



West Wimmera Shire Council

AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 19 April 2023 2:00 pm

Council Chambers Edenhope Council Offices 49 Elizabeth Street, Edenhope Vic 3318

PUBLIC ACCESS

Open to the public and Live streaming from Council's website:

www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au



Councillors and Shire Map



MAYOR Cr. Tim Meyer



DEPUTY MAYOR Cr. Jodie Pretlove



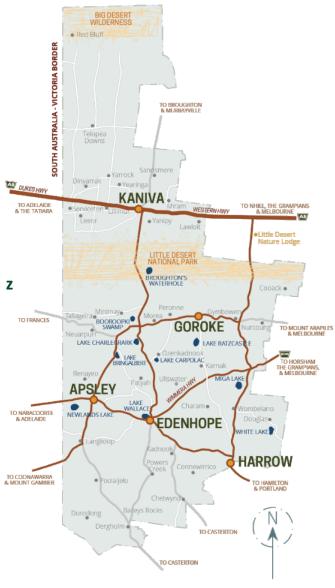
Cr. Trevor Domaschenz



Cr. Tom Houlihan



Cr. Bruce Meyer OAM





COUNCIL VISION

Our West Wimmera community is healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious, prosperous, and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity.

OUR VALUES

INNOVATIVE — We will proactively respond to change, are optimistic about our future and pursue continuous improvement in everything that we do.

ACCOUNTABLE — We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency, achievement of goals and advocating for our community

UNITED — We will do everything within our ability to encourage and form trusting relationships, to work together as one team to achieve our goals and advocate for 'One West Wimmera'.

COLLABORATIVE — We will actively and openly consult with you and work constructively with community organisations, agencies, the business community and other levels of government to our community's benefit.







Purpose of Council meetings

- (1) Council holds scheduled meetings and, when required, unscheduled meetings to conduct the business of Council.
- (2) Council is committed to transparency in decision making and, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, Council and Delegated Committee meetings are open to the public and the community are able to attend.
- (3) Meetings will only be closed to members of the public, in accordance with section 66 of the Act, if:
- (a) there are clear reasons for particular matters to remain confidential; or
- (b) a meeting is required to be closed for security reasons; or
- (c) it is necessary to enable the meeting to proceed in an ordinary manner.
- (4) A meeting closed to the public for the reasons outlined in sub-rule 3(b) or 3(c) will continue to be livestreamed. In the event a livestream is not available:
- (a) the meeting may be adjourned; or
- (b) a recording of the proceedings may be available on the Council website

The West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules set out the meeting procedure rules for this Council Meeting.

Members of the public are reminded that they are required to remain silent during this meeting, except during Section 5 Questions from the Gallery.

This Council meeting will be recorded for live streaming.

Councillors pledge

As Councillors of West Wimmera Shire Council, we solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that we will consider each item on this agenda in the best interests of the whole municipal community.





REQUIRED TO ATTEND:

Councillors:

Tim Meyer, Mayor Jodie Pretlove, Deputy Mayor Trevor Domaschenz Tom Houlihan Bruce Meyer OAM

Executive Leadership Group:

David Bezuidenhout - Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

James Bentley - Director Corporate & Community Services (DCCS)

Ram Upadhyaya - Director Infrastructure Development & Works (DIDW)





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1 Welcome

2 Acknowledgement of Country

The West Wimmera Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays respect to their elders, past, present and emerging.

3 Opening Prayer

Almighty God, we humbly ask your blessing upon this Council. Guide and prosper our decisions to the advancement of Your Glory and the true welfare of the people of West Wimmera Shire. Amen.

4 Apologies, Leave of Absences, Declaration of Conflict of Interest

- 4.1 Apologies
- 4.2 Leave of Absence

4.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

All Councilors have a <u>personal</u> responsibility to ensure they are aware of the provisions mandated in the Local Government Act 2020 with regard to Conflict of Interest disclosures.





5 Questions from the Gallery

5.1 Written Questions on Notice ****

Governance Rules - Division 8 Section 53:

- 53.4 Questions submitted to Council can be submitted as follows:
- 53.4.1 In writing, stating the name and address of the person submitting the question and generally be in a form approved or permitted by Council; and
- 53.4.2 Placed in the receptacle designated for the purpose at the place of the meeting at least two hours prior to the Council meeting, or be lodged electronically at the prescribed email address at least two hours prior to the Council meeting.
- 53.5 No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting.

The Question on Notice template is available from the Edenhope and Kaniva Council Offices, and from Council's website.

Written Questions on Notice submitted to Council no later than the deadline of 5:00pm on the Monday in the previous week to the relevant Council Meeting, will be included in the agenda.

Written Questions submitted subsequent to that deadline can be lodged electronically to KaddieCother@westwimmera.vic.gov.au, no later than two hours prior to the Council Meeting.

No questions on notice were received for inclusion in the agenda.





5.2 Verbal Questions without Notice

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council suspend Standing Orders for the purpose of receiving questions without notice from the members of the Gallery.

Time permitting, this section of the Agenda allows members of gallery to ask verbal questions of Councillors, following the removal of standing orders and when prompted by the Mayor (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.4.3)

Members of the Gallery providing verbal questions without notice at a Council Meeting must state their name, to be recorded in the minutes (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.4.4)

No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.5)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resume Standing Orders.





6 Delegates Reports

Delegate Reports are for information only and the following have been provided by Councillor's to the Governance Support Officer prior to Agenda Being Issued.

6.1 Councillor Tim Meyer (Mayor)

Date	Event
20/03/2023	Kaniva College Badge Assembly
21/03/2023	Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
23/03/2023	Critical Mineral Sands Networking
30/03/2023	CEMAC Meeting & Unscheduled Council Meeting
04/04/2023	Quarterly Meeting – WWSC & Dr. Anne Webster MP
05/04/2023	Councillor Forum
06/04/2023	Councillor Workshop – Draft Capital Works Schedule and Annual Plan/Budget
11/04/2023	Strategic Leadership Team Meeting
19/04/2023	Economic Development Strategy
19/04/2023	Pre-Council Meeting
19/04/2023	Council Meeting

6.2 Councillor Jodie Pretlove (Deputy Mayor)

Date	Event
21/03/2023	Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
30/03/2023	CEMAC Meeting & Unscheduled Council Meeting
05/04/2023	Councillor Forum
06/04/2023	Councillor Workshop – Draft Capital Works Schedule and Annual Plan/Budget
11/04/2023	Strategic Leadership Team Meeting
19/04/2023	Economic Development Strategy
19/04/2023	Pre-Council Meeting
19/04/2023	Council Meeting

6.3 Councillor Trevor Domaschenz

Date	Event
30/03/2023	CEMAC Meeting & Unscheduled Council Meeting
05/04/2023	Councillor Forum
06/04/2023	Councillor Workshop – Draft Capital Works Schedule and Annual





	Plan/Budget
19/04/2023	Economic Development Strategy
19/04/2023	Pre-Council Meeting
19/04/2023	Council Meeting

6.4 Councillor Tom Houlihan

Date	Event
30/03/2023	CEMAC Meeting & Unscheduled Council Meeting
05/04/2023	Councillor Forum
06/04/2023	Councillor Workshop – Draft Capital Works Schedule and Annual Plan/Budget
19/04/2023	Economic Development Strategy
19/04/2023	Pre-Council Meeting
19/04/2023	Council Meeting

6.5 Councillor Bruce Meyer OAM

Date	Event
30/03/2023	CEMAC Meeting & Unscheduled Council Meeting
05/04/2023	Councillor Forum
06/04/2023	Councillor Woskshop – Draft Capital Works Schedule and Annual Plan/Budget
14/04/2023	Wimmera Regional Library Corp Meeting
19/04/2023	Economic Development Strategy
19/04/2023	Pre-Council Meeting
19/04/2023	Council Meeting

7 Condolences

Nil





8 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

8.1 Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th March 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th March 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Attachments

Nil

8.2 Unscheduled Council Meeting held on Thursdsay, 30th March 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Unscheduled Council Meeting held on Thursdsay, 30th March 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Attachments

Nil





8.3 Unscheduled Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 5th April 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Unscheduled Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 5th April 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Attachments

Nil





9 Business Arising From Previous Minutes

10 Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion submitted for the agenda.

11 Councillor Forum Record

11.1 Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 5th April 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Record for the Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 5th April 2023 be received and noted.

12 Deputations and Petitions

There were no Petitions or Deputations submitted for the agenda.

13 Chief Executive Officer14 Corporate and Community Services

14.1 Grant Policy and Guidelines

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Community Development and Tourism Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

Each year, Council operates several grant program streams which enable Council to work in partnership with the community by providing financial support to extend the capacity of groups, businesses, and organisations to implement and sustain a wide range of local recreational, cultural, social, community and business support initiatives that make a positive contribution to the West Wimmera community. Eligibility for each of the grant





streams is determined in accordance with the relevant grant Guidelines. These Guidelines operate under the overarching umbrella of the Council Grants Policy.

Declaration of Interest

No officer declared an interest under the Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020) in the preparation of this report.

Background

After discussion in the February Council forum, a meeting was held with Councillors to workshop each of the individual grant Guidelines. Following this workshop, Councillors provided officers with direction regarding the relevant evaluation criteria for each of the grant Guidelines. These grant Guidelines are now presented to Council for adoption. The Guidelines establish a framework by which grant applications can be assessed under the overarching Council Grants policy, which is also attached for consideration and adoption by Council.

Risk Management Implications

The recent VAGO audit identified potential governance risks relating to the assessment and approval of grant applications received by Council. The Grants Policy and Guidelines submitted for Council adoption seek to ensure best practice standardisation and transparency in the grant assessment and approval process, thereby mitigating any perceived or actual risk in the grant process.

Legislative Implications

The report complies with the requirements of the: Local Government Act 2020

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Transparency in the Grants Policy and associated Guidelines ensure that grant applications and approvals are determined in accordance with Council's budgetary arrangements.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy/s:

Council Grants Policy





Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 - Liveable & Healthy Community

- 1.1 Create a healthy, active, and vibrant community.
- 1.5 Support and encourage our events, cultural and arts communities.

Goal 2 – Diverse and Prosperous Economy

- 2.1 Encourage and support the establishment and expansion of innovative, creative and sustainable businesses.
- 2.3 Facilitate the development of the local economy and jobs.
- 2.4 Create vibrant and attractive town centres.

Goal 3 - Sustainable Environment

- 3.1 Preserve and enhance the natural environment.
- 3.2 Promote sustainable environmental management practices.
- 3.3 Protect and promote public open space and natural assets.
- 3.4 Pursue alternative and sustainable energy sources.

Goal 4 - Good Governance

4.2 Engage with the community in a timely and respectful way.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Conclusion

The Council Grants Policy and associated Guidelines are required for good governance in relation to facilitate Council's commitment to the effective and targeted application of Community, Business, Streetscape, and future grant programs for maximum responsiveness to community need. The Policy and Guidelines will expedite support to the business and community sector in a timely and efficient manner in accordance with the Council's adopted budget and transparency principles.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:





That Council adopt the Grants Policy and the accompanying Grants Guidelines.

Attachments

- 1. WWSC Council Policy Council Grants Policy 2023 1 [14.1.1 5 pages]
- 2. Sponsorship and Contributions Grant Guidelines 2023 Template 1 [14.1.2 7 pages]
- 3. Community Stregthening Grant Guidelines 2023 Template 1_ [14.1.3 12 pages]
- 4. Quick Response Grant Guidelines 2023 Template 1 [14.1.4 7 pages]
- 5. Business Assistance Grant Guidelines 2023_ [14.1.5 8 pages]
- 6. Business Streetscape Grant Guidelines 2023 [14.1.6 12 pages]

The best of country living



COUNCIL POLICY			
COUNCIL GRANTS POLICY		Policy No:	
		Adopted by Council:	
		Next review date:	December 2026
Senior Manager:	Director Corporate a	nd Community Services	
Responsible Officer:	Manager Community	Development and Tourisr	n
Functional Area:	Corporate and Comr	nunity Services	
Introduction & Background	Council to work in p support to extend the implement and susta community and bu	partnership with the comme e capacity of groups, busin ain a wide range of local in	nt programs which enables nunity by providing financial nesses and organisations to recreational, cultural, social, es that make a positive
Purpose & Objectives	programs administer appropriate, fair, and To provide a commo grants program has it the grant scheme. The key objective of 1. Outline Counce funding. 2. Provide the frame process that is 3. Identify Counce and evaluation 4. Align grants we expectations for the process that is a community Section of the process that is a co	cil's commitment to providir amework for a transparent, s understood by the comm cil's commitment to accoun	at they are accessible, as in the municipality. Distration. Each specific on the specific purpose of



Response to the Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020	Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles. This policy is in response to the following overarching governance principle/s of the Local Government Act 2020: (a) the community engagement principles (section 56); (b) the public transparency principles (section 58);
Policy Details	
1.	Definitions
	'Grant' is a payment (monetary and/or in-kind) to an organisation, which is directed at achieving goals and objectives consistent with Council policy. The payment is conditional upon the recipient using the funds/in-kind for specific purposes set out in the terms and conditions of the grant guidelines and application form.
2.	Principles
	In administering the Council grant programs, Council undertakes to apply the following principles:
	 The administration and assessment of the grant program will be conducted in accordance with accepted standards of public accountability, probity and transparency of decision making. Council will apply the principles of democratic representation, social inclusion, and meaningful community engagement. The program will be administered on the basis of ethical and legal behaviour by West Wimmera Shire Council (WWSC) Councillors and employees. The grant programs will be regularly reviewed to ensure it remains responsive to emerging themes, issues, and trends in the community. Grant priorities will be set in accordance with Council's strategic objectives, budgetary resources and identified community needs. Each Grant program will have a clear set of guidelines. All applications will be assessed in accordance with the grant guidelines and Council's key strategic objectives as identified in the Council Plan, Strategies or Community Plans. Grant applications for amounts greater than \$2,500 will be taken to Council for a resolution. Grant applications for less than or equal to \$2,500 will be approved under delegation by the CEO. Applicants approved under delegation will be notified of the results of their request following a Council's contribution



	 as detailed in the funding agreement. 'Smartygrants' grant management system will be used by Council to administer all applications. The total amount of funds available per application and the matching funding requirements will be set by Council resolution prior to the advertising of each round of grants.
3.	Funding Exclusions
	Council will not fund:
	 Retrospective funding for projects commenced prior to the application opening date for the grant being applied for receipt of grant funding Applications for 100% funding, organisations are required to contribute financial and/ or in-kind to the project within the requirements established in each specific grant program guidelines. Fundraising activities. Core business and operational responsibilities of the organisation. Staff wages and salaries and ongoing operational, maintenance or administrative costs. Ongoing projects or a duplication of existing services. Support for individual pursuit without community benefit. Projects that do not involve the WWSC Community Services or activities which are considered to be primarily the responsibility of the State or Federal Governments. Applicants that have failed to correctly acquit funding with Council in the past. Applicants who have received funding from Council within the last 12 months. Any other funding proposal that does not meet the specific funding guideline.
4.	Eligibility
	 Council will consider grant applications from registered businesses and incorporated community groups that are legal entities based in West Wimmera Shire according to specific eligibility criteria and other conditions are outlined in the respective grants program guidelines. If the organisation is not a legal entity, an eligible organisation can apply on their behalf, through auspicing arrangements, provided the auspicing body has the necessary legal entity status to enter into a funding agreement with Council and agrees to administer funding on their behalf.
5.	Application Process
	 Applications will only be accepted on the forms made available by Council at the time the grant funding round is advertised. Complete responses must be provided to all questions on the application form. Applications not received by the closing date (if applicable) will not be considered. Applications must include all supporting documentation, where required, as per the guidelines, ie. budget, Certificate of Incorporation, quotations, etc.



		 Applicants who attend the education workshops prior to the closing date will be highly regarded.
6. Assessment		Assessment
		 For each grant program, the appropriate Grants Assessment Team, will individually score applications received, based on meeting the agreed selection criteria for the specific grant program. The Grants Assessment Team will be comprised of Council staff only. Applications will be ranked accordingly, based on defined scoring protocols and funds available and submitted with a recommendation to Council for decision regarding the distribution of grants funding. Exception is the Quick Response Grant whereby The Chief Executive Officer has the authorisation to approve the application upon consultation with councillors. Decisions regarding the allocation or non-allocation of funding made by Council are considered final. Council reserves the right to part-fund an application.
	7.	Accountability
1		 Successful applicants will be contacted in writing and a Grant Funding Agreement will be prepared by Council to outline the responsibilities, obligations and identified outcomes required of the organisation. Funding must be expended within twelve months of when the funds were granted (unless otherwise stated and agreed to in the Agreement) or the funds must be refunded to Council. An extension may be sought before the 12 months has expired, by writing to the Council. Monies received must only be spent on the project as approved by Council. Any unspent funds must be returned to Council. To vary the purpose for the allocated grant funds, written permission must be obtained in writing from Council prior to spending the funds. Failure to abide by the grant conditions could jeopardise your organisation's chances of receiving further funds from Council. At completion of the project, the grant recipient must submit a WWSC Grant Acquittal Report with all required accompanying documents.
-	8.	Communications
		 Grant programs will be widely advertised as per Council's Community Engagement Policy. All applicants will receive written notification acknowledging receipt of their application within one week of the grant program closing. Council will conduct a number of community information sessions across the municipality to highlight grant availability. All applicants will receive written notification about the success or otherwise of their grant application. Unsuccessful applicants will be encouraged to seek feedback from council in order to maximise their opportunity to obtain funding for future applications.



	Applicants will be able to see the status of their application through the Councils online grants portal (SmartyGrants).
<u>9.</u>	Conflict of Interest
	Councillors and Council officers who participate in the grant application process must declare any conflict of interest in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, Sections 126 to 131, and the WWSC Councillor Code of Conduct and WWSC Employee Code of Conduct
	Statement of Compatibility
	 As a public authority, Council has a duty to act compatibly with human rights and to give human rights proper consideration in decision making.
	 It is considered that this policy does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)
	 It is considered that this policy is written and meets the safe and strong: A Victorian Gender Equality Strategy.
	You may provide feedback about this document by emailing info@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

Policy Adopted:	Ordinary Meeting 25/11/99	Minute Book Page 6906	
Policy Reviewed:	Ordinary Meeting 25/07/02	Minute Book Page 10300	
Revieweu.	Ordinary Meeting 06/04/06	Minute Book Page 13682	
	Ordinary Meeting 11/03/10	Minute Book Page 17759	
	Ordinary Meeting 18/06/15	Minute Book Page 30619	RecFind 15/002328
	Ordinary Meeting 19/07/17	Minute Book Page 35794	RecFind 17/002783



COUNCIL GUIDELINE			
COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS GRANTS		Guideline No:	
		Adopted by Council:	
		Next review date:	
Senior Manager:	Director Corporate	and Community Services	3
Responsible Officer:	Manager Communi	ity Development and Tou	rism
Functional Area:	Corporate and Con	nmunity Services	
Introduction & Background	The West Wimmera Shire Council Sponsorship and Contributions Grants provides communities with the opportunity to collaborate with Council to make their locality a better place to live. The Council provides Sponsorships and Contributions to address local needs and provide opportunities to support the community and enhance lifestyles of West Wimmera Shire Council residents. Sponsorship and Contributions may be via application for funds and/or Council in-kind support.		
Purpose & Objectives	West Wimmera Shire Council Sponsorship and Contributions Grants is to support locally based groups and organisations that: • Support community wellbeing • Encourage community participation. • Bring economic benefit to the West Wimmera Shire • Assist in the recovery from catastrophic emergencies (funding to non-West Wimmera Shire groups may be considered i.e., Blazeaid)		



1.	Eligibility – organisations/groups must:
	Be a not-for-profit group or organisation.
	Have no outstanding payments owed to Council.
	Have a current ABN or complete a Statement by a Supplier Form.
2.	Ineligible
	Organisations/groups that have outstanding payment owed to Council.
	Individuals, unincorporated groups, political, businesses and for-profit
	groups
3.	What projects will be funded?
	Council will consider requests for sponsorship towards initiatives and/or activities that:
	Demonstrate significant community benefit.
	Are inclusive and encourage community participation.
	Are responsive to current community needs.
	Support community recovery
	Be a community group or organisation with an Australian Business Number
	Submit an online application form.
	Request sponsorship or a contribution which aligns to objectives of the funding program.
	Have the ability to undertake their project/activity and acquit expended funds
	by the end of the financial year, unless provided with a written extension.
	Work collaboratively with council.
	Not already receive substantial support from council
	Not be in breach of any statutory requirements.
	Have Public Liability Insurance cover for the project and must indemnify
	Council against any legal claims arising out of the project.
4.	What projects will not be funded?
	Council will not consider projects that:
	Are for wages and staffing costs.
	Are for the purchase of gift and prizes.



