On top of grassy hill, Access / egress and water	Rare	Low
16	Risk of fire impacting communications / telecommunications on high and above FDR days	Economic	Infrastructure	Direct fire impact on poles/wires/structures, falling debris or vehicles accidents.	Loss of assets, cost and time or recovery, communications loss		Unlikely	Low
17	Risk to power infrastructure Including sub-stations and High KV power lines from fire on high and above FDR days	Economic	Infrastructure	Direct fire impact on poles/wires/structures, falling debris or vehicles accidents.	Disruption to power delivery, loss of assets, time of recovery	Two major high KVA lines	Unlikely	Low
18	Risk to Rumbalara Community Centre (people and infrastructure) from fire on high and above FDR days	Economic	Infrastructure	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of life, residences, infrastructure/assets, time and cost of recovery	Backs onto bush	Unlikely	Low
19	Risk to heavy vehicle routes, road and rail infrastructure in Greater Shepparton from fire on high and above FDR days	Economic	Infrastructure	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Economic Loss, cost and time of recovery	Smoke impact from fire, Limited access across river	Almost Certain	Moderate
20	Risk to riparian environment and threatened species throughout Greater Shepparton from fire on extreme and code red days	Environment	Biodiversity	human factors, camp fires escaping, natural (lightning)	Loss of habitat, loss of threatened species	Eg: Grey Crowned Babbler (endangered), mitigation works may also impact upon threatened species	Unlikely	Low

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Figure 15: Risk Assessment

ID #	RISK DESCRIPTION (Defined)	RISK GROUP	RISK CATEGORY	CAUSE	IMPACT	COMMENT	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING
21	Risk to Flood warning infrastructure throughout Greater Shepparton from fire on high and above FDR days	Planning	Governance & Regulation	human factors, mechanical failure, equipment failure, natural (lightning)	Loss of assets, time and cost of recovery	Stations along rivers, Very susceptible to fire, Access / egress issues	Rare	Low

5.3 Risk Management Strategy

Having developed a register of risks for the City of Greater Shepparton, the committee was able to allocate the current treatments of responsible agencies against relevant risk areas and thus develop a Risk Management Strategy. This strategy is a matrix of;

Priority risks x treatment x agency x time frames

This creates a snapshot of who is doing 'what', 'where' and 'why' within the municipality, to reduce the risks posed by fire within the municipality.

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Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Social	**People and Social Setting**	1	Schools Program	Fire Safe Kids, Fire Safe Youth, Mobile Education Bushfire Unit.	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All
		2	Brigade Burn Program	Removal of vegetation through burning to protect life & property, includes Township Protection Burning, Planned Burn Program & Fuel Reduction Burns by CFA Brigades.	✓	✓	·	·	·	CFA	Y	All
		3	Vulnerable Communities Fire Awareness	Community education & information for vulnerable groups about fire.	✓	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All
		4	Awareness	Fire awareness programs targeted at communities via shows/events/displays	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All
		5	Fire Ready Victoria	Assists in perception & understanding of bushfire risk so as to modify behaviours and make individuals act more safely. Includes bushfire awareness sessions for communities, community groups, businesses & service providers.	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	Y	All
		6	Public Information	Fire information through Fire Danger Rating signs, media etc to raise awareness of fire risk. Includes Fire Action Week.	✓	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All
		7	Township Protection Plans	Planned response (for both emergency services & the community) to a bushfire within a close proximity to a township, which has the potential to impact on the local community.	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	Y	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Social	**People and Social Setting**	8	Community Fire Guard	A community development program designed to help reduce the loss of lives & homes in bushfires. It assists neighbouring residents to develop bushfire survival strategies that suit their level of risk, lifestyle, environment & values.	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	Y	All
		9	Home Bushfire Advice Service	Individual 1:1 fire awareness & education for residents with the highest level of bushfire risk. Advice on property management, planning, personal capacity & potential fire hazards.	·	✓	✓	·	·	CFA	Y	All
		10	Bushfire Planning Workshops	Interactive workshop for residents living in high bushfire risk areas. Participants are guided through the Fire Ready Kit by a trained facilitator to identify their own bushfire risks and the considerations they'll need to make when putting together their bushfire survival plan.	·	✓	✓	·	·	CFA	Y	All
		11	Community Debriefs	Post fire debriefings for CFA members, community & stakeholders	·	·	·	✓	·	CFA	N	All
		12	Routine Site Maintenance	Ongoing mowing/slashing/spraying of sites to reduce fuel loads for protection of assets or adjoining properties. Includes Asset Protection Zone work around high value assets and maintenance of places of last resort within parks	·	✓	·	·	·	PV	Y	All
		13	Communications	Maintenance of a communications network	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	N	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Social	**People and Social Setting**	14	Information kits	"After the fires: Practical Advice" & "Recovery from emergencies"; information kits containing brochures & fact sheets for people affected by fire/emergency	·	·	·	✓	·	DHS	N	All
		15	Vulnerable persons toolkit	Identifies location, contact details & describes needs of vulnerable persons within a municipality	·	✓	·	·	·	DHS	N	All
		16	Tourism Fire Awareness Program	Community education and information for tourists about wildfire. Includes Tourism and Fire Awareness Program, Campfire Information and Caravan Park Education.	·	✓	·	·	·	LGA	N	All
	Infrastructure	17	Detection	Maintenance of a detection network. Includes fire lookout towers and detection flights	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	N	All
		18	Incident Control Centres	Maintenance of a strategic network of incident control facilities to support response in emergency management incidents. Includes agreed level 3 ICCs to predetermined standards	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	N	All
		19	Air support facilities	Maintenance of a strategic network of air support facilities. Includes airbases & helipads.	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	Y	All
		20	Fire risk mgt system	GIS program identifying location & details of community facilities managed by DHS and allied agencies.	·	✓	·	·	·	DHS	N	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Economic	Production	21	Agricultural Management	Fire management & safety issues for land owners/managers to assist in the preparation of property fire management plans. Includes publication "On the land", "Farm Fire Safety" module (delivered via DPI & TAFE Whole Farm Planning courses on request).	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All
		22	Native wildlife	Management of native wildlife welfare associated with an emergency incident.	·	·	·	✓	·	DSE	N	All
		23	Relief & recovery services to primary producers	Assess damage to and loss of agricultural crops, livestock and infrastructure of commercial primary producers and rural land managers (inc aquaculture), identify & refer personal and technical needs to appropriate businesses (within DPI) or agencies	·	·	·	✓	·	DPI	N	All
		24	Animal Welfare Needs	Liaise with animal welfare support agencies and organisations to deliver animal welfare services including assessing injured and affected animals (livestock & companion animals) in emergencies with an emphasis on the needs of commercial primary producers and rural land managers	·	·	✓	·	·	DPI	N	All
	Infrastructure	25	Access Roads and Tracks	Establishment of constructed and maintained roads, bridges and tracks to allow safe passage for fire fighting vehicles. Includes Walking Track Maintenance.	·	✓	·	·	·	PV	Y	All
		26	Waterpoint Maintenance	Maintenance of a strategic network of water points	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	Y	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Economic	Infrastructure	27	Fire Access Roads and Tracks	Maintenance of roads, bridges and tracks to specified standards.	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	Y	All
		28	Routine Maintenance of facilities	Ongoing mowing/slashing/spraying of sites to reduce fuel loads to ensure protection of assets, minimise ignition potential and ensure adequate access and egress. Includes routine maintenance of structures (eg gutter cleaning)..	✓	✓	·	·	·	SP Ausnet	N	All
		29	Routine maintenance of transmission & powerlines	Vegetation management around powerlines and along easement, regular inspections, maintenance of access tracks.	✓	✓	·	·	·	SP Ausnet	N	All
		30	Routine Maintenance of facilities	Ongoing mowing/slashing/spraying of sites to reduce fuel loads to ensure protection of assets, minimise ignition potential and ensure adequate access and egress. Includes routine maintenance of structures (eg gutter cleaning)..	·	✓	·	·	·	Telstra	N	All
		31	Bushfire Mitigation	Removal of identified fire risks to lines & facilities, eg tree lopping	·	✓	·	·	·	Telstra	N	All
		32	Fire Plug and Hydrant Installation and Maintenance	Works carried out to ensure that the system will operate correctly when required to do so.	·	✓	·	·	·	LGA	Y	All
		33	Fire access Roads and Tracks	Establishment of constructed and maintained roads, bridges and tracks to allow safe passage for fire fighting vehicles.	·	✓	·	·	·	LGA	N	All
Economic	Infrastructure	34	Fuel Hazard Management	Reducing fuel loads to protect assets, fuel hazard mitigation eg slashing, burning, within townships, roadsides, reserves	✓	✓	·	·	·	LGA	N	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
		35	Roadside Vegetation Management	Strategic Fire Fuse Breaks.	·	✓	·	·	·	LGA	Y	All
		36	Roadside Vegetation Management	Removal of fuel and vegetation management along roadsides. Includes Strategic Fire Fuse Breaks and routine Roadside Maintenance.	·	✓	·	·	·	Vic Roads	N	All
Environment	**Biodiversity**	37	Vegetation Management	Advice to landholders & linkages to CFA Brigades to manage vegetation & lower bushfire risk	✓	✓	·	·	·	CFA	Y	All
		38	Ecological burning	Using fire as a tool for ecosystem management	·	·	·	·	✓	PV	Y	All
		39	Fire research	Targeted research into impacts of different fire/fire regimes on ecological communities/species	·	·	·	·	✓	PV	Y	All
		40	Rehabilitation activities	Post fire monitoring of ecosystem recovery and implementation of rehabilitation/restoration works to protect waterways, repair/replace damaged assets. Includes post fire archaeological surveys to improve knowledge of historic land use and occupation.	·	·	·	✓	·	PV	N	All
		41	Rehabilitation plan	Implement a works program to repair or replace fire affected infrastructure and minimise impacts upon natural values.	·	·	·	✓	·	DSE	N	All
Planning	**Governance and Regulation**	42	Statutory & Legislative activities	Bushfire Prone Areas & Bushfire Management Overlay, declaration of TFBs, declared danger periods, regulation of burning permits.	✓	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Planning	Governance and Regulation	43	Park closures	Closure of parks and facilities at times of very high fire danger	·	✓	·	·	·	PV	N	All
		44	Patrol/Inspection	Inspections of assets to ensure compliance with regulations and safety requirements and to assess for fire hazards. Includes Campfire Patrols and Parks Victoria Ranger Patrol Program.	✓	✓	·	·	·	PV	Y	All
		45	Enforcement	Programs which support legislative compliance. Includes patrols to enforce campfire regulations, forest closures, fire cause investigations and prosecutions.	✓	·	·	·	·	DSE/PV	N	All
		46	Bushfire Management Overlay	Development of a new overlay, includes opportunity to modify to local conditions through schedules.	✓	·	·	·	·	DPCD	N	All
		47	Bushfire Prone Areas	Interactive online map service that identifies areas likely to be subject to fires and consequent construction standards requirements	✓	·	·	·	·	DPCD	N	All
		48	Patrol/ Inspection	Inspections of assets to ensure compliance with regulations and safety requirements and to asses for fire hazards. Includes Private Property Inspections, Property Inspections, and Fire Hazard Inspection Program.	✓	·	·	·	·	LGA	N	All
		49	Operation Firesetter	Increased resources in high risk areas on Severe+ FDI days, increased patrols, increased visibility and covert surveillance so as to reduce the risk of arson and increase capacity in the event of a bushfire occurring.	·	·	✓	·	·	Vic Pol	Y	All

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Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Planning		50	Investigations	Investigate suspicious fires to ascertain cause and identify perpetrators	·	·	·	✓	·	Vic Pol	N	All
	Planning and Communication	51	Emergency Management Plan (Site)	CFA input into site specific Emergency Management Plans including bushfire component	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All
		52	Emergency Management Response Plans	Ensure that proper and sufficient works for wildfire prevention and suppression activities on public land in Victoria are conducted in an operationally safe, environmentally sensitive and cost- effective manner. Ensure efficient and appropriate response	·	✓	✓	·	·	PV	Y	All
		53	Technical advice	Provision of specialist technical advice and support to other agencies involved in fire mgt activities	·	·	✓	·	·	PV	N	All
		54	Fire Management Planning	DSE Fire Management Zones. Strategic landscape scale zoning of public land across the state to achieve fuel mgt outcomes	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	N	All
		55	Planned burning	Implementation of planned burning and other works as identified in FOP on public land	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	Y	All
	Planning and Communication	56	Crown Land fuel Management	Managing fuel loads on crown land. Includes slashing, mulching and burning.	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	Y	All
		57	Bushfire readiness	Provision of specified levels of skills and resources to respond to emergencies. Includes people (PFFs), equipment, heavy plant, aircraft, facilities and consumables	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	N	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Planning	Planning and Communication	58	Education	Programs which maintain public awareness of the bushfire threat promote the importance of self-protection & encourage the responsible use of fire by the community. Includes multimedia messaging, in field patrols and publications.	✓	·	·	·	·	DSE/PV	N	All
		59	Bushfire response	Respond to bushfires on public land to protect life and minimise impacts on property, communities and the environment. Includes timely provision of public information.	·	·	✓	·	·	DSE	N	All
		60	Emergency Management support	Provide support to other organisations for emergency management, including expertise and specialist resources.	·	·	✓	·	·	DSE	N	All
		61	Emergency Relief Handbook	Information & direction for emergency relief arrangements in Vic	·	·	·	✓	·	DHS	N	All
		62	Bushfire plan	Individual Bushfire plans for DHS run facilities (as necessary)	·	·	·	✓	·	DHS	N	All
		63	Bushfire hazard identification framework	Identifies the different level of bushfire hazard at a state wide scale and the different responses that planning and building systems will implement	✓	·	·	·	·	DPCD	N	All
		64	Public Awareness	Fire information through notice boards, brochures, signage etc to raise awareness of fire risk.	·	✓	·	·	·	SP Ausnet	N	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
		65	Technical advice	Provision of specialist technical advice, information & assistance to other agencies involved in emergency response eg temporary power cessation, line inspection in conjunction with field operations.	·	·	✓	·	·	SP Ausnet	N	All
		66	Supply continuity	Maintain a response capability (scaled to level of risk) so a to minimise length of power disruptions from incidents eg fire/storms	·	·	✓	·	·	SP Ausnet	N	All
		67	Restoration	Repair & replace damaged assets post fire so as to restore full services and minimise community impact	·	·	·	✓	·	SP Ausnet	N	All
		68	Powerlines Hazard Identification	Preparedness around powerlines including risk ratings, inspections, maintenance and response arrangements. Includes Powerlines Bushfire Mitigation Strategy, Powerlines Faults and Emergency Events.	·	·	·	·	·	SP Ausnet	Y	All
		69	Specialist Support	Provide specialist support to other agencies(eg Vic Pol, CFA, DHS, DSE) involved in response to an emergency, eg doorknocks, transport, staging area mgt.	·	·	✓	·	·	SES	N	All
		70	Traffic Diversion Plans	Establishment of an appropriate traffic flow, through traffic management in the community and appropriate access and egress for property and business owners. Includes Traffic Management Strategies Assistance to other agencies.	·	·	✓	·	·	Vic Roads	N	All

Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Planning	Planning and Communication	71	Planning controls including Bushfire Management Overlay	Planning referral for new subdivisions, structures, developments, applies range of enforceable conditions re access, water supply, standards, works and vegetation management, use of 173 agreements, application of building standards, licensing	·	✓	·	·	·	LGA	N	All
		72	MERC	Coordinate municipal emergency response effort in the event of a major bushfire	·	·	✓	·	·	Vic Pl	N	All
		73	Evacuations	Coordinate evacuation measures undertaken in response to a bushfire threat	·	·	✓	·	·	Vic Pol	N	All
		74	Specialist Support	Provide specialist support to other agencies involved in response to a bushfire eg vehicle escorts	·	·	✓	·	·	Vic Pol	N	All
	Operational	75	Standard Operating Procedures	Dictate level of readiness according to the conditions so as to ensure appropriate resourcing & preparedness for optimum response	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All
		76	Resourcing	Strategic network of qualified & equipped staff, volunteers & appliances for mounting timely response to fires on private land.	·	·	✓	·	·	CFA	Y	All
		77	Fire Operations Plan	Planning of proposed fire prevention activities to be carried out on public land (includes all land managed by DSE and PV) with the objective of reducing impacts of bushfire on life, community, critical infrastructure, industry and the environment. Includes planned burns, slashing and track works, grazing, and additions to the permanent network of strategic fuel breaks.	·	✓	·	·	·	DSE	N	All
		78	Regional Resourcing & activation guidelines	Identifies DHS resource requirements for different emergencies and describes triggers for activation of different levels	·	✓	·	·	·	DHS	N	All

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Figure 16: Risk Management Strategy

Risk Group	Risk Category	Treatment		Treatment description	Spectrum					Responsible agency	Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use		Targeted*	Period (Year 1, 2, 3)
Planning	Operational	79	Response program	Maintain service continuity and minimise disruptions by responding to faults or damage to facilities, includes deployment of mobile communication units and use of generators during power outages	·	·	✓	✓	·	Telstra	N	All
	Financial	80	Fire Access Roads, Tracks & Water Points	Coordination of Fire Access Roads Subsidy Scheme (FARS) to enable construction & maintenance of roads, bridges & water points.	·	✓	·	·	·	CFA	N	All
		81	Emergency grants	Grant to families whose home is impacted by fire, allocated by municipality.	·	·	·	✓	·	DHS	N	All

5.4 Specific Treatments

In addition to the above Risk Assessment and Risk Management Strategy, the MFMPC came up with a list of specific treatments. This list of treatments (Figure 17 below) highlights the specific activities either currently undertaken or proposed to be undertaken to mitigate fire risk further and give further detail than listed in the Risk Management Strategy. The treatment id number refers to the Risk Management Strategy above and the Risk Id number to the Risk assessment. The specific activity treatment is listed as is the type and status of the activity. Activity custodians refer to all agencies involved in the treatment regime. In terms of a timeline, the year column refers to the three year life cycle of the plan and which year the treatment is applicable.

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Figure 17: Summary of New and Specific Treatments

Number	Risk Description	Specific Treatment Activity	Activity Type	Treatment Status	P.P.R.R or Use	Activity Custodian	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Comment	Implementation Considerations
1	Fires spreading from roadsides and rail reserves	Develop a project to investigate roadside and rail corridor Management Issues - linkages in DSE strategic fire access roads, current fire prevention plan, strategic access/egress roads, CFA critical access roads, Rail corridor management plans	Research	New	Preparedness	MFMPC, DSE, CFA, LGA, Vic Roads, ARTC, Vic Track, Vline	Yes	Yes	Yes	Create project to determine fuel load levels on and adjacent to roadsides. Come up with a slashing and or spraying standard to apply to roads (where appropriate), act within appropriate legislative boundaries	Negotiation with rail and road corridor land managers will be required
2	Risk of fire and fire control impacting upon Indigenous heritage	Ensure Indigenous values are included on the asset databases used by fire responders and custodians	Research	New	Preparedness	MFMPC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Work closely with RAPs (Recognised Aboriginal Parties) in fire planning in the future	Knowledge of location of Indigenous heritage sites may be restricted
3	Information for campers and recreational users	Investigate the education program used for forest area recreation to inform visitors of fire risk (by request of the RSFMPC)	Research	New	Preparedness	MFMPC	Yes			Parks Vic has limited funding, "River Connect" safety talks with school children, PV rangers patrolling rivers	
4	Emergency Management Plans	LGA and CFA to work together to promote that major employers, tourist operators, event operators and other agencies develop Emergency Management Plans	Research	New	Preparedness	LGA, CFA, DSE, PV, Vic Pol, Ambulance Vic, Vic Roads	Yes			Ensure relevant agencies work together on EMPs	
5	Fire response infrastructure	Identify infrastructure that supports Fire Response (Air fields, water points, information from TPPs, Wildfire Response Plans)	Research	New	Response	DSE, PV, CFA, LGA, MFMPC, GVW		Yes	Yes	Work with local brigades to ensure local knowledge is captured, work with PV on water access along the Goulburn, urban water supplies and fire plugs, urban fringe	Essential information for fire prevention
6	Data Maintenance	Ensure that each agency is maintaining its data layers that are being utilised in the MFMP. Determine annual date of review (develop specific date)	Action	Current	Preparedness	All relevant agencies (including CFA, LGA, DSE, Parks Vic, DHS, OESC etc)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Accuracy of data layers is essential in providing correct information to stakeholders and incident controllers.	Up to date data is required by the MFMPC in its delivery of the MFMP, particularly at the 3 year review
7	Bushfire Management Overlays	Keep in contact with the DPCD and council's planning department regarding BMOs and requirements associated with them	Research	Proposed	Preparedness	LGA	Yes			Bushfire Management Overlays may influence MFMPs and the MFMPC needs to be aware to these	Coordinate with planning/building sections of Greater Shepparton City Council on BMO requirements.

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Figure 17: Summary of New and Specific Treatments

Number	Risk Description	Specific Treatment Activity	Activity Type	Treatment Status	P.P.R.R or Use	Activity Custodian	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Comment	Implementation Considerations
8	Prevention Plan	Ensure MFPP data is incorporated into MFMP (Fire management risk strategies 5, and Fire management treatments 7.5)	Research	Current	Prevention	MFMPC	Yes			In the transfer of this data it is essential that the data is approved by the responsible agency, the MEMPC or the MFMPC is included	MFPP is to be replaced by MFMP by October 31.
9	Relevant regional agency input	Ensure relevant information from agencies at a regional level is incorporated into MFMP (eg DEECD, DHS etc). Update agency treatment list annually	Advocacy	Current	Preparedness	MFPC	Yes	Yes	Yes	A treatment list has been created that lists all relevant treatments. The custodian of this list will be Greater Shepparton City Council. The list needs to be updated and reviewed annually.	
10	Urban Risk Profiling	Shepparton and Tatura are part of a trial of the CFA's Urban Risk Profiling tool. The results of this trial will be incorporated into the MFMP when available.	Advocacy	New	Preparedness	CFA, MFMPC		Yes	Yes	After the trial of the URPT, it may be rolled out be CFA across Victoria. Details of the trial are still being discussed	The role out of the trial is funding dependant
11	Incorporating data from Municipal Fire Prevention Plan	Ensure that data from the MFPP is not lost and transferred (where appropriate) into the MFMP.	Advocacy	New	Prevention	MFMPC	Yes	Yes	Yes	The incorporation of information from the MFPP will be divided up into 3 separate sections, one section of which will be reviewed each year	This MFMP takes the place of the MFPP and data from the MFPP will need to be put into the format of the MFMP.

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5.5 Fire Management Responsibility

Fire management responsibility within the municipality may be described in three categories.

5.5.1 Response Agencies

Country Fire Authority (CFA): is charged under the CFA Act with the responsibility for Fire Safety Planning and Fire Suppression in all areas of Victoria excepting the area covered by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and Fire Protected Areas. The CFA is a community based fire and emergency service whose mission is to protect lives and property. CFA responds directly to a range of emergency incidents, as well as conducting broader activities with the community such as education, awareness raising, industry brigades and fire investigation.

Link to CFA website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/

Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE): is responsible for fire suppression and management on public land (with support from Parks Victoria), including planned burning for ecological and risk management objectives. Their objective is to protect communities and critical infrastructure from fire and to promote healthy and resilient ecosystems.

Link to DSE FOPs Planning: www.dse.vic.gov.au/fire-and-other-emergencies/fire-plans-and-guidelines

5.5.2 Regulatory and Service Providers

Greater Shepparton City Council: are responsible for the management of all council owned property, as well as ensuring that private land holders appropriately manage their land. Council officers inspect properties within the municipality to assess the potential risk of a bushfire and where necessary may issue a fire prevention notice. They also undertake annual fire prevention works on roadsides and reserves leading up to and during the fire season

Link to Greater Shepparton City Council (Fire):

http://www.greatershepparton.com.au/residents/emergency/fireawareness/

Department of Human Services (DHS): is the appointed agency to co-ordinate recovery planning and operations at the State and regional levels. At a municipal level, the responsibility for recovery is with the Local Government Authority with recovery arrangements and plans outlined in the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP).

Link to DHS website: www.dhs.vic.gov.au

5.5.3 Community

Land managers, the community and individuals all have a responsibility to maintain their properties and to conduct their activities in a responsible manner with respect to fire management. The effectiveness of the Risk Management Strategy relies heavily upon the community understanding and accepting their responsibilities and acting accordingly.

While specific treatments cannot be attributed to private individuals and organisations within the Risk Management Strategy the MFMPC does have an expectation that members of the community will where appropriate;

- Prepare and plan for fires, both bushfire and structural
- Prepare their properties for fire events

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- Ensure adequate access and water for fire fighting appliances
- Maintain an awareness of fire danger levels and listen for alerts and warnings.

Advice, training and support to groups, businesses and individuals concerning all of these expectations can be obtained from the CFA (see link below).

Link to CFA Fire Safety: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/firesafety

5.6 Balancing Fire Risk Against Other Values

In the course of developing the Risk Register it became apparent to the MFMPC that some of the concerns being raised lay less with the impact of the actual fire and more with that of the treatments being applied. A number of the fire risk treatments adopted in Risk Management Plan pose a potential threat to some of the very values the MFMPC is seeking to safeguard. It is important that these threats are noted and that a balance be struck between protecting the community from fire and maintaining the economic, social, and environmental well being of the municipality.

A number of processes and treatments are already in place to ensure that all values are taken into consideration and protected during the planning and implementation of fire risk treatments. Where conflict does occur the MFMP offers a dispute resolution process by establishing a pathway for issues to be escalated and resolved at either a regional or state level by the responsible authorities.

5.7 Cross boundary Management and Links to Other Programs/Processes

In developing this plan the City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC has endeavoured to ensure that concerns which cross municipal, regional or state boundaries are treated in a seamless manner with regard to risk assessment and treatments. This has been achieved through;

- Consistent use of processes and tools across the region.
- Deliberate alignment of municipal and regional objectives.
- Frequent cross membership of MFMPC's by agencies.
- Making draft and final MFMP's available to other MFMPC's.

6 Improvement and Plan Reporting and Review Process

Monitoring and improvement forms the final stage in the IFMP process during the development of the initial MFMP. However from this point on monitoring and improvement should be viewed as an ongoing activity as it actually entails continuous action, undertaken throughout the plans three year life..

It is important to track the performance of the plan and the degree to which it contributes to achieving the desired outcomes once implementation of the Fire Management Plan has commenced. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting occur throughout the life of the plan, the aim being to identify those treatments working effectively and those that may need to be modified. It also seeks to provide a transparent and accurate means of assessing the MFMP's progress in achieving its objective. The table below summarises the proposed implementation, reporting and review activities, as well who is responsible for undertaking them.

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Figure 18: City of Greater Shepparton MFMP Reporting and Evaluation Program

Frequency	Task / Action	Responsible Party
Ongoing	Implement treatments, as per agreed Work Plan	All treatment owners
	Further explore identified opportunities for new or enhanced treatments with relevant stakeholders, and agree course of action	MFMPC
Biannually (every 6 months)	Report to MFMPC on the progress of treatment implementation, including an evaluation of treatment appropriateness, impact, effectiveness, efficiency, and legacy	All treatment owners
	Update Risk Register & Work Plan to reflect treatment status, as reported by treatment owner	MFMPC
Annually (every 12 months)	Conduct strategic review of risks and associated treatment program, asking: • Are the identified risks still valid? • Do their pre-treatment and residual risk ratings still hold true? • Are there new risks that need to be added to the register and managed? • Do the treatments currently in place adequately address the identified risks? • Are there any new or enhanced treatments required?	MFMPC
	Review and update Plan content and mapping to ensure validity	MFMPC
	Provide overarching progress report to Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee, focusing on the collective effectiveness of treatments in the management of risks and progress towards the achievement of objectives	MFMPC
Triennially (every 3 years)	Conduct end-to-end review of Plan, with particular focus on the environmental scan and objectives	MFMPC

*sourced Swan Hill MFMP

The integrated fire management planning process operates within a complex and challenging environment, with often limited and competing resources to achieve the desired outcome of acceptable levels of residual risk to the community. Therefore, fundamental to its success is the establishment and preservation of healthy stakeholder partnerships that allow for continued transparent and robust dialogue in the interest of achieving the Plan's objectives in the long-term. It is the role of the MFMPC to spearhead relationship management for this purpose.

