



WELCOME
TO THE WEST

West Wimmera Shire Council

AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 17 May 2023
2:00 pm

Minimay Hall
Minimay VIC

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**



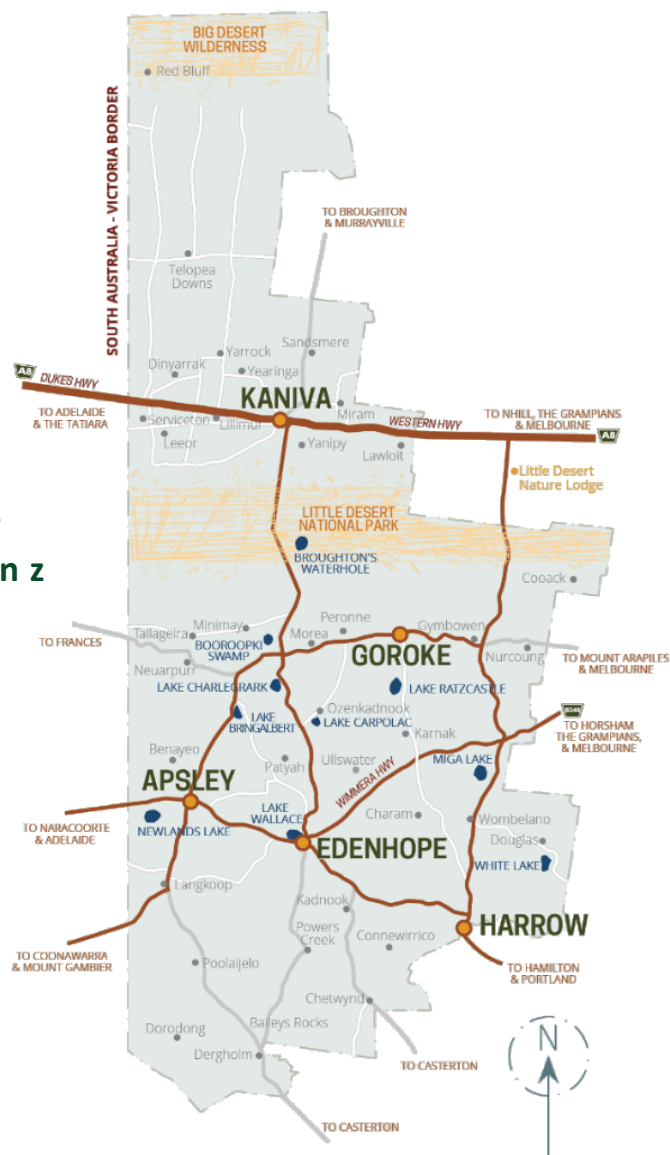
**Cr. Trevor
Domaschenz**



**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.

OUR GOALS





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 personal 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 |
|------------|--|
| 20/04/2023 | Councillor Workshop – Draft Budget |
| 25/04/2023 | Kaniva ANZAC Day Service |
| 28/04/2023 | Western Highway Action Committee Meeting |
| 02/05/2023 | Strategic Leadership Team Meeting |
| 02/05/2023 | Council Grants Workshop – Community Support Funding and Guidelines |
| 03/05/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 05/05/2023 | RFA May Meeting |
| 16/05/2023 | Strategic Leadership Team Meeting |
| 17/05/2023 | Budget Discussion |
| 17/05/2023 | Pre Council Meeting |
| 17/05/2023 | Community Forum & Council Meeting |

6.2 Councillor Jodie Pretlove (Deputy Mayor)

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| 20/04/2023 | Councillor Workshop – Draft Budget |
| 02/05/2023 | Strategic Leadership Team Meeting |
| 02/05/2023 | Council Grants Workshop – Community Support Funding and Guidelines |
| 03/05/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 16/05/2023 | Strategic Leadership Team Meeting |
| 17/05/2023 | Budget Discussion |
| 17/05/2023 | Pre Council Meeting |
| 17/05/2023 | Community Forum & Council Meeting |



6.3 Councillor Trevor Domaschenz

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| 20/04/2023 | Councillor Workshop – Draft Budget |
| 25/04/2023 | Edenhope ANZAC Day Service |
| 02/05/2023 | Council Grants Workshop – Community Support Funding and Guidelines |
| 03/05/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 17/05/2023 | Budget Discussion |
| 17/05/2023 | Pre Council Meeting |
| 17/05/2023 | Community Forum & Council Meeting |

6.4 Councillor Tom Houlihan

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| 20/04/2023 | Councillor Workshop – Draft Budget |
| 25/04/2023 | Harrow ANZAC Day Service |
| 02/05/2023 | Council Grants Workshop – Community Support Funding and Guidelines |
| 03/05/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 17/05/2023 | Budget Discussion |
| 17/05/2023 | Pre Council Meeting |
| 17/05/2023 | Community Forum & Council Meeting |

6.5 Councillor Bruce Meyer OAM

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
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| 03/05/2023 | Community Forum |
| 17/05/2023 | Budget Discussion |
| 17/05/2023 | Pre Council Meeting |
| 17/05/2023 | Community Forum & Council Meeting |



7 Condolences

Nil



8 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

8.1 Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 19th April 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 19th April 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Attachments

Nil

9 Business Arising From Previous Minutes



10 Notices of Motion

10.1 Notices of Motion

Notice of Motion Number: 2023/01

MOTION:

That West Wimmera Council immediately contact the relevant Victorian State Ministers for an update and any outcomes from the Department of Sport and Recreation investigation into the Making a Difference @ Harrow & District Recreation Reserve Project that was referred to at the December 2022 West Wimmera Shire Council meeting.

EXPLANATION

This issue has been in front of Council for five years and needs to be resolved. This issue as in front of the West Wimmera Shire Council six months ago at the December meeting for decision but wasn't decided.

Attachments

1. Notice of Motion 2023 01 10 May 2023 [**10.1.1** - 2 pages]



NOTICE OF MOTION
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MOTION No: 2023/01

MOTION: That West Wimmera Shire Council immediately contact the relevant Victorian State ministers for an update and any outcomes from the Department of Sport and Recreation investigation into the Making a Difference @ Harrow & District Recreation Reserve Project that was referred to at the December 2022 West Wimmera Shire Council meeting.

Explanation (word limit of up to 190 words):

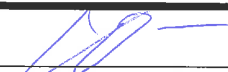
This issue has been in front of council for 5 years and needs to be resolved. This issue was in front of West Wimmera Shire Council 6 months ago at the December meeting for decision but wasn't decided.

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Councillor's Signature: | |
| Councillor's Name: | 10/5/2023 |
| Date: | CRTREVOR DOMASCHENZ |

NOTICE OF MOTION No: _____

That.....

[illegible]

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Councillor's Signature: | See previous page |
| Councillor's Name: | |
| Date: | |
| CEO's Signature: |  |
| Chief Executive Officer: | DAVID BEZUDNEVICH |
| Date: | 11/5/2023 |



11 Councillor Forum Record

11.1 Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 3rd May 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Record for the Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 3rd May 2023 be received and noted.

12 Deputations and Petitions

There were no Petitions or Deputations submitted for the agenda.



13 Chief Executive Officer

13.1 Quarterly Budget Report

Directorate: Corporate & Community Services

Report Author: Chief Finance Officer

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

Section 97 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires that Council be presented with a Quarterly Budget Report comparing actual to budgeted revenue and expenditure at the conclusion of each quarter of the financial year.

This report summarizes the financial position of the Council at end of Q3 FY 2022-23. The report also provides Council's operating performance as presented in the Operating Statement and Council's financial position as at 31 March 2023 reflected in the Balance Sheet.

A summarized report on the Capital Works Program for FY 2022-23 is also included. A schedule of Employee Costs presents the distribution of these costs to various business units.

The quarterly report also provides information on state of financial affairs relating to:

- Cash and Investments
- Working Capital
- Rates Debtors Outstanding
- Sundry Debtors Outstanding

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

The Quarterly Budget Review Report for Q3 FY 2022-23 attached

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

Not applicable

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 4 – Good Governance

4.1 Ensure long term financial sustainability.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Conclusion

The Council's financial position reflects strong ability to meet its financial obligations. The Capital Works Program is now in its Q4 with works on major projects. As part of EoFY preparation, the Finance Team will closely work with the Projects Team to undertake a detailed review for accuracy of costs booked to the projects as well as building in the major oncost component to reflect the true value of capital works undertaken during the financial year.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note and receive the Q3 Quarterly Budget Report.



Attachments

1. Q 3 Council Report - Final Version 1.0.2 [**13.1.1** - 12 pages]



Quarterly Report

Q3 - January - March 2023

2022-23

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Introduction

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The quarterly report also provides information on state of financial affairs relating to:

1. Cash and Investments
2. Working Capital
3. Rates Debtors Outstanding
4. Sundry Debtors Outstanding

Operating Statement

The Council's Operating Statement has been presented in accordance with the provisions of AASB 101 – Presentation of Financial Statements. The presented amounts include Year to Date (YTD) Actuals as well as YTD Budgeted figures and any variance arising in between these figures. A percentage of variance is also provided to demonstrate the extent of variance.

Comprehensive Income Statement

1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023

| | Year to Date | Annual Budget (Original) | Annual Budget (Revised) | Annual Budget Revised (Achieved) | Year to Date Budget | Year to Date Variance | |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | % | \$ | \$ | % |
| Income | | | | | | | |
| Rates & Charges | 8,189,213 | 8,241,000 | 8,241,000 | 99.37% | 8,241,000 | (51,787) | -0.63% |
| Statutory Fees & Fines | 80,535 | 137,000 | 137,000 | 58.78% | 102,750 | (22,216) | -21.62% |
| User Fees | 460,590 | 977,000 | 977,000 | 47.14% | 732,750 | (272,160) | -37.14% |
| Grants - Operating | 4,459,530 | 12,945,000 | 12,945,000 | 34.45% | 6,472,500 | (2,012,970) | -31.10% |
| Grants - Capital | 4,685,597 | 6,965,000 | 6,965,000 | 67.27% | 3,482,500 | 1,203,097 | 34.55% |
| Contributions - Monetary | 50,000 | 264,000 | 264,000 | 18.94% | 198,000 | (148,000) | -74.75% |
| Net Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Assets | - | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0.00% | 100,000 | (100,000) | -100.00% |
| Other Income | 1,256,658 | 1,628,000 | 1,628,000 | 77.19% | 1,221,000 | 35,658 | 2.92% |
| Total Income | 19,182,122 | 31,257,000 | 31,257,000 | 61.37% | 20,550,500 | (1,368,378) | -6.66% |
| Expenses | | | | | | | |
| Employee Costs | 6,819,861 | 9,776,000 | 9,776,000 | 69.76% | 7,332,000 | (512,139) | -1.28% |
| Materials & Services | 5,830,308 | 13,269,000 | 13,269,000 | 43.94% | 9,951,750 | (566,031) | -11.02% |
| Depreciation | 5,898,000 | 7,864,000 | 7,864,000 | 75.00% | 5,898,000 | - | 0.00% |
| Other Expenses | 249,618 | 348,000 | 348,000 | 71.73% | 261,000 | (7,233) | -4.16% |
| Total Expenses | 18,797,787 | 31,257,000 | 31,257,000 | 60.14% | 23,442,750 | (1,085,403) | -4.57% |
| Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations | 384,335 | - | - | | (2,892,250) | 808,163 | |
| Total Comprehensive Result | 384,335 | - | - | - | (2,892,250) | 808,163 | - |

Variance Notes

- During recent year, the Government has restructured the release of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) and instead of releasing the funds on quarterly basis, they have adopted a lump sum payment towards End of Financial Year (EoFY). Accordingly, a major fraction of the Operating Grants is expected to be credited to our account during last quarter of FY 2022-23.
- However, Capital Grants are currently above the budgeted number for YTD at the end of this quarter, which reflects efficient reporting of the works completed and invoicing to the relevant Government department in a timely manner.
- User Fees has aggregated over 37% lower than the budgeted figure to this time of the year. This is one of the income and revenue streams with minimal or no control but an indication to plan ahead and factor in this decline for future years. This trend may continue into next financial year and the proposed budget has presented this income stream to an achievable target.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2023

| | 31 March 2023 | 30 June 2022 | 31 Dec 2021 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Current Assets | | | |
| Cash & Investments | \$ 15,017,406 | \$ 17,197,550 | \$ 12,817,701 |
| Rate Debtors | \$ 195,403 | \$ 188,000 | \$ 6,662,533 |
| Sundry Debtors | \$ 395,432 | \$ 279,183 | \$ 241,923 |
| Inventories | \$ 232,511 | \$ 180,118 | \$ 148,317 |
| Other Assets | \$ 59,853 | \$ 126,857 | \$ 23,864 |
| Current Assets Total | \$ 15,900,605 | \$ 17,971,708 | \$ 19,894,338 |
| Non Current Assets | | | |
| Investments in Associates | \$ 661,698 | \$ 661,698 | \$ 545,425 |
| Other Non-Current Assets | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 10,000 |
| Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment | \$ 228,438,659 | \$ 226,717,717 | \$ 226,450,189 |
| Non Current Assets Total | \$ 229,100,357 | \$ 227,379,415 | \$ 227,005,614 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 245,000,963 | \$ 245,351,123 | \$ 246,899,952 |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Trade & Other Payables | \$ 1,635,909 | \$ 961,636 | \$ 1,848,876 |
| Trust Funds & Deposits | \$ 39,922 | \$ 115,234 | \$ 26,822 |
| Provisions | \$ 2,471,145 | \$ 2,471,145 | \$ 2,104,191 |
| Current Liabilities Total | \$ 4,146,976 | \$ 3,548,015 | \$ 3,979,889 |
| Non Current Liabilities | | | |
| Provisions | \$ 187,728 | \$ 183,841 | \$ 541,869 |
| Non Current Liabilities Total | \$ 187,728 | \$ 183,841 | \$ 541,869 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | \$ 4,334,704 | \$ 3,731,856 | \$ 4,521,758 |
| NET ASSETS | \$ 240,666,258 | \$ 241,619,267 | \$ 242,378,194 |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit) | \$ 41,966,379 | \$ 42,922,001 | \$ 42,697,435 |
| Reserves | \$ 198,699,879 | \$ 198,697,879 | \$ 199,680,759 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | \$ 240,666,258 | \$ 241,619,880 | \$ 242,378,194 |

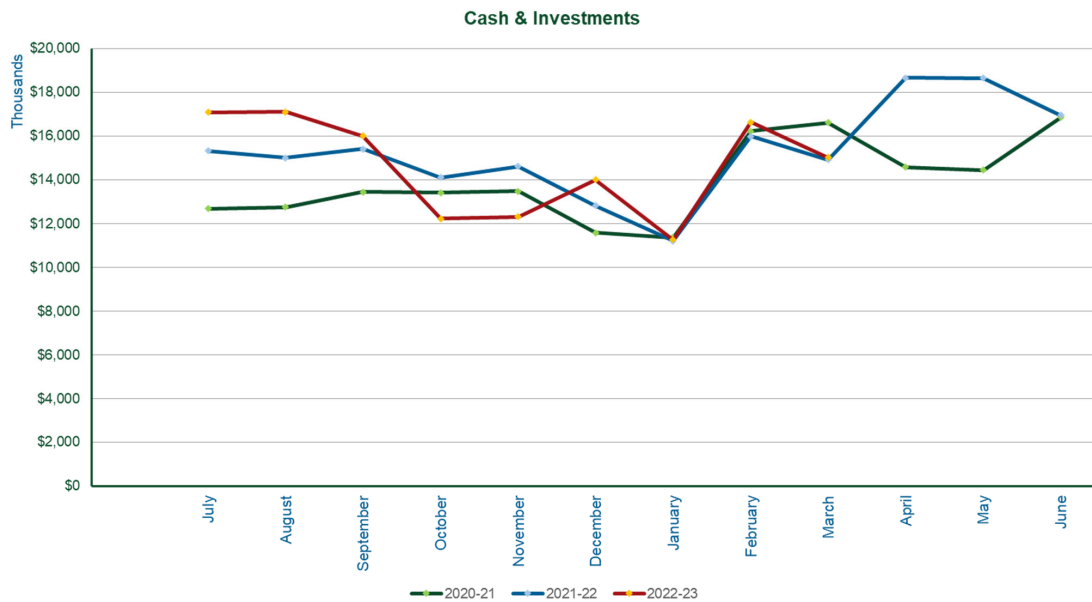
Cash & Investments

The total Cash & Investments held by the Council as at 31 March 2023 are \$15,017,406 which include \$10.668 Million in interest bearing term deposits. These investments are made in accordance with the Council's Investment Policy and applicable regulations of the Local Government Act 2020.

The following schedule provides a month-on-month trend of cash and investment held during current and last two years.

Cash & Investments

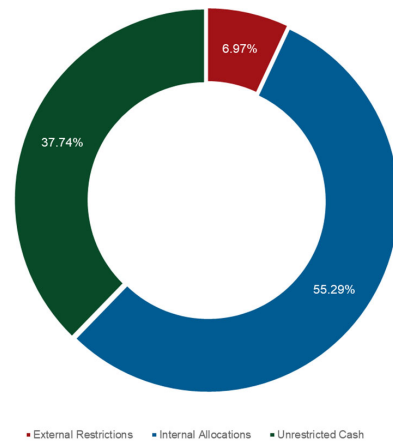
| | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| July | \$ 12,680,715 | \$ 15,320,731 | \$ 17,081,229 |
| August | \$ 12,754,120 | \$ 14,998,773 | \$ 17,109,392 |
| September | \$ 13,440,076 | \$ 15,414,287 | \$ 16,001,805 |
| October | \$ 13,420,759 | \$ 14,112,970 | \$ 12,225,552 |
| November | \$ 13,488,639 | \$ 14,621,504 | \$ 12,315,312 |
| December | \$ 11,590,700 | \$ 12,817,701 | \$ 14,004,486 |
| January | \$ 11,374,016 | \$ 11,217,968 | \$ 11,266,164 |
| February | \$ 16,227,099 | \$ 15,988,802 | \$ 16,636,824 |
| March | \$ 16,606,420 | \$ 14,926,934 | \$ 15,017,406 |
| April | \$ 14,576,370 | \$ 18,654,363 | |
| May | \$ 14,447,017 | \$ 18,634,844 | |
| June | \$ 16,850,868 | \$ 16,949,667 | |



Reserved Liquid Assets

The Cash & Investments held by the Council as at 31 March 2023 are subject to both External Restrictions and Internal Allocations. The following schedule provides details of these restricted funds and the Council's Unrestricted Cash & Investments stand at \$5,667,056 as at 31 March 2023.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Cash & Investments | \$ 15,017,406 |
| as at 31 March 2023 | |
| Subject to External Restrictions | |
| Trust Funds and Deposits | \$ 39,922 |
| Unspent Grants | \$ 1,007,041 |
| Recognised as Trade Payable - Others | |
| Internal Allocations | |
| Discretionary Reserves | \$ 5,158,018 |
| VGC 2022-23 Prepayment Remaining | \$ 486,496 |
| Employees Leave Liability Reserves | \$ 2,658,873 |
| Unrestricted Cash Balance | \$ 5,667,056 |



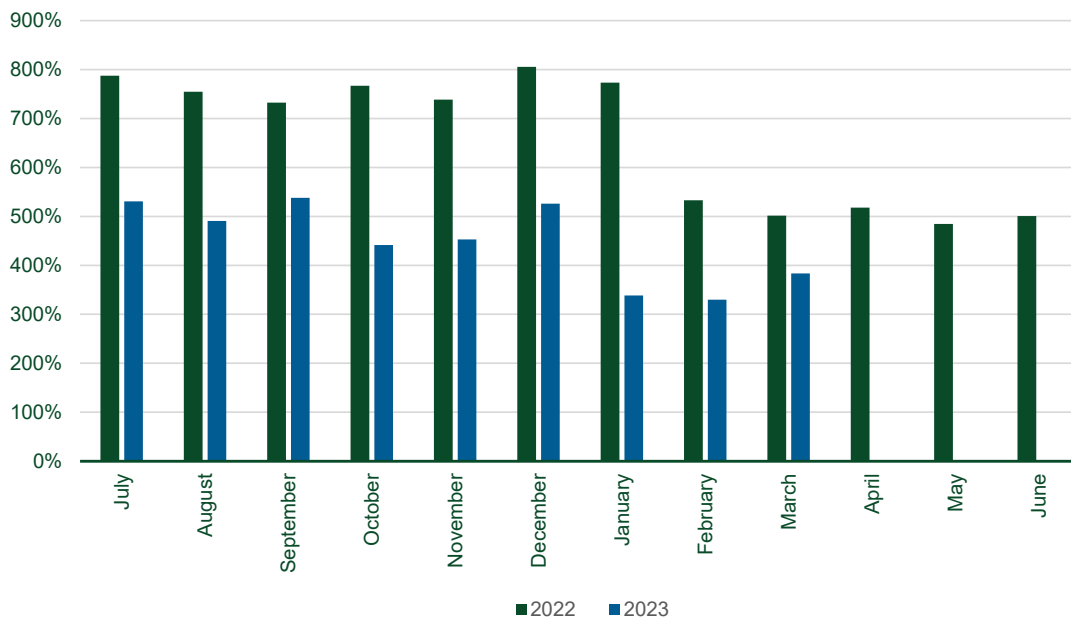
The following schedule provides details of Discretionary Internal Reserves reported above.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Discretionary Reserves | |
| Reserve - Capital Improvement | \$ 322,740 |
| Reserve - Carried Forward Projects | \$ 3,509,462 |
| Reserve - Elections | \$ 35,114 |
| Reserve - Plant Replacement | \$ 770,961 |
| Reserve - Quarry Restoration | \$ 120,763 |
| Reserve - Valuations | \$ 398,978 |
| | \$ 5,158,018 |

Working Capital Adequacy

The Council's working capital adequacy continues to demonstrate a strong position. This indicator reflects Council's ability to meet its current financial obligations and adequacy of current assets to fulfill them.

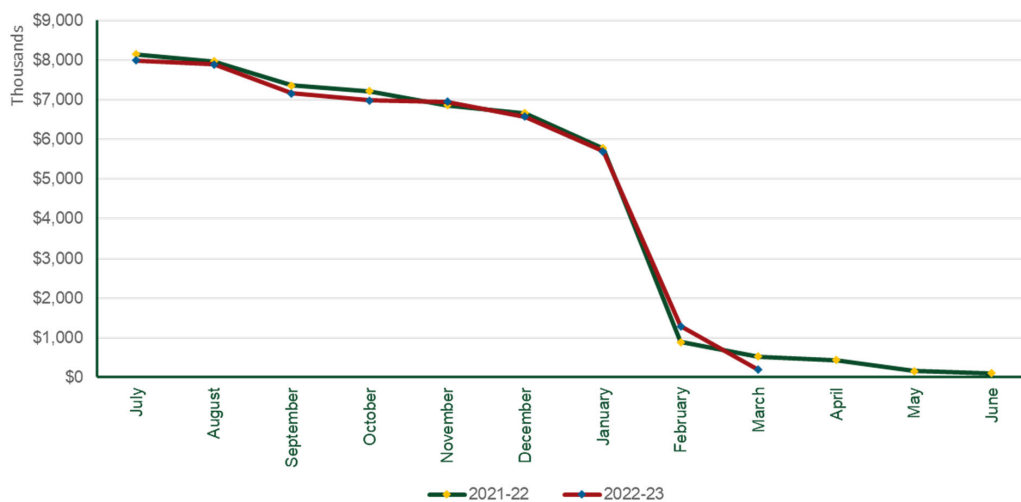
The Q3 FY 2022-23 reflects this indicator at 383% and demonstrates Council's strong ability to meet its financial obligations.



Debtors - Rates

The Council Rates raised for FY 2022-23 aggregated to \$8.10 Million. The Council's main economic sector is represented by the farming community and the Council did not get lots of requests to pay these rates in instalments. As a carried forward payment pattern from previous year, Q3 always generates additional liquidity, coming from the lump sum rates payments.

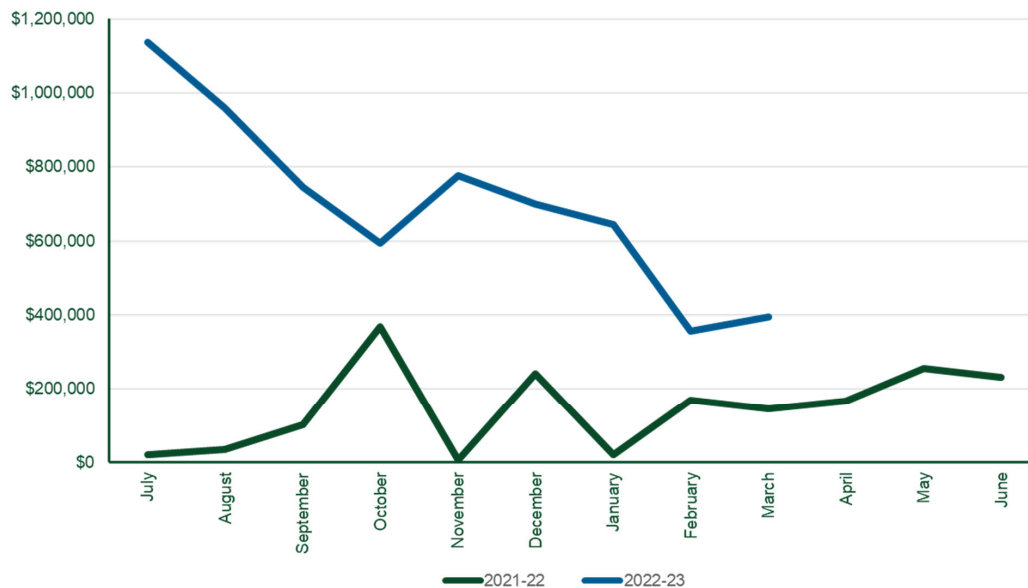
The outstanding rates, which stood at \$6.569 Million at the end of Q2 received settlements during this quarter and the receivable sum is a very small fraction of the original rates raised for the year.



Debtors - Sundry

There was a major DJPR invoice raised during last quarter and the opening balance of \$700,106 from previous quarter has decreased to \$395K at end of Q3 FY 2022-23. The major representation of \$241 K by the Department of Transport, and the remaining balance is uniformly split towards other sundry debtors.

It is planned that a comprehensive review of all the sundry debtors to be conducted before EoFY to assess any risks involved with recovery of these outstanding debts.



Capital Works Progress

The following schedule provides the Capital Works progress at the end of Q3 FY 2022-23. During current quarter, the Finance and Projects team will be working together to undertake a detailed review of various costs associated with the projects to ensure that the project costing is accurate and adjustments to be posted wherever required.

In addition to the above, an accurate estimate of Oncost charges will be calculated and applied to these projects so as to reflect the true value of capital works program completed. It is pertinent to mention that oncosts is a significant component of these project costs and is calculated at 50% of the wages & salaries for the staff working on these projects.

The following schedule provides an indicative gross value of capital works projects completed to Q3 FY 2022-23.

Capital Works

As at 31 December 2022

| | Year to Date | Annual Budget (Original) | Year to Date Budget | Year to Date Variance | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | % |
| <u>Property</u> | | | | | |
| Land and Buildings | \$ 397,710 | \$ 2,348,595 | \$ 1,761,446 | \$ (1,363,736) | -77.42% |
| <u>Plant and Equipment</u> | | | | | |
| Plant | \$ 1,046,268 | \$ 1,183,000 | \$ 887,250 | \$ 159,018 | 17.92% |
| Motor Vehicles | \$ 298,706 | \$ 460,000 | \$ 345,000 | \$ (46,294) | -13.42% |
| IT Replacements | \$ 11,898 | \$ 20,000 | \$ 15,000 | \$ (3,102) | -20.68% |
| <u>Infrastructure</u> | | | | | |
| Roads | \$ 3,564,606 | \$ 6,595,808 | \$ 4,946,856 | \$ (1,382,250) | -27.94% |
| Bridges | \$ - | \$ 50,000 | \$ 37,500 | \$ (37,500) | -100.00% |
| Footpaths | \$ 154,547 | \$ 192,000 | \$ 144,000 | \$ 10,547 | 7.32% |
| Drainage | \$ 24,419 | \$ 60,000 | \$ 45,000 | \$ (20,581) | -45.74% |
| Kerb & Channel | \$ 129,341 | \$ 214,000 | \$ 160,500 | \$ (31,159) | -19.41% |
| Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes | \$ 7,164 | \$ 150,000 | \$ 112,500 | \$ (105,336) | -93.63% |
| Total | \$ 5,634,658 | \$ 11,273,403 | \$ 8,455,052 | \$ (2,820,394) | |





No Reports



13.3 Public Advertisement of 2023-24 Draft Budget and Annual Plan

Directorate:

Report Author: Chief Financial Officer

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

Under section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Council is required to prepare and adopt a budget for each year and the 3 subsequent financial years by June 30 each year. The budget is required to include certain information about the rates and charges that Council intends to levy as well as a range of other information required by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations which support the Act.

In accordance with section 96(1)(b) of the Act, Council must prepare the proposed budget in line with its community engagement policy. This report seeks Council to formally advertise the Proposed 2023-24 Budget and Annual Plan for a period of 28 days commencing 18 May 2023 until 14 June 2023. The community will be asked to provide feedback and ask questions they have in relation to the annual plan or proposed budget via submission forms made available on Council's website and at its customer service centres.

The traditional budget submission period held annually in April/May will be conducted in a different format per Council's engagement policy. This period will be used primarily for the purposes of providing feedback or seeking clarification on the 2023-24 Proposed Budget, and will not be to present a bid or proposal. Council have conducted extensive community consultation during the Council Plan development, which has informed the Annual Plan and Proposed Budget. Additionally, Council launched a new community engagement initiative, being the Innovation Platform, in late 2021 which invites the community to submit ideas, proposals and suggestions. The platform is open year-round and all submissions are investigated for potential inclusion during budget planning.

Following the public advertisement period, Council will consider a recommendation or notice of motion to adopt the Proposed Budget at the Unscheduled Council Meeting on Wednesday 28th June 2023.

Declaration of Interests

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



Background

Annual Plan

The Annual Plan sets out the activities that Council will undertake during the year to deliver the outcomes of the Council Plan 2021-2025. The annual plan works in conjunction with the Annual Report and the Budget for financial year 2023-24. The Chief Executive Officer must present a written quarterly progress report to Council outlining progress towards implementing the Annual Plan. Council may amend the Annual Plan during the year by resolution. The proposed budget provides allocations and resourcing for the achievement of all initiatives outlined in the Annual Plan.

Proposed Budget 2023-24

The overall operating result budgeted for 2023-24 is a balanced budget and demonstrates our vision to progress sustainable financial efficiency. Given Council's very strong cash position, this budget reflects a drawdown from cash reserves in addition to Commonwealth and State grants in order to provide maximum benefit to the community, whilst still maintaining a strong working capital level and cash position. A nominal cash deficit is reflective of several factors, including a significant capital works program of \$11.710 million. The recent announcement by the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission of 9.6% increase in the amounts allocated to the Councils is considered positive. The announcement indicates General Purpose Grants representing an increase of up to 9.4% and the Local Roads Grants allocation increasing up to 10.3%

As external grants are of vast importance to Council's sustainability, Council has committed \$5.314 million to provide matching funds for grant opportunities for several projects including Edenhope Aerodrome Upgrade, Apsley Netball Tennis Court Upgrade, Band Park Amenities, Edenhope Caravan Park Landscaping & Amenities, Harrow Caravan Park Cabins, Lake Charlegark Caravan Park Cabins and several other community projects. In addition to this, Council has committed an allocation of \$0.245 million to a shovel-ready projects fund focusing on scoping around 19 projects to assess viability and assist in the ability to apply for all available funding opportunities as they arise.

Income

Rates and charges revenue for 2023-24 is budgeted at \$8.618 million. This represents a 3.50% increase as per the rate cap under the 'Fair Go Rates System.' The preliminary valuations have shown an overall increase to property values of around 11%. Due to this



reason, the rate in the dollar (RID) is budgeted to decrease from \$0.127950 in 2022-23 to \$0.11981 in 2023-24, a decrease of 6.36%.

Overall budgeted average rates and charges payable for 2023-24 will be \$1,658.52, including general rates and municipal charge. This represents an increase of \$55.20 in the base average rate over the previous year.

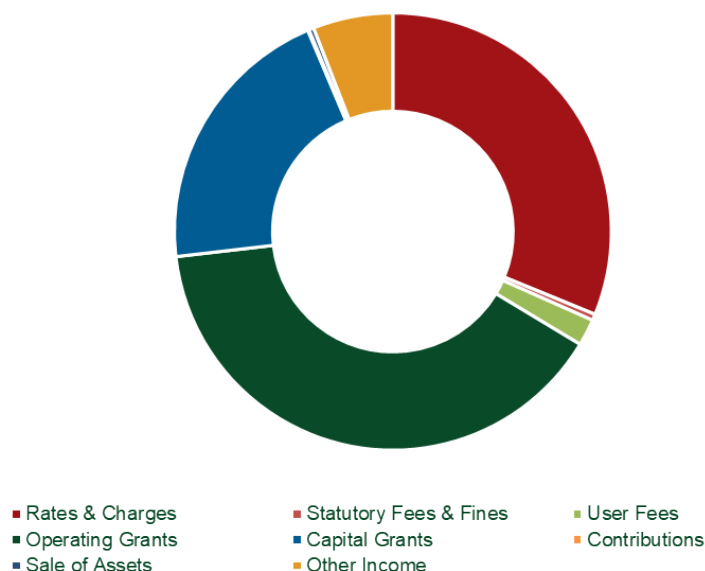
Statutory fees and fines show a marginal decrease in line with applicable fee and other variables. User fees are budgeted at \$545K in line with the historic levels and proposed changes in the Schedule of Fees and Charges.

Operating grants are budgeted at \$10.926 million and include various funding streams to fund Council's operational programs. Federal recurrent financial assistance grants are budgeted to remain consistent levels with previous year to \$6.783 million, with non-recurrent operating grants expected at \$3.235. This funding is for several different projects and are all subject to successful funding applications.

Capital grants are budgeted to a total of \$5.655million. Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCIP) phase 4 will generate \$1.478 million, with Roads to Recovery budgeted to remain the same at \$1.528 million. Non-recurrent capital grants are expected to be \$2.649 million and include several projects which are subject to successful funding applications.

Income sources and comparisons to the projected result for 2022-23 are summarised in the below chart and Comprehensive Income Statement in the attached proposed budget document. Total revenue is \$31.26 million, an increase of \$6.97 million on 2021-22 projections.

Sources of Income





Expenditure

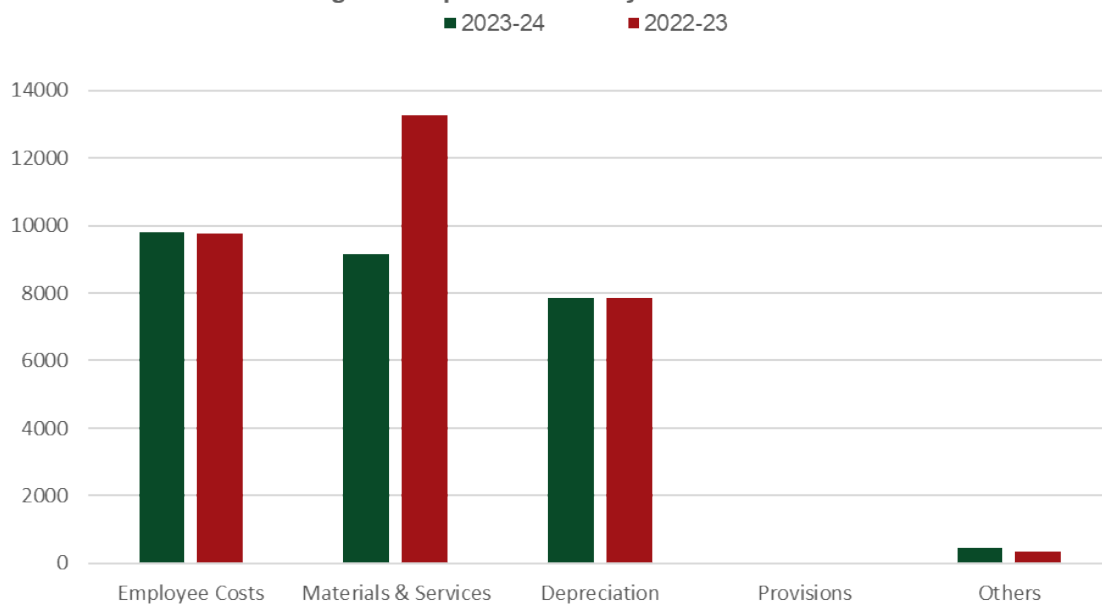
Employee operating costs for 2023-24 are budgeted at \$9.806 million. This represents a very nominal increase of 1.00% from previous years budgeted expense of \$9.776 million.

Materials and services are budgeted at \$9.142 million and indicate improved controls on this expenditure in relation to the level of different activities across our service delivery and business units. This budget includes contractor works required to complete various community projects as noted throughout this document and are pending successful funding applications. Similarly, Council is committing funds within the consultant area for 'shovel-ready' initiatives, in order to plan projects and improve future funding opportunities. Information technology is anticipated to increase by \$0.200 million as Council transforms its current IT programs and environment, including moving to a cloud-based records system and introducing a new Project Management system.

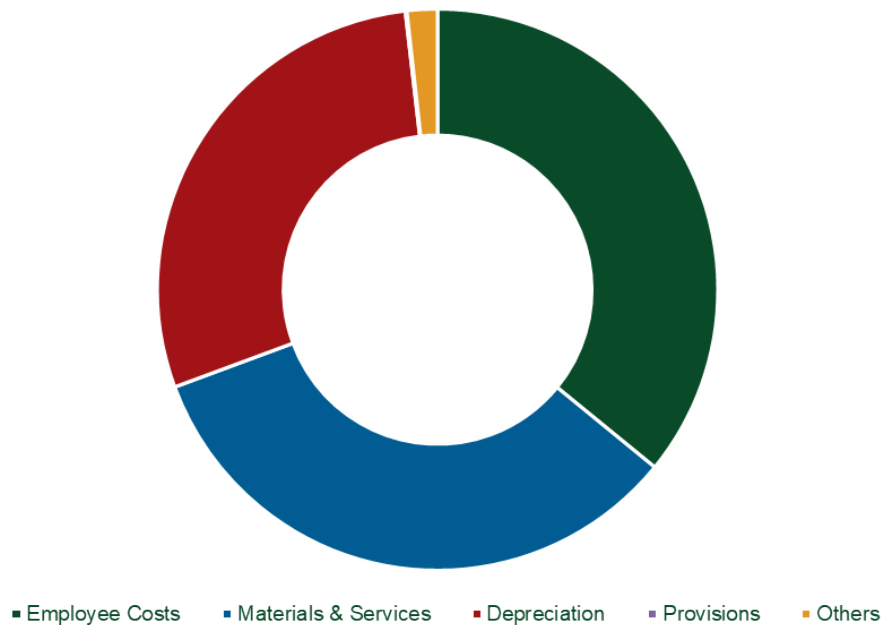
Other expenses are expected to increase to \$0.479 million, amid increased cost of goods and services in the post COVID inflation trends as well as other initiatives and programs to provide improved services in diverse range of community expectations.



Budgeted Expenditure Analysis Year on Year



Budgeted Expenditure 2023-24



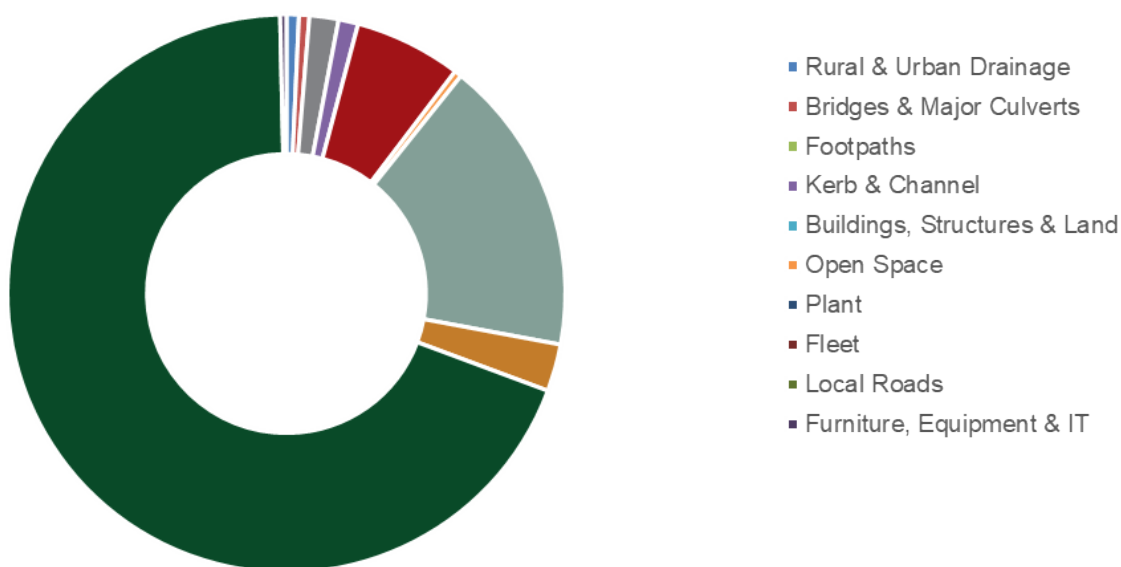
Council proposes no new borrowings for the 2023-24 year.



Capital Expenditure

Council's capital works program for the 2023-24 year is budgeted to be \$11.710 million. This amount will include \$ 6.711 million in renewal expenditure. The capital works program will be funded by capital grants of \$ 4.547 million, the sale of redundant or obsolete assets and community contributions of \$ 0.050 million, whilst \$3.788 million will be funded from Council operations. There are projects which will be funded through recurrent grants by Commonwealth and the State Government. Included in the Proposed Budget document is a detailed schedule of capital works.

The local roads and infrastructure programs receive the most out of our proposed capital works program and will provide a sustainable growth and progressive economic road map for our Council.



Risk Management Implications

There are significant risks in not producing a relevant and accurate budget. The major of these relates to the inability of Council to efficiently allocate resources to achieve all of its goals as set out in the Council Plan. The lack of an effective budget would also prevent Council from being able to measure its performance against the Council Plan, potentially leading to an inefficient use of resources.



Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires that “Council must prepare and adopt a budget for each financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years by—

- (a) 30 June each year; or
- (b) any other date fixed by the Minister by notice published in the Government Gazette.”

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1989:

- Sections 154 – 181 – Rates and charges

Local Government Act 2020:

- Section 94 – The budget
- Section 95 – Revised budget
- Section 96 – Preparation of budget or revised budget

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020:

- Regulation 7 – The financial statements
- Regulation 8 – Other information to be included

Local Government Amendment (Fair Go Rates) Act 2015

- Capped rate increase

Valuation of Land Act 1960

- Valuation of all properties within the Shire

Environmental Implications

Not environmental implications

Financial and Budgetary Implications

As detailed in this report and the proposed budget 2023-24



Policy Implications

The proposed budget 2023-24 has an effect on all Council policies.

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021-2025:

- Goal 1: Liveable and Healthy Community
- Goal 2: Diverse and Prosperous Economy
- Goal 3: Sustainable Environment
- Goal 4: Good Governance
- Goal 5: Our Commitment

Communication Implications

In accordance with section 96(1)(b) of the Act, Council will undertake community engagement on the proposed 2023-24 Budget in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy. The level of community engagement called for in the policy for preparation of the annual budget is participatory engagement.

The proposed budget 2023-24 will be published for community inspection commencing 18th May 2023 and ending 14th June 2023. During this time, Council encourages feedback and questions from the public about the information contained in the budget. The budget document will be published on Council's website and physical copies made available in Council Offices in Edenhope and Kaniva.

Following the public advertisement period, Council will consider a recommendation or notice of motion to adopt the Proposed Budget at the Unscheduled Council Meeting on Wednesday 28th June 2023.

Gender Equality

Not Applicable



Conclusion

Council has prepared its Proposed Budget 2023-24 in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 and has presented the budget using the Model Budget template provided by Local Government Victoria.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the 2023-24 Proposed Budget be prepared by Council for the purposes of Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to:

- a. Give public notice of the preparation of the 2023-24 Proposed Budget, in accordance with the Council's community engagement policy per Section 96(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*; and
- b. The 2023-24 Proposed Budget will be made available for inspection at Council's Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva, and online via Council's website and promoted on social media and is available for public inspection and feedback until Wednesday 14th June 2023, and
- c. Submissions may be included in an agenda for a meeting of the Council that will be made available to the public, and
- d. Undertake minor editorial changes to the proposed annual budget 2023-24 prior to adoption if required.

3. That Council consider a recommendation or notice of motion to adopt the Proposed Budget at the Unscheduled Council Meeting on Wednesday 28th June 2023.

Attachments

1. Annual Plan 2023-24 for Public Version 1.0.0 12052023 2125 hrs [13.3.1 - 20 pages]
2. Annual Budget 2023-24 Council Meeting 17052023 - Version 1.0.3 13052023 1015 hrs [13.3.2 - 47 pages]

Annual Plan 2023-24





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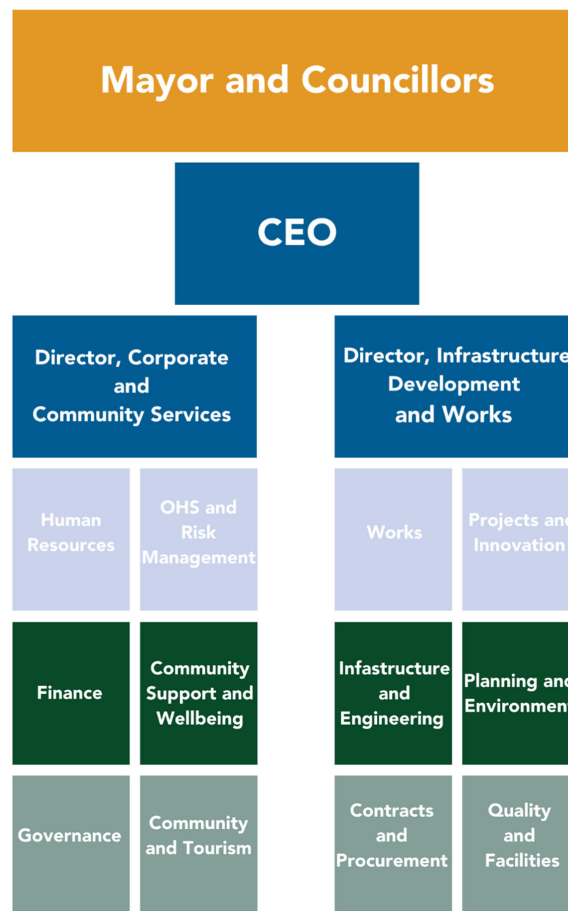


Acknowledgement of Country

The West Wimmera Shire Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, and pays respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

Organisational chart West Wimmera Shire Council

Council is the governing body that appoints a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO has responsibility for the day-to-day management of operations in accordance with the strategic directions of the Council Plan. Two General Managers/Directors and the CEO form the Senior Management Group.





About the Annual Plan

The Annual Plan sets out the activities that Council will undertake during the year to deliver the outcomes of the Council Plan 2021-2025. The annual plan works in conjunction with the Annual Report and the Budget for financial year 2023-24.

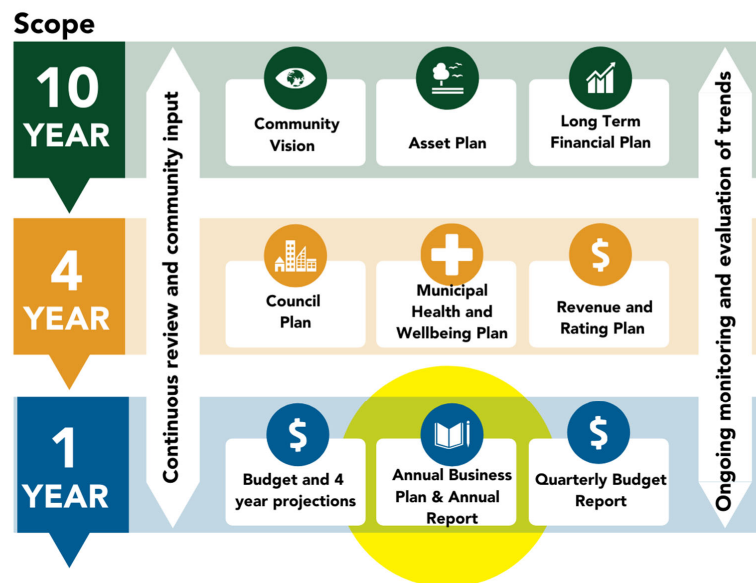
Together the following integrated documents form the local government's system of financial management:

- Council Plan 2021-25 incorporating community vision
- Long-term financial plan and yearly budget
- 2023-24 Annual Report and Annual Plan

The Chief Executive Officer must present a written quarterly progress report to Council outlining progress towards implementing the Annual Plan. Council may amend the Annual Plan during the year by resolution. The Chief Executive Officer has discretion to make small amendment to line items, if it does not provide a significant variation to the overall budget.

Our planning framework

Our planning framework comprises the key plans that guide our work and decision making and connects the long-term community needs and aspirations. The Council Plan is aligned with the 2041 Community Vision. The Annual Plan sits within our 1-year scope and is an annual document Council will develop to ensure that we are moving towards our goals.





Our Shire Services

West Wimmera Shire Council is responsible for the delivery of over 70 services across many areas, including:

For Our Community



- Building Services and Planning Permits
- Libraries
- Sporting Facilities
- Parks, Gardens and Playgrounds
- Council-run Events
- Support for Community-run Events
- Community Grants for Activities
- Waste and Recycling Services
- Road and Footpath Maintenance
- Environmental Sustainability Initiatives
- Local Amenities and Facilities Maintenance
- VIC Roads Agency Services
- Centrelink Agency
- Animal Control
- Pet Registration
- Provision of Seasonal Swimming Pools
- Tourism Development
- Street Cleaning
- Fire Prevention and Pest Management
- Volunteer Support
- Grant Sourcing and Project Delivery for Community Infrastructure
- Street Lighting and Signage
- Emergency Management

For Our Families



- Maternal Children's Health Services
- Playgroups
- Kindergartens
- Family Services
- School Crossing Supervisors
- Social Support for Youth
- Early Years Support

For Our Businesses



- Food and Health Businesses Registration and Regulation
- Business Support and Education
- Business Networking Opportunities
- Business Permits
- Food Safety Regulation Programs
- Business Assistance Grants & Streetscape Improvement Grants
- Business Concierge Program for Covid Support, Business Permits and Support.

For Our Older People and People with a Disability



- Referral for Aged Care and Disability Services
- Social Support Groups
- Personal Care and Home Care
- Emergency Support
- Property Maintenance
- Living at Home Assessments
- Delivered Meals (Meals on Wheels)
- Community Transport Programs
- Respite Care

Our values

Our values guide our behaviour and decision-making and how we lead and support our community.

1

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

Innovative

2

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.

Accountable

3

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".

United

4

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.

Collaborative



Council vision and goals

Our Council Plan sets out the four-year vision for the shire and the outcomes Council wants to achieve over that period. These outcomes align with key directions identified in the West Wimmera Community Vision 2041.



| | |
|---|--|
| Goal 1 Liveable and Healthy Community | 1.1 Create a healthy, active, and vibrant community. 1.2 Support a safe and inclusive community. 1.3 Provide well planned and sustainable community infrastructure. 1.4 Deliver quality services that support community life. 1.5 Support and encourage our events, cultural and arts communities. 1.6 Support a prepared and resilient community. 1.7 Improve the liveability of the shire to assist in growing our population into the future. |
| Goal 2 Diverse and Prosperous Community | 2.1 Encourage and support the establishment and expansion of innovative, creative, and sustainable businesses. 2.2 Promote the Shire as a great place to visit, live and invest. 2.3 Facilitate the development of the local economy and jobs. 2.4 Create vibrant and attractive town centres. 2.5 Enhance the local road network and explore transport options. 2.6 Provide infrastructure to sustain economic activity. |
| 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 | 4.1 Ensure long term financial sustainability. 4.2 Engage with the community in a timely and respectful way. 4.3 Advocate for our community on issues important to our future. 4.4 Develop a high performing accountable organisation. 4.5 Maintain a rigorous risk management framework. |



Budget Information

| 2021-25 Council Plan Goals | FY23/24 Budget (\$'000) |
|--|-------------------------|
| Goal 1: Liveable and Healthy Community | \$ 1,705 |
| Goal 2: Diverse and Prosperous Economy | \$ 15,862 |
| Goal 3: Sustainable Environment | \$ 2,524 |
| Goal 4: Good Governance | \$ 4,718 |

Goal 5 is not linked to any specific Council service areas. It is, instead, an overarching commitment by Council to proactively drive and live our values: Innovative, Accountable, United and Collaborative.



