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Advocacy
Statement
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Hepburn
SHIRE COUNCIL





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Hepburn Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters on which we live and work. On these lands, Djaara have performed age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. We recognise their resilience through dispossession and it is a testament to their continuing culture and tradition, which is strong and thriving.

We also acknowledge the neighbouring Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri to our South East and the Wadawurrung to our South West and pay our respect to all Aboriginal peoples, their culture, and lore. We acknowledge their living culture and the unique role they play in the life of this region.



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OUR ADVOCACY ROLE

Advocating for improved outcomes for our Shire through services improvements and capital investment is a key role for Council. Our Council will raise issues that matter to our community.

We do this by:

- Representing our community
- Telling the “Hepburn story” to government and community
- Influencing policy and decision makers
- Attracting and securing investment
- Enabling and supporting strategic partnerships
- Building Council and community capacity for advocacy
- Championing community disadvantage
- Research to inform decisions and funding applications
- Strengthening our reputation as a leader in local government, an advocate for our community and experts in our field

To help us achieve:

- Funding to implement key projects and initiatives
- A change in government policy
- Promoting social justice issues
- Stronger ties with our strategic partners
- Greater confidence and trust in Council
- A more capable and resilient community
- Strong leadership at the local, state and federal level

It is important that the advocacy agenda remains flexible and fluid, enabling Council to be responsive to changing community needs and changes in political and economic environments.

COMMUNITY VISION & COUNCIL PLAN

OUR VISION

Hepburn Shire – an inclusive rural community located in Dja Dja Wurrung country where all people are valued, partnerships are fostered, environment is protected, diversity supported, and innovation embraced.

Hepburn Shire Council Advocacy Statement presents Council’s key projects and initiatives and is supported by the recently adopted Community Vision 2021- 2031 and Council Plan 2021-2025 which also incorporates the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The Community Vision and Council Plan is Council’s key strategic document and was developed with extensive and broad community engagement and consultation through a Community Deliberative Panel. Our community’s goals, aspirations and priorities have been captured and represented in five key focus areas:



A resilient, sustainable and protected environment

A responsive, adaptive, and resilient community that addresses changes to our climate and biodiversity.



A healthy supported, and empowered community

A community that values connection, supports diversity, health, and wellbeing, and is inclusive of all people and their needs.



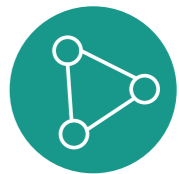
Embracing our past and planning for the future

We acknowledge and empower the Traditional Owners and other cultures of our area to protect our historical roots while planning for future generations.



Diverse economy and opportunities

Our community is enhanced by a diverse and resilient economy that supports local aspirations through opportunity.



A dynamic and responsive council

Council and the community partner to achieve their aspirations through excellent communication and engagement, the delivery of effective services, strong financial management, and governance.

FOUR PRIORITIES WERE IDENTIFIED FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING:



Tackling climate change and its impact on health



Increasing healthy eating



Improving mental wellbeing



Preventing all forms of violence

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals otherwise known as the Global Goals, are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

“Hepburn Shire Council understands the importance of these goals and will use them to support our future planning”
Council Plan 2021-2025

Hepburn Shire is small rural Shire, with a population of 16,157. The population is projected to reach 17,700 by 2036. The Shire covers an area of 1,473 square kilometers which includes Clunes, Creswick, Daylesford, Hepburn Springs and Trentham. It also includes the villages of Glenlyon, Allendale, Kingston, Leonard’s Hill, Lyonville, Newlyn, Denver, and Smeaton, and other smaller settlements, each with their own unique identity and character. Located in central Victoria, the Shire is ideally situated within easy access to Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo. It is a great place to live, work, invest and visit. The Shire is situated in the State electoral division of Ripon and Ballarat in the Federal electorate.

Hepburn Shire has a rich cultural history which began with the Dja Dja Wurrung People, the Traditional Owners and custodians of the area. Mass migration during Victoria’s gold rush era saw many cultures settle in the region, which created a distinctive architecture and culture, still present throughout the Shire today.

The Shire is renowned for its native forests, mineral springs reserves and waterways, botanical gardens, volcanic plains with rich soils, gold, and many spectacular heritage buildings. It is a popular tourist destination that has a reputation for indulgence and relaxation, festivals and outdoor recreational activities.