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Attachment 1: Risk Assessment Tables

State Bushfire Consequence Table

STATE DESCRIPTOR BUSHFIRE	People - Bushfire	Infrastructure - Bushfire	Public Admin - Bushfire	Environment - Bushfire	Economy - Bushfire	Social Setting
Catastrophic	50+ lives lost. Hundreds injured 1000+ houses destroyed. 2000+ people displaced. 30,000 + livestock lost.	Loss of critical infrastructure and/or services for 24-48 hours to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Loss of services to a major regional city/several suburbs for more than a week.	Significant statewide outrage. Royal Commission or other similar inquiry leading to changes in policy and practice.	Permanent total loss of one or more ecosystems or critical habitat elements. Loss of nationally significant cultural assets.	$1B or 30% of State revenue	Severe disruption to community wellbeing over the whole area or a large part of it for a period of many years
Major	10 -50 fatalities as a direct result of the bushfire event. 300 - 1000 houses destroyed. 500 -2000 people displaced. 10,000 - 30,000 livestock lost. Significant loss of breeding stock.	Loss of critical infrastructure and/or services for up to 8-24 hours to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Loss of services to a major regional city/several suburbs for 4 days and up to a week.	Significant regional and local outrage, with some occurring at state level. Parliamentary or other inquiry leading to change in practice.	Permanent partial loss of one or more ecosystems or critical habitat elements. Extinction of a species or significantly increase the likelihood of extinction to almost certain that intervention such as captive breeding programs are required. Loss of state significant cultural assets.	Damage costs including legal actions and/or industry impacts (tourism, forestry, wine and grape etc) to the value of more than $300M.	Severe disruption to community wellbeing over a wide area or for more than 24 months.
Serious	2 - 10 fatalities as a direct result of the bushfire event. Large number of people affected by smoke. 30 - 300 houses lost. 200- 500 people displaced 4000 - 10000 livestock lost.	Loss of critical infrastructure and/or services for up to 2-8 hours to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Loss of services to a major regional city/several suburbs for 2-4 days.	Some outrage at local and regional level.	Long term disturbance to one or more ecosystems or critical habitat elements. National response and/or support for animal welfare. Loss of a regionally significant cultural asset such as Phillip Island penguins, Healesville Sanctuary, Puffing Billy.	Damage costs including legal actions and/or industry impacts (tourism, business etc) to the value of more than $100M.	Major disruption to community wellbeing over a moderate to large area* or for a period of months.
Significant	Single fatality and/or multiple serious injuries requiring hospitalisation as a direct result of the bushfire event. Up to 30 houses lost. 50 - 200 people displaced. 2000 - 4000 livestock lost.	Loss of critical infrastructure and/or services for up to 1 hour to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Loss of services to a major regional city for 1 day. Loss of services to local community for a week.	Local outrage and concern.	Temporary disturbance to one or more ecosystems or critical habitat elements. Local response and/or support for animal welfare.	Damage costs including legal actions and/or industry impacts (tourism, business etc) to the value of more than $30M.	Localised disruption to community wellbeing over a small area or for a period of weeks.
Important	Serious injury and disability, up to 50 people displaced, up to 2000 livestock lost	Loss of services to regional town for a day. Loss of services to local community of up to a week	Local concern	Temporary disturbance to local habitat . Local response and/or support for animal welfare.	Damage costs including legal actions and/or industry impacts (tourism, business etc) to the value of less than $30M.	Localised disruption to community wellbeing over a small area or for a period of up to one week.

Likelihood Table

Level	Descriptor	Description In any one year, the likelihood of the event occurring is:
A	Almost Certain (Annually)	Close to 100% - Annually.
B	Likely	33% (i.e., once in every three years)
C	Possible	10% (i.e., once every 10 years)
D	Unlikely	3% (once every 30 years)
E	Rare	1% (once every 100 years)

Risk Assessment Matrix

Consequence Level					
Likelihood Level	Significant	Important	Serious	Major	Catastrophic
Almost Certain	Moderate	Moderate	High	Extreme	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High	Extreme
Possible	Low	Low	Moderate	High	High
Unlikely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High
Rare	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate

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Attachment 2: Stakeholder Analysis & Community Engagement Plan

Stakeholder type and engagement level		
Stakeholder Type	**Description**	**Participation Level***
Internal	Formal responsibilities for IFMP process and outcomes	Collaborate and empower
Primary	MFMPC membership, responsibility for development of the plan, communication and engagement across and within organisations rest with these organisations	Collaborate and empower
Secondary	RSFMPC membership or fire management role within municipality, may be requested to provide specific inputs, dependant upon outputs, or requested to be involved in specific tasks,	Involve and consult
Tertiary	Strong interest in outcomes	Inform and consult

*IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum: *empower → collaborate → involve → consult → inform*

Fire Management Roles	
Role	**Description**
Fire coordination	Bringing together of fire management agencies and elements to ensure effective response to an incident or emergency. CFA has legislated responsibility under the CFA act 1958 for the prevention and suppression of fires and for the protection of life and property in the Country Area of Victoria. In accordance with provisions in the CFA Act and the Forest Act 1958, DSE has fire management and fire suppression responsibilities for state forests and national, state and regional parks.
Land owner/manager responsibilities	Landholder/managers are heavily involved in fire prevention and fire suppression on land under their control. They have legislated responsibilities to extinguish a fire burning on their land and to prevent fires from starting from the use of equipment and vehicles (CFA Act 1958, Crimes Act 1958). They are also required to comply with relevant State government laws, local government laws, relevant planning and building permit conditions and conditions associated with permits to burn
Response	Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after a fire incident to minimise the impact of the fire.
Recovery	A coordinated process of supporting emergency affected communities in the reconstruction of physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical well being.
Community education	Community education is learning and social development, working with individuals and groups in their communities using a range of formal and informal methods
Community care	Community care is about identifying and catering for groups or individuals with specific needs, before during and after fire.
Asset protection	Asset protection involves protecting key community infrastructure such as power, water supplies, roads, gas pipes and protecting community assets such as parks and the environment. Asset protection can also involve the protection of private assets such as housing, plantations, crops and fences.
Regulatory	The issuing of permits for lighting fires. The development of and compliance with planning controls and permits for developments and building that take into account fire risk/management. The regulation and issuing of permits involving vegetation removal or fuel reduction activities for fire management purposes.

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City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC stakeholder analysis

Stakeholder	Type				Fire management role within Hume region									
	Internal	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Fire coord	Land mgr	Response	Recovery	Comm info	Comm care	Asset protect	Regulate	RSFMPC member	Other
Hume RSFMPC	✓						✓	✓	✓				✓	Regional IFMP oversight & strategic fire planning
MEMPC	✓						✓	✓	✓					Municipal integrated & strategic emergency planning
MFMPC	✓						✓	✓	✓					Municipal integrated & strategic fire planning
City of Greater Shepparton	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Statutory responsibility for MFMP
CFA		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	Fire safety expertise
DSE		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	Forest fire expertise
Parks Victoria			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
DHS			✓				✓	✓		✓			✓	
DPCD			✓					✓				✓	✓	Oversight of rural adjustment & development programs, development of planning controls
DPI			✓					✓					✓	Animal health, agricultural loss & recovery responsibilities
Vic Pol			✓				✓						✓	
SES			✓				✓						✓	
Vic Roads			✓			✓					✓	✓	✓	
SP Ausnet/ Powercor			✓							✓			✓	
Rail Industry			✓			✓					✓		✓	
Goulburn Valley Water			✓							✓	✓		✓	
Goulburn Murray Water			✓			✓					✓			
Telecommunicat-ions industry			✓							✓	✓		✓	
VFF				✓		✓								
GBCMA				✓		✓		✓			✓	✓		
DEECD				✓						✓				
Educational facilities				✓						✓				

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City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC stakeholder analysis

Stakeholder	Type				Fire management role within Hume region									
	Internal	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Fire coord	Land mgr	Response	Recovery	Comm info	Comm care	Asset protect	Regulate	RSFMPC member	Other
Ambulance Vic				✓						✓				
Media				✓			✓		✓					
Local community/industry groups				✓										
General public				✓		✓	✓	✓			✓			Responsibility for private property, social networks & personal well being.

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City of Greater Shepparton MFMPC Communication & Engagement Plan

Stakeholder	Engagement Level	Engagement activity								
		Meeting minutes, reports & agendas	1:1 consultation	IFMP & GSCC web site	Email updates	Media articles	Special meetings	Draft consultation	3 year review	Individual org networks
Internal Stakeholders										
Hume RSFMPC	Collaborate & empower	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
MEMPC										
MFMPC										
City of Greater Shepparton										
Primary – answerable for activity/decision										
CFA	Collaborate & empower	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DSE										
Secondary – Contributory responsibility										
Parks Victoria	Involve & consult		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DHS										
DPCD										
DPI										
Vic Pol										
SES										
Vic Roads										
SP Ausnet/ Powercor										
Rail Industry										
Goulburn Valley Water										
Goulburn Murray Water										
Telecommunicat-ions industry										
Tertiary - Interested										
VFF	Inform & consult			✓		✓		✓	✓	
GBCMA										
DEECD										
Educational facilities										
Ambulance Vic										
Media										
Local community/industry groups										
General public										

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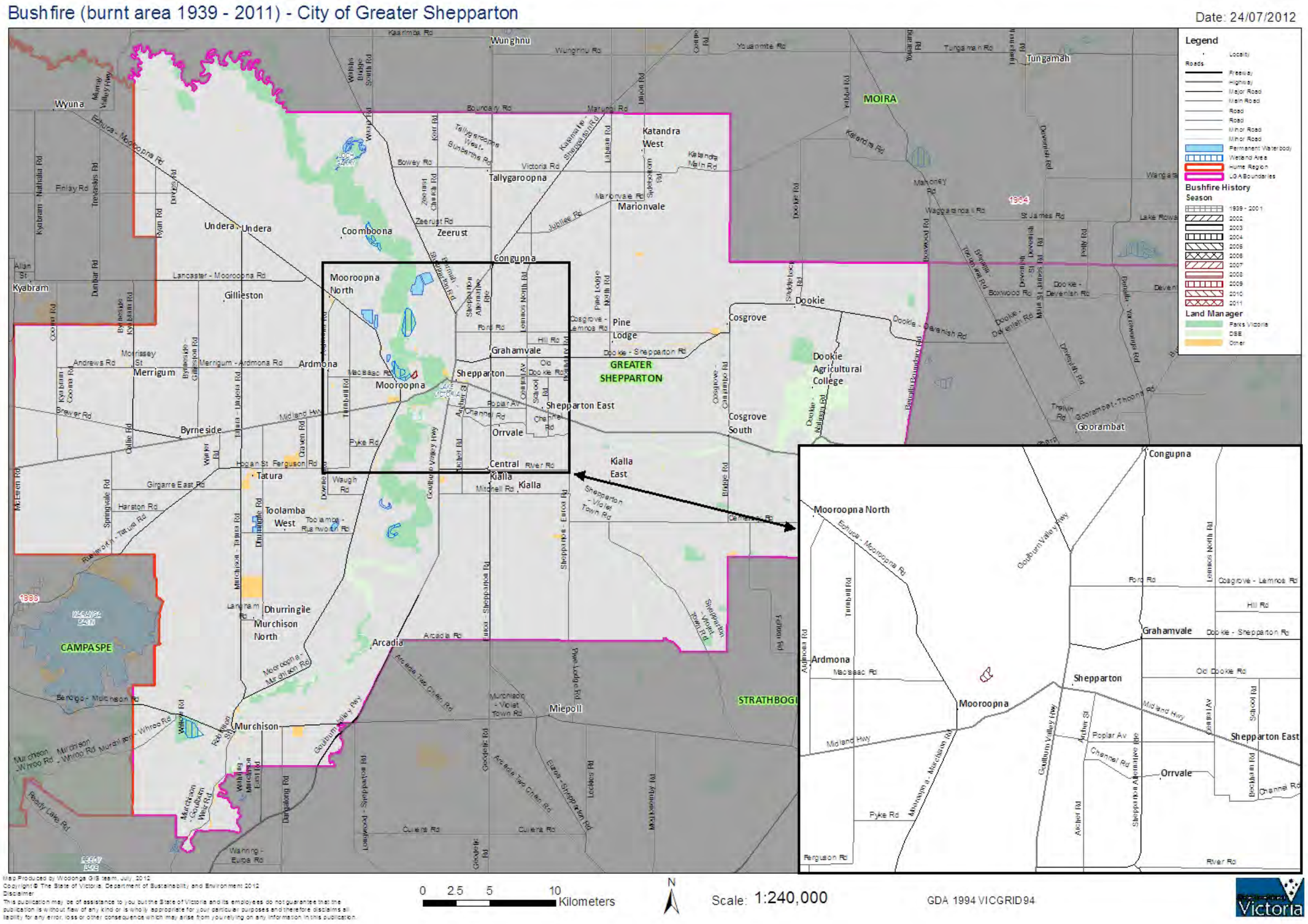

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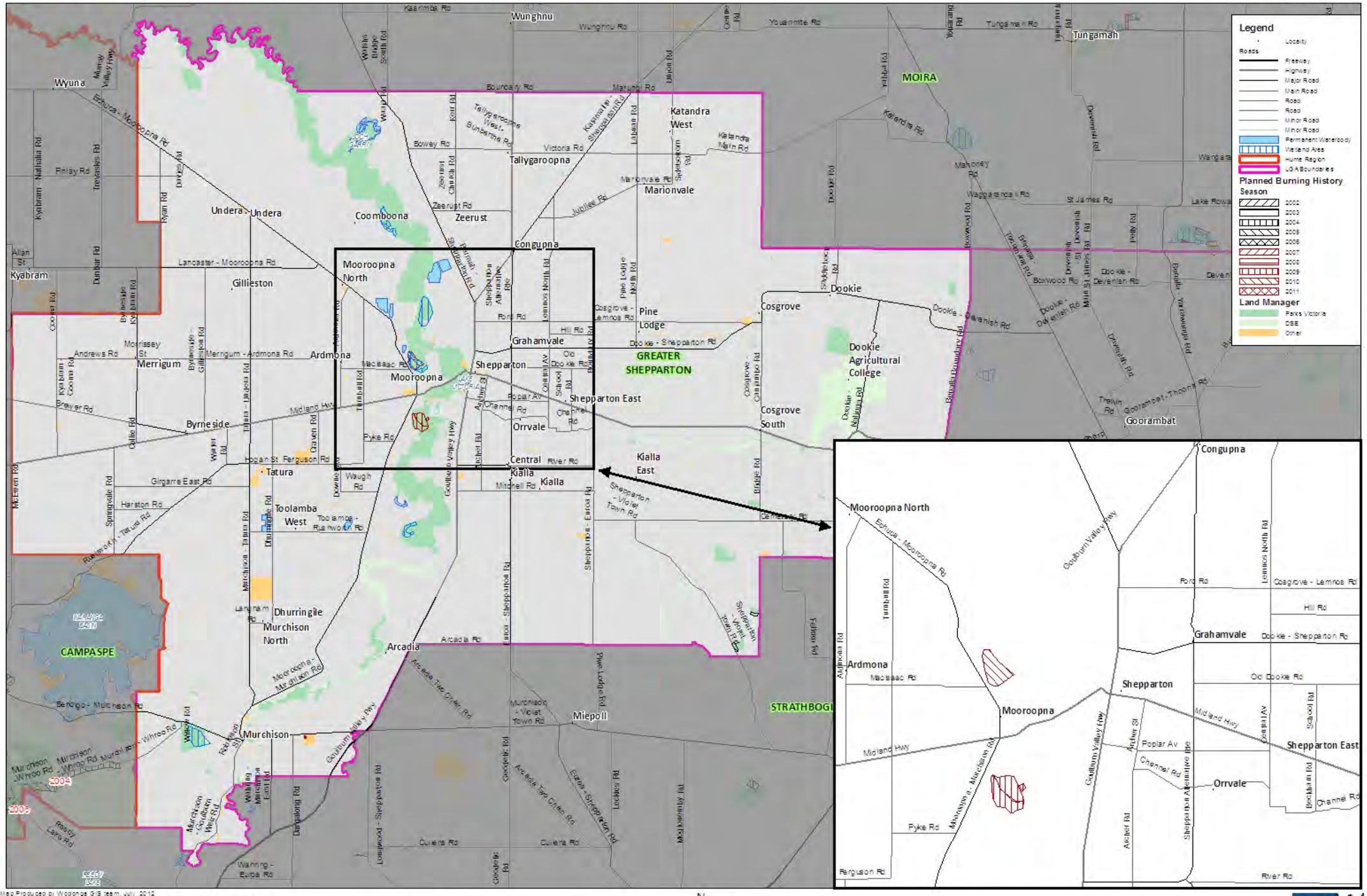
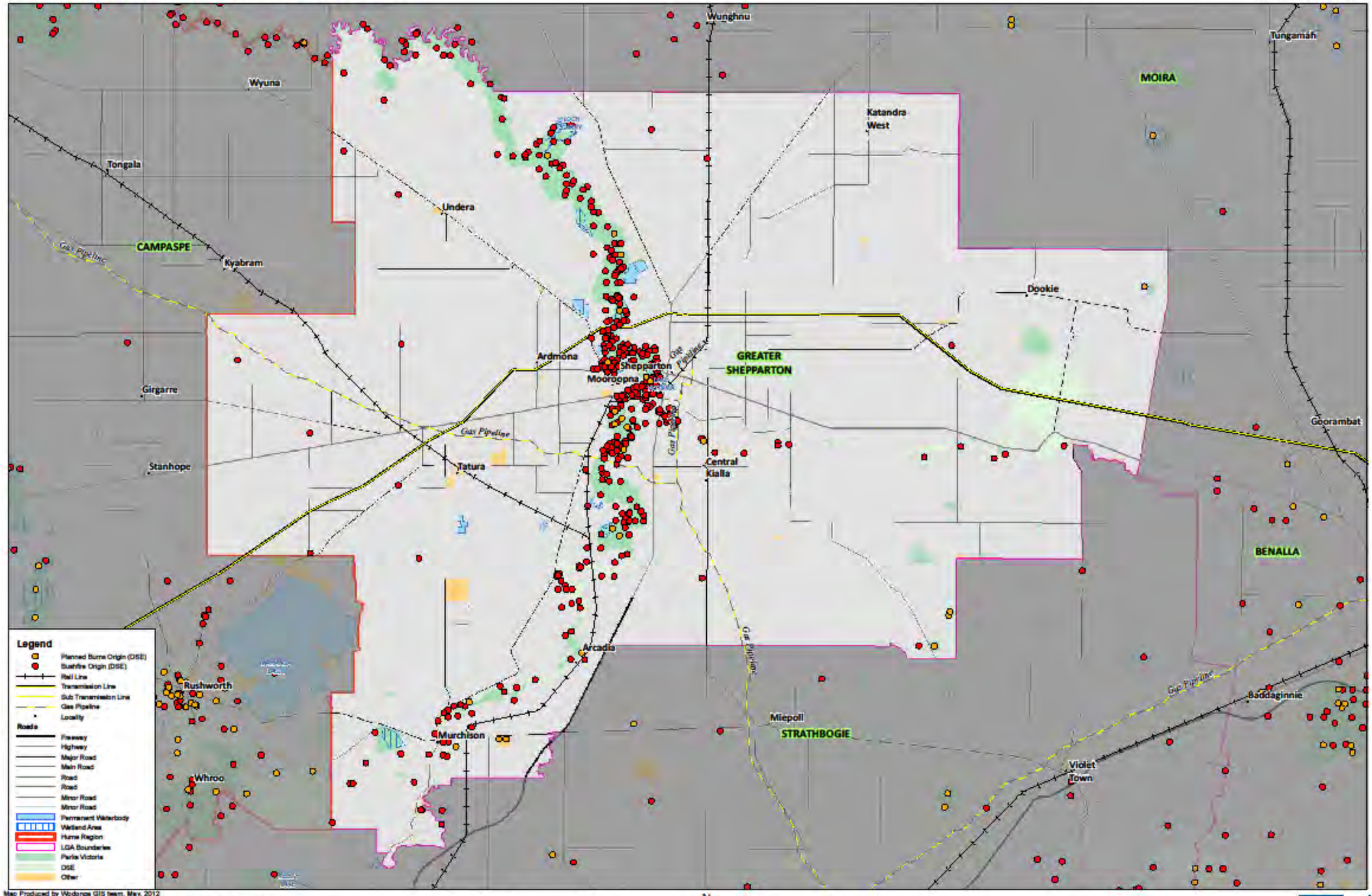
Planned Burning (burnt area 2002 - 2011) - City of Greater Shepparton

Date: 24/07/2012



DSE Fire Origins - City of Greater Shepparton

Date: 4/06/2012



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0 2.5 5 10 Kilometers

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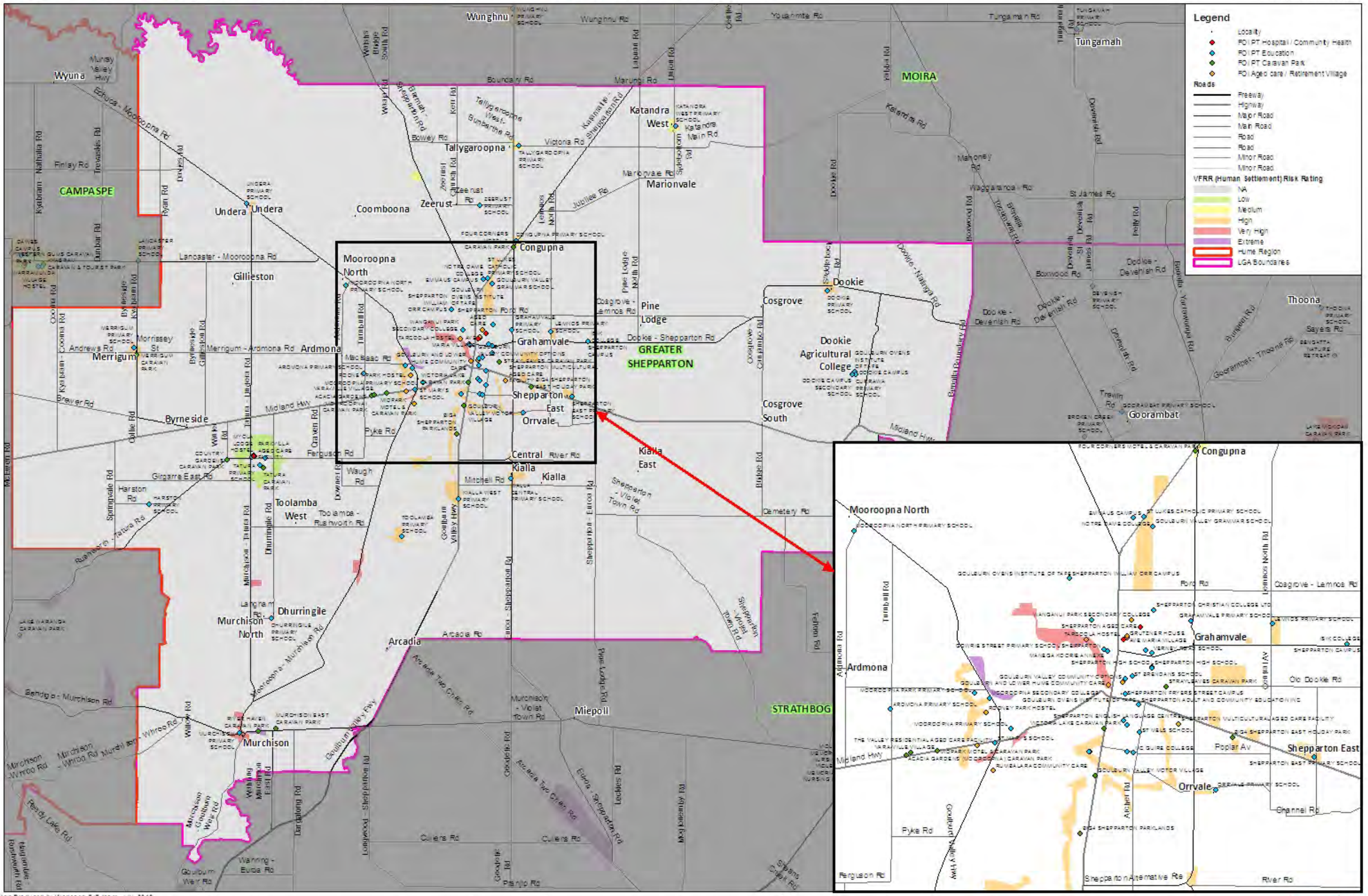
Scale: 1:240,000

GDA 1994 VICGRID94

Victoria

Victorian Fire Risk Register, Features of Interest & Settlement - City of Greater Shepparton

Date: 23/07/2012



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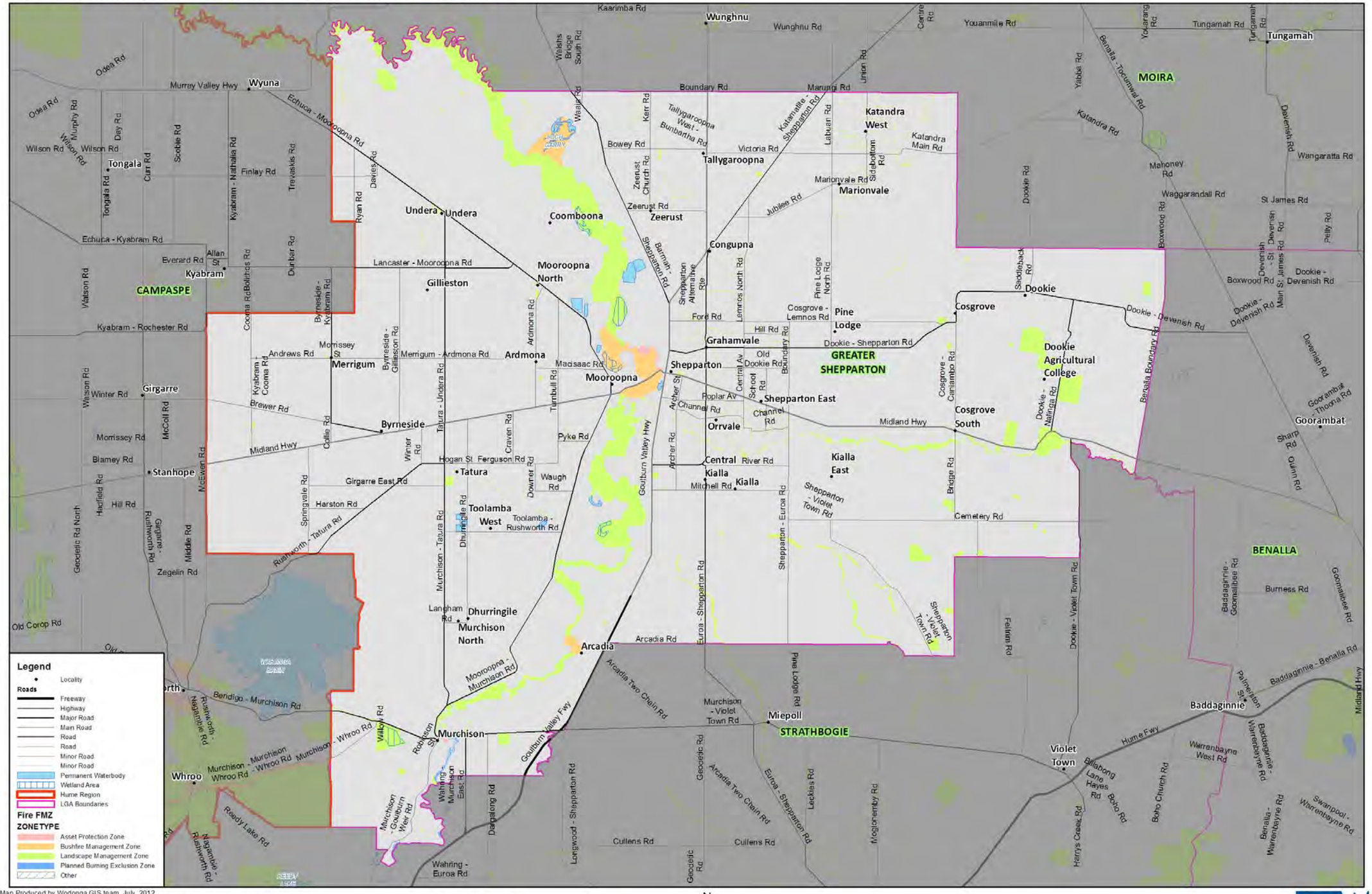
DSE Fire Management Zones - City of Greater Shepparton