Key Focus Areas 2023-24

GOAL 1: LIVEABLE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY

| Actions | Department |
|---|---|
| 1.1.1 Review and implement a revised Community Strengthening Program to ensure programs, clubs and infrastructure are supported equitably across the shire. | Community Development |
| 1.1.2 Seek funding for and prepare a municipal Sport and Recreation Strategy to guide sport and recreation infrastructure and activities in the Shire. | Community Development |
| 1.1.3 Implement municipal sport and recreation strategy | Community Development |
| 1.1.4 Advocate for improved access to health and community services within the shire. | Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.1.5 Work with other sporting, education and health service providers to promote and deliver accessible healthy and active lifestyles programs. | Community Development |
| 1.1.6 Work with local health providers to provide long term mental health services. | Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.1.7 Work with State, Regional and Local Sporting Associations to offer socially modified forms of sport and recreation that cater to all ability levels. | Community Development |
| 1.1.8 Support and promote volunteering opportunities within the organisation with local community groups. | Community Development |



| | |
|---|--|
| 1.2.1 Maintain supported playgroups across the shire. | Pre School |
| 1.2.2 Provide a range of youth focused activities which provide a diverse range of safe and inclusive experiences across the shire. | Youth |
| 1.2.3 Partner with relevant local and regional organisations to promote and deliver domestic violence awareness campaigns. | Community Development / Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.2.4 Support relevant regional and local agencies in promotion of mental health, drug, and alcohol awareness programs and also advocate for increased resources. | Community Development / Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.2.5 Ensure Communities of Respect and Equality (CoRE) action plan is maintained and being implemented. | Human Resources |
| 1.2.6 Actively participate in road safety awareness programs. | Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.2.7 Develop and promote intergeneration wellbeing activities in cooperation with other relevant agencies. | Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.2.8 Prepare and implement an action plan to reflect and incorporate the new Child Safe Standards in Council governance and operations. | Human Resources |
| 1.3.1 Actively support Committees of Management in management of community facilities. | Community Development / Projects |
| 1.3.2 Ensure key infrastructure (Roads & Buildings) is maintained and renewed as required to support our economy, community use and involvement. | Manager Engineering |
| 1.3.3 Actively assist community groups in applying for funding to upgrade sport and recreation community infrastructure in line with the Municipal Sport and Recreation Strategy. | Community Development / Projects |



| | |
|---|---|
| 1.3.4 Continue to extend Council's footpath network in towns and seek funding to develop and extend trails in accordance with Recreational Trails Strategy. | Manager Engineering |
| 1.3.5 Advocate for improvements in public transport services for West Wimmera shire. | Projects |
| 1.3.6 Review and improve Council's Asset Management System to manage Council buildings and facilities in accordance with legislative requirements. | Manager Engineering |
| 1.4.1 Partner with key stakeholders to complete a study of current and future childcare requirements across the shire and define Council's role in the planning, service development and facility provision requirements. | Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.4.2 Advocate for funding support from State and Federal Governments to assist with development and ongoing childcare solutions. | Childcare |
| 1.4.3 Support the implementation of childcare initiatives across shire. | Childcare |
| 1.4.4 Work with key partners to encourage rural employment. | Projects |
| 1.4.5 Partner with other agencies in attracting additional training opportunities short courses. | Business and Economic Development |
| 1.4.6 Collaborate with local schools to assist with funding advocacy where required. | Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.4.7 Secure ongoing, flexible, rural appropriate funding to support Maternal and Child Health and other Early Years initiatives. | Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |
| 1.4.8 Prepare a community events manual to support safe, sustainable and inclusive community activity. | Events, Arts and Culture |
| 1.4.9 Advocate for secure provision of potable water for our towns. | Projects |
| 1.4.10 In conjunction with Wimmera Primary Care Partnership and others, investigate options to deliver mental health services within the shire for young people. | Manager Community Support and Wellbeing |



| | |
|--|--|
| 1.5.1 Through membership of the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation continue to provide Library services which are relevant and contemporary. | Director Corporate and Community |
| 1.5.2 Seek funding for the development of a Community Arts Strategy. | Events, Arts and Culture |
| 1.5.3 Develop an Annual Events Program. | Events, Arts and Culture |
| 1.5.4 Review and improve Council's event support program to encourage local and regional events in the shire. | Events, Arts and Culture |
| 1.5.5 Work with local and regional organisations to develop and implement a range of initiatives which promote performing and visual arts within the shire for the benefit of locals and tourists. | Events, Arts and Culture |
| 1.6.1 Promote community participation in municipal emergency management planning. | Director IDW |
| 1.6.2 Partner with communities, agencies and neighbouring municipalities to strengthen emergency and disaster planning, awareness and preparedness | Director Infrastructure, Development and Works |
| 1.6.3 Plan for and deliver emergency response, relief and recovery as required in conjunction with Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee (REMPC) Partners. | Director Infrastructure, Development and Works |
| 1.6.4 Support local emergency services agencies. Plan for and deliver emergency services as required in conjunction with REMPC. | Director Infrastructure, Development and Works |



| | |
|---|----------|
| 1.7.1 Partner with State and Regional bodies to improve the availability of housing options in the shire. | Projects |
| 1.7.2 Assist emergency housing agencies. Partner with State and Regional bodies to improve the availability of housing options in the shire. | Projects |
| 1.7.3 Undertake a Planning Scheme review to identify options for increased residential development in and around townships. | Planning |
| 1.7.4 Implement findings of the Planning Scheme review through an amendment to the Planning Scheme. | Planning |
| 1.7.5 Partner with Wimmera Development Association (WDA) to implement a liveability framework to connect our community and to help develop a region that thrives in social, economic and environmental aspects. | Projects |



GOAL 2: DIVERSE & PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

| Actions | Department |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 2.1.1 Develop strategies and then prepare and implement a campaign to attract businesses and families. | Business and Economic Development |
| 2.1.2 Undertake a review of the planning scheme to ensure appropriate zonings are in place to support business development and liveability. | Planning |
| 2.1.3 Implement the findings of the planning review through an amendment to the West Wimmera Planning Scheme. | Planning |
| 2.1.4 Deliver a Business Assistance Program that supports businesses to establish and grow. | Business and Economic Development |
| 2.1.5 Work with the agricultural sector to support the continued development of cutting edge farming. | Projects |
| 2.1.6 Include a local planning policy in the Planning Scheme Review to protect agricultural land and provide diverse opportunities across the shire. | Planning |
| 2.1.7 Seek funding to assist with COVID recovery for local businesses and the community. | Community Development |
| 2.2.1 Prepare a Tourism Strategy to guide Council's and our community's role in supporting tourism activity. | Tourism |
| 2.2.2 Actively participate in regional tourism planning and promotional campaigns. | Tourism |
| 2.2.3 Implement Council's actions from Tourism Strategy. | Tourism |



| | |
|---|--|
| 2.2.4 Design and implement a marketing campaign to encourage tourists to visit the shire based on recommendations from the Tourism Strategy. | Tourism |
| 2.2.5 Investigate options to advocate for incentives to attract the required skilled workforce to the region. e.g. health care, childcare, agriculture. | Business and Economic Development |
| 2.3.1 Review and update the Economic Development Strategy to maximise economic activity in the Shire. | Business and Economic Development |
| 2.3.2 Work with government, employers and regional bodies to find solutions to fill skill shortages and create jobs in West Wimmera. | Business and Economic Development |
| 2.3.3 Lobby and promote agricultural development in West Wimmera. | Business and Economic Development |
| 2.3.4 Advocate for aquaculture opportunities including the possible re-establishment of the facility near Lake Charlegrark | Projects |
| 2.4.1 Seek funding and partnership opportunities to implement streetscape plans for Edenhope and Kaniva. | Projects / Manager Engineering |
| 2.4.2 Continue to maintain and expand footpaths and shared paths in town centres. | Manager Engineering |
| 2.4.3 Facilitate the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in Edenhope and Kaniva. | Projects / Manager Engineering |
| 2.4.4 Review Local law to assist business opportunities in the Shire and ensure the safety and amenity of our towns are preserved. | Regulatory Services - Local Laws |
| 2.4.5 Complete streetscape master plans for Harrow, Apsley, Serviceton, Dergholm and Gorokey. | Projects / Community Development |
| 2.4.6 Actively work to improve the appearance of main streets and town entrances across the shire. | Projects / Community Development / Manager Engineering |



| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 2.5.1 Review the Road Management Plan (RMP) within 12 months of the Council election. | Manager Engineering |
| 2.5.2 Continue the programmed maintenance of the sealed and unsealed road network in accordance with the RMP and Moloney Report. | Manager Engineering |
| 2.5.3 Implement the Annual Capital Works program in line with RMP and road network reporting requirements. | Manager Engineering |
| 2.5.4 Implement Asset Management System to monitor and plan road and asset maintenance and renewal. | Projects / Manager Engineering |
| 2.5.5 Advocate for additional external funding for roads and bridges. | Manager Engineering |
| 2.5.6 Advocate for VicRoads to improve the quality of state roads throughout our shire. | Manager Engineering |
| 2.5.7 Seek funding to upgrade local roads throughout the shire to support freight routes, heavy vehicles and high traffic volumes. | Manager Engineering |
| 2.6.1 Campaign for improved access to quality digital connectivity. | Projects |
| 2.6.2 Advocate for the West Grampians Pipeline Project | Projects |
| 2.6.3 Advocate for improved water pressure within towns. | Projects / Manager Engineering |
| 2.6.4 Advocate for the improvement of roads to meet requirements for road trains. | Manager Engineering |
| 2.6.5 Advocate for a gas pipeline extension into West Wimmera. | Projects / Manager Engineering |
| 2.6.7 Advocate for recreational water | Projects |



GOAL 3: SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

| Actions | Department |
|---|--|
| 3.1.1 Prepare a Waste Management Plan to guide waste management activities and to maximise recycling and resource recovery. | Manager Works |
| 3.1.2 Review West Wimmera Shire Domestic Animal Management Plan. | Planning |
| 3.1.3 Review West Wimmera Shire Domestic Wastewater Management Plan. | Planning |
| 3.1.4 Review and update Council fleet policy for the use of electric and hybrid vehicles. | Fleet |
| 3.1.5 Explore potential exemptions, offsets and land banking opportunities to compensate for native vegetation removal on farms and roadsides. | Planning |
| 3.1.6 Advocate to GWM to complete Part 2 of the Goroke Sewer Scheme. | Projects |
| 3.1.7 Advocate to relevant stakeholders to maintain safe infrastructure (i.e Roads, Furniture, Signage) on public land for recreation (lakes, parks and natural environments) | Projects |
| 3.2.2 Work with partner agencies on roadside vegetation management. | Regulatory Services - Local Laws / Manager Works |
| 3.2.3 Support initiatives to assist with disposal of waste products from agricultural activity. | Manager Works |
| 3.2.4 Continue to look at circular economy opportunities. | Manager Works |



| | |
|---|--|
| 3.3.1 Identify opportunities to improve safe access and use of natural areas for recreational purposes. | Manager Engineering / Projects |
| 3.3.2 Explore opportunities to define, scope and develop a Wetlands Centre of Excellence. | Projects |
| 3.3.3 Investigate the feasibility of establishing a manmade lake at the Kaniva Racecourse Site. | Projects / Manager Engineering |
| 3.3.4 Partner with key stakeholders to support the implementation of the Lake Wallace Strategy where funding permits. | Director Infrastructure, Development and Works |
| 3.4.1 Promote alternative and sustainable energy projects in the shire. | Manager Engineering |
| 3.4.2 Investigate the potential for micro-grids in industrial areas and towns. | Projects |



GOAL 4: GOOD GOVERNANCE

| Actions | Department |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 4.1.1 Prepare and implement a 10 Year Financial Plan. | Finance |
| 4.1.2 Prepare and implement long term Asset Plan. | Projects |
| 4.1.3 Provide quarterly financial reports tracking Council performance including Annual Plan performance measures and Capital Works Program. | Finance |
| 4.1.4 Prepare and implement a Fees and Charges Strategy. | Finance |
| 4.1.5 Maximise income from alternative sources. | Finance / Community Development |
| 4.1.6 Implement the West Wimmera Shire Council Revenue and Rating Strategy. | Finance |
| 4.1.7 Undertake continuous improvement initiatives to look for cost efficiencies and savings. | Projects / Finance |
| 4.2.1 Implement the Community Engagement Policy. | Communications |
| 4.2.2 Live stream Council meetings. | Governance |
| 4.2.3 Regularly provide information to the community via the website and other channels to ensure Council's program and activities enjoy a high level of awareness. Implement an innovation platform. | Communications |
| 4.2.4 Implement an innovation platform | Projects |



| | |
|--|--|
| 4.3.1 Prepare a document setting out key advocacy issues for West Wimmera Shire. | Projects |
| 4.3.2 Actively participate on regional and sector bodies and forums | CEO / Director Corporate and Community Services / Director Infrastructure, Development and Works |
| 4.4.2 Prepare and implement an Information Technology Strategy to support efficient Council operation and community interaction. | Director Corporate and Community |
| 4.4.3 Review procurement policies and processes to maximise accountability, value for money and encourage local procurement. | Procurement |
| 4.4.4 Implement the action plan for the implementation of the Gender Equity Act. | Human Resources / Governance |
| 4.4.5 Implement a cultural awareness training program for all Councillors and Council staff. | Human Resources |
| 4.4.6 Prepare Annual Business Plan to identify and track financial and operational performance. | Governance / Finance |
| 4.4.7 Implement a Project Management Framework. | Projects |
| 4.4.8 Develop and implement a Council Intranet. | Projects |
| 4.4.10 Investment in Council staff and Councillors to enable them to be the best leaders for their communities. | Human Resources |
| 4.4.11 Review and implement a records management system, strategy and policy that ensures good organisational governance | Governance |
| 4.5.1 Support the activities of the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee. | Finance |
| 4.5.2 Prepare and implement an annual internal audit program. | Finance |
| 4.5.3 Review and update the Business Continuity Plan. | Occupational Health Safety and Risk |
| 4.5.4 Prepare and maintain a register of Council's statutory obligations including reporting and public registers. | Governance |



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Annual Budget 2023-24



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Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is for general guidance only. It is not professional advice and should not be used, relied upon or treated as a substitute for specific professional advice. Given the changing nature of laws, rules and regulations, and the inherent hazards of electronic communication, there may be delays, omissions or inaccuracies in information contained in this document.

The model budget, including financial statements, has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this document has been accurate and complies with relevant Victorian legislation, each Council remains responsible to ensure that the budget they prepare is compliant with all statutory requirements.

Mayor and CEO's Introduction

On behalf of the Councillors we are pleased to release the 2023-24 Budget to the Community. This budget builds on our Council Plan 2021-2025 vision which comprises the following five goals:

- Liveable & Healthy Community
- Diverse and Prosperous Economy
- Sustainable Environment
- Good Governance
- Our Commitment

As with most small rural shires, West Wimmera is extremely dependant on external funding via grants. Whether that be annual recurrent grants or competitive funding rounds, the Shire will continue to rely heavily on the assistance provided by these varied funding streams. Council gratefully acknowledges the continued support from both the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments in providing significant grant funding to enable Council to deliver its budget priorities to our Community. A detailed description of the grants received by Council can be found in section 4.1.4 of this document.

The rate increase included in the 2023/24 budget is within 3.50% rate cap, in line with the order by the Minister for Local Government under the Fair Go Rates System.

As Councillors and managers, it is our job to listen to community sentiment and understand your priorities. We have consistently heard that Council's services are valued by the community, and that Council also needs to be financially responsible and keep its rates as low as possible.

After extensive consultation with the community, Council adopted its 2021-25 Council Plan in October 2021. An Annual Plan has been compiled, identifying the initiatives of the Council Plan which Council intends to deliver in 2023-24. The Annual Plan has informed the development of the 2023-24 Budget, ensuring sufficient funding and resourcing has been allocated to achieve the actions and initiatives outlined in the Annual Plan.

A significant focus of this budget is on community projects and initiatives. Council has committed significant funds to match potential funding opportunities, with further funding committed to preparing 'shovel-ready' initiatives, to allow Council to capitalise on possible future opportunities.

With a clear emphasis placed on the renewal of large asset categories such as, roads, drainage and shire owned buildings, the budget will make a positive impact on meeting maintenance and renewal requirements of Council's assets.

This 2023/24 budget proposes a significant capital works program of \$11.71 million. The Council roads and infrastructure network remains on top of our capital work priority matrix with over \$5.75 million allocated towards upgrades, renewals and maintenance and for new road projects Council wide. The budget has focused to provide financial sources to maintain and renew buildings, structures and land and this year's capital works program provides a funded development plan for Edenhope Aerodrome.

West Wimmera Shire welcomes community comment and discussion on the budget and looks forward to implementing the various activities contained within it.



Cr. Tim Meyer
Mayor



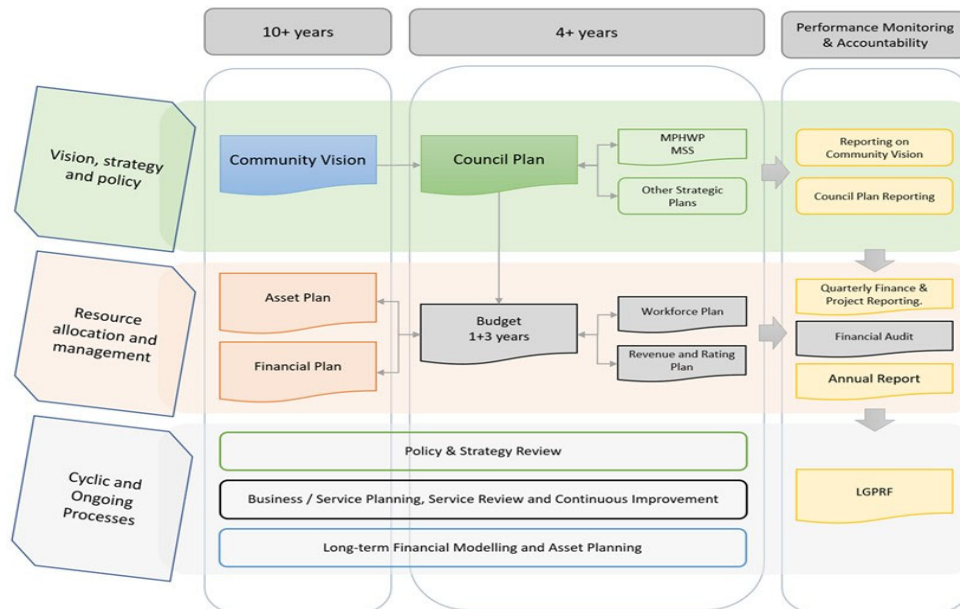
Mr. David Bezuidenhout
Chief Executive Officer

1. Link to the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

This section describes how the Budget links to the achievement of the Community Vision and Council Plan within an overall integrated strategic planning and reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision and Financial Plan), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan) and short term (Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

1.1 Legislative planning and accountability framework

The Budget is a rolling four-year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan. The diagram below depicts the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework that applies to local government in Victoria. At each stage of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input. This is important to ensure transparency and accountability to both residents and ratepayers.



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

The timing of each component of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework is critical to the successful achievement of the planned outcomes.

1.1.2 Key planning considerations

Service level planning

Although councils have a legal obligation to provide some services—such as animal management, local roads, food safety and statutory planning—most council services are not legally mandated, including some services closely associated with councils, such as libraries, building permits and sporting facilities. Further, over time, the needs and expectations of communities can change. Therefore councils need to have robust processes for service planning and review to ensure all services continue to provide value for money and are in line with community expectations. In doing so, councils should engage with communities to determine how to prioritise resources and balance service provision against other responsibilities such as asset maintenance and capital works.

Community consultation needs to be in line with a councils adopted Community Engagement Policy and Public Transparency Policy.

1.2 Our purpose

Our Vision

Our West Wimmera communities are healthy, thriving, diverse, prosperous and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity

Our Values

Innovative

We will proactively respond to changes, are optimistic about our future and pursue continuous improvement in everything 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.

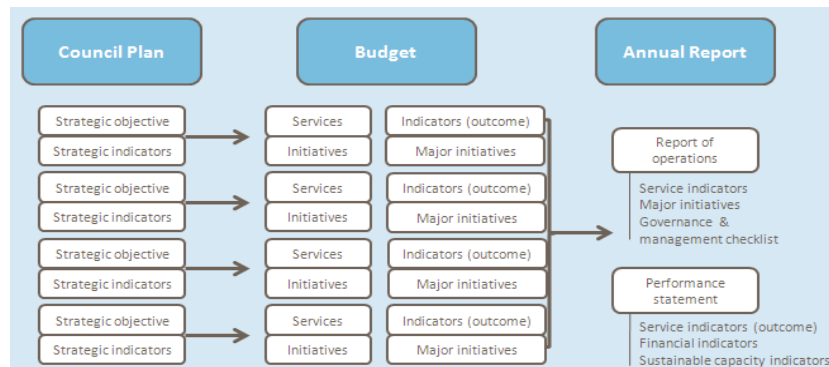
1.3 Five Goals

Council delivers activities and initiatives under 36 major service categories. Each contributes to the achievement of one of the five Goals as set out in the Council Plan for 2021-25 years. The following is a list of the five Goals as described in the Council Plan

| Strategic Objective | Description |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Goal 1 | Liveable and Healthy Community |
| Goal 2 | Diverse and Prosperous Economy |
| Goal 3 | Sustainable Environment |
| Goal 4 | Good Governance |
| Goal 5 | Our Commitment |

2. Services and service performance indicators

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the Budget for the 2023/24 year and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan. It also describes several initiatives and service performance outcome indicators for key areas of Council's operations. Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives, initiatives and service performance outcome indicators in the Budget and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these accountability requirements in the Council Plan, the Budget and the Annual Report is shown below



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

2.1 Goal 1: Liveable and Healthy Community

Insert introduction on how council will be able to achieve <strategic objective 1>

Services

| Service area | Description of services provided | | 2021/22 Actual \$'000 | 2022/23 Forecast \$'000 | 2023/24 Budget \$'000 |
|---|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Aged and Disability Care Services | This service provides a range of home and community care services for the aged and disabled including home delivered meals, personal care, transport, domestic care, home repairs, etc. | <i>Inc</i> | 665 | 756 | 660 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 614 | 727 | 611 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | 51 | 29 | 49 |
| Events, Arts and Culture | This service provides a varied ongoing program of arts and cultural events and activities, plans and develops arts and cultural facilities and infrastructure and develops policies and strategies to facilitate art practice. | <i>Inc</i> | - | 19 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 32 | 173 | 275 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | (32) | (153) | (275) |
| Cemeteries | This service provides management of the Kaniva, Edenhope and Goroke cemeteries. | <i>Inc</i> | - | - | 3 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | (1) | (1) | (2) |
| Childcare | This service provides a range of children and childcare activities, including pre-schools, Infant Welfare Centres | <i>Inc</i> | 253 | 274 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 277 | 283 | 522 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | (24) | (9) | (522) |
| Community Development | This service provides various Council initiatives for community development including youth development and other programs | <i>Inc</i> | 196 | 202 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 447 | 486 | 90 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | (251) | (284) | (90) |
| Fire Prevention and Emergency Services | This service provides for essential monitoring and management of vegetation in fire risk areas and also for the funding of emergency service activities provided by Council. | <i>Inc</i> | 3 | 5 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 24 | 23 | 38 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | (21) | (19) | (38) |
| Libraries | This service provides public library services at Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke and Harrow via a contribution to the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation. | <i>Inc</i> | - | 0 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 213 | 235 | 164 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | (213) | (235) | (164) |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Maternal and Child Health | This service provides maternal and child health support to the community across various programs | <i>Inc</i> | 413 | 429 | 96 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 394 | 320 | 232 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | 19 | 109 | (136) |
| Regulatory Services | This service provides all management and enforcement of Council's Local Laws, including animal registration, control and enforcement. | <i>Inc</i> | 37 | 161 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 104 | 309 | 520 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | (67) | (147) | (520) |
| Stormwater Drainage | This service provides for maintenance works on Council's stormwater drainage network. | <i>Inc</i> | - | - | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 289 | 85 | 214 |
| | | <i>Surplus / (deficit)</i> | (289) | (85) | (214) |

Major Initiatives

Revised Community Strengthening Program to ensure programs, clubs and infrastructure are supported equitably across the shire.

Work with other sporting, education and health service providers to promote and deliver accessible healthy and active lifestyles programs.

Other Initiatives

Maintain supported playgroups across the shire.

Actively support Committees of Management in management of community facilities.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

| Service | Indicator | 2021/22 Actual | 2022/23 Forecast | 2023/24 Budget |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Acquatic & Leisure Facilities | Utilisation | 3.06 | 3.06 | 3.06 |
| Animal Management | Health & Safety | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Food Safety | Health & Safety | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Libraries | Participation | 12% | 12% | 12% |
| Maternal & Child Health | Participation - General | 86% | 96% | 96% |
| Maternal & Child Health | Participation - Indigenous | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Waste Collection | Waste Diversion | 21% | 21% | 21% |

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.2 Goal 2: Diverse and Prosperous Economy

To achieve this objective, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

Services

| Service area | Description of services provided | | 2021/22 Actual \$'000 | 2022/23 Forecast \$'000 | 2023/24 Budget \$'000 |
|------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Aerodrome | This service provides maintenance of the Edenhope Aerodrome | <i>Inc</i> | 1 | - | 1 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 10 | 2 | 281 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (9) | (2) | (280) |
| Buildings | This service provides statutory building services to Council and the Community including processing of building permits, investigations of complaints and non compliant works. | <i>Inc</i> | 45 | 38 | 42 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 135 | 226 | 620 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (90) | (188) | (578) |
| Buildings and Property | This service provides for management and maintenance of Council's building portfolio | <i>Inc</i> | 194 | 15 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 104 | 513 | 1,189 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | 90 | (498) | (1,189) |
| CEO Office | This service provides executive leadership and support to Council, and co-ordinates advocacy programs on behalf of the West Wimmera Community | <i>Inc</i> | 1 | 394 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 570 | 404 | 740 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (569) | (10) | (740) |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|--|---------------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Depot Operations | This service provides Council with infrastructure management services, including works, engineering, contract management and inventory and stores control activities. It also includes Plant maintenance costs and all costs and income associated with plant usage. | <i>Inc</i> | 108 | 107 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 1,746 | 3,178 | 286 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (1,638) | (3,071) | (286) |
| Human Resources | This service provides the recruitment, training and performance evaluation of Council staff. | <i>Inc</i> | - | 7 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 285 | 378 | 748 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (285) | (371) | (748) |
| Planning | This service provides statutory planning services to Council and the community including processing of planning permits, investigations of complaints and illegal works. | <i>Inc</i> | 33 | 108 | 42 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 387 | 287 | 763 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (354) | (179) | (721) |
| Roads | This service provides for all maintenance and operational works undertaken on Council's roads, bridges and footpath network. It includes the contract works Council undertakes for VicRoads on state roads within the municipal boundaries. | <i>Inc</i> | 3,939 | 3,904 | 11,901 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 4,139 | 4,008 | 11,235 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (200) | (104) | 666 |

Major Initiatives

Implement the findings of the planning review through an amendment to the West Wimmera Planning Scheme.

Construction of new Lions Park, Edenhope Toilet facility with access if budget approval given by Council and successful with grant application.

Other Initiatives

Implement Council's actions from Tourism Strategy.

Actively participate in regional tourism planning and promotional campaigns.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

| Service | Indicator | 2021/22 Actual | 2022/23 Forecast | 2023/24 Budget |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Roads* | Satisfaction | 54 | 55 | 55 |
| Statutory Planning* | Decision making | 0% | 0% | 0% |

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.3 Goal 3: Sustainable Environment

To achieve this objective, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

Services

| Service area | Description of services provided | 2021/22 Actual \$'000 | 2022/23 Forecast \$'000 | 2023/24 Budget \$'000 |
|--------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Parks and Reserves | This service provides maintenance and management of all parks and gardens across Council. | <i>Inc</i> - <i>Exp</i> 512 <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> (512) | 18 226 (209) | - 905 (905) |
| Tourism | This service promotes West Wimmera Shire's natural attractions and provides facilities for visitors to our region. | <i>Inc</i> - <i>Exp</i> 140 <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> (140) | 1 132 (131) | - 354 (354) |
| Waste Management | This service provides for waste management solutions, including kerbside pickup, disposal and transfer station sites. | <i>Inc</i> 93 <i>Exp</i> 822 <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> (729) | 96 716 (620) | 667 1,265 (598) |

Major Initiatives

Glass waste collection to commence 2023/24

Lake Wallace weeds management program / Boat Ramp Extension

Other Initiatives

Promote alternative and sustainable energy projects in the shire including installation and management of EV charger sites.
Explore opportunities to define, scope and develop a Wetlands Centre of Excellence.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

| Service | Indicator | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------|----------|---------|
| | | Actual | Forecast | Budget |
| Roads* | Satisfaction | 54 | 55 | 55 |
| Statutory Planning* | Decision making | 0% | 0% | 0% |

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.4 Goal 4: Good Governance

To achieve this objective, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

Services

| Service area | Description of services provided | | 2021/22 Actual \$'000 | 2022/23 Forecast \$'000 | 2023/24 Budget \$'000 |
|------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Customer Service | This service provides the main point of interaction between Council and the community. Services include over the counter advice, receipting, and administrative support to Council. | <i>Inc</i> | 20 | 25 | 21 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 418 | 478 | 697 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (398) | (453) | (676) |
| | | | | | |
| Elected Members | This service provides for leadership from and support to the community's elected leaders. | <i>Inc</i> | 6 | 0 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 173 | 206 | 545 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (167) | (206) | (545) |
| | | | | | |
| Finance & Rates | This service predominantly provides financial based services to both internal and external customers including the management of Council's finances, payment of salaries and wages to Council employees, procurement and contracting of services, raising and collection of rates and charges and valuation of properties throughout the municipality. | <i>Inc</i> | 4,735 | 4,415 | 7,858 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 776 | 886 | 1,154 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | 3,959 | 3,529 | 6,704 |
| | | | | | |
| Governance | This service provides support and oversight to Council operations including the conduct of Council meetings. The Governance service also covers such items as customer satisfaction monitoring. | <i>Inc</i> | - | 0 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 37 | 255 | 420 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (37) | (255) | (420) |
| | | | | | |
| Information Technology | This service is responsible for the provision of information management services to Council and the community, including hardware and software solutions to enable Council to undertake its desired activities and to provide contact methodologies for our community. | <i>Inc</i> | - | 0 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 472 | 534 | 811 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (472) | (534) | (811) |
| | | | | | |
| Corporate Services | This service provides management and administration support to the corporate area of Council and includes the Risk Management and Occupational Health and Safety functions. | <i>Inc</i> | 14 | - | 545 |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 772 | 462 | 611 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (758) | (462) | (66) |
| | | | | | |
| Records Management | This service is responsible for providing and maintaining accurate and up to date record keeping facilities and archives. | <i>Inc</i> | - | 225 | - |
| | | <i>Exp</i> | 188 | 112 | 480 |
| | | <i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i> | (188) | 114 | (480) |
| | | | | | |

Major Initiatives

Implementation of Project Management Framework

Implementation of Records Management System

Other Initiatives

Review & Update the Business Continuity Plan

Implement the West Wimmera Shire Council Revenue and Rating Strategy.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

| Service | Indicator | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|------------|--------------|---------|----------|---------|
| | | Actual | Forecast | Budget |
| Governance | Satisfaction | 58 | 58 | 58 |

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.5 Goal 5: Our Commitment

Goal 5 is not linked to any specific Council service areas. It is, instead, an overarching commitment by Council to proactively drive and live our values: Innovative, Accountable, United and Collaborative.

2.6 Service Performance Outcome Indicators

| Service | Indicator | Performance Measure | Computation |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Governance | Consultation and engagement | Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement. (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council) | Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement |
| Statutory planning | Service standard | Planning applications decided within required timeframes (percentage of regular and VicSmart planning application decisions made within legislated timeframes) | [Number of planning application decisions made within 60 days for regular permits and 10 days for VicSmart permits / Number of planning application decisions made] x100 |
| Roads | Condition | Sealed local roads below the intervention level (percentage of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level set by Council and not requiring renewal) | [Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100 |
| Libraries | Participation | Library membership (Percentage of the population that are registered library members) | [Number of registered library members / Population] x100 |
| Waste management | Waste diversion | Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill. (Percentage of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill) | [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100 |
| Aquatic Facilities | Utilisation | Utilisation of aquatic facilities. (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population) | Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Population |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Animal Management | Health and safety | Animal management prosecutions. (Percentage of animal management prosecutions which are successful) | Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Total number of animal management prosecutions |
| Food safety | Health and safety | Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications. (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council) | [Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about food premises] x100 |
| Maternal and Child Health | Participation | Participation in the MCH service. (Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service) | [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100 |
| | | Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children. (Percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service) | [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100 |

2.3 Reconciliation with budgeted operating result

| | Surplus/ (Deficit) | Expenditure | Income / Revenue |
|---|--------------------|---------------|------------------|
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Goal 1: Liveable and Healthy Community | (946) | 1,705 | 759 |
| Goal 2: Diverse and Prosperous Economy | (3,876) | 15,862 | 11,986 |
| Goal 3: Sustainable Environment | (1,857) | 2,524 | 667 |
| Goal 4: Good Governance | 3,706 | 4,718 | 8,424 |
| Goal 5: Our Commitment | | | |
| Total | (6,679) | 20,091 | 13,412 |
| Expenses added in: | | | |
| Depreciation | 7,864 | | |
| Finance costs | - | | |
| Others | - | | |
| Surplus/(Deficit) before funding sources | (14,543) | | |
| Funding sources added in: | | | |
| Rates and charges revenue | 8,618 | | |
| Waste charge revenue | 586 | | |
| Capital Grants | 5,655 | | |
| Total funding sources | 14,859 | | |
| Operating surplus/(deficit) for the year | 316 | | |

3. Financial Statements

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2023/24 has been supplemented with projections to 2026/27

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Comprehensive Income Statement
Balance Sheet
Statement of Changes in Equity
Statement of Cash Flows
Statement of Capital Works
Statement of Human Resources

Comprehensive Income Statement
For the four years ending 30 June 2027

| | | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | Projections 2024/25 \$'000 | 2025/26 \$'000 | 2026/27 \$'000 |
|--|--------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | NOTES | | | | | |
| Income / Revenue | | | | | | |
| Rates and charges | 4.1.1 | 8,189 | 8,618 | 8,877 | 9,054 | 9,235 |
| Statutory fees and fines | 4.1.2 | 138 | 129 | 135 | 142 | 149 |
| User fees | 4.1.3 | 594 | 545 | 586 | 630 | 677 |
| Grants - operating | 4.1.4 | 6,227 | 10,926 | 9,685 | 9,750 | 9,816 |
| Grants - capital | 4.1.4 | 10,275 | 5,655 | 6,786 | 7,125 | 7,482 |
| Contributions - monetary | 4.1.5 | 100 | 25 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Contributions - non-monetary | 4.1.5 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment | | 145 | 100 | 102 | 104 | 106 |
| Fair value adjustments for investment property | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Share of net profits (or loss) of associates and joint ventures | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other income | 4.1.6 | 384 | 1,634 | 1,700 | 1,710 | 1,725 |
| Total income / revenue | | 26,052 | 27,632 | 27,881 | 28,525 | 29,200 |
| Expenses | | | | | | |
| Employee costs | 4.1.7 | 9,878 | 9,806 | 10,149 | 10,504 | 10,872 |
| Materials and services | 4.1.8 | 8,108 | 9,142 | 9,185 | 9,277 | 9,370 |
| Depreciation | 4.1.9 | 7,864 | 7,864 | 8,021 | 8,182 | 8,345 |
| Amortisation - intangible assets | 4.1.10 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Amortisation - right of use assets | 4.1.11 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses | | - | 25 | - | - | - |
| Borrowing costs | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Finance costs - leases | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other expenses | 4.1.12 | 273 | 479 | 571 | 681 | 794 |
| Total expenses | | 26,123 | 27,316 | 27,927 | 28,644 | 29,381 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | (71) | 316 | (46) | (119) | (181) |
| Other comprehensive income | | | | | | |
| Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods | | | | | | |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Items that may be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods | | | | | | |
| (detail as appropriate) | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total other comprehensive income | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total comprehensive result | | (71) | 316 | (46) | (119) | (181) |

Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2027

| | | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | Projections 2024/25 \$'000 | 2025/26 \$'000 | 2026/27 \$'000 |
|---|-------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | NOTES | | | | | |
| Assets | | | | | | |
| Current assets | | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | | 15,623 | 15,101 | 15,479 | 15,865 | 16,262 |
| Trade and other receivables | | 613 | 585 | 594 | 603 | 612 |
| Other financial assets | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inventories | | 220 | 222 | 224 | 227 | 229 |
| Prepayments | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Non-current assets classified as held for sale | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other assets | | 393 | 385 | 395 | 404 | 415 |
| Total current assets | 4.2.1 | 16,849 | 16,293 | 16,691 | 17,099 | 17,517 |
| Non-current assets | | | | | | |
| Trade and other receivables | | 140 | 140 | 140 | 140 | 140 |
| Other financial assets | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Investments in associates, joint arrangement and subsidiaries | | 546 | 546 | 546 | 546 | 546 |
| Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment | | 226,740 | 229,007 | 231,297 | 233,610 | 235,947 |
| Right-of-use assets | 4.2.4 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Investment property | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Intangible assets | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total non-current assets | 4.2.1 | 227,426 | 229,693 | 231,983 | 234,296 | 236,633 |
| Total assets | | 244,275 | 245,987 | 248,675 | 251,396 | 254,150 |
| Liabilities | | | | | | |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | |
| Trade and other payables | | 1,007 | 995 | 1,015 | 1,035 | 1,056 |
| Trust funds and deposits | | 125 | 125 | 125 | 125 | 125 |
| Unearned income/revenue | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Provisions | | 2,184 | 2,293 | 2,408 | 2,528 | 2,655 |
| Interest-bearing liabilities | 4.2.3 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Lease liabilities | 4.2.4 | 19 | 19 | 20 | 22 | 22 |
| Total current liabilities | 4.2.2 | 3,335 | 3,432 | 3,568 | 3,710 | 3,858 |
| Non-current liabilities | | | | | | |
| Provisions | | 187 | 195 | 205 | 215 | 226 |
| Interest-bearing liabilities | 4.2.3 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Lease liabilities | 4.2.4 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total non-current liabilities | 4.2.2 | 187 | 195 | 205 | 215 | 226 |
| Total liabilities | | 3,522 | 3,627 | 3,773 | 3,925 | 4,083 |
| Net assets | | 240,753 | 242,359 | 244,902 | 247,470 | 250,067 |
| Equity | | | | | | |
| Accumulated surplus | | 42,081 | 42,397 | 42,351 | 42,232 | 42,052 |
| Reserves | | 198,672 | 199,962 | 202,551 | 205,238 | 208,015 |
| Total equity | | 240,753 | 242,359 | 244,902 | 247,470 | 250,067 |

Statement of Changes in Equity
For the four years ending 30 June 2027

| | | Total | Accumulated Surplus | Revaluation Reserve | Other Reserves |
|---|-------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| | NOTES | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| 2023 Forecast Actual | | | | | |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year | | 240,753 | 42,081 | 193,539 | 5,133 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | (71) | (71) | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) | | - | - | - | - |
| Transfers to other reserves | | - | (2,677) | - | 2,677 |
| Transfers from other reserves | | - | - | - | - |
| Balance at end of the financial year | | 240,682 | 39,333 | 193,539 | 7,810 |
| 2024 Budget | | | | | |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year | | 240,682 | 39,333 | 193,539 | 7,810 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | 316 | 316 | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) | | - | - | - | - |
| Transfers to other reserves | 4.3.1 | - | (125) | - | 125 |
| Transfers from other reserves | 4.3.1 | - | - | - | - |
| Balance at end of the financial year | 4.3.2 | 240,998 | 39,524 | 193,539 | 7,935 |
| 2025 | | | | | |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year | | 240,998 | 39,524 | 193,539 | 7,935 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | (46) | (46) | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) | | - | - | - | - |
| Transfers to other reserves | | - | (105) | - | 105 |
| Transfers from other reserves | | - | - | - | - |
| Balance at end of the financial year | | 240,952 | 39,373 | 193,539 | 8,040 |
| 2026 | | | | | |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year | | 240,952 | 39,373 | 193,539 | 8,040 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | (119) | (119) | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) | | - | - | - | - |
| Transfers to other reserves | | - | (100) | - | 100 |
| Transfers from other reserves | | - | - | - | - |
| Balance at end of the financial year | | 240,833 | 39,154 | 193,539 | 8,140 |
| 2027 | | | | | |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year | | 240,833 | 39,154 | 193,539 | 8,140 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | - | (181) | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) | | - | - | - | - |
| Transfers to other reserves | | - | (100) | - | 100 |
| Transfers from other reserves | | - | - | - | - |
| Balance at end of the financial year | | 240,833 | 38,874 | 193,539 | 8,240 |

Statement of Cash Flows

For the four years ending 30 June 2027

| | | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | 2024/25 \$'000 | Projections 2025/26 \$'000 | 2026/27 \$'000 |
|---|-------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Notes | Inflows (Outflows) | Inflows (Outflows) | Inflows (Outflows) | Inflows (Outflows) | Inflows (Outflows) |
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | | | | |
| Rates and charges | | 7,780 | 8,187 | 8,433 | 8,601 | 8,773 |
| Statutory fees and fines | | 138 | 129 | 135 | 142 | 149 |
| User fees | | 594 | 545 | 586 | 630 | 677 |
| Grants - operating | | 6,227 | 10,926 | 9,685 | 9,750 | 9,816 |
| Grants - capital | | 8,734 | 4,807 | 5,768 | 6,057 | 6,359 |
| Contributions - monetary | | 100 | 25 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Interest received | | 95 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 95 |
| Dividends received | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Trust funds and deposits taken | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other receipts | | 289 | 1,539 | 1,605 | 1,615 | 1,630 |
| Net GST refund / payment | | 974 | 980 | 985 | 985 | 990 |
| Employee costs | | (9,878) | (9,806) | (10,149) | (10,504) | (10,872) |
| Materials and services | | (8,108) | (9,142) | (9,185) | (9,277) | (9,370) |
| Short-term, low value and variable lease payments | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Trust funds and deposits repaid | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other payments | | (225) | (200) | (185) | (190) | (185) |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | 4.4.1 | 6,719 | 8,085 | 7,783 | 7,914 | 8,074 |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | | | | | |
| Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment | | (8,220) | (8,426) | (8,636) | (8,722) | (8,766) |
| Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment | | 150 | 150 | 135 | 150 | 135 |
| Payments for investments | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Proceeds from sale of investments | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Loans and advances made | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payments of loans and advances | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities | 4.4.2 | (8,070) | (8,276) | (8,501) | (8,572) | (8,631) |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | | | | | |
| Finance costs | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Proceeds from borrowings | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Repayment of borrowings | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Interest paid - lease liability | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Repayment of lease liabilities | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities | 4.4.3 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents | | (1,351) | (191) | (718) | (659) | (558) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year | | 17,197 | 15,846 | 15,656 | 14,938 | 14,279 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year | | 15,846 | 15,656 | 14,938 | 14,279 | 13,721 |

Statement of Capital Works

For the four years ending 30 June 2027

| | NOTES | Forecast Actual | Budget | Projections | | |
|--|-------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | 2022/23 \$'000 | 2023/24 \$'000 | 2024/25 \$'000 | 2025/26 \$'000 | 2026/27 \$'000 |
| Property | | | | | | |
| Land | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Land improvements | | 40 | - | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| Total land | | 40 | - | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| Buildings | | - | 517 | 530 | 543 | 557 |
| Heritage buildings | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Building improvements | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Leasehold improvements | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total buildings | | - | 517 | 530 | 543 | 557 |
| Total property | | 40 | 517 | 555 | 568 | 582 |
| Plant and equipment | | | | | | |
| Heritage plant and equipment | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Plant, machinery and equipment | | 1,253 | 1,431 | 1,250 | 1,300 | 1,350 |
| Fixtures, fittings and furniture | | - | 30 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Computers and telecommunications | | 85 | - | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Library books | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total plant and equipment | | 1,338 | 1,461 | 1,350 | 1,400 | 1,450 |
| Infrastructure | | | | | | |
| Roads | | 7,810 | 9,182 | 7,206 | 7,285 | 7,785 |
| Bridges | | 155 | - | - | - | - |
| Footpaths and cycleways | | 175 | 141 | 125 | 130 | 135 |
| Drainage | | 60 | 60 | 60 | 60 | 60 |
| Recreational, leisure and community facilities | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Waste management | | - | - | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Parks, open space and streetscapes | | 135 | 35 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Aerodromes | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Off street car parks | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other infrastructure | | 2,371 | 313 | - | - | - |
| Total infrastructure | | 10,706 | 9,731 | 7,491 | 7,575 | 8,080 |
| Total capital works expenditure | 4.5.1 | 12,084 | 11,709 | 9,396 | 9,543 | 10,111 |
| Represented by: | | | | | | |
| New asset expenditure | | 604 | 585 | 470 | 477 | 506 |
| Asset renewal expenditure | | 8,459 | 8,196 | 6,577 | 6,680 | 7,078 |
| Asset expansion expenditure | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Asset upgrade expenditure | | 3,021 | 2,927 | 2,349 | 2,386 | 2,528 |
| Total capital works expenditure | 4.5.1 | 12,084 | 11,709 | 9,396 | 9,543 | 10,111 |
| Funding sources represented by: | | | | | | |
| Grants | | 9,248 | 5,655 | 6,786 | 7,125 | 7,482 |
| Contributions | | 1,028 | 740 | 1,360 | 1,368 | 1,380 |
| Council cash | | 1,809 | 5,314 | 1,250 | 1,050 | 1,250 |
| Borrowings | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total capital works expenditure | 4.5.1 | 12,084 | 11,709 | 9,396 | 9,543 | 10,112 |

Statement of Human Resources

For the four years ending 30 June 2027

| | Forecast | Budget | Projections | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Actual | | | | |
| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Staff expenditure | | | | | |
| Employee costs - operating | 9,878 | 9,806 | 10,149 | 10,504 | 10,872 |
| Employee costs - capital | 1,025 | 981 | 1,015 | 1,050 | 1,087 |
| Total staff expenditure | 10,903 | 10,787 | 11,164 | 11,555 | 11,959 |
| | FTE | FTE | FTE | FTE | FTE |
| Staff numbers | | | | | |
| Employees | 117.3 | 118.0 | 118.0 | 118.0 | 118.0 |
| Total staff numbers | 117.3 | 118.0 | 118.0 | 118.0 | 118.0 |

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

| Department | Budget | Comprises | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| | | Permanent | | Casual | Temporary |
| | 2023/24 | Full Time | Part time | | |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Asset Management | 5,756 | 5,065 | 576 | 115 | - |
| City Services | - | - | - | - | - |
| Community Services | 1,674 | 670 | 753 | 251 | - |
| Corporate Services | 1,627 | 1,302 | 325 | - | - |
| Culture and Leisure | - | - | - | - | - |
| Environment and Amenity | 289 | 289 | - | - | - |
| Strategy and Governance | 532 | 532 | - | - | - |
| Total permanent staff expenditure | 9,878 | 7,857 | 1,654 | 366 | - |
| Other employee related expenditure | - | - | - | - | - |
| Capitalised labour costs | 1,025 | - | - | - | - |
| Total expenditure | 10,903 | | | | |

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

| Department | Budget | Comprises | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| | | Permanent | | Casual | Temporary |
| | 2023/24 | Full Time | Part time | | |
| Asset Management | 64 | 56 | 6 | 2 | - |
| City Services | - | - | - | - | - |
| Community Services | 32 | 12 | 15 | 5 | - |
| Corporate Services | 15 | 10 | 5 | - | - |
| Culture and Leisure | - | - | - | - | - |
| Environment and Amenity | - | - | - | - | - |
| Strategy and Governance | 7 | 4 | 3 | - | - |
| Total staff | 118 | 82 | 29 | 7 | - |

**Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure
For the four years ending 30 June 2027**

| | 2023/24 \$'000 | 2024/25 \$'000 | 2025/26 \$'000 | 2026/27 \$'000 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| CEO Office | | | | |
| Permanent - Full time | 335 | 347 | 359 | 372 |
| Women | 75 | 78 | 81 | 84 |
| Men | 260 | 269 | 278 | 288 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total CEO Office | 335 | 347 | 359 | 372 |
| Directorate - Corporate & Community Services | | | | |
| Permanent - Full time | 2,100 | 2,174 | 2,250 | 2,329 |
| Women | 1,459 | 1,510 | 1,563 | 1,617 |
| Men | 642 | 664 | 687 | 711 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Permanent - Part time | 1,605 | 1,661 | 1,719 | 1,780 |
| Women | 1,587 | 1,643 | 1,700 | 1,760 |
| Men | 18 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Directorate - Corporate & Community Services | 3,705 | 3,835 | 3,969 | 4,108 |
| Directorate - Infrastructure Development & Works | | | | |
| Permanent - Full time | 5,156 | 5,336 | 5,523 | 5,717 |
| Women | 961 | 995 | 1,030 | 1,066 |
| Men | 4,195 | 4,341 | 4,493 | 4,651 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Permanent - Part time | 695 | 718 | 744 | 770 |
| Women | 376 | 389 | 403 | 417 |
| Men | 319 | 329 | 341 | 352 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Directorate - Infrastructure Development & Works | 5,851 | 6,055 | 6,267 | 6,486 |
| Casuals, temporary and other expenditure | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Capitalised labour costs | 985.0 | 1,005.0 | 1,080.0 | 1,025.0 |
| Total staff expenditure | 9,891 | 10,237 | 10,595 | 10,966 |

| | 2023/24 FTE | 2024/25 FTE | 2025/26 FTE | 2026/27 FTE |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| CEO Office | | | | |
| Permanent - Full time | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Women | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Men | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total CEO Office | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Directorate - Corporate & Community Services | | | | |
| Permanent - Full time | 22.0 | 22.0 | 22.0 | 22.0 |
| Women | 17.0 | 17.0 | 17.0 | 17.0 |
| Men | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Permanent - Part time | 36.4 | 37.0 | 37.0 | 37.0 |
| Women | 29.0 | 29.0 | 29.0 | 29.0 |
| Men | 7.4 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total Directorate Corporate & Community Services | 58.4 | 59.0 | 59.0 | 59.0 |
| Directorate - Infrastructure Development & Works | | | | |
| Permanent - Full time | 36.0 | 36.0 | 36.0 | 36.0 |
| Women | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 |
| Men | 26.0 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 26.0 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Permanent - Part time | 20.9 | 21.0 | 21.0 | 21.0 |
| Women | 4.7 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.8 |
| Men | 16.2 | 16.2 | 16.2 | 16.2 |
| Persons of self-described gender | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total Directorate - Infrastructure Development & Works | 56.9 | 57.0 | 57.0 | 57.0 |
| Casuals and temporary staff | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Capitalised labour | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total staff numbers | 117.3 | 118.0 | 118.0 | 118.0 |

4. Notes to the financial statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. Council needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and nature of these components.

4.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

4.1.1 Rates and charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

As per the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over a four-year period.

In developing the Budget, rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2023/24 the FGRS cap has been set at 3.50%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate and the municipal charge will increase by 3.50% in line with the rate cap.

This will raise total rates and charges for 2023/24 to \$7,421K

4.1.1(a) The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

| | 2022/23 Forecast Actual | 2023/24 Budget | Change | % |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | |
| General rates* | 7,170 | 7,421 | 251 | 3.50% |
| Municipal charge* | 473 | 493 | 20 | 4.32% |
| Waste management charge | 534 | 684 | 150 | 27.99% |
| Special rates and charges | 20 | 20 | - | 0.00% |
| Total rates and charges | 8,197 | 8,618 | 421 | 5.14% |

*These items are subject to the rate cap established under the FGRS

4.1.1(b) The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year

| Type or class of land | 2022/23 cents/\$CIV* | 2023/24 cents/\$CIV* | Change |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| General rate for rateable properties | 0.1279500 | 0.1198100 | -6.36% |

4.1.1(c) The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, compared with the previous financial year

| Type or class of land | 2022/23 \$'000 | 2023/24 \$'000 | Change \$'000 | % |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| General | 7,170 | 7,421 | 251 | 3.50% |
| Total amount to be raised by general rates | 7,170 | 7,421 | 251 | 3.50% |

4.1.1(d) The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year

| Type or class of land | 2022/23 Number | 2023/24 Number | Change Number | % |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------|
| General | 4,762 | 4,771 | 9 | 0.19% |
| Total number of assessments | 4,762 | 4,771 | 9 | 0.19% |

4.1.1(e) The basis of valuation to be used is the CIV as applicable for FY 2023-24

4.1.1(f) The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year

| Type or class of land | 2022/23 \$'000 | 2023/24 \$'000 | Change \$'000 | % |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------|
| General | 5,597,790 | 6,194,231 | 596,441 | 10.65% |
| Total value of land | 5,597,790 | 6,194,231 | 596,441 | 10.65% |

4.1.1(g) The municipal charge under Section 159 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

| Type of Charge | Per Rateable Property 2022/23 \$ | Per Rateable Property 2023/24 \$ | Change \$ | % |
|----------------|---|---|--------------|-------|
| Municipal | 161 | 166 | 5 | 3.23% |

4.1.1(h) The estimated total amount to be raised by municipal charges compared with the previous financial year

| Type of Charge | 2022/23 \$ | 2023/24 \$ | Change \$ | % |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------|
| Municipal | 475 | 492 | 17 | 3.58% |

4.1.1(i) The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

| Type of Charge | Per Service 2022/23 \$ | Per Service 2023/24 \$ | Change \$ | % |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Urban 120 litre bin collection | 336 | 327 | -9 | -2.68% |
| Rural 120 litre bin collection | 324 | 316 | -8 | -2.47% |
| Commercial 240 litre bin collection | 436 | 425 | -11 | -2.52% |

4.1.1(j) The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year

| Type of Charge | 2022/23 \$ | 2023/24 \$ | Change \$ | % |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| Urban 120 litre bin collection | 450,000 | 435,891 | -14,109 | -3.14% |
| Rural 120 litre bin collection | 65,000 | 63,832 | -1,168 | -1.80% |
| Commercial 240 litre bin collection | 71,000 | 76,500 | 5,500 | 7.75% |
| Glass Disposal Bins | - | 110,000 | 110,000 | 100.00% |
| Total | 586,000 | 686,223 | 100,223 | 17.10% |

4.1.1(k) The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year

| | 2022/23 \$'000 | 2023/24 \$'000 | Change \$'000 | % |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| <i>General Rates</i> | 7,162 | 7,421 | 259 | 3.62% |
| <i>Municipal Charge</i> | 473 | 491 | 18 | 3.81% |
| <i>Waste Management Charge</i> | 586 | 686 | 100 | 17.06% |
| Total Rates and charges | 8,221 | 8,598 | 377 | 4.59% |

4.1.1(l) Fair Go Rates System Compliance

Victoria City Council is required to comply with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS). The table below details the budget assumptions consistent with the requirements of the Fair Go Rates System.

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Total Rates | \$7,634,996 | \$7,912,804 |
| Number of rateable properties | 4762 | 4771 |
| Base Average Rate | \$1,603.32 | \$1,658.52 |
| Maximum Rate Increase (set by the State Government) | 1.75% | 3.50% |
| Capped Average Rate | \$1,603.31 | \$1,658.53 |
| Maximum General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue | \$7,634,996 | \$7,912,804 |
| Budgeted General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue | \$7,634,996 | \$7,914,804 |
| Budgeted Supplementary Rates | \$0 | \$0 |
| Budgeted Total Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue | \$7,634,996 | \$7,914,804 |

4.1.1(m) Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges

There are no known significant changes which may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

- The making of supplementary valuations (2023/24: estimated \$6,158,000)
- The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals)
- Changes of use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa
- Changes of use of land such that residential land becomes business land and vice versa.

4.1.2 Statutory fees and fines

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | | Change \$'000 | % |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|------------------|---------------|
| Animal Management Fee | 34 | 30 | - | 4 | -11.76% |
| Building Fees | 46 | 42 | - | 4 | -8.70% |
| Town planning fees | 39 | 40 | | 1 | 2.56% |
| Permits | 17 | 15 | - | 2 | -11.76% |
| Others | 2 | 2 | | - | 0.00% |
| Total statutory fees and fines | 138 | 129 | - | 9 | -6.52% |

4.1.3 User fees

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | | Change \$'000 | % |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|------------------|---------------|
| Community services user charges | 321 | 305 | - | 16 | -4.98% |
| Refuse disposal fees | 43 | 40 | - | 3 | -6.98% |
| User charges | 18 | 15 | - | 3 | -16.67% |
| Caravan park fees | 26 | 30 | | 4 | 15.38% |
| Other fees and charges | 186 | 155 | - | 31 | -16.67% |
| Total user fees | 594 | 545 | - | 49 | -8.25% |

4.1.4 Grants

Grants are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

| | Forecast Actual | Budget | Change | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | | |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | % |
| Grants were received in respect of the following: | | | | |
| Summary of grants | | | | |
| Commonwealth funded grants | 11,730 | 14,106 | 2,376 | 20% |
| State funded grants | 3,812 | 2,396 - | 1,416 | -37% |
| Total grants received | 15,542 | 16,502 | 960 | 6% |
| (a) Operating Grants | | | | |
| Recurrent - Commonwealth Government | | | | |
| Financial Assistance Grants | 6,784 | 6,783 - | 1 | 0% |
| Commonwealth Home Support Program | 362 | 417 | 55 | 15% |
| Recurrent - State Government | | | | |
| Fire Services Levy Implementation Grant | 45 | 45 | - | 0% |
| Aged care | 163 | 166 | 3 | 2% |
| Public health | 6 | 6 | - | 0% |
| Maternal and child health | 348 | 350 | 2 | 1% |
| Child and youth services | 754 | 400 - | 354 | -47% |
| Pest and weed control funding | 75 | 50 - | 25 | -33% |
| Victorian Apprenticeship Recovery Package (VARP) | 40 | - | 40 | -100% |
| Total recurrent grants | 8,577 | 8,217 - | 360 | -4% |
| Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government | | | | |
| Drainage maintenance | - | - | - | |
| Environmental planning | - | - | - | |
| Non-recurrent - State Government | | | | |
| Apsley Netball Tennis courts lighting upgrade | 556 | 555 - | 1 | 0% |
| Edenhope Equine facility* | 250 | 250 | - | 0% |
| Harrow Netball Tennis courts* | 556 | 555 - | 1 | 0% |
| Edenhope Football club* | 1,589 | 1,585 - | 4 | 0% |
| Enabling tourism - destination Harrow* | 207 | 206 - | 1 | 0% |
| Enabling tourism - destination Serviceton Railway* | 85 | 84 - | 1 | -1% |
| Project - Other Caravan Parks (Goroke, Harrow, Lake Charlegrark)* | 1,125 | - | 1,125 | -100% |
| Total non-recurrent grants | 4,368 | 3,235 - | 1,133 | -26% |
| Total operating grants | 12,945 | 11,452 - | 1,493 | -12% |
| (b) Capital Grants | | | | |
| Recurrent - Commonwealth Government | | | | |
| Roads to recovery | 1,528 | 1,528 | - | 0% |
| Local Roads and Community Infrastructure | 3,056 | 3,056 | - | 0% |
| Recurrent - State Government | | | | |
| <i>Add additional grants by type as appropriate</i> | | | | |
| Total recurrent grants | 4,584 | 4,584 | - | 0% |

Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government

| | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|------------|----------|
| Buildings | - | - | - | |
| Plant and machinery | - | 277 | 277 | |
| Edenhope Lake | | 1,400 | | |
| West Wimmera Cabins | | 375 | | |
| Benayeo Hall | | 20 | | |
| Kadnook Connewirricoo Rd | | 586 | | |
| Non-recurrent - State Government | | | | |
| Local Roads | - | 859 | 859 | |
| Heavy Vehicle Safety & Productivity Program | 586 | 550 | | |
| Project - Cabins Kaniva Caravan Park | 1,400 | - | | |
| Project - Edenhope Caravan Park | 375 | - | | |
| Fire Access Road Subsidy Scheme | 20 | - | | |
| Edenhope Aerodrome | | 220 | | |
| | - | - | - | |
| Total non-recurrent grants | 2,381 | 4,287 | 1,906 | 80% |
| Total capital grants | 6,965 | 8,871 | 1,906 | 27% |
| Total Grants | 19,910 | 20,323 | 413 | 0 |

Operating grants have been budgeted in accordance with the budget announcements and Federal recurrent financial assistance grants are accordingly estimated

Capital grants are estimated to increase and attract non recurrent capital grants to fund our capital works program. LRCIP and Roads to Recovery has been esimated at historical levels and is estimated to be spent on projects Council wide.

4.1.5 Contributions

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | | Change \$'000 | % |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|------------------|---------|
| Monetary | 100 | 25 | - | 75 | -75.00% |
| Total contributions | 100 | 25 | - | 75 | -75.00% |

These monitory contributions are estimated from expected community groups and individuals from the community towards proposed projects.

4.1.6 Other income

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | | Change \$'000 | % |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------|---------|
| Interest | 100 | 100 | | - | 0.00% |
| Reimbursements | 138 | 1,486 | | 1,348 | 976.81% |
| Investment property rental | 9 | 10 | | 1 | 11.11% |
| Other income | 137 | 138 | | 1 | 0.73% |
| Total other income | 384 | 1,734 | | 1,350 | 351.56% |

Other income is anticipated to be \$1.73million and is very consistent with 2022-23 forecast actuals. It is estimated that certain in progress works will get reimbursed. Reimbursements for roadworks are expected to total \$1.486 million.

4.1.7 Employee costs

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | Change | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| | | | \$'000 | % |
| Wages and salaries | 8,615 | 8,401 | (214) | -2.48% |
| WorkCover | 208 | 292 | 84 | 40.38% |
| Superannuation | 981 | 924 | (57) | -5.80% |
| Fringe Benefit Tax | 74 | 74 | - | 0.00% |
| Provisions | - | 200 | - | |
| Total employee costs | 9,878 | 9,891 | 13 | 0.13% |

The employee costs are estimated on actual planned activity and FTEs for the next financial year with an allowance of 11% for superannuation and WorkCover based on actual quote obtained

4.1.8 Materials and services

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | Change | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------|
| | | | \$'000 | % |
| Contract payments | 5,560 | 5,888 | 328 | 5.90% |
| Plant and equipment maintenance | 573 | 500 | -73 | -12.74% |
| Utilities | 355 | 479 | 124 | 34.93% |
| Office administration | 58 | 95 | 37 | 63.79% |
| Information technology | 490 | 638 | 148 | 30.20% |
| Insurance | 533 | 759 | 226 | 42.40% |
| Consultants | 493 | 469 | -24 | -4.87% |
| Other materials and services | 46 | 225 | 179 | 389.13% |
| Total materials and services | 8,108 | 9,053 | 945 | 11.66% |

Most of the Materials and Services has been budgeted in accordance with the level of activity across business units.