The Shire has a vibrant and diverse welcoming community that is well serviced by schools and childcare, recreation facilities, libraries, hospitals and shopping precincts. There is a large range of events throughout the year including markets, community run festivals, book fairs, LGBTIQ+ festivals and artisan masterclasses. With a strong arts community there are opportunities to visit artist studios, exhibitions and workshops.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY

The Hepburn Shire community identifies strongly with their natural environment. Council supports this vision and will continue to build strong, safe and resilient communities through emergency management preparedness to prepare for and respond to natural disasters. It will also focus on encouraging a diverse economy that is better prepared to respond to shocks, like the pandemic. Council along with its strong partnerships with government, will continue to support communities and businesses through adverse disaster events and health crisis.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

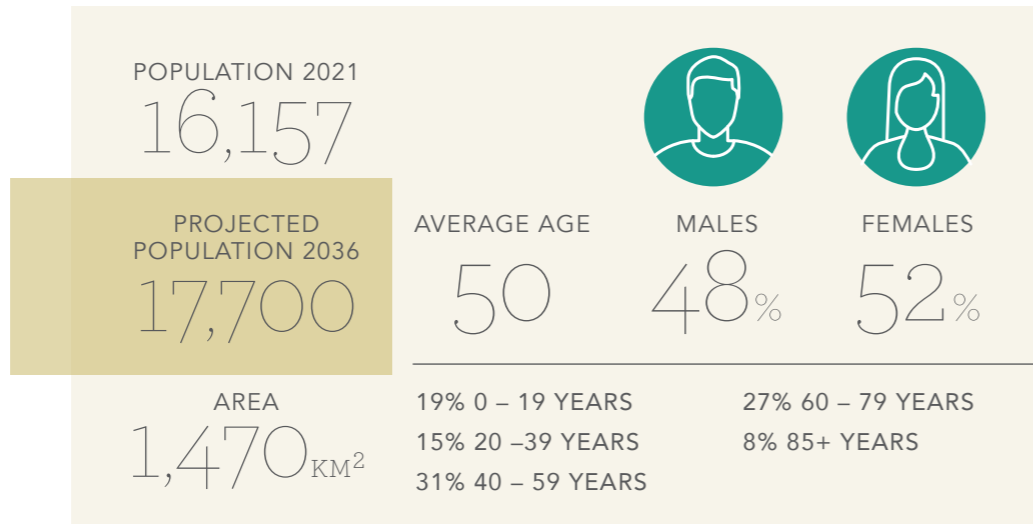
As the Shire, along with the rest of the country navigates the new COVID normal, business support, community and economic recovery will remain a high priority. Our region has been severely impacted by the pandemic, contributing to the varying challenges for businesses, especially those in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

IMPACT OF STORM EVENTS

TRENTHAM STORM - JUNE 2021 In June 2021, Trentham and the surrounding towns, including the Wombat State Forest, were severely impacted by an intense storm. Approximately 35% of the Shire’s footprint was affected with a reported 335 private properties damaged. Council assets damaged estimated cost of \$7-10M. The full extent of business impacts are still being assessed. A clean up and recovery program led by Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria is ongoing.

CRESWICK STORM & FLOODS - JANUARY 2022 In January 2022, a massive storm front bringing flooding rains and severe hail, impacted Creswick and surrounding towns. Businesses and the community were impacted by flooding, and in particular the agricultural district of Dean, where substantial crops were lost. The full extent impacts are being assessed and Council’s clean up and recovery efforts are ongoing.