Date: 26/07/2012



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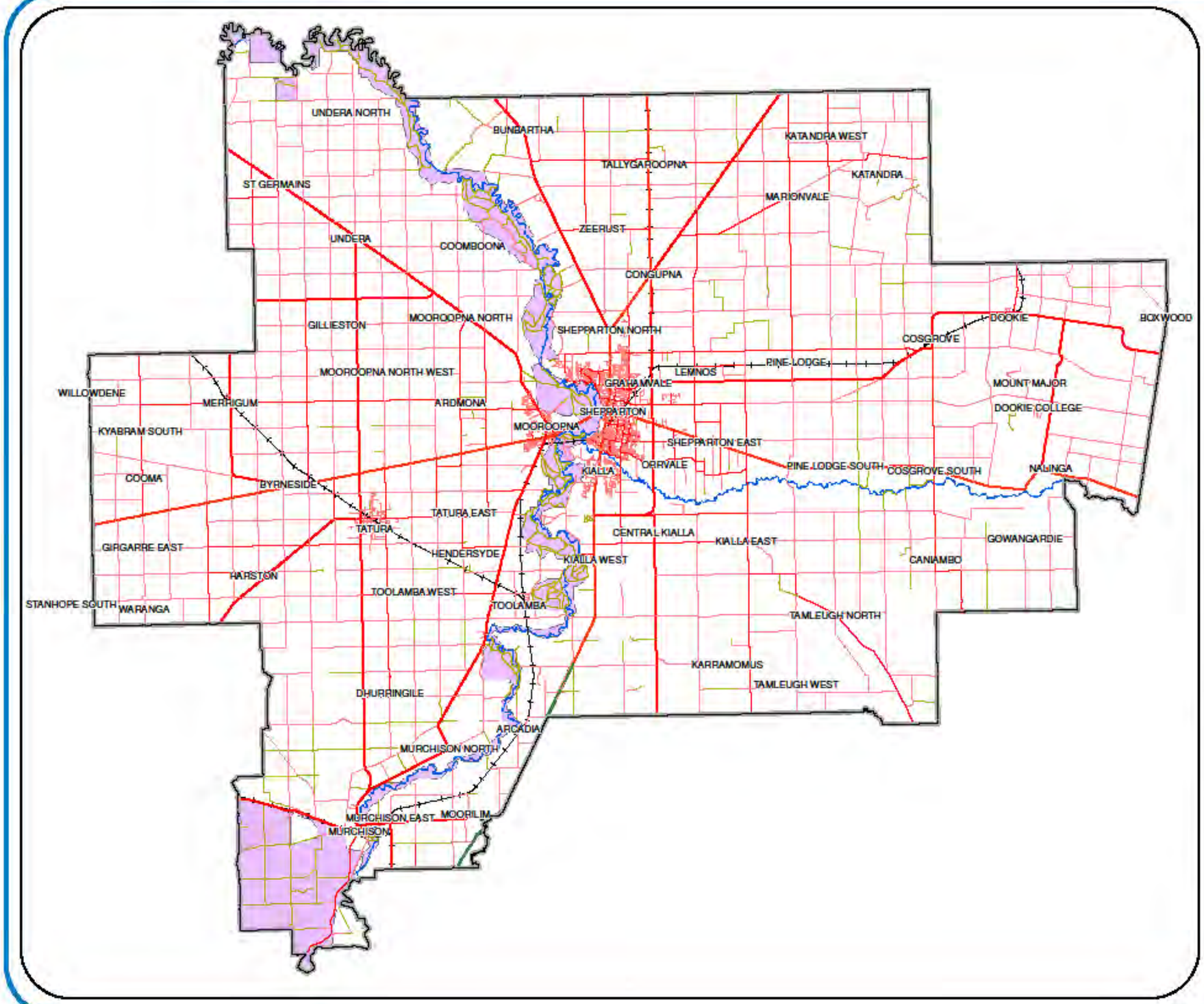
Scale: 1:240,000

GDA 1994 VICGRID94

State Government Victoria

Wildfire Management Overlay



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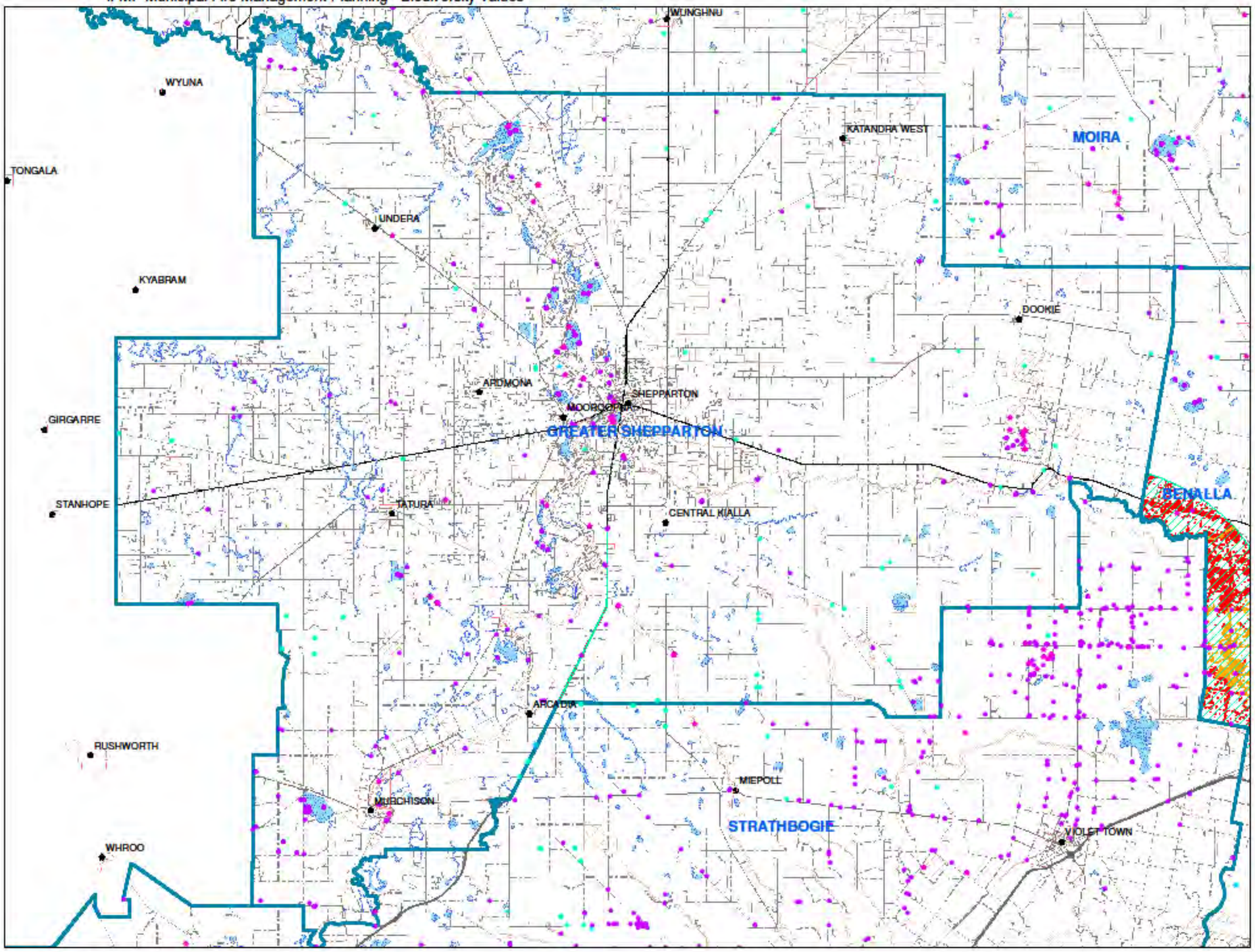
Nick Buzza - GIS Section - June 2012

IFMP Municipal Fire Management Planning - Biodiversity Values



Legend

- EPBC Act listed Fauna
- FFG Act listed Fauna
- EPBC Act listed Flora
- FFG Act listed Flora
- Endangered
- Vulnerable
- Depleted
- Least Concern

Fire Sensitive vegetation

EVC NAME

- Montane Riparian Thicket
- Montane Riparian Woodland
- Montane Wet Forest
- Sub-alpine Shrubland
- Sub-alpine Woodland
- Wet Forest
- Wetlands
- Township Polygon
- Locality
- Local Govt Areas
- Freeway
- Highway
- Main
- Local
- 2WD
- 4WD
- Public Land

Please note the displayed data comes from DSE GIS Corporate Data Library, gaps will appear where there has been no past survey work, however this means due diligence should be undertaken by the proponent or land manager.

These layers have not been analysed and are shown to flag locations where the presence of environmental values need to be factored into any discussions regarding possible fire management treatments.

Data Source : DSE GIS CSDL 2011
(Refer to documentation for further information)

GDA_1994_VICGRID94

N

Date: 8/06/2012

Scale: 1:226,014

State Government Victoria

0 3 6 12 Kilometers

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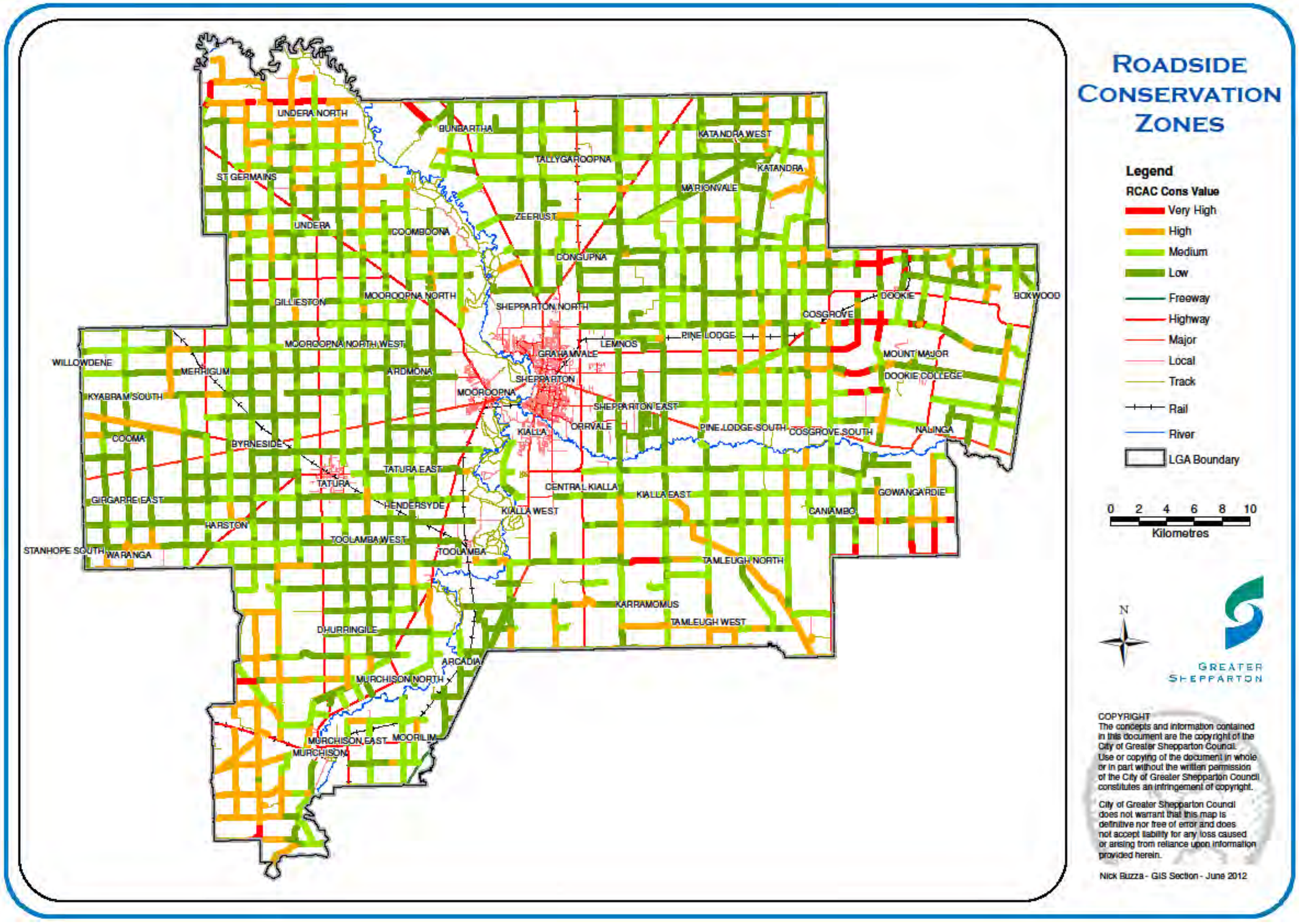
Roadside Conservation Zones
Legend
RCAC Cons Value
Very High
High
Medium
Low
Freeway
Highway
Major
Local
Track
Rail
River
LGA Boundary
0 2 4 6 8 10
Kilometres
N
Greater Shepparton
UNDERA NORTH
BUNBARTHA
KATANDRA WEST
TALLYGAROOPNA
KATANDRA
ST GERMAINS
MARIONVALE
ZEERUST
UNDERA
COOMBOONA
CONGUPNA
GILLIESTON
MOOROOPNA NORTH
SHEPPARTON NORTH
DOOKIE
BOXWOOD
COSGROVE
PINE LODGE
LEMNOS
MOOROOPNA NORTH WEST
GRAHAMVALE
MOUNT MAJOR
WILLOWDENE
MERRIGUM
ARDMONA
SHEPPARTON
DOOKIE COLLEGE
KYABRAM SOUTH
MOOROOPNA
SHEPPARTON EAST
ORRVALE
PINE LODGE SOUTH
COSGROVE SOUTH
NALINGA
COOMA
BYRNESIDE
KIALLA
TATURA EAST
TATURA
CENTRAL KIALLA
KIALLA EAST
GOWANGARDIE
GIRGARRE EAST
HENDERSYDE
KIALLA WEST
CANIAMBO
HARSTON
TOOLAMBA WEST
STANHOPE SOUTH
WARANGA
TOOLAMBA
TAMLEUGH NORTH
KARRAMOMUS
TAMLEUGH WEST
DHURRINGILE
ARCADIA
MURCHISON NORTH
MURCHISON EAST
MOORILIM
MURCHISON
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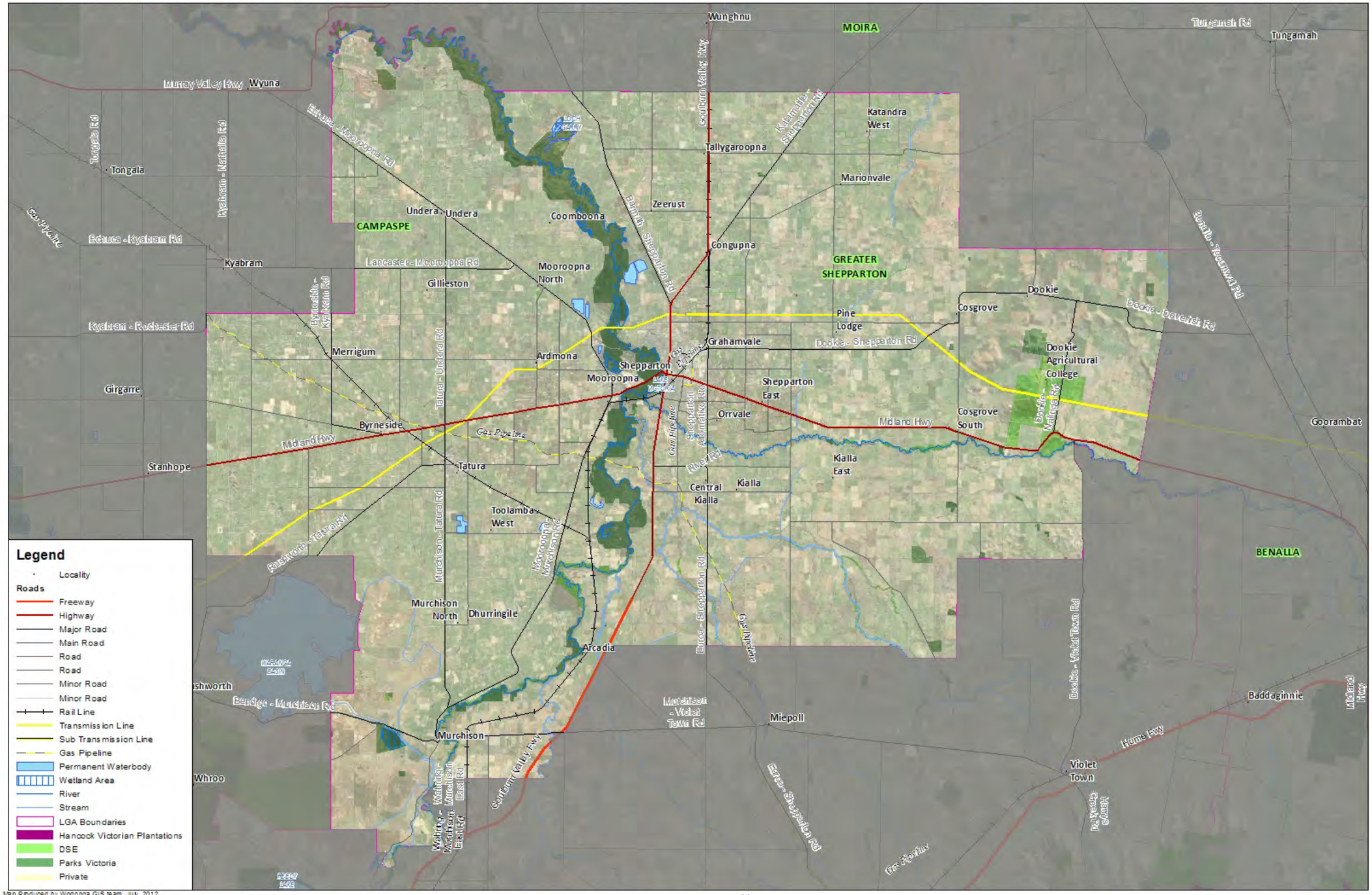
Nick Buzza - GIS Section - June 2012

Natual Values (Image) Map - City of Greater Shepparton

Date: 26/07/2012



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0 2.5 5 10 Kilometers

N

Scale: 1:240,000

GDA 1994 VICGRID94

Attachment 4: Hazard Trees – Identification and Notification Procedures

The *Electricity Safety Act* 1998 (Vic) (**ES Act**) provides that a municipal council must specify, within its Municipal Fire Prevention Plan:

(a) procedures and criteria for the identification of trees that are likely to fall onto, or come into contact with, an electric line (**hazard trees**); and

(b) procedures or the notification of responsible persons of trees that are hazard trees in relation to electric lines for which they are responsible.

Under the ES Act, the person responsible for maintaining vegetation and clearance space around power lines is referred to as the 'responsible person'.

The procedures outlined in this section of the MFMP seek to address the requirement detailed above.

Each responsible person should have its own internal procedure regarding the steps that will be taken when it receives notification of a potentially hazardous tree.

What is a hazard tree?

According to the ES Act, a hazard tree is a tree which is likely to fall onto, or come into contact with an electric line.

The Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2010 (**the Regulations**) further provide that a responsible person may cut or remove such a tree, provided that the tree has been assessed by a suitably qualified arborist and that assessment confirms the likelihood of contact with an electric line having regard to foreseeable local conditions.

Due to legal requirements which require a clearance space be maintained around an electric line, hazard trees are usually located outside the regulated clearance space. Despite being outside the clearance space, the tree still have the potential to contact the line due to its size or because of a structural fault or weakness which renders part, or all, of the tree likely to contact or fall onto the line.

Who is responsible for a hazard tree?

Under the ES Act, the person responsible for maintaining vegetation and clearance space around power lines is referred to as the "responsible person". This includes responsibility for keeping the whole or any part of a tree clear of the line.

Under the ES Act, responsibility is allocated between distribution businesses and other owners of electricity infrastructure, land owners and occupiers, public land managers such as municipal councils and VicRoads.

Municipal councils are responsible for trees on public land within their municipalities, for which they are the land manager, where these are also within a Declared Area for the purposes of the ES Act. Primary responsibility for vegetation clearance and management within the municipality, for areas which are not within a Declared Area, will usually fall to the relevant electricity distribution company.

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Responsible Persons within [insert name of Local Government Area]

There are a number of organisations that have responsibility for line clearance in [*insert name of Local Government Area*], including:

- [*insert name of distribution business*]
- [*insert name of second distribution business, if applicable*]
- [*insert name of other responsible persons eg third distribution business, VicRoads etc., if applicable*]
- *[if there Is a declared area within the municipality, insert name of Shire or Municipality*]

Other relevant information

Responsible persons, other than private persons, must have an electric line clearance management plan in place for areas for which they have responsibility (refer Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2010).

[*Use this section to insert any other relevant information in relation to responsible persons, or electric line clearance, including cross-references to other areas within the Plan where relevant*]

PROCEDURES AND CRTIERIA FOR IDENTIFYING HAZARD TREES

In the course of everyday duties, potentially hazardous trees may come to the attention of staff or volunteer members of the entities with representation on the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee, (**the Committee**), staff of the distribution business(es) or other persons, including members of the public.

There are a range of factors which may indicate that a tree is a hazard tree. That is, a tree which is likely to hall onto, or come into contact with, an electric line. Some of these factors will be obvious when looking at the tree but many may only be apparent when the tree is assesses by a person with specific expertise and training such as an arborist.

The following criteria may be used to assist in identifying a hazard tree:

- The size of the tree suggests that it is likely to come into contact with the electric line, for example because it appears to be encroaching or growing into the line clearance space.
- There is an excessive lean on the tree, or branches hanging off the tree and the tree is in proximity to an electric (power) line.
- The size or appearance of the tree suggests it could come into contact with the line including under foreseeable local conditions.

If a potentially hazardous tree is identified, the notification procedure outline below should be followed. Where a responsible person becomes aware of a potentially hazardous tree for which they have

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responsibility, they must follow their own applicable internal procedure and the notification procedure described does not apply.

PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR NOTIFYING HAZARD TREES

To ensure that information regarding potentially hazardous trees is captured in an efficient manner and, as appropriate, referred to the responsible person for action, the following procedure for the notification of hazardous trees should be followed:

- The person with responsibility for the highest percentage of lines within the municipality *(***the primary responsible person**) [*or alternative person as nominated and agreed by the Committee] is the person to whom potentially hazardous trees should be reported.*

- The primary responsible person (or their representative) is referred to in these Procedures as the primary responsible person representative (**PRPR**).

- Where any person becomes aware of, or receives a report of, a potentially hazardous tree within the municipality, this should be referred to the PRPR. Where the Committee becomes aware of, or receives a report of, a potentially hazardous tree within the municipality, this must be referred to the PRPR.

- Reports of potentially hazardous trees must be provided to the PRPR for action as soon as practicable. Reports must include, at a minimum:

  - The name and contact details and any relevant qualifications where known of the person making the report

  - As much detail as possible about the location of the trees (including, where known, GPS coordinates, details of numerical/name plate on nearest pole, name of nearest road or crossroads, closest landmark, whether tree is on private land or road reserve etc.)

  - A description of the tree (including, if known, the genus and species of tree)

  - The primary reasons given for the tree being identified as potentially hazardous (eg. Tree is in proximity to an electric line AND there is evidence of structural weakness and/or excessive lean and/or appears to be encroaching into line clearance space etc.)

  - An indication of whether or not urgent action is required.

- The PRPR must take all necessary steps to advise the person responsible for the tree that it may be hazardous.

Primary Responsible Person Representative (PRPR)

For the purposes of this part of the Plan, the primary responsible person is [*insert name of responsible person (agency name) with responsibility for the highest percentage of lines within the Local Government Act OR alternative person (agency name) as nominated and agreed by the Committee*].

Contact details for the [*insert name of PRPR*], are as follows:

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Agency name	(*eg. SP Ausnet, Powercor etc*)
Position title of contact person	
Telephone Number	#
Email Address	#
Facsimile Number	#

PROCEDURES FOR NOTIFICATION OF RESPONSIBLE PERSONS

Where a potentially hazardous tree has been reported to the PRP, the PRPR should follow the procedure outlined below:

Step 1	Report provided to PRPR	
Step 2	PRPR to determine who the responsible person is in relation to the reported tree (If necessary, the PRP can seek assistance from ESV for this step.)	
Step 3	Is the responsible person the primary responsible person?	**Yes =>**applicable internal procedure for referral and assessment of potentially hazardous tree to be followed
		No=>proceed to Step 4
Step 4	Did the report indicate that urgent action is required?	**Yes+>** the responsible person should be notified as soon as possible, and by [*insert period, eg. The close of the next business day*].
		No=> the PRPR must advise the responsible person of the existence and location of a potentially hazardous tree in accordance with the timelines below.*

* The PRPR should put in place mutually agreed arrangements for the manner in which it passes on reports of potentially hazardous trees to responsible persons.

Reporting Timelines

The PRPR should provide reports to the relevant responsible person as soon as practicable.

In circumstances where:

- the potentially hazardous tree is located within a high bushfire risk area (as per s.80 of the ES Act) and the potentially hazardous tree is reported during the fire danger period declared under the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 (Vic); or

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- the report indicated that there is an imminent danger that the tree will contact or fall onto lines as a result of minor environmental changes;

the potentially hazardous tree must be referred to the relevant responsible person for action as soon as possible, and by [*insert period, eg. the close of the next business day].*

Each responsible person (other than the primary responsible person) must provide the PRPR with contact details of the person (position title) to whom reports should be provided. It is the responsibility of each responsible person to ensure that the PRPR is provided with up-to-date contact details.

Register

It is recommended that the PRPR maintain a register in which all notifications are recorded together with the date of receipt of the notification and the date the notification was reported to the responsible person.

It is recommended that responsible persons also maintain a register of notifications received of hazardous trees for which they are the responsible person.

PRPR Consultation

The Committee notes that the Primary Responsible Person was consulted in relation to the development of these procedures.

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Attachment 5: Township protection plans

Township Protection Plans (TPPs) have been completed and are available for the following towns in the City of Greater Shepparton:

- Shepparton
- Mooroopna

More information and copies of these TPPs can be found on the CFA website at:

- cfaonline.cfa.vic.gov.au/mycfa/Show?pageId=publicTownshipProtectionPlans

The map below shows the location of current TPPs in the City of Greater Shepparton.