4.1.9 Depreciation

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | Change | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| | | | \$'000 | % |
| Property | 588 | 588 | - | 0.00% |
| Plant & equipment | 723 | 723 | - | 0.00% |
| Infrastructure | 6,553 | 6,553 | - | 0.00% |
| Total depreciation | 7,864 | 7,864 | - | 0.00% |

4.1.12 Other expenses

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | Change | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|---------|
| | | | \$'000 | % |
| Councillors' allowances | 190 | 180 | -10 | -5.26% |
| Operating lease rentals | 12 | 15 | 3 | 25.00% |
| Auditor remuneration - VAGO | 12 | 12 | - | 0.00% |
| Auditor remuneration - other | 40 | 32 | -8 | -20.00% |
| Legal Costs | - | 118 | 118 | |

4.5 Capital works program

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2023/24 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source. Works are also disclosed as current budget or carried forward from prior year.

4.5.1 Summary

| | Forecast Actual 2022/23 \$'000 | Budget 2023/24 \$'000 | Change \$'000 | % |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Property | 500 | 547 | 47 | 9.40% |
| Plant and equipment | 1,725 | 1,659 | -66 | -3.83% |
| Infrastructure | 8,780 | 9,504 | 724 | 8.25% |
| Total | 11,005 | 11,710 | 705 | 6.41% |

| | Project Cost \$'000 | Asset expenditure types | | | | Summary of Funding Sources | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | | New \$'000 | Renewal \$'000 | Upgrade \$'000 | Expansion \$'000 | Grants \$'000 | Contrib. \$'000 | Council cash \$'000 | Borrowings \$'000 |
| Property | 547 | 405 | 142 | - | - | 355 | - | 192 | - |
| Plant and equipment | 1,659 | 333 | 1,326 | - | - | 278 | - | 1,381 | - |
| Infrastructure | 9,504 | 1,518 | 6,880 | 1,106 | - | 7,288 | - | 2,216 | - |
| Total | 11,710 | 2,256 | 8,348 | 1,106 | - | 7,921 | - | 3,789 | - |

4.5.2 Current Budget

| Capital Works Area | Project Cost | Asset expenditure types | | | | Summary of Funding Sources | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|------------|
| | | New | Renewal | Upgrade | Expansion | Grants | Contrib. | Council cash | Borrowings |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| PROPERTY | | | | | | | | | |
| Land | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Land Improvements | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Buildings | | | | | | | | | |
| Edenhope Pool Painting And New Dosing Lines | 12 | | 12 | | | | | | 12 |
| Council Owned Houses | 100 | | 100 | | | | | | 100 |
| Edenhope Aerodrome Upgrade | 405 | | | 405 | | 355 | | | 50 |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Building Improvements | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Leasehold Improvements | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Heritage buildings | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL PROPERTY | 517 | - | 112 | 405 | - | 355 | - | 162 | |
| PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | | | | | | | | | |
| Plant, Machinery and Equipment | | | | | | | | | |
| 2013 CAT CT610 | 440 | | 440 | | | | 50 | 390 | |
| 2013 CAT 12M | 526 | | 526 | | | | 110 | 416 | |
| 2013 MF6475 | 190 | | 190 | | | | 20 | 170 | |
| 2016 Holden Colorado | 48 | | 48 | | | | 18 | 30 | |
| Dual Cab Ute | 48 | 48 | | | | | | 48 | |
| Tractor 80HP | 64 | 64 | | | | | | 64 | |
| Telematics | 18 | 18 | | | | | | 18 | |
| Skip Bin Trailer | 18 | 18 | | | | | | 18 | |
| Skip Bin | 8 | 8 | | | | | | 8 | |
| Diesel Genset K | 23 | 23 | | | | | | 23 | |
| Diesel Genset E | 23 | 23 | | | | | | 23 | |
| Misc. Minor Plant (P9999) | 25 | 25 | | | | | | 25 | |
| Mitsubishi Outlander | 53 | 53 | | | | | | 53 | |
| Mitsubishi Outlander | 53 | 53 | | | | | | 53 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|
| Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture | | | | | | | | | |
| IT replacements/Upgrades | 20 | - | 20 | - | - | - | - | 20 | - |
| Customer Service Furniture | 10 | - | 10 | | | | | 10 | |
| Computers and Telecommunications | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Heritage Plant and Equipment | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Library books | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | 1,567 | 333 | 1,234 | - | - | - | 198 | 1,369 | - |

| Capital Works Area | Project Cost | Asset expenditure types | | | | Summary of Funding Sources | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|------------|
| | | New | Renewal | Upgrade | Expansion | Grants | Contrib. | Council cash | Borrowings |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| INFRASTRUCTURE | | | | | | | | | |
| Roads | | | | | | | | | |
| Webb St, Kaniva, Roach St - Budjik St | 48 | 48 | - | - | - | - | - | 48 | - |
| Elizabeth St, Edenhope, Sydney Rd - Macquarie St | 73 | 73 | | | | | | 73 | |
| Disabled Parking - Kaniva In Front Of IGA | 50 | 50 | | | | | | 50 | |
| Kadnook - Connewirricoo Rd. Reconstruction & Widening | 90 | - | 90 | - | - | - | - | 90 | - |
| Goroke Harrow Rd | 79 | | 79 | | | 79 | | - | |
| Kadnook Connewirricoo Rd | 99 | | 99 | | | | | 99 | |
| Ullswater Mortat Rd. | 72 | | 72 | | | | | 72 | |
| Serviceton South Road | 20 | | 20 | | | | | 20 | |
| Murrawong Rd | 99 | | 99 | | | 99 | | | |
| Minimay Francis Rd | 41 | | 41 | | | 41 | | | |
| Edinburgh Rd , Mollison St - Wilson St., Parking Lane | 13 | | 13 | | | | | 13 | |
| Broughton Rd/Miram West Rd Intersection | 30 | | - | 30 | | 30 | | | |
| Minimay Francis Rd | 119 | | 119 | | | 119 | | | |
| Yearinga Rd | 297 | | 297 | | | 297 | | | |
| South Lillimur Rd | 227 | | 227 | | | | | 227 | |
| Mooree Rd | 432 | | 216 | 216 | | 293 | | 138 | |
| Mooree Rd | 833 | | 416 | 417 | | 566 | | 267 | |
| Compston St Parking Lane, Barrack To Church St. | 29 | | 29 | | | | | 29 | |
| Reseals | 1,200 | | 1,200 | | | 864 | | 336 | |
| Linemarking | 20 | - | 20 | - | - | - | - | 20 | - |
| Shoulder Resheeting | 500 | | 500 | | | 400 | | 100 | |
| Resheeting | 1,490 | - | 1,490 | - | - | 1,078 | - | 412 | - |
| Street Lighting | 10 | | 10 | | | | | 10 | |
| Bridges | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Footpaths and Cycleways | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Drainage | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Waste Management | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|----------|--------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Aerodromes | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Off Street Car Parks | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Infrastructure | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE | 5,871 | 171 | 5,037 | 663 | - | 3,866 | - | 2,004 | - |
| TOTAL NEW CAPITAL WORKS | 7,955 | 504 | 6,383 | 1,068 | - | 4,221 | 198 | 3,535 | - |

4.5.3 Works carried forward from the 2022/23 year

| Capital Works Area | Project Cost \$'000 | Asset expenditure types | | | | Summary of Funding Sources | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | | New \$'000 | Renewal \$'000 | Upgrade \$'000 | Expansion \$'000 | Grants \$'000 | Contrib. \$'000 | Council cash \$'000 | Borrowings \$'000 |
| PROPERTY | | | | | | | | | |
| Land | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Land Improvements | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Buildings | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Building Improvements | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Leasehold Improvements | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Heritage buildings | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL PROPERTY | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | | | | | | | | | |
| Plant, Machinery and Equipment | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Computers and Telecommunications | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Heritage Plant and Equipment | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Library books | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| Capital Works Area | Project Cost \$'000 | Asset expenditure types | | | | Summary of Funding Sources | | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | | New \$'000 | Renewal \$'000 | Upgrade \$'000 | Expansion \$'000 | Grants \$'000 | Contrib. \$'000 | Council cash \$'000 | Borrowings \$'000 |
| INFRASTRUCTURE | | | | | | | | | |
| Roads | | | | | | | | | |
| Bridges | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Footpaths and Cycleways | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Drainage | | | | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities | | | | | | | | | |
| Waste Management | | | | | | | | | |
| Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes | | | | | | | | | |
| Incidental Park Furniture | 20 | | | | | | | 20 | |
| Dog Poo Bag Dispensers | 15 | | | | | | | 15 | |
| Aerodromes | | | | | | | | | |
| Off Street Car Parks | | | | | | | | | |
| Other Infrastructure | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE | 35 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 35 | - |
| TOTAL CARRIED FORWARD CAPITAL WORKS 2022/23 | 35 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 35 | - |

Summary of Planned Capital Works Expenditure
For the years ending 30 June 2025, 2026 & 2027

| 2024/25 | Asset Expenditure Types | | | | | Funding Sources | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | Total \$'000 | New \$'000 | Renewal \$'000 | Expansion \$'000 | Upgrade \$'000 | Total \$'000 | Grants \$'000 | Contributions \$'000 | Council Cash \$'000 | Borrowings \$'000 |
| Property | | | | | | | | | | |
| Buildings | 405 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 405 | 405 | 355 | 0 | 50 | 0 |
| Building improvements | 112 | 0 | 112 | 0 | 0 | 112 | 0 | 0 | 112 | 0 |
| Total Buildings | 517 | 0 | 112 | 0 | 405 | 517 | 355 | 0 | 162 | 0 |
| Total Property | 517 | 0 | 112 | 0 | 405 | 517 | 355 | 0 | 162 | 0 |
| Plant and Equipment | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plant, machinery and equipment | 1,537 | 333 | 1,204 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 198 | 0 | 1,339 | 0 |
| Fixtures, fittings and furniture | 30 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 |
| Total Plant and Equipment | 1,567 | 333 | 1,234 | 0 | 0 | 1,567 | 198 | 0 | 1,369 | 0 |
| Infrastructure | | | | | | | | | | |
| Roads | 9,246 | 9,123 | 123 | 0 | 0 | 9,246 | 9,246 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bridges | 145 | 145 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 145 | 85 | 0 | 60 | 0 |
| Footpaths and cycleways | 140 | 140 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 140 | 0 | 0 | 140 | 0 |
| Drainage | 60 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Parks, open space and streetscapes | 35 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 |
| Total Infrastructure | 9,626 | 9,503 | 123 | 0 | 0 | 9,626 | 9,391 | 0 | 235 | 0 |
| Total Capital Works Expenditure | 11,710 | 9,836 | 1,469 | 0 | 405 | 11,710 | 9,944 | 0 | 1,766 | 0 |

| 2025/26 | Asset Expenditure Types | | | | | Funding Sources | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | Total \$'000 | New \$'000 | Renewal \$'000 | Expansion \$'000 | Upgrade \$'000 | Total \$'000 | Grants \$'000 | Contributions \$'000 | Council Cash \$'000 | Borrowings \$'000 |
| Property | | | | | | | | | | |
| Building improvements | 110 | 0 | 110 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 110 | 0 |
| Total Buildings | 110 | 0 | 110 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Property | 110 | 0 | 110 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Plant and Equipment | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plant, machinery and equipment | 1,500 | 200 | 1,300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 750 | 0 | 750 | 0 |
| Fixtures, fittings and furniture | 25 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| Total Plant and Equipment | 1,525 | 200 | 1,325 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 750 | 0 | 775 | 0 |
| Infrastructure | | | | | | | | | | |
| Roads | 8,200 | 200 | 8,000 | 0 | 0 | 8,000 | 7,650 | 0 | 350 | 0 |
| Bridges | 125 | 0 | 125 | 0 | 0 | 125 | 100 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| Footpaths and cycleways | 50 | 25 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drainage | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 25 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| Recreational, leisure and community facilities | 250 | 50 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| Parks, open space and streetscapes | 200 | 100 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| Total Infrastructure | 8,875 | 375 | 8,500 | 0 | 0 | 8,625 | 8,025 | 0 | 600 | 0 |
| Total Capital Works Expenditure | 10,510 | 575 | 9,935 | 0 | 0 | 10,150 | 8,775 | 0 | 1,375 | 0 |

| 2026/27 | Asset Expenditure Types | | | | | Funding Sources | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | Total \$'000 | New \$'000 | Renewal \$'000 | Expansion \$'000 | Upgrade \$'000 | Total \$'000 | Grants \$'000 | Contributions \$'000 | Council Cash \$'000 | Borrowings \$'000 |
| Property | | | | | | | | | | |
| Building improvements | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| Total Buildings | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Property | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Plant and Equipment | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plant, machinery and equipment | 1,400 | 150 | 1,250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 900 | 0 | 500 | 0 |
| Fixtures, fittings and furniture | 25 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| Total Plant and Equipment | 1,425 | 150 | 1,275 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 900 | 0 | 525 | 0 |
| Infrastructure | | | | | | | | | | |
| Roads | 8,300 | 300 | 8,000 | 0 | 0 | 8,300 | 7,700 | 0 | 600 | 0 |
| Bridges | 75 | 25 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 75 | 60 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Footpaths and cycleways | 100 | 25 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 75 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| Drainage | 100 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 80 | 40 | 0 | 40 | 0 |
| Recreational, leisure and community facilities | 100 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 40 | 0 | 50 | 0 |
| Parks, open space and streetscapes | 200 | 100 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 50 | 0 | 150 | 0 |
| Total Infrastructure | 8,875 | 550 | 8,325 | 0 | 0 | 8,845 | 7,965 | 0 | 880 | 0 |
| Total Capital Works Expenditure | 10,400 | 700 | 9,700 | 0 | 0 | 10,270 | 8,865 | 0 | 1,405 | 0 |

5a. Targeted performance indicators

The following tables highlight Council's current and projected performance across a selection of targeted service and financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's intentions and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The targeted performance indicators below are the prescribed performance indicators contained in Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. Results against these indicators and targets will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

| Indicator | Measure | Notes | Forecast | Budget | Projections | | | Trend |
|----------------------------|---|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| | | | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | +/- |
| Operating Position | | | | | | | | |
| Adjusted underlying result | Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue | | -6.47% | -4.48% | -4.86% | -3.91% | -4.09% | + |
| Liquidity | | | | | | | | |
| Working Capital | Current assets / current liabilities | | 505.22% | 474.72% | 467.84% | 460.84% | 454.10% | + |
| Unrestricted Cash | Unrestricted cash / current liabilities | | 419.70% | 391.62% | 387.90% | 383.98% | 380.17% | o |
| Obligations | | | | | | | | |
| Loans & Borrowings | Interest Bearing Loans & Borrowings / Rates Revenue | | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | + |
| Loans & Borrowings | Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue | | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | + |
| Indebtness | Non Current Liabilities / Own Source Revenue | | 5.82% | 5.94% | 5.96% | 5.93% | 5.93% | + |
| Asset Renewal | Asset Renewal & Upgrade Expense / Asset Depreciation | | 112.19% | 94.87% | 97.00% | 97.08% | 97.10% | - |
| Stability | | | | | | | | |
| Rates Effort | Rates Revenue / CIV of Rateable Property in the municipality | | 0.26% | 0.23% | 0.19% | 0.19% | 0.19% | o |
| Rates Concentration | Rates Revenue / Adjusted Underlying Revenue | | 32.75% | 33.08% | 33.03% | 32.90% | 32.76% | + |
| Efficiency | | | | | | | | |
| Expenditure Level | Total Expenses / No. of Property Assessments | | \$ 5,475.37 | \$ 5,725.42 | \$ 5,853.45 | \$ 6,003.78 | \$ 6,158.22 | o |
| Revenue Level | Total Rates Revenue / No. of Property Assessments | | \$ 1,716.41 | \$ 1,806.33 | \$ 1,860.52 | \$ 1,897.73 | \$ 1,935.68 | + |

Key to Forecast Trend:

- + Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

6. Schedule of Fees and Charges

This appendix presents the fees and charges of a statutory/non-statutory nature which will be charged in respect to various goods and services during the financial year 2023/24. Fees and charges are based on information available at the time of publishing and may vary during the financial year subject to any changes in Council's policy or legislation.



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES 2023/24



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Governance & Administration | | | | |
| Freedom of Information (FOI) | | | | |
| FOI Application Fee | Per occasion | Statutory | Non Taxable | \$31.00 |
| Disabled Persons Permit | | | | |
| Disabled Persons Permit (3 year permit) | Per permit | Council | Non Taxable | \$10.00 |
| Photocopying | | | | |
| A4 - black & white - single sided | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$0.30 |
| A4 - black & white - single sided - multiple copies | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$0.25 |
| A4 - black & white - double sided | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$0.40 |
| A4 - black & white - double sided - multiple copies | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$0.35 |
| A3 - black & white - single sided | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$0.50 |
| A3 - black & white - single sided - multiple copies | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$0.45 |
| A3 - black & white - double sided | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$0.70 |
| A3 - black & white - double sided - multiple copies | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$0.65 |
| A4 - colour | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$1.00 |
| A3 - colour | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$1.50 |
| A1/A0 - Black & White Plan | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$20.00 |
| A1/A0 - Colour Plan | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$25.00 |
| A1/A0 - Full colour/greyscale image | Per page | Council | Taxable | \$30.00 |
| Council Hire & Facilities | | | | |
| Community Bus | | | | |
| Hire Fee (Community Group only) | Per kilometre | Council | Taxable | \$0.56 |
| <i>Note: Fuel at cost of hirer; bus must be returned with full tank of fuel. Hirers to be charged per km based on where the bus is located at that time and to be charged from pick up point.</i> | | | | |
| Kaniva Caravan Park Fees | | | | |
| Powered Site | | | | |
| Occupied - per night | Per site | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction - weekly fee | Per site | Council | Taxable | \$134.00 |
| Additional persons 6yrs & over | Per site | Council | Taxable | \$5.00 |
| Unpowered Site | | | | |
| Occupied - per night | Per site | Council | Taxable | \$16.00 |
| Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction - weekly fee | Per site | Council | Taxable | \$80.00 |
| Additional persons 6yrs & over | Per site | Council | Taxable | \$5.00 |
| Unoccupied - no tenants | | | | |
| Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction - weekly fee | Per site | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Edenhope Community Centre Hire | | | | |
| Security deposit for licensed functions (refundable) | Per event | Council | Non Taxable | |
| Insurance - functions with or without alcohol | Per event | Council | Taxable | |
| | Per event | Council | Non Taxable | |
| Community Hire Rates (Edenhope Community Centre) | | | | |
| Function Room | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$80.00 |



**WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES
2023/24**



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|--|-----------|---------------|---------|-----------------|
| Meeting Room | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$16.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$32.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$16.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Activity Space | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$30.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$16.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Function Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$139.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$69.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Meeting Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$48.00 |
| Activity Space & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$64.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$32.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$54.00 |
| Function Room & Activity Space | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$128.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$59.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$91.00 |
| Function Room, Activity Space & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$160.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$80.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$128.00 |
| Function Room, Meeting Room & Activity Space | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$150.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$85.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | |
| Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$182.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$117.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$144.00 |
| Commercial Hire Rates (Edenhope Community Centre) | | | | |
| Function Room | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$214.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$160.00 |
| Meeting Room | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$32.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$59.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$32.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Activity Space | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$60.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$21.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$32.00 |



**WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES
2023/24**



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|--|-----------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Function Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$267.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$134.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$209.00 |
| Meeting Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$59.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$102.00 |
| Activity Space & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$128.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$64.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$108.00 |
| Function Room & Activity Space | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$262.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$123.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$187.00 |
| Function Room, Activity Space & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$316.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$166.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$262.00 |
| Function Room, Meeting Room & Activity Space | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$305.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$155.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$241.00 |
| Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$364.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$187.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$294.00 |
| Kaniva Hall Hire | | | | |
| Security deposit for licensed functions (refundable) | Per event | Council | Non Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Insurance - functions with or without alcohol | Per event | Council | Taxable | |
| Sound System (PA System & microphones) - Bond | Per event | Council | Non Taxable | \$100.00 |
| Community Hire Rates (Kaniva Hall) | | | | |
| Function Room | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$54.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$80.00 |
| Meeting Room | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$16.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$32.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$16.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Function Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$134.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$64.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$102.00 |
| Meeting Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$54.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$27.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$48.00 |
| Function Room, Meeting Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$160.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$80.00 |



**WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES
2023/24**



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$128.00 |
| Commercial Hire Rates (Kaniva Hall) | | | | |
| Function Room | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$214.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$160.00 |
| Meeting Room | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$32.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$59.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$32.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$53.00 |
| Function Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$267.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$134.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$209.00 |
| Meeting Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$59.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$102.00 |
| Function Room, Meeting Room & Kitchen | | | | |
| Full Day 8am - 5pm (9 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$316.00 |
| Half Day (4 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$166.00 |
| Evening 5pm - Midnight (7 hours) | Per event | Council | Taxable | \$262.00 |
| Council occupancy charges for individual rental agreements are as per the individual agreements. These are available on request from Council. | | | | |
| Local Laws | | | | |
| Animal Registration Fees | | | | |
| <i>Maximum Fee applicable to dogs and cats under Domestic Animals Act 1994</i> | | | | |
| Category A - Maximum Fee | Annual fee per animal | Statutory | Non Taxable | \$125.00 |
| Category B - Maximum Fee Pensioner | Annual fee per animal | Statutory | Non Taxable | \$62.50 |
| Category C - Reduced Fee | Annual fee per animal | Statutory | Non Taxable | \$43.00 |
| Category C - Reduced Fee Pensioner | Annual fee per animal | Statutory | Non Taxable | \$21.50 |
| Micro chipping fee - financial year | Per animal | Statutory | Non Taxable | \$66.00 |
| Dangerous/Menacing dog registration fee | Per animal | Statutory | Non Taxable | \$221.00 |
| Planned Microchipped dogs | Per animal | Statutory | Non Taxable | \$35.00 |
| | | | | |
| Pound Fees | | | | |
| Pound Release Fees | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$49.00 |
| Pound Release Fees Registered dog/cat - within 12 months from first impoundment | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$71.00 |
| Subsequent Pound Release Fee per cat/dog | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$107.00 |
| Daily Food Fee | | | | |
| Dogs and Cats | Per animal per day | Council | Taxable | \$11.00 |
| Livestock - Small Animal (sheep or equivalent) | Per animal per day | Council | Taxable | \$11.00 |
| Livestock - Large Animal (cow or equivalent) | Per animal per day | Council | Taxable | \$17.00 |
| | | | | |
| Surrendered Animals | | | | |
| Registered | | | | No charge |
| Unregistered | Per animal | Council | Non Taxable | \$56.00 |



**WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES
2023/24**



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|--|------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Feral Cat | | | | No charge |
| Roadside Grazing of livestock | No charge | | | |
| Mobile Vendor on Council controlled land permit one off visit | per occurrence | Council | Non Taxable | \$30.00 |
| Mobile Vendor on Council controlled land permit Annual fee | Annual | Council | Non Taxable | \$464.00 |
| Local Law Permit - droving livestock, excess animal numbers, alcohol permit for hotels for consumption of alcohol outside of hotel | Yearly | Council | Non Taxable | \$66.00 |
| Daily - one off event - (e.g. street stall) | | | | No charge |
| Breach of a notice to comply | Per occasion | Council | Non Taxable | \$178.00 |
| Health Registration Fees | | | | |
| <i>Charge classes are as defined under the Food Act 1984</i> | | | | |
| Class 1 Registration - (Hospitals/aged care/child care) | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$326.00 |
| Class 2 Registration - (Restaurants/cafes/prep of food) | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$270.00 |
| Class 3 Registration - (Low risk food prep/package food) | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$186.00 |
| Class 4 Registration - (Newsagents) | | | | No charge |
| Fee for limited operation (operate less than 3 days or under 25 hours per week) | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | 50% of full fee |
| Fee for full operations of Club or Community Organisation | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | |
| Fee for temporary Food Permit: | | | | |
| Community Group - up to 2 events p.a. | | | | No charge |
| Community Group - up to 12 events p.a. (annual charge) | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$32.00 |
| General Food Business - up to 2 events p.a. (per event charge) | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$24.00 |
| General Food Business - up to 12 events p.a. (annual charge) | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$69.00 |
| General Food Business - more than 12 events per year | Annual Fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$135.00 |
| | | | | |
| Penalty for late payment of Health Registration fees | Per occasion | Council | Non Taxable | 50% of invoice amount |
| On-site wastewater management systems (OWMS) permits | | | | |
| Construct, install or alter OWMS | Per application | Council | Non Taxable | \$370.00 |
| Minor alteration to OWMS | Per application | Council | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Transfer a permit | Per application | Council | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Amend a permit | Per application | Council | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Renew a permit | Per application | Council | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Exemption | Per application | Council | Non Taxable | |
| Public Health and Accommodation Businesses | | | | |
| Caravan park registration - less than 25 sites (3 yearly registration fee) | Per caravan park | Statutory Fee | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Caravan park registration 26-50 sites (3 yearly registration fee) | Per caravan park | Statutory Fee | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Caravan park registration 51-100 sites (3 yearly registration fee) | Per caravan park | Statutory Fee | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Caravan park transfer of proprietor | Per instance | Statutory Fee | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Public Aquatic Facilities | 3 yearly fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$300 |
| Prescribed Accommodation | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$300.00 |
| Hair & Beauty premises | Annual fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$190.00 |
| Transfer of registration (only for prescribed accommodation/hairdressing/beauty - not applicable to food businesses) | Per occasion | Council | Non Taxable | 50% of full fee |
| Planning Fees | | | | |
| Applications for Permits (Regulation 7) | | | | |
| Class 1 Change or allow a new use of the land | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| land for a single dwelling per lot if the estimated cost of the development is : | | | | |
| Class 2 up to \$10,000 | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 3 \$10,000 to \$100,000 | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 4 \$100,000 to \$500,000 | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 5 \$500,000 to \$1 million | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 6 \$1 million to \$2 million | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |



**WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES
2023/24**



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|--|--|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| A permit that is subject of a VicSmart application if the estimated cost of development is: | | | | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 7 Up to \$10,000 | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 8 More than \$10,000 | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 9 VicSmart application to subdivide or consolidate land | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is: | | | | |
| Class 10 Up to \$100,000 | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 10 Up to \$100,000 Native Vegetation Removal Only | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 11 \$100,000 to \$1 million | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 12 \$1 million to \$5 million | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 13 \$5 million to \$15 million | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 14 \$15 million to \$50 million | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 15 More than \$50 million (to be charged at 50% until 13/10/2017) | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 16 Subdivide an existing building | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 17 Subdivide land into 2 lots | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 18 Realignment of a common boundary between 2 lots or to consolidate 2 or more lots | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 19 To subdivide land (\$1,241 for each 100 lots created) | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 20 To create or vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or to create or move a Right of Way; or to create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or to vary or remove a condition of the nature of an easement other than a right of way in a Crown grant. | | | | Prescribed Fee |
| Class 21 A permit not otherwise provided for in this Regulation | | | | Prescribed Fee |
| Permit Applications for more than one Class | | | | |
| 1. An application for more than one class of permit set out in the above table: 2. An application to amend a permit in more than one class set out in the above table: | applied if separate applications were made; and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications were made. | | | |
| Amendments to Planning Schemes | | | | |
| Stage 1 a) Considering a request to amend a planning scheme; and Exhibition and notice of the amendment; and Considering any submissions which do not seek to change the amendment; and d) If applicable, abandoning the amendment. | b) c) | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Stage 2 a) Considering submissions which seek a change to an amendment, and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| i) Up to 10 Submissions | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| ii) 11 to 20 submissions | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| iii) More than 20 submissions | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Stage 3 a) Adopting an amendment or a part of an amendment; and b) submitting the amendment for approval by the Minister; and c) giving notice of the approval of the amendment | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Stage 4 a) Consideration by the Minister of a request to approve the amendment; and b) Giving notice of approval of an amendment | | Statutory | Non Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| | | | | |
| Building Fees | | | | |
| Extension, Alterations | | | | |
| Up to \$5,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$550.00 |
| Value of Works \$5,001 - \$10,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$745.00 |
| Value of Works \$10,001 - \$20,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$975.00 |
| Value of Works \$20,001 - \$50,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$1,400.00 |
| Value of Works \$50,001 - \$100,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$1,865.00 |
| Value of Works \$100,001 - \$150,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$2,160.00 |
| Value of Works \$150,001 - \$200,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$2,540.00 |
| Value of Works \$200,001 - \$250,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$2,850.00 |
| Value of Works \$250,001 - \$300,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$3,200.00 |
| Value of Works \$300,001 - \$350,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$3,630.00 |
| Value of Works > \$350,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$3,840.00 |
| * Includes partial compliance | | | | |
| * Protection works additional \$800 | | | | |
| * Performance solutions additional \$1,000 (up to 2, more than 2 to be negotiated) | | | | |
| * Includes four (4) mandatory inspections. Additional inspections \$190 each | | | | |



**WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES
2023/24**



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|---|-----------------|---------------|---------|--|
| New Dwellings, Re-erection/Re-siting | | | | |
| Value of Works Up to \$200,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$2,850.00 |
| Value of Works \$200,001 - \$250,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$3,290.00 |
| Value of Works \$250,001 - \$350,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$3,560.00 |
| Value of Works >\$350,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$3,635.00 |
| * Protection works additional \$800 | | | | |
| * Performance solutions additional \$1,000 (up to 2, more than 2 to be negotiated) | | | | |
| * Includes four (4) mandatory inspections - additional inspections \$190 each | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Miscellaneous - Building Permits | | | | |
| Garage, Car Port, Shed, Patio, Verandah, Pergola | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$865.00 |
| Swimming Pool (fence alterations only) | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$362.00 |
| Swimming Pool (new fence only) | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$640.00 |
| Swimming Pool and All Fences | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$820.00 |
| Restumping (work must be performed by Registered Builder) | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$880.00 |
| Demolish / Remove Building - Domestic (shed / house) | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$790.00 |
| Demolish / Remove Building - Commercial | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$830.00 |
| | | | | \$0.00 |
| Commercial Building Work (Class 2-9) - Building Permits | | | | \$0.00 |
| New Building, Extension, Alterations | | | | \$0.00 |
| Value of Works Up to \$10,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$935.00 |
| Value of Works \$10,001 - \$50,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$1,350.00 |
| Value of Works \$50,001 - \$100,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$2,000.00 |
| Value of Works \$100,001 - \$150,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$2,475.00 |
| Value of Works \$150,001 - \$200,000 | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$2,800.00 |
| Value of Works \$200,001 - \$250,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$3,300.00 |
| Value of Works \$250,001 - \$300,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$3,820.00 |
| Value of Works \$300,001 - \$500,000* | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$4,350.00 |
| Value of Works > \$500,000 or (negotiated with Council) | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$ value of works / 50 |
| * Includes partial compliance | | | | \$0.00 |
| * Protection works additional \$800 | | | | \$0.00 |
| * Performance solutions additional \$1,000 (up to 2, more than 2 to be negotiated) | | | | \$0.00 |
| * Includes four (4) mandatory inspections - additional inspections \$190 each | | | | \$0.00 |
| | | | | \$0.00 |
| Community Group (Not-for Profit) Building Works - Building Permits | | | | \$0.00 |
| (Discount on Permit fees only. State Government Levy still applies) | Per application | Council | Taxable | Fees negotiated |
| | | | | \$0.00 |
| Levies / Bonds | | | | \$0.00 |
| Building Administration Fund Levy (State Levy) (Applies to all building work over \$10,000) | Per application | Council | Taxable | (value of work x 0.00128) |
| Bond / Guarantee for Re-erection of buildings | Per application | Council | Taxable | The lesser of the cost of the building work or \$5,000 |
| Council Infrastructure (Asset) Protection Deposit | Per application | Council | Taxable | \$700.00 |
| | | | | |
| Inspections | | | | |
| Additional Mandatory Inspections | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$190.00 |
| Compliance Inspection | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Compliance Inspections of Swimming Pool and Spa Barriers | | | | |
| First Inspection | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$300.00 |
| Re-inspection | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$185.00 |
| * Includes compliance certificate - FORM 23 or FORM 24 (non-compliance) | | | | |
| * Excludes prescribed lodgements fees | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees) | | | | |
| Swimming Pool / Spa registration fee | Per occasion | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |
| Swimming Pool / Spa records search determination fee | Per occasion | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |
| Lodging a certificate of pool and spa barrier non-compliance | Per occasion | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |



**WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES
2023/24**



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|---|-----------------|---------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| Lodging a certificate of pool and spa barrier compliance | Per occasion | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |
| Report and Consent | | | | |
| Application for report and consent (To build over an easement vested in Council) (Regulation 310, Part 4 – Siting, 513, 515, 604, 802 and 806) | Per occasion | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |
| Application for report and consent (Regulation 610 - Location of Point of Stormwater Discharge) | Per occasion | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |
| Application for report and consent (Section 29a – Demolition of Building) | Per occasion | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |
| Farm shed exemption application | Per occasion | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |
| Request for Information | | | | |
| Requests for information (Property Information Requests) (Regulation 326(1), 326(2) and 326(3)) | Per hour | Statutory | Taxable | Prescribed fee |
| Request for Professional Advice / Consultation (Minimum one-hour charge. Charged by the hour) | Per hour | Council | Taxable | \$175.00 |
| File Retrieval / Search | | | | |
| File Retrieval – Minor Document (for example, Copy of Building / Occupancy Permit/ Plans) | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$45.00 |
| File Retrieval / Search (for example, Permit History) | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$120.00 |
| Amended Building Permit | | | | |
| Amended Building Permit - Minor Alterations | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$170.00 |
| Amended Building Permit - Major Alterations | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$280.00 |
| Time Extension – Building Permit (first request) | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$290.00 |
| Time Extension – Building Permit (second request) | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$330.00 |
| Time Extension – Building Permit (third request) | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$370.00 |
| Refunds | | | | |
| Withdrawn Application – Permit Lodged Not Yet Assessed | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$360.00 |
| Withdrawn Application – Permit Lodged Not Yet Issued | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | 40% of fees (Minimum \$480.00) |
| Permit Cancellation – After Permit Issued (Refund only for inspections not carried out based on inspection fees at time of cancellation) | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | Permit Fees Retained |
| Permit Cancellation – After Permit Expired | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | No Refund |
| Lodgement Fee | | | | |
| Lodgement fee for Private Building Surveyors (Submission of Section 80, 30, and 73) (lodged via hard copy / email / facsimile) | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | Prescribed Fee |
| Lodgement fee for Private Building Surveyors (Submission of Section 80, 30, and 73) (lodged wholly online via Greenlight only) | Per occasion | Council | | No charge |
| Events | | | | |
| Place of Public Entertainment (POPE) Occupancy Permit | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$400.00 |
| Temporary Siting Approval or Temporary Structure Inspection | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$260.00 |
| Entertainment / Event Consideration, Notification, and Approval - No Permit Required | Per occasion | Council | Taxable | \$20.00 |
| Note: All fees may be negotiated based on volume and economies of scale and scope. | | | | |
| Waste & Recycling | | | | |
| Transfer Station Fees | | | | |
| Green Waste | | | | |
| Per cubic metre (level 6 x 4 trailer/ute load) | Per cubic metre | Council | Taxable | \$15.00 |
| Car boot load | Per load | Council | Taxable | \$5.00 |
| Contaminated Green Waste per cubic metre | Per cubic metre | Council | Taxable | \$30.00 |
| Hard Waste | | | | |
| Per cubic metre (level 6 x 4 trailer/ute load) | Per cubic metre | Council | Taxable | \$30.00 |
| Car boot load | Per load | Council | Taxable | \$15.00 |



**WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES
2023/24**



| Description | Basis | Nature of Fee | GST | 2023/24 INC GST |
|---|----------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| General household waste - 120 litre bin | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$15.00 |
| General household waste - 240 litre bin | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$20.00 |
| Tyres | | | | |
| Light - tyre only | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$8.00 |
| Light - with rim | Per Item | Council | Taxable | \$16.00 |
| Medium - tyre only | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$16.00 |
| Medium - with rim | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$30.00 |
| Heavy - tyre only | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$35.00 |
| Heavy - with rim | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$70.00 |
| Tractor - up to 1.5m diameter tyre only | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$145.00 |
| Tractor - over 1.5m diameter tyre only | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$290.00 |
| Tractor - over 1.5m diameter with rim | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$370.00 |
| Loads Concrete/Builders Rubble etc | Per cubic metre | Council | Taxable | \$50.00 |
| Clean concrete | Per cubic metre | Council | Taxable | \$50.00 |
| Recyclables (if sorted) | Per load | Council | | |
| Mattresses/Couches | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$40.00 |
| Prescribed waste (Asbestos - must be wrapped) | Per 10m ² | Council | Taxable | \$20.00 |
| E-Waste | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$2.00 |
| E-Waste - Screens | Per item | Council | Taxable | \$5.00 |
| Kerbside Waste Collection Service | | | | |
| Urban 120 litre bin collection - annual charge - weekly collection | Yearly Fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$327.00 |
| Rural 120 litre bin collection - annual charge - weekly collection | Yearly Fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$316.00 |
| Commercial 240 litre bin collection - annual charge - weekly collection | Yearly Fee | Council | Non Taxable | \$425.00 |
| Replacement Bins | | | | |
| 120 litre bin | Per bin | Council | Taxable | \$56.00 |
| 240 litre bin | Per bin | Council | Taxable | \$90.00 |
| Recycling Bins - Standard | Per bin | Council | Taxable | \$46.00 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |



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14 Corporate and Community Services

14.1 West Wimmera Tourism Strategic Plan

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Community Development and Tourism Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

Council seeks a tourism strategy that provides opportunities for council and business to capitalise on the tourist market in Victoria and southeast South Australia

The project brief is to prepare a tourism strategy that incorporates the whole of the WWSC (West Wimmera Shire Council) equally

The expected outcomes include:

- Strategic way forward for Tourism operators in the West Wimmera area

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Stafford Strategy (consultant) has provided Council and Community the opportunity to provide input into the West Wimmera Shire Tourism Strategic Plan. This plan, in final Draft form has been submitted to Council by the Consultant at the March full meeting of Council. The Consultant provided a full briefing of the report at this meeting and no amendments were required

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for the Council to mitigate or eliminate regarding the proposal.

Legislative Implications

Not Applicable

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:

Tourism 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.
- 1.4 Deliver quality services that support community life.
- 1.5 Support and encourage our events, cultural and arts communities.
- 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.
- 2.2 Promote the Shire as a great place to visit, live and invest.
- 2.3 Facilitate the development of the local economy and jobs.

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.

Goal 4 – Good Governance

- 4.1 Ensure long term financial sustainability.
- 4.3 Advocate for our community on issues important to our future.

Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values

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

Uniting - 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”.

Collaboration - 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.

Communication Implications



Consultation has already been undertaken in development of the plans

Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been undertaken in relation to this matter in accordance with the Gender Equality Act (2020).

Conclusion

The draft report has been through consultation with Councillors, the Community and Council Tourism Staff. Feedback on the report has been positive.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. **Adopt the attached West Wimmera Shire Council Tourism Strategic Plan.**
2. **That Council Officers will annually present any proposed actions under the West Wimmera Shire Council Tourism Strategic Plan for consideration and potential inclusion in the Annual Plan and Budget.**

Attachments

1. PDF Copy.1 [14.1.1 - 60 pages]

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WEST WIMMERA TOURISM STRATEGY

PREPARED BY: STAFFORD STRATEGY
FOR: WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

**STAFFORD
STRATEGY**



**THIRD
DRAFT**



Date of last modification: 21/02/23

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Abbreviations

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| CAPEX | Capital Expenditure |
| COVID-19 | Coronavirus disease |
| EOI | Expression of Interest |
| F&B | Food and beverage |
| IVS | International Visitor Survey |
| LGA | Local Government Area |
| NPS | Net Promoter Score |
| NVS | National Visitor Survey |
| PV | Parks Victoria |
| RDV | Regional Development Victoria |
| VV | Visit Victoria |
| YE | Year End |
| WDA | Wimmera Development Association Inc. |

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Image credit: iStock, Descent, National Park, 100%

Part 1: Executive Summary



West Wimmera Tourism Strategy

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1.1. A Tourism Strategy for West Wimmera

This Tourism Strategy (the Strategy) for West Wimmera Shire (the Shire) is set within a dynamic environment and rapidly changing visitor economy environment. COVID-19 has had major implications on the visitor economy and the way visitors travel and despite positive recovery forecasts for the short to medium term, some challenges persist driven by broader macro forces such as the emergence of new strains, airline route viability, business confidence and workforce shortages.

However, despite this, COVID-19 has also provided the visitor economy with the opportunity to pause and reset: creating opportunities to innovate, upskill and refresh products. It has also resulted in a refocus on the domestic market, which, for many regional areas, including West Wimmera,

It takes a local view while being cognisant of the broader visitor economy planning work being undertaken by Visit Victoria, Regional Development Victoria, Wimmera Development Association (WDA) and other state government agencies.

WDA is the peak economic development organisation for the Wimmera Southern Mallee region - encompassing the Horsham Rural City municipality, Hindmarsh,

Northern Grampians, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack shires.

It provides a framework to support the ongoing development and growth of West Wimmera's visitor economy, ensuring it is set up to grow as a sustainable and appealing sector to locals and visitors alike. It does this by:

- supporting the development of a collaborative environment between industry, the wider community, the indigenous community, and government (at all levels) and one that supports businesses to thrive;
- leveraging the existing strengths of the Shire including the natural environment and elements of the built environment, along with its people, to leverage sustainable and desired growth of the visitor economy;
- identifying and supporting the development of new and enhancement of existing experiences and attractions, with a focus on achieving more commissionable products rather than free experiences;
- encouraging operators to work collaboratively as a region where the cumulative mix of products can offer a more appealing proposition to the visitor experience;

- seeking to improve the resilience, skills, and networking opportunities for the region's operators through training and collaboration; and
- connecting West Wimmera with its neighbours and partners, working to leverage these connections for the mutual benefit of the community, the tourism sector and visitors.

Currently, West Wimmera is home to some 4,000 residents and covers an area of 9,108 square kilometres.

This Strategy also recognises the vital role that partnerships between government, industry, and community have, to leverage emerging opportunities. It will contribute to building West Wimmera as a sustainable and exciting visitor destination.

Significantly, this Strategy avoids creating a wish list of opportunities and activations; rather it deliberately focuses on activations and improvements which can be achieved in a realistic timeframe.

This Strategy provides industry, Council and community partners who contribute to West Wimmera's visitor economy, with a road map, strategic direction, and high-level actions for implementation.

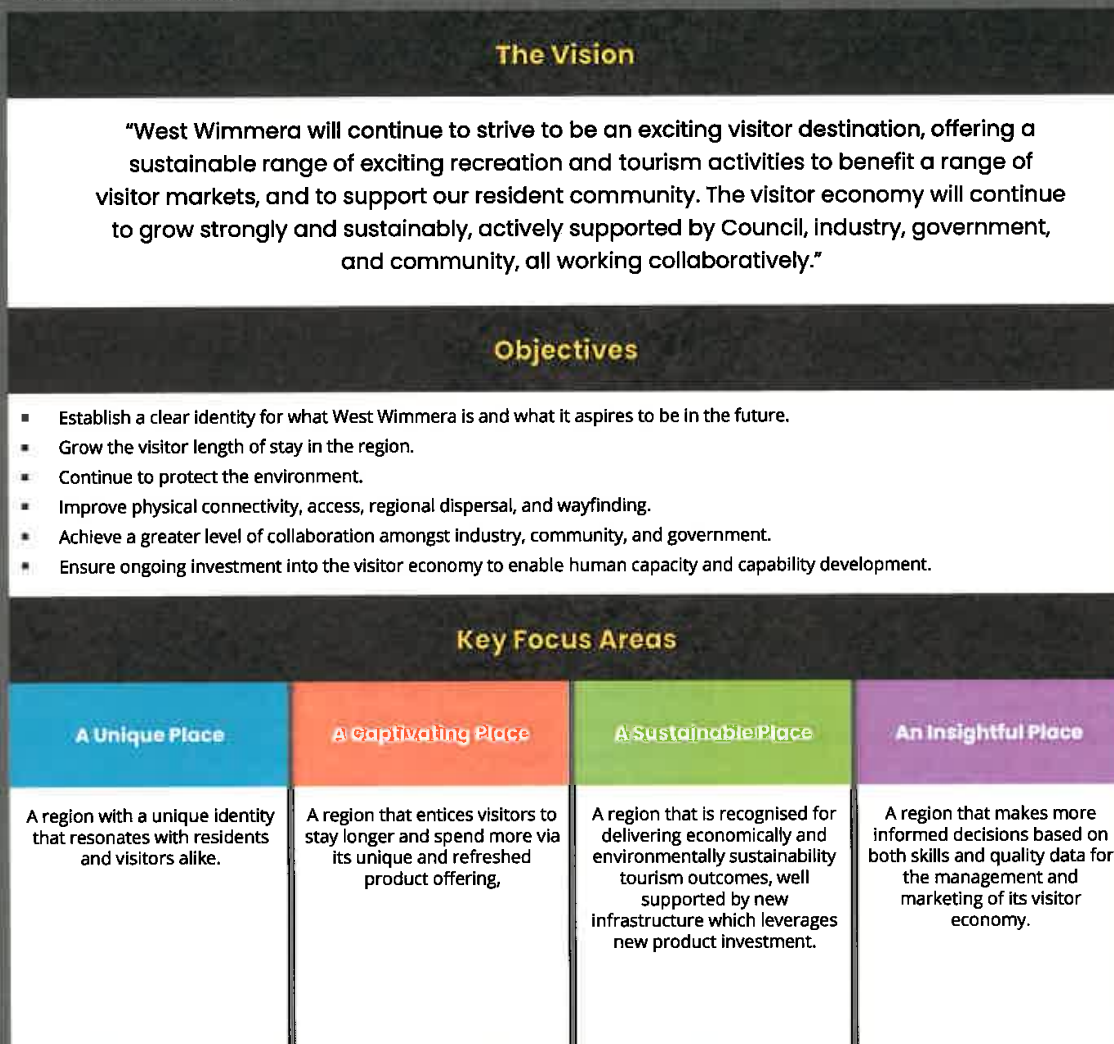
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1.2. Strategic Framework

The following strategic framework guided the development of this Strategy and should be used to guide and direct tourism development and marketing in the West Wimmera region going forward.

Figure 1: Strategic Framework



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1.3. Recommendations

A total of **50** recommendations have been identified for this Strategy. These include a range of what have been termed “strategic initiatives” and “development projects”. **Strategic initiatives** reflect those recommendations that are required to sustainably manage and grow a visitor destination and, while not being major “ribbon-cutting” projects, they are necessary to ensure a successful destination management approach is achieved. **Development projects**, on the other hand, reflect physical projects such as new or enhanced accommodation, tourism attractions or events (for example).

Table 1: The full list of recommendations

| A Unique Place A region with a unique identity that resonates with residents and visitors alike. | A Captivating Place A region that entices visitors to stay longer and that locals love more than ever. |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agri-tourism/farm tourism strategy (link with existing town markets) - ♦ ▪ Assess West Wimmera destination brand - ♦ ▪ Development and marketing of bridle trails on State Forest land - ♦ ▪ Indigenous tourism cultural program (digital drive circuits and walking tours) ▪ Pet-friendly accommodation focus ▪ Silo art tourism strategy - ♦ ▪ West Wimmera lake marketing and water levels app - ♦ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Apsley motorsports expansion and Edenhope Motorcycle Park ▪ Bike trail link (10km) between Lake Bringalbert and Lake Charlegrark ▪ Bird and frog-watching tours ▪ Boutique whisky, tequila, or vodka distillery; craft brewery or cider house ▪ Caravan/camping marketing campaign (family market & couples) - ♦ ▪ Evening events (light show, outdoor cinema) ▪ Extended boardwalk from Apsley to Lake Newlands ▪ Farming/horticultural agri shows consolidation to strengthen their proposition (rotational across all towns) ▪ Formalisation of regional drive and motorbike trails ▪ Harrow fishing, kayaking and river walking trail ▪ Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon (assess extending the length of the event) ▪ Mini triathlon event (Goroke) ▪ Murray cod fishing competition ▪ Pop-up seasonal food outlets (centred at towns & lakes) ▪ Position Apsley as the Western Gateway to the region - ♦ ▪ Promotion of the Henley on Lake Wallace Event along with the greater promotion of all events - ♦ ▪ Self-guided heritage and historic tours ▪ Sensory playground trail (leveraging existing playgrounds in Goroke and Kaniva) ▪ Serviceton Railway Station heritage attraction/event venue ▪ Serviceton Reservoir site infrastructure improvement (picnic tables, signage, designated caravan parking) ▪ Upgraded and expanded cabin capacity at lake-side holiday parks ▪ West Wimmera 4WD courses (Little Desert) ▪ West Wimmera orchid tours ▪ West Wimmera wetlands kayaking journeys |
| A Sustainable Place A region recognised for its action on delivering sustainability. | An Insightful Place A region that makes more informed decisions in the management and marketing of its visitor economy. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completion of Kaniva Wetlands boardwalk, including camping area, swimmable wetlands, and water retention strategy ▪ Formalised caravan and trailer parking on the main street of Kaniva - ♦ ▪ Freedom camping site gold coin entry (policy change) - ♦ ▪ Johnny Mullagh Memorial & Caravan Park dump site (Harrow) - ♦ ▪ Lake Bringalbert and Dunbopperty Swamp development (pop-up F&B facility, bird-watching hides, upgraded picnic tables, nature play area) ▪ Lake Ratzcastle designation of sites and upgrade of camp kitchen ▪ Lake Wallace recreation infrastructure (new fishing pontoon, floating swimming pontoon, upgrade/extend boat ramps, signage upgrades, bird hides, sandy beach area) as per Strategic Plan ▪ National parks and state forest parks safety signage (audit) - ♦ ▪ Planning scheme change to encourage tourism development for urban areas - ♦ ▪ Worker accommodation hostels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual Council support program communication workshop - ♦ ▪ Annual volunteer appreciation event - ♦ ▪ B&B planning scheme workshops - ♦ ▪ Digital literacy operator training program - ♦ ▪ Improved visitor statistics & insights - ♦ ▪ Retailer and business customer care training program - ♦ ▪ Tourism business growth workshops - ♦ ▪ West Wimmera events guidelines document - ♦ ▪ West Wimmera shire-wide signage audit - ♦ |

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1.4. Priority Recommendations

The following provides the suggested priority recommendations to be focused on. They offer a starting point for activation of this Tourism Strategy as it is impractical to try and activate too many projects at the same time, noting there is great diversity in their scale, type of development, location, and their timeframe for activation. The methodology for the selection of these priority recommendations is in Section 3.3 of this Tourism Strategy.

Table 2: The priority recommendations

| | B&B planning scheme workshops ♦ | Boutique whisky, tequila, or vodka distillery; craft brewery or cider house ▲ | Caravan/camping marketing campaign (family market & couples) ♦ | Formalisation of regional drive and motorbike trails ▲ | Formalised caravan and trailer parking on the main street of Kaniva ♦ |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| Rationale | It is suggested that Council look to host a series of public workshops to help those interested in the community understand what the basic requirements are that one must fulfil to establish a B&B including planning rules at a local and state level. | The potential exists to leverage the Shire's quality grain farming etc. and look to introduce a smaller-scale distillery (vodka, whisky, or tequila, noting there is already a gin distillery in Casterton) or possibly a cider house or craft beer brewery. This could potentially utilise a re-purposed industrial building (a depot etc), | If West Wimmera Shire wants to remain competitive and leverage its upgraded facilities, it needs to take a proactive stance and develop a targeted and strong marketing campaign to attract more visitors to West Wimmera for those niche markets that are major users of holiday parks. | The development of formalised itineraries to be marketed to the large number of car and bike (motor bikes, mountain bikes, road bikes) clubs throughout South Australia, Victoria and potentially further afield, encouraging a range of full-day, single and two-to-three-day overnight circuits for visitors to choose from. It is important to give consumers options for drive circuits but this needs to be balanced with the supply side capacity of overnight accommodation options. | There is a need to consider the installation of formalised caravan and trailer parking on the main street, along with clearly marked signage to indicate these spaces to make it easy for those visitors to see where these spaces are. |
| Actions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate a series of 2-3 workshops for local interested community members and other parties. Facilitated by Council and offering a ½ day workshop in major towns. Development of a check sheet to encourage informed and more structured approaches to planning for bed and breakfast style of accommodation approvals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake site assessment to determine potential sites that could be suited for the development of a distillery and/or the retrofit of an existing building. Develop a pre-feasibility assessing the viability of the proposition. If feasible, develop an EOI and take this to market promoting the concept to potential investors and developers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a targeted marketing campaign by Council. Working in tandem with caravan and camping associations in Victoria, South Australia and potentially other states and territories. Working with other major sector industry stakeholders including caravan clubs and other user groups to raise awareness. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a series of formalised itineraries to market to car and bike clubs throughout SA and Victoria covering full-day, single and two-to-three-day overnight circuits. Collate a list of car and bike clubs including motor bikes, mountain bikes, and road bikes throughout SA and Victoria. Develop marketing collateral promoting these circuits and distribute them to car clubs. Distribute marketing collateral to the database of car and bike clubs. Brand and market the drive trails via the West Wimmera Shire official tourism website. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate 10-20 formal parking bays on or close to the main street of Kaniva for caravan and trailer parking. Ensure signposting of these is provided. Introduce highway signage sufficiently far in advance of Kaniva to inform caravaners etc of available parking spaces. |

♦ = strategic initiative | ▲ = development project

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| | Lake Bringalbert and Dunboperty Swamp development ▲ | Lake Wallace recreation infrastructure ▲ | Upgraded and expanded cabin capacity at lake-side holiday parks ▲ | West Wimmera lake marketing and water levels app ♦ | West Wimmera shire-wide signage audit ♦ |
|------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| Rationale | To elevate the profile of this site and increase recreational opportunities for locals and visitors to the site, the potential exists to consider investigating the introduction of a pop-up F&B facility, the installation of bird-watching hides, upgraded picnic table facilities as well as the installation of a nature play area. | Advocate for the implementation of tourism-based initiatives from the Lake Wallace Strategic Plan subject to funding opportunities) including a new floating pontoon, upgrading boat ramps, a new fishing pontoon, upgraded beach swimming area, upgraded bird hide, new signage, Increased caravan park capacity, new Aboriginal cultural heritage material as well as the collection registration of historically significant sites. | Over the short term, look to introduce additional cabin options at the Shire's caravan parks to offer a critical mass of cabin products. Over the medium-longer term, advocate for the development of a destination holiday park in the Shire to target the higher-yielding family-based caravan and camping market. | To ensure visitors and locals are provided with accurate and up-to-date information on water body levels and safety information, the potential exists to develop a West Wimmera lake marketing and water levels app that can be used as the one-stop, trusted authority on water levels, rather than relying on the various sources of information that must be used currently. | A signage audit should be undertaken to identify signage gaps; ensure a consistent approach to signage is applied; sites where superfluous signage exists (as some sites currently have multiple signs performing the same purpose); and assess the need for multi-lingual signage in certain locations for the future. |
| Actions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with PV, undertake an assessment to look at appropriate upgrades to Lake Bringalbert and Dunboperty Swamp including bird-watching hides, picnic table facilities and a nature play area. Assess potential grant funding streams that could be applied to for works. Work with PV to determine the potential for a mobile pop-up F&B operator to establish seasonally on site. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess potential grant funding streams that could be applied to complete the works identified in the Lake Wallace Strategic Plan, including a floating pontoon, boat ramp upgrades, a fishing pontoon, a sandy beach swimming area, bird hides, signage etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the short-medium term, assess potential grant streams that could be applied for to introduce a further 6-8 cabins at each caravan park throughout the Shire. In the longer-term, complete a pre-feasibility assessing the viability of a new destination holiday park within the Shire. Complete a site assessment investigating potential sites where a destination holiday park could be suitably located. If shown to be viable, take pre-feasibility to potential major destination holiday park operators to gauge interest. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a state government grant to develop an app for informing on lake water levels and facilities. Engage appropriate skilled app development company. Monitor and update data on the app on a monthly basis. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a state government funding grant to undertake a full Shire signage audit to cover all directional signage and all interpretative signage. Assess where new signs are required. Secure state government funding grant to design and develop new signage and then introduce skins over existing signs where possible along with additional signage. |

♦ = strategic initiative | ▲ = development project

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1.5. Next Steps

This Tourism Strategy acknowledges the aspirations of industry, Council, and community for West Wimmera's visitor economy. This illustrated the need for an integrated approach that:

- supports sustainable growth for the Shire's visitor economy;
- produces a pathway that is realistic and achievable;
- encourages community support and ongoing community social licence to avoid conflict; and
- offers a partnership approach with industry, community and government agencies that encourages a better understanding of needs and values while also enabling opportunities for product development and associated economic uplift (employment, investment etc.).

Many of the recommendations identified within this Strategy build on identified product gaps and aim to offer value-added elements to support the Shire's growth and ongoing sustainability.

To successfully activate and deliver this Tourism Strategy, the following is suggested.

- We note that although Wimmera Mallee Tourism (an arm of Wimmera Mallee Development Corporation) has previously been the regional tourism entity covering the tourism requirements of 4 shire councils, this entity is potentially closing later in 2023. Negotiation with Grampians Tourism, who is expected to take over this role will be required and council should liaise with Grampians Tourism to start to identify promotional programs especially which West Wimmera can leverage into.
- This Strategy covers the entire West Wimmera LGA, so the focus is the entire Shire and the creation of initiatives that can extend across it: *the strength of the Shire is the sum of its parts*. This Strategy, therefore, deliberately avoids separating initiatives for each town.
- Although priority recommendations to support the sustainable growth of the West Wimmera visitor economy have been identified, major stakeholders (under the direction of the Council), should initially only select 3-5 recommendations to drive the Tourism Strategy as the top priorities for the short-medium term (acknowledging that other initiatives can be added to over time once the priority short term projects are already activated).