- · Are non-compliant of regulatory requirements.
- Are for the reimbursement of council fees and charges consultancies.
- Unconditional gifts, contributions, bequests, or endowments
- · Political sponsorships, contributions, or merchandising.
- Events or programs that denigrate, exclude, or offend minority groups.
- Events that create environmental concerns
- Programs that may present a hazard to the community.
- They are based outside of the West Wimmera Shire
- The funding is the responsibility of other Government departments i.e.,
 Department of Land, Water and Planning, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Education.
- Duplicate other locally available services, resources, or programs.
- The funding is requested retrospectively.
- There is outstanding debt with the council. Councils' financial hardship policy can be discussed in context with your application.

Sponsorship is a commercial arrangement in which Council provides a contribution of financial or in-kind support for an activity, group, or organisation.

5. Funding and Timelines

Applicants can request a Sponsorship or Contribution of up to \$1000 per annum.

Council's Sponsorship and Contributions Grants is open throughout the year, until all budgeted funds have been expended.

Application assessment panels are convened as required, and applicants will be notified within two weeks of the next council meeting of the outcome.

If your application is successful in obtaining Council Sponsorship and Contributions funding you will be required to enter into a written agreement with Council, stating your organisation will adhere to the following conditions:

Funding Conditions

 Sponsorship is allocated specifically for the use articulated in the funding agreement and cannot be used for any other purpose without prior formal written agreement from Council.



- Only one successful grant (quick response, community strengthening grant, Sponsorship/Contributions) application per organisation is permitted per two financial years.
- Funds allocated to the organisation are GST exclusive.
- Any change to the original submission must be approved by West Wimmera Shire Council in writing.
- Any works to be undertake must obtain relevant permits and approvals prior to commencement.
- Organisations are required to sign a funding agreement with Council and partake in media and communications opportunities that promote the council's community grants, as requested.
- Any programs or activities undertaken with grants or funding under this program must acknowledge the support and sponsorship of the West Wimmera Shire Council
- Successful applicants will be provided with the West Wimmera Shire Council corporate logo, use of the logo must be approved by the West Wimmera Shire Council media and communications department.
- Organisations are required to meet relevant government legislation requirements (e.g., Occupational Health & Safety Issues, Risk Management Equal Opportunity, Workcover, Privacy)
- Organisations are required to ensure volunteers are registered with the organisation and adequately covered by insurance - where required.

Sponsorship acquittals are submitted via

https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

Applicants will be ineligible for further grants if the acquittal process is incomplete.

6. Information about Financial Support

The level of assistance available to the community is limited by Council's budgetary allocation which is set each financial year. No applicant can be guaranteed funding, nor can any applicant be guaranteed to receive the full amount requested.

Groups/Organisations are eligible for one sponsorship contribution per financial year from Council. Please note that submitting a request does not guarantee



approval.

The sponsorship/contribution provided maybe either financial and/or in-kind support up to \$1,000. Groups/Organisations wishing to obtain a Council sponsorship or contribution for an amount greater than \$1,000.00 must submit their request for consideration prior to the commencement of the financial year for which the organisation requires the sponsorship.

Any support provided through the Community Sponsorship and Contributions

Grants (direct financial or in kind) will require recognition of Council's contribution.

7. Submitting a Request Form

Request forms can be completed via https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

Groups/organisations wishing to obtain Council sponsorship for an amount greater than \$1,000.00 must submit their application for consideration prior to the commencement of the financial year for which the organisation requires the donation.

For assistance in completing the online application please contact the Volunteer and Events Officer grants@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

8. Council's In-kind Support

West Wimmera Shire Council's in-kind contribution is a contribution of a good or a service other than money. Some examples include:

- Preparation of an area out of normal works routine (Mowing, slashing, etc.)
- Allocation, preparation, delivery, and removal of extra bins
- Allocation, delivery, and removal of traffic management signage

As with monetary support, in kind contribution is a contribution by council and as such requires acknowledgement to the support and sponsorship of the West Wimmera Shire Council

9. Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

• The request effectively meets identified local need and meets the objectives



of the Sponsorship and Contributions program.

- The request has clear and achievable objectives and outcomes.
- The request has been accurately costed.
- The applicant has the capacity to implement and report on the project.
- Does not contravene the West Wimmera Shire Council Grants policy.

10. Assessment Process

All applications are assessed against the program criteria and eligibility:

- Applications are reviewed by a cross-departmental panel of three Council Officers
- A community development officer provides administrative and recordkeeping support in the assessment process - they are not a member of the assessment panel.
- Applicants will be notified in writing within 2 weeks of Council approval if their application has been successful.
- All Sponsorship and Contributions applications will be assessed against the Sponsorship and Contributions Assessment Guide. The outcome of the grant application assessment will guide the eligibility of the applicant to receive grant funding.
- The level of funds awarded will be determined by the grant assessment panel with consideration for:
 - o The number of applications received.
 - o Total funding pool available for the financial year
- Applicants may not receive the full amount requested.
- Council reserves the right to provide Contributions without application in the case of recovery operations during or after a catastrophic emergency event.

11. Submitting the application

Applications must be submitted via https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

For assistance in completing the online application please contact the Volunteer and Events Officer grants@westwimmera.vic.gov.au



12.	Disclaimer
	These Guidelines are updated on a regular basis. Please ensure your application
	aligns with the latest Guidelines which are available on Council's Community Grants
	webpage.

Guideline Adopted:		
Guideline Reviewed:		
rtevieweu.		



COUNCIL GUIDELINE			
COMMUNITY STREGTHENING GRANTS		Guideline No:	
		Adopted by Council:	
		Next review date:	
Senior Manager:	Director Corporate	and Community Services	3
Responsible Officer:	Manager Commun	ity Development and Tou	rism
Functional Area:	Corporate and Cor	nmunity Services	
Introduction & Background	Council's Community Strengthening Grants Program has been a valuable source of financial support for local events and projects in West Wimmera Shire communities for many years. There are two rounds of grants each year with applications opening on the 1st Monday in April and closing last Friday in April 1st Monday in September and closing last Friday in September Grants will be assessed with recommendations going to the 1st Council meeting after the closing date.		
Purpose	The Community Strengthening Grants program is designed to promote and increase participation of local residents in community initiatives, to build and strengthen local networks and partnerships and to support community leadership, learning and skill development. • Council will provide financial assistance to community groups and organisations to support the provision of programs, activities and services which respond to identified community needs, contribute to the building of a stronger community, develop innovative approaches		



	and local social issues and are in accordance with Council's strategic
	objectives.
Overview	Grants of up to \$5000 are available in three streams:
	 Community Projects Funding - maximum of \$5,000 on a \$2 for \$1 basis. Maximum of one successful application every four funding rounds per organisation. Community Events Funding - maximum of \$1,200. Maximum of one successful application every four funding rounds per organisation. Facilities Upgrades and Equipment Purchases - maximum of \$5,000 on a \$2 for \$1 basis. Maximum of one successful application every four funding rounds per organisation.
	Grant of up to \$10,000: Major Community Project, Facilities upgrade and Equipment Grant – Maximum of \$10,000 on a \$1 to \$1 basis with a limit of 10% of the total applied grant being in kind. Maximum of one successful application every six funding rounds per organisation.
Policy statement	 West Wimmera Shire Council provides grants to community groups for the development of positive and beneficial projects which deliver on the Community Vision 2040 and the Council's priority actions. West Wimmera Shire Community Vision is a statement that capture the hopes and aspirations of the West Wimmera community and ensures we are planning for a bright future for all. Council Plan 2021-2025 incorporates Council's strategic commitment to deliver on Council's Vision, which includes the following themes of Liveable & Healthy Community, Diverse and Prosperous Economy, Sustainable Environment, Good Governance & Our Commitment. Please note: Council recommends that in the preparation of applications and delivery of grant projects individuals/groups are aware of and adhere to the most recent Covid-19 advice which can be found at
	https://www.australia.gov.au/.



Key Dates All community Strengthening Grants open on the		All community Strengthening Grants open on the
		1st Monday in April and closing last Friday in April
		1st Monday in September and closing last Friday in September
Process • Read the Grant Standard Guidelines to check your criteria.		
i iowcii	iai t	Talk to Volunteer and Events Officer via phone 13 99 72 or email grants@westwimmera.vic.gov.au.
		Register your group or organisation on SmartyGrants.
		 Complete the online grant application form by the due date outlined on our website.
		 Applications assessed by grants panel and then approved by Council.
		 Successful applicants notified, funding agreement issued and signed by both parties and funds paid.
		 At the conclusion of the grant period (12 months from the approval of the grant) the grant must be acquitted (See acquittal process in this guideline)
Standa	rd	These standard guidelines include important information and requirements
Guidelines		that are common to all the three streams when preparing an application.
1.	GRANT S	STREAMS
	All funding streams should relate back to the objectives of the Council Plan 20	

All funding streams should relate back to the objectives of the Council Plan 2021-2025 Community Projects Funding

Maximum of \$5,000 on a \$2 for \$1 basis. Maximum of one successful application every four funding rounds per organisation.

Examples may include:

- These are projects that are designed to provide benefits to the community in a wide range of areas, for example:
- · Community and cultural development
- · Sport and recreation
- · Health and wellbeing



Requirement: Quotations must be submitted with all applications in this category.

Community Events Funding

Maximum of \$1,200. Maximum of one successful application every four funding rounds per organisation.

These are events that contribute to the community in the following ways:

- Strengthening a sense of community, belonging and civic pride.
- Encourage residents to participate in social, cultural, sporting, and recreational activities.
- Foster social and cultural diversity.
- · Promote local business and trading groups.
- Enhance the West Wimmera Shire Council as a desirable destination.

Requirement: Applications in this category must include evidence of public liability insurance

Facilities Upgrades and Equipment

Maximum of \$5,000 on a \$2 for \$1 basis. Maximum of one successful application every four funding rounds per organisation.

This category covers the funding of works or equipment related to community capacity building projects which support an ongoing community activity, program or project that can demonstrate one or more of the following objectives:

- Increases community participation in projects and activities.
- Assists community groups to operate more effectively.
- Encourages and supports the involvement of volunteers.
- · Improves occupational health and safety.
- Contributes to environmental sustainability.

Priority will be given to projects that can demonstrate a high level of community need, or where the service or program is in danger of being discontinued without the required facility upgrade or equipment purchase.



Major Community Project, Facilities upgrade and Equipment Grant

Maximum of \$10,000 on a \$1 to \$1 basis with a limit of 10% of the total applied grant being in kind. Maximum of one successful application every six funding rounds per organisation.

This category covers the funding of Projects, Facility upgrades and Equipment related to community capacity building projects which support an ongoing community activity, program or project that can demonstrate one or more of the following objectives:

- Increases community participation in projects and activities.
- Assists community groups to operate more effectively.
- Encourages and supports the involvement of volunteers.
- Improves occupational health and safety.
- Contributes to environmental sustainability.

Priority will be given to projects that can demonstrate a high level of community need and have a plan for future growth.

Requirement: a minimum of two quotations for each element (if applicable) must be submitted with all applications in this category.

2. **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Applicant must be a community group or organisation.

Community groups and organisations must be:

- not for profit; and
- incorporated or have an auspice arrangement.

Groups may submit multiple applications per round, but they must be for different projects and cannot be the same application over multiple streams.

Government organisations and agencies are not eligible to apply. However, kindergartens, Committees of Management, other community committees and local branches of larger organisations (e.g., CFA and SES) are eligible where significant community benefit can be demonstrated.

The project must be carried out within the Shire and benefit West Wimmera Shire communities and residents.



Previous funded applicant must have no outstanding debts or overdue acquittals with West Wimmera Shire Council.

Applicant must have a level of public liability insurance appropriate to cover the project. This is where if increased insurance is required, it could form part of the application. Applicant must provide quotes or evidence to support the budget for any individual expenditure over \$250.

The following rates should be used as a guide when calculating in-kind budget expenses for applicable grants:

- Community group/individual labour: \$30 per hour.
- Professional labour provided by a qualified tradesperson: \$45 per hour.

The number of times an applicant has previously received funding through the Community Strengthening Grants program will be considered during the assessment process. Council may choose not to fund a project by applicants who have previously received funding should the program be oversubscribed.

For facilities' improvements, the applicant must either be the owner of the land/building/facility or have the written consent from the owner. Consent evidence must be in writing and attached to the online application.

If the community facility is on Council-owned land/property, the applicant must discuss the project with a West Wimmera Shire Council Community Development Project Officer prior to submitting the application.

3. FUNDING CRITERIA

All applications will be assessed against the following criteria (weighted out of 100):

- Clear objectives that align with the grant focus areas (40%)
 - o The objectives of the project are clearly identified.
 - $\circ\quad$ The project and intended target group aligns with the grant focus areas.
- Direct benefit to the West Wimmera Shire community (20%)
 - The project delivers clear and measurable outcomes and benefits to the target group.
 - There is potential for the project to have a lasting community impact.



- Ability to foster greater understanding of community issues or provide for preventative measures.
- Capacity of the organisation to manage the funding and deliver the service or program (40%)
 - There is evidence of project planning for the full funding period (including achievable timelines).
 - o The application contains a detailed, clear, and accurate budget.
 - o Clearly demonstrated ability to manage and implement the project.

4. FUNDING CONDITIONS

All applications must be submitted online at https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

- All applicants must acknowledge that they have read and understood the legislative requirements for volunteer health and safety. A Guide to Work Health and Safety for Volunteers
- All applicants must submit a completed application via SmartyGrants to Council before the closing date to be considered for funding.
- If successful, funding will be paid directly into the bank account specified in the tax invoice.
- Grant approval is subject to the applicant demonstrating that they have obtained the necessary permits or approvals to complete the project.
- All projects must be completed within 12 months of receiving funding notification unless Council gives prior written permission for an extension.
 Extensions may be granted up to a maximum of 6 months.
- Applicants are required to submit a final project report via SmartyGrants at the completion of the project.
- Every approved project is subject to the acquittal process to validate the
 expenditure and confirm that the funding has been spent on the project in
 accordance with the funding agreement.
- · Council accepts no responsibility for budget over-runs.
- Council accepts no responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of projects unless otherwise agreed to in writing.



5. COUNCIL'S IN-KIND SUPPORT

West Wimmera Shire Council's in-kind contribution is a contribution of a good or a service other than money. Some examples include:

- Preparation of an area out of normal works routine (Mowing, slashing, etc.)
- Allocation, preparation, delivery, and removal of extra bins
- · Allocation, delivery, and removal of traffic management signage

As with monetary support, in-kind contribution is a contribution by council and as such requires acknowledgement to the support and sponsorship of the West Wimmera Shire Council

COUNCIL WILL NOT FUND

- Applicant whose project has received West Wimmera Shire Council funding for the same activity through another grant stream of funding (you cannot be funded twice).
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Education and other Government organisations.
- Individuals cannot be the applicant.
- Projects that only provide direct financial benefit to a commercial business or individual with no significant community outcome.
- Projects that cannot demonstrate significant benefit/outcomes to West Wimmera Shire communities.
- Works that have already commenced prior to the grant application deadline.
- · The purchase of land.
- Projects for which the funding is the responsibility of other levels of government.
- An organisation's recurring operational costs such as salaries, rent and utilities or insurance.
- Duplicates of existing services/activities unless it can be demonstrated that it meets an unmet community need.
- Funding for individuals to attend conferences, training, or workshops.
- Funding for prizes, donations, awards, scholarships, or gifts.
- Activities that are inconsistent with Council Plan 2021-2025.



- Payments or wages for contracted staff, players, coaches and/or administrators.
- · Deficit funding (to repay cash shortfalls).
- Applicants who have received funding in the past four (six for major grant)
 Community Strengthening Grant rounds.

6. **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Projects will be assessed via a competitive process whereby a panel of 3 Council officers relevant to the specific stream of funding make an initial assessment against the funding criteria.
- Final endorsement will be given by the Council.
- All applicants will be informed on the outcome of their application in writing.
- Applicants may appeal decisions made in writing, to the CEO.

Important:

- Meeting all the criteria does not guarantee that an application will be successful.
- Budget constraints will ultimately limit the projects that can be funded in any given financial year.

What Happens After Assessment Process?

- Unsuccessful applicants will be advised by post or email as soon as possible after the grants have been approved by Council
- Successful applicants will be contacted and will be required to enter into a contractual agreement with West Wimmera Shire Council in accordance with the Funding Conditions.

7. ACQUITTAL REPORT GUIDELINES

Having completed your funded project, West Wimmera Shire Council needs to gather information from you.

The information you provide in your Acquittal Report will:



- Account for your use of public funds, demonstrating that the funding was used for the purpose for which it was provided and in accordance with your Funding Agreement
- Assist West Wimmera Shire Council in assessing how successful funding programs are in meeting the needs of the West Wimmera Shire community.
- Provide you with the opportunity to make suggestions regarding improvements to the funding program.

Your Acquittal Report due date and full acquittal requirements are specified in your Letter of Offer / Funding Agreement.

Acquittals are submitted online using SmartyGrants. All funding recipients will be sent information about the acquittal process (including a link to your Acquittal Report form) and timeline directly via email.

If you do not satisfactorily acquit your grant, you will not be eligible to apply for further West Wimmera Shire Community Strengthening Grants funding and the applicant must return any funds not spent on the project to West Wimmera Shire Council. We will notify you once we have received and accepted your Acquittal Report. You will then have completed all of the obligations under the Funding Agreement.

If you have any difficulty providing your report on time or complying with any specified requirements, you should discuss this with West Wimmera Shire Council Volunteer and Events Officer as soon as possible on Ph: 13 99 72.

8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Features of a strong funding application

There are ways to make your funding application more competitive:

- Broader community reach, multiple objectives.
- Clearly outline what is proposed, why it is needed, how it will be achieved, who
 is involved and where it will take place.
- Provide relevant support material: preference will be given to projects which can demonstrate.
- clear, defined partnerships with other community organisations and demonstrate partnership by providing letters of support from partner



organisations/groups.

 Provide relevant support material that shows the potential of the proposed activity.

Auspice Information

If your group is a not-for-profit organisation but is not incorporated, you will need to find an organisation that can auspice your application to be able to lodge an application.

Once you have an agreed auspice organisation you will be required to complete an auspice agreement form and upload the completed form and the Auspice organisations certificate of currency.

- It is the applicant responsibility to have an auspice agreement completed using the grant program Auspice Agreement form.
- Applicant must keep the auspice organisation fully informed of the details of the application and all project aspects and progress.
- If the application is successful, all grant funds will be paid to the auspice organisation for distribution to the applicant.
- In some instances, an applicant may request the auspice organisation provides public liability insurance (PLI) for their project. Should this occur, the applicant must obtain a PLI certificate of currency from the auspice organisation and include this in the applicant application. A policy statement or receipt is not acceptable.

Legal and Taxation Requirements

- If required, you must arrange public liability insurance to cover the activity/s detailed in the grant application.
- All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a statement by a supplier form available from the ATO website.
- Allocated funds must be expended within 12 months of receiving the grant, unless otherwise negotiated.

Acknowledgement, Promotion and Marketing

- Successful grant applicants must acknowledge West Wimmera Council as a funding source on all marketing and publicity material.
- You will need to include the Council official logo and the following wording: 'This



project is supported by the West Wimmera Council through its Community Strengthening Grants Program.'