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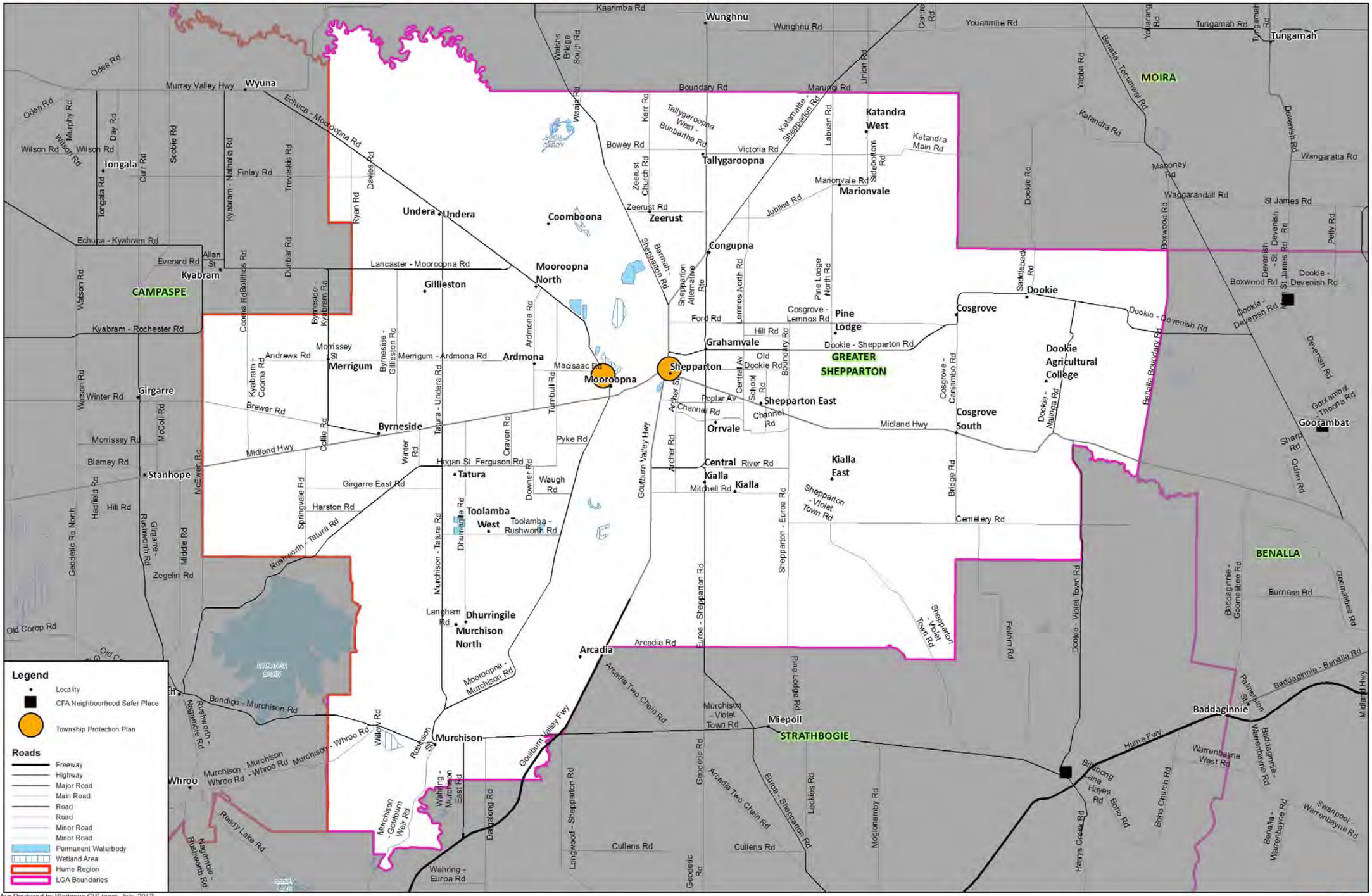
Neighbournood Safer Places & Township Protection Plans - City of Greater Shepparton

Date: 26/07/2012



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0 2.5 5 10 Kilometers

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Scale: 1:240,000

GDA 1994 VICGRID94

State Government Victoria

Attachment 6: Structural Fire

a) Structural Risk Summary

Dwellings	The risks directly associated with the building, its contents and inhabitants irrespective of the location.
Townships	The risks relating to the land including vacant land, parks and reserves within the township, road reserves and the availability of water for fire fighting.
Rural Residential	The risks relating to the land for larger allotments outside the townships, the provision of access and services, and outbuilding located on those allotments.
Industrial	The risks relating to the building, operation, process, materials used and stored, and land associated with the premises irrespective of the location.
Commercial	The risks relating to the building, operation, goods stored, and land associated with the premises within the townships. Commercial premises do not include those where accommodation is provided.
Healthcare	The risks relating to the building, occupants, operation, goods stored, and land associated with the premises within the townships.
Public Accommodation & Tourist Facilities	The risks relating to the building, occupants, operation, and land associated with the premises irrespective of the location. Public accommodation premises are those where people are able to sleep overnight.
Public Assembly & Entertainment Venues	The risks relating to the building, occupants, and land associated with the premises irrespective of the location. People to not sleep over night at these premises unless special arrangement have been made and the relevant approvals obtained. Night clubs, cinemas, schools and preschools are included in this category.
Rural	The risks relating to the land for large allotments outside the townships and rural residential areas; the provision of access and water supplies, and outbuilding located on those allotments.
Transport	The risks relating to airports, and road and rail network, and the adjoining reserves and vegetation.
Special Risks	These are specific risks not included above.

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b) *Dwellings*

The residential population of the Municipality is spread with widely varying density throughout its length and breadth. The majority of the population of the Municipality resides within the cities of Mooroopna and Shepparton; the towns of Dookie, Murchison, Tallygaroopna, Tatura and Toolamba; and the rural districts of Arcadia, Bunbartha, Byrneside, Caniambo, Cosgrove, Congupna, Katandra, Kialla, Lancaster, Moorilim, Nalinga, Pine Lodge, Tamleugh and Undera.

There is a wide diversity of life styles and dwelling types within the general population.
Statistics indicate that burns and other associated injuries, particularly to children, occur far too frequently and the highest cause of fire related death originate from fires in the home. In the two years prior to April 2007, there were 2.5 deaths of children under 14 years old and in the fire year period 2000 to 2005 there were 333 hospital admissions for burns and scalds. 72% of the burns and scalds were for children under five years of age.

(i) Risks, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Loss of life.	Significant	Maintain nil level	Community Education targeting smoke detector and burning off requirements using the following: • Brigades in schools (Home Fire Safety) • CFA mobile education unit (Home Fire Safety) - (Wen Available) • 6 monthly articles in the Shepparton News and Local Media. Information to be provided in languages other than English as deemed appropriate by the MFPO.	Municipality – MFPO & CFA -CEC	Fire Brigades	Ongoing.
Personal injury.	Significant	Minimise incidence and severity.	Inspect new and altered dwellings for smoke detector installation. Undertake random 24 checks per year of existing dwellings.	Municipal-MBS & Private Building Surveyors		Ongoing
Property loss.	High	Minimise incidence and severity	Home Help and Home Carers should be provided with Fire Safety Awareness training to reinforce the residential fire safety needs and requirements with those they provide services to. (Private Provider to provide training)	Municipality - MFPO	CFA-CEC	Ongoing Annually

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Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
			Home Carers to check for smoke detector operation when in dwellings.	Municipality - MFPO	CFA-CEC	Ongoing.
			Home Carers to be provided with training in smoke detector operation testing.	Municipality – Manager – Home Care	CFA-CEC	Ongoing.

c) Townships (Residential-General)

(i) Context

The major cities within the Municipality are Mooroopna and Shepparton. Other population centres that may be classed as 'Townships' are Dookie, Dookie College, Katandra West, Merrigum, Murchison, Tallygaroopna, Tatura and Toolamba.

Some of these towns are located near rivers or streams and/or heavily timbered areas, and can be characterised as having many older timber buildings, an irregular layout, and in some cases are heavily treed. The random residential development, undeveloped lots and irregular street layout of these towns has created pockets of vegetation and areas of poor access within the residential areas. The moderate rainfall and associated vegetation growth further complicate this.

Neglected areas of land or buildings can pose a significant fire risk to the adjoining landholders/occupiers and wider community.

The vegetation patterns throughout the towns require regular maintenance clearance to exposed aerial power conductors, hence also requiring regular inspection programs.

The cities of Mooroopna and Shepparton and the towns of Dookie, Dookie College, Katandra West, Merrigum, Murchison, Tallygaroopna, Tatura and Toolamba are provided with a reliable reticulated water supply that is available for fighting purposes. The availability of the supply needs to be regularly checked to ensure its continued availability at all points within the Township.

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(ii) Risks, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Property loss and loss of personal effects.	Significant	Minimisation of loss of property and personal effects.	Undertake property inspections under Section 41 of the CFA Act in conjunction with local CFA Brigades. Issue Fire Prevention Notices to owner/occupier whose property contains a fire /potential fire hazard.	Municipality - MFPO	Owner / Occupier/Brigades	Early November Annually - Ongoing
Loss of life and personal effects.	Significant	Maintain nil loss of life and minimise personal injury	Undertake/coordinate inspection and maintenance of fire plugs and markers.	Municipality-MFPO	Brigades& Water Supply Authority	Ongoing.
Environ-mental damage	Moderate	Minimise damage	Community Education targeting fire hazard removal and burning off requirements using the following: • 6 monthly articles in the Shepparton News and Local Media. Information to be provided in languages other than English as deemed appropriate by the MFPO.	Municipality MFPO	Fire Brigades/ CFA-CEC	Ongoing
			Undertake clearance of vegetation from power lines in the Declared Areas in accordance with the Code of Practice.	Municipality – Manager Waste & Open Space		Annually – Ongoing.

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d) Industrial

(i) Context

There are a significant number of large regionally based industries within the Municipality that rely on the supply of raw materials from the local area. The major industries at risk are the food processing plants, cool-stores, timber processing plants, engineering/fabrication works, and bulk fuel depots. There are a number of risks associated with these industries that include fire, hazardous materials spills (both storage and transport), and environmental damage from pollution and/or spillage.

There are a number of smaller depots and industries that are located within all the townships where smaller amounts of dangerous goods are stored. This has in turn led to an abundance of chemicals and dangerous goods being stored and used throughout the Municipality. Storage volumes are generally very low and therefore their use is not obvious to anyone other than the proprietors.

Due to changes in ownership and operation, there can be significant areas of neglected land or vacant buildings where rubbish and general fire hazards accumulate.

Generally the controls on Industries are quite stringent and hence the likelihood of any major incident is low. However should a major incident occur, there would be a significant impact on the community both economic and potentially to life.

(ii) Risks, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Loss of life and personal injury from the effects of uncontrolled fire.	significant	Minimise incidence and severity.	When inspecting buildings, ensure that the Fire Protection Equipment including appropriate signage is in place and functioning as required by the relevant legislation	Municipality-MBS / CFA-FSO		Ongoing.
Property loss and resultant Economic loss both Public and Private.	Significant	Minimise incidence and severity.	Ensure that water for firefighting purposes and access requirements meet the provisions required by the Referral Authority (CFA).	Municipality-Manager Planning	CFA-FSO	Ongoing.

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Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Environmental damage.	Significant	Minimise incidence and severity.	Inspection of all properties within all urban areas to ensure that there are no unacceptable fire hazards. The issuing of notices and appropriate follow up for the removal of fire hazards in the Township areas as required under Section 41 of the CFA Act.	Municipality-MFPO	Brigades	Early November - Ongoing.
			Community Education including details in accordance with the Emergency Manual eg Dangerous Goods audits requirements using the following: • 6 monthly articles in the Shepparton News and Local Media. Information to be provided in languages other than English as deemed appropriate by the MFPO.	Municipality-MFPO	CFA-FSO/ WorkCover Authority	Ongoing.

e) Commercial

(i) Context

There are a number of vibrant major Commercial Centres within the Municipality that are located within cities of Mooroopna and Shepparton and the towns of Dookie, Murchison, Tallygaroopna, Tatura and Toolamba; with isolated establishments located within the other Villages and Hamlets. There are a number of risks associated with the occurrence of fire related to these commercial centres that include; a higher concentration of flammable materials and the proximity to other similar premises. The loss of these premises as a result of fire, may result in major economic loss and the loss of employment.

Due to the nature and operation of the Commercial Premises, shortfalls in the provision of adequate house-keeping practices and general fire safety can raise the level of risk to the general public and the owners/employees.

(ii) Risks, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					

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Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Loss of life from the effects of uncontrolled fire.	Significant	Maintain current nil level.	Risk management, including the inspection of Essential Safety Measures. A minimum of 12 properties per year on a random basis as necessary. Provide information to owners/occupiers as required. Follow up with inspections and application of enforcement under the Building Code of Australia (BCA) as necessary.	Municipality – MBS		Ongoing
Loss of property from the effects of uncontrolled fire.	Significant	Minimise incidence and severity.	Include information about fire hazards in Commercial Areas in Column in the Shepparton News and Local Media, 6 monthly. The information will be provided in languages other than English as deemed appropriate by the MFPO.	Municipality – MFPO		Ongoing
Personal injury from the effects of uncontrolled fire.	Moderate	Minimise incidence and severity.	When inspecting buildings, ensure that exits are unobstructed and functioning as required by the relevant legislation.	Municipality - MBS & CFA-FSO		Ongoing
Environmental damage.	Significant	Minimise incidence and severity.	Ensure that water for firefighting purposes and access requirements meet the provisions required by the Referral Authority (CFA).	Municipality - Planners	CFA-FSO	Ongoing
			When inspecting buildings, ensure that the Fire Protection Equipment including appropriate signage is in place and functioning as required by the relevant legislation.	Municipality - MBS & CFA-FSO	FEM Brigades	Ongoing

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f) Health Care

(i) Context

There are Health Care Centres located in Shepparton, Mooroopna, Tatura and Murchison. By nature they contain a population that in general is dependent on outside assistance for mobility, day to day living, control and direction. Consequently this group that encompasses; special accommodation, nursing homes, hostels and hospitals are very vulnerable to a wide range of events.

There is a risk inherent in all these facilities of multiple injuries and loss of life should a significant incident occur. Generally fire controls are high (eg fire protection equipment and structural safety), however any incident involving these premises, taking participant numbers into consideration, can lead to major consequences.

(ii) Risks, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Loss of life from the effects of uncontrolled fire.	Significant	Maintain current nil level.	Identify and maintain a database of at risk premises. Details to be placed in Appendix F.	Municipality – MFPO/MBS	Department of Human Services and Department of Health, CFA-FSO & WorkSafe Victoria	December 2007 and then updated annually- ongoing.
Loss of property from the effects of uncontrolled fire.	Significant	Reduce incidence and severity	Risk management, including the inspection of a minimum of 5 properties per year and encourage compliance with the BCA where necessary.	Municipality - MBS & CFA -FSO	WorkSafe Victoria & Fire Brigades	Ongoing
Environmental damage.	Moderate	Maintain current nil level.				

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g) Public Accommodation and Tourist Facilities

(i) Context

There is a wide variety and range of these premises within the Municipality with a ranging from hotels and caravan parks to hostels for the aged. The type, size and age of the premises have a very significant impact on the potential for the loss of both life and/or property. As a general rule these types of premises can contain a high number of people who will be sleeping on the premises and are unfamiliar with their surroundings, are exposed to varying standards of serviceability and different or a lack of safety procedures. In some cases the occupants have very little control over their surroundings and invariably have little interest in the risks associated with the accommodation.

In some instances a lack of knowledge or commitment by the operators of the premises leads to a situation where the premises do not comply with safety requirements.

Although the likelihood of a large fire in these premises or facilities is rare, the consequence in the event of fire is major (loss life).

(ii) Risk Environments, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Loss of life.	High	Maintain current nil level.	Fire Prevention Planning. Develop a database of all at risk premises. Details to be added in Appendix G. Analyse database for risk and rank in priority order.	Municipality – MFPO/MBS	CFA-FSO, & DSE	December 2007 and then updated on an ongoing basis.
Loss of property.	Significant	Reduce incidence and severity	Risk management, including the collection Annual Essential Safety Measure Reports for a minimum of 5 properties per year on a random basis and application of enforcement under the BCA where necessary.	Municipality - MBS	CFA-FSO & Hospitality Industry	Commence December 2007 then annually ongoing.
Economic loss both Public and Private.	High (Non-Urban)	Reduce incidence and severity	Environmental Health Officers to recognise fire risks in Caravan Parks in accordance with Emergency Management Plans. Particular attention to be made in relation to requirement under the Residential Tenancies and Movable Dwelling Act & Regulations and the 'Caravan Park Fire Safety Guidelines'- Published by the CFA 2006.	Municipality- Manager Sustainability & Environment	CFA-FSO	Ongoing.

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Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
	Low (Urban)		Environmental Health Officers to recognise fire risks in registered premises. EHO's to be provided with a Checklist to be used when undertaking their inspections on Registered Premises.	Municipality – Manager Sustainability & Environment	Municipality -MBS	Ongoing.
			When inspecting buildings, ensure that the Fire Protection Equipment including appropriate signage is in place and functioning as required by the relevant legislation.	Municipality – MBS/CFA - FSO	CFA-FSO	Ongoing.
			When inspecting buildings, ensure that exits are unobstructed and functioning as required by the relevant legislation.	Municipality – MBS / CFA - FSO	CFA-FSO	Ongoing.
			Ensure that water for firefighting purposes and access requirements meet the provisions as required by Referral Authorities.	Municipality – Manager Planning	CFA-FSO & DSE	Ongoing.

h) Public Assembly and Entertainment Venues

(i) Context

There are two levels of risk. A number of these premises within the Municipality including public theatres, public halls, outdoor festivals/public entertainment/events, sporting complexes, churches, TAFE Colleges, schools, preschools and childcare centres are relatively low risk. The high risk premises could include night clubs, and special events. Each facility or premises has its own particular risk that will require individual evaluation.

As a general rule these types of premises can contain a high number of people who will be gathering together on the premises and are unfamiliar with their surroundings. These premises have varying standards of maintenance, and have a varying or lack of safety procedures. In some instances a lack or knowledge or commitment by the operators of the premises leads to a situation where the premises do not comply with safety requirements.

The occupants generally have very little control over their surroundings and invariably have little interest in the risks associated with the premises.

Although the likelihood of a large fire in these premises or facilities is rare, the consequence in the event of fire is major (loss life). Past experience has shown that fires in dance halls or similar locations can have catastrophic consequences.

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(ii) Risks, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Loss of life from the effects of uncontrolled fire.	Significant	Maintain current nil level.	Fire Prevention Planning. Develop a database of all high risk buildings and events. Analyse database for risk and rank in priority order and determine inspection needs.	Municipality - MFPO/MBS	CFA-FSO, WorkCover Authority & Dpt Health	Commence December 2007 then annually ongoing
Loss of property from the effects of uncontrolled fire.	High	Reduce incidence and severity	Risk management, including the inspection of properties where necessary.	Municipality – MBS/Planning/Local Laws (As Required)	CFA-FSO, WorkCover Authority & Dpt Health	Ongoing
Social/ Economic loss both Public and Private.	Significant	Reduce incidence and severity	Ensure that water for firefighting purposes and access requirements meet the provisions required by the Referral Authority (CFA).	Municipality – Town Planners	CFA-FSO	Ongoing.
			When inspecting buildings, ensure that the Fire Protection Equipment including appropriate signage is in place and functioning as required by the relevant legislation.	Municipality – MBS/ CFA-FSO		Ongoing.
			When inspecting buildings, ensure that exits are unobstructed and functioning as required by the relevant legislation.	Municipality – MBS/ CFA-FSO		Ongoing.

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Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
			The provision of fire prevention information from Event Operators for distribution to participants, and all relevant authorities.	Event /Facility Operator	Municipality – Special Events Manager, Relevant Building Surveyor, DSE , CFA - CEC Parks Victoria, & Brigades	Ongoing
			Ensure that Planning Permits for events on private property include the requirement to provide approved Emergency Management Plans.	Municipality – Planning Officer	Referral Authorities	Ongoing

i) Transport

(i) Context

The Midland Highway, the Goulburn Valley Highway, and the rail lines to Shepparton, Cobram and Echuca traverse the Municipality. These links are critical to economy of the region, as the Greater City region is one of the biggest road freight centres in the nation outside of Melbourne and Sydney. These transport links however provide a potential fire ignition source due to vehicle malfunction, accident or inappropriate disposal by the users of burning material such as cigarettes.

All roads carry traffic to various degrees, depending on their location. The higher the traffic usage, the higher is the requirement for the road to be able to provide safe passage for vehicles during a wild fire and to provide an area for refuge on the road shoulder.

There are a wide variety of dangerous goods transported with the ever-present potential for incidents involving loss or damage to those goods.

The vegetation on the road reserve varies significantly from open grass land to that of the bushed hills, giving a wide range of risk environments and hence the associated treatments must vary accordingly.

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(ii) Risk Environments, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Loss of life from the affects of uncontrolled fire.	Significant	Maintain current nil level.	Liaison with Vic Roads and V Line to ensure that fuel reduction works on the land under their control is optimised and undertaken prior to December each year.	Municipality – MFPO & CFA-MCS	Brigades	October Annually – Ongoing.
Loss of property from the affects of uncontrolled fire.	Significant	Reduce incidence and severity.	Alleviate the risk through strategic identification of priority access roads, control lines, and fire Access Roads and, undertake maintenance as required. Undertake appropriate works to ensure the safety of the travelling public and provide safe access for Emergency Services in the time of fire.	Municipality - MFPO, VicRoads, Public Transport Corporation, DSE & CFA -MCS	WorkCover Authority, Landholders	August to November Annually
Environmental damage.	Significant	Prevention/reduction of environmental damage as a result of uncontrolled fire.				

VicRoads requires that local land holders and Brigades wishing to undertake fire prevention work along the road frontage of Highways and Freeways under the direct control of VicRoads must obtain approval. The application shall be in accordance with the process defined in the CFA Guidelines and Procedures for Rural Roadside Fire Management Works prior to undertaking any work. (It should be noted that no new ploughed or graded fire-breaks will be approved).

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j) Special

(i) Context

Each Fire Brigade within their own locality will identify these risks. These identified risks should have adequate water storage for fire fighting purposes, appropriate fire suppression equipment and ready access provided for Fire Fighting Vehicles at the site.

The following specific sites have been identified:

- Goulburn Valley Aero Club
- Undera Speedway
- Shepparton Aerodrome
- Ardmona Kids Town
- Causeway
- Fuel Reduction burning along the Broken River at Kialla and along the Murchison East Road at Moorilim
- Forest Bike Paths
- Maude Street Mall

(ii) Risks, Strategies, Programs and Actions

Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Loss of life from the affects of uncontrolled fire.	High	Prevention of loss of life and injury reduction.	The provision of fire prevention information from Event Operators for distribution to participants, and all relevant authorities.	Event /Facility Operator	Municipality – Special Events Manager/ Special Events Manager , Relevant Building Surveyor, DSE , CFA - CEC Parks Victoria, & Brigades	Ongoing
Loss of property from the affects of uncontrolled fire.	Moderate	Reduce incidence and occurrence.	Liaise with management, facility operators and local authorities to encourage familiarity with emergency response plans and practices.	Event /Facility Operator	Facility Operators, Municipality – MFPO, CFA-MCS & Brigades	Ongoing

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Risk		Objective	Treatment/Program/Action	Responsibility	Others Involved	Time Frame
Details	Rating					
Environmental Damage	Significant	Reduce incidence and occurrence.				

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Attachment 7: Roadside Management

FUEL REDUCED CORRIDORS/PRIORITY ACCESS ROADS

General

It is acknowledged that Fire Brigades may identify and undertake treatments on local roads as Fuel Reduced Corridors within their own brigade boundaries, which may not necessarily be identified in the Municipality Strategy. These Fire Prevention works are not always undertaken annually, however all such works are undertaken specifically to minimise the threat to life and property from uncontrolled wildfire. The works that have been undertaken in the past form an integral part of the Fire Prevention Strategy of the Municipality and are supported by this document.

Fire Brigades are required to submit annually to the Council for consideration, prior to the Fire Season, details of proposed Fuel Reduction Works proposed to be undertaken on roads and/or reserves, and within Townships.

Prior to undertaking any burning on a roadside the brigade(s) must contact the regional headquarters in Shepparton who will coordinate the appropriate approvals for traffic and conservation management. Conservation Management will include discussions with DSE and the Council's Sustainability & Environment Department.

All works are to be undertaken in accordance with the details following.

Priority Access Roads

Priority Access Roads must be sufficiently fuel-reduced to minimise the risk and travel time for the travelling public and emergency service vehicles.

Priority Access Roads must be cleared of all low overhanging obstructions less than 5 m above the road pavement and dangerous trees/limbs need to be removed. A 3.0 m minimum width fine-fuel reduced area on both sides of the road must abut a clear travelled path that has a 6.0 m minimum width.

These roads must be inspected annually by the controlling road authority and maintained prior to the fire danger period.

One or all of the following methods can be used to meet the requirements:

(a) Mowing or slashing a strip 3 metres wide on one or both sides of the road reserve, adjacent to the shoulders of the pavement, at the appropriate time to prevent regrowth and accumulation of dry slashed material.

(b) The grading of a strip to bare earth 3 metres wide on both sides of the road reserve adjacent to the shoulders of the pavement. The over burden from the graded break should be removed to prevent the accumulation of earth and dry vegetation next to the break. The maximum grading width for grassland sites shall be 6.0 m.

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(c) The spraying of herbicide where other treatments are not practical or cost effective, to create a strip at least 3 m wide with little or no vegetation present on both sides of the road reserve adjacent to the shoulders of the pavement. Burning may then follow as required. Spraying of native grasses should be avoided.

(d) Removing dangerous trees.

Attachment 8b (below) contains a diagram for typical works on Priority Access Roads.

The following Priority Access Roads have been identified:

- Midland Highway
- Murchison Bendigo Road
- Goulburn Valley Highway
- Barmah Shepparton Road
- Shepparton Dookie/Dookie Devenish Road

It should be noted that all the above roads are managed by VicRoads

Fuel Reduced Corridors

Fuel Reduced Corridors must be sufficiently fuel-reduced to minimise the risk to the travelling public, provide a means of establishing a control line, reduce the time of travel to low-risk areas and to slow the spread of fire on the road reserve. It should be noted that these roads may be closed to the general public when they are impinged upon by fire.

Fuel Reduced Corridors should have the fine fuel reduced to within the road maintenance envelope (as defined in the Interim Routine Roadside Maintenance Tree Branch Pruning Flowchart TRIM M12/49745) on either side of the road where practical. All overhanging obstructions less than 5 m above the road pavement must be removed, and dangerous trees/limbs need to be removed to allow the safe passage of fire fighting appliances. They must be inspected annually by the controlling road authority and maintained prior to the fire danger period.

One or all of the following methods can be used to meet the requirements:

(a) Mowing or slashing a strip 2.5 metres wide maximum on one or both sides of the road reserve, either adjacent to the shoulders of the pavement, or next to or inside the adjoining property, at the appropriate time to prevent regrowth and accumulation of dry slashed material.

(b) The grading of a strip to bare earth not more than 2.5 meters wide on both sides of the road reserve adjacent to the shoulders of the pavement. The over burden from the graded break should be removed to prevent the accumulation of earth and dry vegetation next to the break.

(c) The ploughing of an earth strip not less than 2 meters wide on both sides of the road reserve adjacent to the fence-line, where there has been a past history of ploughing only.

(d) Fuel reduction low intensity burning by fire brigades on a coordinated basis. Fuel reduction burning shall only be required when the fuel load exceeds 4 tonne per hectare. Fuel loadings on the

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roadsides identified for burning are to be reviewed annually by the Municipality in the spring of each year.

(e) The spraying of herbicide where other treatments are not practical or cost effective, to create a strip a maximum of 2.5m wide with little or no vegetation present on both sides of the road reserve adjacent to the shoulders of the pavement. Burning may then follow as required. Spraying of native grasses should be avoided.

(f) Thinning out of vegetation within the reserve or easement, and removing dangerous trees.

Appendix D contains a diagram for typical works on Fuel Reduced Corridors as per Figure 1 in the Routine Roadside Maintenance Tree Branch Pruning Flowchart (TRIM M12/49745).

Fuel Reduced Corridors are to be identified in Brigade Fire Prevention Plans. Both the Council and Brigades may undertake works on these roads as resources permit.

The following Fuel Reduced Corridors have been identified:

- No Fuel Reduced Corridors have been identified at this time, however extensive slashing/spraying is carried out by the Shire on the shoulders of most sealed roads throughout the fire season.

Fire Access Roads

These roads are required to provide summer access for fire fighting vehicles and will be maintained by the Council accordingly, prior to the summer period.

The following DSE Fire Access Roads have been identified:

- Nil

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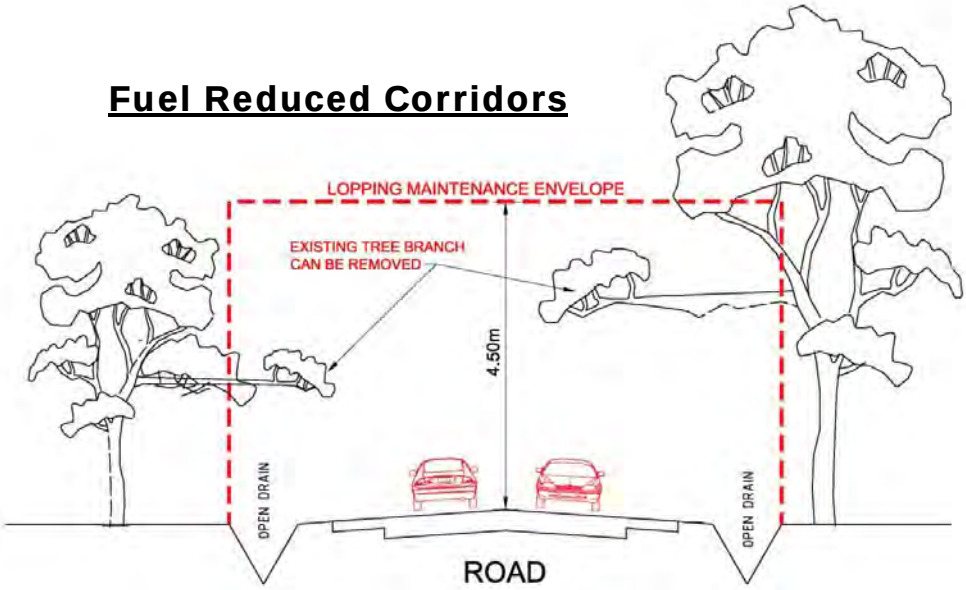
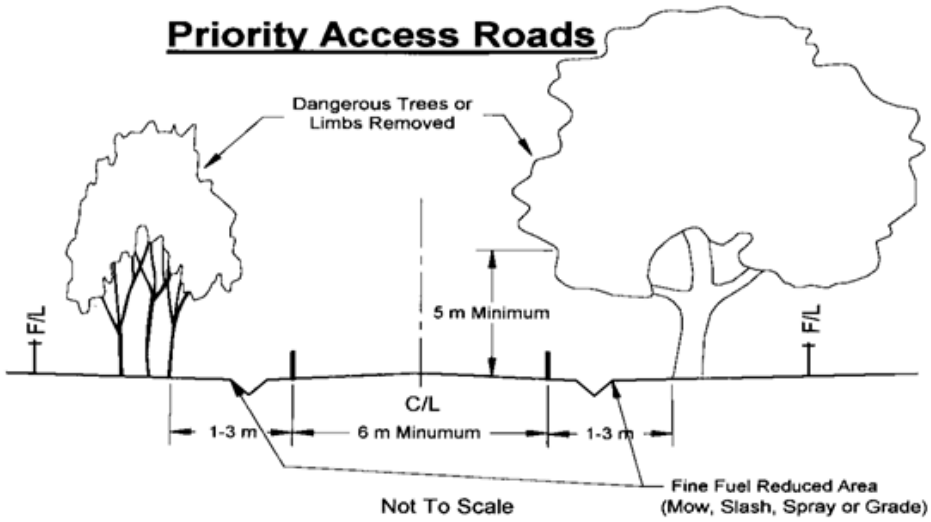
DIAGRAMS OF TYPICAL WORKS ON ROADS

NOTE: The following diagrams show the optimum desirable situation. It must be noted that this may not be achievable or practical in all situations.