- The delivery of new tourism projects identified within this Strategy will likely require funding for feasibility study analyses and business cases. Funding should be identified and set aside for allowing at least the top 3 priority recommendations to move to the next stage of development, whether the funding is coming from public or private sector sources.
- There will also be an ongoing budget required for marketing, covering tourism promotional campaigns, and offering the chance to leverage promotional funds from industry partners and the government. To ensure the Shire is well-known and on travel agendas for various domestic and international niche visitor markets, a tourism marketing campaign is required to help build up the region's profile so it can attract visitor interest, especially from Victoria and South Australia. Without a refocus, the region risks remaining a very regional-centric day visitor market. Any new promotional campaign, however, will need to be well supported by refreshed existing products, new products as suggested within this Strategy, and with a strong focus on products that can help grow an overnight, rather than a day visitor market.
- Destination events and festivals will also require a dedicated budget to ensure they can be maintained and to enable them to sustainably grow.

West Wimmera is an emerging tourism destination that has considerable potential, but to reach this it needs new and refreshed tourism products to appeal to target markets.

Taking smaller manageable next steps is going to be crucial in delivering desired outcomes. This will require a greater resourcing commitment from Council especially, to help grow the visitor economy sustainably, and to offer confidence to the industry and community that positive outcomes are able to be seen in a realistic timeframe.

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Part 2: Where Are We Now

West Wimmera Tourism Strategy 8

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2.1. Preparing this Tourism Strategy

2.1.1. Overview

Stafford Strategy (Stafford) was commissioned by West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) to develop a Tourism Strategy (the Strategy) for West Wimmera Shire (the Shire). The overarching aims of the Strategy are:

- to encourage demand for the Shire's visitor experiences and services;
- to improve the quality and range of experiences and services; and
- to generate higher visitor satisfaction whilst encouraging longer stays and return visits.

This Strategy is written as a "road map" to rally purpose, concentrate effort and inform all stakeholders of what the tourism

development opportunities are for the Shire. In turn, this can deliver on the vision and goals identified as part of this Strategy.

There are many building block requirements to be put in place first before other initiatives can be successfully rolled out. For this reason, some of the above outcomes desired are deliberately not focussed on, if in fact building block stages are needed first.

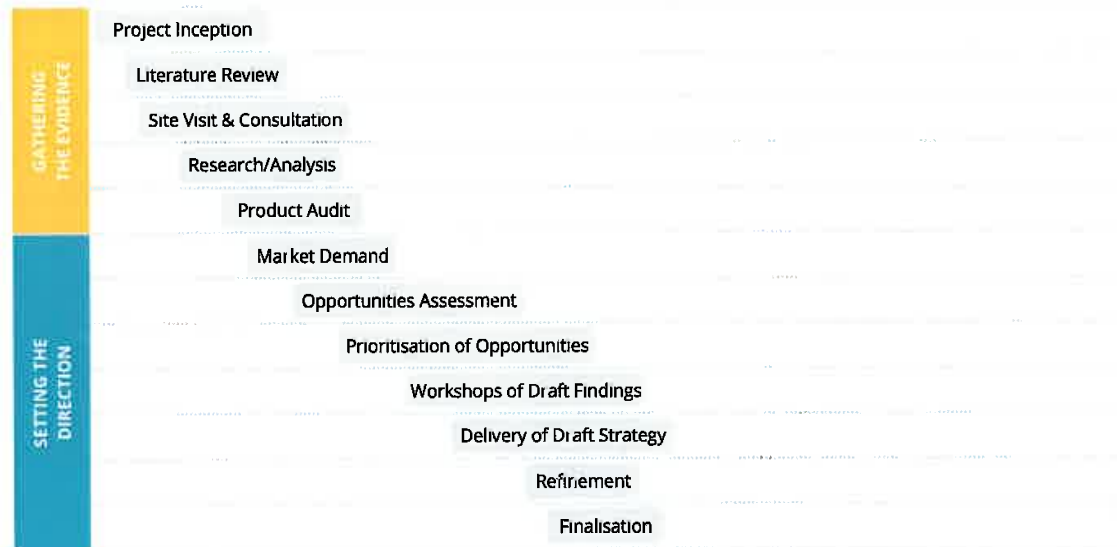
2.1.2. Industry and Community Consultation

The input received from the community and industry was invaluable and provided a key resource for the Strategy's preparation. The following consultation was undertaken.

- Industry consultations (one-on-one sessions) along with several workshops and focus group sessions with a variety of stakeholders across the Shire.
- Ongoing discussion with groups such as town progressive associations and local community committees.
- A community survey was coordinated by Council.

Working alongside those directly involved in the visitor economy across the Shire, this Strategy was developed via a 12-stage process, which is outlined in Figure 2. We wish to express our thanks to all of those within the Shire especially, who generously gave up time to be involved in the process.

Figure 2: The process followed



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2.2. About West Wimmera Shire

The West Wimmera Shire covers approximately 9,108 square kilometres and is situated along the Victoria and South Australia border, about halfway between Melbourne and Adelaide. To the north of the Shire is Mildura Rural City Council, to the east are the municipalities of Horsham and Hindmarsh, to the south are the municipalities of Glenelg and Southern Grampians, and along the western side of the shire is the border of South Australia.

The Big Desert Wilderness Park lies in the north of the Shire with the Glenelg River in the south and Little Desert National Park and Lake Charlegrark in the centre. Along the west of the Shire, the great 4WD Border Track trails the boundary between Victoria and South Australia.

The Shire has a plethora of wetlands and lakes – comprising an estimated 25% of Victoria's inland wetlands.

The main townships of the Shire are Edenhope, Kaniva, Harrow, Goroke, and Apsley, with smaller townships of Serviceton, Chetwynd, Dergholm, Lillimur and Miram.

Edenhope lies on the Wimmera Highway and is built on the banks of Lake Wallace. With a population of around 930 residents, Edenhope is also the southern administrative hub of the Shire. Kaniva is the northern hub with a population of approximately 800 people. Located on the Western Highway and the Melbourne-Adelaide Railway, Kaniva is a popular stopping place for people travelling between Melbourne and Adelaide, and we note that approximately 800,000 vehicle movements (in both directions) occur annually.

From a visitor economy perspective, the Shire has a strong agricultural-focused economy and is an emerging visitor destination. The focus of the visitor economy is primarily on the various lakes and wetland areas, which enable visitors to camp and recreate (fishing, jet skiing, swimming, boating etc.). There are limited commissionable tourism products (paid) and a lot of free 'things to do' including cycling, walking trails, water ways and free camping experiences. The Shire has a focus on recreation tourism products which offers a base to build from. Figure 3 outlines to core existing product pillars that the Shire's visitor economy has.

Figure 3: Product Pillars



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2.3. West Wimmera Shire Council's role

The role of the Council is to coordinate tourism-related strategies and projects that will promote and achieve growth and prominence of the visitor economy across the Shire. These need to be in line with the objectives, strategies, and commitments of the Victorian State Government in particular. This needs to be achieved in partnership and with the support of other government agencies, progressive associations; and tourism and allied business operators throughout the Shire and First Nation Peoples.

Although this Strategy has been developed as an initiative of the Council, its role will be one of ongoing coordination, advocacy, and support. Implementation will be in the hands of the Council, in partnership with tourism industry stakeholders and the community.



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2.4. What We Were Told

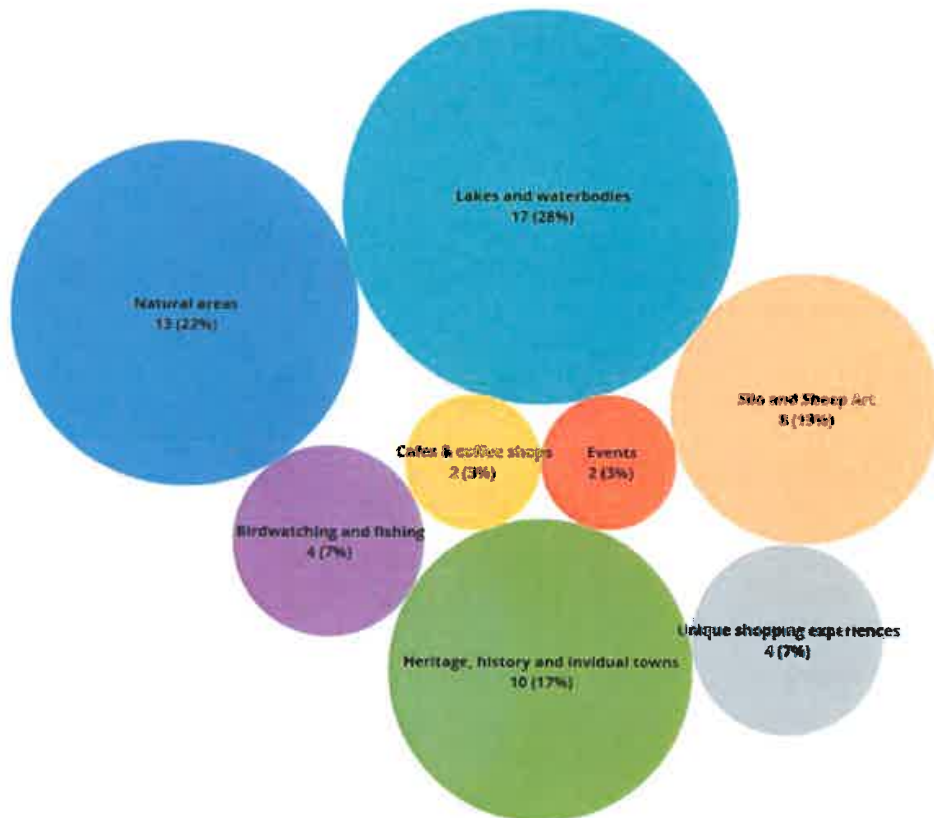
To enable broader stakeholder input into this Tourism Strategy, a survey was developed and distributed via Council. The survey was tourism-focused and was open for several months and garnered 20 responses in total. The full survey questions are included in Appendix 1.

In addition to the survey, broad consultation was undertaken across the various communities in the Shire. Workshops were held in Edenhope, Kaniva, Apsley, Goroke and Harrow and community and industry were invited to attend to provide input.

The following provides a summary of the survey results, supplemented with additional findings, where appropriate from the stakeholder workshops that were undertaken.

2.4.1. Top tourism products/experiences

Respondents were asked, "What do you see as the top three tourism products and tourism experiences currently?". The responses were clustered into themes and the most common response was lakes and waterbodies, followed by natural areas and heritage, history and individual towns.



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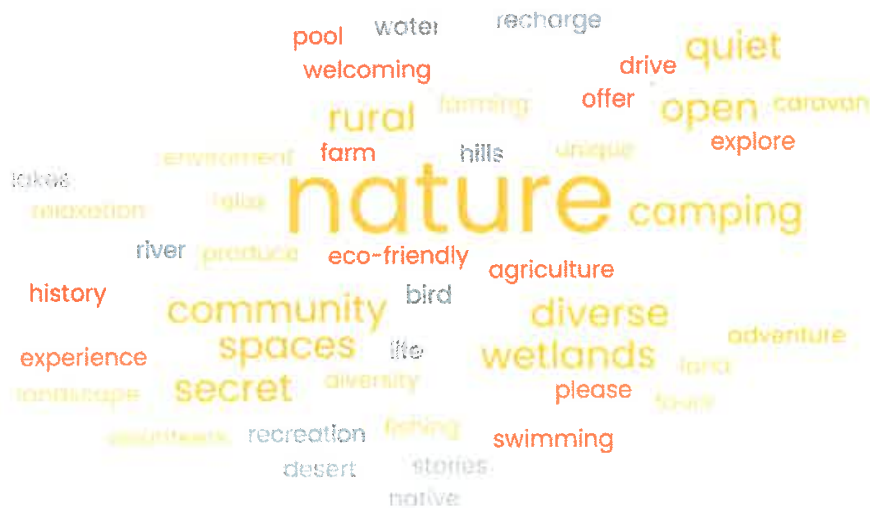
2.4.2. Tourism experiences that are missing in the Shire

When asked “what tourism products and experiences do you think are missing currently from West Wimmera Shire?”, many responses were focused on accommodation, food and beverage, a lack of experiences generally and the need to focus on agri-tourism experiences.



2.4.3. Aspirations

Respondents were asked, “what should our region be aspiring to be as a visitor destination?”. There was very much a focus on nature, community, open spaces, rural and agriculture.



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Respondents were also asked to "look ahead five years, what should tourism ideally look like for our region". The focus was directed on eco-tourism, agri-tourism, providing employment opportunities, housing for workers/locals and authenticity.



2.4.4. Major challenges for the Shire

Major challenges for the Shire in growing the visitor economy were considered to be a lack of infrastructure, lack of accommodation, marketing budgets, ability to attract investment, food and beverage options/diversity and hours, and parochialism.



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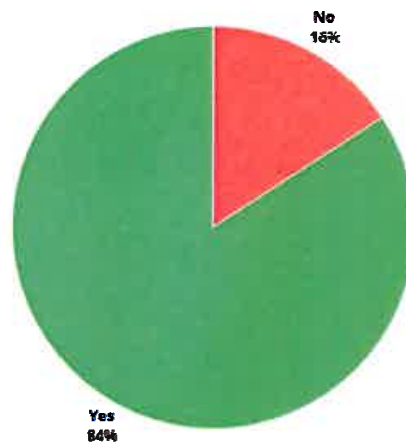


2.4.5. The need for more visitors

Respondents were asked whether the Shire should be "encouraging far more visitors to our region?". The majority (84%) felt that the Shire should be aiming to attract more visitors.

Respondents who responded "yes" to the above questions, were then asked how they felt the best way to achieve this would be. The following suggestions were received.

- TV ads Improve caravan park
- Add some unique artwork or features around Lake
- Kaniva Visitor Information Centre and the Windmill corner were designed to encourage people to stop for visitor services (toilets and coffee etc). This was also to promote the Kaniva story of agriculture and surrounding attractions. Several visitor hotspots are also identified and should be leveraged to promote the region.
- Advertising, communicating with businesses for ideas.
- Cheaper fuel, better accessibility on entry to particularly Kaniva
- Accommodation options that encourage people to break their trip and stay here or meet up with people here
- Lots of ideas in the community are often stopped and not supported at council/building planning consultant levels due to costs.
- TV ads, Social media
- Improve visitor facilities so visitors can have a positive experience and want to return. See e.g., Thargomindah caravan park, and Mitchell council hot springs as top-rated visitor experiences.
- West Wimmera is a pleasant "travelling through" destination.
- Determine USP. Be less parochial
- Enhance the web site with a Turismo video.
- Think outside the towns!
- Promote the lakes and swamps in the area. Get on top of the roadside weeds so the beauty isn't muddled.
- Better brochures, and websites. Making our water ways more visitor friendly with signage. Maybe some art, sculptures around lakes and tracks.
- Use all platforms available ~ use the web sites, Facebook etc. Specialist visitor publications/sites.

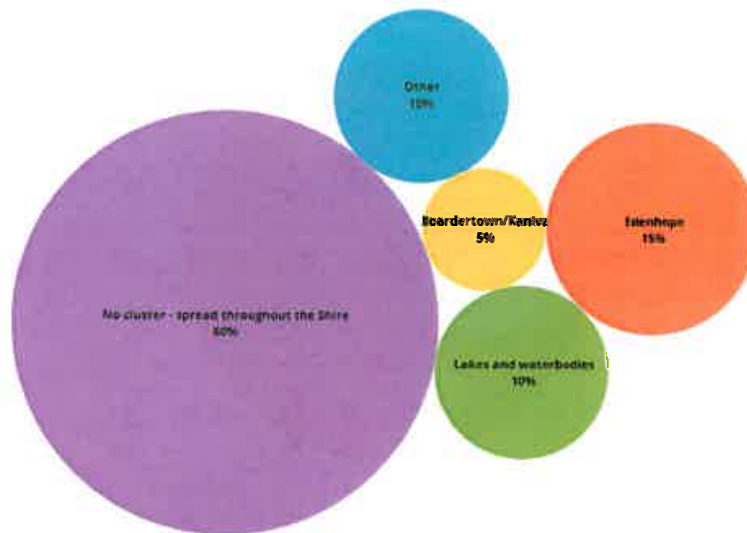


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2.4.6. Clustering visitor experiences

Respondents were asked, "if we were to cluster visitor experiences and attractions in one primary area of our region, where would they be located?". The majority (60%) preferred a non-clustered approach and wish to see tourism development spread throughout the Shire.



2.4.7. What respondents don't want to see introduced

Respondents were asked, "what wouldn't you like to see introduced by way of new products and experiences?". Respondents were very much focused on those things that are artificial, expensive, and considered to be highly commercial. There was also a desire to reduce the reliance on volunteer labour as there is an acknowledgement of volunteer burnout.

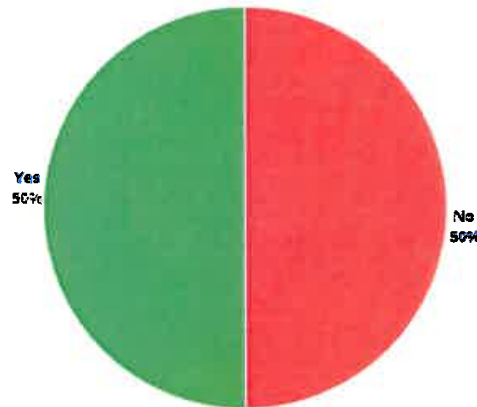


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2.4.8. Free versus paid experiences

Getting the right balance of offering free experiences versus paid/chargeable experiences is important for a visitor economy. Although the Shire does have a far greater number of free versus paid attractions (see Section 2.6.3), respondents were 50/50 as to whether the Shire has enough paid experiences.



Those who answered that the Shire does not have enough paid experiences felt that if more paid experiences could be introduced, they should be focused on farm stays, tours, accommodation, agri-tourism, and guided tours of natural products.



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2.4.9. The Shire's USP

Respondents were then asked what the Shire's USP is compared to other surrounding regions. Responses primarily focused on the Shire's natural assets including wetlands, lakes, and bushland desert along with the Shire's history.



2.4.10. Other Comments

- Town entrances, billboard highway signage, digital media plus brochure and signage including Tolmer Way must be a priority.
- West Wimmera is not a tourist destination, people come for other reasons and enjoy our attractions, but not solely for tourists.
- Need to have a clear understanding from the strategy on what the council's role is around tourism vs regional bodies vs community and business. There are currently differing options on the importance of tourism in West Wimmera, which is fine there just needs to be clear guidelines so every community is aware of where they sit and who is responsible. The more successful communities in the tourism space have been the ones with local initiatives built from the ground up so we also need a way to encourage and inspire this work without the expectation of the council doing it.
- Certain areas of the shire would do well to link with the next shire e.g. Kaniva Goroke to the silo art, and Edenhope Harrow to the wine region in SA
- Look at helping all businesses, including volunteer businesses that put lots into this economy.
- Opportunity to create long-distance cycling and walking trails with good access to food and accommodation options. Linking across borders.
- We are living in "God's pocket" let's share the beauty.
- Be open and think creatively. Partnerships are key in tourism.
- a strong focus on our natural assets will naturally be passed on to our local business. if we focus on the town's only there is not enough to keep people for an extended time
- Why do we want increased tourism when there are so many issues that the locals have?
- I have enjoyed almost 2 years as a member of the tourism committee under the council's direction. Like many, considering, advising, discussing and encouraging the council regarding tourism.

2.5. Our Visitor Profile

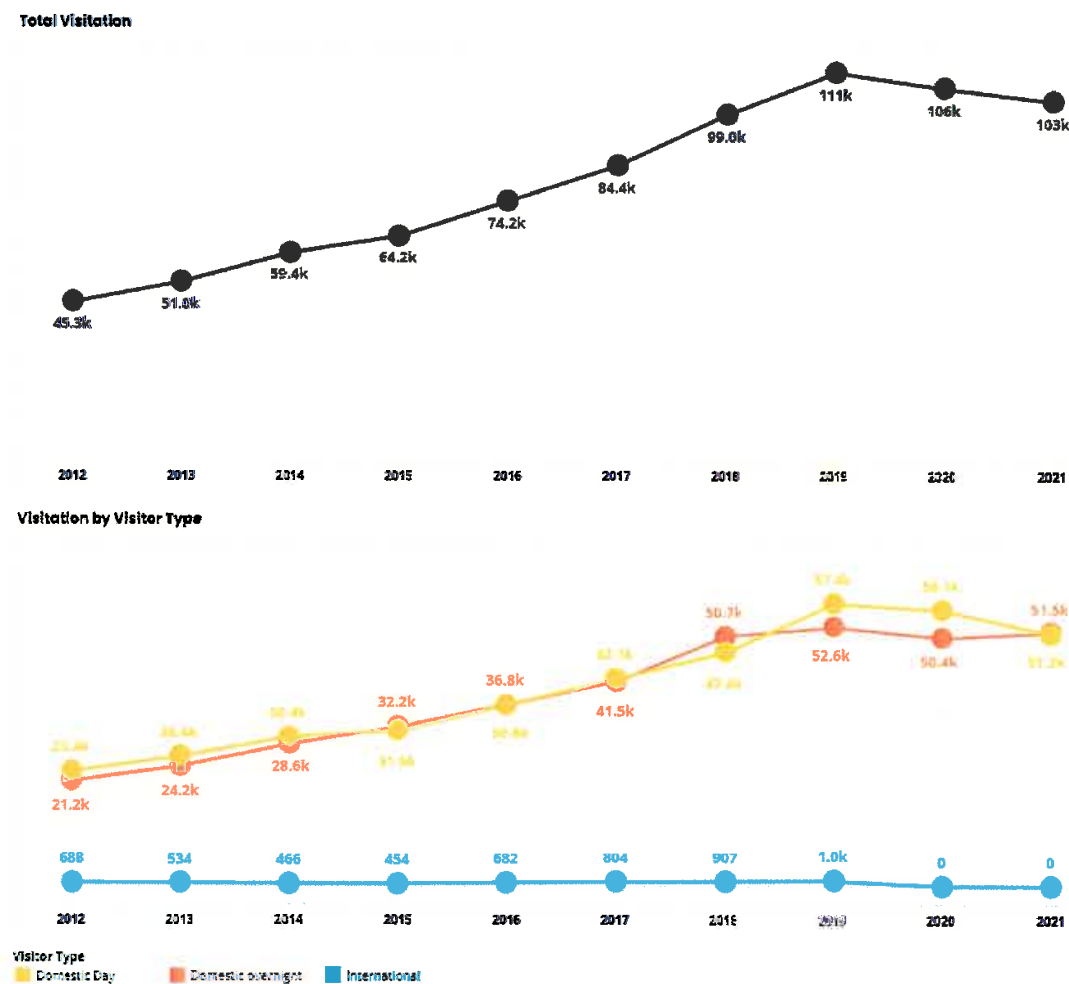
Visitation to West Wimmera has been steadily growing (see Figure 4). Except for the two impacted COVID-19 years of 2020 and 2021, the Shire experienced year-on-year growth, with overall visitation increasing by 141% (65,000 visitors) between 2012 and 2019.

This growth has been driven almost entirely by the domestic visitor market, with domestic day visitation growing by 158% (35,000

visitors) and domestic overnight visitation increasing by 126% (29,000 visitors) between 2012 and 2019.

Despite experiencing a decline in visitation due to COVID-19, falling by 7% between 2019 and 2021, this decrease was fairly minimal when compared with other destinations around the state and further afield that traditionally have had a much stronger reliance on the international visitor market.

Figure 4: Total visitation to West Wimmera Shire, December YE¹



¹ Based on special data request to Tourism Research Australia; National and International Visitor Surveys, Tourism Research Australia. Data is calendar year end, based on four-year averages, with the exception of COVID-19 Impacted year data.

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Figure 5 illustrates the strong domestic market that the Shire attracts, with domestic day and domestic overnight visitors comprising almost all visitors. This domestic market focus has stayed relatively constant over the period assessed (2012 – 2021).

The data also demonstrates that the Shire has traditionally had a stronger domestic day trip market focus. While domestic day trippers do form an important component of a visitor economy, many destinations are seeking to pivot their focus on overnight markets due to their higher-yielding nature as a result of longer dwell time. This Tourism Strategy deliberately focuses on

recommendations and initiatives that may assist in attracting a stronger overnight market to the Shire.

Visitor nights spent in the Shire have also experienced ongoing growth increasing by 202% (104,000 nights) between 2012 and 2019 (Figure 6). The average length of stay in the Shire is around 2.5 nights, with the bulk of nights being spent by domestic overnight visitors.

The ability to significantly grow nights spent in the Shire will be contingent on introducing new and enhanced existing accommodation options including B&Bs, lodges, cabins, pub accommodation and holiday parks.

Figure 5: Visitor type to West Wimmera Shire, December YE (2012, 2019 and 2021)²

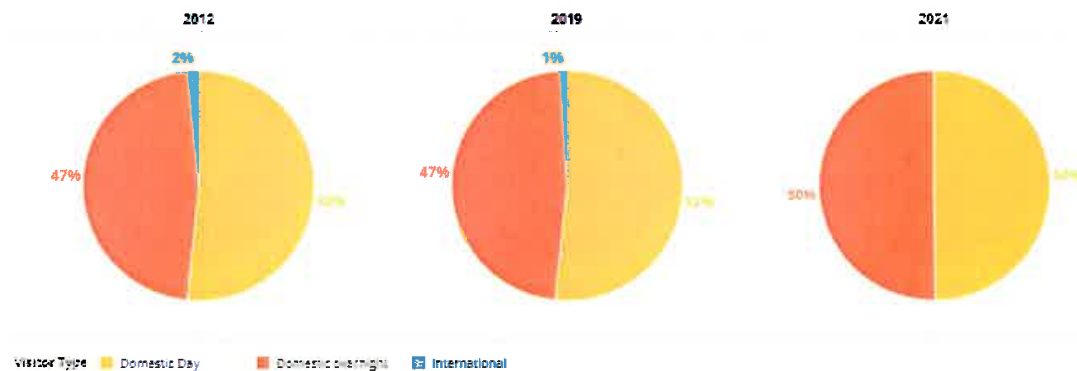
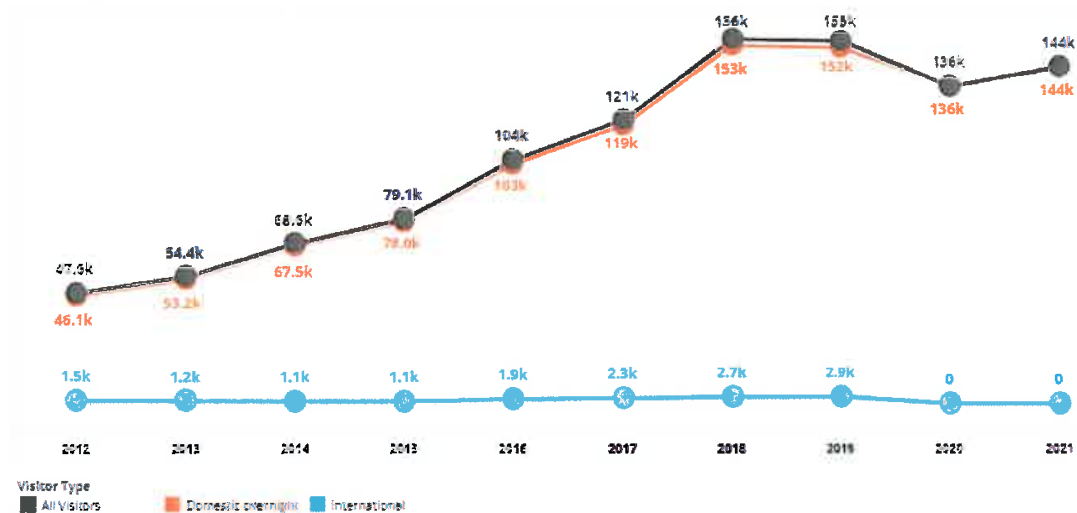


Figure 6: Total visitor nights to West Wimmera Shire, December YE³



² Ibid
³ Ibid

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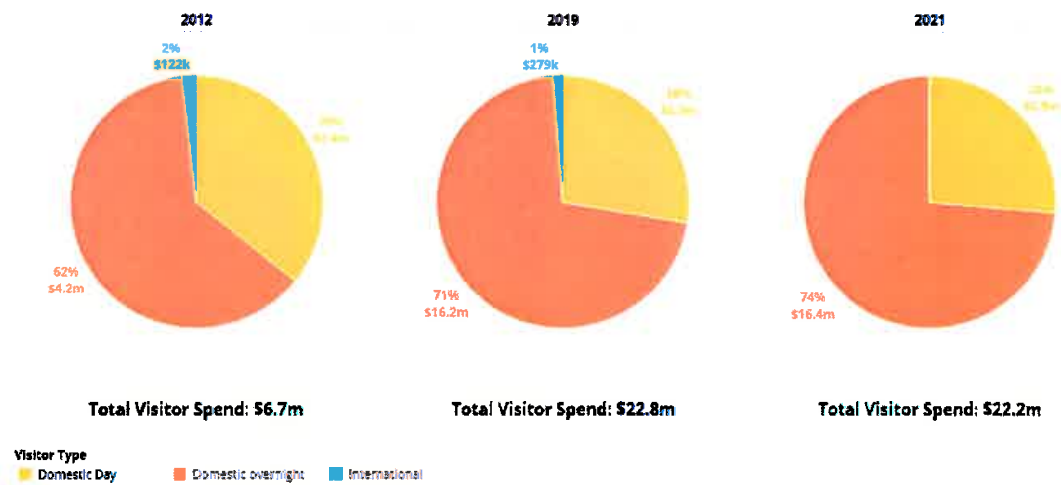
In line with growing visitation to the Shire, visitor spending has also increased, rising from \$6.7 million estimated in 2012 to a high of \$22.8 million in 2019 (a total increase of over 300% or \$12.7 million).

Figure 7 illustrates the importance of the domestic overnight market: while in 2019 this market represented only 47% of total visitation, the market generated 71% of all spend. Conversely, while the domestic day trip market represented 52% of all visitation, the spend by these visitors made up only 28% of all visitor spend.

Overnight visitors generally have a higher spend because of their spend on accommodation, food and beverage, transport, groceries, fuel etc.

By way of example, in 2019, domestic day trippers spent \$114 on average per trip in contrast to domestic overnight visitors who spent almost three times this amount at \$309 per trip. International overnight visitor spending per trip averaged \$278.

Figure 7: Visitor expenditure in West Wimmera Shire, December YE (2012, 2019 and 2021)⁴



⁴ Ibid

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2.6. Our Tourism Offering

The Shire has a growing array of attractions and experiences and an emerging accommodation sector. The following section provides a stocktake of this mix to gain an understanding of the Shire's existing strengths and possible gaps that exist.

2.6.1. Accommodation Stocktake

Figure 8 provides a summary of the accommodation audit undertaken and demonstrates the following.

- The Shire has a limited range of commercial accommodation properties, with only 30 properties identified. This includes an audit of those properties listed on Airbnb.
- The Shire's accommodation typology is largely characterised by caravan and camping, making up 43% of the accommodation properties identified.
- In terms of estimated guest capacity, caravan and camping ground properties also provide the most stock and supply more than half of all guest capacity. This is also likely an underestimate given most caravan/camping sites throughout the Shire are unallocated and therefore conservative estimates were included.
- The Shire has very limited commercial bookable stock including motel, hotel, and boutique commercial B&B stock. In total, these typologies of accommodation total 33% of those properties identified and make up an even smaller 10% of guest capacity identified. Having sufficient commercial stock year-round is important for securing events and attracting a larger, more diverse overnight visitor market.
- Much of the commercial stock (except for a few B&Bs) is older-style and requires product enhancement and facility improvement to align it with consumer expectations.
- While caravan and camping products are scattered throughout the Shire, the bulk of all other accommodation products are clustered around the Shire's four main town centres of Edenhope, Kaniva, Harrow, and Apsley.
- With respect to product gaps, the Shire's accommodation mix would appear to be missing a larger number of boutique properties (such as B&Bs, guest houses etc.) as well as higher quality destination holiday parks (as opposed to transit-style caravan and residential parks) and worker accommodation.

2.6.2. Accommodation Sentiment

A consumer sentiment assessment was also undertaken on the Shire's accommodation mix (see Appendix 2 for an understanding of how this is calculated). West Wimmera has a good NPS score of +59 reflecting a strong degree of consumer satisfaction regarding its accommodation offer. Generally, a score of above 30 is considered good and a score above 50 is considered excellent. However, this score should be interpreted with some care as the number of properties for which enough reviews were able to be

obtained (only those properties with more than five reviews were included in the assessment) was limited (17 in total).

The Shire's boutique product rates particularly well, with a very strong NPS of +85. This form of accommodation complements the Shire's natural attributes well and fits in well strategically with the direct the community wishes to take the visitor economy.

2.6.3. Attractions/Experiences Stocktake

Figure 9 provides the results of the stocktake of the Shire's attractions and experiences. It demonstrates the following.

- Based on the audit, there are 124 different tourism attractions and experiences across Shire.
- Natural product comprises the largest share of the product identified (just over 27%). This comprises products such as reserves, state forests, parks, and bush walks. While much of this product services a local market, it also forms an important part of the Shire's tourism offering.
- The Shire's product base is dominated by free product (74% of all product is free). Although free product forms an important part of a destination's product mix and is important for community amenity, it is important to ensure there is a balance: paid product generates far greater economic benefit which can assist in growing social licence for tourism.
- The Shire appears to have a natural focus on outdoor recreation products, leveraging its natural assets such as its waterways, lakes and outdoors areas such as Little Desert as well as a cluster of water sports attractions/experiences.
- With respect to product gaps, there currently appears to be limited: indoor, all-weather experiences/attractions; tour products to offer guided, boutique experiences; family-friendly products; agri-tourism products; and night-time-based products.

2.6.4. Attractions/Experiences Sentiment

The sentiment assessment of the Shire's attractions/experience mix demonstrates the following.

- The Shire's product mix achieves a positive NPS score of +61, based on just under 644 reviews of 19 products. This is a strong rating that should continue to be built on but again, caution should be used given the small size of the product base able to be included in the assessment.
- The product category that receives the highest average NPS score was outdoor recreation products with a high NPS of +78. This was followed by visitor centres, museums, historical landmarks, and libraries which received an NPS of +75.
- Paid products received a higher overall average NPS of +75, compared with +56 for free products. What this reflects is that consumers are happy to pay for a product where they consider the quality and price point to match their expectations.

Figure 8: West Wimmera – Accommodation Audit Summary

West Wimmera Shire's Tourism Offer: Accommodation

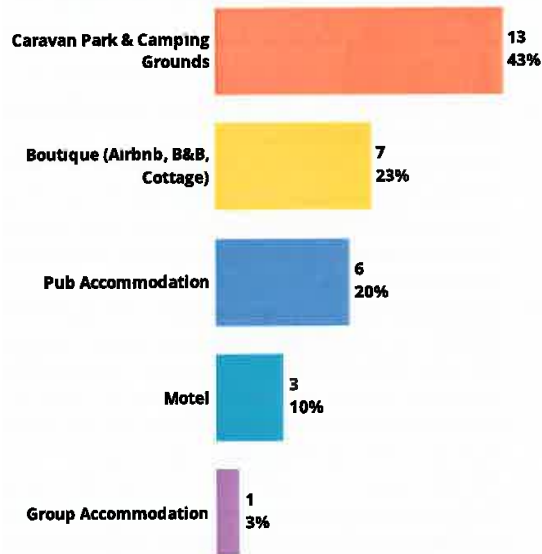
The West Wimmera has **30** accommodation properties throughout the Shire.

The Shire's accommodation mix has an overall NPS* of **+59** (based on **915** reviews across **17** properties)**

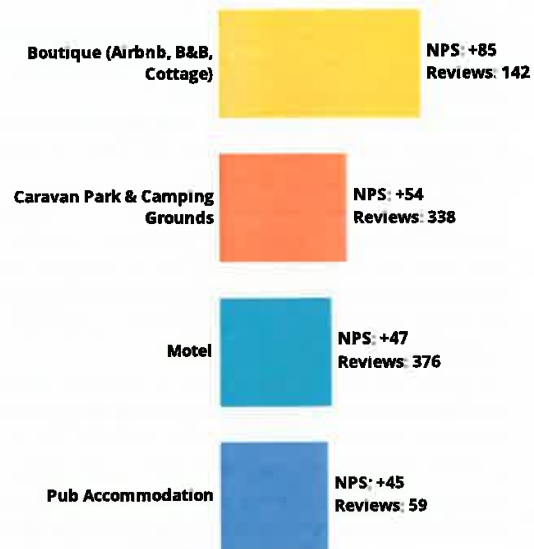
*NPS = a measure of consumer sentiment

** Based on only those properties with 5 or more reviews

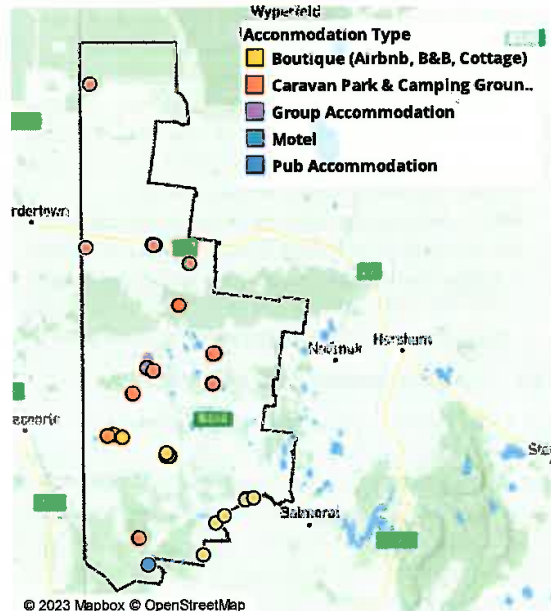
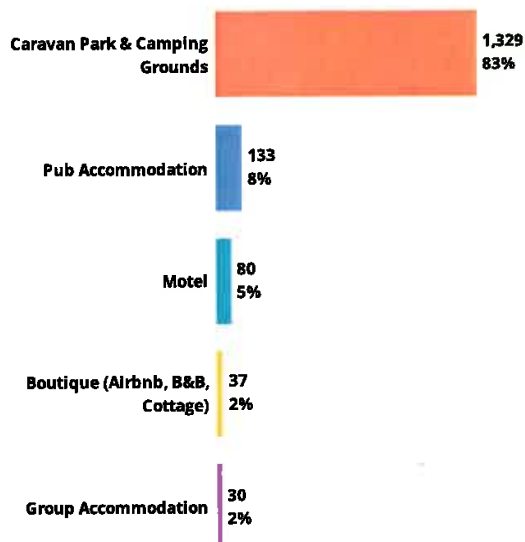
Type of Accommodation Type



Sentiment by Accommodation Type



Accommodation Stock by Estimated Guest Capacity



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Figure 9: West Wimmera – Attractions Audit Summary

West Wimmera Shire's Tourism Offer: Attractions & Experiences

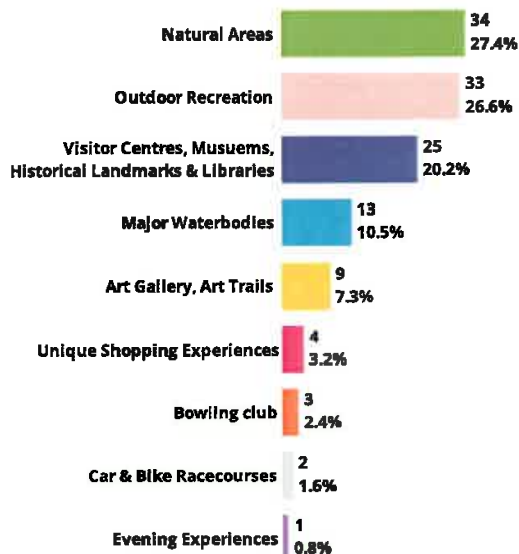
The West Wimmera has **124** attractions and experiences throughout the Shire.

The Shire's attraction and experience mix has an overall NPS* of **+61** (based on **644** reviews across **19** products)**

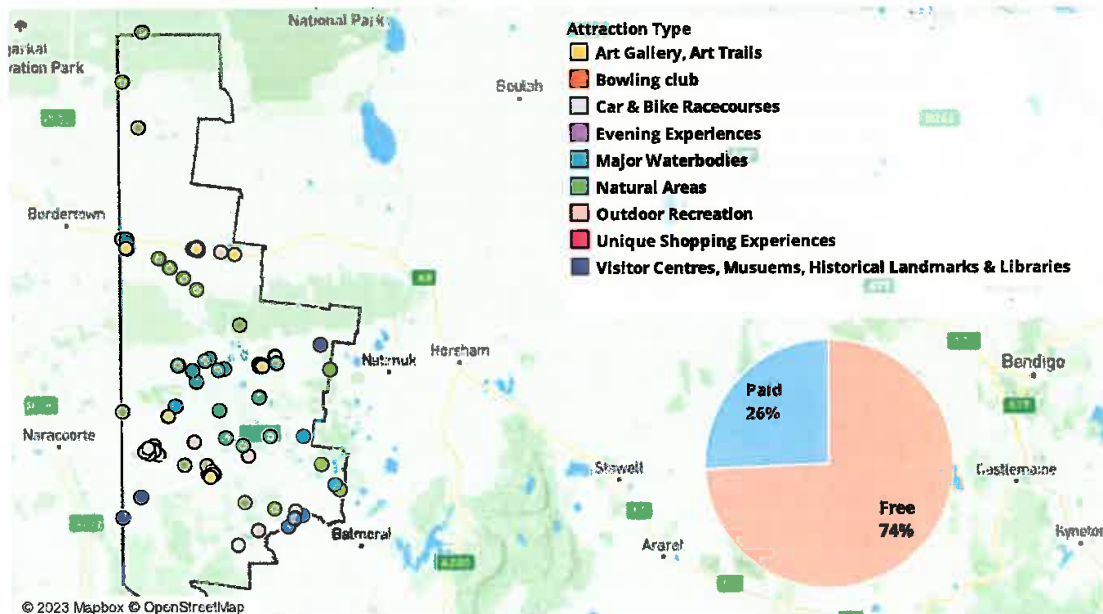
*NPS = a measure of consumer sentiment

** Based on only those products with 5 or more reviews

Type of Attractions/Experiences



Sentiment by Attraction/Experience Type



West Wimmera Tourism Strategy 2.4

2.7. Challenges/Barriers to Sustainable Growth

Table 3 provides a summary of the primary challenges identified through this Tourism Strategy process. These are based on the consultation and research undertaken for this Tourism Strategy. It is important to note that several of these barriers are macro barriers that go far beyond the remit of a Tourism Strategy to address. They have, however, been noted here as important issues that are likely to continue to have an impact until they are addressed.

Table 3: The full list of challenges/barriers

| Area | Challenge/Barrier |
|--|--|
| Infrastructure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of formalised caravan parking facilities in town centres ▪ Need better infrastructure generally (Wi-Fi connectivity, roads, water supply, sewer systems). ▪ Minimal public transport creates reliance on private vehicles. ▪ Limited capacity to host small-medium-sized conferences and events. ▪ Fragmented and outdated wayfinding and interpretation signage. |
| Product | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited commissionable tourism products and much for free so economic uplift is constrained. ▪ Limited commercial accommodation restricting overnight visitation and higher average spending. ▪ Limited food and beverage choices and some quality concerns expressed by stakeholders. ▪ Limited major visitor attractions. ▪ Many operators are smaller scale lifestylers with a desire to remain lifestyle operators rather than expanded commercial operators offering services year-round. ▪ Limited indigenous tourism products and presence in the tourism sector. ▪ Limited well-capitalised investors/developers in the Shire. |
| Marketing, Governance & Collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of product packaging and collective marketing. ▪ Lack of local funding resources for local tourism. ▪ The local tourism industry is noted as disjointed (good operators but limited collaboration). ▪ Fatigued and disconnected operators due to COVID impacting businesses. ▪ Volunteer burnout. ▪ Digital literacy of operators. ▪ Strong competition from surrounding regions with major iconic brands. ▪ Limited community awareness of the importance of tourism. |
| Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pandemic uncertainty going forward – industry nervousness about fully reopening and reinvestment ▪ Some in the community are split on whether they want more tourism (which is seen to correlate with traffic congestion at weekends particularly). ▪ Planning and development costs are seen as very high, impacting project viability. ▪ Limited pool of skilled and semi-skilled staff and ability to attract and retain. ▪ The planning process is noted as often being long, expensive, and time-consuming resulting in a lack of certainty for investors and developers. ▪ Limited investment over the last 5 years in tourism products and services. |

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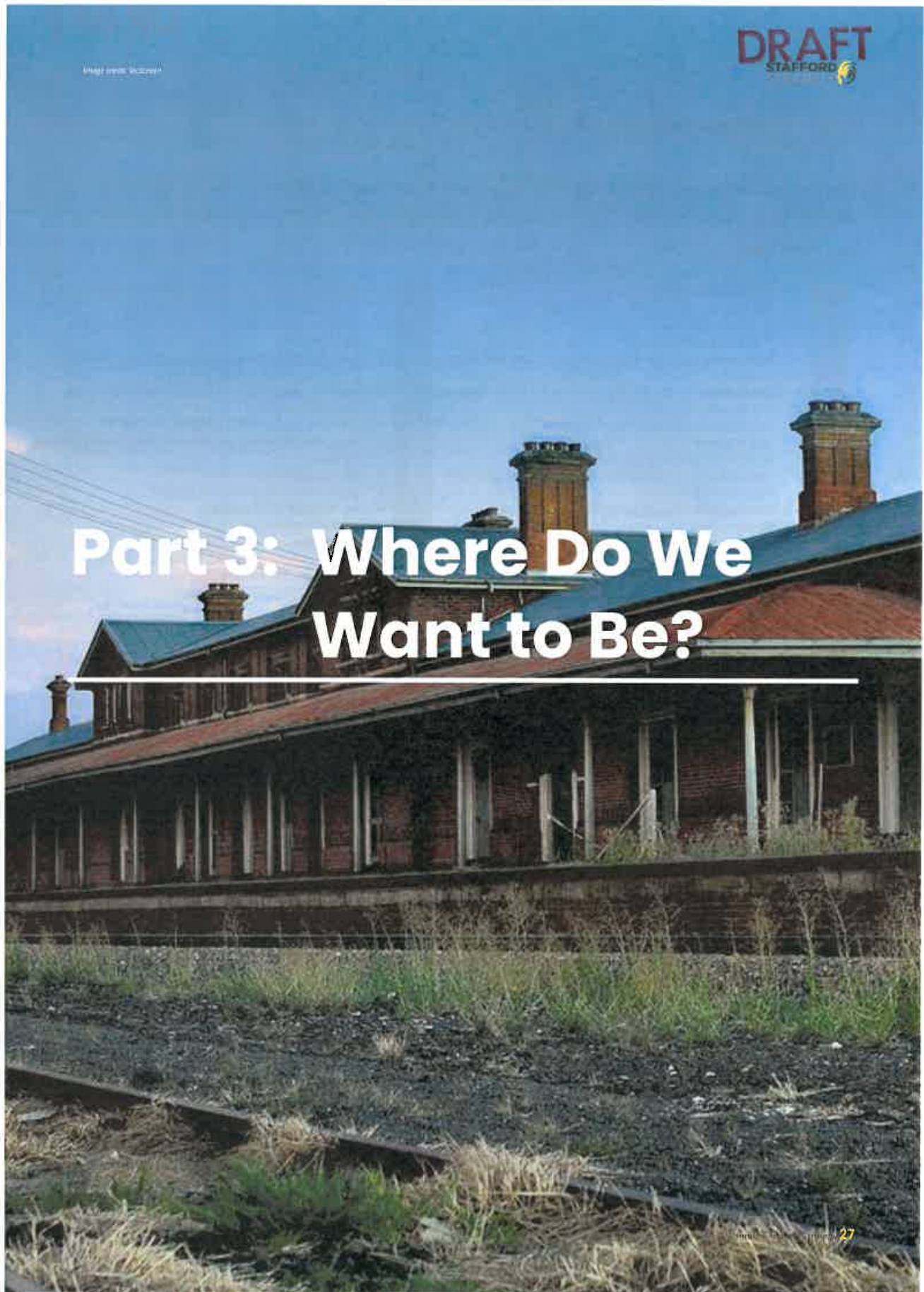
2.8. SWOT Analysis

Table 4 provides a SWOT analysis for the Shire, focusing only on tourism-related strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

It has been created after discussions with various industry and government stakeholders and from the review of research and its analysis.

Table 4: SWOT Analysis

| STRENGTHS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterbodies (lakes and swamps) The natural environment and landscape Protected bushland Passionate communities High-quality agricultural land, especially beef and sheep, cropping Desert areas Silo art and sheep art Unique, boutique shopping experiences Bird watching Quality fishing throughout the Shire Cultural history including the first Aboriginal cricket team Historical towns Halfway point between Melbourne and Adelaide Strong caravan and camping focus 4x4 trails and experiences Baileys Rocks Camping areas | WEAKNESSES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of directional and interpretative signage Limited new and/or refreshed products Variable quality of accommodation stock including caravan parks Lack of robust statistical data and lack of market intelligence from the industry Lack of awareness of tourism benefits in the general community Lack of a strong online presence Lack of development and investment opportunities to date F&B availability after hours Limited diversity of tourism product Finding staff to fill positions Lack of staff/worker accommodation Digital savviness of operators & willingness to get online A stagnant and aging population |
|-----------|--|------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce new forms of accommodation Target the caravan and camping market Introduce recreational infrastructure at various lakes Pop-up F&B products in towns and at the lakes Operator upskilling Signage audit (directional and interpretive) Worker hostel/accommodation Product to leverage the silo art Bird and frog-watching tours Mini triathlon event Formalised caravan and trailer parking with signage in Kaniva Kayaking journeys Tourism business growth workshops B&B establishment workshops Establishment of a destination brand for West Wimmera Dump site for Johnny Mullagh Memorial & Caravan Park Introduction of horse trails Sensory playground trail Bike trail link connecting Lake Bringalbert and Lake Charlegrark Extended boardwalk from Apsley to Lake Newlands | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural disasters (highway flooding etc.) Economic downturn overall Lack of industry support for Council initiatives Lack of funding for national park upgrades Lack of investment in existing and new accommodation stock could prevent overnight visitation Local apathy Lack of connectivity with mobile reception Climate change impacts Lack of community energy, investment capital Tourism numbers (especially domestic) have been impacted by COVID-19 as a result of border closures in particular Constraints accessing land for development because of perceived environmental challenges. Limited workforce capacity ongoing will impact the tourism sector's ability to move out of hibernation and reskill Managing expectations with limited resources for tourism especially |



3.1. Strategic Framework

The following strategic framework has guided the development of this Tourism Strategy and should be used to direct tourism development in the West Wimmera region going forward.

3.1.1. Vision

The vision for West Wimmera's visitor economy is as follows.

"West Wimmera will continue to strive to be an exciting visitor destination, offering a sustainable range of exciting recreation and tourism activities to benefit a range of visitor markets, and to support our resident community. The visitor economy will continue to grow strongly and sustainably, actively supported by Council, industry, government, and community, all working collaboratively."

3.1.2. Objectives

The following objectives have been identified to guide the recommendations identified through this Strategy.

- Establish a clear Identity for what West Wimmera is and what it aspires to be in the future.
- Grow the visitor length of stay in the region.
- Continue to protect the environment.
- Improve physical connectivity, access, regional dispersal, and wayfinding.
- Achieve a greater level of collaboration amongst industry, community, and government.
- Ensure ongoing investment into the visitor economy to enable human capacity and capability development.

Figure 10: Tourism Strategy Objectives



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3.2. Recommendations for Sustainable Growth

3.2.1. Strategic Initiatives vs Development Project Recommendations

50 recommendations have been identified as part of this Strategy. These include a range of what have been termed “strategic initiatives” and “development projects”.

- **Strategic initiatives** reflect those recommendations that are required to sustainably manage and grow a visitor destination and, while not being major “ribbon-cutting” projects, they are necessary to ensure a successful approach is achieved.
- **Development projects**, on the other hand, reflect physical projects such as new or enhanced accommodation, tourism attractions or events (for example) that need to be introduced.



3.2.2. The full list of recommendations

Those indicated with a ♦ are strategic initiatives – all others reflect development project recommendations.

Table 5: The full list of recommendations

| A Unique Place A region with a unique identity that resonates with residents and visitors alike. | A Captivating Place A region that entices visitors to stay longer and that locals love more than ever. |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agri-tourism/farm tourism strategy (link with existing town markets) - ♦ Assess West Wimmera destination brand - ♦ Development and marketing of bridle trails on State Forest land - ♦ Indigenous tourism cultural program (digital drive circuits and walking tours) Pet-friendly accommodation focus Silo art tourism strategy - ♦ West Wimmera lake marketing and water levels app - ♦ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apsley motorsports expansion and Edenhope Motorcycle Park Bike trail link (10km) between Lake Bringalbert and Lake Charlegrark Bird and frog-watching tours Boutique whisky, tequila, or vodka distillery; craft brewery or cider house Caravan/camping marketing campaign (family market & couples) - ♦ Evening events (light show, outdoor cinema) Extended boardwalk from Apsley to Lake Newlands Farming/horticultural agri shows consolidation to strengthen their proposition (rotational across all towns) Formalisation of regional drive and motorbike trails Harrow fishing, kayaking and river walking trail Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon (assess extending the length of the event) Mini triathlon event (Goroke) Murray cod fishing competition Pop-up seasonal food outlets (centred at towns & lakes) Position Apsley as the Western Gateway to the region - ♦ Promotion of the Henley on Lake Wallace Event along with the greater promotion of all events - ♦ Self-guided heritage and historic tours Sensory playground trail (leveraging existing playgrounds in Goroke and Kaniva) Serviceton Railway Station heritage attraction/event venue Serviceton Reservoir site infrastructure improvement (picnic tables, signage, designated caravan parking) Upgraded and expanded cabin capacity at lake-side holiday parks West Wimmera 4WD courses (Little Desert) West Wimmera orchid tours West Wimmera wetlands kayaking journeys |
| A Sustainable Place A region recognised for its action on delivering sustainability. | An Insightful Place A region that makes more informed decisions in the management and marketing of its visitor economy. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Kaniva Wetlands boardwalk, including camping area, swimmable wetlands, and water retention strategy Formalised caravan and trailer parking on the main street of Kaniva - ♦ Freedom camping site gold coin entry (policy change) - ♦ Johnny Mullagh Memorial & Caravan Park dump site (Harrow) - ♦ Lake Bringalbert and Dunboperty Swamp development (pop-up F&B facility, bird-watching hides, upgraded picnic tables, nature play area) Lake Ratzcastle designation of sites and upgrade of camp kitchen Lake Wallace recreation infrastructure (new fishing pontoon, floating swimming pontoon, upgrade/extend boat ramps, signage upgrades, bird hides, sandy beach area) as per Strategic Plan National parks and state forest parks safety signage (audit) - ♦ Planning scheme change to encourage tourism development for urban areas - ♦ Worker accommodation hostel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Council support program communication workshop - ♦ Annual volunteer appreciation event - ♦ B&B planning scheme workshops - ♦ Digital literacy operator training program - ♦ Improved visitor statistics & insights - ♦ Retailer and business customer care training program - ♦ Tourism business growth workshops - ♦ West Wimmera events guidelines document - ♦ West Wimmera shire-wide signage audit - ♦ |

3.3. Prioritising the Recommendations

3.3.1. Methodology for the Recommendations

To determine the priority recommendations, each has been assessed against the weighted criteria outlined in Table 6. A weighted score has been used to reflect that some of the criteria have a stronger positive impact or a higher level of importance to each stakeholder than others.

Where possible, the assessment has utilised quantitative data (particularly for those projects where feasibilities or business cases

have been developed). In the absence of such assessments, however, a qualitative assessment has been undertaken based on local knowledge, stakeholder consultation, professional experience, and a general assessment of the perceived benefits. Many projects will still need to have feasibility studies and business cases to ensure they are viable and able to deliver their desired outcomes.