- A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants. Successful applicants
 are required to contact the Community Development Project Officer to arrange
 approval of all proofs/materials before making these public.
- Unauthorised use of the West Wimmera Council logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the funded applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

9. **CONTACT**

For assistance in completing the online application please contact the Volunteer and Events Officer via phone 13 99 72 or email grants@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

Disclaimer: these Guidelines are updated on a regular basis. Please ensure your application aligns with the latest Guidelines which are available on Council's Community Grants webpage.

Guideline Adopted:		
Guideline Reviewed:		



COUNCIL GUIDELINE			
COMMUNITY QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS		Guideline No:	
		Adopted by Council:	
		Next review date:	
Senior Manager:	Director Corporate	and Community Services	3
Responsible Officer:	Manager Community Development and Tourism		
Functional Area:	Corporate and Con	nmunity Services	
Introduction & Background	Our Quick Response Grants Scheme encourages community outcomes in line with West Wimmera Shire 2041 community vision, and the Council Plan 2021-25. Community Quick Response Grant may be via application for funds and/or Council in kind support. It aims to build community capacity by encouraging: Participation and inclusion in events, projects, activities, and programs. Growing community partnerships Providing learning opportunities Supporting social connectedness, and Activating our community spaces such as parks, halls, and other facilities.		
Purpose & Objectives	The Quick Response Grants have been established to assist eligible organisations who require small amounts of funding throughout the year to support: • Unforeseen expenses or urgent issues • To take advantage of an unexpected opportunity		



	To support the establishment of a new group / program	
	As a result of a disaster or emergency event	
Overview	A maximum grant limit of \$1000 will apply to any community group.	
	Maximum of one successful application every four funding rounds	
	per organisation.	
	The grants are open all year round and available through	
	https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/	
	Grants in this category will be assessed by a panel of Staff Officers	
	and approved by the Chief Executive Officer with minuted	
	consultation with all Councillors.	
	Grants need to be acquitted within three months.	

1. Criteria – General

After reading the funding guidelines, please contact the Councils Community

Development Project Officer to seek feedback on your proposal. This will ensure you are eligible to apply, and your application meets the guidelines.

- Grants are available to not-for-profit community groups operating in the West Wimmera Shire Council.
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Education and other Government organisations are not eligible to be an applicant.
- Applicants must be incorporated bodies or have an established legal entity. If
 your organisation is not incorporated or doesn't have an ABN, you will be
 required to provide the details of an auspice organisation. The auspice
 organisation will receive the grant funding on your behalf and will ultimately be
 responsible for the Acquittal Report.
- If your organisation is incorporated but does not have an ABN, a 'Statement by
 a Supplier Reason for Not Quoting an ABN' form must be included with your
 funding agreement. This form is available from the Australian Tax Office
 website.
- Activities must be administered in the West Wimmera Shire Council area.
- Applicants who have previously been successful in receiving Council grant funding MUST have completed all Acquittal Reports and complied with Council



requirements prior to being considered for this grant.

- All applicants must provide a copy of a current Public Liability Insurance certificate of currency with activity/event details, where applicable. (For an event the P/L certificate of currency must include the event name, date, and location).
- All activities are encouraged to align with Key Council Plans:
 - West Wimmera Shire Council Council's Plan 2021-25
 - West Wimmera Shire 2041 Community Vision
- All activities must ensure inclusivity, social connectedness and accessibility has been considered.
- Multiple applications for the same activity will not be accepted.
- Applications must be completed in full and have sufficient evidence to make a
 reasonable assessment of the application. Council reserves the right to further
 investigate aspects of the application. Applications and Acquittal Reports must
 be on the correct form.
- Where possible, the goods and services used in the funded activity (suppliers and contractors) be sourced from within the West Wimmera Shire Council.
- Activities that are primarily for the purpose of fundraising will be required to demonstrate the Community benefits in addition to the fundraising outcome.
- For all expenditure items of \$1,000 or more you must include a quote or evidence of the item cost.
- Applications deemed to be for commercial benefit will not be considered. This
 will be determined on a case-by-case basis. This will include applications where
 the main beneficiary is a business.
- Funding must not be regarded as a recurrent commitment from Council. There
 is no guarantee a recurring activity will be funded in the future. Funding is
 limited.
- The applicant is responsible for all ongoing maintenance and running costs of any equipment purchases resulting from a successful application.
- Council may reduce the amount allocated to you if the funding applied for is considered unsubstantiated and/or excessive.
- Council may reduce the amount allocated to you if the funding allocation is oversubscribed; additionally, if Council is aware of an alternative option



available to you, it will recommend it as an alternative to funding.

- Successful applicants will be required to complete a Funding Agreement, which
 includes the conditions of grant funding. You may also be asked to comply with
 additional conditions.
- You are required to acknowledge West Wimmera Shire Council Council's support of your activity as specified in the Funding Agreement
- Funding must be returned if the activity is not completed in line with the Funding Agreement. Any excess funding must be returned.
- Quick response grants to be read in conjunction with the West Wimmera Shire Councils Grants Policy.

2. Council's In-kind Support

West Wimmera Shire Council's in-kind contribution is a contribution of a good or a service other than money. Some examples include:

- Preparation of an area out of normal works routine (Mowing, slashing, etc.)
- Allocation, preparation, delivery, and removal of extra bins
- Allocation, delivery, and removal of traffic management signage

As with monetary support in kind contribution is a contribution by council and as such requires acknowledgement to the support and sponsorship of the West Wimmera Shire Council

3. Unincorporated Organisations

An unincorporated organisation must have their application auspiced by an eligible incorporated organisation. Information on the auspicing body is required in the application including their ABN details, copy of current public liability insurance and a completed Auspice Agreement attached to the application.

If the applicant is successful, the auspicing body is legally responsible for the funds and grant payment is made into their bank account.

Further information on auspicing can be found at Not for Profit Law – Auspicing.



4. Supporting Documents

(CEO may waive some or all of the required documents during an emergency or if the situation is urgent)

The following documents are required with your application.

- Current bank statement showing date and bank balance.
- Quotes are required for each item you are requesting funding for and should clearly show the service or company where the item is being purchased, what is being purchased and how much each item is. A screenshot is sufficient so long as all the above are included. Preference should be given to local suppliers.
- Current certificate of public liability insurance to cover the project.
- If your group is being auspiced you will need to complete an Auspice
 Agreement and attach a copy of the Auspice organisation's current certificate of public liability insurance
- An Australian Tax Office Statement by Supplier if you do not have an ABN.
- Permission from the asset owner to undertake the project (if applicable)

5. Application and Assessment

Applications are made through SmartyGrants which can be accessed on Council's Grants web page www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au/grants.

The following criteria will be used to assess applications:

- how well the request meets one or more of the purposes of the grant.
- how well the group has provided evidence of justification to support the request.
- the level of benefit to West Wimmera Shire residents.

The Chief Executive Officer has the authorisation to approve the application upon consultation with councillors.

Council reserves the right to approve partial funding or refuse funding.

Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application as soon as practicably possible once the assessment and approval conditions have been met



6. **Grant Acquittal**

The project should be completed within three months of receiving funds.

After you have completed your project, you must tell us how you spent the money by acquitting the grant in SmartyGrants. You will need to provide copies of receipts, invoices and packing slips are not accepted. We also ask that you provide photos and any media promotion.

Please note that you are required to acknowledge Council's funding contribution within any media associated with the project.

If your project is delayed, please contact Council's Community Development Team as soon as possible to discuss your specific circumstances.

Failure to complete an acquittal report for any successful grant funding received through Council's Community Grants Program may result in applicants being ineligible for any further funding through the Community Grants Program.

7. Contact

For assistance in completing the online application please contact the Volunteer and Events Officer via phone 13 99 72 or email grants@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

Disclaimer: these Guidelines are updated on a regular basis. Please ensure your application aligns with the latest Guidelines which are available on Council's Community Grants webpage.

Guideline Adopted:		
Guideline Reviewed:		





COUNCIL GUIDELINE				
BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT GUIDELINES		Guideline No:		
		Adopted by Council:		
		Next review date:		
Senior Manager:	Director Infrastructu	ure Development and Wo	rks	
Responsible Officer:	Economic & Busine	ess Development Coordin	ator	
Functional Area:	Infrastructure Deve	lopment and Works		
Introduction &	Council is committed to attracting new and expanding existing business and industry to the municipality.			
Background	Council is willing to provide assistance to businesses in certain circumstances to commence or expand business operations within the shire.			
	To be eligible for assistance these businesses must demonstrate that they will be financially viable and provide a long-term benefit to the West Wimmera community.			
	West Wimmera Shire Council's Business Development Department is committed to:			
	Encouraging job creation, business growth and investment			
	Attracting new business and capital to the region			
	Supporting local businesses that enhance local economic development.			
	Supporting I	local businesses to conne	ect with government and	
	 Facilitating i development 		frastructure to support industry	



	-		
Purpose & Objectives Levels of Funding	These guidelines provide a framework to enable Council to provide targeted assistance to businesses to commence or expand operations within the shire. Assistance may include the offsetting of some costs of establishing or expanding businesses which may include permit and fee offsets, and/or may include professional business advice including marketing and business planning. The over-arching goals of the Business Assistance Grant is to provide a sustainable and growing shire economy through: • Support for local businesses that will enable them to enhance their profitability and growth. • Competitiveness and provision of employment opportunities. Council recognises that the creation of employment for the region is one of the most critical challenges that we face. • The attraction of new businesses to the region. Tier 1 – Grant Writing support to the value of up to \$1000 +GST Grant writing support via GrantGuru. Tier 2 – New Business or expanding existing business – Up to \$10,000 +GST per business.		
Eligibility and Assessment Criteria	Applicants for funding will be assessed against the following criteria and will be awarded until the financial allocation for the program has been exhausted. The following matters will be assessed in determining if a grant application is successful: a) Must have a current/active Australian Business Number (ABN) b) Must be based within the municipality of West Wimmera Shire. c) Have 20 or less full-time equivalent employees. d) Has acquitted any previous Council grants and have no overdue debts with West Wimmera Shire. e) Must demonstrate a benefit to the Community.		



Terms and Conditions

An applicant must comply with the following terms and conditions:

General

- a) The applicant is to submit a completed application form including all supporting information i.e. description of proposed works, a digital image/ photo of business area being upgraded before works commence.
- b) Eligible works that are successful and require a planning/ building permit will need to obtain a planning/ building permit prior to receiving funds for works. It is the responsibility of the applicant to investigate the requirement of any necessary permits through Councils planning/ building department.
- c) Costs associated with obtaining planning/building permits may be included in the total amount of the grant application, as a reimbursement, providing that the permits are approved and included in the application.
- d) Council will not provide funding for retrospective activities or equipment (activities that have occurred, or equipment purchased, prior to Council decision).
- e) The grant funding is to be used specifically for the project identified in the application.
- f) The applicant is to enter into an agreement with Council listing the agreed schedule of works and grant sum (+GST).
- g) Works should not commence until the applicant has signed the agreement with Council.
- h) You must actively participate in the grant writing process Tier 1
- i) Works approved for grant funding are to be completed within 12 months from the date the agreement with Council is signed or grant funds will be reallocated.
- j) Funding cannot be used as a deposit or part of a financing agreements.



- Any overrun in costs is not the responsibility of Council and extra funds will not be granted.
- Applicants are required to partake in media and communications opportunities that promote the council's business grants program.

Works are to be carried out in accordance with the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 and Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017, the Victorian Electricity Safety Act 1998, the Victorian Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations 2009 and other legislation as required.

Disclaimer

- Council will not be responsible for under estimation of costs.
- A successful applicant cannot be guaranteed funding to the level requested.
- An applicant meeting the key selection criteria will not be guaranteed funding.

1. Tier 1 – Grant Writing Support

To the value of up to \$1000 +GST. Grant writing support via GrantGuru for external funding e.g. State and Federal Government.

Additional gap fees will be required to be paid by the business.

Eligible Activities

Activities that will be eligible for grant funding include:

- Grant writing services via GrantGuru
- Grant writing support and assistance via in kind Council support if available

If insufficient information is provided on the application form, Council may seek clarification on the proposed activities before deciding about the grant application.



Ineligible Activities

The type of activities/items that are not eligible for the program are:

- Grant writing services provided outside of GrantGuru or Council
- Associated costs for grant related activities that may be required as part of a
 grant application. An example might be a survey of an area that may need to be
 completed in order to submit a grant application. Council can provide support via
 grant writing, but not for grant requirements.

Application and Assessment

Applications are made through SmartyGrants which can be accessed on Council's Grants web page: https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

Detailed proposal, describing the nature of your business and funding stream intended on applying for.

A report will be submitted to Councillors for a decision.

How to Claim Grant Funding

To claim the funds the applicant must provide Council with:

- A tax invoice from the service provider (including ABN) to Council for the agreed grant sum (+GST).
- A completed acquittal must be submitted once a service provider has been engaged and grant application submitted.

2. Tier 2 – New or Expanding Existing Business

Up to \$10,000 +GST per business.

Eligible Works

Works that will be eligible for grant funding include:

- · Refurbishing or replacing equipment
- · Upgrading of facilities



- · Repair of building
- Extension to current facilities

Ineligible Works

The type of works that are not eligible for the program are:

- Works that have not been approved via the applicable planning and development laws.
- Works on a building that has received grant funds from this program in the past five years.

Application and Assessment

Applications are made through SmartyGrants which can be accessed on Council's Grants web page: https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

Application Requirements

- All directors/principals named.
- Applicants are to provide a business plan, detailing the nature of the business including sufficient financial details to demonstrate the business is sustainable.
- SWOT analysis
- Owner consent (if applicable)

A report will be submitted to Councillors for a decision.

How to Claim Grant Funding

To claim the funds the applicant must provide Council with:

- A tax invoice (including ABN) to Council for 80% of the agreed grant sum (+ GST).
- On completion of works an acquittal must be submitted.
- A tax invoice (including ABN) for the remaining 20%.

Council will inspect the works and only pay the grant funding when the works have been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the agreed schedule of works listed in the agreement.



OH&S Requirements

Works are to be carried out in accordance with the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, and Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017, the Victorian Electricity Safety Act 1998, the Victorian Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations 2009 and other legislation as required.

Specifically, the applicant, building owner and licensed contractor must:

- Accord with the Occupational Health and Safety Amendments Regulations 2014, Australian Standards or Codes where they exist.
- Not obstruct and or hinder movement of persons on footpaths or roadways e.g. ladders and scaffolds etc. Traffic management for construction or maintenance work is to be in accordance with the requirements of the Road Management Act 2004 and related Regulations.
- Should a temporary road or footpath closure be required, a Council application for a temporary road or footpath closure must be completed at least ten days before the work is started.
- Not allow items such as drop sheets, ladders, trestles etc. to be a trip hazard for passers-by or motorists.
- Ensure that if any work is required to be done near electrical wiring that this work
 is completed strictly in accordance with the Victorian Electricity Safety
 (Installations) Regulations 2009 the Code of Practice on Electrical Safety for
 Work on or Near High Voltage Electrical Apparatus (the Blue Book 2012) to
 prevent electrocution or serious injury.
- Ensure the structural integrity of any awnings or structures if work is to be conducted on or from those places.
- Ensure the structural integrity of any ornamental work e.g. stone/brick rosettes, figurines etc. prior to beautification work commencing.
- Ensure when working above ground to inspect roof / awnings or access points for brittle sheets e.g. fibreglass etc. to prevent persons falling through.
- Ensure that any asbestos content of a facade or structure is appropriately
 handled and managed reference to WorkSafe Victoria for information on safe
 handling of asbestos products is essential.
- Ensure that no asbestos cement surfaces are water blasted to prepare the



surfaces for painting.

- Ensure that proper access and egress is provided to work areas above ground e.g. ladders should extend 1 metre above landing point; ladders used at a ratio of 4:1 etc.
- Do not work within 2 metres of an unprotected edge if this is not possible then temporary handrails, fences to be erected to prevent falls or if not practicable, harnesses must be used.
- Arrange to have information sheets available (Material Safety Data Sheets) on chemicals used in beautification works e.g. Paint stripper and paints in general.
 MSDS's are available from the manufacturer and are generally available on the internet on the manufacturer's website.

Review

This program is to be reviewed annually in accordance with the review of Council's budget. The review of the program is to consider:

- The success of the program in achieving the program objectives
- The rate of take-up of the program.
- Feedback from post-grant survey results from building owners
- Whether the grant program information or process need to be revised
- Whether eligible works/activities need to change
- · Whether the amount of grant funding should be changed

Guideline Adopted:		
Guideline		
Reviewed:		



COUNCIL GUIDELINE			
BUSINESS STREETSCAPE GRANT GUIDELINES		Guideline No:	
		Adopted by Council:	
		Next review date:	
Senior Manager:	Director Infrastructu	ure Development and Wo	rks
Responsible Officer:	Economic & Busine	ess Development Coordin	ator
Functional Area:	Infrastructure Deve	lopment and Works	
Introduction & Background	The West Wimmera Business Streetscape Grant program is aimed at encouraging building owners and business operators to upgrade the appearance of building facades and to improve accessibility to premises.		
Purpose & Objectives	The purpose of the program is to beautify the region's local shops by improving the streetscape and ensuring universal access. Through providing financial assistance the program aims to develop a stronger partnership between Council, building owners and business operators in making overall improvements to the building façade. To provide financial assistance to encourage building owners and business operators to undertake works to upgrade the facades of buildings and access to those buildings within the Shire. The program will benefit the broader community by:		
	 Making places more attractive, comfortable and confident business and spending time in the main street precincts. Increasing activity in the local shopping precincts which wi 		ain street precincts. ng precincts which will generate
	 Providing universal access for everyone, not just people with a disability. Good access will benefit the aged and people with prams and young children. 		



Levels of Funding	Tier 1 - Non-Active Shopfront Rejuvenation - Up to the maximum amount of \$500 – reimbursement upon successful application only. Tier 2 - Self completed works up to the maximum amount of \$3000 +GST.			
	Tier 3 - Work undertaken by a contractor up to maximum amount of \$5000 +GST.			
	Other grant submissions: Community groups, who are not eligible to apply for Tiers 1 – 3 can apply for the Streetscape Community Group Grant of up to a maximum of \$1500.			
	Applicants for key landmark buildings or where the proposal includes the upgrading of Council owned infrastructure e.g. footpaths, street furniture, may be able to negotiate a larger Council contribution considering the significance of the building to the streetscape. Key landmark buildings are often located on corners or have a wider than average frontage increasing the costs of works.			
Eligibility and Assessment Criteria	Applicants for funding will be assessed against the following criteria and will be awarded until the financial allocation for the program has been exhausted.			
	The following matters will be assessed in determining if a grant application is successful:			
	a) The application is for facade or access improvement works to a retail/ commercial building.			
	b) The applicant must be a small business owner. A small business is defined as a business employing less than 20 people. The business must be operating for Tier 2-3.			
	c) The proposed works are consistent with or compliment any approved colour palette, facade design and/or streetscape for the area.			



- d) The proposed works are in keeping with heritage character. (If applicable).
- e) The proposed access works are in accordance and compliant with relevant disability legislation and regulations.
- f) The application is for eligible works and the applicant has submitted all relevant information with the completed application form.

Council reserves the right to approve or refuse a grant application in terms of the colour, material or method of execution as it considers appropriate.

Prior to commencing the works, applicants must enter into an agreement with Council detailing the agreed schedule of works and grant sum. The applicant must have read and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions applying to the program.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to investigate the requirement of any necessary planning/building permits through Councils planning/ building department. Costs associated with obtaining building/planning permits may not be included in the total amount of the grant application.

Eligible works that are successful and require a planning/ building permit will need to submit a planning/building application for approval prior to receiving funds for works.

Terms and Conditions

An applicant must comply with the following terms and conditions:

General

- a) The applicant is to submit a completed application via Council's SmartyGrants program and must include all supporting information i.e. description of proposed works, a digital image/ photo of shopfront, area being upgraded before works commence, colour pallet, and owner's consent (if applicable).
- b) Only one grant application is lodged per property, however a number



of business owners may jointly make a combined application.