OUR COMMUNITY

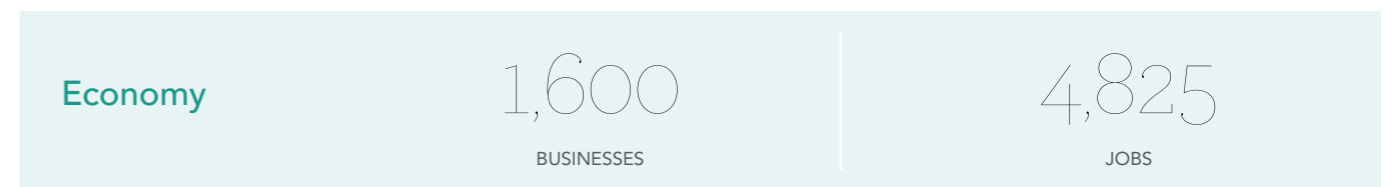
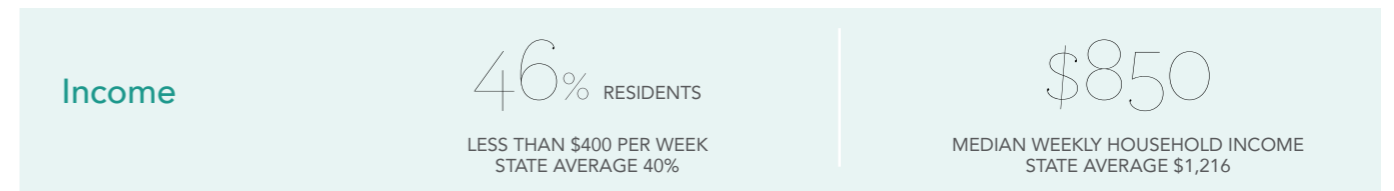
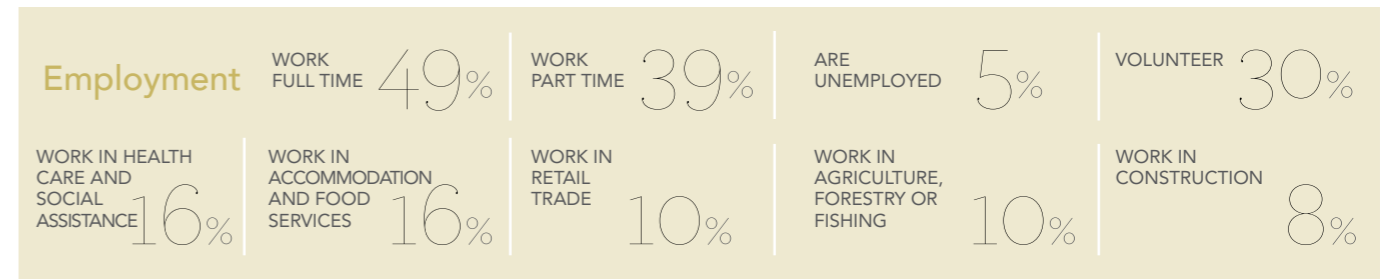
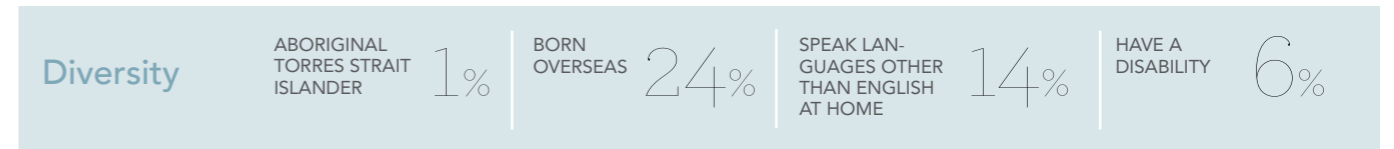


Where we live

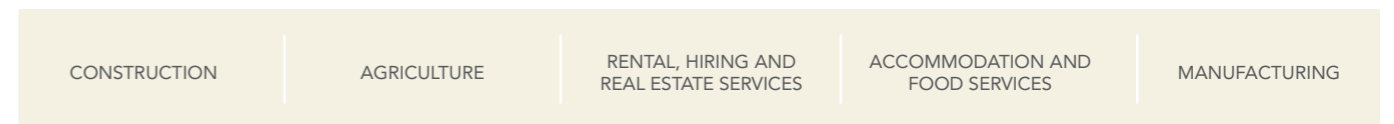
- 25% Birch Ward
- 14% Cameron Ward
- 14% Coliban Ward
- 33% Creswick Ward
- 14% Holcombe Ward

Note: The 6% 'Have a Disability' stated above relates to 'Has need for assistance with core activities' cohort on 2016 Census Night, 2016 Census Community Profiles: Hepburn (S) (abs.gov.au). This data provides an indication of the characteristics of people who report a need for assistance as opposed to the total population prevalent of people with a profound or severe disability (based on ABS Census Dictionary 2016).