Table 6: Recommendation ranking criteria

| Criteria | Score | Weighting | Description |
|---|---|-----------|---|
| Attract a higher spending visitor market | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 2 | Those which are likely to be drivers for encouraging visitation by those markets which typically spend more are ranked higher |
| A catalyst to stimulate other investment | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 3 | Projects that are more likely to encourage additional or complementary investment into other projects are rated higher. |
| Employment (Op.) Potential | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 2 | Projects which are likely to generate greater employment opportunities once operational are ranked higher. |
| Encourage indigenous tourism in the visitor economy | Yes = 1 No = 0 | 3 | Projects that actively encourage Traditional Owner involvement in the visitor economy and/or which grow Traditional Owner ventures are ranked higher. |
| Estimated visitation | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 2 | The projects which are likely to generate higher visitation are ranked higher. |
| Improve the environment | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 3 | Projects that comprise environmental initiatives are ranked higher. |
| Landowner | Unknown = 1 Council = 2 Other Govt. Agency = 2 Private = 3 | 1 | Projects which are situated on private land are ranked higher because there are likely to be fewer constraints. |
| Likelihood to be profiled by Visit Victoria | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 1 | The ability of the project to grow the region's destination profile. Projects which may have Higher marketing budgets (particularly those run by larger tourism players), as well as highly unique products, are ranked higher. |
| Likely to be supported by the community | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 2 | Those projects that may be supported (either through visitation or general support) by the local community are ranked higher. |
| Likely visitor appeal | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 3 | The projects which are likely to have a higher appeal to the visitor market are ranked higher than those which may generate lower visitor interest. |

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| Criteria | Score | Weighting | Description |
|---|---|-----------|--|
| Need for ongoing operational government funding | None = 3 Low = 2 Medium = 1 High = 0 | 2 | If the project is likely to require ongoing government contributions to fund operating costs, it is ranked lower. If the project is likely to be commercially viable/sustainable, it is ranked higher. |
| Priority projects indicated in the analysis | Yes = 3 No = 0 | 3 | If a project was identified consistently through research, consultation, and analysis, it is ranked higher. |
| Regional dispersal of visitors | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 1 | If a project is able to encourage higher visitor dispersal throughout the region, it is ranked higher. |
| The ability of the project to secure government funding | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 2 | Those projects which may be more likely to be able to secure government funding (capex or opex) are ranked higher. |
| Short term project commencement | Yes = 1 No = 0 | 2 | If the project is likely to be able to be activated in a shorter period, it is ranked higher. |
| Size of private investment | = 0 = 0 <\$100,000 = 1 <\$500,000 = 2 <\$1,000,000 = 3 >\$1,000,000 = 4 | 3 | Projects which are more likely to attract private sector investment (regardless of the value of this investment) are ranked higher. |
| Size of public investment | <\$100,000 = 4 <\$500,000 = 3 <\$1,000,000 = 2 >\$1,000,000 = 1 = 0 = 0 | 2 | Projects which have a higher public sector investment requirement are ranked lower. |
| Higher domestic visitation | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 2 | Those which are likely to encourage Higher domestic (rather than local) visitation are ranked higher. |
| Higher international visitation | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 3 | Those which are likely to encourage higher international visitation and profile are ranked higher. |
| The uniqueness of the product | None = 0 Low = 1 Medium = 2 High = 3 | 2 | Projects that are unique to the region are ranked higher. |

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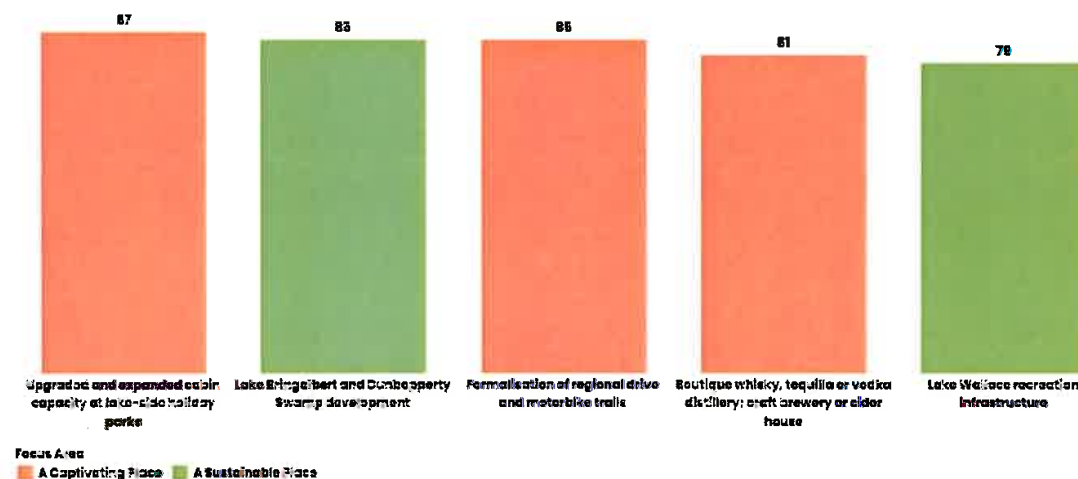


3.3.2. Top Five Development Recommendations

The following provides the top five ranked development recommendations to focus on based on the methodology outlined above which compares every recommendation against a large number of key variables. They offer:

- a starting point for activation of this Strategy as it is important to activate only higher priority projects at the same time; and
- a wide diversity in their scale, type of development, location, and their timeframe for activation.

Figure 11: Priority (top five) development recommendations



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3.3.2.1. Upgraded and expanded cabin capacity at lake-side holiday parks

The lack of commercial accommodation throughout the Shire is a major constraint to growing overnight visitation and associated levels of visitor spend and length of stay.

With strong growth in the caravan and camping markets especially, opportunities need to be explored for:

- introducing new holiday parks in or close to major towns in the Shire; and
- expanding existing caravan parks where possible,

In the short term, it is noted that four of the Shire's caravan parks will receive two new cabins each as part of funding received via the State Government⁵. While this is a valuable opportunity, there is a need for a greater number of cabins to offer a critical mass of accommodation products to have a meaningful impact on the Shire's visitor economy and to cater to a larger number of visitors who wish to stay overnight.

With limited commercial accommodation options currently overall throughout the Shire, we would suggest that each of the caravan parks would benefit from a further 6-8 new style cabins on average, noting some may have more space than others to accommodate this. Funding for these may be required via government grants or through possible partnership arrangements with third-party investors.

The existing parks in the Shire tend to resemble more traditional/transit-style caravan parks or campgrounds. With its strong recreation mix and its growing family market and visiting friends and relatives market, over the medium-longer term, the Shire would appear to be ideally placed to advocate for the development of a higher quality caravan park, potentially including a destination holiday park akin to what is available in many other areas, including regional areas, throughout Australia (see Figure 12).

Destination holiday parks require sites of approximately 5-8 ha. or more. The potential may exist to introduce a higher quality and professionally run destination holiday park with suitable facilities to cater to the family market and offer:

- cabins to meet the needs of visitors year-round;
- powered and unpowered camping and caravan sites;
- recreational features and amenities to support a longer length of visitor stay, such as heated water play parks, water slides, bike parks, jump pillows, climbing walls, major jungle gyms/play equipment areas, mini-golf, and bike/trike hire.

These holiday parks are highly landscaped and function as destinations in their own right. Dependent on the site locations

possible, a destination holiday park may include circa 15-25 cabins, 50-60 powered sites and 30-40 unpowered sites.

Figure 12: Destination holiday park precedents⁶



⁵ <https://www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au/Council/News-and-media/Latest-News/New-amenities-block-for-Kaniva-Poolside-Caravan-Park>

⁶ Goolwa Discovery Park, SA; Clare Valley Discovery Park, SA; Discovery Parks Barossa valley, SA; BIG4 Traralgon Park Lane Holiday Park, VIC.

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3.3.2.2. Lake Bringalbert and Dunboperty Swamp development

Lake Bringalbert is a popular recreation and camping site set amongst West Wimmera's Redgums. The site offers free camping for both caravans and RVs along the lake foreshore with toilet facilities and fire buckets and boat ramp facilities. The lake is popular for boating, kayaking, wake boarding and fishing.

To the south of Lake Bringalbert is Dunboperty Swamp which, when filled, is a wildlife sanctuary that attracts a vast array of birdlife.

To elevate the profile of this site and increase recreational opportunities for locals and visitors, the potential exists to consider investigating the introduction of the following.

- A pop-up food and beverage facility at the site that could operate on a seasonal basis during peak periods to offer those staying overnight and day visitors an option to purchase coffees, ice creams as well as small grab-and-go meals. If this is proven viable, this could potentially be transitioned to a permanent operation (or a permanent weekend operation).
- The installation of bird-watching hides, particularly around the edges of Dunboperty Swamp, with the potential to include interpretive signage.
- Upgraded picnic table facilities.
- The installation of a nature play area for children visiting the lake.

Figure 13: Nature play area precedent⁷



⁷ Webber Reserve Willagee, WA; Russell Brown Adventure Park Mosman Park, WA.

3.3.2.3. Formalisation of regional drive and motorbike trails

Market evidence and stakeholder feedback has indicated a strong level of uplift in both drive and motorbike groups coming into the region as part of drive-and-ride circuits. This includes niche markets such as:

- Special interest motor bike touring groups using the region's road network for access to and from various regional towns throughout Wimmera – Mallee and further afield.
- Special interest car clubs coming through the region.
- Individuals and couples undertaking less formal road trips through the region.
- Other groups undertaking road circuits and unsealed circuits on road bikes and mountain bikes etc.

What is suggested here is the creation of formalised itineraries to be marketed to the large number of car and bike (motor bikes, mountain bikes, road bikes) clubs throughout South Australia, Victoria and potentially further afield, encouraging a range of full-day, single and two-to-three-day overnight circuits for visitors to choose from. It is important to give consumers options for drive circuits but this needs to be balanced with the supply side capacity of overnight accommodation options.

To help maximise the economic value of this important niche market every effort will need to be made to encourage new and expanded accommodation facilities to be introduced, in addition to existing and proposed food and beverage outlets (permanent and pop-up). Without these core components of the visitor economy, there is a risk that visitors visit but stay outside of the Shire so the majority of economic uplift is lost to West Wimmera.

Core relationships should also be forged with caravan and camping associations to leverage their support to members, along with motor industry key contacts and consumer groups.

3.3.2.4. Boutique whisky, tequila, or vodka distillery; craft brewery or cider house

Surrounding areas in South Australia that border West Wimmera offer a variety of well-known wine-growing regions such as the Coonawarra etc. Although West Wimmera Shire is known as a significant agricultural region, it's focus is on grain (barley, wheat etc.) and offers quality livestock farming. The potential exists, however, to leverage its quality grain farming etc. and look to introduce a smaller-scale distillery (vodka, whisky, or tequila, noting there is already a gin distillery in Casterton) or possibly a cider house or craft beer brewery. This could potentially utilise a repurposed industrial building (a depot etc),

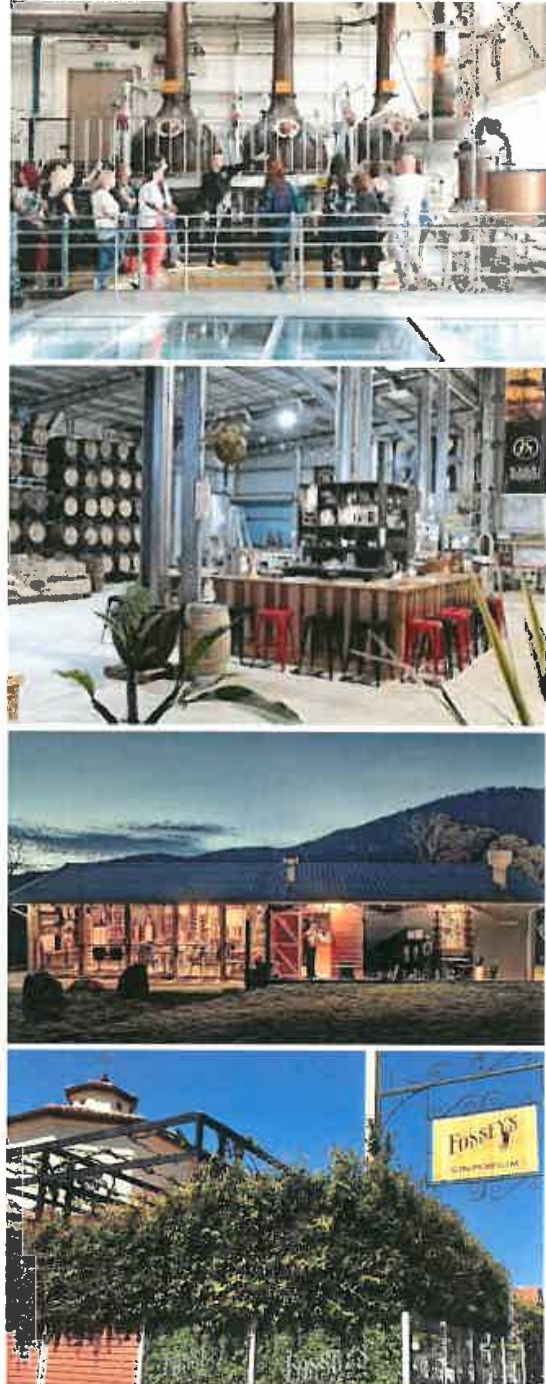
These types of facilities offer an exciting product to encourage more visitors to stop and stay in the area, especially where the facility can also offer tasting sessions, guided tours, meals and a potential venue for events and functions (which support local community needs as well). Many towns within the Shire may offer potential sites for such a facility and all should be investigated.

Using natural ingredients to create unique tastes (wildflowers, berries, barks etc), the facility could generate both a very strong local market and a seasonal visitor market.

The capital cost to set up a small distillery can vary markedly depending on the facility being retrofitted and the quality of fit out being applied, but in broad terms, could cost circa \$5-\$10 million-plus.

Figure 14 provides examples of distillery precedents.

Figure 14: Distillery precedents^a



^a Kalki Moon Distilling & Brewing, QLD; Borough Market Gin Distillery, UK; Wildbrumby Schnapps Distillery, NSW; Fossey's Distillery, VIC.



3.3.2.5. Lake Wallace recreation infrastructure

"Lake Wallace is the lifeblood of Edenhope and at its highest water level covers a majestic expanse of water over five metres deep ... the is host to an extensive range of passive and more active recreation activities for locals and visitors [and is of] vital importance to the township of Edenhope ..."⁹

Although there are several challenges associated with Lake Wallace including reduced inflows, water quality issues, variable salinity levels and excessive aquatic plant grown levels, the 2022 Lake Wallace Strategic Plan has identified a range of short-term changes to improve amenity and long-term investments required to future-proof the asset of the Shire.

From a tourism perspective, the opportunity exists to advocate for the following (subject to funding opportunities).

- Install a new floating pontoon to enable safer access to the water.
- Investigate options to upgrade/extend existing boat ramps to provide better access to the lake at different water levels.
- Investigate options for a new fishing pontoon with a walkway to shore.
- Upgrade the sandy beach swimming area (including sand, accessible seating, and shade).
- Upgrade bird hide to improve usability, safety, and interpretative signage.
- Develop interpretative signage around the lake precinct.
- Review design options to increase caravan park accommodation capacity.
- Develop Aboriginal cultural heritage education materials for Lake Wallace.
- Investigate (collect oral histories) and register historically significant sites around Lake Wallace and Edenhope e.g. First XI Aboriginal cricket team.

⁹ Lake Wallace Strategic Plan 2022, page 5

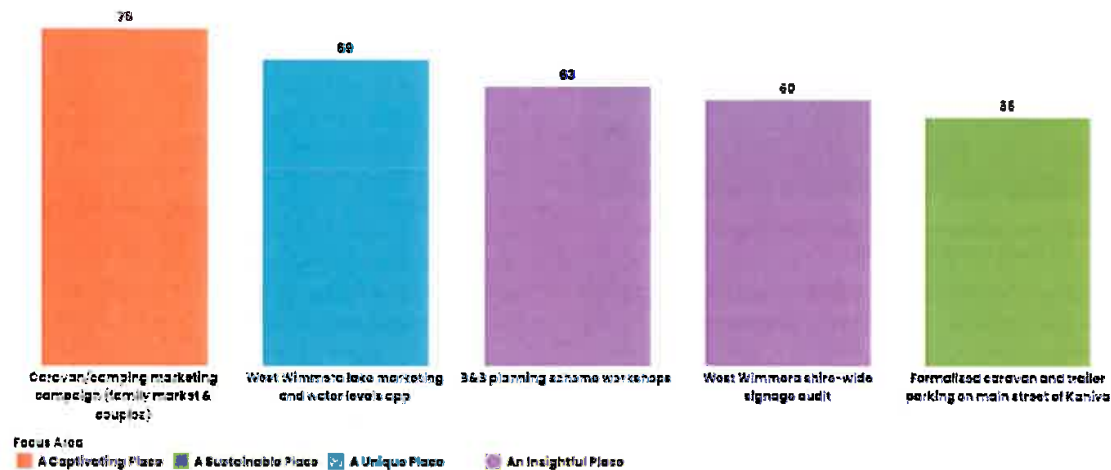
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3.3.3. Top Five Strategic Initiatives

While all the strategic initiatives are considered important, a number were identified which require more immediate attention. These are indicated in Figure 15 and are based on those that achieved a higher ranking.

Figure 15: Priority strategic initiatives



3.3.3.1. B&B planning scheme workshops

As noted in the accommodation audit (Section 2.6), while the Shire's B&B product mix rates with consumers well, there is a limited number of these properties. Consultation with the community revealed a strong desire to introduce more of this form of accommodation in disused (but renovated) farm cottages etc., however, there is a lack of understanding of the planning rules and regulations and the steps required.

It is suggested that Council look to host a series of public workshops to help those interested in the community understand what the basic requirements are that one must fulfil to establish a B&B including planning rules at a local and state level. There may also be a number of concerns that can be addressed through a better understanding of the planning requirements and easier pathways to follow to gain planning approvals.

3.3.3.2. Caravan/camping marketing campaign (family market & couples)

The Shire is strategically situated as a halfway point between Melbourne and Adelaide. However, many regional destinations around South Australia and Victoria are seeking to target caravan and camping visitors and as a result, it is becoming an increasingly competitive sector to capture. If West Wimmera Shire wants to remain competitive and leverage its upgraded facilities, it needs to take a proactive stance and develop a targeted marketing campaign to attract more visitors to West Wimmera for those niche markets that are major users of holiday parks such as:

- families and couples;
- mountain biking and other groups who often use the caravan and camping sites for accommodation, etc;
- as well as visitors to fauna and flora whether it be wild orchids, water-based bird life in the wetland areas, and other appealing elements;
- those travelling with pets who use pet-friendly caravan park facilities; and
- those visiting with boats etc. who are using the Shire's extensive waterways as part of family leisure getaways.

Ensuring that new and expanded holiday parks also include cottages/cabins are an important consideration as a number of markets gravitate to these in preference to camping especially. This also caters for some of the visiting worker accommodation needs, especially when the region has limited motel and B&B accommodations to choose from.

Within time, when a broader accommodation mix is available, a more diverse style of accommodation marketing campaign could be considered.

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3.3.3.3. Formalised caravan and trailer parking on the main street of Kaniva

Kaniva is the western gateway to the Shire and is commonly used as a rest point for those travelling between Melbourne and Adelaide. Currently, however, there is a dearth of designated caravan/campervan and trailer parking in the main street of Kaniva to encourage those travelling to easily pull over and spend time within the Kaniva CBD.

There is a need to consider the installation of formalised caravan and trailer parking on the main street, along with clearly marked signage to indicate these spaces to make it easier for those visitors to see where these spaces are.

3.3.3.4. West Wimmera lakes marketing and water levels app

West Wimmera is fortunate to have a plethora of lakes scattered throughout the Shire. These lakes attract locals and visitors for a range of recreational and leisure purposes including boating, fishing, and swimming. However, feedback received, along with studies and reports¹⁰, indicates that one of the primary challenges associated with marketing the lakes as tourism drawcards is the “changes in reduction of flows and extended dry periods within the lakes [which is] forecasted to continue under predicted climate change scenarios”.¹¹

To mitigate this challenge and to avoid falsely promoting high water levels to visitors, the potential exists to develop a West Wimmera

lakes marketing and water levels app that is focused on the following.

- Accurately conveying the exact water level of the Shire’s primary water bodies that are used for tourism and recreation purposes so that visitors and locals can decide which to visit based on water height. This can be used as the one-stop, trusted authority on water levels, rather than relying on the various sources of information that must be used currently.
- Providing information to visitors on what activities can be undertaken at the water bodies at different water levels. While locals may have a clear understanding of what lakes support what activities at what water level, this is likely to be far harder for a visitor market to understand).
- Providing Information on the “lake of the moment”, i.e., the best lake to visit at the time because of water levels, environmental reasons, weather conditions etc.
- Offering information on the number of camping sites and facilities available and within time, the development of an online booking system for caravan and camping sites at peak periods especially and to help address the risk of overcrowding.

The app should be managed by one centralised source with input from Wimmera Catchment Management Authority. The focus of the app should be to provide unbiased, factual information on water and lake conditions.

3.3.3.5. West Wimmera Shire-wide signage audit

A major issue confronting all parts of the Shire is the lack of consistent and updated signage, both directional and interpretative.

A signage audit should be undertaken to identify:

- signage gaps;
- ensure a consistent approach to signage is applied;
- sites where superfluous signage exists (as some sites currently have multiple signs performing the same purpose); and
- assess the need for multi-lingual signage in certain locations for the future.

Signage is particularly important in areas where there is limited mobile phone coverage.

¹⁰ Including Lake Wallace Strategic Plan, 2022; Wimmera Wetland Hydrology Investigation.

¹¹ Wimmera Wetland Hydrology Investigation, page 2.

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3.3.5. All Recommendations Ranked

Table 7 ranks all of the recommendations to illustrate the breadth of opportunities to consider. Many rate very highly but it is important to note that most would require a feasibility study and business case to prove the viability of each of them first. At this stage, they should be considered concept-level opportunities to investigate and pursue, subject to more detailed analysis.

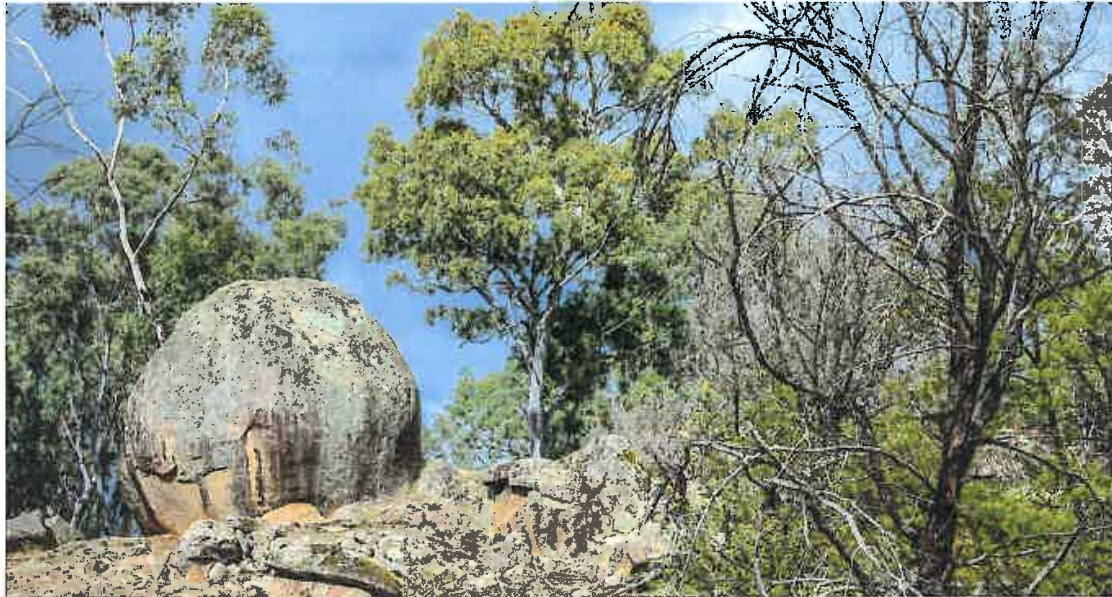
Importantly, a realistic timeframe is needed for their assessment and implementation which is more likely over the period 2023-2032. With resource constraints, it should be expected that 2-5 projects should be aimed for activation on an annual basis, noting that for many of these, there will be a need to secure funding grants from state government and other sources to assist with funding both their planning and development and then ongoing capital development requirements.

The full matrices are included in Appendix 3 and Appendix 4.

Table 7: All development recommendations ranked

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|----|
| Development Project | Upgraded and expanded cabin capacity at lake-side holiday parks | 87 |
| | Lake Bringalbert and Dunlop property Swamp development | 85 |
| | Formalisation of regional drive and motorbike trails | 85 |
| | Boutique whisky, tequila or vodka distillery; craft brewery or cider house | 81 |
| | Lake Wallace recreation infrastructure | 78 |
| | Completion of Kaniva Wetlands boardwalk, including camping area, swimmable wetlands and water retention strategy | 77 |
| | Lake Ratzcastle designation of sites and upgrade of camp kitchen | 75 |
| | Apsley motorsports expansion and Edenhope Motorcycle Park | 74 |
| | Pop-up seasonal food outlets (centred at towns & lakes) | 73 |
| | Worker accommodation hostel | 71 |
| | Indigenous tourism cultural program (digital drive circuits and walking tours) | 71 |
| | Bird and frog watching tours | 71 |
| | Pet-friendly accommodation focus | 70 |
| | Murray coo fishing competition | 70 |
| | Self-guided heritage and historic tours | 69 |
| | West Wimmera wetlands kayaking journeys | 67 |
| | West Wimmera orchid tours | 67 |
| | West Wimmera 4WD courses (Little Desert) | 67 |
| | Serviceton heritage railway station attraction/event venue | 66 |
| | Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon (assess extending the length of the event) | 66 |
| | Harrow fishing, kayaking and river walking trail | 65 |
| | Farming/horticultural agri shows consolidation to strengthen their proposition | 63 |
| | Serviceton Reservoir site Infrastructure Improvement (picnic tables, signage, designated caravan parking) | 61 |
| | Sensory playground trail (leveraging existing playground in Goroke and Kaniva) | 61 |
| | Extended boardwalk from Apsley to Lake Newlands | 61 |
| Strategic Initiatives | Bike trail link (10km) between Lake Bringalbert and Lake Charlegrark | 60 |
| | Evening events (light show, outdoor cinema) | 51 |
| | Mini triathlon event (Goroke) | 47 |
| | Caravan/camping marketing campaign (family market & couples) | 76 |
| | West Wimmera lake marketing and water levels app | 69 |
| | B&B planning scheme workshops | 63 |
| | West Wimmera shire-wide signage audit | 60 |
| | Formalised caravan and trailer parking on main street of Kaniva | 58 |
| | Agri-tourism/farm tourism strategy (link with existing town markets) | 58 |
| | Freedom camping site gold coin entry (policy change) | 54 |
| | Tourism business growth workshops | 53 |
| | Retailer and business customer care training program | 53 |
| | Development and marketing of bridal trails on State Forest land | 53 |
| | Assess West Wimmera destination brand | 52 |
| | Planning scheme change to encourage tourism development for urban areas | 51 |
| | Digital literacy operator training program | 51 |
| | Promotion of the Henley on Lake Wallace Event along with greater promotion of all events | 50 |
| | National parks and state forest parks safety signage (audit) | 50 |
| | Johnny Mulcaigh Memorial & Caravan Park dump site (Harrow) | 49 |
| | Improved visitor statistics & insights | 48 |
| | Silo art tourism strategy | 44 |
| | West Wimmera events guidelines document | 42 |
| | Position Apsley as the Western Gateway to the region | 42 |
| | Annual Council support program communication workshop | 42 |
| | Annual volunteer appreciation event | 36 |

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3.4. Other Considerations

The following are offered to help activate tourism development and stimulate the visitor economy.

3.4.1. Zoning

Land use zoning has already been alluded to above, with respect to the urgent need for worker accommodation within the Shire. The potential to offer specific and preferential areas for tourism development could provide an important stimulant to support new ventures and encourage new tourism products. To help achieve this, consideration might be given for:

- any existing and potential tourist zones, tourism precincts, tourism sites, tourism land requirements and opportunities for introducing new or specific tourism land uses which are needed in all towns throughout the Shire.
- Guidance for assessing tourism proposals, including character and design measures, to achieve aspirational tourism development at particular locations. Mediocrity is easy to achieve and West Wimmera Shire needs to be looking at ways to raise the bar so that tourism development style and quality can be on par with the quality of many of its natural attributes and assets.
- Use of spatial/strategic land use mapping to provide greater certainty to tourism investors and where possible tourism development sites are well accepted by the wider community, indigenous communities, and the business-tourism sector more generally.

3.4.2. Brand Development

Work is needed on developing a strong West Wimmera brand and point of difference for the benefit of attracting a range of visitor markets and stimulating tourism investment. This exercise needs to be correctly scaled so that the promotion of the visitor economy and the Shires attributes also acts as a mechanism to promote community pride and helps achieve a more collegial approach to the Shires development across all towns and communities in West Wimmera.

Forms of brand development and its activation may need to include the following.

- Refreshing the region's current logo as part of brand development.
- Enhancing road and related signage so visitors understand when they are entering and leaving the Shire.
- Reviewing and updating the types of promotional brochures created for the Shire and which all tourism operators and associated retailers can be offered involvement with.
- Expansion of digital media including social media links and refining the regions website through allowing sub-sector operators (accommodation providers, attractions and experiences, retailers, food and beverage operators, transport providers etc. to be able to link to via their websites making it far easier for the consumer to identify operators and locations of interest within the Shire.

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3.5. Visitor Forecasts

Figure 16 provides forecasts for visitation to West Wimmera over the period 2023 to 2032. It is important to note that the unstable environment that has resulted from COVID-19 and fluctuating conditions (including snap border closures and new variants of the virus strain) means that forecasting with a higher degree of accuracy (and through using historic trends) is problematic.

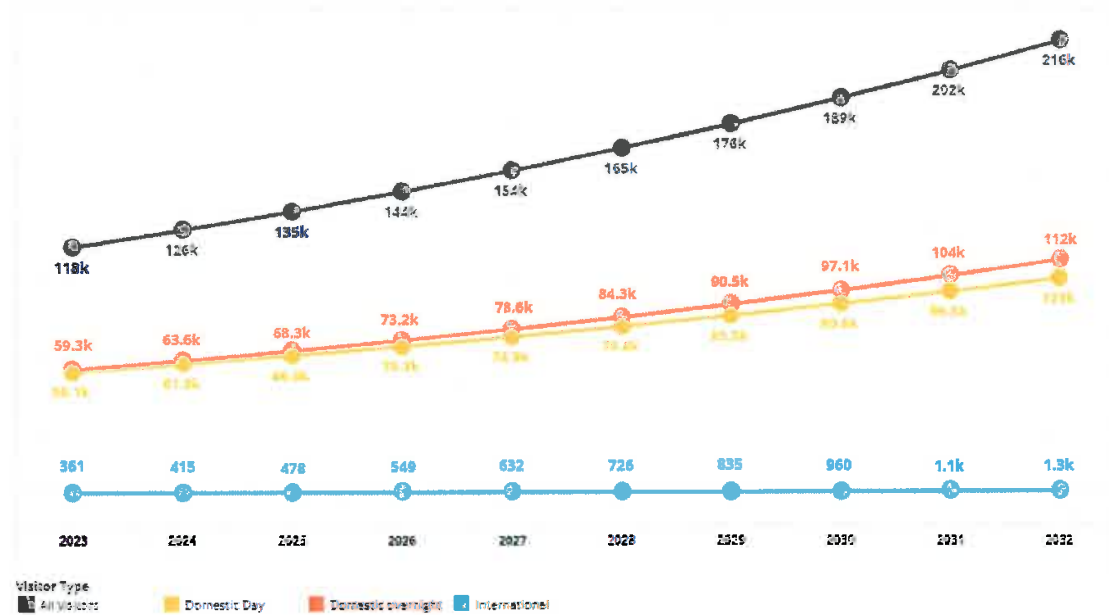
Growth is likely to be constrained by limited product capacity and infrastructure development constraints (parking, roading upgrades etc.).

If new accommodation and amenities do not get activated or are far slower to activate, then achieving growth above and beyond what is indicated is expected to be constrained and day visitation is likely to continue to dominate.

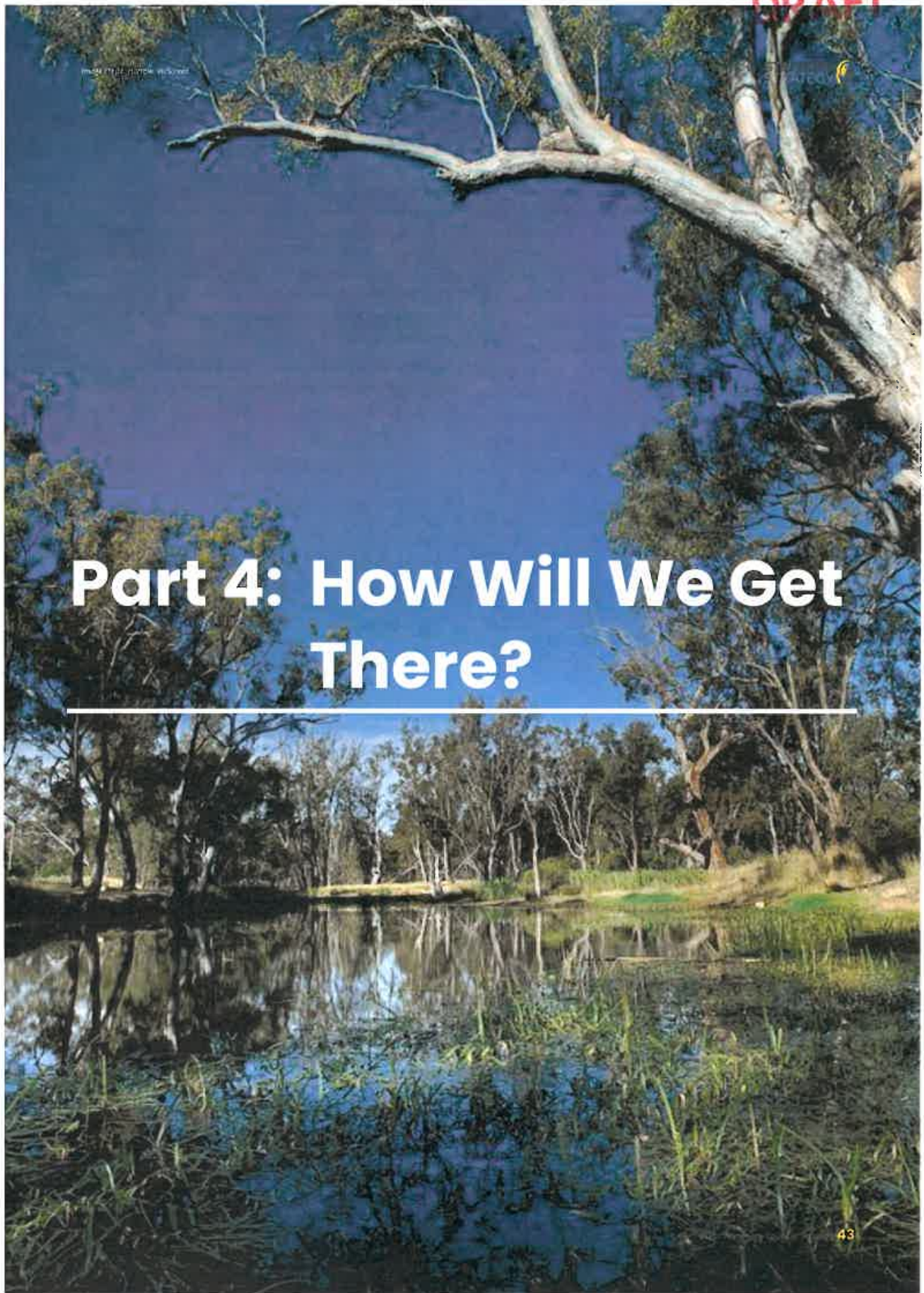
Over the period assessed, total visitation to the Shire is conservatively forecast to grow by 83%, an increase of 98,000 visitors over 10 years. The majority of this growth is driven by the domestic overnight market, increasing by 88% (52,000 visitors), followed by the domestic day market (+77% or 45,000 visitors). While the international market is forecast to grow, growth is fairly minimal, increasing by just over 900 visitors over the period assessed.

Significantly, growth forecasts could be far stronger if supply-side constraints can be adequately addressed.

Figure 16: Visitor Forecasts Total (2023 – 2032)¹²



¹² Based on visitor data (TRA's NVS and IVS), discussions with industry to understand visitor trends as well as broader trend analysis undertaken by Stafford.



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4.1. Action Plan

All stakeholders within the West Wimmera need to work closely together to achieve the desired outcomes of this Tourism Strategy. Whilst Council will need to often be the promoter-facilitator for many of the actions identified, industry groups, town progressive associations and individual operators, along with state government agencies, will also need to input. Securing funding grants from state government and other sources will often be required and will need to be coordinated and/or driven by Council with input from other stakeholders.

Table 8 and Table 9 provide the plan for actioning the various recommendations in this Tourism Strategy, along with an indication of who will be involved. The actions are non-exhaustive and will continually be revalidated over time.

Table 8: Action Plan – Development Recommendations

| Objective | Recommendation | Action | When |
|---------------------|--|--|-------------|
| A Captivating Place | Apsley motorsports expansion and Edenhope Motorcycle Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with both precincts to identify requirements for expansion. Assess potential grant funding streams that may enable the expansion and growth of these facilities. Work with both precincts to develop higher-quality marketing collateral to promote and profile these facilities. | Short term |
| A Captivating Place | Formalisation of regional drive and motorbike trails ★ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a series of formalised itineraries to market to car and bike clubs throughout SA and Victoria covering full-day, single and two-to-three-day overnight circuits. Collate a list of car and bike clubs including motorbikes, mountain bikes, and road bikes throughout SA and Victoria. Develop marketing collateral promoting these circuits and distribute them to car clubs. Distribute marketing collateral to the database of car and bike clubs. Brand and market the drive trails via the West Wimmera Shire official tourism website. | Short term |
| A Sustainable Place | Lake Bringalbert and Dunbopportunity Swamp development ★ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with PV, undertake an assessment to look at appropriate upgrades to Lake Bringalbert and Dunbopportunity Swamp including bird-watching hides, picnic table facilities and a nature play area. Assess potential grant funding streams that could be applied for works. Work with PV to determine the potential for a mobile pop-up F&B operator to establish seasonally on site. | Short term |
| A Captivating Place | Pop-up seasonal food outlets (centred at towns & lakes) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential operators to run a pop-up trial for a food outlet either at town centres or major lakes/water body areas potentially on a seasonal basis. | Short term |
| A Captivating Place | West Wimmera 4WD courses (Little Desert) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential operators who may be interested in offering 4WD courses of Little Desert potentially on a seasonal basis. Identify business start-up support packages that could assist. | Short term |
| A Captivating Place | West Wimmera orchid tours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the potential to offer self-guided orchid and wildflower tours that could potentially progress to be packaged guided tours. Brand and market the tours via the West Wimmera Shire official tourism website. | Short term |
| A Captivating Place | Bike trail link (10km) between Lake Bringalbert and Lake Charlegrark | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a study looking at the cost of establishing the link between Lake Bringalbert and Lake Charlegrark. It is understood a trail already exists but this needs to be formalised and hardened in places. Signage and promotional material would also need to be developed. | Medium term |

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| Objective | Recommendation | Action | When |
|---------------------|---|--|-------------|
| A Captivating Place | Bird and frog-watching tours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential operators who may be interested in offering bird and/or frog-watching tours potentially on a seasonal basis. Identify business start-up support packages that could assist. Brand and market the tours via the West Wimmera Shire official tourism website. | Medium term |
| A Sustainable Place | Completion of Kaniva Wetlands boardwalk, including camping area, swimmable wetlands, and water retention strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess potential grant funding streams that may enable the completion of the Kaniva Wetlands boardwalk and the development of the camping area, swimmable wetland, and implementation of a water retention strategy. | Medium term |
| A Sustainable Place | Extended boardwalk from Apsley to Lake Newlands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to expand the existing boardwalk from Apsley to Lake Newlands to improve access and connectivity for walkers and cyclists. Assess potential grant funding streams that may enable the development of the boardwalk. Undertake discussion with PV regarding the need for a linear committee of management to facilitate the boardwalk development. | Medium term |
| A Unique Place | Indigenous tourism cultural program (digital drive circuits and walking tours) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Traditional Owners to develop a series of digital drive circuits and walking tours that showcase aspects of their culture. Brand and market the tours via the West Wimmera Shire official tourism website. | Medium term |
| A Captivating Place | Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon (assess extending the length of the event) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the organisers of the event to assess the potential to expand the length of the event from two days to grow visitor average length of stay. | Medium term |
| A Sustainable Place | Lake Ratzcastle designation of sites and upgrade of camp kitchen | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with PV, undertake an assessment to look at appropriate upgrades to Lake Ratzcastle including the designation of sites and upgrade of the camp kitchen. Assess potential grant funding streams that could be applied to for works. | Medium term |
| A Sustainable Place | Lake Wallace recreation infrastructure ★ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess potential grant funding streams that could be applied to complete the works identified in the Lake Wallace Strategic Plan, including a floating pontoon, boat ramp upgrades, a fishing pontoon, a sandy beach swimming area, bird hides, signage etc. | Medium term |
| A Captivating Place | Murray cod fishing competition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with local fishing groups and interested stakeholders to ascertain interest in developing an annual Murray Cod fishing competition. Brand and market the event via the West Wimmera Shire official tourism website. | Medium term |
| A Unique Place | Pet-friendly accommodation focus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a pet-friendly audit of existing accommodations in the Shire. Development of clever marketing campaign to promote those properties in the Shire that are pet friendly. Consider running faml trips with tourism magazines/websites/blogs to promote pet-friendly West Wimmera. | Medium term |
| A Captivating Place | Sensory playground trail (leveraging existing playgrounds in Goroke and Kaniva) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake site assessment to identify preferred locations for additional sensory playgrounds to enhance playground trail Assess potential grant funding streams that may enable the development of the sensory playgrounds. | Medium term |

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| Objective | Recommendation | Action | When |
|---------------------|--|---|-------------|
| A Captivating Place | Serviceton Railway Station attraction/event venue | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete an assessment looking at the potential uses to transform Serviceton Railway Station into an attraction. This could be through utilising the station as an event venue or as a location for a regular attraction. Assess potential grant funding streams that could be applied to for to complete works and deferred maintenance needs. | Medium term |
| A Captivating Place | Serviceton Reservoir site infrastructure improvement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake assessment on potential improvements to Serviceton Reservoir including picnic tables, signage, and designated caravan parking. Assess potential grant funding streams that may enable the upgrade of the Reservoir. | Medium term |
| A Captivating Place | Upgraded and expanded cabin capacity at lake-side holiday parks ★ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the short-medium term, assess potential grant streams that could be applied for to introduce a further 6-8 cabins at each caravan park throughout the Shire. In the longer-term, complete a pre-feasibility assessing the viability of a new destination holiday park within the Shire. Complete a site assessment investigating potential sites where a destination holiday park could be suitably located. If shown to be viable, take pre-feasibility to potential major destination holiday park operators to gauge interest. | Medium term |
| A Captivating Place | West Wimmera wetlands kayaking journeys | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a series of self-guided kayaking journeys that utilise the various waterways in the Shire. These could potentially progress to be packaged guided tours. Brand and market tours via the West Wimmera Shire official tourism website. | Medium term |
| A Sustainable Place | Worker accommodation hostel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey the industry (including surrounding regions) to understand the level of need (and establish a quantifiable number) for worker accommodation and seasonality needs. Undertake site assessment to determine potential sites that could be suited for the development of a worker hostel and/or the retrofit of an existing building. Develop a pre-feasibility assessing the viability of the proposition. If feasible, develop an EOI and take this to market promoting the concept to potential investors and developers. | Medium term |
| A Captivating Place | Boutique whisky, tequila, or vodka distillery; craft brewery or cider house ★ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake site assessment to determine potential sites that could be suited for the development of a distillery and/or the retrofit of an existing building. Develop a pre-feasibility assessing the viability of the proposition. If feasible, develop an EOI and take this to market promoting the concept to potential investors and developers. | Long term |
| A Captivating Place | Evening events (light show, outdoor cinema) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the development of a light show to showcase heritage stories either in one specific area or throughout the LGA or other evening-based experiences such as a rotational outdoor cinema with an accompanying night food market. Assess potential grant funding streams that may enable the development of evening-based experience. | Long term |
| A Captivating Place | Farming/horticultural agri shows consolidation to strengthen their proposition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the organisers of these shows and events to determine their USPs and ascertain whether interest exists to consolidate to reduce pressure on volunteers. | Long term |
| A Captivating Place | Harrow fishing, kayaking and river walking trail | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete an assessment on developing a fishing, kayaking and river walking trail in Harrow. Assess potential grant funding streams that may enable the development of the trail experience. | Long term |

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| Objective | Recommendation | Action | When |
|---------------------|---|--|-----------|
| A Captivating Place | Mini triathlon event (Goroke) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake discussions with local park runs and sporting/recreational groups to ascertain interest, demand, and requirements. If demand/interest exists, complete a plan for the event Identify potential grant funding sources which may be able to be leveraged to support the event. Develop an event benefit report which demonstrates the economic and related benefits of the event. | Long term |
| A Captivating Place | Self-guided heritage and historic tours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with local cultural and historical representatives to develop a series of self-guided heritage and historic tours that extend throughout the Shire. These could potentially progress to be packaged guided tours. Brand and market tours via the West Wimmera Shire official tourism website. | Long term |

★ = Priority recommendation

Table 9: Action Plan – Strategic Initiatives

| Theme | Recommendation | Action | When |
|---------------------|--|--|------------|
| An Insightful Place | Annual Council support program communication workshop | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the community on the ongoing activation of priority tourism initiatives via the Council's online newsletter and tourism workshops. | Short term |
| An Insightful Place | Annual volunteer appreciation event | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An annual event (picnic, fair, barbeque) to show appreciation to community volunteers across the Shire. Rotate the event each year in different towns where Council facilities can be used. | Short term |
| A Unique Place | Assess West Wimmera destination brand | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a brand refresh exercise that builds on the vision and objectives of this Strategy. Develop appropriate brand collateral via the Council website, signage boards throughout the Shire, etc. | Short term |
| An Insightful Place | B&B planning scheme workshops ★ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate a series of 2-3 workshops for local interested community members and other parties. Facilitated by Council and offering a ½ day workshop in major towns. Development of a check sheet to encourage informed and more structured approaches to planning for bed and breakfast style of accommodation approvals. | Short term |
| A Captivating Place | Caravan/camping marketing campaign (family market & couples) ★ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a targeted marketing campaign by Council. Working in tandem with caravan and camping associations in Victoria, South Australia and potentially other states and territories. Working with other major sector industry stakeholders including caravan clubs and other user groups to raise awareness. | Short term |
| An Insightful Place | Digital literacy operator training program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate industry upskilling in digital literacy via state government training assistance offered. Secure funding and assistance from RDV, VV and other relevant agencies. Offered free to industry operators and those looking to establish tourism entities. | Short term |
| A Sustainable Place | Freedom camping site gold coin entry (policy change) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a change in Council policy to encourage all designated camping sites to require a gold coin entry contribution to help cover Council maintenance costs. Communicate this requirement on the Council website and through caravan and camping associations and clubs. Introduce a system for gold coin collection, especially at peak periods. | Short term |

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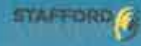
| Theme | Recommendation | Action | When |
|---------------------|--|--|-------------|
| An Insightful Place | Improved visitor statistics & insights | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a visitor data collection system for all commercial accommodation outlets and visitor attractions to enable visitor information to be captured. Council to collect visitor data annually and to report on visitor data trends annually. | Short term |
| A Sustainable Place | Johnny Mullagh Memorial & Caravan Park dump site (Harrow) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the correct location for the caravan park dump site. Secure grant funding to introduce the facility. Establish a maintenance program for clearing and checking. | Short term |
| A Sustainable Place | Planning scheme change to encourage tourism development in urban areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reassess the need for more land to be designated in each town for tourism development specifically to encourage cabin and chalet developments, cottages, and worker accommodation. Update the planning scheme to enable tourism development to be a preferred form of development to support the town's economic sustainability. | Short term |
| An Insightful Place | Retailer and business customer care training program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate industry upskilling in customer care via state government training assistance offered. Secure funding and assistance from RDV, VV and other relevant agencies. Offered free to industry operators and those looking to establish tourism entities. | Short term |
| An Insightful Place | Tourism business growth workshops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate industry business growth workshops via state government training assistance offered. Secure funding and assistance from RDV, VV and other relevant agencies. Offered free to industry operators and those looking to establish tourism entities. | Short term |
| An Insightful Place | West Wimmera events guidelines document | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an events toolkit for the Shire to demonstrate that the Shire is 'open' for events and to make event planning easier for event organisers. Distribute the toolkit online, including via Council's website. | Short term |
| A Unique Place | West Wimmera lake marketing and water levels app 🌟 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure state government grant to develop an app for informing on lake water levels and facilities. Engage appropriate skilled app development company. Monitor and update data on the app on a monthly basis. | Short term |
| An Insightful Place | West Wimmera shire-wide signage audit 🌟 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a state government funding grant to undertake a full Shire signage audit to cover all directional signage and all interpretative signage. Assess where new signs are required. Secure state government funding grant to design and develop new signage and then introduce skins over existing signs where possible along with additional signage. | Short term |
| A Unique Place | Development and marketing of horse trails on State Forest land | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with State Forests and horse-riding associations and clubs to determine a horse trail network. Secure state government funding for expanding trail networks where required and marketing via equine sector websites. | Medium term |
| A Sustainable Place | Formalised caravan and trailer parking on the main street of Kaniva 🌟 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate 10-20 formal parking bays on or close to the main street of Kaniva for caravan and trailer parking. Ensure signposting of these is provided. Introduce highway signage sufficiently far in advance of Kaniva to inform caravaners etc of available parking spaces. | Short-term |
| A Sustainable Place | National parks and state forest parks safety signage (audit) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage State Forests and PV to undertake a safety signage audit to better inform visitors of safety requirements in parks and reserve areas used. To look at better online safety messaging options. | Medium term |



| Theme | Recommendation | Action | When |
|---------------------|--|--|-------------|
| A Captivating Place | Promotion of the Henley on Lake Wallace Event along with the greater promotion of all events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand promotional budgets for major Shire events. Identify both in Shire and external potential sponsors. | Medium term |
| A Unique Place | Silo art tourism strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a silo-specific tourism strategy that aims at initiatives to get visitors to not only stop to photograph and view silo art but to encourage them to use local cafes and other tourism facilities. Develop a silo trail app to encourage touring across the Shire to see silo art and to offer other places to stop and visit. Integrate silo art with the other attractions and amenities (cafes, pubs, retail etc) that the Shire offers. | Medium term |
| A Unique Place | Agri-tourism/farm tourism strategy (link with existing town markets) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a strategy to encourage stronger integration of agri tourism including food trails, market days, produce providers-farm gate experiences, food, and beverage events etc. | Long term |
| A Captivating Place | Position Apsley as the Western Gateway to the region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalise Apsley's position as the western gateway to the wider region via highway signage and website. Introduce streetscape landscape design elements to create a stronger sense of arrival (via planting, etc). | Long term |

★ = Priority recommendation

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Part 5: Appendices

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Appendix 1 Full Survey Questions

1. What do you see as the top three tourism products and tourism experiences currently?
2. What tourism products and experiences do you think are missing currently from West Wimmera Shire?
3. What should our region be aspiring to be as a visitor destination?
4. What do you see as the three major challenges for our region currently?
5. Should we be encouraging far more visitors to our region?
6. Any suggestions on how to do this?
7. If we were to cluster visitor experiences and attractions in one primary area of our region, where would they be located?
8. What wouldn't you like to see introduced by way of new product and experiences?
9. Getting the right balance of offering free experiences versus paid for/chargeable experiences is important for a visitor economy. Do we have enough paid for experiences?
10. If no, what should we be considering?
11. If you look ahead five years, what should tourism ideally look like for our region (i.e., new or expanded products, more marketing, current or changed image, more employment for locals in the visitor economy, or same as now, etc)
12. If you think about our surrounding regions, what is our clear point of difference that we should be marketing as, or don't we have a strong point of difference yet?
13. Any additional comments or suggestions?
14. Your details

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Appendix 2 Net Promoter Score

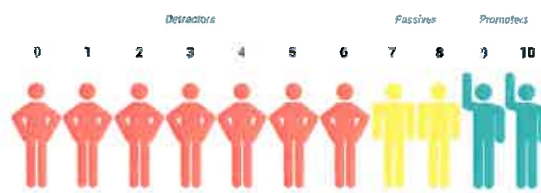
To undertake a top-line assessment of the quality of a region's product offering, the Net Promoter Score (NPS) metric can be used. This is a measurement of consumer loyalty. In a tourism context, this translates to a visitors' willingness to not only return for another stay but also make a recommendation to their family, friends, and colleagues. NPS scores are reported with a number from -100 to +100, with a score above 30 considered average and a score above 50 considered good.

The NPS is calculated using a scale (see Figure 17), with:

- a score between 0-6 is considered unhappy customers who are unlikely to return, and may even discourage others from staying with the provider;
- a score between 7-8 being passives, meaning they are satisfied with the provider but not happy enough to be considered promoters;
- a score between 9-10 is considered promoters who are typically loyal and enthusiastic customers and who are likely to return and strongly promote the provider.

TripAdvisor and Google¹³ use a scale of 1-5 for consumer ratings on accommodation products. Converting this to the NPS scale means that a rating of 1-3 is considered "detractors" for the product, a score of 4 are the product's "passives" and a score of 5 is the product's "promoters".¹⁴ Only product with more than 5 reviews was included in the NPS assessment to ensure a robust sample size.

Figure 17: NPS Score Scale



¹³ Booking.com has not been used to derive a NPS because it does not provide a scale of scores, but rather, only provides an overall score. Therefore, an NPS is unable to be calculated from Booking.com listings.

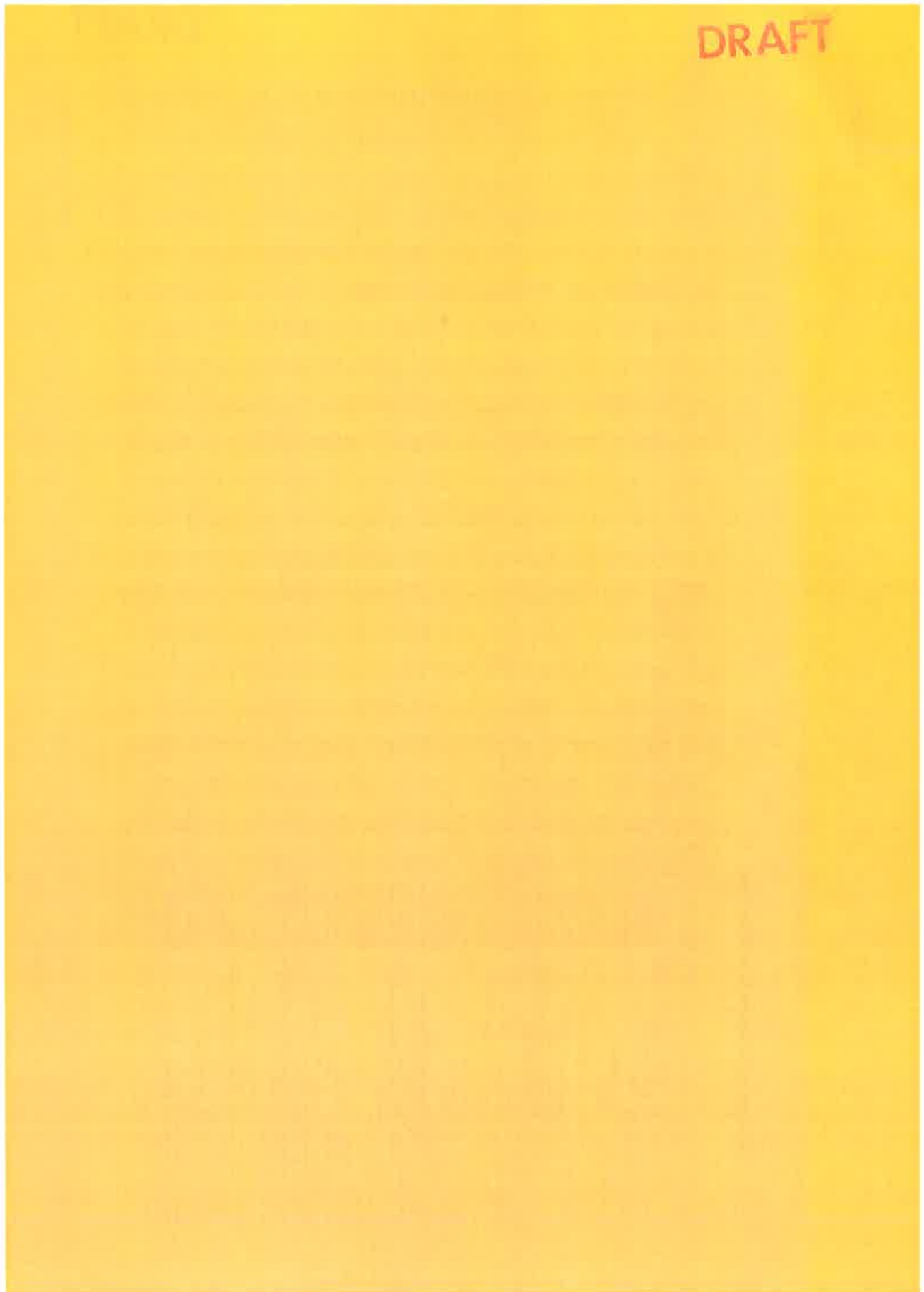
¹⁴ <https://birdseye.com/blog/net-promoter-score-explained/>

Table 10: Full matrix with values

| Project Name | Project Type | Ability to use a developer's perspective to create a business plan | Ability to attract a higher market | Ability to improve the environment | Ability to secure grant funding for project | Employment (no.) | Encourage indigenous resources in the community | Encourage stronger economic linkages | Encourage volunteerism | Intervention Volunteerism | Encouraged volunteerism | Likelihood to be perceived as a volunteer | Ability to be supported by community | Total estimated cost of project 2022 | PPP - public funding component estimate | Private funding | Required approval of volunteers | Requirements for operating operations | Government support | Types of products |
|---|-----------------------|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Agri-tourism/Farm tourism strategy (with visit to farm markets) | Strategic Initiatives | Medium | n/a | n/a | Low | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | High | \$35,000 | \$33,500 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Manufacture of products |
| Annual Council support/Program communication workshop | Strategic Initiatives | Medium | None | None | None | n/a | None | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | High | \$2,000 | \$1,500 | \$0 | n/a | None | Short term | Low |
| Annual volunteer appreciation event | Strategic Initiatives | None | None | None | None | n/a | None | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | High | \$2,500 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Short term | Low |
| Apply rmc/strategies separation and Garrocho Motorcycle park | Development Project | Medium | Medium | None | High | n/a | None | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | Unknown | High | \$25,000 | \$87,000 | \$162,800 | Medium | None | Short term | Medium |
| Assess West Wimmera destination brand | Strategic Initiatives | Low | n/a | n/a | Low | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | High | \$15,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Short term | Low |
| Bike planning scheme workshop | Development Project | Medium | Medium | None | Low | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | High | \$45,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Short term | Low |
| Bike trail link (Oton) between Lake Hingebart and Lake Chalkmark | Development Project | Low | High | Low | Low | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | High | \$15,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Short term | Low |
| Bed and frog workshop | Development Project | Low | High | Low | Low | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | High | \$30,000 | \$27,000 | \$300,000 | Medium | None | Long term | Medium |
| Brilliant vehicle, bagels and vodka distillery, cat/brewery or other house | Development Project | High | n/a | n/a | Low | n/a | n/a | Low | Medium | n/a | n/a | Unknown | High | \$10,000 | \$40,000 | \$300,000 | Medium | None | Long term | Medium |
| Caravan camping of historic Wodonga community (family friendly & couples) | Strategic Initiatives | Medium | High | Medium | Low | n/a | n/a | Low | Medium | n/a | n/a | Unknown | High | \$25,000 | \$120 | \$0 | n/a | None | Short term | N/A |
| Caravan camping of historic Wodonga community, including camping sites, wheelchair access | Development Project | Medium | High | Medium | Low | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | Unknown | High | \$25,000 | \$120 | \$0 | n/a | None | Short term | N/A |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | None | Low | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |
| Developing and marketing of local food on state 'roadside' stall | Strategic Initiatives | Low | Medium | n/a | Medium | n/a | None | n/a | Medium | n/a | n/a | n/a | Medium | \$35,000 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a | None | Long term | Medium |

Table 11: Full matrix with scores (unweighted score/weighted score)

West Wimmera Tourism Strategy





14.2 Sponsorship and Contributions Grant - Update to include Individual application

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Community Development and Tourism Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

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.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Sponsorship and Contributions grant was written to ensure that Council manages their requests for funding in a consistent and equitable manner. The guideline provides structure for applicants and provides structure in the assessment and recommendations for Council officers.