- c) The applicant must obtain necessary planning/building approvals before commencement of the works.
- d) Two quotes from licensed contractors are to be submitted with the application if work is not being completed by owner/business.
- e) The applicant is to enter into an agreement with Council listing the agreed schedule of works and grant sum (+GST).
- f) Works should not commence until the applicant has signed the agreement with Council.
- g) Applicants will be required to remove any illegal signage as part of the facade improvements.
- Works approved for grant funding are to be completed within 12 months from the date the agreement with Council is signed or grant funds will be reallocated.
- i) Any overrun in costs is not the responsibility of Council and extra funds will not be granted.
- j) Applicants are required to partake in media and communications opportunities that promote the council's business grants program.

Works are to be carried out in accordance with the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 and Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017, the Victorian Electricity Safety Act 1998, the Victorian Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations 2009 and other legislation as required.

Disclaimer

- Council will not be responsible for under estimation of costs.
- A successful applicant cannot be guaranteed funding to the level requested.
- An applicant meeting the key selection criteria will not be guaranteed funding.



1. Non-Active Shopfront Rejuvenation

Up to the maximum amount of \$500 for non-active shopfronts.

Eligible Activities

Works that will be eligible for grant funding include:

- Painting
- Cleaning of brickwork
- Removal and replacement of cladding and awnings

Ineligible Activities

The type of works that are not eligible for the program are:

- Works required as part of a development approval conditions of consent.
- Works on a building that has received grant funds from this program (or other council grant program) in the past three years.
- If insufficient information is provided on the application form, Council may seek clarification on the proposed works before making a decision about the grant application.

Application and Assessment

Applications are made through SmartyGrants which can be accessed on Council's Grants web page: https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

You will require the following for an application.

- Detailed costings for paint and equipment including colour pallet and description of proposed works.
- Photos of current condition.
- Owner consent (if applicable)

If insufficient information is provided on the application form, Council may seek clarification on the proposed works before making a decision about the grant application.

A report will be submitted to Councillors for a decision.



How to Claim Grant Funding

To claim the funds the applicant must provide Council with:

- On completion of works an acquittal must be submitted, including receipts and photos.
- A tax invoice to Council for the agreed grant sum.

Council will inspect the works and only pay the grant funding when the works have been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the agreed schedule of works listed in the agreement.

2. Tier 2 – Self Completed Works

Up to the maximum amount of \$3000 +GST

Eligible Works

Works that will be eligible for grant funding include:

- Painting
- Upgrading of signage structures (excluding sign writing etc)
- · Cleaning of brickwork
- · Removal and replacement of cladding and awnings
- Repair or replacement of wall tiles, facade structures
- Other facade improvement works subject to Council's approval.
- · Access works to reduce entrance barriers.
- Removal of steps to install an access ramp.
- Installation of handrails to existing ramp entry or additional stepped entry
- Minor works to make other parts of the existing premises more accessible will be considered.



Ineligible Works

The type of works that are not eligible for the program are:

- Works required as part of a development approval conditions of consent.
- Works on a building that has received grant funds from this program (or other council grant program) in the past three years.
- · Home based businesses.

Application and Assessment

Applications are made through SmartyGrants which can be accessed on Council's Grants web page: https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

You will require the following for an application.

- Detailed costings for paint and equipment including colour pallet and description of proposed works.
- Photos of current condition.
- Owner consent (if applicable)

If insufficient information is provided on the application form, Council may seek clarification on the proposed works before making a decision about the grant application.

How to Claim Grant Funding

To claim the funds the applicant must provide Council with:

- A tax invoice (including ABN) to Council for 80% of the agreed grant sum (+ GST).
- On completion of works an acquittal must be submitted.
- A tax invoice (including ABN) for the remaining 20%.

Council will inspect the works and only pay the grant funding when the works have been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the agreed schedule of works listed in the agreement.



3.	Tier 3– Work Undertaken by a Contractor				
	Up to the maximum amount of \$5000 +GST				
	Eligible Works				
	Works that will be eligible for grant funding include:				
	Painting				
	Upgrading of signage structures (excluding sign writing etc)				
	Cleaning of brickwork				
	Removal and replacement of cladding and awnings				
	Repair or replacement of wall tiles, facade structures				
	Other facade improvement works subject to Council's approval.				
	Access works to reduce entrance barriers.				
	Removal of steps to install an access ramp.				
	Installation of handrails to existing ramp entry or additional stepped entry				
	 Minor works to make other parts of the existing premises more accessible will be considered. 				
	Ineligible Works				
	The type of works that are not eligible for the program are:				
	Works required as part of a development approval conditions of consent.				
	 Works on a building that has received grant funds from this program (or other council grant program) in the past three years. 				
	Home based businesses.				
	Application and Assessment				
	Applications are made through SmartyGrants which can be accessed on Council's				
	Grants web page: https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/ You will require the following for an application.				



- Detailed costings for paint and equipment including colour pallet and description of proposed works.
- · Photos of current condition.
- Owner consent (if applicable)

If insufficient information is provided on the application form, Council may seek clarification on the proposed works before making a decision about the grant application.

How to Claim Grant Funding

To claim the funds the applicant must provide Council with:

- On completion of works an acquittal must be submitted including photos.
- A tax invoice from the contractor (including ABN) for the agreed grant sum (+GST).

Council will inspect the works and only pay the grant funding when the works have been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the agreed schedule of works listed in the agreement.

4. Community Group Applications

Community groups, who are not eligible to apply for Tiers 1 - 3 can apply for the Streetscape Scheme Community Group Grant of up to a maximum of \$1500.

Eligible Works

Works that will be eligible for grant funding include:

- Painting
- Upgrading of signage structures (excluding sign writing etc)
- Cleaning of brickwork
- Removal and replacement of cladding and awnings
- Repair or replacement of wall tiles, facade structures
- Other facade improvement works subject to Council's approval.
- · Access works to reduce entrance barriers.



- Removal of steps to install an access ramp.
- Installation of handrails to existing ramp entry or additional stepped entry
- Minor works to make other parts of the existing premises more accessible will be considered.

Ineligible Works

The type of works that are not eligible for the program are:

- Works required as part of a development approval conditions of consent.
- Works on a building that has received grant funds from this program (or other council grant program) in the past three years.

Application and Assessment

Applications are made through SmartyGrants which can be accessed on Council's Grants web page: https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/

You will require the following for an application.

- Detailed costings for paint and equipment including colour pallet and description of proposed works.
- · Photos of current condition.
- Owner consent (if applicable)

If insufficient information is provided on the application form, Council may seek clarification on the proposed works before making a decision about the grant application.

How to Claim Grant Funding

To claim the funds the applicant must provide Council with:

- On completion of works an acquittal must be submitted including photos.
- A tax invoice to Council for the agreed grant sum.

Council will inspect the works and only pay the grant funding when the works have been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the agreed schedule of works listed in the agreement.



OH&S Requirements

Works are to be carried out in accordance with the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, and Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017, the Victorian Electricity Safety Act 1998, the Victorian Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations 2009 and other legislation as required.

Specifically, the applicant, building owner and licensed contractor must:

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- Not obstruct and or hinder movement of persons on footpaths or roadways e.g.
 ladders and scaffolds etc. Traffic management for construction or maintenance
 work is to be in accordance with the requirements of the Road Management Act
 2004 and related Regulations.
- Should a temporary road or footpath closure be required, a Council application for a temporary road or footpath closure must be completed at least ten days before the work is started.
- Not allow items such as drop sheets, ladders, trestles etc. to be a trip hazard for passers-by or motorists.
- Ensure that if any work is required to be done near electrical wiring that this work
 is completed strictly in accordance with the Victorian Electricity Safety
 (Installations) Regulations 2009 the Code of Practice on Electrical Safety for
 Work on or Near High Voltage Electrical Apparatus (the Blue Book 2012) to
 prevent electrocution or serious injury.
- Ensure the structural integrity of any awnings or structures if work is to be conducted on or from those places.
- Ensure the structural integrity of any ornamental work e.g. stone/brick rosettes, figurines etc. prior to beautification work commencing.
- Ensure when working above ground to inspect roof / awnings or access points for brittle sheets e.g. fibreglass etc. to prevent persons falling through.
- Ensure that any asbestos content of a facade or structure is appropriately
 handled and managed reference to WorkSafe Victoria for information on safe
 handling of asbestos products is essential.



- Ensure that no asbestos cement surfaces are water blasted to prepare the surfaces for painting.
- Ensure that proper access and egress is provided to work areas above ground e.g. ladders should extend 1 metre above landing point; ladders used at a ratio of 4:1 etc.
- Do not work within 2 metres of an unprotected edge if this is not possible then temporary handrails, fences to be erected to prevent falls or if not practicable, harnesses must be used.
- Arrange to have information sheets available (Material Safety Data Sheets) on chemicals used in beautification works e.g. Paint stripper and paints in general.
 MSDS's are available from the manufacturer and are generally available on the internet on the manufacturer's website.

Review

This program is to be reviewed annually in accordance with the review of Council's budget. The review of the program is to consider:

- The success of the program in achieving the program objectives
- The rate of take-up of the program.
- Feedback from post-grant survey results from building owners
- Whether the grant program information or process need to be revised
- Whether eligible works/activities need to change
- · Whether the amount of grant funding should be changed

Guideline Adopted:		
Guideline Reviewed:		



15 Infrastructure Development and Works

15.1 Strategic Planning Work Plan Priorities

Directorate: Infrastructure Development and Works

Report Author: Senior Planning Officer

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

This report seeks to discuss the proposed priority for the Strategic Planning Work Plan.

Since the conclusion of the Planning Scheme Review (the review) project, the Planning Department has been preparing a priorities list of projects to implement the recommendations from the Review.

Declaration of Interest

No officer declared an interest under the Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020) in the preparation of this report.

Background

The Planning Scheme Review contained a large number of recommended actions. These actions have been prioritised using the Council Plan Goals and Strategies. Where possible, multiple review recommendations have been grouped together to create a project scope of related actions. These grouped projects are mostly for the urban areas of the shire. A proposed Strategic Planning Work Plan Priority table is attached to this report. All recommendations contained within the review are included in this table.

The higher priority projects (Priorities 1, 2, 3, and 4) are projects that are relatively straight forward to complete and will yield immediate benefits to Council and the Community.

Priority 1 is given to the policy neutral planning scheme amendment, as the review has already provided the content for this amendment and is therefore straight forward to process. As there is no change to the Council's policy positions, this amendment is administrative only and seeks to ensure that the Planning Scheme is in its correct legal format.

Priority 2 is given to the update of the flood controls. This is given a high priority as it improves the protection of the community from the risks of flooding, as well as address any potential liability the Council has from not having updated the scheme earlier.

Priority 3 and 4 is given to the rezoning of the commercial areas in Edenhope (Priority 3) and Kaniva (Priority 4). The effect of these rezonings will be to reduce the permit triggers





that apply in these areas. It is envisaged that both projects will occur simultaneously but will be separate projects to manage workflow.

Priority 5 is collectively given to the Targeted Settlement Plans for shire's larger towns. These projects are more complex and will require additional strategic work to be prepared.

For example, Edenhope will require the completion of a flood investigation to assist in identifying where land may be rezoned to allow for further development. A Flood investigation would have a project cost in the vicinity of \$120,000. It may be possible to obtain external funding to cover these project costs, however, a flood investigation will take approximately a year or more to complete. Apsley also requires a flood investigation to be prepared.

Alternatively, Kaniva does not need a flood investigation to be prepared, so the strategic work required to inform the preparation of a Targeted Settlement Strategy will be less.

Council officers have had preliminary discussions with the Department of Transport and Planning regarding support for the preparation of these strategies. It is requested that Councilors provide direction on the preferred order for progressing the six proposed settlement strategies.

Priority 6 is given to the Tourism Strategy as this strategy is already in train. This strategy may make recommendations for changes to the Planning Scheme, which can then be incorporated into the future workload of the Planning Department.

Priority 7 is given to the implementation of the sport and recreation strategy. Progressing the planning scheme components of this strategy will be similar to the Tourism Strategy, as in the strategy must first be completed, and the implementation of any recommendations for changes to the Planning Scheme can then be progressed by the Planning Department.

Priority 8 is given to the Rural Land Use Strategy (RLUS). As the West Wimmera Shire is predominantly a rural shire, there will be much benefit to the community, the economy and the environment to be derived from a RLUS. As can be seen from the attachment, the RLUS is a wide-ranging and complex strategy, as it must address and balance the issues at play in the rural areas of the shire. Undertaking this project will be funding-dependent, and an indicative project cost of \$80,000 is proposed. Guidance from Council is sought as to the scheduling of a project of this magnitude, given the relatively high cost.

Priorities 9 and 10 are given to the Edenhope and Apsley Flood Investigations. These projects may rise in their priority subject to the availability of grant funding. Should funding become available, it is strongly recommended that the council should apply for available funding and complete the projects within the funding scope. In the absence of external funding, each flood investigation may cost in the vicinity of \$130,000 each.

Priority 11 is given to the West Wimmera Heritage Study. This project is partially complete, however significant work remains to be completed. The next step for the project is to





prepare citations for a prioritised list of heritage places and items. An indicative cost per citation is in the order of \$1200.00 each. A project budget of \$120,000 would therefore deliver citations for 100 heritage items or places. Once the citations are completed, a Planning Scheme amendment will be required to introduce these citations to the Planning Scheme. This amendment would require significant community engagement, as well as the potential for a multi-day hearing before an independent panel. A project cost of \$50,000 for the amendment is proposed.

Priority 12 is given to a Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO). The VPO currently only applies to areas of Jumping Jack Wattle. There are other areas within the shire that do not have adequate mapping, or protections in place.

Priority 13 is given to Wetland Protection Environmental Significance Overlay. Wetlands are a common feature in the West Wimmera Shire, and offer the community and visitors recreation opportunities, provide scenic landscape vistas, and habitat. The protection of significant wetlands will benefit the community, the economy and the environment.

Priority 14 is given to the Economic Development Strategy. In a similar way to the Sport and Recreation Strategy and the Tourism Strategy, the Planning Department does not have carriage of the project, however, will be involved in implementation of any recommendations for changes to the Planning Scheme.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

The report complies with the requirements of the: Local Government Act 2020

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The financial risk rating has been assessed as: Medium

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy/s:





Not applicable

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

- 1.3 Provide well planned and sustainable community infrastructure.
- 1.7 Improve the liveability of the shire to assist in growing our population into the future.

Goal 2 – Diverse and Prosperous Economy

- 2.1 Encourage and support the establishment and expansion of innovative, creative and sustainable businesses.
- 2.3 Facilitate the development of the local economy and jobs.

Goal 3 - Sustainable Environment

3.1 Preserve and enhance the natural environment.

Goal 4 – Good Governance

- 4.2 Engage with the community in a timely and respectful way.
- 4.3 Advocate for our community on issues important to our future.

Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values

Accountability - We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency and advocating for our community.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Conclusion

The Strategic Planning Work Plan priority list is presented to the council to understand the ongoing strategic planning projects that will be occurring as a result of the Planning Scheme Review. Applications for funding will be sought to complete projects should it become available at any time.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:





That the Council approves the priority list resulting from the Planning Scheme Review, noting that, should appropriate funding become available for specific programs the funding will be applied for and the project may move up in the priority order.

Priority 1	Policy neutral planning scheme amendment.
Priority 2	Update flood controls for Harrow and Chetwynd.
Priority 3	Rezoning commercial area in Edenhope
Priority 4	Rezoning commercial area in Kaniva
Priority 5	Targeted settlement plans for larger towns.
Priority 6	Incorporation of West Wimmera Tourism Strategy into the Planning Scheme.
Priority 7	Incorporation of West Wimmera Sports and Recreation Strategy into the Planning Scheme.
Priority 8	Development of Rural Land Use Strategy.
Priority 9	Edenhope Flood Investigation
Priority 10	Apsley Flood Investigation
Priority 11	West Wimmera Heritage Study
Priority 12	Vegetation Protection Overlay
Priority 13	Wetland Protection Environment Protection Overlay
Priority 14	Incorporation of Economic Development Strategy into the Planning Scheme.
	1

Attachments

1. Strategic Planning Work Plan Priority Table March 2023 [15.1.1 - 15 pages]



Strategic Planning Work Plan Priority

Proposed	Project	Corresponding Planning	Project Scope	Timeframe for	Budget
Project	Name	Scheme Review		commencement	implications
Priority		Recommendation			
1	Policy Neutral Corrections Amendment	Prepare a planning scheme amendment or amendments using the marked up ordinance at Appendix Two Revise SUZ3 table of uses to comply with MD structure.	Prepare a Planning Scheme Amendment to make the changes identified in Appendix 2 to the Planning Scheme Review. Obtain a resolution of Council to seek authorization for the amendment from the Minister for Planning. Seek exemption from Notice under Section 20 (2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. Prepare amendment documentation. Adopt amendment by resolution of Council. Forward the amendment to the Minister for Planning for consideration.	Commence March 2023	Statutory fee of \$496.90 payable to the Minister for Planning when submitting the amendment for consideration. Officer time to prepare the amendment. Council time to consider reports and resolutions.
2	Update flood controls in the Planning Scheme	Prioritise the incorporation of up-to-date flood mapping recently prepared by the Glenelg Hopkins CMA	Introduce the Floodway Overlay to the Planning Scheme, up date the Schedule to the LSIO, and up date the LSIO/FO maps to accord with the Harrow Flood Investigation (2017) and the Chetwynd Flood Intelligence Mapping (2018) Engage with WCMA and GHCMA over the exact wording of the	Commence March 2023	Statutory fee of \$496.90 payable to the Minister for Planning when submitting the amendment for consideration. Officer time to prepare the amendment.

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
			LSIO and FO schedules. Engage with DTAP (formally DELWP) regarding potential for 20 (4) (amendment without notice). Pending the outcome of the request for a 20 (4), proceed with obtaining a resolution of Council to seek authorization for the amendment from the Minister for Planning. Prepare amendment documentation. Adopt amendment by resolution of Council. Forward the amendment to the Minister for Planning for consideration.		Council time to consider reports and resolutions.
3	Apply the Commercial 1 Zone to main street commercial areas	Identify and apply a range of VPP zones to give effect to the Edenhope Framework Plan.	Apply the Commercial 1 Zone to land on Elizabeth Street, Edenhope. Determine the extent of land to be included in the amendment. Conduct community engagement with traders and landowners of land to be included in the amendment. Obtain a resolution of Council to seek authorization for the amendment from the	Commence May 2023	Statutory fee of \$496.90 payable to the Minister for Planning when submitting the amendment for consideration. Costs associated with conduct of community engagement Officer time to prepare the amendment.

Proposed	Project	Corresponding Planning	Project Scope	Timeframe for	Budget
Project Priority	Name	Scheme Review Recommendation		commencement	implications
			Minister for Planning. Prepare amendment documentation. Adopt amendment by resolution of Council. Forward the amendment to the Minister for Planning for consideration.		Council time to consider reports and resolutions.
4	Apply the Commercial 1 Zone to main street commercial areas	Identify and apply a range of VPP zones to give effect to the Kaniva Framework Plan.	Apply the Commercial 1 Zone to land on Commercial Street, Kaniva. Determine the extent of land to be included in the amendment. Conduct community engagement with traders and landowners of land to be included in the amendment. Obtain a resolution of Council to seek authorization for the amendment from the Minister for Planning. Prepare amendment documentation. Adopt amendment by resolution of Council. Forward the amendment to the Minister for Planning for consideration.	Commence May 2023	Statutory fee of \$496.90 payable to the Minister for Planning when submitting the amendment for consideration. Costs associated with conduct of community engagement Officer time to prepare the amendment. Council time to consider reports and resolutions.
5	Targeted Settlement	Revise the Harrow Framework Plan to better identify areas for	Resolve legacy zoning issues in existing townships to	Commence July 2023	Approach Planning Hub

Proposed	Project	Corresponding Planning	Project Scope	Timeframe for	Budget
Project	Name	Scheme Review		commencement	implications
Priority		Recommendation			
	Plan for	potential new	reflect location, use		to undertake
	Harrow	development.	and potential use of		the project
		Undertake further	land including.		
		strategic work to identify	Clarify the zoning		
		servicing requirement	within townships to		
		and sequencing for use	make it clearer what		
		of land within the area	uses will be		
		of the original	supported and		
		settlement of Harrow.	reduce the need for		
		Prepare and implement	use permits.		
		an options study for	Incorporate the		
		increased residential	findings of the		
		development in and	Wimmera		
		around townships.	Development		
		Prepare and implement	Association Housing		
		a business development	Supply and the		
		and liveability zoning	Wimmera South		
		review.	Mallee Housing		
			Supply and Capacity		
		Prepare and implement	Assessment currently		
		streetscape master plans for Harrow	being prepared by		
		TOI Hallow	Gerard Coutts and		
		Undertake the	Co, except where that document		
		Accommodation study	recommends flood		
		identified in the Council	prone land to be		
		plan, then identify land	rezoned to		
		for rezoning based on	Township.		
		the projected demand			
		for residential in the	Identify the		
		various town using a methodology that	suitability of RLZ or		
		identifies a 15-year	other appropriate zoning that reflects		
		supply of land linked to	the appeal of		
		the supply of	regional living		
		infrastructure and	around townships to		
		improvements in service	accommodate the		
		delivery.	growing population.		
		Investigate the potential	Undate the mans in		
		development of Rural	Update the maps in the planning scheme.		
		Living Zone and	the planning scheme.		
		Township Zone			
		subdivisions in Kaniva			
		and Edenhope, and Rural			
		Living Zone subdivisions			
		in Apsley, Harrow and			
		Goroke to stimulate			
		housing growth.			