Attachment 8: Glossary

ARMB	Alpine Resorts Management Board
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
APT	Australian Pipeline Trust
BASO	Brigade Admin Support Officer
NECMA/GBCMA	North East Catchment Management Authority / Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority
CERM	Community Emergency Risk Management
CFA	Country Fire Authority
COL	Consequence of Loss
DEECD	Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
DHS	Department of Human Services
DOT	Department of Transport
DPCD	Department of Planning and Community Development
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
DSE	Department of Sustainability and Environment
EMA	Emergency Management Act
EMMV	Emergency Management Manual Victoria
EPBC	Environmental Protection Biodiversity Conservation
FDI	Fire Danger Index
FFG	Flora and Fauna Guarantee
FOI	Feature Of Interest
FRB	Fuel Reduction Burn
GMW	Goulburn Murray Water
GVW	Goulburn Valley Water
HVP	Hancocks Victoria Plantations
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IFMP	Integrated Fire Management Planning
IRSED	Index of Relative Social & Economic Disadvantage
ISO	International Standards Ordinance
LGA	Local Government Area
MDA	Map Display Area
MEMP	Municipal Emergency Management Planning
MEMPC	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee
MERC	Municipal Emergency Response Coordinator
MERO	Municipal Emergency Resource Officer
MFB	Metropolitan Fire Brigade
MFMP	Municipal Fire Management Planning
MFMPC	Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee
MFPC	Municipal Fire Planning Committee
MFPO	Municipal Fire Prevention Officer
NECMA	North East Catchment Management Authority
NEWater	North East Water
OESC	Office of Emergency Service Commission
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery
RSFMPC	Regional Strategic Fire Management Planning Committee
SES	State Emergency Services
SFMPC	State Fire Management Planning Committee
SOPS	Standard Operating Procedures
SMR	Statewide Mobile Radio

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TAPO	Technical Admin Support Officer
TOR	Terms of Reference
TPP	Township Protection Plan
VFRR	Victoria Fire Risk Register
VICPOL	Victoria Police
WMO	Wildfire Management Overlay
WTP	Water Treatment Plant

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Insert own picture here

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Proposed New Zones – preliminary MAV response and submission development process

Background & Process
The Minister for Planning has announced reformed zones for Victoria to simplify requirements, allow consideration of a broader range of activities and to better manage growth.

The MAV and councils have been calling for stronger planning provisions to enable easier and more certain implementation of policy.

The MAV held an information session which has been recorded and is available here.

Elements of the proposed changes are far reaching, and will have negative consequences if applied unilaterally across the State. Concerns raised by Councils include:

- Timing: That the consultation period runs into the Council caretaker and election period.
- Limited consultation: The process to develop and test the residential zones was not undertaken for the other reform areas
- Evidence base: That a supporting evidence base has not been provided
- Impact assessment: Although some elements are welcome, other aspects will create significant and unintended consequences and may undermine existing policy and strategic work
- Lack of detail: There is a general lack of information about how they will be implemented

The MAV is drafting a submission for member feedback which focuses on:

- The need for improved zone and overlay controls (to support councils implement existing policy) and that any change must not undermine the significant investment in strategic work done to date by councils and community, and agreed to by government
- An assessment against the "Plan for Planning' and efficiency objectives (more certainty, more local determination, not more permits)
- Clear identification and resolution of unintended consequences (examples welcome)
- Hypothecating what the longer term effect of these changes would be for Melbourne and Victoria
- A way forward, so that agreed improvements may be implemented while more work is done on the areas of concern or disagreement, such as
    - the Commercial Zones which, in particular, require significantly more discussion about purpose and content
    - the broader range of uses in many zones (such as residential zones where they are not subject to the same height restrictions) may undermine community confidence
- That the process to finalise and implement the rural, residential, commercial and industrial zone changes should not proceed as a 'job lot', but be uncoupled so that the benefits and implementation process may be tailored to:
    - align with, and not cut across vastly different strategic priorities and development activity across Victorian councils (one size does not fit all)
    - ensure community, property owner and business operator have sufficient levels of comfort/understanding for the changes proposed
    - different migration pathways tailored to how finely resolved and up to date councils planning schemes are (three tracks)

The MAV welcomes feedback on this material and copies of Councils draft submissions, particularly demonstrating likely impacts on workload, VCAT appeals, existing centres and also implementation options.

We will get a more refined draft will be circulated through council CEOs in the week beginning 20 August and to the MAV Board, who will consider the draft and a summary of your feedback on September 7. The submission will be finalized and lodged by 21 September.

Overview

The MAV has looked at the changes between the new zones and the closest existing zone, in terms of purpose, structure, changes to the table of uses, development provisions, additional application requirements and decision guidelines. We have requested some analysis of the extent of land affected by key changes. The MAV Board Planning Committee have discussed the proposed changes.

As well as the content of the proposed zones, a major issue is how the (final) zones will be applied and in what situations a direct translation may be appropriate.

Residential Zones

- Deleting the Residential 1 Zone, Residential 2 Zone and Residential 3 Zone and the Priority Development Zone and introducing three new zones: Residential Growth Zone, General Residential Zone and Neighbourhood Residential Zone is supported and their clearly distinct purpose useful
- Scalable and hierarchy clear, but ResCode should be varied to align to the zone purpose, which would also reduce the cost and time for councils to do further strategic work and amendments
- The changes to the three existing zones: Low Density Residential Zone, Mixed Use Zone and Township Zone are generally OK, however create confusion in terms of the relationship of the LDRZ to the Rural Living Zone
- Conflicts with objective to consolidate activity in centres through expanded range of permit required uses (and not under height limits)
- May work against sustainability, liveability and transport oriented development

Commercial zones

- The principle of consolidating the Business 1, Business 2 and Business 5 zones to create more vibrant 'multi-use' areas is more reflective of current thinking around commercial centres.
- A new zone for this purpose, with retention of some of the easing zones may more effectively achieve this objective
- There is a disconnect, between the objective of the Commercial 1 zone and the controls. The objective is *'To create vibrant mixed use commercial centres for retail, office, business, entertainment and high density residential uses*' is weakened while single dwellings and dual occupancies are included as-of-right in the zone and there will remain a barrier to achieving high density residential uses.
- The consolidation of the Business 3 and 4 zones is generally supported.
- The logic behind permitting 'accommodation' in these areas is not understood when 'dwellings' remain a prohibited use.
- The thinking behind permitting 2000m^2 supermarkets needs further consideration. This is a significant floor area for most council areas, and there is concern that such development will be directed away from key commercial centres and undermine the significant work councils have done on structure planning for their main streets and commercial centres.

Industrial zones

- The removal of office floor space restrictions in the Industrial 1, 2 and 3 zones is generally supported. The way industries now operate is significantly different to previously and this change makes the zones more contemporary.
- Again the as-of-right supermarkets up to 2000m^2 in the Industrial 3 zone requires reconsideration as above, and may undermine the industrial uses.

Priority development zone

- The deletion of this zone is supported. The Activity centre zone and Comprehensive development zone can adequately cater for key commercial centres and significant redevelopment sites.

Mixed use zone

- The inclusion of ‘buffer’ provisions to land in a General Residential Zone, Residential Growth Zone, Neighbourhood Residential Zone or Township Zone is supported.
- Additional decision guidelines for ‘non-residential’ uses appear to be sensible and useful additions.

Rural Living Zone

- Purpose is unchanged, but changes include: please indicate which aspects are supported
- The removal of the mandatory requirement for a s.173 agreement which restricts future subdivision applications may encourage more applications in hazard areas or areas not identified for growth.
- The reductions in restrictions for alterations and extensions to dwellings and farms buildings is of little consequence
- The reduction of the minimum lot size for subdivision and construction of a single dwelling from eight to two hectares will dilute the overarching purpose of the zone (to provide residential uses in a rural environment), creating similar amenity to a low density residential zone area This could result in an oversupply of rural living zoned land and undermine local property markets if the new provisions are applied retrospectively.
- Increasing the threshold for persons that can be accommodated in a Bed and breakfast from 6 to 10 without a permit may put pressure on other local infrastructure (septic, waste)
- Smaller lots may reduce utility of using Rural Living to contain settlement growth and transition to more intensive uses

Farming Zone

- The objective of retaining population to support existing rural communities is supported, but this is an international trend and other strategies to address this would be more effective
- Exempting some farming related uses from a permit is welcomed as is the reduced restriction for alterations and extensions to dwelling and farm buildings
- Remove the mandatory requirements for a s.173 agreement which restricts future subdivision applications after an initial subdivision is approved (see above)
- Removal of the environmental and conservation objectives is questioned.
- Making fewer uses prohibited and more uses discretionary including retail and commercial uses may have unintended impacts, as may removing the prohibition on different types of accommodation and schools allowing a permit application. This may have upward pressure on l rates and constrain a farmer’s ability to expand and undertake agriculture
- Increase the threshold for persons that can be accommodated in a Bed and breakfast from 6 to 10 without a permit should be OK
- Some relaxation of tourism, rural industry and small business uses may be appropriate
- The inclusion of more sensitive uses could create unrealistic amenity expectations for individuals
- The inclusion of industry could cause industrial leakage out of industrial zone land into cheaper farming zone land..

- There will be greater discretion creating inconsistencies in how section two use are dealt with across the state and the likelihood of more matters before VCAT

.

Green Wedge and other zones yet to be done

What the plan for planning said about zones

- Conduct a full review of Victoria's planning zones to ensure they are functioning correctly and their schedules are still relevant. This will enable councils to provide adequate reflection of the planning aspirations of all Victorians
- Conduct an audit of Green Wedge land use with input from councils and communities, to determine whether the current land use schedules in each municipality are the most appropriate for Green Wedge Land. Allow ministerial discretion to permit any government, Catholic or non government school to build and operate and educational facility within land zoned as Green Wedge.
- Allow regional councils the flexibility to alter land uses within farming zones to protect prime farmland for agriculture while respecting the rights of landholders. Councils will be allowed to examine and alter land uses within farming zones.
- Increase flexibility and housing choice in regional cities. The Urban Interface Zone will allow councils to establish a lower density residential buffer between farming zones and residential zones. The new UIZ will allow minimum lot sizes of 2 hectares and will be determined by local government

General comments

- An absence of a narrative to understand why the zones have changed and the process that informed them.
- Zone provisions should be developed through a process that firstly clarifies the objectives of the proposed zone. This is absent and has resulted in zone purposes becoming diluted through mismatched provisions that reduces the overall effectiveness of the zone and consequently the scheme
- How do the proposed changes connect with the metro strategy, regional growth plans and the 'initial' Underwood Committee report?
- Local autonomy in planning schemes has been reduced as a consequence of amendment process that isn't nimble enough to respond to contemporary planning challenges.
- The Plan for Planning talks about providing councils with the ability to alter land uses within the zones. This would provide an ability to alter land uses based on circumstance and consultation with the community. This approach would provide more certainty to property than providing more discretionary uses in all zones.

GUIDELINES – COMMITTEE DELEGATIONS

INTRODUCTION

1 Purpose

Cussen Park and its associated wetlands were established to cater for a wide range of passive recreation needs, educational values and to provide partial biological treatment for Tatura's stormwater. The Cussen Park Advisory Committee exists to provide community input into the development and management of Cussen Park.

2 APPLICATION OF GUIDELINES AND DATE EFFECTIVE

These Guidelines were authorised by resolution of the Council on 18 September 2012 and have effect from this date.

3 DEFINITIONS

In these Guidelines, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

3.1 "Act" means the *Local Government Act 1989*;

3.2 "Committee" means the Cussen Park Advisory Committee established by the Council;

3.3 "Council" means the Greater Shepparton City Council; and

3.4 "Facility" means the property and/or buildings known as Cussen Park.

4 ROLES

4.1 The Cussen Park Advisory Committee will:

4.1.1 advise Council on all aspects of the overall development, management and maintenance of the park.

4.1.2 work in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan (the Plan)

4.1.3 review the plan from time to time with Council

4.1.4 encourage and foster community involvement in the use, development and maintenance of the park

4.1.5 participate in tours of the park

4.1.6 undertake or organise plantings of native flora (trees, shrubs, groundcover, grasses etc) including replacement of dead plants, preparation, watering and weeding

4.1.7 undertake minor maintenance where it has the appropriate capacity, skills and equipment to do so safely

4.1.8 notify Council of the need for emergency and other maintenance, and report damage

4.1.9 propose and undertake new works, with the appropriate authorisation from Council (eg. Fencing, gates, seating, signage)

4.1.10 in consultation with Council operate water regulating structures for water quality consideration and to control water levels

4.1.11 prepare and submit budget proposals annually

4.1.12 meet regularly (at least twice per year) with appointed Council representative.

Any work undertaken by the Committee members will only be done after gaining approval from Council.

4.2 The Council will:

4.2.1 Manage the park in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan (the Plan)

4.2.2 Undertake routine maintenance including:

- Slashing and mowing according to seasonal requirements
- Weed control
- Cleaning of toilet facilities (twice per week)
- Rubbish collection
- Track resurfacing

4.2.3 undertake emergency maintenance for safety reasons and in response to vandalism

4.2.4 assist the committee with works and maintenance when requested

4.2.5 provide funds to undertake approved works

4.2.6 ensure all structures comply with appropriate OH&S standards

4.2.7 manage all bookings for use of park facilities

4.2.8 meet regularly (at least twice per year) with appointed committee representative/s.

4.2.9 where possible, consult with the Committee on matters relating to the facility including prior to the commencement of any new capital works.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

5 POLICY, RULES AND PROCEDURES

In furtherance of its authorisation and functions, the Committee must:

5.1 As far as possible require all users of the Facility to abide by any conditions of use, rules or local law made by the Council which are applicable to the Facility; and

5.2 report any breaches of rules, conditions of use and local laws, which cannot appropriately be dealt with by the Committee, to the Council.

5.3 Any consultation between the Committee and Council will be genuine consultation and Council will not unreasonably refuse permission for the Committee to implement their recommendations.

6 CAPITAL WORKS

The Committee must:

6.1 not carry out or authorise any capital works, extensions or additions which materially alter the buildings or surrounds of the Facility without prior approval from the Council; and

6.2 make recommendations to the Council on the development of future capital works and the provision of future facilities and amenities for the Facility.

7 GOVERNANCE AND GOOD MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

The Committee has the authority to seek advice, assistance and expertise as is necessary for the proper and efficient management of the Facility within the constraints of any authorisation from time to time given by Council to the Committee, including the ability to invite persons to the meetings of the Committee as observers or advisers.

8 REPORTING

The Committee must:

8.1 provide a written report to the Council on the operation of the Facility on an annual basis (which shall be deemed to be the annual report);

8.2 resolve conflicts where these occur in the requirements of the community using the Facility;

8.3 convene or cause to be convened such meetings, forums, seminars or other activities as may be deemed of value by the Committee to meet or assist in meeting its objectives;

8.4 liaise with the Council and its staff to ensure continuing co-operation and co-ordination of the Facility;

8.5 comply with all Acts, regulations and other legal requirements concerning safety at the Facility;

8.6 not commit, or permit to be committed, any act which will render the operation of any of the Council's insurance policies invalid;

8.7 publicise and promote interest in the Facility;

8.8 promptly report to the Council any breakage, damage or mechanical hazard which appears likely to give rise to a risk management issue or any abnormal damage to the park or any park equipment.

9 FINANCE

9.1 Any monies held by the committee at the date of establishment will be transferred to the Council to be held in trust until such time as the Council receives from the committee, a written request identifying how the Committee wishes to spend the monies. Such request may be for part, or all, of the funds at that time being held in trust.

9.2 Council will not unreasonably refuse such a request from the Committee.

9.3 Any remaining monies, after such a request has been processed will continue to be held in trust by the Council until such time as another request is received from the committee.

9.4 Any community donations which may from time to time be sent to the Committee will be forwarded to the Council to be added to the trust fund.

10 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

10.1 The Committee shall comprise of between five and 11 members representative of the community, appointed by resolution of the Council along with the Manager Sustainability and Environment (a non-voting member) who will act as the official Minute Taker.

10.2 Members will be appointed for a period of two years (but may be removed by the Council at any time). A community member of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election or re-nomination at the expiration of his or her period of office.

10.3 The term of office for appointed community members will commence on appointment and cease on expiry of their two year term.

10.4 The Council will call for applications to fill vacant community positions by way of notice in the public notice section of the Shepparton News and the Tatura Guardian before appointing community representatives to the Committee.

11 MEETINGS

11.1 Annual General Meeting

11.1.1 The Committee shall hold an Annual General Meeting on a date fixed by the Chairperson. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be :

(a) to receive the annual report;

(b) to elect office bearers to the position of Chairperson and other positions determined by the Committee as being necessary for the efficient functioning of the Committee.

11.2 General Meetings

11.2.1 The Committee shall hold at least four other meetings during the year on such dates as the Chairperson appoints.

11.2.2 The Secretary shall give reasonable notice of all meetings by distributing a notice of the meeting to all members at least seven clear days prior to the meeting.

11.3 Special Meetings

The Chairperson may call a special meeting on his or her own initiative and must call a special meeting forthwith upon receiving from any three members of the Committee a written request that such a meeting be so called. The notice of the meeting by the Chairperson and the request by the three Committee members shall contain a statement of the purpose of the meeting.

The meeting must be held on such date and at such time as fixed by the Chairperson, provided that, in cases where the Chairperson calls a meeting in response to a request, the meeting shall be held within 21 days of the Chairperson receiving such request.

The Chairperson shall arrange for notice of the meeting to be given to all Committee members. No other business shall be transacted at that meeting except that specified in the notice.

12 MEETING PROCEDURES

12.1 The Committee is not required to comply with Council's Local Law No. 2 – Processes of Municipal Government (Meetings and Common Seal).

12.2 The quorum at any Committee meeting shall be a majority of the voting members of the Committee.

12.3 A motion before a meeting of the Committee is to be determined as follows:

12.3.1 each member of the Committee who is entitled to vote is entitled to one vote;

12.3.2 unless otherwise prohibited by the Act, each member of the Committee present must vote;

12.3.3 unless the procedures of the Committee otherwise provide, voting must be by show of hands;

12.3.4 the motion is determined by a majority of the vote; and

12.3.5 if there is an equality of votes, the Chairperson has a second vote.

12.4 The Chairperson shall take the chair at all meetings at which he or she is present. In the Chairperson's absence, the members present may appoint one of their number to chair the meeting.

12.5 Minutes shall be kept of the proceedings at all meetings. After confirmation of the minutes, they must be signed and certified by the chairperson of the meeting at which they are confirmed. Copies of minutes must be forwarded to Council within fourteen days of a meeting.

12.6 Each member of the Committee must comply with the Act with respect to any conflicts of interest of members and all agendas for committee meetings must contain an item for consideration of conflicts of interest.

12.7 Any meeting or special meeting of the Committee must be open to members of the public, subject to clause 12.8.

12.8 The Committee may resolve that a meeting be closed to members of the public if the meeting is discussing any of the following :

12.8.1 personnel matters;

12.8.2 the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;

12.8.3 industrial matters;

12.8.4 contractual matters;

12.8.5 proposed developments;

12.8.6 legal advice;

12.8.7 matters affecting the security of Council property;

12.8.8 any other matters which the Committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person; or

12.8.9 a resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.

12.9 If the Committee resolves to close a meeting to the public, the reason must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

12.10 Any decision of the Committee which the Committee does not have delegated power to implement, cannot be implemented until approved by the Council.

12.11 In the event of any unresolved dispute arising, the matter shall be submitted to the Council in writing and any decision made thereon by the Council shall be final.

12.12 The Committee may form sub-committees from among its members for the purpose of recommending on matters, provided that no decision may be acted upon until adopted by the full Committee.

The Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all sub-committees.

Sub-committees shall only be established by resolution of the Committee and shall only carry out those functions stated in such resolution.

13 OFFICE BEARERS

As the last item of business at an annual general meeting, the Committee shall elect the following office bearers:

13.1 Chairperson;

13.2 Secretary;

13.3 any other office the Committee may wish to appoint.

Office bearers shall hold office until -

13.4 the next Annual General Meeting,

13.5 they resign their office; or

13.6 they cease to be a member of the Committee -

whichever occurs first.

14 TERMS OF REVIEW

At the end of the first twelve months of its appointment, the Committee will have the opportunity to review these Guidelines in conjunction with Council and to discuss any potential amendments.

Thereafter the Committee will review these Guidelines in conjunction with Council every two years in order to discuss any potential amendments.

ZURICH®

Councillors and Officers Liability Insurance

Policy Wording

Effective date: 30 June 2011

Important

Statutory Notice – Section 40 Insurance Contracts Act 1984 (Cth)

This notice is provided in connection with but does not form part of the policy. This is a 'claims made' liability insurance policy. It only provides cover if:

1. a *claim* is made against the *insured*, by some other person, during the *period of insurance*; and
2. the *claim* arises out of a *wrongful act or wrongful breach* committed, attempted or alleged to have been committed or attempted after the *date of continuous cover* stipulated in the *schedule*.

Section 40(3) of the Insurance Contracts Act 1984 (Cth) applies to this type of policy. That sub-section provides that if the *insured* becomes aware, during the *period of insurance*, of any circumstance or fact which might give rise to a *claim* against them by some other person, then provided that the *insured* notifies the insurer of the matter as soon as reasonably practicable after the *insured* becomes aware of the circumstance or fact and before this policy expires, the insurer may not refuse to indemnify merely because a *claim* resulting from the matter is not made against the *insured* prior to the end of the *period of insurance*.

If the *insured*, inadvertently or otherwise, does not notify the relevant circumstances or facts to Zurich before the expiry of the policy, the *insured* will not have the benefit of Section 40(3) of the Insurance Contracts Act 1984 (Cth) and Zurich may refuse to pay any subsequent *claim*, notwithstanding that the events giving rise to it or the *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* alleged in it may have taken place during the *period of insurance*.

If a claim is actually made against the insured by some other person during the period of insurance but is not notified to Zurich until after the policy has expired, Zurich may refuse to pay or may reduce its payment under the policy if it has suffered any financial prejudice as a result of the late notification.

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Zurich Councillors and Officers Liability Insurance

About Zurich

The insurer of this product is Zurich Australian Insurance Limited (ZAIL), ABN 13 000 296 640, AFS Licence Number 232507, a subsidiary of Zurich Financial Services Australia Limited (ZFSA). In this document, ZAIL may also be expressed as 'Zurich', 'we', 'us' or 'our'.

ZFSA provides wealth protection and wealth creation solutions, offering general insurance for commercial customers, and life risk, investments and superannuation solutions for corporates and personal customers. Zurich's solutions and services are primarily accessible through insurance brokers, financial advisers and other intermediaries.

ZFSA is part of the worldwide Zurich Financial Services Group, an insurance-based financial services provider with a global network of subsidiaries and offices in North America and Europe as well as in Asia Pacific, Latin America and other markets. Founded in 1872, the Group is headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland. It employs approximately 60,000 people serving customers in more than 170 countries.

How to apply for this insurance

Throughout this document when we are referring to your insurance broker or adviser, we simply refer to them as your intermediary.

If you are interested in buying this product or have any enquiries about it, you should contact your intermediary who should be able to provide you with all the information and assistance you require.

If you are not satisfied with the information provided by your intermediary you can contact us at the address or telephone number shown on the back cover of this document. However, we are only able to provide factual information or general advice about the product. We do not give advice on whether the product is appropriate for your personal objectives, needs or financial situation.

Duty of disclosure

Before you enter into a contract of general insurance with us, you have a duty under the Insurance Contracts Act 1984 (Cth) to disclose to us every matter you know, or could reasonably be expected to know, is relevant to our decision whether to insure you and, if so, on what terms. This applies to all persons to be covered under this contract of insurance.

You have the same duty to disclose those matters to us before you renew, extend, vary or reinstate a contract of general insurance. Your duty however, does not require disclosure of a matter:

- that diminishes the risk to be insured;
- that is of common knowledge;
- that we know or in the ordinary course of our business we ought to know; or
- that we indicate to you that we do not want to know.

Our contract with you

Your policy is a contract of insurance between you and Zurich and contains all the details of the cover that we provide.

Your policy is made up of:

- the policy wording. This is common to all customers who buy our Zurich Councillors and Officers Liability Insurance policy. It tells you what is covered, sets out the claims procedure, exclusions and other terms and conditions of cover;
- the *submission*, which is the information you provide to us when applying for insurance cover;
- your most current *schedule* issued by us. The *schedule* is a separate document unique to you, which shows the insurance details relevant to you. It includes any changes, exclusions, terms and conditions made to suit your individual circumstances and may amend the policy; and
- any other written change otherwise advised by us in writing (such as in an endorsement). These written changes vary or modify the above documents.

Please note, only those covers shown in your *schedule* are insured.

This document is used for any offer of renewal we may make, unless we tell you otherwise. Please keep your policy in a safe place. We reserve the right to change the terms of this product where permitted to do so by law.

Our Agreement

Subject to your agreement to pay the premium set out in the *schedule* we agree with the *insured person(s)* and the *council* to provide insurance in accordance with the terms, conditions and limitations of this policy.

Insuring Clauses

1. Councillors and officers liability

We will pay to or on behalf of any *insured person* the *financial loss* of such *insured person* which arises from or is a consequence of any *claim* first made against such *insured person* during the *period of insurance* or the *extended reporting period* (if applicable) save to the extent that such *insured person* is indemnified by the *council*.

2. Council reimbursement

We will pay on behalf of the *council* the *financial loss* of an *insured person* which arises from or is a consequence of any *claim* first made against such *insured person* during the *period of insurance* or the *extended reporting period* (if applicable) but only to the extent the *council* has indemnified the *insured person*.

3. Employment practices liability

We will pay to or on behalf of the *council* any *financial loss* arising out of an *employment practices claim* first made against the *council* during the *period of insurance* or any *extended reporting period* (if applicable).

4. Council statutory liability

We will pay to or on behalf of the *insured* any *loss* arising from any *wrongful breach claim* first received by the *insured* and notified to us during the *period of insurance* or any *extended reporting period* (if applicable).

5. Council supplementary legal expenses

We will pay to or on behalf of the *council* any *representation costs* for the *council* to prepare for and attend an *investigation* first made during the *period of insurance* or any *extended reporting period* (if applicable).

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

Act

Act means:

(a) any Act of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia and any Act of a Parliament of a State or Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia, including any subordinate or delegated legislation made under those Acts; or

(b) any Act of the Parliament of New Zealand, including any subordinate or delegated legislation made under those Acts; or

(c) any Local Government Act; and

(d) any amendment, consolidation or re-enactment of any of the above Acts or subordinate or delegated legislation.

Associated company

associated company means a company or legal entity in respect of which, at the inception of the *period of insurance*, the named *policyholder* owns, directly or indirectly, greater than 20% of the issued share capital or voting rights representing the present right to vote for the election of directors, but is not a *subsidiary*.