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

Not Applicable

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil

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.
- 1.4 Deliver quality services that support community life.
- 1.5 Support and encourage our events, cultural and arts communities.
- 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.
- 2.2 Promote the Shire as a great place to visit, live and invest.
- 2.3 Facilitate the development of the local economy and jobs.
- 2.6 Provide infrastructure to sustain economic activity.

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.

Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values

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

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Conclusion

Sponsorship and contributions grant is a new grant category however the concept of these grants is not. The council has provided sponsorship and contributions in the past within the



budget. However, with the adoption of these guidelines the process will meet VAGO recommendations and be transparent and equitable to the community.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the Sponsorship and Contributions Grant Guideline for Community Groups/Organisations and Individuals and that the Guideline be attached to the current Grants Policy and existing Guidelines.**

Attachments

1. Sponsorship and Contributions Grant Guidelines 2023 May 8 draft [**14.2.1** - 7 pages]



Council Guideline Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

| COUNCIL GUIDELINE | |
|---|--|
| COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS GRANTS | Guideline No: |
| | Adopted by Council: |
| | Next review date: |
| Senior Manager: | Director Corporate and Community Services |
| Responsible Officer: | Manager Community Development and Tourism |
| Functional Area: | Corporate and Community 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 | <p>West Wimmera Shire Council Sponsorship and Contributions Grants is to support locally based groups and organisations that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support community wellbeing • Encourage community participation. • Bring economic benefit to the West Wimmera Shire • <u>Assist in the recovery from catastrophic emergencies (funding to non-West Wimmera Shire groups may be considered i.e., Blazeaid)</u> • <u>Supports individuals where a benefit is seen to the community of the West Wimmera</u> |

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Council Guideline Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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| | |
| 1. | <p>Eligibility – organisations/groupsOrganisations/Groups/Individuals must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a not-for-profit group, or organisation, <u>or individual</u> • Have no outstanding payments owed to Council. • Have a current ABN or complete a Statement by a Supplier Form. |
| 2. | <p>Ineligible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisations/groupsOrganisations/Groups/Individuals that have outstanding payment owed to Council. • Individuals, Ununincorporated groups, political, businesses and for-profit groups |
| 3. | <p>What projects will be funded?</p> <p>Council will consider requests for sponsorship towards initiatives and/or activities that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <u>(Not applicable for Individual applicants)</u> • 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. • <u>Have Public Liability Insurance cover for the project and must indemnify Council against any legal claims arising out of the projectproject.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Groups and Organisations must have public liability insurance</u> |

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Council Guideline Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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| | <p>Individuals may be requested to have public liability insurance at the discretion of Council</p> |
| 4. | <p>What projects will not be funded?</p> <p>Council will not consider projects that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Sponsorship is a commercial arrangement in which Council provides a contribution of financial or in-kind support for an activity, group, or organisation.</p> |
| 5. | <p>Funding and Timelines</p> <p>Applicants can request a Sponsorship or Contribution of up to \$1000 per annum.</p> <p>Council's Sponsorship and Contributions Grants is open throughout the year, until all budgeted funds have been expended.</p> <p>Application assessment panels are convened as required, and applicants will be notified within two weeks of the next council meeting of the outcome.</p> |



Council Guideline Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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.

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Council Guideline Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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| 6. | <p>Information about Financial Support</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Groups/Organisations are eligible for one sponsorship contribution per financial year from Council. Please note that submitting a request does not guarantee approval.</p> <p>The sponsorship/contribution provided maybe either financial and/or in-kind support <u>up to \$1,000</u>. 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 <u>or contribution</u>.</p> <p><u>Council will require organisations seeking funding through this grant to have public liability insurance. For individuals' council may require the individual to carry public liability insurance. This will be advised at the time of application.</u></p> <p>Any support provided through the Community Sponsorship and Contributions Grants (direct financial or in kind) will require recognition of Council's contribution.</p> |
| 7. | <p>Submitting a Request Form</p> <p>Request forms can be completed via https://westwimmera.smartygrants.com.au/</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For assistance in completing the online application please contact the Volunteer and Events Officer grants@westwimmera.vic.gov.au</p> |
| 8. | <p>Council's In-kind Support</p> <p>West Wimmera Shire Council's in-kind contribution is a contribution of a good or a service other than money. Some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of an area out of normal works routine (Mowing, slashing, etc.) |

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Council Guideline Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation, preparation, delivery, and removal of extra bins • Allocation, delivery, and removal of traffic management signage <p>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</p> |
| 9. | <p>Assessment Criteria</p> <p>Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. | <p>Assessment Process</p> <p>All applications are assessed against the program criteria and eligibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications are reviewed by a cross-departmental panel of three Council Officers • A community development officer provides administrative and record-keeping 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The number of applications received. ○ Total funding pool available for the financial year |

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Council Guideline Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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: | | | |
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14.3 Revocation COVID-19 Financial Hardship Rate Recovery Policy

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

The COVID-19 Financial Hardship Rate Recovery Policy (the Policy) was adopted by Council on 18 August 2021 to address temporary hardship due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. To be eligible for assistance under the Policy, an individual or business is required to demonstrate a reduction in income and/or employment which is directly attributable to a COVID-19 lockdown.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

The Policy allows for payment arrangements, interest holds and debt recovery suspension to be granted to ratepayers who can demonstrate that they have suffered economically as the result of a COVID-19 lockdown. Individuals are required to prove that they have lost employment and/or income because of a lockdown, and businesses are required to prove that they have experienced a reduction in income of 15 per cent or more arising from a lockdown (in accordance with the requirements of the expired Commonwealth JobKeeper program).

In the almost two years since the Policy was adopted, the Commonwealth's COVID-19 vaccination program has been successful in ensuring that the vast majority of Australians have now been vaccinated against the pandemic. Even though COVID-19 is still present in the community, there have been no recent lockdowns, and the need for any future lockdowns can reasonably be regarded as very low.

In the absence of a lockdown, the eligibility criteria specified in the Policy cannot be fulfilled. Any ratepayers currently experiencing financial hardship have recourse to Council's Financial Hardship Policy which was adopted on 15 June 2022, and which continues to provide a mechanism to assist ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship for any reason.

Accordingly, officers recommend that Council revoke the COVID-19 Financial Hardship Rate Recovery Policy.



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

Not applicable

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil

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 4 – Good Governance

4.1 Ensure long term financial sustainability.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Conclusion

The end of COVID-19 lockdowns makes it impossible for ratepayers to satisfy the eligibility requirements of the COVID-19 Financial Hardship Rate Recovery Policy. Ratepayers experiencing financial hardship for any reason whatsoever have recourse to Council's Financial Hardship Policy.



OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council revoke the COVID-19 Financial Hardship Rate Recovery Policy.

Attachments

Nil



14.4 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes and April 2023 Activity Report

Directorate:

Report Author: Chief Financial Officer

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

This report presents West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) with the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 21 March 2023. In addition, Mr Mick Jaensch, Chair of the West Wimmera Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee, has provided Council with the April 2023 Audit and Risk Committee activity report relating to the Committee meetings held on 20 December 2022 and 21 March 2023. This report has been provided for information and includes confirmation from the Audit and Risk Committee that there are no matters under its purview which are not being appropriately responded to.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Section 53 (1) of the Local Government Act 2020 requires that each Council establish an Audit and Risk Committee. The Audit and Risk Committee is a formally appointed Advisory Committee of Council.

The Audit and Risk Committee's role is to report to Council and provide appropriate advice and recommendations relevant to its charter in order to facilitate decision making by Council in relation to the discharge of its responsibilities. The Audit and Risk Committee plays a key role in assisting Council to fulfil its governance and overseeing responsibilities in relation to financial reporting, internal control, risk management systems, ethical accountability and the internal audit function.

The Audit and Risk Committee (The Committee) does not have executive powers or authority to implement actions in areas over which management has responsibility and does not have any delegated financial responsibility. The Committee does not have any management functions and is therefore independent of management. The Committee does not have any role in relation to issues normally addressed by Council or a sub-committee of Council, which may have delegated powers and financial management responsibilities in relation to budgets, financing decisions and expenditure priorities. The Committee is a



separate activity and acts independently of Council and does not have any role in relation to financial management issues or have any executory role or powers.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

Financial risk

Regulatory risk

Reputation risk

Strategic risk

Legislative Implications

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

Environmental Implications

Not applicable

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Not applicable

Policy Implications

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

Fraud & Corruption Control Policy

Risk Management Policy

Council Plan Implications

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

Goal 4 – Good Governance

4.5 Maintain a rigorous risk management framework.

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

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been undertaken in relation to this matter in accordance with the Gender Equality Act (2020).

Conclusion

The minutes of the previous Audit Committee meeting are attached for Councillor's information.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Note and receive the draft minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held 21 March 2023.**
- 2. Note and receive the April 2023 Audit and Risk Committee activity report relating to the Committee meetings held on 20 December 2022 and 21 March 2023.**

Attachments

1. West Wimmera ARC Half Yearly Report April 2023 [**14.4.1** - 4 pages]
2. 2023 03 21 Audit Committee Minutes [**14.4.2** - 23 pages]

**West Wimmera Shire Council
Audit & Risk Committee
Activity Report
April 2023**

1. Period of this Report

This report covers Audit & Risk Committee (ARC or Committee) activity for the two ARC meetings held on 20 December 2022 and 21 March 2023. This report has been reviewed by all Committee members.

2. Purpose of this Report

This report meets the reporting requirements to Council as mandated by the *Local Government Act 2020* (LGA) pursuant to section 54(5) and importantly provides Council with a summary of the matters that the ARC has addressed in the reporting period in discharging its responsibilities under its Charter.

3. Committee Charter

The ARC's Charter is set by Council and was reviewed and approved by Council following changes recommended by the Audit and Risk Committee on 16 March 2022.

4. What has the Council asked the ARC to do?

As a reminder to Council, the business of the Committee is briefly summarised below and is based on the requirements Council established in the Committee Charter referred to above. The work of the Committee is to assist the Council regarding its prudential, governance, and responsibilities under sections 8 and 28 of the LGA.

In essence, the work of the Committee includes the following key matters:

- a) Monitor the quality of the annual financial report and the annual performance statement.
- b) Monitor the effectiveness of the Council's risk management performance.
- c) Monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of the systems and controls management has in place to enable the business to deliver on Council strategic and operational plans.
- d) Ensure that the annual external audit of those statements is completed, and that management addresses any serious matters raised by the auditors.
- e) Monitor the quality of the internal audit program and delivery of internal audit plans. These plans are aimed at identifying any system and control concerns that the Council may have in key areas of operations.
- f) Monitor Council performance regarding legislative and policy compliance.

5. Committee Business

The agendas for our meetings are driven by the Committee's Annual Work Plan (AWP). At the meetings held in this reporting period, the key matters considered are summarised in the table below.

Key Matters Considered at Recent Meetings

| Item Number | Topic | 20-Dec-22 | 21-Mar-23 |
|-------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | Noted the final version of the 2021/22 Annual Report that was submitted to the Minister | ✓ | |
| 2 | Reviewed the Quarterly Financial Report | ✓ | ✓ |
| 3 | Noted the 2023/24 Annual Budget Timetable | | ✓ |
| 4 | Received an update on the status of actions against the external audit management letter issues | ✓ | ✓ |
| 5 | Reviewed the proposed External Audit Strategy for the upcoming 2022/23 audit | | ✓ |
| 6 | Received an update on the status of the internal audit program and outstanding management actions against previous internal audits | ✓ | ✓ |
| 7 | Reviewed the Internal Audit on Contracts and Procurement | ✓ | |
| 8 | Reviewed the proposed internal audit scope for General Financial Controls | ✓ | |
| 9 | Received the OHS and Risk Management Update report | ✓ | ✓ |
| 10 | Reviewed the Business Continuity Policy | ✓ | |
| 11 | Received a draft of the Strategic Risk Register | | ✓ |
| 12 | Reviewed Councillor and CEO Reimbursements & Credit Card usage | ✓ | ✓ |
| 13 | Received an update from the CEO on matters relevant to ARC | ✓ | ✓ |
| 14 | Reviewed Policy Tracker Listing | ✓ | ✓ |
| 15 | Reviewed the draft Public Transparency Policy | ✓ | |
| 16 | Noted the actions arising from audit committee discussions | ✓ | ✓ |
| 17 | Reviewed the ARC Work Plan | ✓ | ✓ |
| 18 | Reviewed the Audit and Risk Committee Charter | ✓ | |
| 19 | Reviewed the Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report | ✓ | |
| 20 | Reviewed the Audit and Risk Committee Self Assessment | | ✓ |

6. Meetings & Membership

Committee Meetings

The Committee met twice on 20 December 2022 and 21 March 2023 as noted above. Councillors Tim Meyer (Mayor) and Jodie Pretlove are the Council's representatives on the Committee.

The independent members of the Committee appointed by the Council are Mick Jaensch (Chair), Celeste Gregory, and Andrew Johnson.

Member attendance at the two meetings has been excellent with all members in attendance at both meetings.

7. The Committee's Annual Work Plan

The Committee has dealt with all matters scheduled for consideration in the ARC AWP in the reporting period.

8. Key Activities for the Reporting Period

The work of the ARC has continued to be guided by the Annual Workplan (AWP) and all matters listed in the AWP for the two scheduled meetings held have been addressed. The AWP is reviewed at each meeting to ensure its continued relevance.

In terms of highlights outside of the normal recurring business items that are discussed at each meeting, the following were significant discussions at the Audit and Risk Committee.

December Meeting

- The ARC welcomed Mayor Tim Meyer to his first meeting of the ARC and paid tribute to the contributions of the former Mayor Bruce Meyer to the committee.
- The Committee noted the large number of outstanding audit actions relating to the ICT Strategy. Management noted that they had engaged a contractor to assist with the tender process to provide ICT services with tenders closing on 4 January 2023.
- The Committee accepted all internal audit recommendations in regard to the procurement audit. The Committee discussed the use of tender weightings when they are not always appropriate to apply and the need to address outcomes when there is only one relevant tenderer.
- The ARC continued discussions on the progress toward the development of a strategic risk register

March Meeting

- The Committee discussed in detail with the external auditor the proposed audit strategy for the upcoming audit strategy for 2022/23 year-end.
- It was pleasing for the Committee to note the significant improvement that had been achieved regarding outstanding/open items on the external auditor management letter.
- The committee discussed with the Internal Auditor the proposed internal audit topics moving forward. There was strong support from the Committee for IT/Cyber Security to be the preferred topic.
- The Committee discussed the recent issue within the Council regarding the appointment of an external contractor to manage the Council's ICT issues moving forward. The Committee noted that several models apply in other Councils. The Committee recommended to the Council representatives that whatever model was selected by the Council it should not be an option that was fully dependent on a single individual.
- The updated Strategic Risk Register was tabled, and the Committee noted the progress on this issue which has been a long-running matter for the Committee.
- Given the level of carried-forward capital, the Committee requested a further report on this matter at the next ARC meeting.

9. Matters for Consideration During the Next Reporting Period

In addition to business-as-usual matters, the Committee will consider the following important matters at its next meeting:

- Review of the capital works progress report and how the Council is expending its carried forward works.
- Review of Information Privacy Policy
- Revenue and Rating Strategy Review
- Asset Management Update
- Review of the 2023/24 Annual Budget
- Further discussion on the strategic Risk register
- External Audit Interim Management Letter

10. Frequency and Timing of Activity Reports

As indicated earlier in this report, these reports are required to be provided to the Council twice per annum. The Committee is of the view that these reports need to be informative about the business of the Committee. Feedback on this report by Council is welcomed.

11. What This Report Means for Council

In the Committee's view, there is nothing in this report that is not being appropriately responded to.

12. Meeting Schedule for 2023

The Committee's meeting schedule for the remainder of 2023 is as follows:

- 13 June 2023
- 19 September 2023
- 12 December 2023

Yours sincerely

Mick Jaensch

Chair

On behalf of the Audit & Risk Committee

21/4/2023



AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD: Tuesday 21 March 2023

LOCATION: Edenhope Council Chamber
49 Elizabeth Street, Edenhope and via Microsoft Teams video conference

COMMENCED: 2:05pm

| IN ATTENDANCE: | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Committee Members | Senior Management/Officers |
| Mick Jaensch (Chair) | David Bezuidenhout Chief Executive Officer |
| Andrew Johnson | James Bentley Director Corporate and Community Services |
| Celeste Gregory | Melanie Jordan Chief Financial Officer |
| Cr Jodie Pretlove | Phillip Gillin Occupational Health, Safety and Risk Manager |
| Cr Tim Meyer | Katie Frost Governance Manager |
| External Parties | |
| Kathie Teasdale – RSD Audit | |
| Paul Harrison – RSD Audit | |
| Martin Thompson - Crowe Australasia | |
| Thanh Nguyen - Crowe Australasia | |
| Optional Attendance - Observer | |

***Vision Statement:** Our West Wimmera communities are healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious, prosperous and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity*



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Cassandra Gravenall – Crowe Australasia
Ram Upadhyaya - Director Infrastructure Development and Works

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

BUSINESS

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

FINANCIAL REPORTING

2. 2023-24 BUDGET TIMETABLE

3. QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT

EXTERNAL AUDIT

4. EXTERNAL AUDIT STRATEGY – DRAFT

5. FINAL MANAGEMENT LETTER ISSUES - UPDATE

INTERNAL AUDIT

6. INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE

7. INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS – UPDATE OF ACTIONS

RISK MANAGEMENT & INTERNAL CONTROLS

8. OHS & RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

9. WWSC CREDIT CARDS

10. COUNCILLOR AND CEO REIMBURSEMENTS



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE ACTIONS AND GOVERNANCE

- 11. CEO UPDATE**
- 12. POLICY TRACKER**
- 13. AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ACTIONS UPDATE**
- 14. AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**
- 15. AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL SELF ASSESSMENT**

NEXT MEETING DATE: 13 JUNE 2023



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

1. MINUTES OF PRIOR AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING 20 DECEMBER 2022

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR ENDORSEMENT

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee held 20 December 2022 were attached for members' endorsement. The minutes and Chair's bi-annual report were presented and received by Council at its meeting held 15 February 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee endorse the minutes from the previous meeting.

Moved: Andrew Johnson

Seconded: Celeste Gregory

That the Audit and Risk Committee endorse the minutes from the previous meeting held 20th December 2023.

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name | RecFind Ref |
|------------|---|--------------------|
| 1.1 | 2022 12 20 Audit & Risk Committee MINUTES - unconfirmed | |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

2. 2023-24 BUDGET TIMELINE

REPORT AUTHOR: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

As part of Council's planning process, a timeline and schedule outlining important meeting dates, preparation milestones and deadlines has been developed to assist in achieving budget adoption by the 30 June deadline as outlined in the Act.

Several changes to how Council has previously conducted its budget process can be noted this year. In line with Council's Engagement Policy, the public consultation period will be held as an informing task only. Council are not inviting public submissions for requests of funds or project ideas as has been the case previously. Council's newly developed Innovation Platform allows submissions from the public at any time during the year and the public will be encouraged to use this platform for any requests that would have previously been raised during the budget consultation period. Additionally, managers with budget responsibilities will be asked to prepare their operational budgets and present these to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). It is envisaged this will promote interest, involvement and accountability for the functional budget areas amongst managers. It is also proposed that officers will have two workshops with Councillors to determine the capital works schedule and review the draft budget document.

The 2023-24 budget schedule was attached for members to consider and provide feedback as to the appropriateness of the target dates and proposed consultation periods.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the 2023-24 Budget schedule be received and noted.

Moved: Cr. Tim Meyer

Seconded: Andrew Johnson

That the 2023-24 Budget schedule be received and noted with further discussions between Council and Council Executive to clarify dates.

Carried Unanimously



AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|-----|--|
| 2.1 | WWSC Budget Preparation Schedule 2023-24 |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

3. QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

The financial reports show an analysis of the actuals to budget forecasts as at 30 September 2022. Where significant variances exist between actual amounts and budgeted figures, a note is included to provide an explanation for the variance. The financial reports include a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet and Capital Works Statement to give a true indication of Council's operations, capital works program and financial position.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Quarterly Budget Report as at 31 December 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Andrew Johnson

Seconded: Celeste Gregory

- 1. That the Quarterly Budget Report as at 31 December 2022 be received and noted.**
- 2. That progress report on the past prior years on carry forward expenditure to be presented to the next meeting.**

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|-----|---|
| 3.1 | Quarterly Budget Report - December 2022 |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

4. REPORT TITLE: EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE

FOR INFORMATION

Martin Thompson from Crowe Australasia provided an update on the external audit strategy and interim audit for member's information.

A draft Audit Strategy for 2023-24 was provided to Committee for feedback before finalising the document. The purpose of the strategy is to communicate the approach to audit. One key area is risk assessment which are consistent with other Councils similar in size.

One new matter included is in relation to changes in personnel, a sector wide issue. Council rate of turnover is below industry average but not insignificant. Potential challenges in changes in key staff. Comfortable with where things are in the Performance Management Letter.

Grants in advance are currently captured under Accounts Payable however other Councils separately disclose as unearned income. Would be recommended to go with the standard approach.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit & Risk committee receive the External Audit Update.

Moved: Celeste Gregory

Seconded: Andrew Johnson

That the Audit & Risk committee receive the External Audit Update.

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name | RecFind Ref |
|-----|---|-------------|
| 4.1 | Audit Strategy Memorandum 30 June 2023 - West Wimmera Shire Council - DRAFT | |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

5. FINAL MANAGEMENT LETTER ISSUES - UPDATE

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

The Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO), through their agents (Crowe Australasia for the 2021-22 financial year), undertake an annual audit on Council's finances and operations.

As part of that audit particular items of risk relating to Council's control systems may be highlighted. These risks are identified in the Audit Management Letter to Council.

Attached for members information is the Final Management Letter for the 2021-22 year as issued by Crowe following the completion of the external audit.

The attached spreadsheet summarises all open management letter points, and also includes those which have been closed in the last audit period (marked as resolved). Management and staff continue to work towards removing unresolved items.

It is noted that no new management letter points were raised during the 2021-22 audit and Council is confident all three remaining open Management Letter points can be addressed during the 2022-23 year.

The Asset Management System will be included in the next year's annual plan and budget. Currently Council have a detailed Asset Register in Excel which meets the requirements.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Committee receives the Summary of Final Management Letter Issues Update Report for information.

Moved: Andrew Johnson

Seconded: Celeste Gregory

That the Audit Committee receives the Summary of Final Management Letter Issues Update Report for information.

Carried Unanimously



AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
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Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|-----|--|
| 5.1 | Summary of Management Letter issues – Mar 23 |



AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

6. INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE

FOR INFORMATION

Kathie Teasdale and Paul Harrison from RSD Audit provided an update on the internal audit program. RSD have recently completed the internal audit into Contracts & Procurement, with the final report attached for members information.

The next internal audit is General Financial Controls and is due to be conducted in early 2023. Following feedback from Audit and Risk Committee members, the scope has been amended and is attached for members review.

Five projects that may be suitable in May 2023 were suggested. Cyber Security noted as high risk and to be included in normal scope document which will be then distributed to members.

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|-----|---|
| 6.1 | IA Status Report - March 2023 - West Wimmera |
| 6.2 | IA Update Report - Q2 FY23 - Local Government |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

7. REPORT TITLE: INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS – UPDATE OF ACTIONS

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

As part of its risk mitigation process and commitment to good governance, Council undertakes a series of internal audits each year. These internal audits focus on a particular risk area and are designed to test and suggest improvements to Council's internal control processes.

Council engages an independent auditor to conduct the internal audits. Following a tender process conducted in late 2020, RSD Audit were appointed as Council's Internal Auditors at the Council Meeting held in April 2021 for a contract term of 3 years. The contract provides for two audits to be conducted per year.

The most recent internal audits undertaken are:

- Contracts and Procurement (July 2022)
- Information Technology (November 2021)
- Risk Management (November 2021)

Council's internal audit program provides a number of recommendations for Council to improve its internal control structure. It is valuable to track the implementation of these recommendations to ensure that all possible improvements to Council's control structure are made. The attached document outlines the progress Council has made in implementing the recommendations of recent internal audits.

Noted that the decision on ICT Strategy was not made at March Council Meeting and to be considered at Meeting in April.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the Internal Audit Recommendations – Update of Actions Report for information.



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
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Moved: Celeste Gregory

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

**That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the Internal Audit Recommendations
– Update of Actions Report for information.**

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|------------|---|
| 7.1 | Internal Audit Issues and Actions Status - Mar 2023 |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
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8. REPORT TITLE: OHS & RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: PHILLIP GILLIN, OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH,
SAFETY AND RISK MANAGER**

FOR INFORMATION

Council's current risk register along with the management reports for the Risk Management Committee and Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Committee were attached for members' information.

Council's risk register provides a high-level rating of risks which affect Council's service provision. All actions carry some level of risk, whilst it is not possible to completely eliminate risk, Council can employ a system of internal controls to mitigate the potential occurrence and effects of risk. The register records those risks which are at a strategic level which Council believes may have a material impact upon its operations, and a brief summary of the internal controls in place to manage the risk.

Council is currently working on improving the structure of the risk register and has implemented Elumina for both the OHS & risk management. Elumina has a risk register portal which will be excellent for both Strategic and Unit level risk management. It has the ability to run comprehensive reports, allocate timeframes, accountabilities and escalate any risk treatments. Additionally, Council's internal auditors RSD Audit have recently conducted a risk management internal audit.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the reports on OHS & Risk Management for information.

Moved: Andrew Johnson

Seconded: Celeste Gregory

That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the reports on OHS & Risk Management for information.

Carried Unanimously



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
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Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|-----|---|
| 8.1 | Audit Committee OHS & Risk Report 21 March 2023 |
| 8.2 | West Wimmera Shire Council Risk Register DRAFT |
| 8.3 | WWSC_Risk Management Framework 2022 |
| 8.4 | WWSC_Council Policy_Risk Management Policy_ Adopted 15 February 2023 |
| 8.5 | WWSC_Council Policy_Business Continuity Policy adopted 15 February 2023 - Copy |
| 8.6 | WorkSafe Landscape Competition Template - One Picture - Copy |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

9. WWSC CREDIT CARDS

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

West Wimmera Shire Council holds a small number of credit cards for the use of staff and the Mayor. Statements from the CEO's credit card along with a quarterly report detailing the usage by cardholder and by expenditure type are provided for the Committee's information.

In addition to the presentation of the CEO Credit Card statements, quarterly reports are presented for the period 5 August 2022 – 3 February 2023 detailing the usage by cardholder and by expenditure type. It is noted this item was held over for the December meeting, therefore the prior two quarters have been combined and presented for this meeting.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee notes the use of Council Credit Cards.

Moved: Celeste Gregory

Seconded: Andrew Johnson

That the Audit and Risk Committee notes the use of Council Credit Cards.

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|-----|---|
| 9.1 | Quarterly Management Report – Credit Card Usage |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
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10. REPORT TITLE: COUNCILLOR AND CEO REIMBURSEMENTS

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

The *Local Government Act 2020* allows that Councillors and staff including the Chief Executive Officer are not left out of pocket for the carrying out of Council business. Accordingly, any out of pocket expenses incurred by Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer can be reimbursed to them upon receipt of a suitable claim.

Councillor and Chief Executive Officer reimbursements were attached for Member's information, in accordance with s.40(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* along with a copy of the revised policy as adopted by Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit & Risk Committee receive the report on Councillor and Chief Executive reimbursements

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Celeste Gregory

- 1. That the Audit & Risk Committee receive the report on Councillor and Chief Executive reimbursements.**
- 2. That the \$25,000 transaction on behalf of the Harrow Recreation Reserve be removed from the transaction register and recorded as a related parties transaction at year end.**

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|------|--|
| 10.1 | Councillor & CEO Reimbursements to 14 March 2023 |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
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11. REPORT TITLE: CEO UPDATE

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: DAVID BEZUIDENHOUT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

The Chief Executive Officer provided an update on organisational matters relevant to the Audit and Risk Committee.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee note the CEO update

Moved: Celeste Gregory

Seconded: Andrew Johnson

That the Audit and Risk Committee note the CEO update.

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|------|--|
| 11.1 | Audit and Risk Committee - CEO Report (March 23) |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

12. REPORT TITLE: POLICY TRACKER

REPORT AUTHOR: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

As part of its annual work plan, the Audit and Risk Committee was provided with the Policy Tracker for review. This document lists all of Council's policies, review cycles and review dates.

The Committee noted that the Guarantor Policy is out of date and should be presented to the next Audit and Risk Committee Meeting.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the Policy Tracker.

Moved: Celeste Gregory

Seconded: Andrew Johnson

That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the Policy Tracker.

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name | RecFind Ref |
|------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 12.1 | RelianSysReportMarch2023ARC | |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

**13. REPORT TITLE: AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING
ACTIONS UPDATE**

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

The Audit Committee recommends particular actions to Council and management from time to time with an aim of improving governance and accountability.

For the Audit Committee to be effective it should make recommendations to Council and management on improvements that can be made to Council's governance controls and must then follow up with Council and Management as to the implementation status of these recommendations.

The attached schedule outlines the status of recommendations the Audit Committee has made at its meetings.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the report on Audit Committee actions update for information.

Moved: Celeste Gregory

Seconded: Andrew Johnson

That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the report on Audit Committee actions update for information.

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|------|--|
| 13.1 | Audit Committee Meetings Actions List March 2023 |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

14. REPORT TITLE: AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

An Audit & Risk Committee Work Plan provides the Committee with a set process to review and assess important documentation and reports and a chance to analyse key risks to Council in a structured manner. A proposed Annual Work Plan was presented as developed for Council by RSD Audit.

There are a number of items listed on the Work Plan which fall due in June which are included as items of business (either new or standing items) separately in this agenda.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee receive and note the annual work plan.

Moved: Celeste Gregory

Seconded: Andrew Johnson

- 1. That the Audit and Risk Committee receive and note the annual work plan.**
- 2. That the Instrument of Delegations, Supplier Analysis and Capital Projects Report are to be presented to the June Meeting.**

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|------|---------------|
| 14.1 | ARC Work Plan |



**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

15. REPORT TITLE: AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

FOR ENDORSEMENT

In accordance with the charter, the Audit and Risk Committee must complete a self-assessment of its performance annually. A survey has been distributed to members for collation into the attached report. At the time of preparing this report, 4 surveys had been completed - feedback was received from 2x independent members, 1x councillor member and 2x council officers. Results have been compiled into the attached report.

Assessment totals to be updated before going to Council for noting. Overall the scores seemed to be very good. CFO to resend self-assessments to Cr Jodie Pretlove and Celeste Gregory.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit and Risk Committee endorses the report on Audit and Risk Committee self-assessment.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Celeste Gregory

That the Audit and Risk Committee endorses the report on Audit and Risk Committee self-assessment.

Carried Unanimously

Attachments:

| No. | Name |
|------|--|
| 15.1 | Audit & Risk Committee Annual Self-assessment 2022 |



AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AGENDA – 21 MARCH 2023 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

FAREWELL TO MELANIE JORDAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The Chair and members expressed their appreciation to Melanie Jordan, Chief Financial Officer and the work she has done during her time on the Audit and Risk Committee. The Committee have appreciated her contribution and wish her the absolute best for the future. The significant change and improvement during her time should be noted and the amount of work she has put in has been tremendous.

James Bentley, Director Corporate Community Services noted how very grateful Council has been to have her around for the last three years. Melanie's level of knowledge and experience plus her ability to deal with people has been nothing short of outstanding.

3.19PM.



15 Infrastructure Development and Works

15.1 Community Projects Contributions Policy

Directorate: Infrastructure Development and Works

Report Author: Assets & GIS Coordinator

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

It is prudent for Council to have a policy for guidance in allocating the required contributions from Council and community to support application for external funding for the development or redevelopment of assets. The policy will differentiate between Council owned or controlled assets and those assets that are owned and controlled by other entities.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

West Wimmera Shire Council regularly undertakes development projects within its local communities, including:

- development or redevelopment of Council assets
- Coordinating the redevelopment of existing community infrastructure owned by the Victorian Government or one of its entities, where the Council is legally required to be the project coordinator.

Council applies for suitable grants from the Victorian and Australian Governments to fund these projects, for the benefit and enjoyment of all Shire residents.

Grant applications often require a contribution from the applicant. The contribution could consist of one or a combination of the following:

- A financial contribution from Council
- A financial contribution from the local community, known as a community contribution

The previous version of the policy did not specify the quantum of community contribution required. To allow Council to approach this aspect consistently, the inclusion of a clause was thought to be appropriate.

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

Not applicable

Policy Implications

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

Asset Management Policy
Asset Management Strategy

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.
- 1.2 Support a safe and inclusive community.
- 1.3 Provide well planned and sustainable community infrastructure.
- 1.4 Deliver quality services that support community life.
- 1.5 Support and encourage our events, cultural and arts communities.
- 1.6 Support a prepared and resilient community.
- 1.7 Improve the liveability of the shire to assist in growing our population into the future.

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 Community Projects Contributions Policy was last updated in 2020 so is due for review and renewal. The main change to the policy attached is the inclusion of Clause 5 which specifies the community contribution requirement as a percentage of total project cost and specifies a maximum contribution from Council's own source funds for projects on land owned and/or managed by entities other than Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the attached Community Projects Contributions Policy.

Attachments

1. WWSC Council Policy Community Contributions Policy draft V 3 [**15.1.1** - 4 pages]



Council Policy Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

| COUNCIL POLICY | |
|---|---|
| COMMUNITY PROJECTS CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY | Policy No: |
| | Adopted by Council: 20-May-2020 |
| | Next review date: May-2022 |
| Senior Manager: | Chief Executive Officer Manager Projects and Innovation |
| Responsible Officer: | Chief Executive Officer Director Infrastructure Development and Works |
| Functional Area: | CEO & Governance Infrastructure Development and Works |
| | |
| Introduction & Background | <p>West Wimmera Shire Council regularly undertakes development projects within its local communities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development or redevelopment of Council assets - coordinating the redevelopment of existing community infrastructure which is owned by the Victorian Government or one of its entities, where the Council is legally required to be the project coordinator. <p>Council applies for suitable grants from the Victorian and Australian Governments to fund these projects, for the benefit and enjoyment of all Shire residents.</p> <p>Grant applications often require a contribution from the applicant. The contribution could consist of one or a combination of the following:include these mandatory requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A financial contribution from Council - A financial contribution from the local community, known as a community contributions. |
| Purpose & Objectives | To clearly articulate the steps required for the management of community contributions, relating to development projects within the Shire and provide guidance on minimum contribution requirements from community group/s. |
| Definitions | Council means West Wimmera Shire Council |

Page 1



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| Policy Details | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. | <p>Community Contribution Pledge</p> <p>An individual or community group which wishes <u>or is required by this policy</u> to make a financial community contribution to a planned development project within the Shire is required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide this pledge to Council in writing. Provide clear written evidence to Council of their financial capacity to honour the pledge, within seven (7) days of providing the written pledge. |
| 2. | <p>Funds held in trust by Council</p> <p>The pledger is required to provide 50% of the pledged financial community contribution to <u>the Council</u> within seven (7) days, following step 1b above <u>and prior to the Council submitting the application for the funding</u>.</p> <p>These funds will be held in trust by Council until required by the project.</p> <p>The funds held in trust will also be highlighted in Council's funding applications and will significantly and positively strengthen any applications made by Council.</p> <p>If the grant application or applications lodged by Council with the Victorian and/or Australian Governments are not successful, the funds held in trust will be returned to the pledger.</p> |
| 3. | <p>Written agreement with each pledger</p> <p>Council will enter into individual agreements with each pledger for a development project, which will include <u>the payment of the second half of the community contribution which will be required to be received by Council prior to the signing of the contract documents or authorisation of a purchase order to deliver the project, whichever is applicable, a payment schedule which matches milestones of the project's progress.</u></p> <p><u>This payment schedule will state the amounts payable to Council by the pledger, until their full pledged amount has been received by Council.</u></p> |
| 4. | <p>External funding application</p> <p>The next step will be for Council to finalise and lodge its funding application with the relevant Victorian and/or Australian Government, <u>or</u> their respective entities <u>or any other funding bodies.</u></p> |
| 5. | <p>Community Contribution</p> |



Council Policy Manual WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

| | |
|------|--|
| | <p>The Financial contribution required by the community group/s proposing or benefitting from the initiative will be in accordance with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where the project is on Council land or where Council is the Committee of Management (COM) for Crown land a community contribution may not be required. <p>(Note: The Council contribution will be identified and approved by the Council prior to the submission of the application where the project is on land owned or controlled by the Council)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if the project is not on Council land and or Council is not the COM for Crown land, the Council may contribute up to a maximum of 15%, and the specific amount will be at Council's discretion. • If the project is not on Council land and or Council is not the COM, the community contribution will be a minimum of 15% of the total project cost. <p>(Note 1: the total project cost should include the total construction cost, any contingencies and associated project management fees)</p> |
| 6. | <p>Outcome of Funding Application</p> <p>Following receipt of the funding application outcome, Council will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notify each pledger of the outcome. Return funds held in trust to each respective pledger, if pledger if the funding application has been unsuccessful. |
| 6.7. | <p>Discretion of Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>Notwithstanding clauses 1-5.6 above:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Chief Executive Officer has the discretion to alter some of the conditions contained in this Policy, if it is in Council's and the community's best interests to do so. Any such proposed alteration of conditions will be provided to Council within a report from the Chief Executive Officer, and Officer and presented to a Council Meeting for formal Council approval. Alteration of conditions will be dealt with strictly on a case-by-case case-by-case basis. Should savings be made on any project, Council will not pursue outstanding funds over and above the completed value of the project, from the people or groups who have pledged funds to the project. |

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Council Policy Manual
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| | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Policy Adopted: | Ordinary Meeting 20/05/20 | Minute Book Page [number] | RecFind E20/000097 |
| Policy Reviewed: | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |



15.2 Kaniva Racecourse Lease

Directorate: Infrastructure Development and Works

Report Author: Facilities and Quality Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

On 12 August 2011 the West Wimmera Shire Council was issued a Section 138, Land Act 1958 Miscellaneous (General) Licence (Tenure ID 2019326). The provisions of the use of “licensed land” were specified for the purpose of “Council Purposes”. This was done in the best interest of allowing the council some flexibility of usage. DEECA (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action) advised that technically the council are not allowed to sublet the land without DECCA permission, which is currently happening with the current lease arrangement.

To align the land to be used by Council to lease to a third party, Council must give approval to DEECA to reserve this land for Council to become the Committee of Management.

The Council Plan 2021-25 identifies this land as a potential location for creation of a manmade lake (item 3.3.3).



The picture above shows the boundaries of the subject land.



Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Officers have had numerous discussions with DEECA representatives on this matter to seek some resolution. The options to continue subletting this piece of land include the following:

- Relinquish the licence for this piece of land and DEECA can enter into licencing agreement with the relevant party. The subject land can be utilised for recreational purposes in the future. Relinquishing the licence can potentially prohibit any such actions.
- Purchase the subject land and then the Council enters into a licencing agreement with the relevant party. This might impose a significant financial burden on the Council.
- The Council becomes the Committee of Management for the subject land and then sublets it to the relevant party. This option will allow us to continue with the current arrangements as well as permit any future proposed developments.

Council officers have had recent discussions with a DEECA representative, the formal process would be to reserve the land for the Council to become the Committee of Management. DEECA will need to investigate whether a survey assessment report is necessary. Depending on whether the assessment is needed or not, the process of reserving the land can take between 2 to 9 months. A small fee is involved for the land reservation process which Council will have to pay for.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

Regulatory risk

Reputation risk

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

The council will need to pay for the fee for the reservation of the land and a title plan.

Policy Implications

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

Environmental Policy

Recreation Policy

Council Plan Implications

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

Goal 3 – Sustainable Environment

3.3 Protect and promote public open space and natural assets.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Conclusion

As the Kaniva Racecourse and Recreation Reserve was revoked in 2011 and a licence issued to Council, DEECA would need to reserve this land again for the West Wimmera Shire to become the Committee of Management. A letter in writing is requested by DEECA to progress with the application.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council gives approval to become the Committee of Management and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to progress with the necessary arrangements to appoint the West Wimmera Shire Council as the Committee of Management of the Kaniva Racecourse and Recreation Reserve.

Attachments

Nil



15.3 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

- 1 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;
- 2 Incorporate elements from the Council Plan that were missed during the Planning Policy Framework Translation and make other updates to factual data;
- 3 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



- 7 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 report.

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 May 2023 [15.3.1 - 48 pages]

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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. Some areas of the West Wimmera Shire do not have a Registered Aboriginal Party. [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 wetlands, representing 8.5 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 4,006 persons as of the 2021 [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.

The Shire is one of Victoria's most diverse and productive agricultural areas and 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 2021-2025 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 objectivesdirections:

- 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.
- 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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

- ~~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 Gorokey, 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.

Gorokey

Gorokey is a quiet township close to Lake Charlegrark and Lake Boorooopki and many other district lakes, which provide for a various tourist and recreational pursuits including yabbing, fishing, bird and wildlife watching. The Gorokey township extends along Main Street with the Community Health Centre and Gorokey 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.

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

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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, Gorokey, Apsley, and Harrow.
- Enhance the roles of the major townships of Edenhope, Kaniva, Gorokey, 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.
- Promote Gorokey 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.

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.

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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 that~~ 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.

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.

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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, 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, ~~ducks, and piggeries~~, horticultural operations such as commercial cut flowers, herbs, pistachio nuts, onions, potatoes, ~~carrots~~ 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

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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.

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.

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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.

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.](#)

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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 [including eco tourism](#), 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.
- 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.

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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.

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.](#)

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.~~

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

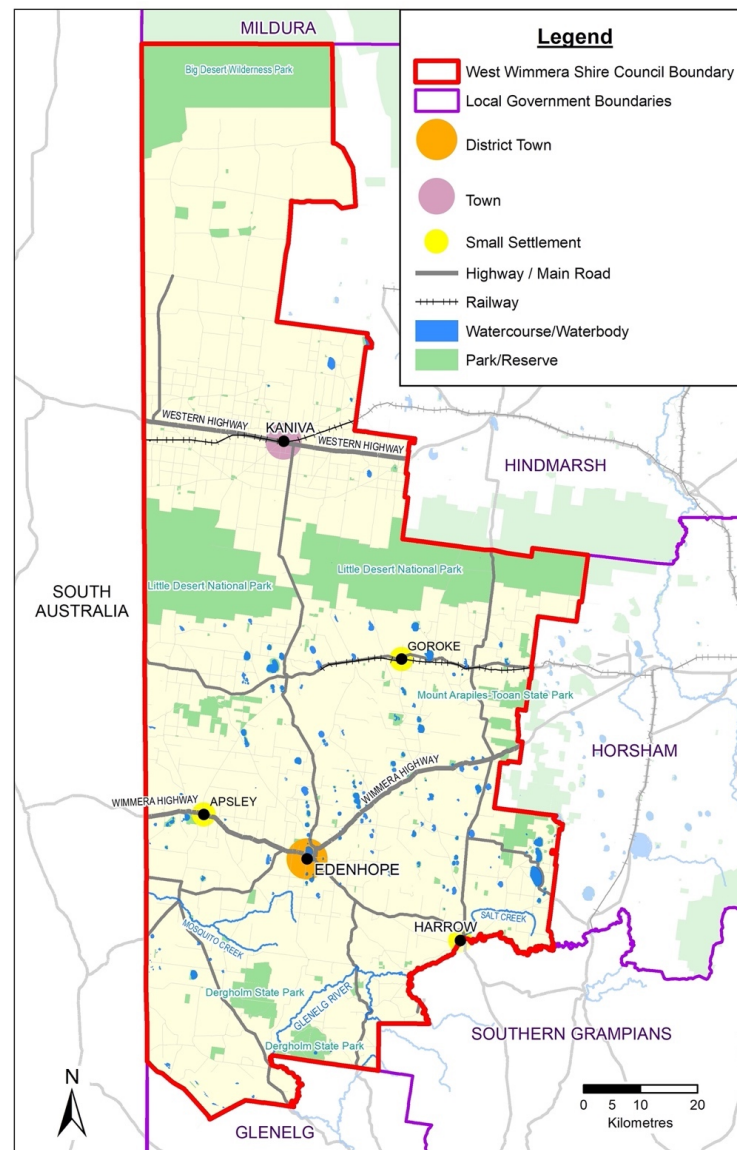
- Encourage use and development that supports the use of waterways, lakes and reserves for recreational purposes.
- Provide open spaces that cater for a range of users and age groups and encourage physical activity.
- Promote development that facilitates safe places for social interaction.
- Encourage 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.

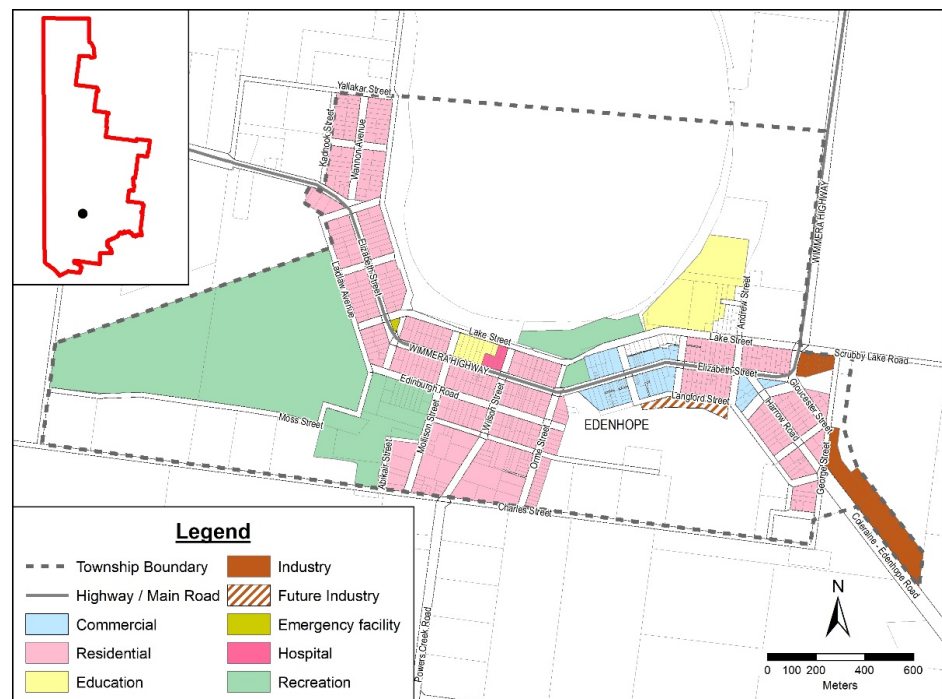
Encourage use and development to orient towards and activate Lake Wallace and its foreshore.

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



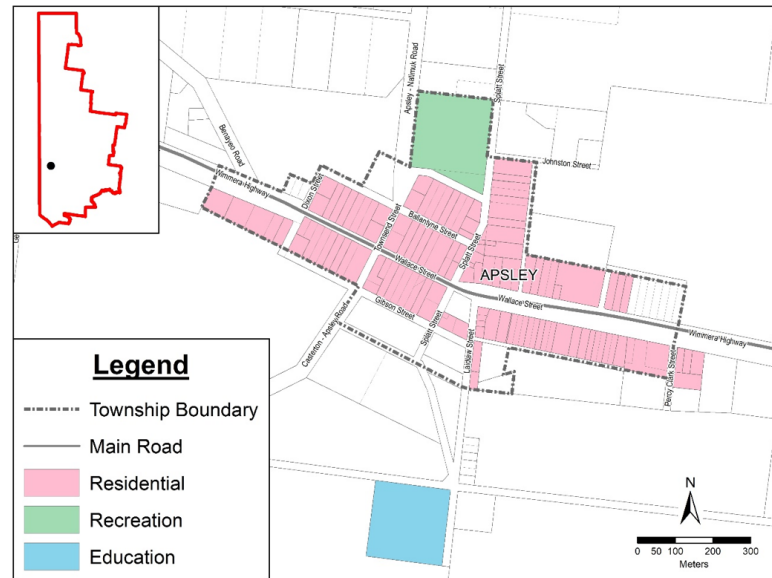
11.01-1L-02 Settlement - Kaniva – [West Wimmera](#)

Policy application

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

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Apsley framework plan



11.01-1L-04 Settlement - Goroke – [West Wimmera](#)

Policy application

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

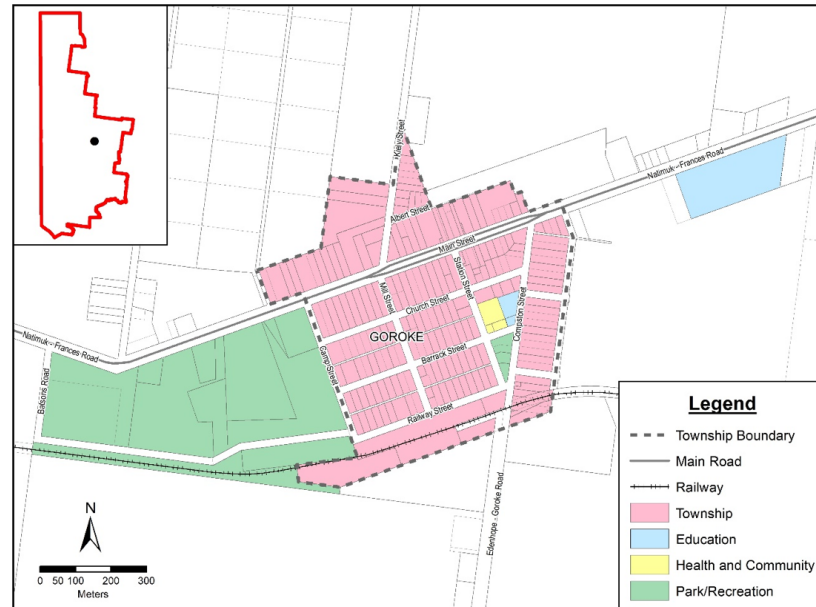
Strategies

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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Goroke framework plan



11.01-1L-05 Settlement - Harrow – [West Wimmera](#)

Policy application

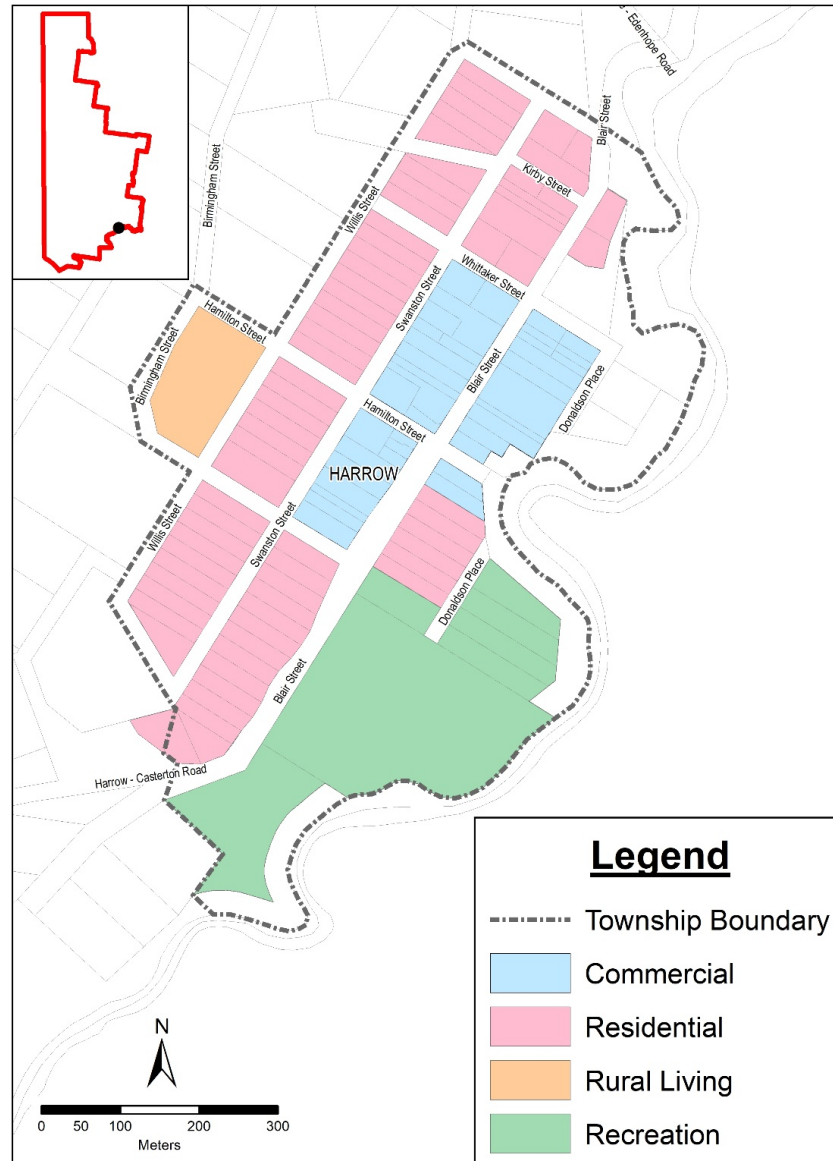
This policy applies to land shown in the Harrow Framework Plan.

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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Harrow framework plan



WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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 increase vegetation cover, 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~~ 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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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

Strategies

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 potatoes.
- 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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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, easy 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 out-building 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 |

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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 All other Land | Minimum area necessary to create a balance lot in the Farming Zone 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 Category Transport Zone 1 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 1 A Road Zone Category Transport 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 |

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

| 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

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

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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 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:

- 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
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.~~ 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.
- ~~remove~~ Remove, 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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- ~~Remove~~, 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.
- ~~remove~~~~Remove~~, 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.
- ~~remove~~~~Remove~~, 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~~~~Are~~ 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 be 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~~ 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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

- 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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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 controls apply? | Internal alteration 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 Incorporated 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 |

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|-----|-----|----|----|------------------|-----|---|----|
| | 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 |

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 43.02 DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **DDO1**.

EDENHOPE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

1.0 ~~1.0~~ Design objectives

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, [contributes to a consistent landscape for the street and manages any interface with adjoining residential areas](#).

~~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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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 one+ 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 proposed appropriateness of landscaping ~~proposed for the site.~~

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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.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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, parking and 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 [+one](#) 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:

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

- ~~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

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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**

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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 Clause 42.01 (ESO) | Removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation | 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 Council, 1989) | C36 - Clause 02 |
| The Conservation Status of Roadsides in the Shire of Lowan (Martin E. Westbrooke, 1989) | C36 - Clause 02 |

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

**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 inter-industry 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 Acquisition 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.~~

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

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.



15.4 West Wimmera Shire Local Law

Directorate: Infrastructure Development and Works

Report Author: Manager Planning and Environment

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

Council's Community Local Law No 6 of 2012 was made pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1989* and "sunset" on 30 September 2022. Accordingly, it needs to be replaced with an updated and comprehensive local law.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Community Local Law No 6 of 2012 was an "omnibus" local law in that it dealt with a wide range of matters including, but not limited to:

- a. activities requiring a permit;
- b. storage of vehicles;
- c. keeping of excess animals;
- d. temporary dwellings;
- e. camping in townships;
- f. movement of livestock;
- g. roadside grazing;
- h. prohibited activities;
- i. pest animals;
- j. noxious weeds;
- k. enforcement; and
- l. penalties.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified: Environmental risk

People risk

Regulatory risk

Reputation risk

Safety risk

A comprehensive local law is required to cover a wide range of topics and provide for



- a. Instances where permits are required;
- b. Prohibited activities;
- c. Protection of council assets;
- d. Permit applications;
- e. Using of permits;
- f. Permit conditions;
- g. Enforcement; and
- h. Penalties.

The lack of a local law or deficient local law could expose Council to a range of risks.

Legislative Implications

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

The LGA 2020 includes a range of provisions relating to:

- a. the power of councils to make local laws;
- b. local law requirements;
- c. the procedures to propose and make a local law;
- d. incorporation of related documents;
- e. permits, licences, fees and charges;
- f. delegations;
- g. penalties;
- h. infringement notices; and
- i. a ten-year sunset provision.