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
5	Targeted Settlement Plan for Apsley	Undertake further strategic work to identify locations that can accommodate new development and specifically promote Apsley. Prepare and implement an options study for increased residential development in and around townships. Prepare and implement a business development and liveability zoning review. Prepare and implement streetscape master plans for Apsley. Undertake the Accommodation study identified in the Council plan, then identify land for rezoning based on the projected demand for residential in the various town using a methodology that identifies a 15-year supply of land linked to the supply of infrastructure and improvements in service delivery. Investigate the potential development of Rural Living Zone and Township Zone subdivisions in Kaniva and Edenhope, and Rural Living Zone subdivisions in Apsley, Harrow and Goroke to stimulate housing growth. Identify flood prone land.	Resolve legacy zoning issues in existing townships to reflect location, use and potential use of land including. Clarify the zoning within townships to make it clearer what uses will be supported and reduce the need for use permits. Incorporate the findings of the Wimmera Development Association Housing Supply and the Wimmera South Mallee Housing Supply and Capacity Assessment currently being prepared by Gerard Coutts and Co, except where that document recommends flood prone land to be rezoned to Township. Identify the suitability of RLZ or other appropriate zoning that reflects the appeal of regional living around townships to accommodate the growing population. Update the maps in the planning scheme.	Commence July 2023	Approach Planning Hub to undertake the project

Project Priority	Name	Scheme Review Recommendation Identify inadequate storm water drainage capacity		commencement	implications
·	-	Identify inadequate storm water drainage			
	Settlement Plan for Goroke	Prepare and implement an options study for increased residential development in and around townships. Prepare and implement a business development and liveability zoning review. Prepare and implement streetscape master plans for Goroke. Undertake the Accommodation study identified in the Council plan, then identify land for rezoning based on the projected demand for residential in the various town using a methodology that identifies a 15-year supply of land linked to the supply of infrastructure and improvements in service delivery. Investigate the potential development of Rural Living Zone and Township Zone subdivisions in Kaniva and Edenhope, and Rural Living Zone subdivisions in Apsley, Harrow and Goroke to stimulate housing growth.	Resolve legacy zoning issues in existing townships to reflect location, use and potential use of land including. Clarify the zoning within townships to make it clearer what uses will be supported and reduce the need for use permits. Incorporate the findings of the Wimmera Development Association Housing Supply and the Wimmera South Mallee Housing Supply and Capacity Assessment currently being prepared by Gerard Coutts and Co, except where that document recommends flood prone land to be rezoned to Township. Identify the suitability of RLZ or other appropriate zoning that reflects the appeal of regional living around townships to	Commence July 2023	Approach Planning Hub to undertake the project
			around townships to accommodate the growing population. Update the maps in		

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
5	Targeted Settlement Plan for Kaniva	Identify and apply a range of VPP zones to give effect to the Kaniva Framework Plan. Prepare and implement an options study for increased residential development in and around townships. Prepare and implement a business development and liveability zoning review. Prepare and implement streetscape master plans for Kaniva. Undertake the Accommodation study identified in the Council plan, then identify land for rezoning based on the projected demand for residential in the various town using a methodology that identifies a 15-year supply of land linked to the supply of infrastructure and improvements in service delivery. Investigate the potential development of Rural Living Zone and Township Zone subdivisions in Kaniva and Edenhope, and Rural Living Zone subdivisions in Apsley, Harrow and Goroke to stimulate housing growth.	Resolve legacy zoning issues in existing townships to reflect location, use and potential use of land including. Clarify the zoning within townships to make it clearer what uses will be supported and reduce the need for use permits. Incorporate the findings of the Wimmera Development Association Housing Supply and the Wimmera South Mallee Housing Supply and Capacity Assessment currently being prepared by Gerard Coutts and Co, except where that document recommends flood prone land to be rezoned to Township. Identify the suitability of RLZ or other appropriate zoning that reflects the appeal of regional living around townships to accommodate the growing population. Update the maps in the planning scheme.	Commence July 2023	Approach Planning Hub to undertake the project
5	Targeted Settlement Plan for Edenhope	Identify and apply a range of VPP zones to give effect to the Edenhope Framework Plan.	Resolve legacy zoning issues in existing townships to reflect location, use	Commence July 2023	Approach Planning Hub to undertake the project

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
		Prepare and implement an options study for increased residential development in and around townships. Prepare and implement a business development and liveability zoning review. Prepare and implement streetscape master plans for Edenhope. Undertake the Accommodation study identified in the Council plan, then identify land for rezoning based on the projected demand for residential in the various town using a methodology that identifies a 15-year supply of land linked to the supply of infrastructure and improvements in service delivery. Investigate the potential development of Rural Living Zone and Township Zone subdivisions in Kaniva and Edenhope, and Rural Living Zone subdivisions in Apsley, Harrow and Goroke to stimulate housing growth. Investigate the potential to expand the Edenhope Industrial Estate. Identify flood prone land. Identify inadequate	and potential use of land including. Clarify the zoning within townships to make it clearer what uses will be supported and reduce the need for use permits. Incorporate the findings of the Wimmera Development Association Housing Supply and the Wimmera South Mallee Housing Supply and Capacity Assessment currently being prepared by Gerard Coutts and Co, except where that document recommends flood prone land to be rezoned to Township. Identify the suitability of RLZ or other appropriate zoning that reflects the appeal of regional living around townships to accommodate the growing population. Update the maps in the planning scheme.		
		storm water drainage capacity			

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
6		Prepare and implement a Tourism Strategy.	Project already in train. Planning Department is participating in the project, and will ensure the Planning Scheme is utilized effectively for the implementation of the recommendations.	July 2023	Amendment costs and staff costs
			Make changes to the Planning Scheme as recommended by the Strategy		
7		Prepare and implement a Municipal Sport and Recreation Strategy.	Project already in train. Planning Department is participating in the project, and will ensure the Planning Scheme is utilized effectively for the implementation of the recommendations		
8	Rural Land Use Strategy	Undertake further strategic work to include objectives and strategies that seek to address the range of rural pressures facing the municipality. This may take the form of recommending that a Rural Strategy be developed for the Shire. This Rural Strategy will seek to identify how the unique economic, social and environmental pressures being experienced by the West Wimmera Shire can be addressed by the application of policies, zones and overlays in	Prepare a Rural Land Use Strategy (RLUS). The RLUS will identify the application of zones and overlays to apply to rural areas of the shire. The RLUS will acknowledge and account for the recommendations stemming from the Targeted Settlement Strategies. The RLUS will provide policy direction for	Funding dependant	A projected indicative budget of \$80,000.00 is suggested for this project.

Proposed	Project	Corresponding Planning	Project Scope	Timeframe for	Budget
Project	Name	Scheme Review		commencement	implications
Priority		Recommendation			
		the West Wimmera	 dwellings 		
		Planning Scheme.	on small lots in rural		
		Undertake further	areas;		
		strategic work to identify	 subdivision 		
		the potential for other	lot size minimums		
		rural zones to be applied	across the		
		in certain locations	suit of rural zones to		
		where demand for new	be utilized in		
		use and development	the West Wimmera		
		can be established.	Planning		
		Undertake further	Scheme;		
		strategic work to	 Intensive 		
		develop additional	animal husbandry		
		objectives, strategies	(where required,		
		and implementation	recognizing that		
		actions that address all	application		
		the Key Issues identified	of relevant model		
		in Clause 21.03-3	codes);		
		Agriculture.	 Promotion 		
		Undertake further	of alternative		
		strategic work to	agricultural		
		develop additional	production		
		objectives, strategies	methodolo		
		and implementation	gies;		
		actions that address new	The RLUS will take		
		and emerging	direction from other		
		opportunities for agriculture including	Council policies and		
		carbon sequestration in	strategies, where		
		soils, bio-fuels and	relevant, such as the		
		alternative energy	Tourism Strategy,		
		production.	and Economic		
		Undertake further	Development Strategy.		
		strategic work to address	Jualegy.		
		issues associated with			
		intensive animal			
		husbandry, including			
		identifying the need for			
		a Local Planning Policy			
		that would provide			
		Council and applicants			
		with guidance on siting,			
		design and management			
		of this form of activity.			
		Undertake further			
		strategic work to identify			
		areas where smaller lot			

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
		sizes in the Farming Zone may be permitted to facilitate smaller scale agriculture.			
		Undertake further strategic work to establish the appropriateness of reducing the minimum subdivision size for lots in the Rural Living Zone in areas that are contiguous with existing towns. Prepare a policy on dwellings in the Farming Zone. Prepare and implement an agricultural land protection and opportunities local planning policy. Identify high-value sites for intensive agriculture Rural Drainage			
9	Edenhope Flood Investigation	Undertake further strategic work to identify areas that may be affected by flooding and inundation. Undertake further strategic work to ensure that the LSIO and FO are accurately identified in the Planning Scheme.	In partnership with the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, conduct the Edenhope Flood Investigation. Under funding arrangements at play in 2022, the grant program is a matching grant. In kind contributions can contribute to the matched grant, but a dollar amount will need to be contributed by Council.	Funding Dependant 2023	An indicative budget of \$180,000.00, inclusive of Officer time, is suggested for this project. To be funded by grant funding from the Victorian Risk and Resilience Grants Program

Proposed Project	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
Priority		Recommendation	A reasonable budget figure for a flood investigation is in the vicinity of \$180,000 total. If a \$50K in		
			kind contribution was made, Council would need approximately \$65K cash contribution.		
			Funding guidelines for 2023 are not yet available, and there is potential for additional funding streams to generate the budgeted amount.		
			A key consideration is that in 2022, Stormwater studies could not be funded by the Risk and Resilience Grants. This creates a significant		
			information gap in the project. Prepare grant application for funding from Emergency Management Victoria's Risk and Resilience Grants		
			Program. Prepare project brief. Appoint contractor (Hydrologists). Conduct project.		
			Prepare Planning Scheme amendment to introduce new maps (NB: Planning Scheme ordinance will remain		

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
			unchanged, as a separate amendment project will create these)		
10	Apsley Flood Investigation	Undertake further strategic work to identify areas that may be affected by flooding and inundation. Undertake further strategic work to ensure that the LSIO and FO are accurately identified in the Planning Scheme.	In partnership with the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, conduct the Apsley Flood Investigation See comments above Prepare grant application for funding from Emergency Management Victoria's Risk and Resilience Grants Program. Prepare project brief. Appoint contractor (Hydrologists). Conduct project. Prepare Planning Scheme amendment to introduce new maps (NB: Planning Scheme ordinance will remain unchanged, as a separate amendment project will create these)	Commence June 2023	An indicative budget of \$180,000.00, inclusive of Officer time, is suggested for this project. To be funded by grant funding from the Victorian Risk and Resilience Grants Program
11	Heritage Study	Undertake further strategic work to further investigate and protect heritage assets within the West Wimmera Shire. Stage 1 will be a report that identifies heritage places, buildings and other	Engage the services of Heritage Architects to finalise Stage 2 Heritage Study, inclusive of heritage citations for short listed items.	2024	An indicative budget of \$120,000 for completion of Stage 2 Heritage Study.

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
		items of heritage significance, Stage 2 will be the preparation of citations for each of the items identified in Stage 1; and Stage 3 will be a Planning Scheme Amendment to put the HO on all items identified and to incorporate the citations into the West Wimmera Planning Scheme. Prepare and implement a Stage 2 Heritage Study, including: Assessment and documentation of the places of post-contact cultural significance identified as being worthy of future conservation in Stage 1; Review and finalisation of the Thematic Environmental History; and Recommendations for the conservation of the municipality's cultural heritage.	Prepare Planning Scheme amendment to introduce recommendations from the Stage 2 Heritage Study into the Planning Scheme; inclusive of Panel hear (if required).		\$50,000 for the amendment stage, inclusive of Panel Hearing costs
12		Undertake further strategic work to identify where the VPO can be used to implement the strategies contained within the MSS. Strategic direction "Retain high quality vegetation stands throughout the municipality" is only reflected in VPO1 (Jumping Jack Wattle -			

Proposed Project Priority	Project Name	Corresponding Planning Scheme Review Recommendation	Project Scope	Timeframe for commencement	Budget implications
		roadsides), which may not cover all high-quality vegetation stands worthy of protection. Undertake further assessment to identify and protect additional high-quality vegetation stands worthy of protection. Undertake further strategic work and implement local policy to: • Identify and protect high quality vegetation stands:			
13		Apply the ESO1 to identified wetlands and prepare a Local Planning Policy to support the application of ESO1.			
14		Prepare and implement an Economic Development Strategy			



15.2 Planning Scheme Amendment C37wwim Implementation of Planning Scheme Review

Directorate: Infrastructure Development and Works

Report Author: Senior Planning Officer

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

On November 2022, Council's Chief Executive Officer forwarded the Review of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme to the Minister for Planning, as required by Section 12B of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. This action brought to a close the process of the review of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme (the Planning Scheme).

The Planning Scheme Review contains a number of recommendations for changes to the Planning Scheme. This report seeks a resolution of Council to proceed with a Planning Scheme amendment to

- Make a number of policy neutral changes to the Planning Scheme that seek to correct errors and inconsistencies with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes;
- Incorporate elements from the Council Plan that were missed during the Planning Policy Framework Translation and make other updates to factual data;
- Amend the Municipal Planning Strategy at Clause 02.01 Context of the Planning Scheme to include appropriate reference to Traditional Owners and Country;
- 4 Reinstate policy for 'Agriculture' and 'Rural Industry' that was inadvertently not carried across as part of the recent PPF translation;
- 5 Strengthen the Municipal Planning Strategy to include a strategic direction about protection of Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo habitat over the long term;
- 6 Include new policy to implement the:
 - West Wimmera Council Plan 2021-2025 incorporating Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan (West Wimmera Shire Council, October 2021)
 - Target 10,000: West Wimmera Shire Economic Development Strategy (West Wimmera Shire Council, 2014)
 - West Wimmera Heritage Study (Stage 1) (Grieve Gillett Dimitty Andersen Architects, 2014)
 - Council Policy, Recreation Policy (West Wimmera Shire Council, 2018); and





Include an updated Clause 74.02 Further strategic work that prioritises the strategic work program based on the findings of this review and prioritisation of the strategic planning work identified in Section 9.

Declaration of Interest

No officer declared an interest under the Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020) in the preparation of this report.

Background

Section 12B of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* requires Council to review the West Wimmera Planning Scheme (the Planning Scheme) every four years. The last occasion that the Planning Scheme was reviewed was in 2011. As the review is now complete, implementation of the recommendations needs to occur, as Council Plan Initiative 1.7.4 identifies "Implement findings of the Planning Scheme review through an amendment to the Planning Scheme".

This proposed amendment can proceed without further strategic work as the Planning Scheme Review included marked up changes to the Planning Scheme as part of the recommendations that were forwarded to the Minister for Planning.

A copy of the changes to be made via Planning Scheme Amendment C37 are included in an attachment to this repoert.

All Planning Scheme Amendments require authorisation from the Minister for Planning to proceed. As the amendment is policy neutral, it is proposed to seek authorisation to proceed with the amendment via Section 20 (2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, which exempts Council from giving notice. Seeking this authorisation is the next step in the process of preparing the amendment.

Once authorisation is received, Council officers will proceed to prepare the required amendment documents for processing. Once the amendment has been prepared, a further report will be prepared for Council to adopt the amendment and forward it to the Minister for Planning for their consideration.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications





The report complies with the requirements of the: Local Government Act 2020

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The financial risk rating has been assessed as: Low

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy/s:

Not applicable

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

1.7 Improve the liveability of the shire to assist in growing our population into the future.

Goal 2 – Diverse and Prosperous Economy

2.1 Encourage and support the establishment and expansion of innovative, creative and sustainable businesses.

Goal 5 - Our Commitment Values

Accountability - We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency and advocating for our community.

Communication Implications

This report and the associated attachment are administrative tasks that do not require public communication and the staff concerned will be formally advised of their new authorisation

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Conclusion

The proposed amendment is an administrative step that will bring the West Wimmera Planning Scheme into line with the statutory requirements that guide the preparation of





Planning Schemes in Victoria, as well as correct a number of errors and omissions. The effect of the amendment will be to improve the performance of the Planning Scheme.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare Planning Scheme Amendment C37wwim under Section 20 (2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Attachments

1. Amendment C37 track change content April 2023 [15.2.1 - 48 pages]



.02.01 CONTEXT

The West Wimmera Shire straddles the Western and Wimmera Highways, midway between Melbourne and Adelaide. The traditional owners of the land include the Wergaia, Jardwadjali, Gunditjmara, Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa and Jupagulk First Nations. Barengi Gadjin people and Gunditj Mirring people are the traditional inhabitants of the West Wimmera Shire region and have been present for at least 40,000 years, well before the arrival of European settlers. [Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies website] [BGCP, p5] [GMCP] [to include appropriate recognition of First Nations people]

It is bordered by the Rural City of Mildura to the north, Glenelg and Southern Grampians Shires to the south, and Hindmarsh Shire and the Rural City of Horsham to the east. The Shire is bounded to the west by the South Australian border.

Approximately 30 per cent of the Shire is public land. Significant natural features include the Big Desert and Little Desert National Parks, and the Mount Arapiles – Tooan State Park, and Dergholm State Park. West Wimmera Shire contains 2174 over 3000 wetlands, representing 8.525 per cent of Victoria's wetlands. These wetlands are an important natural asset for the municipality and wider region.

Occupying an area of approximately 9000 square kilometres, West Wimmera Shire is one of the largest municipalities in Victoria. Despite its land size the Shire has a small population of 39034,006 persons as of the 201621 [ABS Census 2021] census. After many years of gradual decline (1000 people, or 23% decline since the 1991 census), the population of West Wimmera grew by about 100 people in the last census period. Whether this is a long term trend will be monitored. Over recent years population loss has been experienced throughout the Shire. This population decline reflects the changes in the structure of agriculture, the steady increase in average farm size, and the migration of people in search of better education and employment opportunities.

The Shire is one of Victoria's most diverse and productive agricultural areas <u>and</u>. As such the local economy is directly affected by the performance of rural industry. Farms are getting bigger to become more viable, resulting in less demand on the small rural towns that service them.

The predominant towns in West Wimmera Shire are Apsley, Edenhope, Goroke, Harrow, and Kaniva. There are also a number of smaller townships located throughout the Shire, including Dergholm, Chetwynd and Serviceton.

02.02 VISION

West Wimmera Shire's Vision 202147-20250 is that West Wimmera is a great place to live, work and play. The Shire is growing and is known for its natural environment, its resilience and its sense of community. The community values its heritage and is creating new economic capacity and local employment based on innovation and tourism. The towns of the Shire are vibrant and welcoming and provide services and facilities that meet the needs of the community and visitors.

to ensure the municipality's communities are healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious, prosperous and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity.