Bodily injury

bodily injury means bodily injury, sickness, disease or death of any person and shall include mental or emotional distress.

Change in control

change in control means an event or events occur, with the result that:

(a) any person, entity or group:

  (i) assumes the right to appoint or remove the *councillors or officers* (or equivalent position) of the *policyholder*; or

  (ii) merges with the *policyholder*, such that the *policyholder* is not the surviving entity.

(b) a trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, liquidator, conservator, rehabilitator, administrator or deed administrator (or similar official or person) is appointed for the *policyholder*.

Civil or bail bond expenses

civil or bail bond expenses means a fee or premium (and only those that are available at reasonable commercial rate) necessary to obtain a bond or other similar form of financial guarantee, in respect of obligations as to a specific security or collateral placed upon the *insured person* by a civil or criminal court in connection with any covered *claim*, and excluding any form of actual security or collateral itself.

Claim

claim means:

(a) a written demand for monetary damages or non-monetary relief;

(b) a civil proceeding, suit or counter-claim commenced by the service of a statement of claim, summons or similar pleading;

(c) a criminal proceeding;

(d) an arbitration, mediation proceeding or alternative dispute resolution proceeding;

(e) any request to extend the operation of or waive any statute of limitations or contractual time-bar,

which alleges a *wrongful act* or *wrongful breach*.

The term '*claim*' shall include an *extradition claim, environmental mismanagement claim* or an *employment practices claim*.

Clean up costs

clean up costs means expenses (including but not limited to legal and professional fees) incurred in testing for, monitoring, cleaning up, removing, containing, treating, neutralising, detoxifying or assessing the effects of *pollutants*.

Consumer protection act

consumer protection act means:

(a) any of the following:

  (i) Fair Trading Act 1985 (Vic);

  (ii) Fair Trading Act 1987 (NSW);

  (iii) Fair Trading Act 1987 (SA);

  (iv) Fair Trading Act 1987 (WA);

  (v) Fair Trading Act 1989 (Qld);

  (vi) Fair Trading Act 1990 (Tas);

  vii) Fair Trading Act 1992 (ACT);

  (viii) Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act 1996 (NT);

  (ix) Trade Practices Act 1974 (Cth);

  (x) Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth); and

(b) any amendment, consolidation or re-enactment of any of those *Acts*.

Corporate manslaughter proceeding

corporate manslaughter proceeding means a formal criminal proceeding against an *insured person* for involuntary manslaughter (including constructive manslaughter or gross negligence manslaughter) in their capacity as such for the *council* and directly related to the business of the *council*.

Council

council shall mean:

(a) the *policyholder*;

(b) any past, present and future *subsidiary* of the *policyholder* (subject to the terms and conditions of the policy); and

(c) any committee, foundation or charitable trust solely controlled, sponsored or established by the *policyholder* or any *subsidiary,* provided that this definition shall not include any pension or superannuation fund, trust or scheme.

Councillor or officer

councillor or officer means:

(a) any natural person who is a past, present or future mayor, president, chairperson, board member, commissioner, councillor, secretary, executive officer, authorised officer, senior manager, management committee member, member of the board of managers, trustee or governor of the *council* and shall include any equivalent position in any other country;

(b) any natural person who is a past, present or future committee member of any councillor conduct panel or special or advisory committee established by the *policyholder* under the Local Government Act or equivalent;

(c) any natural person who is a past, present or future any *councillor or officer* defined in (a) to (b) above, who is or was a member of the *council's* internal audit committee, or any other internal committee of the *council*; and

(d) any natural person who is a past, present or future director of a corporate trustee of a superannuation fund established for the benefit of the *employees* of the *council*.

Date of continuous cover

date of continuous cover means:

(a) for *insured persons* the date as specified in the *schedule*; and

(b) for the *council* under Insuring Clauses 3., 4. and/or 5. the date specified in the *schedule*.

Deductible

deductible means the amount stated in the *schedule* that shall be the responsibility of the *council*, as applicable, to pay in respect of Insuring Clauses 2., 3., 4. and/or 5.

Defence costs

defence costs means reasonable fees, costs, charges and expenses (other than remuneration payable to any *insured persons* or *employees* of any *council*, cost of their time or costs or overhead of any *council*),incurred in the investigation, defence, settlement or appeal from any *claim* made or brought against an *insured*.

Defence costs shall also include reasonable fees, costs, charges and expenses of any accredited expert retained through defence lawyers approved in writing by us on behalf of the *insureds* to prepare an evaluation, report, assessment, diagnosis or rebuttal of evidence in connection with the defence of a *claim*.

Defence costs shall not include *investigation costs* or *representations costs*.

Deprivation of assets expenses

deprivation of assets expenses means the payment of the following services, directly to the provider of such services, in the event of an interim or interlocutory order confiscating, controlling, suspending or freezing rights of ownership of real property or personal assets of an *insured person* or creating a charge over real property or personal assets of the *insured person* during the *period of insurance*:

(a) housing;

(b) utilities;

(c) personal insurances; and

(d) schooling.

Such expenses will only be payable provided that a personal allowance has been directed by the court to meet such payments and such personal allowance has been exhausted. Expenses will be payable after 30 days following the event above for a period of up to 12 months.

Employee

employee means a natural person who is a past, present or future employee while in the regular service of the *council* in the ordinary course of the *council's* business and whom the *council* compensates by salary, wages and/or commissions and whom the *council* has right to govern, instruct and direct in the performance of such service.

For the purpose Insuring Clause 4. 'Council statutory liability' the definition of *employee* is expanded to include any temporary, voluntary workers or a deemed worker under the workers compensation laws of the Australia State or Territory, but only whilst acting within the scope of their duties in such capacity.

The definition of *employee* shall not include independent contractors or agents.

Employee entitlements

employee entitlements means *employee* benefits arrangements of any kind (whether during or post employment) including:

(a) provisions for unemployment, redundancy, retirement, sickness, disability, maternity leave, paternal leave, adoption leave, annual leave, long service leave, compassionate leave or personal leave;

(b) entitlements under any statute or *industrial instrument* including the calculation, timing or manner of payment of minimum wages, prevailing wage rates, overtime pay, time in lieu, allowance and penalties alleged to be due and owing;

(c) accident, life, medical, disability or other welfare plans, including insurance of any kind;

(d) superannuation, retirement or pension contributions, benefits and entitlements; or

(e) profit sharing, stock benefits or deferred compensation plans.

Employment practices claim

employment practices claim means:

(a) a *claim* based on any actual or alleged act, error or omission with respect to employment or prospective employment of any past, present, future or prospective *employee* of the *council*; and/or

(b) a proceeding, *investigation* or charge brought by or before the Australian Human Rights Commission or any Australian State or Territory based equivalent (or similar body in any *foreign jurisdiction*).

Environmental event

environmental event means:

(a) the actual, alleged or threatened discharge, release, escape, seepage, migration or disposal of *pollutants* or *greenhouse gases* into or on real or personal property, water or the atmosphere; or

(b) any direction or request that the *council* or *insured persons* test for, monitor, clean up, remove, contain, treat, detoxify or neutralise *pollutants* or *greenhouse gases*, or any voluntary decision to do so,

whether or not such *greenhouse gases* are *pollutants*.

Environmental mismanagement claim

environmental mismanagement claim means any *claim* based upon, arising out of or attributable to an *environmental event* if and to the extent such *claim*:

(a) is against an *insured person* for *wrongful acts* from an *environmental event* and/or in connection with misrepresenting or failing to disclose information related to *greenhouse gases* or actual or alleged global warming or climate changes; or

(b) results in *financial loss* incurred by *insured persons* for which the *council* does not indemnify the *insured persons* either because the *council* is neither permitted nor required to grant such indemnification or because of *financial impairment*; or

(c) is an *employment practices claim* against an *insured*, including without limitation any such *claim* for retaliatory treatment.

Extended reporting period

extended reporting period means the relevant period of cover arising or offered under Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period', Extension of Cover 23. 'Retired councillors and officers' and/or Extension of Cover 24. 'Runoff cover for outside entity executives'.

Extradition claim

extradition claim means a formal request, claim, warrant for arrest or other proceedings pursuant to the provisions of the Extradition Act 1988 (Cth) or any replacement legislation in Australia or similar legislation in any other jurisdiction.

Extradition costs

extradition costs means reasonable legal fees, costs and expenses incurred by an *insured person* with our prior written consent, which will not be unreasonable delayed or withheld, to obtain legal advice or to bring or defend an *extradition claim* or any other proceedings including by way of judicial review or other challenge to the political executive's decision to order an *insured person's* extradition and to pursue appeals.

Financial impairment

financial impairment means the status of the *council* resulting from:

(a) the appointment by any governmental, provincial, federal or state official, agency or court of any receiver, conservator, liquidator, trustee, administrator, deed administrator or similar official to take control of, supervise, manage or liquidate the *council*;

(b) the appointment by or on behalf of the company of administrators; or

(c) the *council* being in receivership or liquidation.

Financial institution

financial institution means any bank including any merchant or investment bank, finance company, hedge fund, insurance or reinsurance company (other than a captive owned by the *policyholder*), mortgage bank, savings and loan association, building society, credit union, stockbroker, investment trust, asset management company, fund manager or any entity established principally for the purpose of carrying on commodities, futures or foreign exchange trading or any other similar entity.

Financial loss

financial loss means:

(a) damages, judgments (including pre and post judgment interest awarded on a covered judgment and plaintiff's legal fees awarded on a covered judgment and any statutory compensation orders whether made under Part 9.4B of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) or otherwise) that any *insured* becomes legally liable to pay;

(b) sums payable for any settlement to which we have consented;

(c) *defence costs*;

(d) *investigation costs*;

(e) *extradition costs*;

(f) *prosecution costs*;

(g) *public relation expenses*;

(h) *civil or bail bond expenses*;

(i) *deprivation of assets expenses*;

(j) fines and pecuniary penalties which an *insured* is legally obligated to pay, provided we are not legally prohibited from paying such fine or penalty and excepting fines and pecuniary penalties referred to in paragraph (iii) below of this definition of *financial loss*; and

(k) punitive, exemplary, aggravated and multiple damages unless insurable by law.

Financial loss (other than *defence costs*) does not include:

(i) taxes (other than those covered by Extension of Cover 26. 'Tax liability' and Condition 11. 'Goods and Services Tax');

(ii) social security contributions;

(iii) fines and pecuniary penalties imposed by law for a deliberate or intentional breach of law (other than those covered by Extension of Cover 13. 'Fines for corrupt practices') or any matter deemed uninsurable or prohibited under the law applicable to this policy;

(iv) damages that are uninsurable by law;

(v) *clean up costs*; or

(vi) any sum payable pursuant to a financial support direction or contribution notice issued by a superannuation or pension regulator such as the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority or similar.

The question of whether any financial loss is uninsurable by law pursuant to clauses (j), (k), (iii) and (iv) above shall be governed by such applicable law that most favours coverage for such financial loss, provided that such applicable law has a substantial connection or relationship to the relevant insured or to the claim giving rise to such liability.

Foreign jurisdiction

foreign jurisdiction means any jurisdiction other than Australia.

Greenhouse gases

greenhouse gases means carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N20), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulphur hexafluoride (SF6), or any other emission or substance defined by applicable law as a Greenhouse gas.

Industrial instrument

industrial instrument means any award, agreement, arrangement or other instrument which is certified or registered by an industrial tribunal in Australia, including without limitation the Fair Work Australia and the Industrial Relations Commissions of the States or Territories of Australia, or similar provisions of any law in any other jurisdiction.

Insured

insured means:

(a) any *insured person(s)*; and

(b) the *council*.

Insured person(s)

insured person(s) means:

(a) *councillor or officer*;

(b) *outside entity executive*;

(c) *employee* of the *council*, other than a *councillor or officer*, in relation to:

  (i) *employment practices claim*; or

  (ii) all other *claims;*

(d) for the purpose of Extension of Cover 17. 'Marital estates' only and no other, any lawful spouse or domestic partner of a person as defined in Definitions of *insured person(s)* (a) to (c) immediately above; and

(e) for the purpose of Extension of Cover 10. 'Estates, heirs, legal representatives' only and no other, any estate, heir or legal representative of a person as defined in Definitions of *insured person(s)* (a) to (c) immediately above.

Insured person(s) shall not include any agent, contractor, consultant, external auditor, or liquidator, deed administrator, administrator or receiver (or the equivalent in any other jurisdiction) of the *council*.

Investigation

investigation means a formal criminal, administrative or regulatory investigation, examination, hearing or enquiry, commenced by an *official body.*

Investigation costs

investigation costs means reasonable fees, costs, charges and expenses (other than remuneration payable to any *insured persons* or *employees* of any *council*, cost of their time or costs or overhead of any *council*) incurred with our written consent, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed, by or on behalf of an *insured person* directly in connection with such *insured person* preparing for and attending an *investigation*.

Investigation costs do not include any fines or penalties, or the equivalent, levied or imposed in connection with the *investigation*.

Joint venture
joint venture means any unincorporated enterprise undertaken jointly by the *council* with any *third party*.

Judicial order
judicial order means:

(a) an interim or interlocutory judicial order; or

(b) a judicial order with respect to any proceeding concerning the deportation of any *insured person*,

provided that any judicial order against an *insured person* shall be in connection with a *claim* against such *insured person* or *investigation* that is covered under this policy.

Limit of Liability
limit of liability means the amount specified in the *schedule* which shall be our maximum liability, in the aggregate, payable under this policy, subject to the terms and conditions of this policy.

Loss
loss means any *penalty* and *defence costs*.

Non-profit organisation
non-profit organisation means any company or legal entity established for any charitable, community, social or industry purpose or for the provision of services or benefits to its members and not for the purpose of making profits.

Official body
official body means any regulator, government or administrative body or agency, official trade body or self-regulatory body legally empowered to investigate the affairs of the *council* or *outside entity* or the conduct of an *insured person* in such capacity.

For clarity, this includes a Royal Commission, judicial body, commission of inquiry or stock exchange.

Outside entity
outside entity means:

(a) any *non-profit organisation*; or

(b) any for-profit entity;

but excluding any *council* and any:

(i) *financial institution*; or

(ii) other entity that had negative net assets or negative net worth at the inception date of this policy,

unless such *financial institution* or entity is specifically listed as an *outside entity* in an endorsement attached to this policy.

Outside entity executive
outside entity executive means any *councillor, officer* or *employee* of the *council* who:

(a) did or will serve or act; or

(b) during the *period of insurance* is serving or acting,

in his or her capacity as a director or officer or equivalent position of an *outside entity* at the *council's* specific direction and request.

Penalty
penalty means any monetary sum payable or the costs associated in providing any enforceable undertaking by the *insured* to any *regulatory authority* pursuant to any *Act* for a *wrongful breach* by the *insured* but excluding any:

(a) amounts payable as compensation;

(b) compliance, remedial, reparation or restitution costs;

(c) damages, including any exemplary or punitive damages;

(d) consequential economic loss;

(e) legal costs and associated expenses;

(f) penalty the insurance of which is prohibited at law.

Notwithstanding clause (e), we will pay any reasonable legal costs and associated expenses payable by the *insured* to any *regulatory authority* upon the imposition of a *penalty* covered by this policy and/or any reasonable legal costs and associated expenses incurred by the *insured* to comply with any enforceable undertaking as required by any *regulatory authority*.

Provided that where the proceedings that lead to the imposition of the *penalty* also include proceedings in respect of any of the matters set out in clauses (a) to (d), we will not be liable for that proportion of the legal costs and associated expenses that may be reasonably attributed to the proceedings in respect of those matters set out in (a) to (d).

Period of insurance
period of insurance means the period of time specified in the *schedule* to this policy including any Extension of Cover thereto agreed in writing by us.

Policyholder
policyholder means the legal entity as specified in the *schedule*.

Pollutants

pollutants means any solid, liquid, gaseous irritant or contaminant, including smoke, vapour, soot, fumes, acids, alkalis, chemicals, toxic mould or any thermal irritant or contaminant, ionising radiation or radioactivity from any nuclear fuel and waste (waste includes, but is not limited to, nuclear waste or materials which are intended to be or have been recycled, reconditioned or reclaimed) and any other similar substance of any kind or nature whatsoever including electromagnetic fields, asbestos, asbestos products and any noise.

Prior known fact

prior known fact means any fact or matter which:

(a) an *insured person* first became aware of, after the *date of continuous cover*, but prior to the commencement of the *period of insurance*; and

(b) knew, or a reasonable *insured* would have considered, at any time after the *date of continuous cover* but prior to the commencement of the *period of insurance*, might result in an allegation against the *insured* of a *wrongful act*.

Property damage

property damage means any damage to or destruction of any property or loss of use of such property, and any consequential loss resulting therefrom.

Prosecution costs

prosecution costs means the reasonable fees, costs, charges and expenses (other than remuneration payable to any *insured persons* or *employee* of any *company*, costs of their time or overhead of any *company*) incurred with our prior written consent, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed, incurred pursuant to Extensions to Cover 22. 'Prosecution Costs'.

Public relations expenses

public relations expenses means the reasonable fees and related expenses of a public relations firm or consultant, crisis management firm or law firm, which an *insured person* may engage with our written consent to prevent or limit negative publicity in respect of a *claim* or *investigation*.

Regulatory authority

regulatory authority means a person or entity appointed, constituted or acting under a delegation pursuant to any *Act* for the purposes of enforcement of such *Act* or another *Act*, including a person or entity authorised to collect monies payable to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, Consolidated Fund or any other such fund.

Representation costs

representation costs means reasonable fees, costs, charges and expenses (other than remuneration payable to any *insured persons* or *employees* of any *council*) incurred with our written consent, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed, by or on behalf of the council directly in connection with its preparation for and attendance at an *investigation*.

Representation costs do not include any fines or penalties, or the equivalent, levied or imposed in connection with the *investigation*.

Schedule

schedule means the Schedule attached to this policy or any schedule subsequently substituted during the *period of insurance* and duly signed, stamped and dated by an authorised officer of Zurich.

Sub-limit

sub-limit means a limit of our liability under this policy, which is within, and forms part of, and is not in addition to, the *limit of liability*.

Submission

submission means:

(a) any information and/or statements or materials;

(b) any proposal form completed and signed by any *insured* (including any attachments thereto, information included therewith or incorporated therein); and/or

(c) the financial statements and annual reports of any *insured*,

requested by or supplied to us by or on behalf of the *policyholder* in connection with this policy.

Subsidiary

subsidiary means any entity in which the *policyholder*:

(a) holds directly or indirectly more than 50% of the voting rights;

(b) appoints a majority of the board of directors (or equivalent in any other country); or

(c) has the right, pursuant to a written agreement with other shareholders, to appoint a majority of the board of directors (or equivalent in any other country),

and shall in any event include any company or legal entity whose financial accounts are required to be consolidated with those of the named *policyholder* pursuant to the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) or the Local Government Act or the applicable Australian accounting standard.

Third party

third party means any person or entity other than an *insured*.

US claim

US claim means any *claim* brought or commenced, in whole or in part:

(a) within the jurisdiction of; or

(b) pursuant to the laws of,

the United States of America or Canada or its territories and/or possessions.

Wrongful act

wrongful act means any actual, alleged or attempted act or omission, including but not limited to breach of duty, breach of statutory duty, breach of trust, breach of warranty of authority, neglect, error, misstatement, misleading statement, libel, slander or defamation or any other wrongful act or omission committed or attempted by or allegedly committed or attempted by:

(a) any *insured person* whilst acting in his or her capacity as an *insured person* on behalf of the *council* or any matter claimed against such *insured person* solely by reason of his/her status as such;

(b) any *insured person* whilst acting in the capacity as a director or officer or equivalent position of an *outside entity* at the *council's* specific direction and request; and/or

(c) the *council*, but only with respect to an *employment practices claim* or under Extension of Cover 8. 'Entity defamation, libel and slander'.

Wrongful breach

wrongful breach means any act, error or omission which occurs after the *date of continuous cover*, whereby:

(a) the *insured person* contravenes an *Act* or is involved in the contravention of an *Act*;

(b) the *insured person* commits an offence pursuant to an *Act*; or

(c) the *council*, but only with respect to:

  (i) an *employment practices claim*;

  (ii) Insuring Clause 4.; or

  (iii) Extension of Cover 8. 'Entity defamation, libel and slander'.

Extensions of Cover

Cover is automatically provided for the Extensions of Cover described below. Each Extension of Cover is subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of this policy. Each Extension of Cover does not increase our *limit of liability*, unless expressly stated otherwise.

1. Advancement of defence costs and other financial loss (including emergencies)

We agree, in respect of a *claim* or *investigation* and prior to final adjudication of the *claim* or finalisation of the *investigation*, to advance the following payments as they are incurred by an *insured*:

(a) *defence costs*;

(b) *investigation costs;*

(c) *prosecution costs*;

(d) *civil or bail bond expenses*;

(e) *public relations expenses*; and

(f) *extradition costs*.

We will not rely on Exclusion 2. 'Conduct' to deny indemnity or to refuse to advance *defence costs* under this extension of cover until the conduct in question has been finally established, by court judgment or other final adjudication (including by available appeals).

If, in the event of an emergency, our written consent cannot be reasonably obtained by the applicable *insured* before any of the above heads of *financial loss* are incurred, the *insured* shall have the right to incur such amounts without that consent for a period of 30 days immediately following the date on which the relevant head or heads of *financial loss* was or were first incurred.

In the event of an emergency, referred to above, the *sub-limit* is 10% of the *limit of liability* for all *claim*s by all *insured* in the aggregate.

Any advance payments to an *insured* that have been made by us shall be repaid by that *insured* in the event that the *insured* shall not be entitled under this policy to the payment of such *financial loss*.

2. By-election costs

We agree to pay to or on behalf of the *policyholder* the cost to undertake a by-election due to elect a *councillor* after the sacking of a *councillor* due to a *claim*.

The *sub-limit* for this extension of cover is the amount specified in the *schedule*. A separate *deductible* is set out in the *schedule* for *financial loss* that arises out of such *claim*.

3. Civil or bail bond expenses

We agree to pay to or on behalf of an *insured person civil or bail bond expenses* incurred in respect of a *claim* covered under this policy including but not limited to an extradition proceeding.

4. Continuous cover

Notwithstanding Exclusion 6. (c), 'Prior and pending' we will pay *financial loss* or *loss* arising from any *claim* first made against an *insured* or *investigation* into the affairs of the *insured* during the *period of insurance* arising from a *prior known fact.*

Provided that:

(a) the *insured* has maintained without interruption, Councillors and Officers Liability, Management Liability, Employment Practices Liability, Statutory Liability or Supplementary Legal Expenses insurance with an insurer from the *date of continuous cover* to the present date;

(b) neither the *claim* nor the *prior known fact* has earlier been notified to us or at any time to any insurer under any policy; and

(c) cover under this extension of cover will be pursuant to the terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the policy in force at the time the *insured* first became aware of the *prior known fact*, but only where such earlier policy affords no broader, greater or wider cover in respect of the *claim* than the provisions of this policy.

5. Crisis containment

We agree to pay *public relations expenses* to or on behalf of an *insured person* in respect of:

(a) any *claim* against an *insured person* first made during the *period of insurance*;

(b) any *investigation* for which the *insured person* is entitled to cover for *investigation costs;*

(c) any *investigation* for which the *council* is entitled to cover for *representation costs.*

The *sub-limit* for this extension of cover is the amount specified in the *schedule* for all *public relations expenses* payable to an *insured person* and in the aggregate for all *insured persons.*

6. Deprivation of assets expenses

This policy extends to include *deprivation of assets expenses* arising from any *claim* covered under this policy or *investigation* for which an *insured* is entitled to cover under this policy for *investigation costs.*

7. Employment practices claims

This policy extends to cover *employment practices claims* against *insured persons* including in their capacity as *outside entity executives*.

8. Entity defamation, libel and slander

We will pay to or on behalf of the *council* the *financial loss* which arises from or is a consequence of any *claim* against the *council* in respect of defamation, libel and slander, which is first made during the *period of insurance* or the *extended reporting period* (if applicable).

The term 'defamation, libel and slander', for all purposes in connection with the cover provided under this extension of cover, means: unintentional libel, unintentional slander or other unintentional defamation by the *council*.

This extension of cover is limited to the *sub-limit* specified in the *schedule* and is not in addition to the *limit of liability*. A separate applicable *deductible* is set out in the *schedule* for *financial loss* that arises out of such *claim*.

9. Environmental mismanagement coverage

This policy extends to provide cover in respect of any *claim* made against any *insured person*, for any *environmental mismanagement claim*.

10. Estates, heirs, legal representatives

This policy extends to cover *financial loss* or *loss* arising from any *claim* made against the estates, heirs or legal representatives of any *insured person* with respect to *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* by such *insured person* committed prior to the death, incapacity, insolvency or bankruptcy of the *insured person*; provided that such estates, heirs or legal representatives are subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of this policy in so far as they can apply.

This extension of cover does not cover any *claim* arising out of any act or omission of the estates, heirs or legal representatives.

11. Extended reporting period

(a) In the event of a non renewal, other than for non-payment of premium, or if a *change in control* occurs, the *policyholder* automatically has the right, without payment of any additional premium, to a single coverage extension under this policy for a period of 90 days after the expiry of the *period of insurance,* in relation to:

(i) any *claim* made against any *insured* during such 90 day period; and

(ii) any *investigation* where the legal requirement on the *insured person* to attend first arises during such 90 day period,

but only with respect to any *wrongful act*, *wrongful breach* or conduct allegedly committed prior to the expiry date of the *period of insurance* or (if applicable) the effective date of the *change in control* (whichever is the earlier).

(b) In the event of a non renewal, other than for non-payment of premium, or if a *change in control* occurs, the *policyholder* shall have the right to a single coverage extension under this policy for a period of:

(i) 12 months;

(ii) 24 months;

(iii) 72 months; or

(iv) 84 months,

after the expiry date of the *period of insurance* for:

1. any *claim* made against any *insured* during the selected *extended reporting period*; or

2. any *investigation* where the legal requirement on the *insured person* to attend first arises during such selected *extended reporting period*,

but only with respect to any *wrongful act*, *wrongful breach* or conduct allegedly committed prior to the expiry date of the *period of insurance* or (if applicable) the effective date of the *change in control* (whichever is the earlier).

Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period' (b) is subject to such terms and conditions as we may reasonably impose. Further and subject to Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period' (c) below, cover is only available under this extension of cover if the applicable additional premium has been paid by the *policyholder*, as required by us.

If the *policyholder* selects an *extended reporting period* as described above, the *policyholder* and the *insured* shall not have a right to cover under Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period' (a) above.

(c) The rights contained in Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period' (b) shall terminate:

(i) unless written notice is given to us by the *policyholder* no later than 30 days after the effective date of the non-renewal of this policy or (if applicable) *change in control* (whichever is the earlier), of its intention to elect an *extended reporting period* described above; and

(ii) unless as a condition precedent to the extended cover under Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period' (b) above, the additional premium is paid promptly as required by us. Once elected, the entire premium for the *extended reporting period* shall be deemed fully earned at its commencement and non-refundable; and

(iii) immediately upon the effective date of any Councillors and Officers Liability, Management Liability, Employment Practices Liability, Statutory Liability or Supplementary Legal Expenses contract of insurance or indemnity issued by Zurich or any other insurer, which effectively replaces or renews the coverage afforded by this policy, either in whole or in part, or otherwise affords such coverage. This clause also applies to the cover under Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period' (a).

(d) The *insured* agrees that if we offer renewal terms that are different to this policy (including but not limited to premium, *limit of liability* or other terms, conditions or exclusions) this does not constitute a refusal by us to renew.

(e) Nothing in this extension of cover increases the *limit of liability*.

12. Extradition costs

We agree to pay to or on behalf of:

(a) an *insured person extradition costs* (to the extent permitted by law) in respect of an *extradition claim* covered under this policy;

(b) an *insured person* the reasonable fees incurred by such *insured person,* with our prior written consent, of a counsellor or tax adviser in respect of a covered *extradition claim*; and

(c) the lawful spouse or domestic partner of an *insured person*, the reasonable travel, accommodation and living-away-from-home expenses in attending any hearing of such *extradition claim* against that *insured person*.

13. Fines for corrupt practices

To the extent we are not legally prohibited from doing so, we agree to pay any fines and penalties assessed against any *insured person* pursuant to Divisions 70, 141 and 142 of Schedule 1 of the Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth*)*, Sections 105C and 105D of the New Zealand Crimes Act 1961, the Bribery Act 2010 (UK), Section 2(g)(2)(B) of the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §78dd-2(g)(2)(B) or any similar law of any other jurisdiction.