However, in 2018, according to the Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2018 | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au), 17% of Victorians have a disability, defined as 'any limitation, restriction or impairment which restricts everyday activities and has lasted, or is likely to last, for at least six months'. With no data available for small areas, based on the State average and referenced against the Shire's 2018 estimated residential population of 15,810, approximately 2,687 residents potentially fall within this definition.



Top 5 Industries



KEY ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

Council has identified five focus areas in the Council Plan 2021-2025 that help work towards the aims of the Community Vision.

FOCUS AREA 1: A resilient, sustainable and protected environment



A responsive, adaptive, and resilient community that address changes to our climate and biodiversity

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

- 1.1 Adapt to and mitigate climate change to reach net-zero community emissions by 2030
- 1.2 Prioritise environmental management, protection, and regeneration
- 1.3 Transition to ecologically sustainable and accountable tourism
- 1.4 Develop meaningful policies and strategic partnerships that link sustainability and public health
- 1.5 Protect and regenerate the natural resources of the Shire including soils, water and ecological systems, from both current and future threats

INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL GET US THERE....

SUSTAINABLE HEPBURN



Together, we're creating a healthy and sustainable future for all. Hepburn is a thriving low waste, beyond zero net emissions Shire which is resilient, liveable and has high biodiversity values

The development of the Sustainable Hepburn strategy is our commitment to environmental sustainability, guiding action and investment to reduce our impact on climate change, protect and enhance biodiversity, reduce, reuse and recycle while being more climate and water resilient in the face of projected climatic changes.

It will be an ambitious but realistic strategic plan to guide Council's decisions, actions and partnerships on environmental sustainability issues with the community and government.

The scope of Sustainable Hepburn includes four key sustainable themes

- **A beyond emissions Shire** – achieve and maintain beyond zero net emissions from council activities by installing and purchasing renewable energy, increasing energy efficiency, designing for local climates, offsetting where appropriate and providing options for low fossil fuel-based activities
- **Natural environment and biodiversity** – Protect and enhance biodiversity values across the Shire through restoration of natural environmental values, appropriate land use, knowledge sharing, and improved capacity of Council
- **A low waste Shire** – Reduce waste to landfill, increase and improve recycling and extend services across the Shire for reuse of materials and develop circular economy opportunities
- **A climate and water resilient Shire** – Council's infrastructure, services and the community can adapt to the impacts of a changing climate, know what actions to take in extreme weather, are more informed about climate risk and water is valued as a vital natural resource.

The strategy will be developed utilising the skills and knowledge of our community members through the establishment of a Community Reference Group, as well as broad community engagement activities.

The Sustainable Hepburn projects and initiatives that Council will pursue are yet to be determined and will be guided by the strategic planning work to be developed during 2022. Once these actions have been identified, we will advocate for continued partnerships and funding from State and Federal government.

WESTERN VICTORIA TRANSMISSION NETWORK (WVTN) PROJECT

The WVTN project is a proposal for a new 190km overhead high-voltage transmission line between Sydnham and Bulgana in the west of the state that is required to unlock the renewable energy potential of Victoria.

Council is very supportive of renewable energy, and the importance of transmitting it to the electricity grid. However, it does not believe the WVTN Project is a quality renewable project and in fact is likely to have a more detrimental adverse impact on our community (and the wider Victorian community), than benefit. Our Shire is one of the worst effected Councils arising from this project, with both planned transmission lines of 220kv and 500kv and a 24ha terminal station being proposed within our Council area on some of the highest value agriculture land in Australia.

For this reason, Council will continue to be a strong advocate on behalf of the community against the proposed route and the size and location of the terminal station. Council will be advocating for detailed community engagement and underground placement considerations. Council will be making a strong submission to the upcoming ESS process and will also support community submissions during the process.

NET ZERO

Council unanimously declared a climate emergency in September 2019. In doing so, we joined around 1900 jurisdictions across 34 countries recognising that climate change poses serious risks to the people of Hepburn Shire, Victoria, Australia and the world.

Our response is to adapt to and mitigate climate change to reach net-zero community emissions by 2030, by aiming for an annual reduction in Council's corporate emissions, community emissions, reduction in waste to landfill, and through climate and sustainability programs. This will involve continued partnership with Hepburn's Zero Net Emissions Transition (Z-Net) to deliver on the 10-year 'Community Transition Plan' that was developed through extensive consultation with community, industry and government.