From a land use and development perspective, this will be achieved by supporting the following objectives directions:

- Enabling the community to live active, healthy and safe lives.
- Providing health and education services which meet community needs.
- Providing opportunities for the community and visitors to value and enjoy the natural environment.

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- Providing a safe and sustainable road network.
- Creating attractive and viable town centres.
- Facilitating a thriving economic that takes advantage of the Shire's economic strengths and generates employment in in farming, business and tourism.
- Providing facilities which encourage active participation in physical activity and community life.
- Strategic objective 3: quality sustainable community infrastructure.
- Strategic objective 4: building on agricultural and business strengths and supporting economic development.
- Strategic objective 5: thriving, safe and diverse communities.
- Strategic objective 6: addressing health and wellbeing issues.
- Strategic objective 7: providing access to and promoting the natural environment.

02.03 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

02.03-1 Settlement

Overview

The West Wimmera Shire retains a distinctive pattern of urban development based on separate townships and settlements, with the predominant towns being Edenhope (District town), Kaniva (Town) and, Goroke, Apsley, and Harrow (small settlements). There are also a number of smaller settlements located throughout the Shire, each retaining its own local history, culture, individual character and role, that contributes to a sense of place and community association. There is a reasonably clear hierarchy among the towns and villages related to their function and the range of services and facilities provided.

The towns and settlements in the Shire have important roles as service and business centres and as community foci for the local community, visitors and the surrounding rural hinterland. Population decline within towns has been a is a threat to service provision and liveability in recent years, however this trend may be reversing.

Edenhope

Edenhope is the administrative centre for the Shire. The town has a compact commercial area offering convenience and weekly shopping. Industrial activities are concentrated in the east of the town, with some service industries on the southern edge of the commercial area.

Edenhope is located on the shores of Lake Wallace, which has been integral in the formation of the character of the township. The Lake provides recreation opportunities as well as providing a unique residential amenity.

Kaniva

Kaniva functions both as a service centre for the surrounding agricultural area and as a rest stop for travellers on the way to regional destinations and Adelaide. The commercial area is centrally located along the Western Highway, putting it in a prime position to capture freight and logistics-oriented activity.

The local community sees the location of the town on the Western Highway and the railway as a major asset, and its location has significantly contributed to the formation of the town's character.

The duplication of the Western Highway is planned and this is likely to bypass Kavina. Planning for Kavina needs to take this future duplication into account as it will fundamentally change the way the town operates.

Goroke

Goroke is a quiet township close to Lake Charlegrark and Lake Booroopki and many other district lakes, which provide for a various tourist and recreational pursuits including

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yabbying, fishing, bird and wildlife watching. The Goroke township extends along Main Street with the Community Health Centre and Goroke College well separated from the hub of the township, located some 900 metres east of the centre. Rural land separates the hub of township from the school, health centre and a handful of dwellings.

Goroke is experiencing a declining population, which in turn is placing pressure on the ability of the town to provide services to the region

Apsley

Apsley is a small town set amongst red gums located approximately ten kilometres east of the South Australian border, in close proximity to Newlands Lake. The town began as a central point for four sheep stations and continues to provide a local service function for the surrounding community.

Harrow

Harrow is a small pastoral town located on the banks of the Glenelg River, beneath the rolling hills and grand old red gums. Harrow is particularly picturesque, boasting a number of heritage buildings which significantly contribute to the town's beauty and tourist potential.

Other townships

There are several smaller townships located throughout the Shire which provide local convenience shopping and an important community focus. Beyond catering for the immediate needs of the local communities, there is little demand for any extension of the shopping facilities within these towns or to the townships generally.

Strategic directions

- Provide sufficient land and direct growth to the major townships of Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke, Apsley, and Harrow.
- Enhance the roles of the major townships of Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke, Apsley, and Harrow as the service and business centres for the Shire and as focal points for communities
- Minimise any detrimental impact of development on the landscape, the environment and existing character.
- Avoid encroachment of residential development on industry.
- Promote Kaniva as a key service centre in the northern part of the Shire for the local and surrounding rural community.
- Plan for the duplication of the Western Highway and the future bypass around Kaniva.
- Promote Goroke as the local community service centre within the centre of the Shire.
- Promote development in Apsley that provides opportunities for service provision, new business initiatives and housing.
- Promote Apsley as a dormitory town for Edenhope and Naracoorte.

02.03-2 Environmental and landscape values

Biodiversity

The decline and fragmentation of indigenous vegetation and loss of biodiversity is a major environmental issue—in the Shire, and a contributing factor towards all other land and water degradation issues.

Large areas of the Shire-have been cleared for agriculture, resulting in limited areas of natural vegetation cover. There is a risk that scattered trees on farms will die out and the roadside vegetation will be all that remains. The protection and management of the bushland reserves is important to provide a diversity of flora and wildlife refuge areas and habitat.

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There is a particular need to protect habitat for endangered species: the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Jumping Jack Wattle. Red-tailed Black Cockatoo relies on Buloke and Stringbark trees for habitat. Protecting this habitat requires a long term approach to ensure mature, seed bearing habitat is available in future decades.

Flora communities, and the fauna they support, vary throughout the Shire ranging from woodlands and wetlands in the south and desert scrublands in the north. However, with less than 3 per cent of the original Buloke woodlands intact and threats from pest species and development, there is the need to protect existing communities in order to maintain biodiversity.

The Shire contains significant areas of public land, including the Public Conservation and Resource Zone. Accordingly, and there is the need to protect this resource and ensure that it and adjacent private land are properly managed. This is important to maintaining a broad range of qualities from tourism to the health of the natural ecosystem. Roadside vegetation is very important in maintaining and restoring connectivity to the fragmented parcels of public land, which are important for the survival of many species.

Water bodies and wetlands

The lakes system is an important environmental, cultural and economic feature of the Shire. Care is needed to ensure that the qualities of the significant waterways of the municipality are not degraded by upstream activities.

The Natimuk-Douglas Chain of Lakes is a significant landscape feature of the region.

Significant environments and landscapes

The West Wimmera Shire contains many areas containing significant natural landscapes and features of environmental value and include the numerous natural wetlands and waterways in the south and the Little Desert in the north. There are also small areas such as narrow reserves along streams, roadsides and railways and nature reserves that retain native vegetation, contribute to nature conservation, are valuable for migratory and nomadic birds and are valuable for flora and fauna habitat and as wildlife corridors for fauna.

The private land in the Shire has been substantially altered during the past 150 years but still contains small pockets of remnant habitat, wetlands and other original features. These areas have become increasingly important with the realisation thatas only 3 per cent of the original vegetation remains intact. The subdivision of land into smaller lot sizes within environmentally sensitive areas can make it more difficult to manage these resources.

Strategic directions

- Protect the habitat for the Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo including live and dead Buloke hollow bearing eucalypt trees.
- Conserve the Shire's biologically diverse natural environment.
- Encourage development to increase indigenous vegetation cover.
- Minimise impacts on areas with high habitat value.
- Retain high quality vegetation stands throughout the municipality.
- Minimise impacts of use and development on adjacent public land.
- Maintain the environmental values of significant water courses, lakes and wetlands.

02.03-3 Environmental risks and amenity

Climate change impacts

With the Shire's economy heavily reliant on agriculture, the potential risks to the municipality from changes in climate are significant. Council has a critical role to play in providing leadership and working with local communities to improve the environmental performance of the municipality, and ensure the long-term sustainability of the community, economy and environment of the municipality.

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Strategic directions

- Improve the environmental performance of use and development, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Adapt to the impacts of climate change through risk-based planning.

Bushfire

There are large areas of grass and /cropping land and bushland in the Shire which regularly burn as a result of natural causes, accidents or deliberate action. One of the major issues is that of uncontrolled bushfires. Planning is required to decrease the level of risk to life and property and ensure safe access for emergency services.

Strategic directions

- Restrict development on land prone to bushfire.
- Ensure development is designed to respond to the risk of fire.

Floodplains

Some areas within the municipality are subjected to flooding and inundation from storms and flood events, as identified by through the Floodway Overlay and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay. Current flood mapping is out of date and Planning planning should ensure that the community is protected from risks associated with these events by applying appropriate flooding overlays.

Strategic directions

 Protect areas in and near township subject to flooding to protect floodplains and manage risks to the community. Minimise the impact of flooding on the community by preventing inappropriately located use and development.

Soil degradation

The widespread clearing of land for agriculture has led to increased pollution of waterways and increased salinity. The natural watercourses have changed, with extensive harvesting and redistribution from the surface water system to sustain agriculture and the rural and township communities. The ground water resources in the Shire are limited both in terms of quality and yield. There is the potential for the further extraction of the ground water resource, although the extent of extraction requires monitoring to ensure that it is not depleted or contaminated from pollution by saline groundwater and nutrients, pesticides and herbicides or any other source.

Soil erosion and salinity are other key land management issues. Erosion can be severe when hot, dry winds remove topsoil from fallow or overgrazed land. The extent and distribution of salinity continues to be a concern for future agricultural production.

It is important to protect the community from health risks that may emerge from being exposed to contamination.

Strategic directions

- Ensure use or development does not cause water pollution, land degradation or pose a threat to the sustainable productive capacity of the Shire's major economic base.
- Ensure potentially contaminated sites are suitable for intended future use or development.

02.03-4 Natural resource management

Agriculture

Agriculture is both the dominant land use in the West Wimmera Shire and key economic driver, with just over half the workforce of the Shire employed in this sector.

The northern part of the municipality produces primarily cereal and grain legume crops and to a lesser extent sheep and cattle while the southern part relies predominantly on sheep,

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cattle and some hay production. This variation is attributable to the differing climate and rainfall regimes.

More recently agroforestry has been introduced into the southern districts, with the soil types and rainfall providing suitable conditions for further expansion of this industry. Significant areas of pine plantation are already established and are in various stages of production.

Other agricultural initiatives include large scale cattle feedlots, <u>ducks</u>, and <u>piggeries</u>, horticultural operations such as commercial cut flowers, herbs, pistachio nuts, onions, potatoes, <u>carrots</u> and grape vines. Irrigation industries based on the high-quality underground water have also emerged. Less traditional areas of agriculture are also emerging such as the production of wildflowers. The diverse conditions of the Shire offer prospects for these new agricultural activities and provide opportunities for producers relying on the traditional agricultural pursuits.

A key attribute of the Shire's agricultural land is the large land area available for use. Lot sizes are generally large. This presents a unique opportunity for Council to promote new and emerging rural based initiatives, such as carbon farming and renewable energy projects that can make use of this key asset.

The creation of small Farming Zone lots is generally inappropriate in rural areas. The additional house entitlement created is rarely necessary to improve farm operations on the land from which it was excised and can lead to land use conflict and poor land management practices that may reduce the productivity of the land.

Forestry and timber production is a relatively new and small scale industry for the Shire. The growing of softwood and hardwood timber plantations by farmers to supplement their incomes, or whole properties being used for timber plantations is a legitimate use of rural land, particularly if it is not productive agricultural land and the land is predominantly cleared.

Strategic directions

- Retain viable rural land holdings within the Farming Zone.
- Support a rural agricultural community comprising a range of diversified enterprises that is efficiently managed and ecologically sustainable.
- Minimise Prevent land use conflicts in agricultural areas.
- Minimise the impact of timber plantations and forestry on the environment, significant landscapes and infrastructure.
- Ensure rural land holdings are available in a range of sizes to accommodate rural industries.
- Support a transition to the highest value agricultural production in the Shire.

Water

Catchment management is a growing issue within West Wimmera Shire. The municipality is within the Millicent Coast Basin, the Glenelg River basin and the Wimmera River basin. The municipality is largely within the Wimmera River catchment but the southernmost part of the municipality drains into the Glenelg River system.

The natural drainage patterns in the flat parts of the Shire are dramatically affected by activities such as clearing, roads and railway lines and the creation of levee banks and channels. The drainage of agricultural land without regard to adjoining, downstream and upstream land holders also significantly affects natural drainage patterns. Drainage is being undertaken continuously as farmers try to make more land suitable for cropping. The interference with natural drainage patterns also has major implications for the conservation of wetlands.

Strategic directions

- Conserve existing water reserves and prevent degradation of water catchment areas.
- Facilitate improved water quality and availability.
- Manage rural drainage to protect the hydrology and ecology of wetlands.

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Earth and energy resources

Exploration and mining of mineral sands presents both an opportunity and a constraint for the future development of the Shire. The Shire only contains one mining licence (for the mining of mineral sands), however many mining exploration licences have been granted. This may bring about future development in this industry.

Strategic directions

- Ensure the long-term protection of known and potential sand resources.
- Minimise potential adverse impacts from extractive industry on surrounding land uses and the natural environment.

02.03-5 Built environment and heritage

Built environment

Maintaining the valued built form aspects of the municipality helps to provide character and identity to townships and landscapes and in certain situations contributes to the tourism potential of the municipality. Where the built form character of an area is established and valued, new development should respect this character and add to the overall quality of the urban environment as well as incorporating the principles of Environmentally Sensitive Design.

Landscaping is an integral and valued component of West Wimmera's urban environment. Good landscape design enhances the quality of the urban environment and contributes to the continuity and connectivity of township character. When we plan our townships, greater consideration should be given to the value of landscape design.

Strategic directions

- Facilitate built form and public spaces that are safe, healthy, functional and enjoyable and contribute to a sense of place and cultural identity.
- Encourage energy saving, water conservation, and the principles of Environmentally Sustainable Design to be incorporated into development.
- Encourage residential subdivisions to integrate with the existing community.
- Ensure development does not detract from the natural qualities of the site and surrounding area.
- Increase vegetation across the municipality.
- Ensure that development creates and maintains a landscape setting that supports the amenity, attractiveness and safety of the public realm.
- Ensure new development contributes to the existing urban character of townships.

Heritage

West Wimmera Shire contains a number of places of historic and cultural significance that are important to the local and wider community and must be protected and enhanced for their conservation and tourism potential.

As traditional owners, indigenous communities have a central role in land management across the West Wimmera region. Within the region there are thousands of sites and places of Aboriginal heritage. Catchment restoration and protection works have the potential to impact heavily on these sites. Works on waterways, fencing, revegetation programs and pest plant and animal control can all directly or indirectly destroy or seriously affect sites of importance. Other activities involving ground disturbing works, for example: road works, new housing, or intensive agriculture, all have the potential to impact on sites of Aboriginal cultural significance.

Strategic directions

 Ensure the protection, maintenance and enhancement of places of historic and cultural significance, including both Aboriginal and post European settlement heritage sites.

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02.03-6 Housing

As the population ages a more diverse range of housing is required. Provision also needs to be made for housing that can be adapted to cater for people with disabilities when the need arises. Urban consolidation is encouraged in areas that have the physical infrastructure, community facilities and commercial facilities to support the population.

Strategic directions

- Focus residential development in and adjacent to existing townships.
- Support affordable and appropriate housing that meets the needs of the community.

02.03-7 Economic development

General

While the traditional agricultural pursuits such as cropping, grazing, wool and beef have formed the basis of the economy of West Wimmera, diversity in production is being pursued. Taking advantage of the Shire's natural resource attributes has enabled new investment in production as diverse as legumes, oilseeds, flowers, potatoes and other emerging horticultural products.

Further diversity in the economic base, employment and business opportunities is also occurring through the establishment of new agriculturally linked value-added industries together with the continuing expansion of tourism <u>including eco tourism</u>, recreation and leisure opportunities provided in the Shire.

Commercial

The role and function of commercial areas need to adapt as population and work practices change. The commercial centres throughout the municipality provide the day to day needs of the local community as well as acting as a social gathering point. Some businesses are home based which also provide an economic benefit to the municipality.

Commercial development in the Shire is largely limited to small-scale activities related to the servicing of the rural and agricultural sector.

Industry

Industrial activity provides significant economic benefits for the Shire and is a significant employer of people. Smaller industrial estates can provide a local service industry function.

Tourism

The natural assets of the municipality play an important role in tourism in the Shire and there is a growing demand for environmentally sustainable tourism developments. The municipality possesses a number of natural tourist attractions and features together with a number of recreation and leisure facilities and attractions in townships. A range of accommodation, eating establishments and shops contribute to the visitor's experience and to the economy; providing local job opportunities, investment and facilities for residents.

Strategic directions

- Facilitate opportunities for increased employment within and adjacent to the towns.
- Capitalise on economic development opportunities by building on the region's assets, particularly agriculture, energy, mining and tourism.
- Support the development of attractive, functional and viable business clusters.
- Facilitate the establishment and further development of industry within existing and planned industrial estates.

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- Encourage a diverse range of tourism-related development in areas other than on high quality agricultural land and areas of high environmental and landscape quality.
- Ensure the commercial areas of towns are zoned to facilitate business development.

02.03-8 Transport

The primary transport mode for residents, workers and visitors within the Shire is the private vehicle, making the ongoing maintenance of the road network a key transport priority. The Edenhope Aerodrome is important to the Shire's transport system, providing access for commercial flights and emergency services.

The Western Highway is a designated National Highway that links Melbourne and Adelaide and traverses the northern area of the Shire. Land use and development planning should take full account of this National Highway when development occurs in its vicinity, including controlling noise effects on sensitive land uses, and its eventual bypassing of Kaniya.

Strategic directions

- Facilitate an effective and efficient road network.
- Protect Edenhope Aerodrome from encroachment by development.
- Ensure that use and development does not prejudice the levels of service, safety and amenity of the Western Highway.
- Minimise adverse effects of noise from traffic using the Western Highway on adjacent sensitive land uses.

02.03-9 Infrastructure

Community infrastructure

The Shire is well served by a range of community services which are integral to maintaining communities, including youth services. Accordingly, there is the need to retain the existing provision and standard of services in a manner that is both economically and socially sustainable.

There are a number of community clubs, groups and associations currently active in the Shire which make up the fabric of the towns and villages. They are the focus for the community, particularly in generating social activities and maintaining community spirit, interest and association.

There are a wide range of recreational facilities and open space areas available to both residents and visitors for year-round use. The lakes and wetlands of the Shire are a popular destination for day-trippers and holiday makers, particularly in the summer months. Popular activities include swimming, boating, fishing, cycling, walking and sightseeing. Local shops, eating establishments, and the service industry associated with recreational equipment, meet the needs of day-trippers and holiday makers.

Development infrastructure

Infrastructure services are important in providing transport and protecting environmental and community health and should be provided in a cost-effective manner. There is increasing pressure on the existing infrastructure services and on Council for the provision and maintenance of these infrastructure services, particularly on funding for increased road maintenance. However, Council is unable to fund the level of infrastructure service which the community expects, owing to the competing demands for other services.

There is a significant opportunity for West Wimmera to be a provider of renewable energy.

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Strategic directions

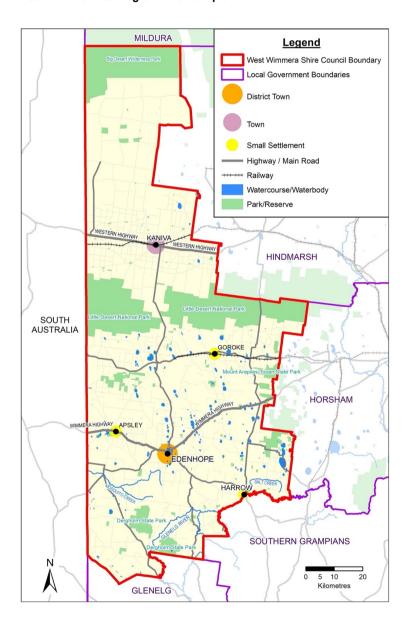
- Promote the establishment of renewable energy facilities that make use of the natural attributes in West Wimmera.
- Provide infrastructure and services that meet the needs of the community in a cost effective and sustainable manner.
- Encourage a range of accessible educational, medical and community services for all sectors of the community.
- Encourage a range of passive and active recreational facilities that cater for the needs
 of the local population and visitors.
- Provide open spaces that cater for a range of users and age groups and encourage physical activity
- Facilitate a variety of tracks for pedestrians and cyclists for both transport and recreational purposes.
- Encourage use and development that supports the use of waterways, lakes and reserves for recreational purposes.
- Provide open spaces that eater for a range of users and age groups and encourage physical activity.
- Promote development that facilitates safe places for social interaction.
- Encourage uses that complement or provide youth services.
- Ensure community facilities are designed to promote natural surveillance.