14. Investigations

We will pay *investigation costs* of *insured persons* on behalf of:

(a) any *insured person* in respect of any *investigation* into the conduct of such *insured person* in their capacity as an *insured person*, whether or not a *wrongful act* is alleged against such *insured person*;

(b) the *council* in respect of any *investigation* into the affairs of the *council* whether or not a *wrongful act* is alleged. Provided such coverage shall not be afforded for any *investigation* which is in whole or in part:

(i) within the jurisdiction of; or

(ii) pursuant to the laws of,

the United States of America, or its territories or possessions, including but not limited to one conducted by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Indemnity under this extension of cover arises only when, and is in relation only to *investigation costs* incurred after, such *insured person* is requested in writing by such *official body* to attend such *investigation*, provided that such request to attend first arises during the *period of insurance* and *the insured* notifies us in accordance with Condition 14. 'Notification'. This extension of cover shall not apply to general industry investigations or inquiries or routine regulatory inspections or inquiries.

This extension of cover shall not apply to a *claim* as defined in Definition 'Claim', but the terms, conditions and exclusions of this policy shall apply to this extension of cover as if it were a *claim* including but not limited to the payment of the *deductible* in the *schedule* where the *council* is permitted or required to indemnify the *insured person*.

15. Joint venture

This policy provides cover in respect of any *claim* made against an *insured person* arising from any *joint venture*, but such coverage does not extend to any *US claim* brought by or on behalf of any *joint venture* party(ies) or any vehicle established to conduct, control or manage such *joint venture*.

16. Late arising extensions

If during the *period of insurance* we develop a standard endorsement providing enhancements of coverage to our base Councillors and Officers Liability Insurance policy in the country where the *policyholder* is domiciled (as indicated in the *schedule*) and such endorsement is to be made available to our clients in such country for no additional premium, then the *policyholder* shall have the right to the benefit of, but not the obligation to accept, such new coverage enhancement endorsement, subject to all underwriting information or particulars as we may require, from the date of such availability.

This extension of cover shall not apply to any *policyholder*:

(a) who is under *financial impairment*;

(b) whose policy is operating within an *extended reporting period* as per Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period'; or

(c) which has advised us of a *change in control* as per Condition 5. 'Change in control'.

17. Marital estates

This policy will cover such *financial loss* or *loss* as arises from any *claim* made against the lawful spouse or domestic partner of any *insured person* arising solely out of a *wrongful act* or *wrongful breach* by such *insured person* that is covered under this policy and made solely against such persons or the estate in his or her respective capacity as the spouse or domestic partner of any such *insured person*.

The cover provided by this extension of cover is limited to *financial loss* or *loss* arising from actions or proceedings for the enforcement of judgments or damages against an *insured person* which relate to the ownership of property (including marital community property) jointly held by the *insured person* and his or her spouse or domestic partner. All cover provided by this extension is subject to such lawful spouse or domestic partner, or the estate in his or her respective capacity as the spouse or domestic partner observing and being subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of this policy in so far as they can apply.

This extension of cover does not cover any *claim* arising out of any act or omission of the spouse or domestic partner.

18. Non-Disclosure and misrepresentation waiver

Where we have any rights in respect of non-disclosure or misrepresentation we agree not to rescind or avoid this policy. In respect of any non-disclosure or misrepresentation, we will be entitled to reduce our liability to indemnify for *financial loss* in respect of a *claim* or *investigation* by an amount equivalent to the financial prejudice we have suffered as a result of the non-disclosure or misrepresentation. Any such rights will only be exercised:

(a) against an *insured person* who, before inception of this policy, knew the facts or matters not disclosed or misrepresented, and any *council* to the extent that it may indemnify such *insured person*;

(b) against a *council* where any past, present or future Mayor, Town Clerk, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, General Counsel or Chief Legal Counsel (or equivalent position) of the *council* or the holder of any equivalent position in a jurisdiction, knew the facts or matters not disclosed or misrepresented,

and only where the *claim* or *investigation* is based upon or arises from the facts or matters not disclosed or misrepresented.

For clarity, this extension of cover does not apply to any right we may have to cancel the policy. We are entitled to cancel the policy for non-payment of premium.

Nothing in this paragraph derogates from Condition 21. 'Severability and Non-Imputation'.

19. Occupational health and safety

We agree to pay *defence costs* to or on behalf of an *insured person* in respect of a *claim,* and *investigation costs* in respect of an *investigation*, in relation to any alleged breach of occupational health and safety law. This extension of cover applies notwithstanding Exclusion 1. 'Bodily injury / Property damage'.

This extension of cover includes *defence costs* in relation to any *corporate manslaughter proceedings*.

20. Outside entity executive

We will pay on behalf of any *outside entity executive* subject to the terms and conditions of this policy, *financial loss* or *loss* arising from any *claim* first made against him or her during the *period of insurance* for a *wrongful act* or *wrongful breach* committed or attempted by or allegedly committed or attempted whilst serving or acting in his or her capacity as an *outside entity executive*.

This cover automatically applies for a period of 90 days from the date of the *outside entity executive's* appointment in respect of any *outside entity.* Other than in the case of *non-profit organisations* and *associated companies*, cover shall cease after 90 days from the date of the *outside entity executive's* appointment, unless we agree to continue cover and list the *outside entity executive* in the *schedule*.

Without detracting from the operation of Condition 16.'Other insurance and Non-Accumulation', this extension of cover is available only as specific excess cover over and after exhaustion of any other applicable, valid and collectible Councillors and Officers Liability, Management Liability, Employment Practices Liability or Statutory Liability policy of insurance and also any indemnification permitted or required to be paid by such *outside entity*.

21. Preservation / presumption of right to indemnity

In the event and to the extent that the *council* or an *outside entity* is permitted or required to indemnify any *insured persons* for *financial loss or loss* covered by this policy, but for whatever reason fails or refuses to do so, then we shall pay the *financial loss* or *loss* on behalf of the *insured persons*. In such event, the Insuring Clauses 2., 3. and/or 4. *deductible* specified in the *schedule* shall be borne by the *council.*

In the event of the *council* being placed in liquidation (other than voluntary liquidation), no *deductible* amount shall apply.

22. Prosecution costs

We agree to pay for or on behalf of an *insured person prosecution costs* of the *insured person* in bringing or defending proceedings, including appealing the decision of such proceeding:

(a) against an *official body* conducting an *investigation* wherein the *insured person* alleges that the *official body* is acting beyond power or in breach of the rules of natural justice directly in relation to matters affecting, or potentially affecting, the *insured person* in such *investigation*;

(b) to obtain the discharge or revocation of:

(i) a temporary or permanent disqualification of such *insured person* from managing a corporation (including as a senior manager or responsible officer) during the *period of insurance*; or

(ii) a *judicial order* entered during the *period of insurance* imposing:

1. confiscation, assumption of ownership and control, suspension or freezing of rights of ownership of real property or personal assets of such *insured person*;
2. a charge over real property or personal assets of such *insured person*;
3. a restriction of such *insured person's* liberty to a specified domestic residence or detention facility; or
4. deportation of an *insured person* following revocation of otherwise current and valid immigration status for any reason, other than such *insured person's* conviction of a crime.

For the avoidance of doubt, *prosecutions costs* are only available in the event that a *claim* has been made against an *insured person* that is covered by this policy.

23. Retired councillors and officers

On the basis that:

(a) this policy is neither renewed nor replaced with a Councillors or Officers or similar contract of insurance; or

(b) no *extended reporting period* arises or is effected under Extension of Cover 11. 'Extended reporting period',

then those *councillors* and *officers* who retired from the *council* during the *period of insurance* shall automatically be entitled to a single *extended reporting period* under this policy of 84 months (being the maximum period for all *councillors* and *officers* in the aggregate) at no additional premium, however, always subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of this policy.

24. Runoff cover for outside entity executives

In the event that an *insured person* ceases to act as an *outside entity executive* of an *outside entity* (as defined within this policy) at any time prior to or during the *period of insurance*, then this policy shall continue to apply with respect to any *claim* first made against such *insured person* during the *period of insurance* or the *extended reporting period* (if applicable), but only with respect to *wrongful acts* committed prior to the date such person ceased to be an *outside entity executive* of such *outside entity* and committed during the time such person was an *outside entity executive* of such *outside entity* and otherwise covered under the terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of this policy.

25. Runoff cover for past subsidiaries

In the event that a *subsidiary* ceases to be a *subsidiary* (as defined within this policy) at any time prior to or during the *period of insurance*, then this policy shall continue to apply with respect to any *claim* made against such *subsidiary* and any *insured person* thereof first brought during the *period of insurance* or the *extended reporting period* (if applicable), but only with respect to *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* committed prior to the date such entity ceased to be a *subsidiary* and committed during the time such entity was a *subsidiary*, and otherwise covered under the terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of this policy.

26. Tax liability

We agree to pay the liability which an *insured person* incurs personally for the unpaid taxes of the *council* due to the *council's financial impairment*. Provided that we shall not include liability that arises due to an *insured person's* criminal, deliberate or wilful breach of any law or regulation.

Exclusions

Exclusions applicable to all Insuring Clauses

The following Exclusions are applicable to all Insuring Clauses and we shall not be liable under this policy to make any payment for *financial loss or loss* (including *defence costs*) in connection with any *claim* made against any *insured*, or *investigation costs* or *representation costs* in respect of any *investigation*:

1. Bodily injury / Property damage

for *bodily injury* and/or *property damage* except that cover shall be provided for:

(a) mental anguish or emotional distress in connection with any *employment practices claim;* or

(b) *defence costs* and *investigation costs* specified under Extension of Cover 19. 'Occupational health and safety'.

2. Conduct

arising from, based upon, attributable to or as a consequence of:

(a) any *insured* having gained in fact any profit or advantage to which he, she or it had or has no legal entitlement; or

(b) any criminal, fraudulent, dishonest or malicious act or omission committed by any *insured*,

provided that this exclusion shall not apply to *defence costs* incurred by an *insured person* in connection with a *corporate manslaughter proceeding* or occupational health and safety proceeding.

This exclusion only applies where the conduct in question has been finally established, by court judgment or other final adjudication (including all available appeals).

For the purpose of determining the applicability of this exclusion no conduct or knowledge of an *insured* shall be imputed to any other *insured person*.

3. Environmental event

based upon, arising out of or attributable to an *environmental event;* except as provided under Extension of Cover 9. 'Environmental mismanagement coverage'.

4. Medical services

in respect of, or in any way arising out of any actual or alleged *wrongful act* of any *insured person* relating to the rendering or failure to render professional service and/or advice to others in their capacity of providing medical services to the public. Such medical services shall include, but not be limited to, the carrying out of activities in relation to blood transfusion services, prevention of disease or the supply of medication.

5. Outside entity executive – Prior and pending

in respect of any *outside entity executive* if such *claim* is based upon, arises from or is a consequence of any:

(a) litigation, suit, *claim, investigation*, circumstance, arbitration or mediation initiated prior to or pending on the date such *outside entity executive* first became insured under this policy in such capacity; or litigation, suit, arbitration or mediation which alleges or is derived from the same or essentially the same facts as alleged in such prior or pending litigation, suit, *claim*, arbitration or mediation; or

(b) circumstances known by such *outside entity executive* or the *council* prior to the date such *outside entity executive* first became insured under this policy in such capacity, which could reasonably have given rise to a *claim* under this policy.

6. Prior and pending

alleging, arising from, based upon, attributable to or as a consequence of any:

(a) litigation, *claim*, *investigation* or circumstance existing prior to the *period of insurance* that has been reported under any Councillors and Officers Liability, Management Liability, Employment Practices Liability, Statutory Liability or Supplementary Legal Expenses policy of which this policy is a renewal or replacement or which it may succeed in time;

(b) fact, circumstance, act or omission or *claim* disclosed in the *submission* or which notice has been given to any other insurer before the commencement of the *period of insurance*; or

(c) *prior known fact* that ought to have, but has not, been reported under any Councillors and Officers Liability, Management Liability, Employment Practices Liability, Statutory Liability or Supplementary Legal Expenses policy of which this policy is a renewal or replacement or which it may succeed in time.

7. Prior notice

Being:

(a) an *investigation* or other proceedings ordered or commissioned at the behest of a legally empowered body, initiated prior to the *date of continuous cover* specified in the *schedule*; or

(b) any litigation, suit, *claim*, arbitration or mediation initiated prior to or pending on the *date of continuous cover* specified in the *schedule*; or litigation, suit, arbitration or mediation alleging or deriving from the same or essentially the same facts as alleged in such prior or pending litigation, suit, *claim*, arbitration or mediation.

8. Professional liability

arising from, based upon, attributable to or as a consequence of a breach of duty in respect of any professional services provided by the *insured*.

9. Subsidiary

alleging or arising from the *wrongful act* or *wrongful breach* of:

(a) any *insured person* of any *subsidiary*; or

(b) the *subsidiary*,

committed prior to such entity becoming a *subsidiary* or after such entity ceases to be a *subsidiary*.

This exclusion is subject to any cover granted by us under Extension of Cover 25. 'Runoff cover for past subsidiaries' and Condition 8. 'Creation and acquisition of subsidiaries'.

Additional Exclusions applicable to Insuring Clause 3

The following Exclusions are applicable to Insuring Clause 3 and we shall not be liable under this policy to make any payment for *financial loss* including *defence costs* (unless stated) in connection with any *employment practices claim* made against the *council*:

10. Employee entitlements

for breach of duties, obligations or responsibilities pursuant to any contract or provided by any law, regulation, by-law, determination made under or pursuant to any statute, ordinance or *industrial instrument* howsoever promulgated regulating *employee entitlements*.

However, this exclusion shall not apply to any *defence costs* incurred by the *council* with respect to the *employment practices claim*.

11. Employee reinstatement

based upon, arising out of, or attributable to any judgment or court order for the reinstatement of an *employee* including any future *employee entitlements* if the *council* fails to hire, promote or reinstate the claimant as an *employee*.

However, this exclusion shall not apply to any *defence costs* incurred by the *council* with respect to the *employment practices claim.*

12. Industrial relations

based upon, arising out of, or attributable to:

(a) any collective industrial or labour relations disputes or actions, including but not limited to: strikes; lock-outs; demarcation disputes; negotiating awards or enterprise agreements; collective redundancies; obligations to consult representatives and *employees* in relation to redundancies and other actions that arise; other than *claims* based on an individual employment relationship;

(b) any collective redundancies or mass-layoffs.

13. Modifications

in respect of or for modifications to any premises in order to make them more accessible or accommodating to persons with disabilities, or for the provision of any special facilities, arrangements, variations or alterations to the work place, working hours, work systems or procedures, for the benefit of disabled persons, persons in special circumstances or persons requiring any form of special accommodation due to family or carer responsibilities, cultural, religious, social or political considerations.

However, this exclusion shall not apply to any *defence costs* incurred by the *council* with respect to the *employment practices claim*.

14. Specified sums under contract

for any sum of money:

(a) in respect of or in lieu of a notice period;

(b) pursuant to an express written contract of employment; or

(c) pursuant to an express written obligation to make payments in the event of the termination of employment.

However, this exclusion shall not apply to any *defence costs* incurred by the *council* with respect to the *employment practices claim*.

15. Workers compensation

based upon, arising from or consequence of any actual or alleged obligation of any *insured* pursuant to any workers compensation, unemployment insurance, social security, disability benefits or similar law, regulation or by-law.

Additional Exclusions applicable to Insuring Clause 4

The following Exclusions are applicable to Insuring Clause 4 and we shall not be liable under this policy to make any payment for *loss* including *defence costs* (unless stated) in connection with any *wrongful breach claim* made against an *insured*:

16. Corporations / Commerce Acts

based upon, attributable to or in consequence of:

(a) a *wrongful breach* of any *consumer protection act*. This exclusion does not apply to *councillors or officers* and *employees* for *claims* arising in the performance of their duties as *councillors or officers* and *employees*;

(b) for any *loss* or part of any *loss* which is attributable to the period after the *insured* knew (or ought reasonably to have known) that its conduct was a *wrongful breach*;

(c) any contravention of sections 182, 183, 588G, 601FD, 601FE or 601JD of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) and any amendment, consolidation or re-enactment of any of those sections;

(d) any contravention of sections 78, 80, 83 or 89 (3) (b) of the New Zealand Commerce Act 1986 and any amendment, consolidation or re-enactment of any of those sections; or

(e) a *wrongful breach* of any of the following New Zealand *Acts*; Arms Act 1983, Aviation Crimes Act 1972, Crimes Act 1961, Proceeds of Crime Act 1961, Summary Offences Act 1981, Transport Act 1962, Transport (Vehicle and Driver Registration and Licensing) Act 1986.

However this exclusion shall only apply where the subject conduct has been established by a judgment or other final adjudication adverse to the *insured*.

17. Radioactivity / pollution / asbestos

directly or indirectly arising out of or in connection with:

(a) ionising radiation or contamination by radioactivity from any nuclear fuel or nuclear waste from the combustion of nuclear fuel or the radioactive, toxic, explosive or other hazardous properties of any explosive nuclear assembly or component thereof; or

(b) seepage, pollution or contamination of whatever nature and however occurring; or

(c) mould, legionella bacteria or any other organism or substance found upon any premises however it came to be there; or

(d) asbestos or any material or property containing or alleged to contain asbestos, in whatever form or quantity and however arising; or

(e) silicon or silica, or any material, substance or property derived from or containing or allegedly containing silicon or silica, in whatever form or quantity and however arising.

18. Taxes

based upon, attributable to or in consequence of a *wrongful breach* by the *insured* in connection with a requirement to pay taxes, rates, duties, levies, charges, fees or any other revenue or impost.

19. Vehicle operation

based upon, attributable to or in consequence of:

(a) a *wrongful breach* relating to the regulation of road rules for drivers of vehicles;

(b) a *wrongful breach* relating to the regulation of air or marine traffic.

20. Wilful and intentional breaches

based upon, attributable to or in consequence of:

(a) any wilful, intentional or deliberate *wrongful breach*;

(b) a wilful, intentional or deliberate failure to comply with any lawful notice, direction, enforcement action or proceeding under any *Act*;

(c) any *wrongful breach* caused by gross negligence or recklessness by the *insured*;

(d) a dishonest, fraudulent, malicious act or omission of the *insured*.

However this exclusion shall only apply where the subject conduct has been established by a judgment or other final adjudication adverse to the *insured*.

Conditions

1. Allocation

Our liability under this policy is limited to the proportion of *financial loss* or *loss* which is a fair and equitable allocation:

(a) between the *insured persons* and any other uninsured person or entity (including the *council*) where the *financial loss* or loss has been jointly or jointly and severally incurred by them. Such allocation shall be determined having regard to the relative legal and financial exposures of, and relative benefits obtained by, the *insured persons* and those other persons or entities; and/or

(b) between the *insured persons*, the *council* and us, having regard to the covered and uncovered matters and the relative legal and financial exposures attributable to those matters.

Where we and the *insured* are unable to agree upon a fair and equitable allocation then such allocation will be determined by Senior Counsel (to be mutually agreed or, in default of agreement, to be selected by the then President of the Bar Association, or equivalent organisation, for the State or Territory out of which the policy was issued).

The parties will be bound by Senior Counsel's determination as to the fair and equitable allocation. The costs of obtaining this determination will be paid by us and will not form part of the *limit of liability*.

While no fair and equitable allocation has been agreed or determined in respect of any *claim* or *investigation costs*, we will advance *defence costs* or *investigation costs* in the proportion which we contend should be allocated to *financial loss* or *loss* under this condition. Any such allocation negotiated or determined will be applied retrospectively to all *defence costs* and *investigation costs* incurred prior to the date of such negotiation or determination.

2. Applicable law

In the event of any dispute relating to the construction, interpretation and/or meaning of the provisions of this policy, it is agreed that such disputes shall be exclusively governed by the law applicable in the Commonwealth of Australia and the relevant State in which this policy is issued by us.

3. Assignment

This policy and any rights thereunder shall not be assigned without our written consent.

4. Cancellation

Without derogating from our rights in Extension of Cover 18. 'Non-Disclosure and Misrepresentation waiver', this policy may not be cancelled by us, except for non-payment of premium. If the *policyholder* cancels the policy, a refund of premium will be allowed pro rata of 80% of the premium for the unexpired *period of insurance*.

5. Change in control

If during the *period of insurance* the *policyholder* undergoes a *change in control*, then the cover provided by this policy shall only apply in respect of *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* or other conduct occurring prior to the effective date of such *change in control*. The *policyholder* shall give us written notice of such *change in control* as soon as reasonably practicable. Notwithstanding the effect on cover caused by such a *change in control,* if the *policyholder* cancels this policy, a refund of premium will be allowed pro rata of 80% of the premium for the unexpired *period of insurance*.

6. Co-ordination of coverage

Any *loss* or *investigation costs* or *representation costs* covered under either Insuring Clauses 4. or 5. and Insuring Clauses 1. and 2. shall be first covered under Insuring Clauses 1. and 2, subject to its terms, conditions and limitations.

7. Confidentiality

The existence and terms of this policy shall be confidential as between the *insured* and us and shall not be published, disclosed or otherwise communicated except where:

(a) the law requires disclosure in the financial statements or annual reports of payment by the *policyholder* of a premium in respect of a contract insuring persons against a liability; or

(b) we consent in writing to disclosure of the existence and/or terms of this policy.

8. Creation and acquisition of subsidiaries

(a) Subject to 'Creation and acquisition of subsidiaries' 8. (b) below, any entity, whether created or acquired, that becomes a *subsidiary* during the *period of insurance* of this policy and any *councillors* or *officers* (or equivalent executive or management position) thereof, shall be *insureds* under this policy with respect to:

(i) *claims* for *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches*; and

(ii) *investigations* in relation to conduct, occurring after the date such entity became a *subsidiary* and while such entity remains a *subsidiary*.

(b) There is no cover under this policy for any newly acquired *subsidiary* (or any *insured person* thereof) described in 'Creation and acquisition of subsidiaries' 8. (a) above:

(i) whose total consolidated assets are greater than 25% of the total consolidated assets of the *policyholder* (determined as of the date of the acquisition); or

(ii) that is a *financial institution*,

save for a period of 90 days from the date such entity first became a *subsidiary* or until the expiry date of the *period of insurance*, whichever period expires first, provided that the *policyholder* or any *insured* shall report such *subsidiary* to us, in writing, prior to renewal of this policy.

(c) With regard to such *subsidiary* described in 'Creation and acquisition of subsidiaries' 8. (b) above, we may, at our sole discretion, extend coverage to such *subsidiary* and any *insured person* thereof, beyond such 90 days, if during such 90 day period the *policyholder* shall:

(i) notify us in writing of the acquisition of such entity;

(ii) provide us with full underwriting information as we may require; and

(iii) agree to any additional premium and/or amendment of the provisions of this policy required by us relating to such *subsidiary*.

Further, such coverage as shall be afforded to any such *subsidiary* and any *insured person* thereof beyond the initial 90 day period shall be conditional upon the *policyholder* paying, when due, any additional premium (including insurance premium tax) required by us for such *subsidiary*.

(d) We may, at our sole discretion, also agree, in writing, after the presentation of all appropriate information to provide cover for such new *subsidiary* for *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* and other conduct occurring prior to the date of acquisition.

With regard to such cover for prior *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* and other conduct we reserve the right to vary the terms of this policy and the prior acceptance of and subsequent compliance with each and every varied term by the *insureds*, shall be a condition precedent to indemnity under this paragraph.

9. Deductible and coinsurance

(a) Separate applicable *deductibles* are set out in the *schedule* for *financial loss* or *loss* that arises out of each of:

(i) any *US claim*;

(ii) any other *claim*;

(iii) an *investigation*.

We shall be liable only for the amount of *financial loss* or *loss* that exceeds the applicable *deductible* as specified in the *schedule*. The *deductible* is not part of our liability for *financial loss* or *loss.* The *deductible* is to be borne by the *council* and shall remain uninsured.

Irrespective of the number of *insureds* claimed against, a single *deductible* shall apply to all *financial loss* or *loss* in respect of any one *claim*, or two or more *claims* arising from one *wrongful act* or *wrongful breach* or from a series of *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* which are in any way connected causally with another.

(b) No *deductible* will apply to any *claim*, and we will reimburse those *defence costs* incurred by the *insured* to the extent not already paid by us, if:

(i) the *claim* is dismissed and without any payment by or on behalf of the *insured*;

(ii) there is a final judgment of no liability in favour of the *insured*, whether by settlement to which we have consented or by summary judgment, and without any payment by or on behalf of the *insured*; or

(iii) there is a final judgment of no liability obtained after trial, in favour of the *insured*, after the exhaustion of all appeals.

Any reimbursement under this clause will only occur if, 60 days after the date of dismissal or final judgment of no liability is obtained, there is no further *claim* brought based on the same or related *wrongful acts* or any matters relating to the facts and matters alleged in the relevant *claim*.

10. Defence costs and Settlements

(a) It shall be the duty of the *insureds* against whom a *claim* is made to take all reasonable steps to defend such *claim* and not to do anything to prejudice our position.

The *insured persons* shall have the duty to arrange representation at any *investigation* which is the subject of a claim for indemnity under Extension of Cover 14. 'Investigations'.

Apart from Insuring Clause 3. in respect to an *employment practices claim*, where we have the duty to defend any *claim* made against any *insured*.

(b) With respect to any *claim* or *investigation* as may potentially be covered by this policy, we shall:

(i) have the right to be provided with all such information as we shall reasonably require, at the *insured's* own cost;

(ii) be kept fully informed as to all matters relating to or concerning the *investigation*, defence, settlement or appeal and shall have the right to receive copies of all relevant documentation relating thereto; and

(iii) have the right to associate effectively with the *insureds* in the defence, investigation and the negotiation of any settlement of any *claim* or *investigation*.

(c) In the event of any dispute regarding whether or not to contest any *claim* against any *insured*, the matter will be referred for determination by a Senior Counsel (to be mutually agreed or in default of agreement, to be selected by the then President of the Bar Association, or equivalent organisation, for the State or Territory out of which the policy was issued). The costs of such determination by Senior Counsel are to be paid by us and will not form part of the *limit of liability*.

If the *claim* is to be contested, then the *insured* agrees to provide all such information and assistance as is reasonably required to those persons representing the *insured*.

(d) The *insured* shall not admit or assume any liability, enter into any settlement agreement, consent to any judgment, or incur any *defence costs* or *investigation costs*, and no legal representative shall be retained to defend any *insured,* without our prior written consent, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

Only those settlements, consent judgments, *defence costs* and *investigation costs* that have been consented to by us in writing shall be recoverable as *financial loss* under the terms of this policy (other than as covered under Extension of Cover 1. 'Advancement of defence costs and other financial loss').

We shall not settle any *claim* against any *insured* without the consent of the relevant *insured*, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

In addition and notwithstanding any of the foregoing paragraphs in this condition, if all *insured* defendants are able to dispose of all *claims* which are subject to one *deductible* (inclusive of all *financial loss*) for an amount not exceeding the applicable *deductible*, then our consent shall not be required for such disposition.

11. Goods and Services Tax

When we make a payment to the *insured*, or on behalf of the *insured*, under this policy for the acquisition of goods, services or other supplies, we will reduce the amount of the payment by the amount of any input tax credit that the *insured* is, or will be, or would have been entitled to under A New Tax System (Goods & Services Tax) Act 1999 (Cth), in relation to that acquisition, whether or not that acquisition is actually made.

When we make a payment to the *insured*, or on behalf of the *insured*, under this policy as compensation instead of payment for the acquisition of goods, services or other supplies, we will reduce the amount of the payment by the amount of any input tax credit that the *insured* is, or will be, or would have been entitled to under A New Tax System (Goods & Services Tax) Act 1999 (Cth) had the payment been applied to acquire such goods, services or supply.

12. Limit of Liability

(a) Subject to the Insuring Clauses and Extension of Covers, the *limit of liability* as specified in the *schedule* shall be our maximum liability, in the aggregate, payable under this policy for all:

(i) covered *financial loss* or *loss* (including but not limited to *defence costs*) arising from all *claims* made against all *insureds* during the *period of insurance* and any *extended reporting period* (if applicable); and

(ii) *investigations costs* incurred by all *insured persons* in connection with all *investigations*; and

(iii) insofar as not encompassed within (i) and (ii) above, all sums payable under any of the Extensions of Cover.

The *limit of liability* shall apply over and above the applicable *deductible*.