Further details of the key legislative aspects are summarised below.

Power to make a local law

Sections 71 and 72 of the LGA 2020 provide that:

- a. a Council may make local laws for or with respect to any act, matter or thing in respect of which the Council has a function or power under this Act or any other Act; and
- b. a local law must not duplicate or be inconsistent with a planning scheme that is in force in the municipal district.

Proposing a local law

The LGA 2020 requires that in proposing a local law, a Council must;

- a. make the local law in accordance with its community engagement policy;
- b. give public notice of the proposal; and
- c. have the proposed local law certified by a legal practitioner.



The Proposed Local Law

Preparation and Process

Preparing the proposed local law is a substantial and time-consuming exercise which has involved, or will involve:

- a. a review of the existing local law;
- b. “benchmarking” (ie: comparing) the proposed local law with those of three comparable municipalities;
- c. several drafts of the proposed local law;
- d. compliance with Local Government Victoria’s Local Law Best Practice Guidelines;
- e. drafting of a Local Law Community Impact Statement (LLCIS);
- f. consultation with relevant staff;
- g. legal advice;
- h. a Forum report;
- i. a Council report;
- j. community consultation including:
 - i. advertising the proposed local law;
 - ii. release of the LLCIS;
 - iii. inviting submissions (allowing 28 days for submission)
 - iv. hearing of submissions by Council;
- k. a further Forum report;
- l. legal certification;
- m. a further Council report to adopt the new local law;
- n. revised administrative processes relating to:
 - i. permit applications;
 - ii. issuing permits;
 - iii. enforcement;
 - iv. website information; and
 - v. Fees.

Objectives

The proposed local law has been prepared with the following objectives:

- a. to ensure the local law is contemporary, that is, that it meets the requirements of the community and the Council for the present and the foreseeable future;
- b. to ensure the local law is written in “plain English” and is easily understood;
- c. to ensure the local law reflects the diversity of the municipal district, particularly in relation to:
 - i. townships and rural areas; and



- ii. property sizes;
- d. to introduce provisions not included in the current local law;
- e. to ensure that the local law does not include provisions which are excessively onerous;
- f. to propose penalties which are reasonable;
- g. to simplify the procedures in relation to permit applications and the issuing of permits;
- h. to give greater powers to authorised officers in relation to operational matters;
- i. to make use of incorporated documents which can be amended by Council as required without the need for a statutory process; and
- j. to minimise the risk of having to review the local law within ten years.

Process of developing the Proposed Local Law

The process followed in drafting the proposed local law has included:

- a. reviewing the previous local law for relevance and completeness;
- b. consultation with staff;
- c. comparison of the draft local law with those of:
 - i. Hindmarsh – because it is an adjacent municipality with characteristics similar to West Wimmera and its local law was adopted in 2021;
 - ii. Yarriambiack - because it is an adjacent municipality with characteristics similar to West Wimmera;
 - iii. Yarra Ranges – because although it differs from West Wimmera in many respects:
 - it has many similar characteristics in terms of land use;
 - its local law is very comprehensive and was adopted in 2020; and
- d. preliminary legal advice.

The previous local law

The previous local law had provisions that should be retained, however:

- a. additional definitions were required;
- b. administrative provisions in relation to permit applications, issuing of permits, advertising and appeal rights were lengthy and have been simplified;
- c. there were no provisions, or inadequate provisions, relating (for example) to:
 - i. storage of vehicles and machinery;
 - ii. excess animals;
 - iii. camping;
 - iv. behaviour on Council land;
 - v. bulk rubbish containers;



- vi. clothing bins;
- vii. processions;
- viii. use of footpaths;
- ix. droving or grazing of livestock;
- x. dilapidated premises;
- xi. vegetation overhanging the footpath;
- xii. bees and wasps;
- xiii. recreation vehicles;
- xiv. noise;
- xv. noxious weeds;
- xvi. protection of Council assets;
- xvii. open air burning;
- xviii. parking of heavy and long vehicles;
- xix. advertising signs;
- xx. scareguns;
- xxi. use of Council supplied receptacles; and
- xxii. alternative treatment of nature strips

Environmental Implications

Environmental Risk rating has been assessed as: High

The proposed local law recognises the importance of environmental issues and makes reference to:

- a. The objective of managing, regulating and controlling activities and uses on any land which:
 - i. may be dangerous, cause a nuisance or be detrimental to the amenity of the area or environment;
 - ii. Are directed at maintaining a healthy and safe environment for residents and visitors;
- b. control of animals;
- c. Open air burning;
- d. Noise;
- e. Noxious weeds;
- f. Disposal of infectious waste; and
- g. Pest animals

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Provision of \$30,000 has been made in the 2022/23 Council Budget to develop and introduce a new local law.

Policy Implications



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

Community Engagement Policy
Domestic Firewood Collection Policy
Environmental Policy
Risk Management 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.
- 1.2 Support a safe and inclusive community.
- 1.3 Provide well planned and sustainable community infrastructure.
- 1.4 Deliver quality services that support community life.
- 1.5 Support and encourage our events, cultural and arts communities.
- 1.6 Support a prepared and resilient community.
- 1.7 Improve the livability 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.
- 2.2 Promote the Shire as a great place to visit, live and invest.
- 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.

Goal 4 – Good Governance

- 4.1 Ensure long-term financial sustainability.
- 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

Consultation has already been undertaken in development of the plans



The proposed local law and associated documents have now been advertised twice in accordance with the LGA 2020 and Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Submissions

As a result of the advertising process, submissions were received from

- a. Peter Hicks; and
- b. Cr Trevor Domaschenz.

The submission from Mr Hicks objects to the requirement in clause 11.4.2 of the proposed local law which provides that "A person must not, without a permit, drive, or graze livestock on roads for which Council is not the responsible road authority".

The previous local law (clause 8) referred to the need for a permit *"where it is proposed to drive livestock on Council roads from outside the municipal district through any part of the municipal district to a point of destination beyond the municipal district"*.

The local law also said:

"This requirement applies to roads under the care and management of the Council (a Council road). Any proposal to move cattle on a State road (VicRoads road) should be referred to VicRoads to ensure that any requirements of VicRoads are met".

The VicRoads website provides information in relation to Stock Crossing Permits which apply to declared roads (as defined).

The VicRoads requirement is not new and accordingly it is unclear what the submitter means by "the proposal to alter the permit system". Clause 11.4.2 is simply intended to explain that in relation to declared roads, a permit may be required from another authority. The wording has been amended to make this clear and the reference to penalty units has been removed as enforcement would be a matter for the relevant authority.

The submission from Cr Domaschenz refers to 'changes in zones and town boundaries'



Officer comment: The proposed local law does not refer to zones. In any event, a change to a zoning is a planning (not a local law) matter and would require an amendment to the Planning Scheme. A revised set of Township Maps has now been prepared (as requested by Councillors) and additional advertising was arranged which did not result in any submissions.

Legal advice

During the original submission period, the advertised version of the draft local law was reviewed by Council's solicitors who recommended some minor changes, in particular, amending *Table 1* to clarify the aggregate number of animals which may be kept on certain properties.

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Current Status

The proposed Local Law was considered at the Forums on 1 February 2023 and on 1 March 2023 and 3 May when some amendments were requested by Councillors.

The matters raised and the amendments made are summarised in *Table 2*.

| Clause | Issue | Request | Amendment |
|--------|--|---|---|
| 5 | Definition of livestock | New definition requested to exclude reference to horses. | Definition amended as requested. |
| 11.2.2 | Wording | That the word "not" be deleted from sub-clause 11.2.2 (e) | Arranged and reverted following discussion at May councilor forum |
| 11.4.2 | Driving or grazing livestock on non Council roads. | Remove the sub-clause. | Sub-clause removed. |
| 17.3 | Road Management Plan 2021-2025 (RMP) | None | Removed as the RMP is a "stand alone" document unrelated to the proposed Local Law. |



| | | | |
|---------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Various | Township maps | Alternative maps requested | Provided. |
|---------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------|

Table 2

Given the requests for alternative township maps, the proposed Local Law was again considered at the Council meeting on 15 March 2023, when Council resolved:

- the proposed Community Local Law No 9 2023 be advertised in accordance with section 73 of the LGA 2020;
- submissions be invited with a closing date of 12 April 2023;
- that any submissions be considered by Council its meeting on 17 May 2023; and
- the proposed local law be further considered by Council after the submission process.

The only reason for the additional advertising was to enable further consideration of the revised township maps. In this context:

- it is proposed that the Township Maps be incorporated documents. They will not appear in the proposed local law but need to be adopted by Council on 17 May 2023, prior to the Local Law being adopted;
- the version of the proposed Local Law advertised in November 2022 included maps for Apsley, Chetwynd, Dergholm, Edenhope, Goroke, Harrow, Kaniva, Lillimur, Miram and Serviceton;
- maps have now been added for:
 - Minimay; and
 - Gymbowen.

Sub-clause 11.4.1 of the proposed Local Law also provides that the Livestock Driving and Grazing Guidelines are an incorporated document. As with the Township Maps, the Guidelines will not appear in the proposed Local Law, but need to be adopted by Council on 17 May 2023, prior to the Local Law being adopted.

In relation to roadside firewood collection, sub-Clause 10.1.2(f) allows for the collection of firewood subject to a permit or other form of permission. As a permit can be issued with conditions, there is no longer a need for Council's Domestic Firewood Collection Policy and it is proposed that the Policy be revoked.

Legal Certification

The required Certification is attached.

Conclusion



The proposed local law has been developed after extensive research, consultation with staff, comparisons with the local laws of three councils, legal advice and the required advertising. The two submissions received were considered at the February Forum and do not identify any significant changes required from the advertised version of the proposed local law.

The process of proposing a new Local Law commenced in March 2022 and it is now imperative that Council finalise the matter particularly (as has been noted on numerous occasions) Council has not had a Local Law since 30 September 2022.

Accordingly, no permits, notices comply, or infringements can be issued.

In addition, submitters were originally notified that their submissions would be considered by Council on 15 February 2023, however that did not occur due to the additional advertising process.

No submissions were received as a result of the additional advertising.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council consider and resolve on four matters:

Recommendation 1

- a. That the submissions from Mr Peter Hicks and Cr Trevor Domaschenz be noted;
- b. That Council note that as a result of the submissions, amendments were made to the proposed (advertised) local law; and
- c. That the submitters be advised accordingly.

Recommendation 2

That council note the required legal certification (attached).

Recommendation 3

That the proposed Township Maps (attached) be adopted and treated as Incorporated Documents for the purpose of the proposed local law.

Recommendation 4

That the proposed Livestock Driving and Grazing Guidelines (attached) be adopted and treated as Incorporated Documents for the purpose of the proposed local law.

Recommendation 5

That

- a. The proposed local law (attached) be adopted; and
- b. Public notice of the local law be given pursuant to section 74(4) and (5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*



Attachments

1. Certified Local Law(37112791.1) [**15.4.1** - 39 pages]
2. Township Boundaries - West Wimmera Local Law [**15.4.2** - 14 pages]
3. West Wimmera Livestock Droving and Grazing Guidelines 002 [**15.4.3** - 3 pages]

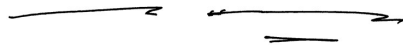
CERTIFICATE UNDER SECTION 74 OF THE *LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020*

I, **Mark Richard Hayes**, being a person who is:

- (a) an Australian lawyer who has been admitted to the legal profession for at least 5 years; and
- (b) not a Councillor of West Wimmera Shire Council

certify that, in my opinion, the draft Local Law attached to this Certificate and marked "MRH1" for identification is consistent with the local law requirements set out in section 72 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Dated: 8 May 2023



.....
Mark Richard Hayes
Maddocks

[9076676:37112709_1]



MRH1
Community Local Law No 9 2023
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL



COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW NO 9

Adopted by Council on 17 May 2023

[9076676:35974431_1]



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COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW NO. 9 2023

PART ONE - PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

1. TITLE

- 1.1 This is the Community Local Law No. 9 of 2023.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of this Local Law are to provide for the peace, order, and good government of the *municipal district* of the West Wimmera Shire Council by:
- 2.1.1 managing, regulating, and controlling activities and uses on any land which:
 - (a) may be dangerous, cause a *nuisance* or be detrimental to the amenity of the area or the environment; and
 - (b) are directed at maintaining a healthy and safe environment for residents and visitors;
 - 2.1.2 promoting an environment in which residents and visitors to the *municipal district* can enjoy a lifestyle that is expected of the area;
 - 2.1.3 protecting against behaviour which causes detriment to the amenity and environment of the *municipal district*;
 - 2.1.4 identifying activities and uses that are not permitted; and
 - 2.1.5 providing for the administration of *Council's* powers and functions.

3. AUTHORISING PROVISION

- 3.1 This Local Law is made under section 71 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

4. COMMENCEMENT, REVOCATION AND AREA OF OPERATION

- 4.1 This Local Law:
- 4.1.1 commences on 18 May 2023;
 - 4.1.2 unless it is revoked sooner, ceases to operate on 17 May 2033; and
 - 4.1.3 operates throughout the whole of the *municipal district*.



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5. DEFINITIONS

In this Local Law, the following words have the meaning given to them unless stated otherwise:

- *the Act* means the *Local Government Act 2020*;
- *advertising sign* means any placard, board, poster, banner, sign, "A frame" sign, card, or other device, whether portable or not, used for the purpose of soliciting custom for goods or services or for displaying information but excludes electoral signage, a real estate board, a community advertising sign and an open for inspection sign;
- *alcohol* means a beverage intended for human consumption with an alcohol content greater than 0.5 per centum by volume at a temperature of 20 degrees Celsius;
- *animal* includes every species of quadruped and every species of bird;
- *applicant* means the applicant for a *permit*;
- *appropriate fee* means a fee determined by *Council* in accordance with this Local Law;
- *authorised officer* means a person appointed as an authorised officer under section 224 of the *Local Government Act 1989*;
- *barbecue* means a device used for the cooking of food outdoors, whether constructed or manufactured and whether powered by gas, electricity, liquid or solid fuel, or any combination of them, and includes a device for spit roasting;
- *bulk rubbish container* means a bin, skip or other receptacle used for holding a substantial quantity of rubbish and which is unlikely to be lifted without mechanical assistance but excludes a receptacle used in connection with *Council's* regular household rubbish collection;
- *camp* means using a tent, caravan, mobile home, or any other movable temporary form of accommodation, including sleeping bags or swags;
- *charity* has the same meaning as in the *Charities Act 2013* (Cth);
- *Chief Executive Officer* means the person appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of *Council*;
- *Council* means West Wimmera Shire Council;
- *Council land* means land, reserves, buildings and facilities which are owned, occupied or vested in *Council* or in respect of which *Council* has the care and management and to which the public has access whether an entry fee is paid or not;
- *delegate* means a member of *Council* staff given delegated powers pursuant to section 47 of *the Act*;



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- *domestic animal business* has the same meaning as in the *Domestic Animals Act* 1994;
 - *domestic bird* includes but is not limited to budgerigars, canaries, finches, pigeons, cockatoos, parrots, galahs and cockatiels, which can be kept in a portable cage or in captivity but does not include *poultry*;
 - *e-waste* means:
 - any waste item that uses a plug, battery or power cord and includes televisions, mobile phones, and computers;
 - batteries;
 - light bulbs;
 - cables;
 - smoke detectors;
 - power drills;
 - remote controls;
 - printer cartridges;
 - thermostats;
 - automatic dispensers;
 - *environmental weed* means any weed that *Council* has, in a public notice, declared to be an environmental weed;
 - *event* means any organised activity held in a *public place* or on *Council land* where an open area, facility, venue, road or temporary structure is to be used by more people than are usually found in that location
;
- Note – the term “event” does not, therefore, apply to small gatherings associated with families, organisations, clubs and the like.
- *farm land* means any rateable land which is not less than two (2) hectares in area and is used primarily for carrying on one or more of the following businesses or industries:
 - a) grazing;
 - b) agistment;
 - c) dairying;



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- d) pig farming;
- e) *poultry* farming;
- f) fish farming;
- g) tree farming;
- h) bee keeping;
- i) viticulture;
- j) horticulture;
- k) fruit growing;
- l) the growing of crops of any kind;
- *incinerator* includes any structure or device which is:
 - a) not enclosed in a building;
 - b) used, intended, adapted or designed to be used or capable of being used for the purpose of burning any matter, material or substance; and
 - c) not licensed or otherwise subject to control under the *Environment Protection Act 2017*;but does not include a *barbecue*
- *incorporated document* has the meaning ascribed by section 76 of the *Act*;
- *livestock* means an animal (including a bird) of any species used in connection with primary production other than a dog or cat;
- *manufactured fireplace* means a brazier, chimenea, fire pit, or other self-contained, manufactured item for outdoor burning designed exclusively for cooking, heating, or comfort;
- *municipal district* means the *municipal district* of *Council*;
- *noxious weed* has the same meaning as in the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*;
- *nuisance* means any condition which is liable to be noxious, offensive, dangerous or injurious to health or personal comfort, and includes any noise created by an *animal* or any other thing which persistently occurs or continues to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of any person in any other premises or on any other land;



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- *offence* means an offence under this Local Law;
- *official warning* has the same meaning as in the *Infringements Act 2006*;
- *penalty unit* has the same meaning as in the *Sentencing Act 1991*;
- *permit*, in relation to a use or activity, means a permit issued under this Local Law which authorises that use or activity;
- *permit holder* means a person to whom a *permit* has been issued pursuant to this Local Law;
- *Planning Scheme* means the Planning Scheme operating in the *municipal district* under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*;
- *poultry* means birds kept for the production of eggs or meat for human consumption but does not include roosters
- *public place* has the same meaning as in the *Summary Offences Act 1966*;
- *receptacle* means a *Council* supplied mobile garbage or recycling bin or similar container fitted with a secure lid which is both fly proof and vermin proof, which lid has an overlapping flange and a secure handle constructed of heavy-duty moulded plastic;
- *recreational vehicle* means a *vehicle* used for recreational purposes, including a motorcycle, trail bike or mini-bike, a motor scooter, a go-cart and any other *vehicle* which is propelled by internal combustion, steam, gas, electricity or other power but does not include a motor car or *vehicle*, motor tractor or other *vehicle* used solely for or in connection with primary production, cultivation, construction or maintenance or for the conveyance of a person who is physically disabled;
- *reptile* means any snake, lizard, turtle or tortoise;
- *road* has the same meaning as in the *Local Government Act 1989* and applies to roads for which *Council* is the responsible authority under the *Road Management Act 2004* but does not include a State road under the *Road Management Act 2004* unless a provision in this Local Law is expressly applied to a State road;
- *road related area* means an area on which infrastructure has been installed or constructed on behalf of a road authority, the State, or a relevant State body for road related purposes to:
 - facilitate the operation or use of the roadway or pathway; or
 - support or protect the roadway or pathway
- *scaregun* means a gas or similar gun designed to scare birds but excludes a firearm;
- *shopping precinct* means within the areas outlined in *Council's* Township Maps which



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are incorporated documents and which are published on *Council's* website;

- *storage container* means a removable enclosed container capable of holding goods for storage which is not designed to be lifted without mechanical assistance and includes a shipping container;
- *township* means the areas defined as such on *Council's* Township Maps and which are incorporated documents which are published on *Council's* website;
- *vehicle* means any form of conveyance intended to be used on a *road* or *road related area*, including but not limited to a motor car, a caravan, a motor bike, a trailer, a tractor, a *recreational vehicle* or a bicycle.



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PART TWO – PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

6. ACTIVITIES AND USES REQUIRING A PERMIT

- 6.1 A person who does not comply with the requirements of this Part is guilty of an *offence*.
- 6.2 A *permit holder* must comply with any conditions of a *permit*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

7. STORAGE OF VEHICLES AND MACHINERY

- 7.1 A person must not, without a *permit*, keep or store any:
- 7.1.1 abandoned, unregistered or derelict *vehicle*; or
 - 7.1.2 item of derelict machinery,
- at a residential property in a *township* if such a *vehicle* or machinery is visible from a *public place*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

8. KEEPING EXCESS ANIMALS AND REPTILES

- 8.1 A person must not, without a *permit*, keep *animals* or *reptiles* at a property in a *township* where the number of *animals* or *reptiles* exceeds the number in *Table 1*.

Penalty: 15 penalty units

- 8.2 For the purposes of calculating the maximum limit of numbers of *animals* or *reptiles* kept, the progeny of any *animals* or *reptiles* lawfully kept will be exempt for a period of three months after their birth.

| Type of animal/reptiles | Land up to 0.4ha | Land greater than 0.4ha and up to 2.1ha | Land greater than 2.1ha and up to 8.2ha in a township area |
|-------------------------|------------------|---|--|
| Dogs | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Cats | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Reptiles | 5 | 5 | 5 |



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| Type of animal/reptiles | Land up to 0.4ha | Land greater than 0.4ha and up to 2.1ha | Land greater than 2.1ha and up to 8.2ha in a township area |
|---|------------------|---|--|
| Ferrets, guinea pigs, rabbits or rodents | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Poultry | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Roosters | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Domestic birds | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Maximum combined total of <i>animals</i> allowed for the <i>animal</i> types shown in the shaded area below | | | |
| Sheep, alpacas and goats | 2 (*) | 5 | 10 |
| Horses, ponies, donkeys and mules | 1 | 4 | 8 |
| Cows | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| Pigs | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Deer | 0 | 0 | 0 |

(*) That is, for example, one sheep and one alpaca.

Table 1

- 8.3 The requirement for a *permit* under this clause does not apply where a planning permit or a *domestic animal business* registration has been obtained.

9. CAMPING ON PRIVATE LAND

- 9.1 A person must not, without a *permit*, *camp* or allow any other person to *camp* on any private land for a period in excess of 28 days in any 12-month period.

Penalty: 3 penalty units

- 9.2 In addition to any other conditions proposed or on a *permit* issued pursuant to this clause, the *applicant* and the *permit holder* must satisfy an *authorised officer* that



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proper sanitary facilities are available and maintained so as not to be a *nuisance* to other occupiers of land in the vicinity.

- 9.3 Notwithstanding sub-clauses 9.1 and 9.2, a *permit* is not required to *camp* in a registered caravan park or camping ground.

10. BEHAVIOUR ON COUNCIL LAND AND RESERVES AND IN MUNICIPAL PLACES

10.1 General

10.1.1 A person must not, on any *Council land*:

- (a) park a *vehicle* other than in a place set aside for that purpose; or
- (b) remain on *Council land* after being directed to leave by an *authorised officer*; or
- (c) enter *Council land* after having been directed by an *authorised officer* to leave it until granted written permission to do so by *Council* or an *authorised officer*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

10.1.2 A person must not, on any *Council land*, without a *permit* or other form of permission to do so:

- (a) act contrary to any conditions of entry applicable to the *Council land*; or
- (b) enter the *Council land*, without paying any fee or charge applicable to it or the hire or use of it; or
- (c) hire or use any *Council* property in connection with the *Council land* without first paying any fee or charge which is applicable; or
- (d) destroy, damage, interfere with or deface the *Council land*; or
- (e) remove any object which is owned by *Council* from the *Council land*; or
- (f) collect and remove firewood from the *Council land*; or
- (g) sell or offer for sale any goods, services, food or beverages; or
- (h) erect, affix, place or leave any sign, including any A Frame; or
- (i) erect, operate or cause to be erected or operated any amusement; or



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- (j) organise or participate in any function, *event*, rally, procession, demonstration or similar activity; or
- (k) bring onto the *Council land* any substance, liquid, object, *animal* or powder which may:
 - (i) be dangerous or injurious to health; or
 - (ii) have the potential to foul, pollute or soil any part of *Council land*; or
 - (iii) cause discomfort to any person; or
- (l) ride or drive a *vehicle* or *animal* in a manner or in a place which is likely to damage or ruin any grassed area or turf surface or otherwise interfere with the use of the *Council land* by another person; or
- (m) light a fire or permit any fire to remain alight except in:
 - (i) a *barbecue*;
 - (ii) a permanent designated fireplace; or
 - (iii) a *manufactured fireplace*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 10.1.3 A person must not light a fire, whether in an *incinerator* or not, or allow a fire to be lit or remain alight in the open air on any private land under 8.2 hectares in area so as to cause a *nuisance*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 10.1.4 Unless permitted to do so by an Act, Regulations or a *permit*, a person must not burn, or cause or allow to be burned on any land or *road* and in the open air, any rubber or plastic substance, petroleum oil or material containing petroleum oil paint or receptacle which contains or has contained paint, manufactured chemicals, pressurised cans, textile fabrics or food waste.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 10.1.5 Nothing in this clause restricts or otherwise affects the right of a person to light or use a *barbeque*, provided that the day is not a day declared under the *Country Fire Authority Act 1958* to be a day of "total fire ban" in any part of Victoria that includes the *municipal district*.

10.2 Protection of Council Land and Assets

10.2.1 Damaging Council Land or Roads



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- (a) A person must not, without prior written permission from an *authorised officer*.
- (i) place or allow to be placed anything on *Council land* or any *road* so as to endanger any other person or any property; or
- (ii) remove any thing from *Council land*, or from any *road* (including firewood).

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- (b) Sub-clause 10.2.1(a) does not apply to a person employed or engaged by *Council* while acting in the course of the person's duties.

10.2.2 Bulk Rubbish Containers and Storage Containers

A person must not, without a *permit* or other form of permission, place, or authorise to be placed, a *bulk rubbish container* or *storage container* on any *road* or *Council land* or in any *public place*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

10.2.3 Clothing Bins

A person must not, without a *permit*, place a *charity* clothing bin on any *road* or *Council land*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

10.2.4 Processions, Street Festivals and Street Parties

A person must not, without a *permit*, on any *road* or *Council land* or in any *public place* hold or allow to be held or participate in a:

- (a) street party;
- (b) street festival;
- (c) street market;
- (d) *event*; or
- (e) procession.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

10.2.5 Using Footpaths for Activities

- (a) A person must not, without a *permit*, use a footpath for:
 - (i) outdoor dining; or



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- (ii) displaying goods for sale; or
- (iii) moveable *advertising signs* that are not of a size or type where a permit is required under the *Planning Scheme*; or
- (iv) the installation or maintenance of street furniture.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- (b) In considering whether to grant a *permit* pursuant to sub-clause 10.2.5(a), *Council* or an *authorised officer* must take into account:
 - (i) whether or not the equipment makes a positive contribution to the amenity of the street on which the footpath is constructed;
 - (ii) whether or not the equipment is stable and safe to pedestrians and diners; and
 - (iii) whether or not A-frames have other notices, signs or objects attached.

10.2.6 Trading, Collections, and Subscriptions

- (a) A person must not, without a *permit*, solicit collections, gifts of money or subscriptions from any footpath or from house to house.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- (b) A person must not, without a *permit*, trade from *Council land*, a *road* or a *road related area* where trading takes place or is to take place from a *vehicle*, stall or any other temporary structure and irrespective of whether trading is on a permanent or casual basis.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- (c) All applications for a *permit* under sub-clause 10.2.6(a) must be submitted, on the form available from *Council*, at least seven days prior to the fundraising activity and include the method of collection, the date, time and location of collection, the use or recipient of funds collected, the Registered Charity Number (if applicable) and any additional information required by *Council* or an *authorised officer*.
- (d) *Permits* will not be granted under sub-clause 10.2.6(a) to organisations or individuals utilising collectors who receive financial gain.
- (e) *Permits* will not be issued more than three months in advance of the *event*.
- (f) In determining whether to grant a *permit* under sub-clause 10.2.6(a), *Council* or an *authorised officer* must consider:



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- (i) the times and days proposed to collect;
- (ii) the manner or thing to be collected;
- (iii) the areas where the collections will take place;
- (iv) the impact on traffic and the safety of pedestrians;
- (v) the impact on the amenity of the surrounding area including, but not limited to, the frequency of use of the required area;
- (vi) whether the activity will disturb, annoy, or disrupt adjacent owners or occupiers of any property or any person;
- (vii) whether the activity will unfairly impact a fixed business selling, offering, or displaying goods for sale that are similar to those offered by the applicant;
- (viii) any complaints received about the activity;
- (ix) the capacity of the *permit holder* to supervise collectors;
- (x) whether evidence has been produced that the *applicant* has the required current public liability insurance of 20 million dollars;
- (xi) any view of the Victoria Police or the Head, Transport for Victoria (where relevant) concerning the proposed location or conduct of any collection;
- (xii) whether any other necessary consents or approvals required under other legislation have been obtained; and
- (xiii) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.



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PART THREE – COMPLIANCE WITH THE LOCAL LAW

11. USES AND ACTIVITIES

11.1 General

11.1.1 A person who does not comply with the requirements of this Part is guilty of an *offence*.

11.2 Standards Required for Keeping Animals

11.2.1 Whether a *permit* is required or not, a person keeping *animals* must provide shelter for them that is reasonable and appropriate for the type of *animal* being kept and having regard to the need to:

- (a) protect neighbours from any noise or *nuisance* from the *animal*; and
- (b) maintain the housing in an inoffensive and sanitary condition.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

11.2.2 For the purposes of sub-clause 11.2.1(b) all *animal* shelters must be maintained in an inoffensive and sanitary condition by:

- (a) ensuring that shelters or housing are not located within:
 - (i) six metres of the frontage of the land; or
 - (ii) three metres of any dwelling on adjacent land; or
 - (iii) 1.5 metres of a property boundary;
- (b) not allowing manure and other waste to remain on the land for an excessive period;
- (c) keeping food and other materials in fly and vermin proof containers;
- (d) adequately draining the land; and
- (e) not allowing grass, weeds, refuse, rubbish, and other material to build up within three metres of the *animal* shelter.

11.3 Animal Control

11.3.1 A person keeping a dog or housing a dog must not allow that dog to be housed on land within:

- (a) six metres of the frontage of the land; or
- (b) three metres of any dwelling on adjacent land.



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Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 11.3.2 A person with the care and control of an *animal* must immediately collect and dispose of any excrement left by that *animal* in a *public place* in a way that does not cause a *nuisance* to any other person.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 11.3.3 A person disposing of dead *livestock* or parts of dead *livestock* must dispose of the *livestock* in a way that does not cause a *nuisance* or which is detrimental to the health of another person or detrimental to the environment.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 11.3.4 A person must not allow any *animal* of which the person is the owner or carer to stray from the land on which the *animal* is being kept.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 11.3.5 A person keeping any *animals* on land must ensure that the *animals* are contained by fencing that is adequate to prevent the type of *animal* being kept on the land escaping.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 11.3.6 A person must not keep any *animal* in a way that would create a *nuisance* or be dangerous or injurious to the health of another person.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

11.4 Livestock Movements within the Municipal District

- 11.4.1 A person who drives or grazes *livestock* on *roads* for which *Council* is the responsible road authority must comply with *Council's Livestock Droving and Grazing Guidelines*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 11.4.2 The *Livestock Droving and Grazing Guidelines* are incorporated documents.



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PART FOUR – PROHIBITED OR REGULATED ACTIVITIES AND USES

12. CONTRAVENTION OF THIS PART

A person who contravenes this Part is guilty of an *offence*.

13. CONSUMPTION AND POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL ON ROADS OR IN CAR PARKS

- 13.1 A person must not consume any *alcohol* or have in their possession or control any *alcohol* other than in an unopened container at any time while they are in a *shopping precinct* identified within *Council's* Township Maps.

Penalty: 10 *penalty units* for a first offence

20 *penalty units* for a subsequent offence

- 13.2 The prohibition in this clause does not apply to any person who consumes *alcohol* or has in their possession or control any *alcohol* while:

13.2.1 taking part in a public ceremony or a function which *Council* has permitted;
or

13.2.2 at a licensed premises or authorised premises under the *Liquor Control Reform Act* 1998 or in a defined area immediately adjacent to licensed premises set aside for meals for which a *permit* has been issued.

14. CONSUMPTION AND POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL ON COUNCIL LAND

- 14.1 A person must not consume any *alcohol* or have in their possession or control any *alcohol* other than in an unopened container while they are on any *Council land* or in any *vehicle* on *Council land* between 11:00pm and 6:00am the following day.

Penalty: 10 *penalty units* for a first offence

20 *penalty units* for a subsequent offence

- 14.2 Sub clause 14.1 does not apply to any person who consumes *alcohol* or has in their possession or control any *alcohol* while taking part in any organised function which *Council* has permitted.

15. DILAPIDATED, UNSIGHTLY, UNTIDY AND DANGEROUS PREMISES

15.1 General

- 15.1.1 This clause 15 contains provisions which aim to ensure that the appearance of buildings in the *municipal district* are consistent with an image of the



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municipal district that is safe, attractive and well maintained by controlling premises that have been allowed to reach a dilapidated, unsightly or dangerous condition.

15.1.2 An owner or occupier of land must not allow any land to be used, kept or remain in a condition that:

- (a) is detrimental or destructive to the amenity of the neighbourhood; or
- (b) which may constitute a danger, hazard or *nuisance* to others:
 - (i) because of the state of the land or because its appearance is untidy or unsightly;
 - (ii) because the land harbours unconstrained rubbish, including disused excavation, waste material or builder's rubble;
 - (iii) because the land has excessive vegetation stockpiles and/or growth, including *noxious weeds*;
 - (iv) because of the nature, type, composition or growth of any vegetation on the land;
 - (v) because of the nature, type or composition of any goods or materials stored on the land or in premises on the land;
 - (vi) because graffiti or writing is on any building or other structures or fittings associated with the land;
 - (vii) because the exterior of any building is in a state of disrepair or has been damaged or defaced so as to affect the visual amenity of the land or the area in which it is located; or
 - (viii) because encroachments on the land are in a state of disrepair which may be dangerous or likely to cause a danger to any person.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

15.1.3 An *authorised officer* may:

- (a) if satisfied that sub-clause 15.1.2 has been or is being breached, serve on the owner of the land a Notice to Comply specifying the work required to correct the condition of the land; and
- (b) if satisfied that sub-clause 15.1.2 has been or is being breached, serve on the occupier of the land a Notice to Comply if the owner of the land cannot, after reasonable enquiry, be located.

15.1.4 In addition to any other means of enforcement provided by this Local Law, if the person served with a Notice to Comply under sub clause 15.1.3 fails to



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comply with the Notice to Comply to the satisfaction of an *authorised officer* or *Council*, the *authorised officer* or *Council* can take whatever action it considers is necessary to bring the land into compliance with the Notice to Comply.

- 15.1.5 Any costs incurred by *Council* in taking action under clause 15.1.3 (including, without limitation, the cost of carrying out building work, the erection of hoardings and barricades and the removal of material from the land) must be paid by the person served with the Notice to Comply.

16. REAL ESTATE BOARDS AND COMMUNITY ADVERTISING SIGNS

- 16.1 A person must not exhibit, place out for exhibition, allow to be exhibited, or placed out for exhibition, a real estate board or community *advertising sign* on any *road* or in any *public place* so as to create a *nuisance*.

Penalty: 20 Penalty units

- 16.2 A person must not exhibit, place out for exhibition, allow to be exhibited, or placed out for exhibition, an open for inspection sign on any *road* or in any *public place* unless the sign is:

- 16.2.1 exhibited on the day the property which is the subject of the sign is open for inspection or auctioned;
- 16.2.2 exhibited either on the nature strip in front of the property for sale or a sign on the nature strip at either end of the street in which the property for sale is located;
- 16.2.3 removed within one hour of completion of the open for inspection or auction; and
- 16.2.4 placed 750mm from the kerb and allows at least 1.2m space between the placement of the sign and the property boundary for pedestrian access.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

17. OVERHANGING AND ENCROACHING VEGETATION

- 17.1 The owner or occupier of any land must not allow any vegetation located on the land to grow in a manner that obstructs the clear passage or view:

- 17.1.1 by a driver of any *vehicle* of a:
- (a) pedestrian; or
 - (b) street sign; or
 - (c) traffic control item,



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or

17.1.2 by a pedestrian of any:

- (a) *vehicle*; or
- (b) street sign; or
- (c) traffic control item; or
- (d) vegetation.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

17.2 An owner or occupier of any land must not allow vegetation on that land to overhang any *road* at a height of less than 4.5 metres from the surface of the *road* and two metres from the surface of the footpath in line with clause 2.5 of the *West Wimmera Shire Council Road Management Plan 2021 - 2025*.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

17.3 *Council* or an *authorised officer* may, by notice in writing, direct the owner or occupier of land from which any tree or plant is causing damage to or interference with a *road* or *Council land* to undertake works on the owner or occupier's land, or on the adjacent *road* or *Council land*, to ensure that it ceases to cause damage or interference. The owner or occupier of the land must comply with that direction.

Penalty: 5 Penalty units

18. BEES AND WASPS

18.1 An owner or occupier of land who keeps or allows bees to be kept on that land must do so in accordance with the *Apiary Code of Practice*.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

18.2 The *Apiary Code of Practice* is an *incorporated document*.

18.3 Sub-clause 18.1 does not apply to a person who keeps or allows bees to be kept on the land where a planning permit has been issued for such use.

18.4 An owner or occupier of any land must, upon becoming aware of the existence of an unmanaged honeybee swarm on that land, take reasonable steps to cause the removal of that unmanaged honeybee swarm so as to not create a nuisance.

Penalty: 20 penalty units



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- 18.5 An owner or occupier of land must not allow or suffer English wasps or European wasps to nest on the land, and, upon becoming aware of the existence of a wasp nest on the land, must take reasonable steps to cause the nest to be destroyed.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- 18.6 If an *authorised officer* serves a Notice to Comply in relation to a contravention of this clause 18, the works required to correct the contravention may include the destruction of the English wasps or European wasps.

- 18.7 An owner or occupier of any land must not allow or suffer any feral European honeybees on the land to cause, or be likely to cause, a *nuisance*.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- 18.8 Circumstances in which feral European honeybees on land are causing, or likely to cause, a *nuisance* include when the feral European honeybees are swarming or likely to swarm.

19. RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

- 19.1 A person must not use or allow to be used a *recreational vehicle* on any land in a manner that is a *nuisance* or constitutes a risk to the safety of any other person.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

20. NOISE

20.1 Burglar Alarms

- 20.2 A person must not allow an audible burglar alarm to be located on any residential premises or any industrial, commercial or trade premises or fitted to any *vehicle* unless the alarm, once activated, is automatically switched off within ten minutes of being activated and cannot reactivate until it has been reset.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

20.3 Amplified Sound Equipment

- 20.3.1 A person must not use or allow or suffer to be used any sound amplifying equipment or the like from a *vehicle* on a *road* or *Council land* or in a *public place* to a level that the noise is objectionable, constitutes a *nuisance* to any other person or interferes with the reasonable enjoyment of the nearby area by others.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- 20.3.2 An owner or occupier of industrial, commercial or trade premises must ensure that any external amplified telephone, door type bells or public



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address system from such industrial, commercial or trade premises is or are not audible within a habitable room of residential premises between 6:00pm and 9:00am of the following day.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

21. NOXIOUS AND ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS

- 21.1 An owner or occupier of land must ensure that *noxious weeds* and *environmental weeds* are not present or growing on their land.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- 21.2 A person must not sell or possess for sale any *environmental weed*.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

22. PEST AND STRAY ANIMALS

- 22.1 A person must not feed or encourage the presence of pest *animals*, stray *animals*, wild birds or foxes or allow any such *animals* access to food.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

23. VEHICLES

23.1 Unregistered Vehicles and Moveable Dwellings on Roads or Council Land

- 23.1.1 A person must not leave standing any abandoned or unregistered *vehicle* or moveable dwelling on a *road* or *Council land*.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

23.2 Heavy and Long Vehicles

- 23.2.1 A person must not park, keep, store, repair or allow to remain on any premises a *vehicle* which is greater than 7.5 metres in length or which has a gross *vehicle* mass of greater than 4.5 tonnes so as to create a *nuisance*.

Penalty: 20 penalty units



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24. SCAREGUNS

24.1 Purpose

24.1.1 The purpose of this clause is to regulate and control the use of *scareguns* within the *municipal district* in a manner that prevents their use being detrimental to the environment or to the quality of life of the community.

24.2 Use of Scareguns

24.2.1 A person must not use or allow or authorise another person to use a *scaregun* unless all the following are satisfied:

- (a) the *scaregun* is only used for the bona fide purpose of scaring birds;
- (b) the distance in a straight line between the *scaregun* and residential premises on another property is 300 metres or greater;
- (c) the distance in a straight line between the *scaregun* and another *scaregun* in use (whether located on the same property or on another property) is 150 metres or greater;
- (d) the *scaregun* is only used between 7:00am and sunset on any day but for not more than 12 hours in total on any day;
- (e) the maximum noise level of the *scaregun* when measured immediately in front of a residential premises on another property is 100Db peak or less; and
- (f) the *scaregun* does not emit more than the number or exceed the regularity of blasts in any one-day period than the number set out in clause 24.3.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

24.3 Frequency of Scaregun Blasts

24.3.1 For the purposes of sub-clause 24.2.1(f), the number and regularity of blasts in any one-day period is as follows:

- (a) in the case of a single blast *scaregun*, 70 blasts, with the time between blasts to be no less than six minutes; and
- (b) in the case of a multiple blast *scaregun*, 70 blasts, with:
 - (i) the time between blast sequences being no less than six minutes; and
 - (ii) the time between the first blast of a sequence and the last blast of a sequence being no more than one minute; and



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- (c) each blast in a sequence from a multiple blast *scaregun* must be counted as one blast.

24.4 Application

- 24.4.1 Clause 24 does not apply to the use of *scareguns* by *Council* staff or a *Council* contractor.

25. USE OF RECEPTACLES

25.1 General

- 25.1.1 A person must not cause or permit to be placed in any *receptacle* any:

- (a) slops or liquid waste; or
- (b) hot ashes or dirt; or
- (c) wire or other jagged or rough-edged material or object unless the material or object is securely wrapped so as to prevent injury to any person emptying the *receptacle*; or
- (d) syringes or other sharp objects which may be contaminated with infectious waste (including blood) unless wrapped or secured in such a manner as to render it or them harmless or inoffensive; or
- (e) *e-waste*; or
- (f) oil, paint or solvents, or any other thing, substance or material whatsoever which may damage such *receptacle* or reduce its strength; or
- (g) the carcass of a deceased *animal* or mammal; or
- (h) building waste; or
- (i) hazardous chemicals, or volatile, explosive or flammable substances; or
- (j) human faeces,

except in a *receptacle* approved for that purpose.

Penalty: 20 penalty units

- 25.1.2 An occupier of a dwelling must cause any *receptacle* to be removed from where it was left for collection within 24 hours from the time at which the *receptacle* was emptied.

Penalty: 10 penalty units



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25.1.3 Sub-clause 25.1.2 does not apply to:

- (a) *receptacles* left for collection at common collection points where properties are not accessible by a waste collection *vehicle*; or
- (b) properties where the driveway is steep; or
- (c) where, due to age, infirmity or a disability, the occupier is unable to move the *receptacle* without ease or assistance; or
- (d) commercial premises where there is inadequate space to store *receptacles*.

25.2 Recyclable Waste, Hard Waste and Food and Organic Waste

25.2.1 *Council* may, from time to time, and in such manner as it may determine, undertake the collection of waste, including but not limited to recyclable waste, hard waste and food and organic waste.

25.2.2 The occupier of a dwelling in the recyclable household service area who is supplied by *Council* or its contractor with a *receptacle* for collection, must use the *receptacle* only for the purpose for which it was provided.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

25.2.3 Hard waste must not be placed out on the *road related area* in such a manner that will obstruct or hinder the use of any *road* (including a footpath).

Penalty: 10 penalty units

25.2.4 Garden waste must not be placed out on the *road related area* in such a manner that will obstruct or hinder the use of any *road* (including a footpath).

Penalty: 10 penalty units

26. NATURE STRIPS – ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT

26.1 A person who is the owner or occupier of land in a *township*:

26.1.1 may undertake maintenance of the lawn on the nature strip adjacent to the land; and

26.1.2 must obtain a *permit* to undertake other gardening works or other alternative treatment on the nature strip adjacent to the land, such as creating garden beds or planting trees.

Penalty: 20 penalty units



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PART FIVE – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

27. PERMITS AND FEES

27.1 Permit Applications

- 27.1.1 A person who wishes to apply for a *permit* may do so by:
- (a) lodging an application; and
 - (b) paying the *appropriate fee* (where applicable).
- 27.1.2 *Council* or an *authorised officer* may require an *applicant* to provide additional information before dealing with an application for a *permit* or for an exemption to the requirement to obtain a *permit*.
- 27.1.3 *Council* or an *authorised officer* may require an *applicant* to give public notice of the application.
- 27.1.4 At the discretion of *Council* or an *authorised officer*, the public notice of the application may be required to be given:
- (a) by *Council* to the general public; or
 - (b) by the *applicant* to persons specified by *Council* or an *authorised officer*.
- 27.1.5 A public notice given by *Council* shall be advertised:
- (a) on the *Council* website; and
 - (b) where practicable, in a newspaper published in Victoria and circulating in the *municipal district*.
- 27.1.6 A public notice given by the *applicant* shall be:
- (a) in a form approved in advance by an *authorised officer*; and
 - (b) given by registered mail to the persons specified by *Council* or an *authorised officer*.
- 27.1.7 A copy of the public notice given by the *applicant* must be provided to *Council*.
- 27.1.8 A public notice given pursuant to this clause must provide that submitters be given 14 days to respond.
- 27.1.9 Submissions received pursuant to this clause:



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- (a) shall, where the public notice has been given by the *applicant*, be considered by an *authorised officer*; and
- (b) shall, where the public notice has been given by *Council*, be considered in accordance with *Council's Community Engagement Policy*.

27.1.10 In deciding whether to grant a *permit*, *Council* or an *authorised officer* may, in addition to anything else specified in this Local Law or where nothing else is specified, take into consideration whether the proposed activity or use will:

- (a) cause a danger or hazard to pedestrians or *vehicles*;
- (b) disturb, annoy or disrupt adjacent property owners or occupiers;
- (c) be detrimental to the amenity of the area;
- (d) destroy native vegetation on *Council land* or *roads*;
- (e) cause damage to *Council* assets;
- (f) require the consent of or whether the application should be referred to obtain the opinion of any other public authority or individual;
- (g) obstruct a footpath so that it will not be possible to always maintain a clear walkway; or
- (h) necessitate the *applicant* to have insurance against any risk.

27.2 Issue of Permits

27.2.1 *Council* or an *authorised officer* may:

- (a) issue a *permit* with or without conditions; or
- (b) refuse to issue a *permit*.

27.3 Conditional Permits

27.3.1 A *permit* may be subject to conditions which *Council*, or an *authorised officer*, considers appropriate in the circumstances including:

- (a) the payment of a fee or charge;
- (b) the payment of a security deposit, bond or guarantee to *Council* to secure the proper performance of conditions on a *permit* or to rectify any damage caused to *Council* assets as a result of the use or activity allowed by the *permit*;
- (c) a time limit to be applied by specifying the duration or commencement or completion date;
- (d) that the *applicant* be insured to the satisfaction of the *authorised officer*;



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- (e) the rectification, remedying or restoration of a situation of circumstance;
- (f) where the *applicant* is not the owner of the subject property, the consent of the owner is obtained; and
- (g) the granting of some other *permit* or authorisation.

27.3.2 The conditions of a *permit* must be set out in the *permit*.

27.3.3 *Council* or an *authorised officer* may, during the currency of a *permit*, alter the conditions of a *permit* if it considers or they consider it to be appropriate to do so, after providing the *permit holder* with an opportunity to make comment on the proposed alteration.

27.4 Permit Cancellations

27.4.1 *Council* or an *authorised officer* may cancel a *permit* if it is considered that:

- (a) there has been a serious or ongoing breach of the conditions of the *permit*;
- (b) a Notice to Comply has been issued but not complied with within seven days or such other time as is specified in the Notice to Comply;
- (c) there was a significant error or misrepresentation in the application for the *permit*; or
- (d) in the circumstances, the *permit* should be cancelled.

27.4.2 Before it cancels a *permit*, *Council* or an *authorised officer* must provide the *permit holder* with an opportunity to make a submission on the proposed cancellation.

27.4.3 If a *permit holder* is given the opportunity to make a submission pursuant to sub-clause 27.4.2 the *permit holder* must be given 14 days to make a submission.

27.4.4 If a *permit holder* is not the owner of the land and the owner's consent was required to be given to the application for the *permit*, the owner must be notified of any Notice to Comply and of the reason why it has been served.

27.5 Correction of Permits

27.5.1 *Council* or an *authorised officer* may correct a *permit* in relation to:

- (a) an unintentional error or an omission; or
- (b) an evident material miscalculation or an evident material mistake in the description of a person, property, or thing.



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27.5.2 *Council* or an *authorised officer* must notify the *permit holder* in writing of any correction.

27.5.3 If the *permit holder* is not the owner of the land and the owner's consent was required to be given to the application for the *permit*, the owner must be notified of any correction to a *permit*.

27.6 Appeal Rights

27.6.1 An *applicant* may appeal in writing to the *Chief Executive Officer* (CEO) against the decision of an *authorised officer* to refuse to grant a *permit* or to issue a *permit* with conditions within 14 days of being notified of the decision.

27.6.2 Appeals will be considered by the CEO, a *delegate* of the CEO or another person appointed by the CEO.

27.6.3 The CEO may obtain any additional information to assist with the determination of the appeal.

27.6.4 The CEO must advise the *applicant* in writing of the decision and the reasons for it within 14 days of receiving the request to review the decision of an *authorised officer* or within 14 days of receiving any additional information requested of the *applicant*.

27.7 Duration of Permits

27.7.1 A *permit* is in force until the expiry date indicated on the *permit*, unless it is cancelled before the expiry date.

27.7.2 If no expiry date is indicated on the *permit*, the *permit* expires two years after the date on which it is issued.

27.7.3 Before the *permit* expires, a person may request *Council* to extend the *permit* for a further period.

27.8 Fees

27.8.1 *Council* may, from time to time, by resolution determine fees for the purposes of this Local Law.

27.8.2 In determining any fees and charges, *Council* may establish a system or structure of fees, charges, bonds, and guarantees including a minimum or maximum fee or charge if it considers it is appropriate to do so.

27.8.3 *Council* or an *authorised officer* may waive, reduce, or alter a fee with or without conditions.

27.8.4 *Charities* are exempt from *permit* fees.



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27.9 Exemptions

- 27.9.1 Council or an *authorised officer* may by written notice exempt any person or class of persons from the requirement to obtain a *permit*, either generally or at specified times.
- 27.9.2 In determining whether to grant an exemption to the requirement to obtain a *permit*, Council or an *authorised officer* will have regard to:
- (a) the circumstances of the application;
 - (b) whether the application is to raise funds for community for charitable purposes;
 - (c) whether the proposed activity or use will have an overall community benefit;
 - (d) whether the proposed activity or use could have a detrimental effect on adjoining properties;
 - (e) whether the *applicant* will be given an unfair advantage over any other person or organisation; and
 - (f) any other matters relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- 27.9.3 An exemption may be granted subject to conditions.
- 27.9.4 A person must comply with the conditions of an exemption.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

- 27.9.5 An exemption may be cancelled or corrected as if it were a *permit*.

27.10 Offences

- 27.10.1 A person who makes a false representation or declaration (whether oral or in writing), or who intentionally omits relevant information in an application for a *permit* or exemption, is guilty of an *offence*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

28. ENFORCEMENT

28.1 Compliance with Directions

- 28.1.1 A person must comply with any lawful direction or instruction of an *authorised officer* given under this Local Law when requested to do so in urgent circumstances or for public safety reasons, whether or not the person has a *permit*.



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Penalty: 10 penalty units

28.2 Warning to Offenders

28.2.1 Where there is a breach of this Local Law an *authorised officer* may request the person breaching the Local Law to stop or remedy the breach.

28.2.2 If a breach of this Local Law continues after an *authorised officer* has requested a person to remedy or stop the breach, the *authorised officer* may issue an *official warning* which must comply with the requirements of the *Infringements Act 2006* and the *Infringements Regulations 2016*.

28.3 Power of Authorised Officer – Notice to Comply

28.3.1 Where there is a breach of this Local Law, an *authorised officer* may serve a Notice to Comply on the person who is breaching the Local Law.

28.4 Time to Comply

28.4.1 A Notice to Comply must state the time and date by which the breach must be remedied.

28.4.2 The time required by a Notice to Comply must be reasonable in the circumstances having regard to:

- (a) the amount of work involved;
- (b) the degree of difficulty;
- (c) the availability of necessary materials or other necessary items;
- (d) climatic conditions;
- (e) the degree of risk or potential risk; and
- (f) any other relevant factor.

28.5 Failure to Comply with a Notice to Comply

28.5.1 A person who fails to comply with a Notice to Comply served on that person is guilty of an *offence*.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

28.5.2 Where a Notice to Comply requiring works to be undertaken is not complied with, an *authorised officer* may cause any works to be carried out to ensure compliance and may recover the costs incurred by *Council*.



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29. POWER OF AUTHORISED OFFICERS

29.1 Urgent Circumstances

- 29.1.1 In urgent circumstances arising as a result of a failure to comply with this Local Law, an *authorised officer* may take action to remove, remedy or rectify a situation without first serving a Notice to Comply if the *authorised officer* considers the circumstances or situation to be sufficiently urgent and that the time involved or difficulties associated with serving a notice, may place a person, *animal*, property or thing at risk or in danger.
- 29.1.2 In deciding whether circumstances are urgent, an *authorised officer* must take into consideration, to the extent relevant, whether:
- (a) it is practicable to contact:
 - (i) the person by whose default, permission, or tolerance the situation has arisen; or
 - (ii) the owner or the occupier of the premises or property affected; and
 - (b) there is an urgent risk or threat to public health, public safety, the environment, or *animal* welfare.
- 29.1.3 The action taken by an *authorised officer* under sub-clause 29.1.1 must not extend beyond what is necessary to cause the immediate abatement of or minimise the risk or danger involved.
- 29.1.4 An *authorised officer* who takes action under sub-clause 29.1.1 must ensure that, as soon as practicable, details of the circumstances and remedying action are forwarded to the person on whose behalf the action was taken.

29.2 Power to Impound

- 29.2.1 Where any items, goods and equipment are used in contravention of this Local Law an *authorised officer* may remove and impound them.
- 29.2.2 Where any items and equipment are impounded under this provision, an *authorised officer* must, as soon as possible and where practicable, serve a Notice of Impounding on the owner or the person responsible for the item setting out the fees and charges payable and the time by which the item must be retrieved.
- 29.2.3 Where the identity or whereabouts of the owner or the person responsible for the impounded item is unknown the *authorised officer* must take reasonable steps to establish the identity or whereabouts of the person and may dispose of the impounded item in the following way:
- (a) where the item has no saleable value, it may be disposed of in the most economical way determined by an *authorised officer* or *delegate* in



Community Local Law 2023 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

accordance with *Council's Asset Disposal Policy* or other relevant policy; or

- (b) where the item appears to have some saleable value, the item may be disposed of by tender, public auction or private sale but may be given away or disposed of if the sale is unsuccessful in accordance with *Council's Asset Disposal Policy* or other relevant policy.

29.2.4 Any proceeds from the disposal of an impounded item will be paid to the owner or the person who, in the opinion of *Council* or an *authorised officer*, appears to be authorised to receive the money, except for the reasonable costs incurred by *Council* in the administration of this Local Law.

29.2.5 If the person described in sub-clause 29.2.4 cannot be identified or located within six months of serving the Notice of Impounding, any proceeds of sale cease to be payable to that person and may be retained for municipal purposes.

29.2.6 If an *authorised officer* has impounded anything in accordance with this Local Law, *Council* may refuse to release it until the *appropriate fee* or charge for its release has been paid to *Council*.

29.2.7 In exercising any of the powers in this clause an *authorised officer* must have regard to any specific requirements in the *Act*.

29.3 Penalties and Infringement

29.3.1 As an alternative to prosecution, an *authorised officer* may issue an infringement notice to any person whom the *authorised officer* reasonably considers has committed an *offence*.

29.3.2 A person issued with an infringement notice is entitled to disregard the notice and defend the prosecution in court.

29.3.3 The penalty in respect of an infringement for which an infringement notice is issued is the amount set out in the Schedule.

29.3.4 A person issued with an infringement notice may pay the penalty amount to *Council* at the address indicated in the notice.

29.3.5 To avoid prosecution and subject to the *Infringements Act* 2006, the penalty indicated in the infringement notice must be paid within 28 days after the day on which the infringement notice is issued.



Community Local Law 2023 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW NO 9

SCHEDULE

PENALTIES FIXED FOR INFRINGEMENT NOTICE PURPOSES

Explanatory Note: Infringement notice penalties are used to simplify the process of enforcing less serious breaches of the law.

Infringement notices avoid the complex process of Court prosecution.

When infringement notices are paid on time, no conviction is recorded by a Court. The amount of an infringement penalty is normally significantly less than the potential maximum penalty a Court might impose for the same offence. Maximum penalties may be imposed by a Court when:

- Council or an authorised officer chooses to prosecute an offence, rather than issue an infringement notice; or
- a person receiving an infringement notice chooses to have the matter heard in Court.