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02.04 Strategic framework plan

The plan contained in Clause 02.04 is to be read in conjunction with the strategic directions in Clause 02.03.

West Wimmera strategic framework plan



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11.01-1L-01 Settlement - Edenhope - West Wimmera

Policy application

This policy applies to land shown in the Edenhope Framework Plan.

Strategies

Ensure active retail frontages within the commercial precinct, as identified on the Edenhope Framework Plan.

Promote low density and rural living development in lifestyle living areas, as identified on the Edenhope Framework Plan.

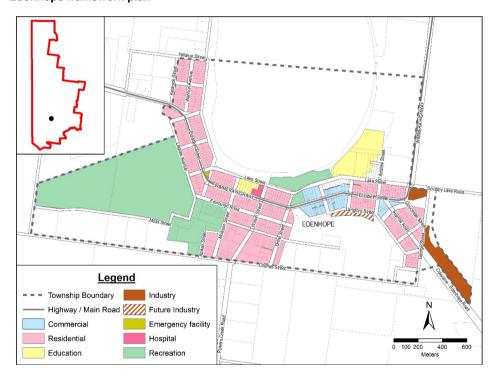
Encourage use and development to orient towards and activate Lake Wallace and its foreshore.

Support the establishment of a pedestrian and cycle trail network for recreational purposes that accesses nearby environmental assets, such as Lake Wallace.

Encourage the development and expansion of the Edenhope Industrial Estate.

Facilitate the relocation of storage uses from Elizabeth Street into the Edenhope Industrial Estate.

Edenhope framework plan



11.01-1L-02 Settlement - Kaniva - West Wimmera

Policy application

This policy applies to land shown in the Kaniva Framework Plan.

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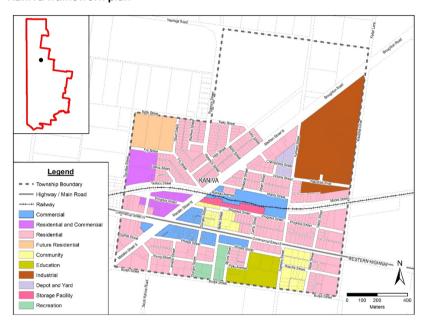
Strategies

Encourage development of the Kaniva Industrial Estate.

Ensure that development within the Kaniva Industrial Estate does not prevent residential growth in the town.

Retain community and commercial facilities in the town.

Kaniva framework plan



11.01-1L-03 Settlement - Apsley - West Wimmera

Policy application

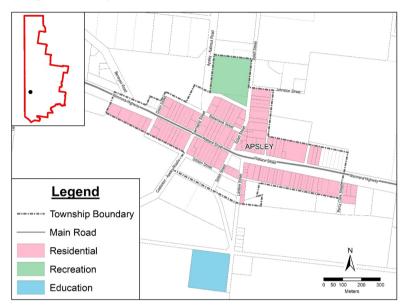
This policy applies to land shown in the Apsley Framework Plan.

Strategy

Support the establishment of cycling and horse-riding trails as a way of attracting visitors to the area.

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Apsley framework plan



11.01-1L-04 Settlement - Goroke - West Wimmera

Policy application

This policy applies to land shown in the Goroke Framework Plan.

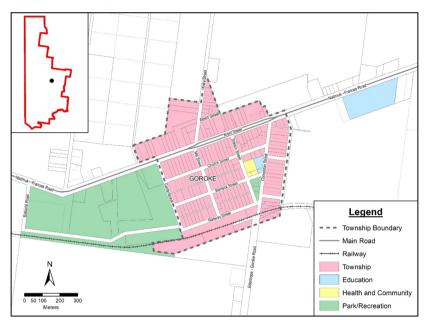
Strategies

Encourage commercial and industrial activities to locate along the main street or in the vicinity of the grain receiving silo.

Support the establishment of a walking and bicycle path alongside the train line that can connect with other rail trails emerging throughout the Wimmera region.

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Goroke framework plan



11.01-1L-05 Settlement - Harrow - West Wimmera

Policy application

This policy applies to land shown in the Harrow Framework Plan.

Strategies

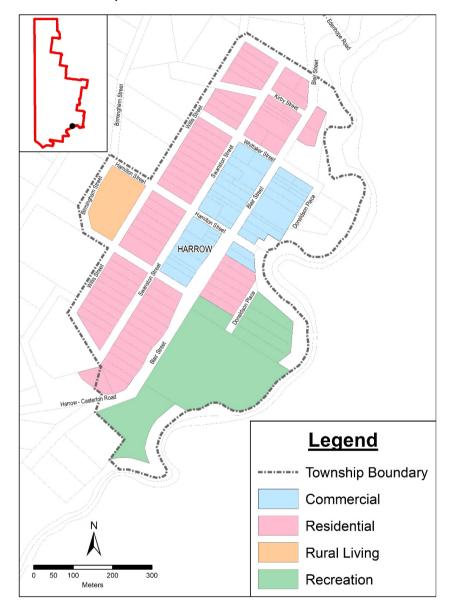
Avoid development within the floodplain of the Glenelg River.

Ensure built form is responsive to Harrow's rural valley setting.

Ensure development enhances the town's historic 19th Century pastoral character.

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Harrow framework plan



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12.01-1L Protection of biodiversity - West Wimmera

Strategies

Support the protection of the Red Tailed Black Cockatoo and Jumping Jack Wattle habitats, within the Shire.

Ensure that the boundaries between reserves and abutting properties are clearly delineated and that reserves are protected from incursions by adjacent use and development.

Encourage the planting of indigenous vegetation to <u>increase vegetation cover</u>, provide shelter for livestock, minimise soil erosion and salinity, enhance landscape quality, and provide further opportunities for wildlife corridors.

Encourage the removal of exotic and environmental weed species.

14.01-1L Protection of agricultural land - West Wimmera

Strategies

Consolidate land holdings in the Farming Zone in order to increase economies of scale and create more viable farming systems.

Encourage restructuring of existing titles to more adequately respond to sustainable farming operations and environmental objectives.

Ensure a clear link between the need for a dwelling and the agricultural use of the land.

Ensure dwellings in rural areas do not adversely affect the use of the land for agriculture and are consistent with sustainable land management practices.

Discourage the fragmentation of viable rural land holdings through the by avoiding the creation of small rural lots in the Farming Zone.

14.01-2L Sustainable agricultural land use - West Wimmera

Strategies

Encourage use, development and management of land that is conducive to maintaining options and opportunities for future farming activities.

- Encourage a range of value-adding rural industries to establish in the Shire.
- Promote intensive agriculture and niche agricultural activities in areas where externalities can be managed.

Promote land and farm management to address erosion, drainage, nutrient run off and pest control throughout the municipality.

Facilitate high value agricultural land uses.

Facilitate a grower-controlled grain receival and storage facility at Kaniva.

Encourage development that takes advantage of Promote the potential benefits from the emerging carbon market.

Encourage rural industries which package and/or process local primary products in proximity to their raw product.

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14.01-3L Forestry and timber production - West Wimmera

Strategies

Ensure indigenous vegetation is not removed for the establishment of timber plantations.

Discourage timber plantations from locating in areas of high landscape and environmental quality.

Ensure that extensive buffer zones of indigenous vegetation are planted around timber plantations.

Locate timber plantations close to existing infrastructure, including road networks and water supply.

15.01-1L Urban design - West Wimmera

Strategies

Ensure that development contributes to the character of main streets and town entrances.

Design community facilities to promote natural surveillance.

15.01-3L Subdivision design - West Wimmera

Strategiesy

Encourage residential subdivision to include permeable fencing or landscaping in areas adjacent to roads and reserves.

Ensure small rural lots do not occur in environmentally sensitive areas.

16.01-1L Housing diversity - West Wimmera

- Encourage increased housing densities in existing settlements.
- Encourage a diversity of housing types and lot sizes to meet the needs of all residents and visitors to the municipality.

Facilitate more affordable housing options in the municipality.

17.01-1L Diversified economy - West Wimmera

Strategies

Support use and development that adds value to the major agricultural industries of:

- Broad acre cropping.
- Production and processing of wheat, barley, canola, beans, chickpeas, lentils, oats, hay, fruit trees, native flowers and potates.
- Vegetable and forage cultivation and seed production.
- Animal husbandry and processing.
- Private sector employment.
- Public sector employment.

Support the use and development of agricultural for new and emerging niche agricultural production.

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18.01-1L Transport system - West Wimmera

Strategies

Facilitate a variety of tracks for pedestrians and cyclists for both transport and recreational purposes.

Expand the shared path network in town centres.

18.02-2L Walking – West Wimmera

Strategies

Expand the footpath network in town centres.

18.02-4L Roads - West Wimmera

Strategies

Facilitate the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in Edenhope and Kaniva.

Ensure that use and development does not prejudice the levels of service, safety and amenity of the Western Highway.

Minimise adverse effects of noise from traffic using the Western Highway on adjacent sensitive uses.

18.02-5L Edenhope Aerodrome – West Wimmera

Ensure that use and development does not prejudice the levels of service, safety and amenity of the Edenhope Aerodrome.

19.01-2L Renewable energy - West Wimmera

Strategies

Promote alternative and sustainable energy projects.

19.02-4L Social and cultural infrastructure - Recreational facilities - West Wimmera

Strategies

Ensure that recreational facilities provide for year-round activities.

Encourage water based recreational activities and facilities in suitable locations.

Ensure that recreational facilities are varied enough to cater for as many sporting, recreational and leisure interests as practical.

Support the use of community buildings, such as schools, recreation spaces and Council facilities for recreational uses by encouraging the multi-purpose use of facilities by community groups.

Locate recreational facilities to be accessible to the resident population, easey to access, attractive to tourists-and safe and secure.

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Promote use and development that facilitates safe places for social interaction.

Encourage uses that complement or provide youth services.

Encourage use and development that supports the use of waterways, lakes and reserves for recreational purposes.

19.03-2L Infrastructure design and provision - West Wimmera

Strategy

Upgrade or replace infrastructure when the load imposed by development would exceed the existing capacity.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 35.03 RURAL LIVING ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as RLZ.

1.0 Subdivision and other requirements

	Land	Area/Dimensions/ Distance
Minimum subdivision area (hectares)	All land	8 hectares
Minimum area for which no permit is required to use land for a Dwelling (hectares)	All land	8 hectares
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to construct an outbuilding associated with an existing dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing building used for Agriculture (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Minimum setback from a road (metres)	None specified	None specified
Minimum setback from a boundary (metres)	None specified	None specified
Minimum setback from a dwelling not in the same ownership (metres)	None specified	None specified

Permit requirement for earthworks	Land
Earthworks which change the rate of flow or the discharge point of water across a property boundary	All land
Earthworks which increase the discharge of saline groundwater	All land

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SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 35.07 FARMING ZONE [TO COMPLY WITH MD]

Shown on the planning scheme map as FZ1.

1.0 Subdivision and other requirements

	Land	Area/Dimensions/Distance
Minimum subdivision area (hectares)	Land in Edenhope described as Lot 2 PS434694 Part CA45 Parish of Edenhope	Minimum area necessary to create a balance lot in the Farming Zone
	All other Land	80 hectares
Minimum area for which no permit is required to use land for a dwelling (hectares)	All land	80 hectares
Maximum area for which no permit is required to use land for timber production (hectares)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to construct an out-building associated with a dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing building used for agriculture (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Minimum setback from a road (metres).	A Road Zone CategoryTransport Zone 1 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 1 A Road Zone CategoryTransport Zone 2 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 2 Any other Road	100 metres 40 metres 20 metres
Minimum setback from a boundary (metres).	Any other boundary	5 metres
Minimum setback from a dwelling not in the same ownership (metres).	Any dwelling not in the same ownership	100 metres

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Permit requirement for earthworks	Land
Earthworks which change the rate of flow or the discharge point of water across a property boundary	All land
Earthworks which increase the discharge of saline groundwater	All land

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 35.07 FARMING ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as FZ2.

1.0 Subdivision and other requirements

	Land	Area/Dimensions/Distance
Minimum subdivision area (hectares)	<u>All land</u>	80 hectares
Minimum area for which no permit is required to use land for a dwelling (hectares)	All land	80 hectares
Maximum area for which no permit is required to use land for timber production (hectares)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to construct an out-building associated with a dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing building used for agriculture (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Minimum setback from a road (metres).	A RoadTransport-Zone 1 Category 1 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 1 A Road Zone CategoryTransport Zone 2 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 2 Any other Road	100 metres 40 metres 20 metres
Minimum setback from a boundary (metres).	Any other boundary	<u>5 metres</u>
Minimum setback from a dwelling not in the same ownership (metres).	Any dwelling not in the same ownership	100 metres

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Permit requirement for earthworks	<u>Land</u>
Earthworks which change the rate of flow or the discharge point of water across a property boundary	All land
Earthworks which increase the discharge of saline groundwater	All land

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SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 37.01 SPECIAL USE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as SUZ1.

RACECOURSE

Purpose

- To ensure that use and development of land associated with the Edenhope Racecourse does not prejudice the amenity of surrounding land.
- To ensure that development takes place in an orderly and proper manner.

1.0 Table of uses

Section 1 – Permit not required	
Use	Condition
Agriculture (other than animal husbandry)	
Natural systems	
Racecourse	
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01

Section 2 – Permit required	
Use	Condition
Leisure and recreation (other than racecourse)	
Market	
Place of Assembly	
Store (other than freezing and cool storage)	
Any other use not in Section 1 or 3	

Section 3 - Prohibited

Use

Adult sex product shop

Brothel

Cemetery

Corrective institution

Fuel Depot

Freezing and cool storage

Intensive animal husbandry

Transport terminal

Utility installation

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2.0 Use of land

Amenity of the neighbourhood

A use must not detrimentally affect the amenity of the neighbourhood, including through the:

- Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land.
- Appearance of any building, works or materials.
- Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil.
- Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil.

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, traffic, hours of operation and light spill, solar access and glare.
- The means of maintaining areas not required for immediate use.

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate by the responsible authority:

- The effect that existing uses may have on the proposed use.
- The drainage of the land.
- The availability of and connection to services.
- The effect of traffic to be generated on roads.
- The interim use of those parts of the land not required for the proposed use.

3.0 Subdivision

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The effect the subdivision will have on the potential of the land to accommodate the
 uses which will maintain or enhance its competitive strengths.
- Any natural or cultural values on or near the land.
- Streetscape character.
- Landscape treatment.
- The interface with adjoining land, especially the relationship with residential areas.

4.0 Buildings and works

A permit is not required to construct a building or construct or carry out works shown on a development plan approved under this schedule.

Preparation of the development plan

The development plan may consist of plans or other documents and may, with agreement of the responsible authority, be prepared and implemented in stages. The responsible authority will consult with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning prior to approving the development plan.

The development plan must describe:

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- The land to which the plan applies.
- The proposed use and details of development of each part of the land.
- A plan which clearly describes how native vegetation on the sites are to be managed.
- The development plan may be amended to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

5.0 Signs

None specified.

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SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 37.01 SPECIAL USE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as SUZ2.

GOLF COURSE

Purpose

- To ensure that use and development of land associated with the Harrow Golf Course does not prejudice the amenity of surrounding land.
- To ensure that the development takes place in an orderly and proper manner.

1.0 Table of uses

Section 1 - Permit not required	
Use	Condition
Agriculture (other than animal husbandry)	
Natural systems	
Racecourse	
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01

Section 2 - Permit required	
Use	Condition
Leisure and recreation (other than racecourse)	
Market	
Place of Assembly	
Store (other than freezing and cool storage)	
Any other use not in Section 1 or 3	

Section 3 - Prohibited

Use

Adult sex product shop

Brothel

Cemetery

Corrective institution

Fuel Depot

Freezing and cool storage

Intensive animal husbandry

Transport terminal

Utility installation

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2.0 Use of land

Amenity of the neighbourhood

A use must not detrimentally affect the amenity of the neighbourhood, including through the:

- Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land.
- Appearance of any building, works or materials.
- Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil.

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, traffic, hours of operation and light spill, solar access and glare.
- The means of maintaining areas not required for immediate use.

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The effect that existing uses may have on the proposed use.
- The drainage of the land.
- The availability of and connection to services.
- The effect of traffic to be generated on roads.
- The interim use of those parts of the land not required for the proposed use.

3.0 Subdivision

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The effect the subdivision will have on the potential of the land to accommodate the uses which will maintain or enhance its competitive strenghts.
- Any natural or cultural values on or near the land.
- Streetscape character.
- Landscape treatment.
- The interface with adjoining land, especially the relationship with residential areas.

4.0 Buildings and works

A permit is not required to construct a building or construct or carry out works shown on a development plan approved under this schedule.

Preparation of the Development Plan

The development plan may consist of plans or other documents and may, with agreement of the responsible authority, be prepared and implemented in stages. The responsible authority will consult with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning prior to approving the development plan.

The development plan must describe:

- The land to which the plan applies.
- The proposed use and details of development of each part of the land.

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- A plan which clearly describes how native vegetation on the sites are to be managed.
- The development plan may be amended to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

5.0	Signs
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None specified.

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SCHEDULE 3 TO CLAUSE 37.01 SPECIAL USE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as SUZ3.

EDENHOPE AERODROME

Purpose

To provide for the use and development of land as an airport and associated activities.

To ensure that any proposed use and development is compatible with the airport and other uses in the vicinity of the airport.

1.0 Table of uses

Section 1 - Permit not required	
Use	Condition
Airport	Ensure that conditions against uses listed have a basis in a strategic document such as a relevant masterplan
Car Park	Must be used in conjunction with the airport
Heliport	Must be limited to one aircraft hangar Floor areas of buildings, excluding aircraft hangar, must be less than 324 square metres
Mineral exploration	
Service industry	Must be used in conjunction with the airport
Telecommunications facility	Buildings and works must meet the requirements of Clause 52.19
Warehouse	Must be used in conjunction with the airport
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01

Section 2 - Permit required	
Use	Condition
Airport - if the section 1 condition is not met	
Place of Assembly	
Service industry - if the section 1 condition is not met	Must be associated with aviation
Utility installation	

Section 3 - Prohibited
Use

Any use not in section 1 or 2

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2.0 USE OF LAND

Application requirements

Any application must demonstrate how the proposed use of the land relates to the airport and is compatible with other uses in the vicinity of the airport.

3.0 Subdivision

Application requirements

Any application must state the intended outcome of the proposed subdivision and its strategic impact on the airport and its associated facilities.

4.0 Buildings and works

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

 Whether the proposed development is compatible with the airport and surrounding land uses.

5.0 Signs

None specified.

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SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO1.

SIGNIFICANT WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

The Shire's waterways and wetlands are a significant environmental resource which should be protected from inappropriate development. Significant wetlands and waterways should be retained as natural drainage corridors with vegetated buffer areas in order to perform their long term function as drainage areas, stream habitat, wildlife corridors and landscape areas, and to minimise erosion and reduce polluted surface runoff from adjacent land uses.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

To maintain environmental diversity and quality of areas that constitute wetlands, swamplands, lagoons and significant waterways by preventing pollution of, and inappropriate development adjacent to, significant wetlands, waterways and associated habitats:

To Preventing inappropriate development adjacent to significant wetlands and waterways.

To Preventing pollution of significant waterways and wetlands and the degradation of habitat areas.

3.0 Permit requirement

None specified.

4.0 Application requirements

None specified.

5.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- An assessment of the likely environmental impact of the proposal on the water quality of the wetlands or waterways.
- Whether the siting and management of the proposal is capable of treating and retaining wastewater without an adverse impact on wetlands or waterways.
- An assessment of the likely impact of the proposal on the flora, fauna and landscape features of wetlands or waterways.
- The availability of alternative sites for the proposal not within the overlays area.
- Whether the proposal will impose any flooding or drainage risk or constraints on land in the vicinity.
- The comments of any environmental or catchment management authority.

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SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO2.