(b) The *limit of liability* for any applicable *extended reporting period* shall not increase the *limit of liability*.

All *sub-limits* of liability are part of and not in addition to the *limit of liability*.

(c) Where more than one *claim* arises from a *wrongful act* or *wrongful breach,* or arise from a series of *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* which are in any way connected causally with another, or in the case of one or more *investigations* (whether linked to a *claim* or otherwise) which have a common or related cause or source they shall be deemed to be a single *claim* or a single *investigation* and such single *claim* or single *investigation* shall (irrespective of the *period of insurance* in which it in fact arises) be attributed solely to the *period of insurance* or the *extended reporting periods* (if applicable) during which the first *claim* of such *claims* was first made or the first *investigation* of such *investigation* series was first commenced.

13. Notices under Acts

The *insured* shall comply with any lawful notice or direction received from, or any enforcement action taken by, any appropriate *regulatory authority* under any *Act* within the time specified or if no time is specified, within a reasonable time.

14. Notification

The *policyholder* shall, as a condition precedent to our liability under this policy, give written notice to us of:

(a) any *claim* made against an *insured* or any circumstance that may lead to such a *claim*; or

(b) any written notice the *councillor or officer* has received requiring they attend an *investigation* or any circumstance that may lead to such a request,

as soon as is reasonably practicable after the *council's* risk manager, Chief Executive Officer, General Counsel or Chief Legal Counsel or equivalent position first becomes aware of such *claim*, or any circumstance that may lead to such a *claim* or such *investigation*, but in all events no later than 90 days after the expiry of the *period of insurance* or the *extended reporting period* (if applicable).

Written notice shall include but not be limited to a description of the:

(a) *claim* or any circumstance that may lead to such a *claim*, the nature of the alleged or potential damage, the names of the actual or potential claimants and the date and manner in which the *council* or *insured persons*, as the case may be, first became aware of the *claim;* or

(b) *investigation*, the nature of the *investigation*, the name of the *official body* conducting the *investigation* and the date and manner in which the *council* or *insured persons*, as the case may be, first become aware of the *investigation*.

Once a circumstance referred to above is notified to us during the *period of insurance*, any subsequent *claim* or *investigation* arising from that circumstance is deemed covered under this policy even if it occurs after the *period of insurance*.

Written notice hereunder shall be provided in writing to:

The Financial Lines Claims Manager
Zurich Australian Insurance Limited
PO Box 677 North Sydney 2059

Or by email to:

The Financial Lines Claims Manager
fl.claims@zurich.com.au

Any notification, sent by post or email, will be effective from the date received by Zurich.

15. Order of payments

In the event of *financial loss* arising from a *claim* or an *investigation* for which payment is due under the provisions of this policy, then we shall in all events:

(a) first, pay *financial loss* for which coverage is provided under Insuring Clause 1. and Extension of Cover 14. 'Investigations'; then

(b) only after payment of *financial loss* has been made pursuant to 15. (a) above, with respect to whatever remaining amount of the *limit of liability* is available after such payment, pay such other *financial loss* for which coverage is provided under Insuring Clauses 2., 3., 4. and 5. of this policy.

The *council* agrees that we are entitled to withhold payment under Insuring Clause 2., 3., 4. and 5. until our obligations under Insuring Clause 1. and Extension of Cover 14. 'Investigations' are met.

The bankruptcy or insolvency of any *council* shall not relieve us of our obligations to prioritise payment of covered *financial loss* under this policy pursuant to this condition.

16. Other insurance and Non-Accumulation

(a) To the extent permitted by the Insurance Contracts Act 1984 (Cth), this policy will only cover *financial loss* or *loss* to the extent that the amount of such *financial loss* or *loss* is in excess of any indemnity or cover available to the *insured* in respect of that *financial loss* or *loss* under any other policy of insurance entered into by the *insured persons* or the *council*.

(b) To the extent permitted by the Insurance Contracts Act 1984 (Cth), this policy will only cover *financial loss* or *loss* to the extent that the amount of such *financial loss* or *loss* is in excess of any indemnity or cover available to the *insured* in respect of that *financial loss* or *loss* under any other policy of insurance effected on behalf of the *insured* or under which any *insured person* or the *council* is a beneficiary (but not a policy to which to which the preceding paragraph applies).

(c) Neither Condition 16. (a) or (b) above, applies to such other insurance that is written only as specific excess insurance over the *limit of liability* provided in this policy.

(d) If the other insurance referred to in Condition 16. (a) or (b) above, is provided by us, or any other member company, associate or affiliate of the Zurich Financial Services Group of companies, and it covers *financial loss* or *loss* covered by this policy in respect of a *claim* or *investigation*, the *limit of liability* under this policy in respect of that *claim* or *investigation* shall be reduced by any amount paid by us (or member company, associate or affiliate of the Zurich Financial Services Group of companies) under such other insurance.

17. Plurals and titles

The *submission*, this policy, its *schedule* and any endorsements are one contract in which, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) headings are descriptive only, not an aid to interpretation;

(b) singular includes the plural, and vice versa;

(c) the male includes the female and neuter;

(d) all references to specific legislation include amendments to and re-enactments of such legislation and similar legislation in any jurisdiction in respect of which a *claim* is made or an *investigation* is commenced; and

(e) references to positions, offices or titles shall include their equivalents in any jurisdiction in which a *claim* is made or an *investigation* is commenced.

18. Preservation

Any provision of this policy which is illegal, void or unenforceable is only ineffective to the extent of that illegality, voidness or unenforceability, without invalidating the remaining provisions.

19. Privacy

Zurich is bound by the National Privacy Principles and the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).

We may need to collect personal information ('Information') from you for the primary purpose of providing you with insurance products, services, processing and assessing claim(s).

If you do not to provide us with the Information, we may not be able to process your application or assess your claim(s).

By providing us with your Information, you consent to us disclosing your Information to other insurers, our service providers, our business partners or as required by law.

For further information about Zurich's Privacy Policy, a list of service providers and business partners that we may disclose your Information to, or details of how you can access the Information we hold about you, please refer to the Privacy link on our homepage – www.zurich.com.au, contact us by telephone on 132 687 or email us at Privacy.Officer@zurich.com.au.

20. Reasonable care

The *council* shall take reasonable care at all times to:

(a) only employ competent *officers*, *employees*, agents and contractors;

(b) comply and ensure that its *councillors* or *officers, employees*, agents and contractors comply with the provisions of any *Act*; and

(c) maintain all premises, fittings and plant in a safe and sound condition.

21. Severability and Non-Imputation

In respect of the declarations, statements and financial information of the *submission*:

(a) no statement in the *submission*, made by any *insured* or knowledge (including knowledge of any misrepresentation or non-disclosure with regard to the *submission*) possessed by any *insured* shall be imputed to any other *insured persons* for the purpose of determining the availability of cover under this policy;

(b) the statements in the *submission* made by and the knowledge (including knowledge of any misrepresentation or non-disclosure with regard to the *submission*) possessed by an *insured person* shall be imputed to the *council* for the sole purpose of determining if coverage is available under Insuring Clause 2. of this policy with respect to *claims* against such *insured person*, but shall not be imputed to the *council* with respect to *claims* against other *insured persons* for the purpose of coverage under Insuring Clauses 2., 3., 4. and/or 5. in relation to the *financial loss* or *loss* of that other *insured person*.

22. Subrogation

Upon any payment of or towards any *claim* we shall be entitled to assume conduct of all rights of recovery available to any *insured* and all reasonable assistance shall be rendered to us in the prosecution of such rights by such *insured persons* or the *council*, at their own cost.

In no event, however, shall we exercise our rights of subrogation against an *insured person* under this policy unless it is determined by a written admission, a final judgment or other adjudication in the underlying action or in a separate action or proceeding that such *insured person* had obtained an illegal profit or advantage or committed an intentionally dishonest act or omission or intentional fraudulent act or a criminal act.

In no event, however, shall we exercise our rights of subrogation against an *insured person* under this policy unless it is determined by a written admission, a final judgment or other adjudication in the underlying action or in a separate action or proceeding that such *insured person* had obtained an illegal profit or advantage or committed an intentionally dishonest act or omission or intentional fraudulent act or a criminal act.

23. Territorial scope

Coverage under this policy shall apply to *financial loss* or *loss* incurred, resulting from *claims* made and *wrongful acts* or *wrongful breaches* occurring anywhere in the world, where legally permissible.

Coverage under Insuring Clause 5. of this policy is limited to *investigations* carried out in Australia and/or New Zealand only.

24. Valuation and Foreign currency

All premiums, *limits of liability, sub limits*, *deductibles*, retentions, *financial loss* and other amounts under this policy are expressed and payable in Australian currency. Except as otherwise provided, if judgment is rendered, settlement is denominated or another element of loss under this policy is stated in a currency other than Australian dollars, payment under this policy shall be made in Australian dollars at the cash rate of exchange for the purchase of Australian dollars in accordance with the Reserve Bank of Australia on the date the final judgment is reached, the amount of the settlement is agreed upon or the other element of *financial loss* is due, respectively.

25. Waiver of contribution

We will not pay any *financial loss* or *loss* to the extent that it has been caused or contributed to by the *insured* giving up any right or contribution or indemnity without our prior written consent.

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GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL

Policy Number 58.POL3

Itinerant Traders Policy

Version 1.0

(First number changes for a major rewrite, second number changes for a minor amendment)

Adopted dd Month Year

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the Greater Shepparton City Council's Itinerant Traders Procedures and Local Law no. 1 – Community Living

Amendment List

Amendment Number	Amendment Date	Nature of Amendment	Amended by

Preamble

This Policy has been developed to allow the Council to manage the requests for the operation of itinerant traders operating on Council owned or managed land.

Policy Statement

Through this policy Council will be able to facilitate and manage temporary business operations that provide an enhanced use and enjoyment of public and municipal places within Greater Shepparton.

The Policy will provide direction for officers to assess applications and provide information to applicants when making applications.

Any person operating without a permit under this policy is in breach of Council's Local Law No 1 – Community Living - Clause 4.2.

Some key outcomes of the adopted processes will be to minimise community conflict resulting from temporary business operations while providing a process for assessing temporary business operations that is open and transparent in a manner that is fair to all.

Policy Objectives

The objectives of this policy are:

- To facilitate the opportunities for itinerant traders that adds to the public's enjoyment and use of the municipality, while not reducing safety or access to public land;
- To provide a consistent and coordinated process for the assessment of applications for itinerant traders within the municipality through the Itinerant Traders Procedure.
- To provide suitable locations within Greater Shepparton that Itinerant Traders may be located at.

Policy Review

This policy shall take effect for three (3) years following adoption of the policy by Council. The policy shall be subject to review not later than 1 July 2015.

Related Policies and Legislation

- Planning and Environment Act 1987
- Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme.
- Greater Shepparton City Council Local Law No. 1 – Community Living - Part 3
- Procedure for Control and Management of Itinerant Traders
- Road Safety Act 1986
- Road Safety Regulations 1999
- Food Act 1984
- Health Act 1958
- Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978
- National Competition Policy

Gavin Cator **Date**
Chief Executive Officer

Procedure for Control and Management of Itinerant Traders

Policy No. Procedure 58.POL3

This is a tool that will provide Council with a framework for the operation and management of itinerant traders within the municipality.

The objectives of this procedure are:

- To facilitate the opportunities for itinerant traders that adds to the public's enjoyment and use of the municipality, while not reducing safety or access to public land;
- To provide a consistent and coordinated process for the assessment of applications for itinerant traders within the municipality.

This procedure was adopted by Council on xxxxxxx

The primary responsibility for the implementation of this procedure lies with the Local Laws Unit.

CORPORATE FRAMEWORK

Vision

This procedure is consistent with Council's vision for the municipality. Greater Shepparton City Council is committed to a 'Sustainable, innovative and diverse community' by achieving outcomes that are environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.

The Council values its vibrant business community and recognises that there are business opportunities that can occur on a temporary basis.

The aim of this procedure is to ensure that temporary business opportunities are facilitated and managed in a consistent way that ensures that the community's enjoyment of, and access both to and through, public land is not unduly compromised by the establishment of temporary businesses.

Mission

The procedure's primary role is to provide a framework to facilitate and manage temporary businesses within Greater Shepparton. It will assist Council in undertaking its mission of facilitating a sustainable local economy.

Values

Consistent with the Council values, this procedure will assist Council towards:

- Sustainability as a guiding principle;
- Open and effective community consultation;
- Equity and consistency in assessment of temporary business proposals;
- Supporting our diverse communities - particularly the business community;
- Responsible stewardship in managing community assets;
- Responsiveness to community needs;
- Just, healthy and efficient outcomes

Key Policy Statement

Through this policy Council will be able to facilitate and manage temporary business operations that provide an enhanced use and enjoyment of public and municipal places within Greater Shepparton.

Some key outcomes of the adopted processes will be to minimise community conflict resulting from temporary business operations while providing a process for assessing temporary business operations that is open and transparent in a manner that is fair to all.

STRATEGY

Strategic Objective 1
To facilitate and manage the operation of food vans within Greater Shepparton.

Action 1.1 Identify approved locations within Greater Shepparton (other than markets and events) that are appropriate and safe from which to allow food vans to operate within.

Action 1.2 Call for tenders for the locations on an annual basis.

Strategic Objective 2
To provide clear guidelines for the use of Municipal and Public Places for the operation of temporary businesses for Spot or Bulk Sales.

Action 2.1 Develop a clear set of requirements for undertaking a Spot or Bulk Sale from a Municipal or Public Place.

Action 2.2 Develop a Fact File that clearly outlines these rules and distribute to all Committees of Management of public buildings and trader groups, while also displaying on the Shire's website.

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1. SCOPE

This Policy applies to all public land within Greater Shepparton, and all businesses and individuals who seek to use public land to operate a business or for financial gain.

2. DEFINITIONS

Approved Location - Food Vans – Greater Shepparton City Council has identified locations within the Municipality from which Food Vans may trade with a Local Law Permit. Trading from these locations may occur independently of a Council approved market, festival or event. The Approved Locations are shown in Diagram 1 of this Policy.

Food Van - Any vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or other similar structure for the purpose of selling or offering for sale any food and or drink (excluding alcoholic beverages).

Itinerant Trader –A person or persons, engaged in providing goods and/or services on a temporary basis, including Food Vans, Spot or Bulk Sales.

Moveable Advertising Sign – Any moveable board, notice, structure, banner or similar device used for the purposes of notifying of a sale, soliciting sales or notifying people of the presence of an adjacent property where goods and services may be obtained. Includes A-Frame signs. This excludes commercial signage mounted on vehicles and/or trailers.

Municipal Place – All land owned, leased, managed, vested in or occupied by Council to which the public has access and includes buildings and other structures affixed to such land and includes a road, watercourse, reserve and reservation.

Public Place – Includes a reserve, public highway, mall, road, street, bridge, footway, footpath, court, alley, passage or thoroughfare, notwithstanding that it may be formed on private property and any other place to which the public may resort.

Road – Highway, street, lane, bridge, thoroughfare or other place that is open to or used by the public for passage with vehicles. It includes a public highway, carriageway, footpath, traffic

island, nature strip and any other area that is provided to separate vehicle traffic on a highway, street, lane, bridge, thoroughfare or other place. It also means any place that is declared to be a highway under section 3(1) of the Road Safety Act 1986.

Spot or Bulk Sales - The temporary use of a public building, Municipal Place or Public Place for the sale of products including overstocked, damaged, end of line items (eg. rugs, shoes) or artworks.

3. PROCEDURE

a. General

- All Itinerant Traders operating within Greater Shepparton must hold a public liability policy of insurance in respect of the activities being undertaken, providing cover for at least $10,000,000. The public liability policy shall be effected with an insurer approved by the Council.

  The public liability policy shall cover such risks and be subject to such conditions and exclusions as are approved by Greater Shepparton City Council and shall be extended to provide a Principals Indemnity to the Greater Shepparton City Council in respect to claims for personal injury or property damage arising out of the negligence of the business, organisation or individual.

  The business, organisation or individual agrees to indemnify and keep indemnified by way of entering into a deed of indemnity, and to hold harmless Greater Shepparton City Council, its servants and agents, and each of them from and against all actions, costs, claims, charges, expenses, penalties, demands and damages whatsoever which may be brought or made or claimed against them, or any of them, arising from the business, organisation or individual holding the sale and be directly related to the negligent acts, errors or omissions of the business, organisation or individual.

  A copy of the certificate of currency of the insurance policy or deed of indemnity must be provided to an Authorised Officer of Greater Shepparton City Council on being requested to do so.

- All Itinerant Traders must comply with the Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme and Local Laws No.1. No permanent signage may be erected. A Movable Advertising Sign may only be displayed during the operating times of the business.

b. Spot or Bulk Sales in a Municipal or Public Place

Any business, organisation or individual seeking to undertake spot or bulk sales in a Municipal or Public Place, must ensure that they:

- Have the prior written consent of the Committee of Management or Greater Shepparton City Council (as appropriate) to hold a sale on the premises;
- Have evidence to show that the activity complies with the Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme (either a letter stating that no planning permit is required, or a planning permit). Where the activity does not comply with the Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme it may not occur;
- Pay any relevant building hire fees;
- Comply with all relevant guidelines or rules for hiring a Municipal or Public Place;

c. Food Vans

Food Vans General

A Permit may be granted to erect, place or position a vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or other similar structure for the purpose of selling or offering for sale any food or drink. Food vans must not provide alcoholic beverages for on or off-site consumption.

A Food Van may only operate in the area specified within their Local Law permit (Refer to sub-section - "Where Food Vans May Operate"), and must operate in accordance with all conditions of their permit.

All Food Vans may only operate within the Greater Shepparton City Council if they have a current permit that allows them to do so, except as described in sub-section - "Where Food Vans May Operate" (iii, iv).

All applications for a permit to operate a Food Van will be assessed through a tender process. Tenders will be invited on an annual basis. Upon advice that a permit will be issued to operate a Food Van within an approved location, the applicant will need to pay the annual operating fee as determined through the tender process as well as the permit fee and the refundable bond.

The permit is valid for up to 12 months from the date of issue. A permit may not be automatically renewed after the 12 months is completed, as the full tender process must be undertaken.

In determining whether to grant a Permit the following considerations must be taken into account by Council or an Authorised Officer:

- Whether the activity will be detrimental to the amenity of the area;
- Whether the activity will be detrimental to the safe usage of the area;
- What value the proposed activity adds to the area;
- What value the applicant places on the approved location;
- What arrangements the applicant is making for:
    1. Waste water disposal
    2. Litter and garbage disposal
    3. Recycling facilities
- Whether the consent of the Responsible Authority has been obtained where the road is a declared state highway, tourist road or forest road;
- Whether the applicant has provided current evidence that the vehicle is registered under the Food Act;
- Whether there have been previous complaints about a previous permit holder;
- Whether a previous permit holder has received an official warning, infringement notice or had their permit cancelled;
- Any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.

Advertising signs for food vans shall be restricted to within 15 metres of the vehicle, caravan, trailer, or any other structure from which the business is conducted.

All other necessary permits and approvals must be obtained prior to the commencement of the business operation.

Where there is an event approved by Council, the approval for the event to use a specific area, does not over-ride the permission for the itinerant trader to use the same area.
A register must be kept of all permits granted for food vans. This register must include:

- The name of the permit holder;
- Detail of which approved site they may operate from*;*

- Vehicle registration number;
- Food Act registration details (including a copy of their certificate);
- Permit expiry date;
- Complaints received in regard to this permit holder.

The Council must also maintain a separate register that details whether there have been any complaints regarding the operation of the business.

Where Food Vans May Operate

i. Approved Locations

Where a person wishes to operate a Food Van in an approved location within a public place as identified in Diagram 1 of this policy, a Local Law Permit must be approved in accordance with Local Law No. 1 prior to the commencement of the operation of the business.

Up to a maximum of four approved locations will be allowed within the Central Business District of Shepparton (as defined in Schedule 1 of Community Living Local Law No. 1) in consultation with the successful tenderer's and with the approval of the CEO (or delegate) of the Council, after consideration of issues surrounding public safety and risk management (see schedule 1.). A refundable bond of $1,000 will be charged for each permit issued under this clause.

Diagram 1

Mooroopna – Ferrari Park site

ii. Residential Areas
Other than the locations defined in Diagram 1, a maximum of two vans may be permitted to operate in the residential areas of the Greater Shepparton City Council. This Food Van may not operate within commercial areas or adjacent to other approved locations. A Local Law Permit must be obtained from Greater Shepparton City Council prior to commencing trading.

iii Food Vans at Markets, Events and Festivals
Itinerant Traders may only operate at a Market, Event or Festival when they have received the prior consent of the organiser of the Market, Event or Festival. In seeking the prior consent, the Itinerant Trader should provide evidence of current public liability insurance and Food Act Registration (as appropriate).

iv All other Areas
Food Vans may not operate.

d. Exempt Businesses

The following selling activities on an itinerant basis are exempt from the need for a Local Law Permit:

- Newspapers and magazines being home delivered;
- Milk and milk products being home delivered;
- Fruit juices and soft drinks being home delivered;
- Goods and/or services sold in a legally established market or fair;
- Goods and/or services sold from any house or shop occupied by the person offering the goods and/or services for sale;
- Goods and/or services sold directly to the occupiers of premises;
- Coffee vans and 'smoko' vans operating from private land.

Council may, by resolution, exempt any itinerant trader from the need for a Local Law Permit. However, this exemption for the need for a permit under Local Law No. 1; Part 3 does not affect the need for compliance with any other legislation.

e. Other Businesses

Where a business does not clearly fall into the classification of an Itinerant Trader because the business is operated in a Public or Municipal Place on a more permanent basis, the business must operate in accordance with the Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme and all other related legislation that provides for occupancy of Public land.

Any person who is aggrieved by the administration or the enforcement of this policy may apply for a review of the decision. This right to appeal does not remove the person's obligation to act in accordance with any other direction, notices, or legislation.

f. Non-compliance

Where a business operator conducts a business within Greater Shepparton City Council that does not comply with this Policy or their permit to operate, their permit may be rescinded by the CEO (or delegate) and enforcement proceedings may occur in accordance with Local Law No. 1 – Community Living.

Where a business activity is contrary to the Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme enforcement proceedings in accordance with the Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme and the Planning and Environment Act may occur.

The following is a flow chart of the process that an applicant must undertake to be considered to receive a permit.

Determine when Council will call for Expression of Interest (EOI) to operate from designated Mooroopna site and suggested sites within boundaries of the CBD
(generally expected in March each year)

↓

Send EOI to Council prior to closing date - set when Council calls for EOI's
(see Appendix 2)

↓

EOI's assessed by Council Officer's on the basis of:
Goods to be sold
Projected hours and days of operation
Impact on amenity of area
Preferred location (as per designated areas in procedure)
Public Safety Issues & Risk management

↓

EOI applicants advised by Council of results of assessments

↓

Successful applicants to apply for permit using Council application form (shown at Appendix 1.) and including current insurance form, relevant bond and application fee.

↓

Permit issued for period 1st July to 30 June of following financial year with conditions as determined by authorised officers

4. RESPONSIBILITY

Local Laws Unit

- Receipt and assessment of applications for Food Vans in approved locations and in the residential area of the Municipality. The assessment process will require the referral of the application to other external and internal departments as required.
- Maintenance of a register of all permits granted for Food Vans.

Environmental Health Unit

- Monitoring itinerant traders to ensure compliance with the relevant permits or legislation.

Major Events and Promotions Unit

- To ensure that all itinerant traders that are participating in an approved event have the relevant permits in accordance with this policy and all related legislation.

Recreation Unit

- Receipt and assessment of applications for Spot or Bulk Sales in a Municipal or Public Place. The assessment process will require the referral of the application to other external and internal departments as required.

5. RELATED POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

- Planning and Environment Act 1987
- Greater Shepparton City Council Planning Scheme.
- Greater Shepparton City Council Local Law No. 1 – Community Living - Part 3
- Road Safety Act 1986
- Road Safety Regulations 1999
- Food Act 1984
- Health Act 1958
- Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978
- National Competition Policy

6. REVIEW

This procedure shall take effect for three (3) years following adoption of the procedure by Council. The procedure shall be subject to review not later than 1 July 2015.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

a. Extract from the Local Law

4.2 Trading of Goods or Services

(a) No person shall without a permit:

(i) erect or place on any highway or Council land a vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or other similar structure for the purpose of selling or offering for sale any goods or services; or

(ii) sell or offer to sell goods or services on any highway or Council land.

(b) An itinerant trader must obtain a permit under this Local Law and in compliance with Council's Itinerant Traders Policy.

Penalty

First offence – 2 penalty units

Second or subsequent offence – 4 penalty units

Schedule No. 1

Public safety and Risk Management:

In addressing issues of public safety and risk management, Council may consider any matter it thinks relevant to the specific site identified in an application. It may also elect to consult with proximate businesses and other agencies eg. Vicroads or Vic Police. Amenity issues and commercial impact will also be considered as part of this assessment.

Refundable Bond:

A refundable bond of $1000 will be required from each successful applicant for a permit. The bond will be refunded within 30 days of the expiry of the permit unless the Council has expended funds to undertake works or maintenance caused by the fault of the permit holder. The costs of such works or maintenance will be determined by an authorised officer.

Appendix 1

GREATER SHEPPARTON
GREATER FUTURE

GREATER SHEPPARTON

PERMIT APPLICATION FOR ITINERANT TRADERS ON COUNCIL MANAGED/OWNED PROPERTY

I/We .....

apply for a permit for Itinerant Trading on Council managed/owned land at:

.....

.....for the year ending 30 June 2013.

Name of proprietor: .....

Private address of proprietor:.....

Name of business:.....

Address of business: .....

Postal Address of business:.....

Contact numbers: Private ..... Business .....

Mobile ..... Fax .....

Email.....

Goods to be sold: .....

.....

Registration No. of Vehicle: .....

Food Vehicle Registration Council Area: .....

Food Vehicle Registration Council Permit NO.: .....

A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT PUBLIC LIABILITY CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS APPLICATION

Please note a CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY will be the only document accepted as proof of insurance.
(Minimum cover: $10,000,000 (ten million dollars or more)

If you do not have your own Public Liability Insurance, for an additional fee Council will cover your Business under Councils own Insurance

I have read the permit conditions and agree to abide by these and with the Council's *Local Law No. 1*.

I understand that if the permit conditions are not met, my permit can be withdrawn at any time by an Authorised Officer of the Council.

ANNUAL FEE: $78.00 (Price subject to review annually)

☐ **I WISH TO USE COUNCILS PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**
ADDITIONAL FEE OF $25.00 (Price subject to review annually)

Signature of proprietor: ..... **Date:** .....

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Pathway Local Laws Pre-payment Date Paid..... Receipt No.....

Amount Paid.....

Copy of Public Liability Certificate of Currency .....

Greater Shepparton City Council
Local Laws Unit
Locked Bag 1000, Shepparton 3632
Office Location: 90 Welsford Street, Shepparton 3630
Ph: (03) 5832 9741 Fax (03) 5831 1987 Email: council@shepparton.vic.gov.au

Appendix 2

GREATER SHEPPARTON
GREATER FUTURE

GREATER SHEPPARTON

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR ITINERANT TRADERS ON COUNCIL MANAGED/OWNED PROPERTY

I/We .....

would like to express interest for Itinerant Trading on Council managed/owned land for the year ending 30 June 2013.

Name of proprietor: .....

Private address of proprietor:.....

Name of business:.....

Address of business: .....

Postal Address of business:.....

Contact numbers: Private ..... Business .....

Mobile ..... Fax .....

Email.....

Food Vehicle Registration Council Area: .....

Food Vehicle Registration Council Permit NO.: .....

Registration No. of Vehicle: .....

Goods to be sold: .....

.....

Proposed Rental Amount for Site (per year): .....

Proposed Operating Hours: .....

Proposed Operating on Council managed/owned sites: .....

.....

.....

Please note: If successful a current Certificate of Currency for Public Liability Insurance will be required to be submitted with the Application Form (Minimum cover: $10,000,000 (ten million dollars or more).
If you do not have your own Public Liability Insurance, for an additional fee Council will cover your Business under Councils own Insurance

Signature of proprietor: ..... **Date:** .....

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received Date:.....

Greater Shepparton City Council
Local Laws Unit
Locked Bag 1000, Shepparton 3632
Office Location: 90 Welsford Street, Shepparton 3630
Ph: (03) 5832 9741 Fax (03) 5831 1987 Email: council@shepparton.vic.gov.au
ABN 59 835 329 843