Penalty units are indexed annually.

| Clause or sub-clause | Offence | Infringement Penalty Units | Maximum Penalty Units |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 6.2 | Failing to comply with the conditions of the permit | 2 | 10 |
| 7 | Failing to obtain a permit to store vehicles and machinery | 2 | 10 |
| 8 | Failing to obtain a permit to keep excess <i>animals</i> | 3 | 15 |
| 9.1 | Failing to obtain a permit to camp in excess of the period | 3 | 15 |
| 10.1.1 | Committing an offence pursuant the sub-clause | 2 | 10 |
| 10.1.2 | Committing an offence pursuant the sub-clause | 5 | 10 |
| 10.1.3 & 10.1.4 | Committing an offence pursuant the sub-clause | 5 | 10 |
| 10.2.1 | Damaging Council land or roads | 10 | 20 |
| 10.2.2 | Bulk rubbish containers | 5 | 10 |



Community Local Law 2023 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

| Clause or sub-clause | Offence | Infringement Penalty Units | Maximum Penalty Units |
|-------------------------|---|--|-----------------------|
| 10.2.3 | Clothing bins | 5 | 10 |
| 10.2.4 | Processions, street festivals and street parties | 10 | 20 |
| 10.2.5(a) | Use of footpaths for activities | 10 | 20 |
| 10.2.6(a) & 10.2.6(b) | Trading, collections, subscriptions, and raffles | 10 | 20 |
| 11.2.1 | Failing to comply with requirements for keeping animals | 5 | 10 |
| 11.3.1 | Failing to comply with requirements for animal control | 5 | 10 |
| 11.3.2 – 11.3.6 | Animal control | 2 | 10 |
| 11.4 | Failing to comply with requirements for livestock movements within the municipal district | 5 | 10 |
| 13.1 | Consumption and possession of alcohol on roads or in car parks contrary to the Local Law | 10 (first offence), 20 (subsequent offences) | 20 |
| 14.1 | Consumption and possession of alcohol on reserves contrary to the Local Law | 10 (first offence), 20 (subsequent offences) | 20 |
| 15 | Dilapidated, unsightly, untidy, and dangerous premises | 20 | 20 |
| 16.1 & 16.2 | Real estate boards and community advertising signs | 10 | 20 |
| 17.1, 17.2 & 17.3 | Overhanging vegetation | 5 | 5 |
| 18.1, 18.4, 18.5 & 18.7 | Bees and wasps | 10 | 20 |
| 19 | Recreational vehicles | 10 | 20 |
| 20 | Noise | 10 | 20 |
| 21 | Noxious and environmental weeds | 10 | 20 |
| 22 | Pest and stray animals | 2 | 5 |
| 23.1.1 | Vehicles | 2 | 5 |
| 23.2.1 | Heavy and long vehicles | 10 | 20 |



Community Local Law 2023 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

| Clause or sub-clause | Offence | Infringement Penalty Units | Maximum Penalty Units |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 24 | Scareguns | 5 | 5 |
| 25.1.1 | Use of receptacles | 10 | 20 |
| 25.1.2 | Receptacles | 3 | 10 |
| 25.2.2, 25.2.3 & 25.2.4 | Receptacles – recyclable waste, hard waste and food and organics | 5 | 10 |
| 26.1.2 | Nature strip treatments | 10 | 20 |
| 27.9.4 | Non-compliance with exemption | 5 | 10 |
| 27.10.1 | Offences relating to declarations | 5 | 10 |
| 28.1.1 | Non-compliance with directions | 5 | 10 |
| 28.5.1 | Failure to comply with a Notice to Comply | 5 | 10 |



Community Local Law 2023 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

The resolution for making this Local Law was agreed to by the West Wimmera Shire Council on 17 May 2023

| | |
|--|--|
| THE COMMON SEAL of the West Wimmera Shire Council was hereunto affixed in the presence of: | |
|--|--|

| | |
|-------|-------------------------|
| _____ | Councillor |
| _____ | Councillor |
| _____ | Chief Executive Officer |

Public notice of the proposal to make and confirmation of the making of the Local Law were inserted in the Nhill Free Press and Kaniva Times on 23 November 2022, 29 March 2023 and 24 May 2023.

Notice of the making of this Local Law was included in the Victoria Government Gazette dated 25 May 2023.

+++++



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW NO 9

**SHOPPING PRECINCTS AND
TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES**



CONTACT US

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 PO Box 201 Edenhope, VIC 3318

CONNECT WITH US

 facebook.com/westwimmerashire
 www.instagram.com/westwimmera

COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW NO 9
SHOPPING PRECINCTS

Apsley

Wallace Street from Townsend Street to Laidlaw Street

Edenhope

Elizabeth Street from Orme Street to Wallace Street

Goroke

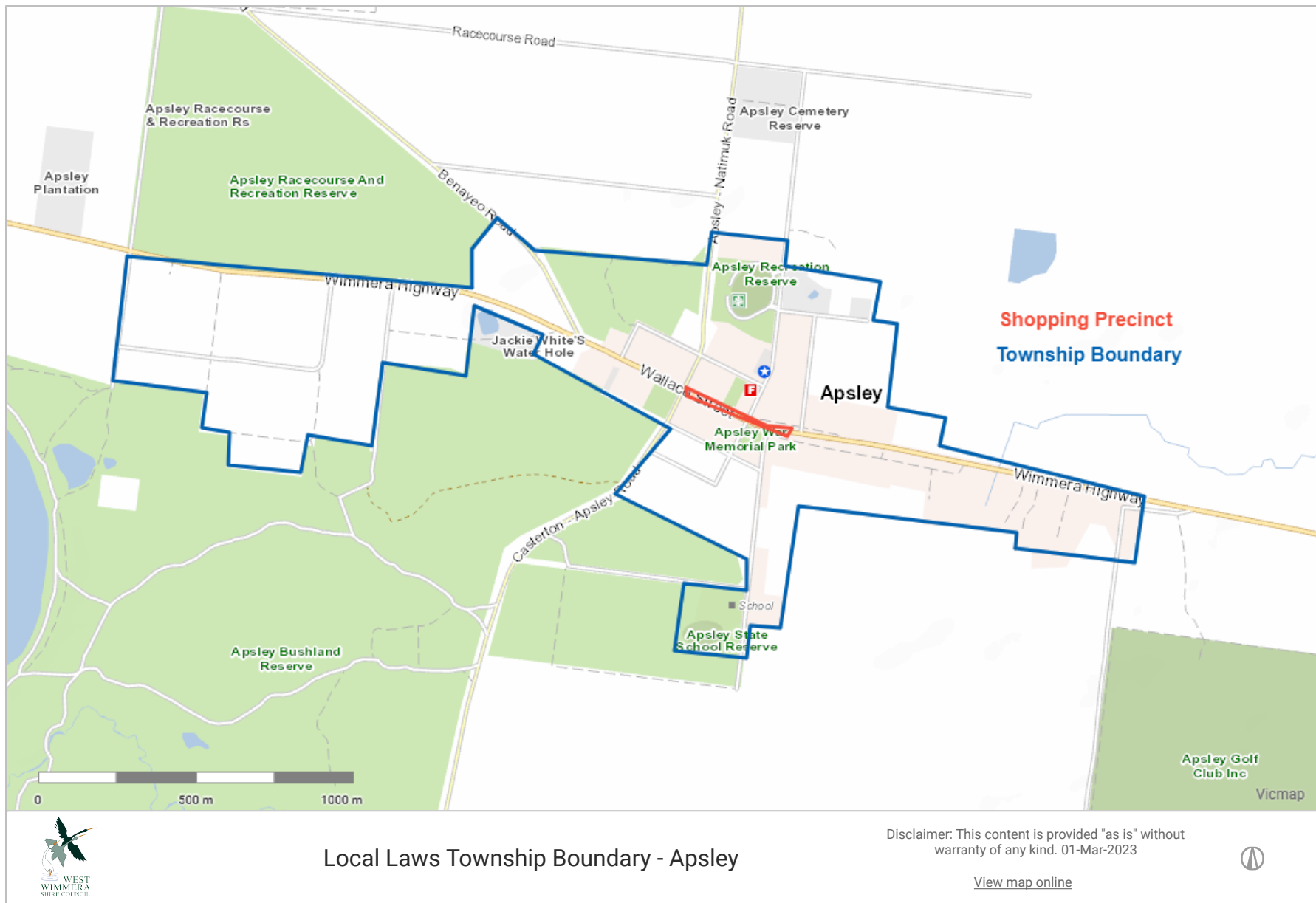
Main Street from Mill Street to Compton Street

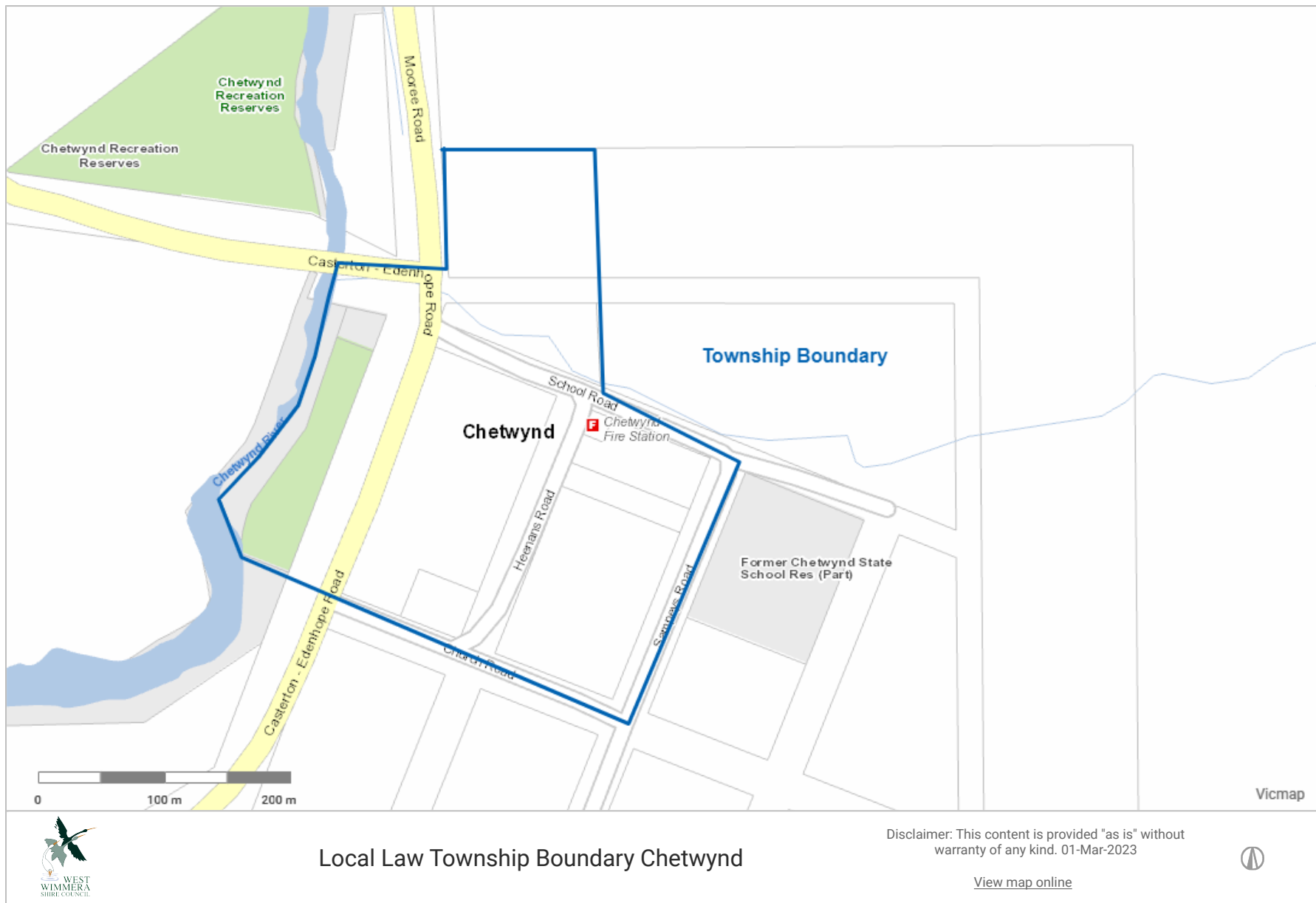
Harrow

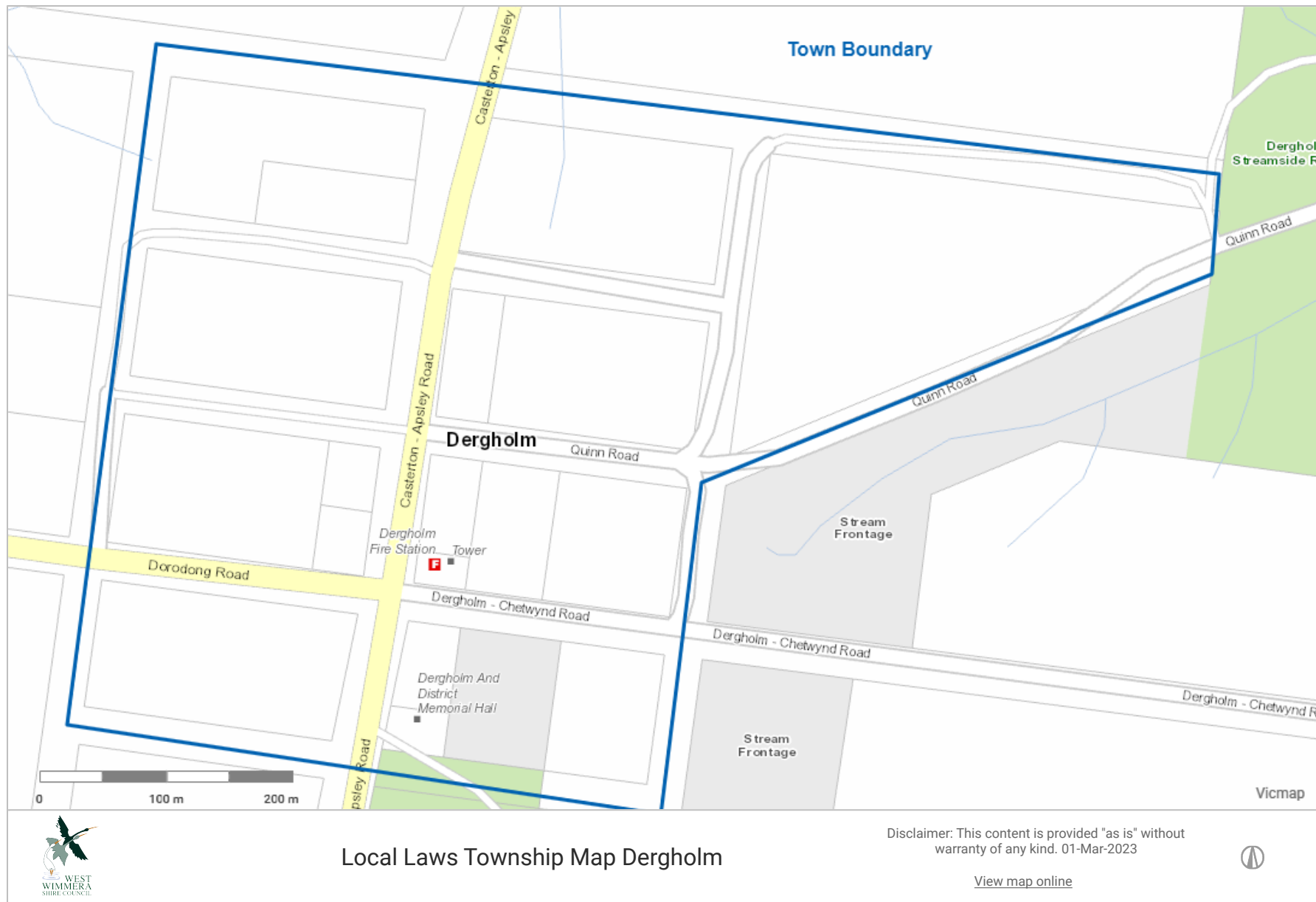
Blair Street from Whittaker Street to 50-52 Blair Street (existing General Store)

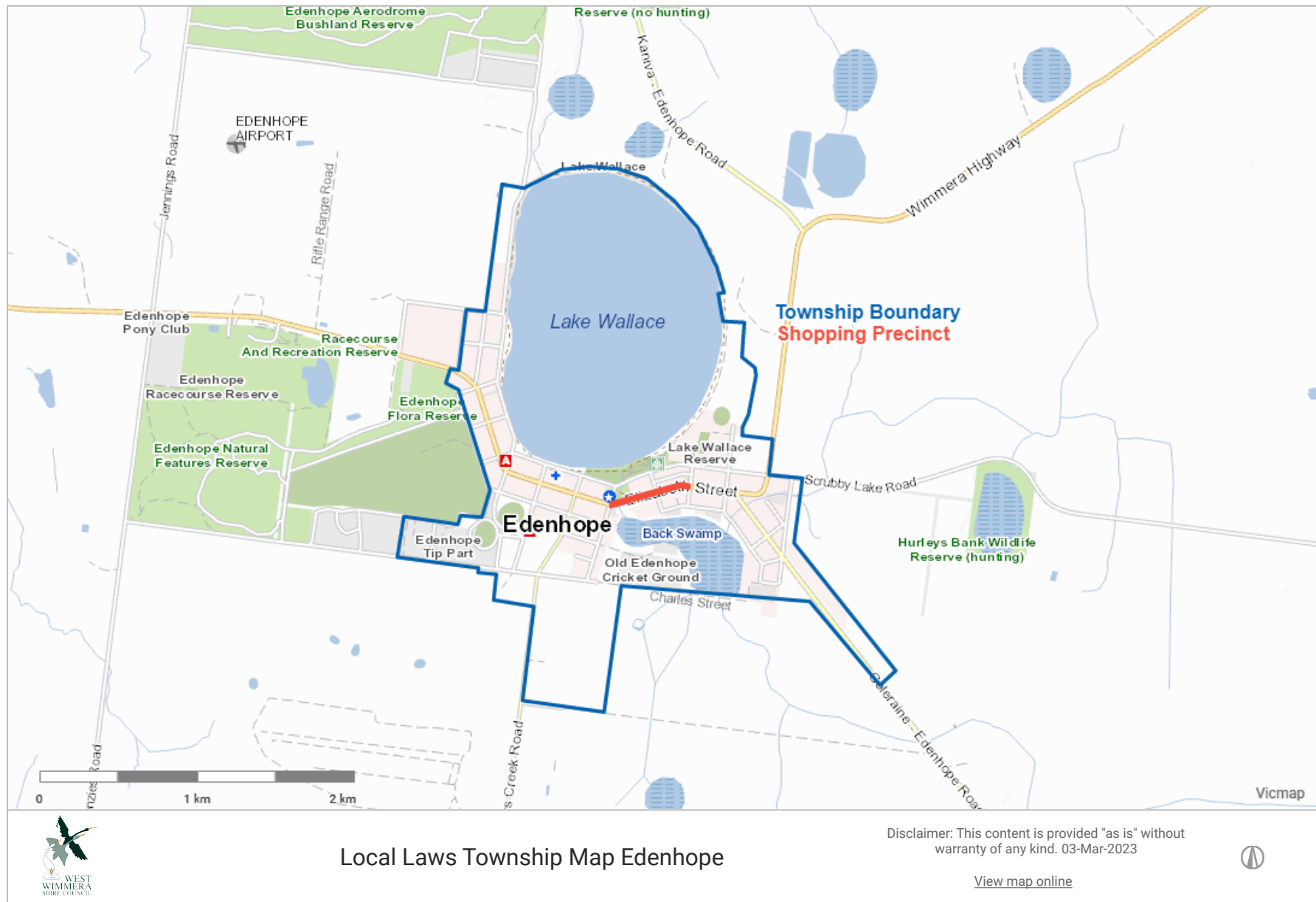
Kaniva

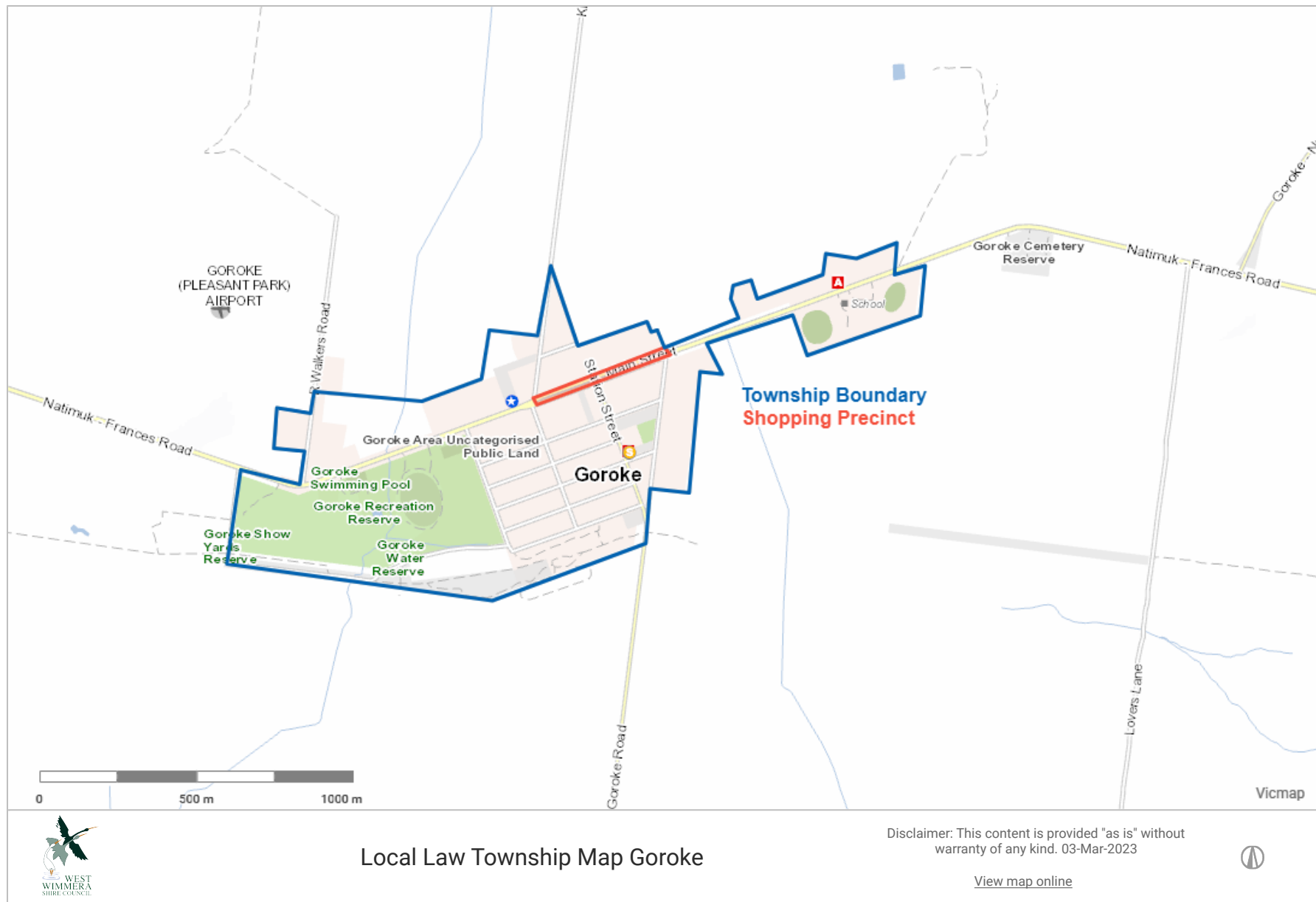
Commercial Street from Madden Street to Baker Street

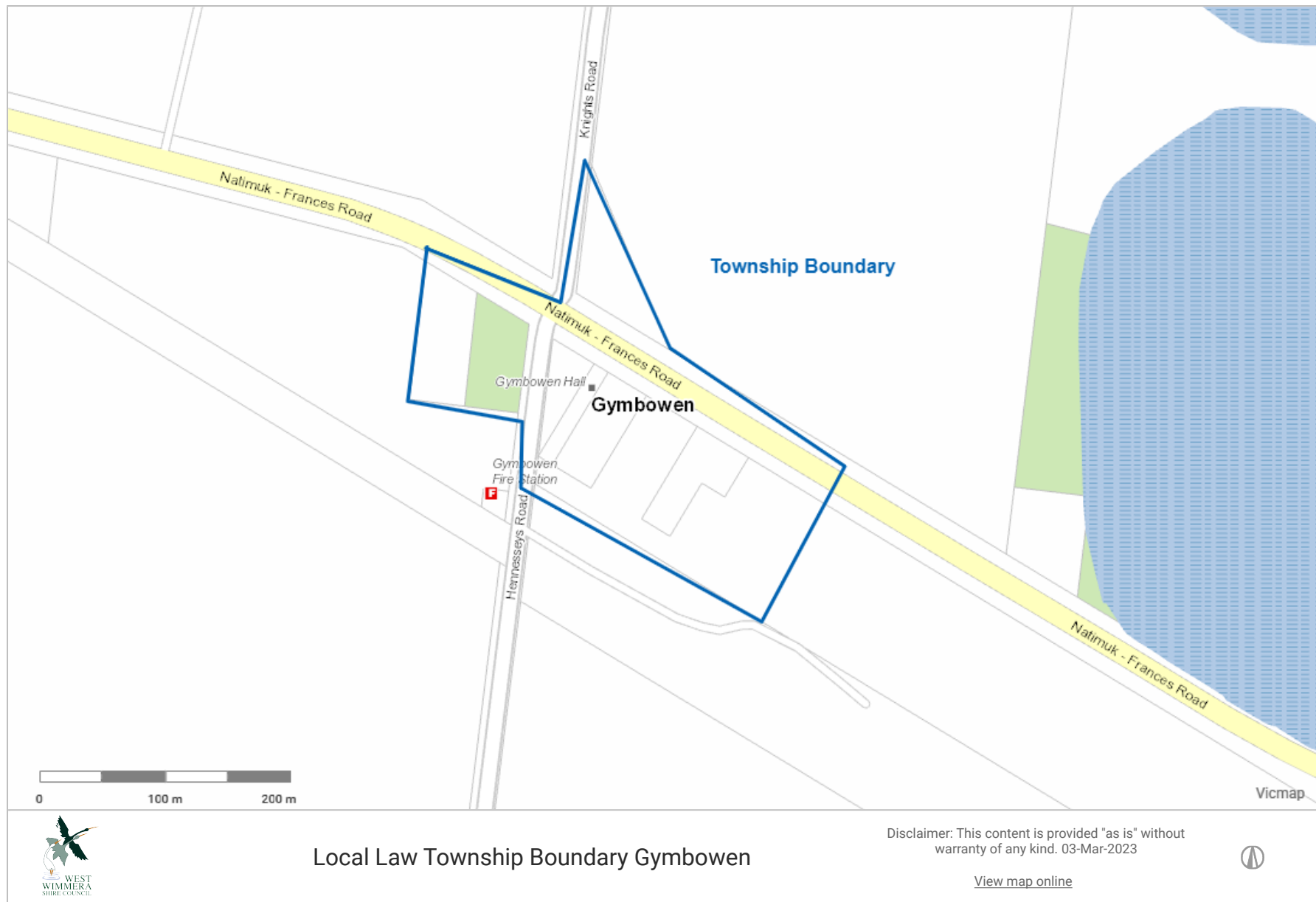


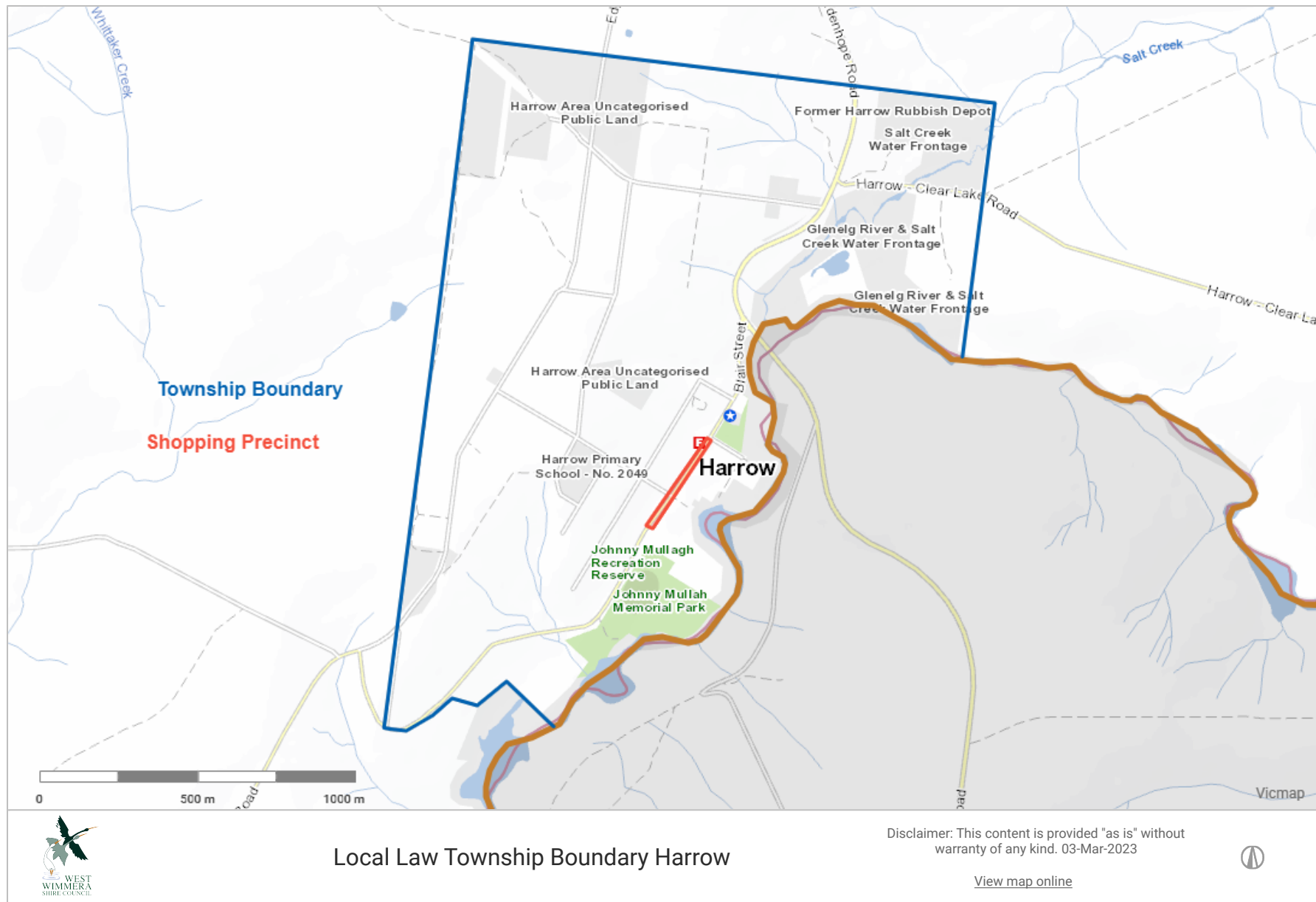


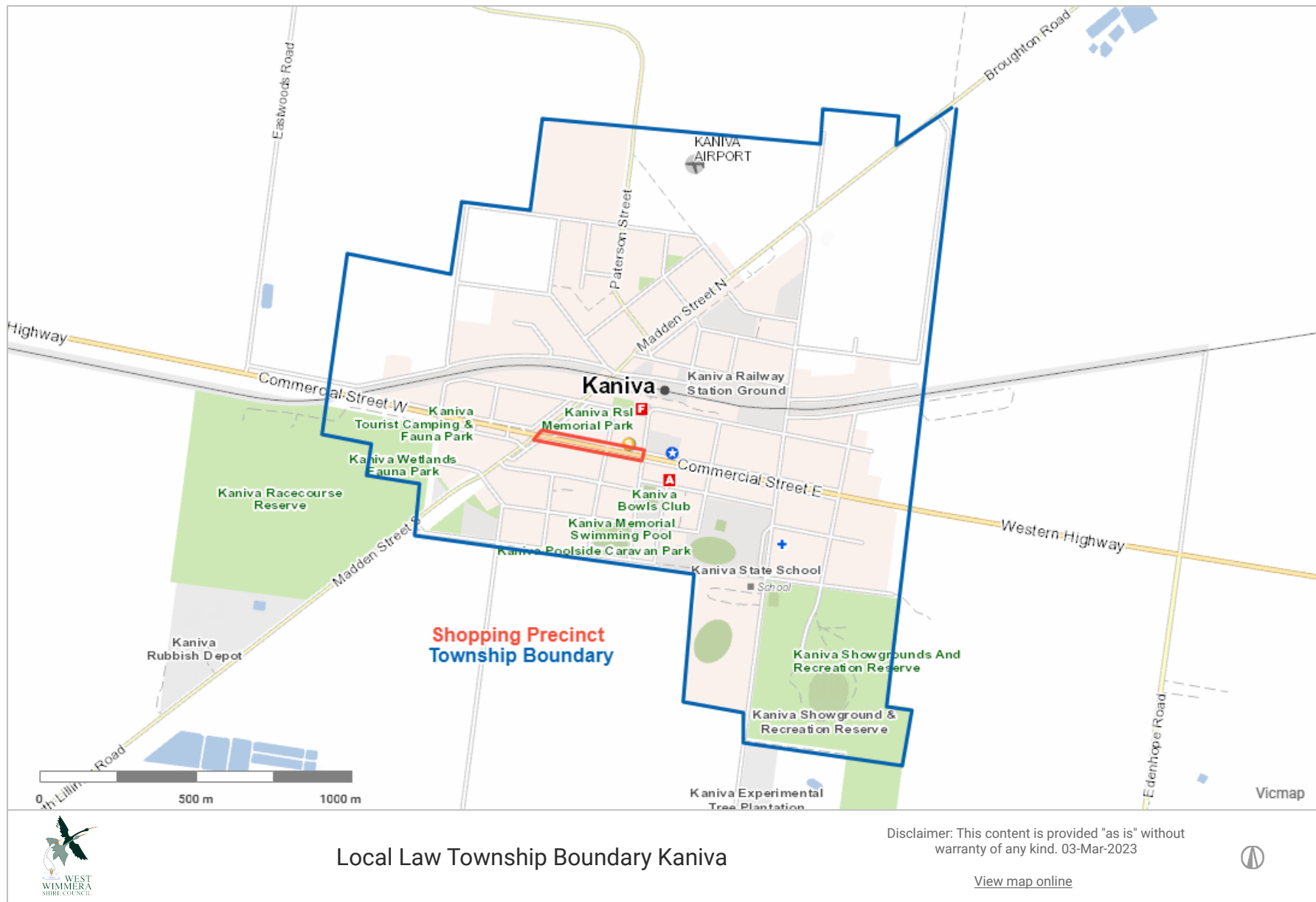


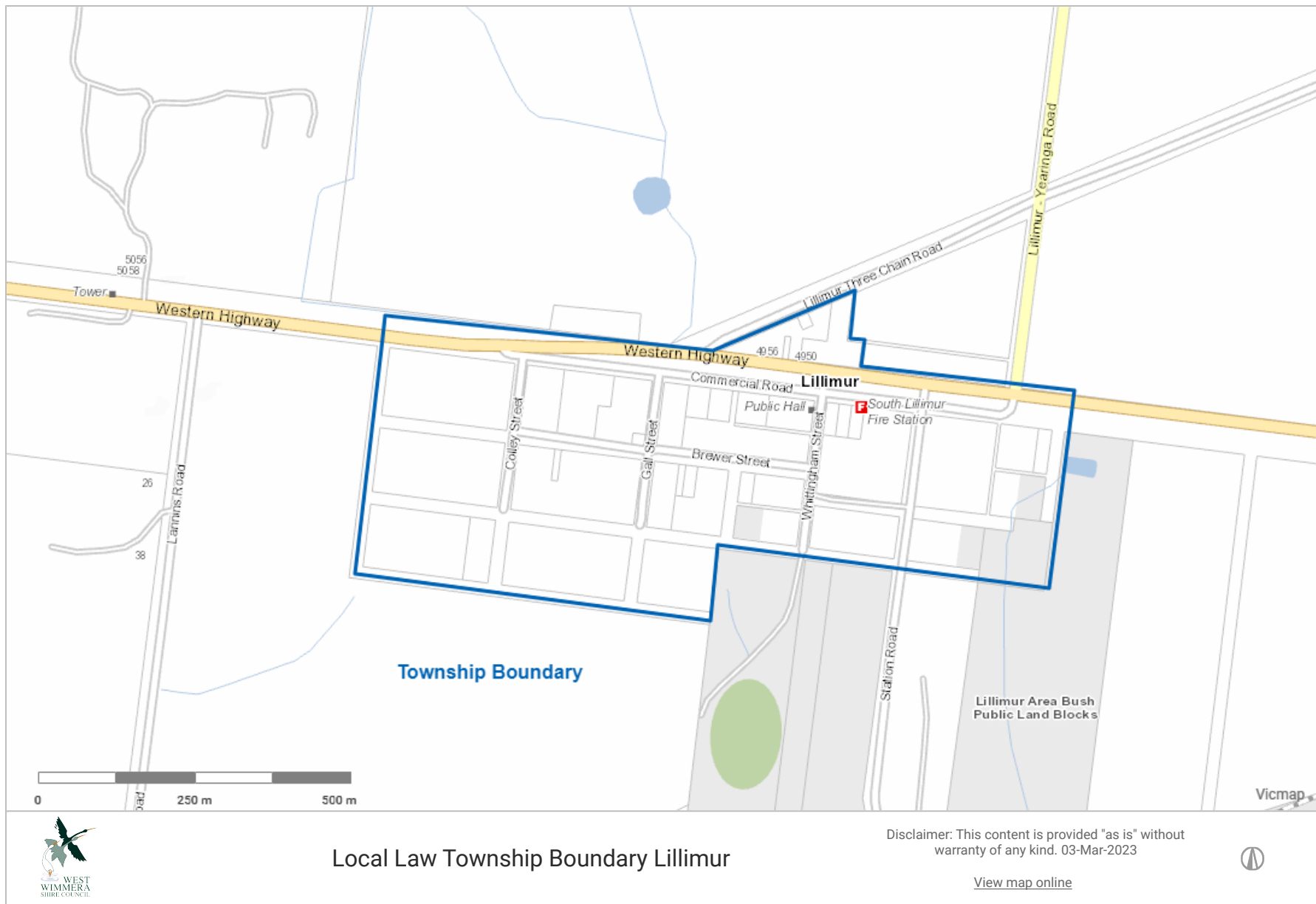




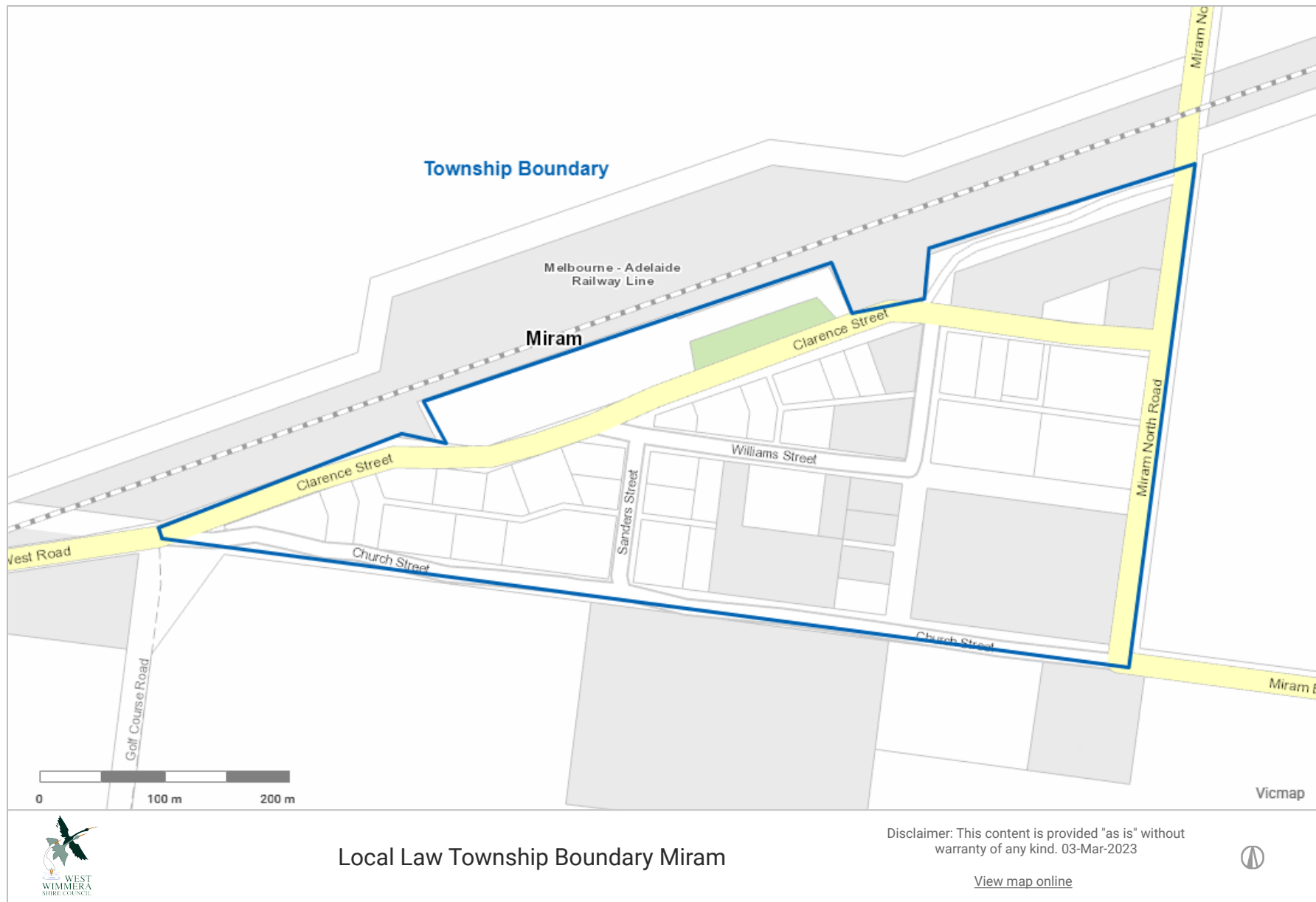


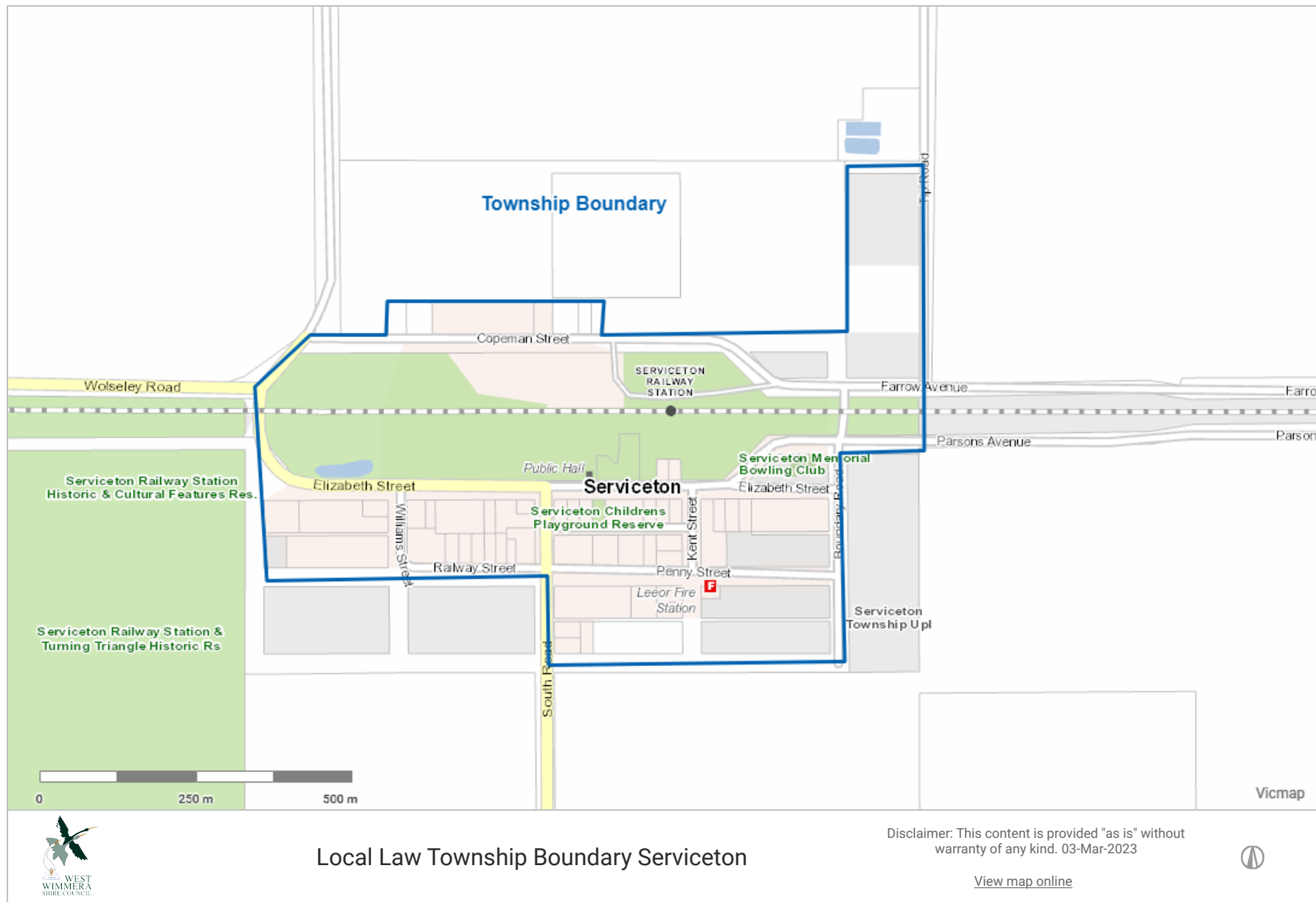














WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Livestock Droving and Grazing Guidelines



CONTACT US

-  council@westwimmera.vic.gov.au
-  www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au/
-  13 WWSC (13 99 72)
-  PO Box 201 Edenhope, VIC 3318

CONNECT WITH US

-  facebook.com/westwimmerashire
-  www.instagram.com/westwimmera

West Wimmera Shire Council

West Wimmera Shire Livestock Droving and Grazing Guidelines

- That the person in charge of the livestock is at least 16 years of age, is competent in handling livestock, is present and supervises the livestock at all times and conducts the activity in a safe manner.
- That signs advising “Stock Ahead” or “Give Way to Stock Next [] km” are placed at least 300 metres in front of and behind the livestock and on each approaching road but no more than five kilometres from the livestock; and remain in place until the livestock are confined on the destination property but must be removed when the droving is completed. Signs must be in the style of those shown in Figure 1. They must be clean and in good condition. They must be upright and clear of any vegetation or other objects that may obscure them from approaching traffic.
- That all vehicles have roof/high mounted rotating flashing light (hazard lights are not suitable).
- That all vehicles have current registration.
- That livestock are not being moved through roadworks where Council works staff or contractors are undertaking any roadworks.
- The owner of the livestock has in place public liability insurance for the required amount covering risks likely to arise from moving livestock on roads.
- That appropriate precautions are taken to ensure livestock are not permitted to cause a risk to other road users or damage fences, roads, or flora.
- That the livestock are healthy and free from diseases and parasites and free from noxious weed seeds.
- Where the number of livestock exceeds 1,000 sheep (or 200 other animals) or the distance exceeds 10 kilometres or the route includes or passes over either the Western or Wimmera Highways, then at least two persons are required to be in attendance at all times.
- Where livestock are being moved within the municipal district on the Western Highway or the Wimmera Highway a minimum of two people must be in attendance, one in front and one behind the livestock, while they are on or crossing the road.

Roadside grazing by livestock for fire hazard reduction

- The livestock are grazed no more than three kilometres from the property on which they are usually kept and are returned to that property on the same day;
- The livestock graze only between sunrise and sunset and in weather conditions where the visibility for road users is at least 300 metres;
- That the person in charge of the livestock is at least 16 years of age, is competent in handling livestock, is present and supervises the livestock at all times and conducts the activity in a safe manner.
- That signs advising “Stock Ahead” or “Give Way to Stock Next [] km” are placed at least 300 metres in front of and behind the livestock and on each approaching road but no more than

Livestock Droving and Grazing Guidelines 2

West Wimmera Shire Council

five kilometres from the livestock; and remain in place until the livestock are confined on the destination property, but must be removed when the grazing is completed. Signs must be in the style of those shown in Figure 1. They must be clean and in good condition. They must be upright and clear of any vegetation or other objects that may obscure them from approaching traffic.

- That all vehicles have roof/high mounted rotating flashing light (hazard lights are not suitable).
- That all vehicles have current registration.
- That livestock are not interfering with roadworks where Council works staff or contractors are undertaking any roadworks.
- The owner of the livestock has in place public liability insurance for the required amount covering risks likely to arise from grazing livestock on roads.
- That appropriate precautions are taken to ensure livestock are not permitted to cause a risk to other road users or damage fences, roads, or flora.
- That the livestock are healthy and free from diseases and parasites and free from noxious weed seeds.
- Where the number of livestock exceeds 1,000 sheep (or 200 other animals) at least two persons are required to be in attendance at all times.
- The grazing of livestock within the municipal district on the Western Highway or the Wimmera Highway is prohibited without written permission from council authorised officer.

Figure 1.





16 Sealing Schedule

16.1 Section 173 Agreement for Signing and Sealing - 7430 Nhill-Harrow Rd Miga Lake - 10:00am

Directorate: {directorate-do-not-remove}

Report Author: {position-do-not-remove}

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

Planning Permit PA1081 was issued on 5 October 2022 allowing the owner to subdivide the land into two lots. This Section 173 Agreement has the following condition to be lodged on the title for Lot 2:

The owner of Lot 2 on proposed PS911719T acknowledges and accepts the possibility of nuisance from adjoining agricultural uses on Lot 1 on proposed PS911719T and the agricultural lots surrounding Lot 2 on proposed PS911719T, including animal grazing and production, spray drift, agricultural machinery use, pumps and associated hours of operation necessary for agricultural activities.

A section 173 Agreement is attached to be signed and sealed.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Planning Permit PA1081 was issued on 5 October 2022 allowing the owner to subdivide the land at 7430 Nhill- Harrow Road, Miga Lake into two lots.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

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

The council is the responsible authority for the administration of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. The signing and sealing of the 173 Agreement is an administrative process required prior to lodgment with the title's office.

Legislative Implications



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

Environmental Implications

Environmental Risk rating has been assessed as: Low
Ensuring that planning and building controls are appropriately implemented in accordance with the relevant legislation ensures the protection of our environment.

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil

Policy Implications

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

Environmental Policy

Council Plan Implications

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

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

1.3 Provide well planned and sustainable community infrastructure.

Communication Implications

Consultation has already been undertaken in development of the planning permit in 2022.

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

Conclusion

The final administrative process required before lodging the subdivision with the title's office is to have the Section 173 Agreement signed and sealed.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council approves the CEO and Mayor signing the 173 Agreement for 7430 Nhill-Harrow Rd Miga Lake to be able to lodge the subdivision with the titles office.

Attachments



1. Section 173 Agreement - draft 2 [**16.1.1** - 4 pages]

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

**PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ACT
AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 173**

-and-

MURRAY JOHN SMITH of 7430 Nhill-Harrow Rd, Wombelano, 3409

AFFECTED LAND:

Lot 2 on PS401388K being part of 7430 Nhill-Harrow Rd, Wombelano, 3409 being the whole of the land in Certificate of Title Volume 10295 Folio 225.

THIS AGREEMENT made the day of 2023

BETWEEN:

The Responsible Authority: **WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL** ("the Council")
and

The Owner: **MURRAY JOHN SMITH**

WHEREAS:

1. The Owner is the owner and registered proprietor of the land at 7430 Nhill-Harrow Rd, Wombelano being Lot 2 on PS401388K being the whole of the land more particularly described in Certificate of Title Volume 10295 Folio 225 ("the Land").
2. The land is affected by the provisions of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme ("the Scheme").
3. The Council is the Responsible Authority under the Planning & Environment Act 1987 ("the Act") for the purposes of the Scheme.
4. On 5 October 2022 the Responsible Authority issued Planning Permit No PA1081 allowing the owner to subdivide the land into Lots 1 and 2 on proposed PS911719T.
5. Condition 2 of the Planning Permit requires the Owner of the land shall enter into an agreement with the Council pursuant to Section 173 of the Act and for this agreement to be registered at the Titles Office pursuant to Section 181 of the Act to provide for the matters set out in that condition.

BY THIS AGREEMENT IT IS AGREED AND COVENANTED:

1. OPERATION

- 1.1 This agreement is made pursuant to Section 173 of the Act.
- 1.2 This agreement shall come into force on execution by both parties
- 1.3 The covenants of this agreement shall run with the land.

2. INTERPRETATION

2.1 LOT

In this agreement "lot" means any and each lot shown on the subdivision plan.

2.2 OWNER

In this agreement the word "Owner" unless the contrary intention appears, shall be deemed to include its successors assigns and transferees and the obligations imposed on and assumed by Murray John Smith shall be binding on the successors transferees purchasers mortgagees assigns of Murray John Smith and any other person obtaining possession of the whole or part of the land as if each of those successors separately executed this agreement; and

If the Owner holds the land in a trust capacity, "Owner" shall include the beneficiaries of the trust in relation to which it holds such as land. Where such trust relationship exists the Owner in executing this agreement does so intending to assume not only personal liability, but also to bind the trust for which it acts as trustee.

If the Owner is constituted by more than one person any obligation imposed by this agreement on the Owner shall be imposed on those persons jointly and severally.

2.3 COUNCIL

In this agreement the word "Council" shall include the Shire's successors and its successors as responsible authority for town planning control in the area in which the land is situate.

2.4 In this agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 2.4.1 Words denoting the singular number shall include the plural and vice versa.
- 2.4.2 Words denoting any gender shall include all genders
- 2.4.3 Where a word or phrase is defined, other parts of speech and grammatical forms of that words or phrase shall have corresponding meanings.
- 2.4.4 Words denoting natural persons shall include corporations and vice versa.
- 2.4.5 References to clauses and schedules are to clauses of and schedules to this agreement.
- 2.4.6 Headings are for convenience only and do not effect interpretation.
- 2.4.7 References to any party to this agreement or instrument shall include the party's successors and permitted assigns.
- 2.4.8 Reference to any agreement or instrument shall be also to such agreement or instrument as amended, novated, supplemented, varied or replaced from time to time.
- 2.4.9 References to any legislation or to any provision of any legislation shall include any modification or re-enactment of that legislation and any legislation provision substituted for, and all regulations and statutory instruments issued under such legislation or provision.
- 2.4.10 As the case may be, a reference to a right or obligation of any two or more persons confers that right, or imposes that obligation, jointly and severally.

3. AGREEMENT/COVENANTS

The owner of Lot 2 on proposed PS911719T acknowledges and accepts the possibility of nuisance from adjoining agricultural uses on Lot 1 on proposed PS911719T and the agricultural lots surrounding Lot 2 on proposed PS911719T, including animal grazing and production, spray drift, agricultural machinery use, pumps and associated hours of operation necessary for agricultural activities.

4. REGISTRATION

The parties shall do all things necessary to enable the Council to register this agreement pursuant to Section 181 of the Act.

5. DISCLOSURE

The Owner shall not sell mortgage or part with possession of the land or any part of it without first disclosing to its successors the existence and nature of this agreement.

6. COSTS OF AGREEMENT

The Owner forthwith on demand shall pay to the Council the Council's costs and expenses (as between the solicitor and own client) of and incidental to this agreement and of anything consequent on it or in furtherance of it.

7. DEFAULT

If the Owner fails to comply with this agreement the Council may serve on the Owner or on the owner of that part of the land in respect of which there has been a failure of compliance a notice in writing specifying the works, matters and things ("the Remedial Works") in respect of which the relevant owner is in default. If such default continues for thirty days after the service of such notice the Council by its employees or contractors may enter upon the land and cause the Remedial Works to be done.

A notice served on the Owner pursuant to this clause may set out the costs (as estimated by the Council) of carrying out the Remedial Works. If the Owner does not comply with the notice within thirty days the Council may serve on the Owner a demand in writing for the amount of the estimated costs. The amount then shall become a debt due and payable by the relevant owner to the Council.

As soon as practicable after the completion of the Remedial Works the Council shall certify the actual costs of the Remedial Works. The difference between a sum paid to the Council as the estimated costs, and the actual costs, shall be paid by the relevant owner to the Council or if there is excess, repaid by the Council to the relevant owner.

8. NOTICES

Any notice required under this agreement may be served by delivering it to the Owner at its last known address within the rating records of the Council. Any notice posted shall be deemed to have been served at the expiration of twenty-four hours from the time of posting.

9. SUCCESSORS BOUND

Without limiting the operation or effect which this agreement has apart from this sub-clause, the Owner shall ensure that its successors:

- 9.1 Give effect to and do all acts and sign all documents which are required of them to give effect to this agreement; and

9.2 Execute under the seal a deed agreeing to be bound by the terms of this agreement.

The obligation imposed on the Owner by sub-clause 1 of this shall cease for such time as there appears in the register book at the officer of the Registrar of Titles a memorandum of this agreement.

10. RELEASE

On a person ceasing to own any part of the land that person shall be released from the obligations of that person as an owner under this agreement, save to the extent that any right has arisen against such owner prior to such cessation.

11. FURTHER DOCUMENTATION AND ACTION

Each of the parties shall sign and execute all such further documents and deeds and do all acts and things as the other party reasonably shall require for giving effect to this agreement.

12. DISPUTE

Should any dispute or difference arise between the parties with respect to the interpretation of this agreement, its application, such dispute or difference shall be determined by a person appointed by the parties by agreement, or failing agreement, by a person qualified in the area of the dispute or difference and appointed by the Secretary as defined in the Act.

EXECUTED AS A DEED

The COMMON SEAL of the)
WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL)
was hereunto affixed in the presence of:)

.....
Chief Executive Officer

.....
Councillor

SIGNED by MURRAY JOHN SMITH)
in the presence of:) _____
Murray John Smith

.....
Witness



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.

None were submitted for the agenda.

18 Confidential Reports

18.0 Confidential Reports - Close to Public

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:

16.1 Income Protection Insurance Policy 2023-2024

16.2 Wimmera Libraries Partnership & Funding Agreement

Confidential Report:

Reason for confidentiality – Local Government Act 2020, Section 3 – Council Business Information.

19 Close of Meeting

Next Meeting:

Wednesday 21st June 2023

Edenhope Council Chamber