RED-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO HABITAT AREAS

2.0 1.0 Statement of environmental significance

The Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus banksii graptogyne) of south-eastern Australia has been classified as an endangered species. The current population is estimated at about 1000 birds with approximately 600-700 breeding birds. The Red-tailed Black Cockatoo is a highly nomadic species and its population ranges throughout parts of the West Wimmera Shire Council and the Glenelg Shire Council in Victoria, as well as part of the Tatiara District Council, Naracoorte-Lucindale Council, Wattle Range Council, and District Council of Grant in South Australia. The absence of Red-tailed Black Cockatoos from a locality within its range does not mean that the locality does not provide habitat for this species.

The Red-tailed Black Cockatoo's Stringybark feeding habitat is mainly located on public land while its Buloke feeding and eucalyptus nesting habitat is mainly located on private land. Live and dead hollow bearing eucalypts provide suitable nesting sites for the species, while seed producing Buloke (Allocasuarina leuhmannii) and Stringybark (Eucalyptus baxteri, Eucalyptus arenacea) provide feeding habitat for the species. Buloke have separate male and female trees and both male and female trees are required to allow female trees to produce seed. The feeding and nesting habitat of the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo must be protected in order to secure the long term survival of the species.

The aim of the national Red-tailed black cockatoo recovery program is to increase the size of the current population. It is therefore important to ensure that there are adequate nesting and feeding resources available to support an expanded population into the future.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

To protect the habitat of the endangered Red-tailed Black Cockatoo through-retaining Buloke and Stringybark feeding habitat trees, live and dead hollow bearing trees and other suitable trees within the bird's known nesting area.

To ensure the availability of suitable nesting sites for the Red-tailed Black
Cockatoo through the protection of live and dead hollow bearing trees and other
suitable trees within the bird's known nesting area.

To protect the feeding habitat of the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo through the retention of Buloke and Stringybark trees.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is not required to:

- construct Construct a building or construct or carry out works.
- removeRemove, destroy or lop vegetation in accordance with a Property Management Plan approved by the responsible authority and endorsed by Department of Sustainability and Environment.

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- Rremove, destroy or lop any dead vegetation, except dead eucalyptus trees with a trunk diameter greater than 40 centimetres at 1.3 metres above ground level.
- removeRemove, destroy or lop the minimum extent of native vegetation necessary for the maintenance of farm fences. The combined maximum width of clearing permitted either side of the fence is 4m.
- removeRemove, destroy or lop any live vegetation, unless the vegetation is:
 - a-A hollow bearing eucalypt tree.
 - Buloke with a trunk diameter of greater than 20 centimetres at 1.3 metre above ground level.
 - Buloke with a density of more than 1 tree per 10 hectares of development.
 - Stringybark with a trunk diameter of greater than 30 centimetres at 1.3 metre above ground level.[This duplicates 52.17]

4.0 Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- provides Provides full details of the vegetation to be removed, destroyed or lopped, including species, age, dimensions and number of plants to be removed, destroyed or lopped.
- identifies Identifies whether any Buloke or Stringybark trees:
 - are-Are in close proximity to other Bulokes to facilitate pollination.
 - produce Produce large seed crops or have a history of producing large seed crops; and.
 - are Arc known or have been recorded as having been used by Red-tailed Black Cockatoo for feeding.
- includes Includes a detailed, scaled site map showing the location of vegetation proposed to removed.
- demonstrates Demonstrates conclusively that the vegetation removal is essential.
- provides Provides details of native vegetation offset planned to mitigate the loss of vegetation.

5.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- whether the proposal conflicts with the objectives of the overlay. The parent provision specifies this!
- the-The significance of the vegetation identified for removal as nesting and/or feeding sites for the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo.
- the-The significance of vegetation to be removed in relation to the levels of Buloke and Stringybark in the vicinity.
- whether Whether the proposed development can be accommodated on land where no Buloke or Stringybark are required to be removed.
- whether proposed vegetation offsets are commensurate with the significance of vegetation to be removed, and particularly if the offset includes the protection of large old trees consistent with the large old tree objectives of Appendix 4 of Victoria 's Native Vegetation Management A Framework for Action, 2002.

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 whether there are statutory requirements under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 or the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 42.02 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as VPO1.

JUMPING JACK WATTLE — ROADSIDE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

1.0 1.0 1.0 Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

The Jumping Jack Wattle is a rare and threatened species.

2.0 Vegetation protection objectives to be achieved

To identify and protect roadsides within the Shire which contain the Jumping Jack Wattle. To maintain habitat corridors for indigenous fauna.

To ensure development minimises loss of indigenous vegetation.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop Jumping Jack Wattle and other indigenous vegetation where such vegetation occurs along these roadsides. An application for this purpose should:

- Specify the reason why the vegetation concerned should be removed, destroyed or lopped.
- Demonstrate that the need for removal, destruction or lopping of the vegetation concerned has been reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable.
- Specify revegetation proposals.

4.0 Application requirements

None specified.

5.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The value of the vegetation in terms of physical condition, rarity or variety.
- The purpose of removing, destructing or lopping the vegetation concerned, and whether there are alternative options.
- The likely effect of removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation on resident and migratory fauna.

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- The need to maintain the connectivity in a local or regional context of linear remnants and biolinks.
- Whether it is appropriate to include conditions requiring planting, replanting or other treatment of any part of the land as a condition of the approval.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 43.01 HERITAGE OVERLAY

1.0 1.0 Application requirements

None specified.

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2.0 Heritage places

The requirements of this overlay apply to both the heritage place and its associated land.

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint control s apply?	Internal alteratio n controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses permitted?	Name of Incorporate d Plan under Clause 43.01-2	Aboriginal heritage place?
Harrow									
HO1	Former Log Lockup, 2-6 Blair Street	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H306	Yes		No
HO2	Kout Norien Estate, 47 Harrow- Clear Lake Road	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H307	Yes		No
HO3	Mullagh Memorial, Johnny Mullagh Park Blair St. Harrow	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
HO4	Harrow Cemetery,	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No

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	Harrow- Clear Lake Rd. Harrow								
HO5	Primary School No. 2049, Hill St. Harrow	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
HO6	Hamilton Street Steps, Hamilton St. Harrow	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
Kaniva									
HO7	Kaniva Railway Station, Moore Street	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H1569	Yes		No
HO8	State Emergency Services building (former courthouse) . Commercial St. Kaniva	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
H011	Former Kaniva Shire Hall and Municipal offices on the corner of Commercial	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No		No

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Miram S	Street and Baker Street, Kaniva								
William	Journ								
HO9	Public Hall, Bill's Gully, N. Allens Rd. Miram South	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
Servicet	on								
HO10	Serviceton Railway Station, Elizabeth Street, Serviceton	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H1592	Yes		No

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SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 43.02 DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as DDO1.

EDENHOPE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

To foster a distinct urban character that identifies the area as the main entrance to Edenhope.

To improve the attractiveness of the corridor.

To encourage new development to contribute to the urban character of the street.

To ensure new development is of a high standard of urban design, <u>contributes to a consistent landscape for the street and manages any interface with adjoining residential areas.</u>

To ensure new development contributes to a consistent landscape for the street.

To ensure signs do not dominate the streetscape or create visual clutter.

To ensure that new development manages any interface with adjoining residential areas

2.0 Buildings and works

A permit is required to construct a fence that does not meet the design requirements of this schedule.

A permit is not required for:

- Internal alterations.
- Repairs or routine maintenance that do not change the appearance of the existing buildings and works. The repairs must be undertaken to similar details, specifications and materials.

Site Design

All new developments must:

- Provide an active frontage to the street.
- Have a set back that is consistent with existing buildings in the corridor.

Site Layout

Where new development abuts residential land, new development will provide acoustic screen fencing, and landscaped buffers.

New development will ensure adjoining residential land is not affected by light spill.

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Car Parking

The front set back of all new buildings shall contain visitor parking areas.

Staff parking and loading bays shall be to the side or rear of the building.

Those parts of the frontage not required for car parking or driveways will be landscaped.

Fencing

New buildings must include fencing along all lot boundaries, including boundaries that have a frontage to the street.

Fences must be black in color and constructed of a cyclone mesh material.

Landscaping

The front setback of all buildings shall be landscaped to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. Incorporation of existing native vegetation into landscape plans is encouraged.

3.0 Subdivision

None specified.

4.0 Signs

In addition to any requirement in the zone, the following requirements must be met:

- New development will be limited to <u>one</u>4 business identification pole sign.
- Signage shall not dominate the facades of buildings.
- Signage shall not obscure the glazed portions of building facades.
- Signage shall not be attached to fences.
- Signs should not unreasonably obscure the identity of adjoining businesses.

5.0 Application requirements

None specified.

6.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 43.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 43.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The West Wimmera Planning Scheme Municipal Planning Strategy.
- The consistency of the proposal with the design objectives contained in this schedule.
- How the The likelihood that the new building will contribute positively to the streetscape.
- The siting, design and massing of proposed buildings and works and the impact on the amenity of adjoining residential areas.
- Access into and from the site, the location of car parking, and the likely impact of traffic on local amenity.
- The <u>proposed appropriateness of landscaping proposed for the site</u>.

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The manner in which Whether the signage integrates with the building and does not detract from the contributes to the visual amenity of the streetscape.

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 43.02 DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **DDO2**.

KANIVA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

1.0 Design objectives

To facilitate economic development through efficient and functional industrial development that achieves, To ensure a high standard of built form and visual amenity is achieved in the Kaniva Industrial Estate.

To ensure the design and layout of buildings enables efficient vehicle movements and provides adequate on-site parking.

To ensure signs do not dominate the streetscape or create visual clutter.

To ensure new development minimises any interface issues with nearby land uses.

To facilitate economic development through efficient and functional industrial development.

To ensure that all new developments include fencing that achieves a consistently high visual amenity.

2.0 Buildings and works

A permit is required to construct a fence that does not meet the design requirements of this schedule.

A permit is not required for:

- Internal alterations.
- Repairs or routine maintenance that do not change the appearance of the existing buildings and works. The repairs must be undertaken to similar details, specifications and materials.

Site Design

All new developments must:

- Provide an active frontage to the road.
- Be of a contemporary design that contributes positively to the amenity of the area.
- Demonstrate how any proposed loading bay, dock, or service area adjacent to residential land manages noise, smells, light spill, dust and vibration to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Site Layout

New building will provide an active frontage to the street.

Buildings and works should include measures that minimise adverse amenity impacts on nearby residential areas with respect to visual presentation, noise and external lighting.

The design and location of external security lighting, rubbish storage and collection areas, and loading and unloading facilities should minimise potential adverse amenity impacts.

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Car Parking

The front set back of all new buildings shall contain visitor parking areas.

Staff parking and loading bays shall be to the side or rear of the building.

All driveways and car parking in the setback area between a road frontage and the building line must be constructed of an impervious all-weather seal coat such as concrete or bitumen. Pervious surfaces that reduce the rate of rainfall run-off and have a structural standard comparable to concrete or bitumen will be accepted for all other driveway, parkingand loading areas.

Fencing

New buildings must include fencing along all lot boundaries, including boundaries that have a frontage to the street.

Fences must be black in color and constructed of a cyclone mesh material.

Landscaping

Those parts of the frontage not required for car parking or driveways will be landscaped.

The front setback of all buildings shall be landscaped to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. Incorporation of existing native vegetation into landscape plans is encouraged. Existing vegetation should be retained where practical.

Landscaping areas should be designed to be low maintenance, including selection of hardy landscape species that require minimal ongoing maintenance and have low water usage.

The quality and quantity of landscaping should reflect the scale of the building and car park area in order to address screening and softening of visual bulk.

3.0 Subdivision

None specified.

4.0 Signs

In addition to any requirement in the zone, the following requirements must be met:

- New development will be limited to <u>lone</u> business identification pole sign.
- Signage shall not dominate the facades of buildings.
- Signage shall not obscure the glazed portions of building facades.
- Signage shall not be attached to fences.
- Signs should not unreasonably obscure the identity of adjoining businesses.

5.0 Application requirements

None specified.

6.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 43.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 43.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

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- The West Wimmera Planning Scheme Municipal Planning Strategy.
- The consistency of the proposal with the design objectives contained in this schedule.
- The likelihood that the new building will contribute positively to the streetscape.
- The siting, design and massing of proposed buildings and works and the impact on the amenity of adjoining residential areas.
- Access into and from the site, the location of car parking, and the likely impact of traffic on local amenity.
- The appropriateness of landscaping proposed for the site.
- Whether the signage integrates with the building and does not detract from the visual amenity of the streetscape.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 44.04 LAND SUBJECT TO INUNDATION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as LSIO.

1.0 Land subject to inundation objectives to be achieved

None specified.

2.0 Statement of risk

None specified.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is not required to construct a building and/or works, including a fence, if the land on which the buildings and works are to be situated has been filled in accordance with the requirements of a planning permit relating to an approved plan of subdivision affecting the land, or other planning permit issued in relation to the land.

A permit is not required if appropriately detailed information is submitted to the satisfaction of the responsible authority showing the natural level of the land on which the buildings and works are proposed to be situated above the 1 in 100 year flood level.

4.0 Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 44.04, in addition to those specified in Clause 44.04 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- The application should be accompanied by flood level information where the responsible authority does not have access to such information in relation to the land.
- Where the responsible authority has accurate flood level information, the responsible authority will advise the applicant of the appropriate floor level for any proposed buildings.

5.0 Decision guidelines

None specified.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 45.01 PUBLIC ACQUISITION OVERLAY

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1.0 Public acquisition

PS map ref	Acquiring Authority	Purpose of acquisition
PAO1	Roads Corporation	Rest Area

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 52.28 GAMING

1.0 Objectives

None specified.

2.0 Prohibition of a gaming machine in a shopping complex

Installation or use of a gaming machine as specified in Clause 52.28-4 is prohibited on land described in Table 1 below.

Table 1	
Name of shopping complex and locality	Land description
None specified	

3.0 Prohibition of a gaming machine in a strip shopping centre

A gaming machine as specified in Clause 52.28-5 is prohibited in all strip shopping centres on land covered by this planning scheme.

4.0 Locations for gaming machines

None specified.

5.0 Venues for gaming machines

None specified.

6.0 Application requirements

None specified.

7.0 Decision guidelines

None specified.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 66.04 REFERRAL OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS UNDER LOCAL PROVISIONS

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1.0 Referral of permit applications under local provisions

Clause	Kind of application	Referral authority	Referral authority type	
Schedule 1 to Clause 42.01 (ESO)	All applications	Catchment Management Authority	Recommending referral authority	
Schedule 2 to or lopping of native vegetation (ESO)		Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	Determining referral authority	

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.08 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1.0 Background documents

Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
Land Development Strategy 2013-2017 (West Wimmera Shire Council, 2013)	C36 - Clause 02
Statements of Significance for Items on the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Heritage Overlay (Wendy Jacobs, October 2002)	C36 - Clause 02
West Wimmera Land Use Strategy 1998 (West Wimmera Shire Council, 1998)	C36 - Clause 02
Wimmera Regional Catchment Strategy, 2003-2008 (Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, 2003)	C36 - Clause 02
Wimmera Regional Salinity Action Plan 2005-2010 (Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, 2005)	C36 - Clause 02
Roadside Weed and Rabbit Control Plan (West Wimmera Shire Council, 2013)	C36 - Clause 02
Mallee Regional Catchment Strategy (Mallee Catchment Management Authority, 2013)	C36 - Clause 02
Mallee Dryland Salinity Management Plan (Mallee Dryland Salinity Community Working Group, 1993)	C36 - Clause 02
Draft Wimmera Native Vegetation Plans (Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, 2000)	C36 - Clause 02
Land Conservation Council Final Recommendations for the Mallee Area (Land Conservation Counci, 1989)	C36 - Clause 02
The Conservation Status of Roadsides in the Shire of Lowan (Martin E. Westbrooke, 1989)	C36 - Clause 02

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.01 APPLICATION OF ZONES, OVERLAYS AND PROVISIONS

1.0 Application of zones, overlays and provisions

This planning scheme applies the following zones, overlays and provisions to implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the objectives and strategies in Clauses 11 to 19:

- Township Zone to residential development and a range of commercial, industrial and other uses in small towns.
- Industrial 1 Zone to manufacturing industry, the storage and distribution of goods and associated uses in a manner which does not affect the safety and amenity of local communities.
- Industrial 3 Zone to industries and associated uses in specific areas where special
 consideration of the nature and impacts of industrial uses is required or to avoid interindustry conflict.
- Rural Living Zone to residential uses in a rural environment which protect and enhance the natural resources, biodiversity and landscape values of the area.
- Public Conservation and Resource Zone to larger parcels of land in public ownership that have an environmental focus.
- Public Park and Recreation Zone to public open space reserves.
- Farming Zone to land for agricultural uses.
- Public Use Zone to public land used for public utility and community services and facilities.
- Special Use Zone to use and development of land for specific purposes.
- Bushfire Management Overlay to areas at risk of bushfire.
- Design and Development Overlay to areas that are affected by specific requirements relating to the design and built form of new development.
- Environmental Significance Overlay to areas where the development of land may be affected by environmental constraints.
- Vegetation Protection Overlay to protect areas of significant vegetation.
- Heritage Overlay to heritage places of natural or cultural significance.
- Land Subject to Inundation Overlay to land in a flood storage or flood fringe area affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other area determined by the floodplain management authority.
- Public Acquision Overlay to land that is proposed to be acquired by a Minister, public authority or municipal council.
- Environmental Audit Overlay to ensure potentially contaminated land is suitable for a use that could be significantly adversely affected by any contamination.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.02 FURTHER STRATEGIC WORK

1.0 Further strategic work

None specified.

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Prepare a rural strategy for the municipality that addresses all of the rural zones to ensure that planning controls that have been applied are current, support the economic development of the municipality, and respond to climate change impacts. This study should address suitable locations for:

- Providing appropriate rural housing opportunities
- Smaller lot sizes to promote the establishment of intensive and niche agricultural activities.
- Intensive animal husbandry based on infrastructure availability and environmental considerations.".

Utilise the schedules to the Rural Living Zone and Farming Zone to reduce the permit triggers for sheds and outbuildings.

Apply the SLO to the Natimuk-Douglas Wetland System as recommended in the South West Landscape Assessment Study (DELWP and Planisphere, 2013).

Prepare and implement targeted settlement plans for Harrow, Apsley, Kaniva, Goroke and Edenhope that facilitate development, provide housing in response to community and Council preference, and coordinate infrastructure for these areas.

Prepare a dwellings in the Farming Zone policy based on local policies that have been prepared by other councils with similar lot sizes and environments (e.g. Mildura, Horsham,).

- Prepare and implement the Stage 2 Heritage Study, including:
- Assessment and documentation of the places of post-contact cultural significance identified as being worthy of future conservation in Stage 1.
- Review and finalisation of the Thematic Environmental History.
- Recommendations for the conservation of the municipality's cultural heritage.

Prioritise the incorporation of up-to-date flood mapping recently prepared by the Glenelg Hopkins CMA

Prepare and implement a Tourism Strategy

Prepare and implement an Economic Development Strategy

Investigate the potential to expand the Edenhope Industrial Estate.

Identify high-value sites for intensive agriculture.

Prepare and implement a Stage 2 Heritage Study, including:

- Assessment and documentation of the places of post-contact cultural significance identified as being worthy of future conservation in Stage 1;
- Review and finalisation of the Thematic Environmental History; and
- Recommendations for the conservation of the municipality's cultural heritage.

Prepare a plan showing the location of infrastructure that supports rural industries for inclusion in Clause 2.04 of the planning scheme.

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16 Confidential Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council pursuant to Section 66 (2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 close the meeting to members of the public to resolve on matters pertaining to the following items:

17 Late Items of Business

Pursuant to West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules - Division 3 Section 20:

20. Urgent Business

If the agenda for a Council meeting makes provision for urgent business, business cannot be admitted as urgent business other than by resolution of Council, and only then if it:

- 20.1 relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda; and
- 20.2 cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting.

18 Sealing Schedule

Nil.

19 Close of Meeting

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 17th May 2023

Minimay, VIC TBC