KEY ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

FOCUS AREA 2: A healthy, supported and empowered community



A community that values connection, supports diversity, health and wellbeing, and is inclusive of all people and their needs

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

- 2.1 Support appropriate land use and accommodate more affordable long-term housing within townships that confirms with the character of the area
- 2.2 Increase the availability and accessibility of services in the Hepburn Shire area to support liveability, health, and wellbeing
- 2.3 Optimise the use of public spaces to increase participation and community connection
- 2.4 Assist our community to increase access to healthy food to improve nutrition, reduce chronic disease, improve mental wellbeing and strengthen the local food production system
- 2.5 Improved mental wellbeing within the community

INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL GET US THERE....

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Council recognises that access to safe and affordable housing is an emerging and critical issue for its community and is committed to an inclusive and diverse community and will support improved community access to safe and affordable housing through:

- Advocacy to other levels of government and working in partnership with the community
- Conduct research to inform policy and strategy development and advocacy
- Development and implementation of an affordable housing policy and strategy that identifies opportunities in land-use planning and social policy domains
- Ensuring its affordable housing policy commitment is tested through community engagement and appropriately resourced to ensure effective implementation.

It is Council's strategic intent to invest in research to better understand the extent of the problem, develop a comprehensive policy and strategy and identify where it can make a difference through advocacy, partnerships, land-use planning mechanisms and potentially direct investment.

AQUATIC FACILITIES

Adopted by Council, the Aquatics Strategy provides a 10-year priority plan to guide the future direction, infrastructure development priorities, asset management and maximise participation and programming opportunities to contribute to the health, wellbeing and liveability of the communities of Hepburn Shire.

A number of actions come out of the strategy including consideration of priority projects including outdoor aquatics facility upgrades assessment and outdoor pool and water play upgrades. In its 2022/23 budget Council has committed to undertaking further detailed investigation and development of a feasibility study/business case for indoor aquatics provision. This section will be updated once the feasibility study/business case is adopted by Council and projects identified will be included for further advocacy.

DAYLESFORD HOSPITAL UPGRADE

Council will advocate for access to high quality health services including outreach services through the upgrade of the 160-year-old hospital in Daylesford operated by Central Highlands Rural Health.

The range of healthcare services provided include acute, urgent care, rehabilitation, respite, palliative and community support services. The Hospital is a regional centre for dialysis and also provides a range of surgical procedures. The hospital has remained unchanged and the aging infrastructure will not be suitable to deliver services to the standards required today and future-proof the facility to continue to meet the health needs of our community for decades to come.

Currently a master plan is being developed for the site which includes the expansion of the facility to meet best practice as well as providing new broader services to the local population. Of the planned development there are four particular projects which will allow for immediate improvement in the delivery of health services.

These projects include;

- Expanded Community Health Care Centre (estimated budget \$12.5m)
- New Community Access Centre (estimated budget \$5.1m)
- Improved Residential Aged Care Facility (estimated budget \$5.2m)
- Urgent Care Centre (estimated budget \$4.1m)

HEPBURN TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS

Council will lobby government for more equitable and quality transport options for better access to schools, work and community participation that will achieve improvements in community wellbeing. It will also continue to implement the recommendations of the Hepburn Shire Local Transport Benchmarking Study.

CRESWICK SCOUTS AND U3A MODERN FACILITIES

1st Creswick Scout Group and U3A have created a vision which brings our youth and our experienced community together to develop facilities that are fit for purpose and will provide facilities to deliver contemporary and modern programs now and into the future. Although not a Council asset, we support the Scouts and U3A in the development of the project that will provide new, modern, multi-use and fully accessible facilities.

KEY ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

FOCUS AREA 3: Embracing our past and planning for the future



We acknowledge and empower the traditional owners and other cultures of our area to protect our historical roots while planning for future generations

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

- 3.1 Partner with and empower our Traditional Owners and broader community to acknowledge, understand, celebrate, and preserve our area's cultures, traditions, and environs
- 3.2 Protect and enhance the existing character of our towns and rural settings through community inclusive strategic planning to strengthen planning controls on growth and development
- 3.3 Build and maintain quality infrastructure that supports and promotes liveability and active living in the community

INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL GET US THERE....

HEPBURN SETTLEMENT STRATEGY PHASE 1 ~ 1

Comprehensive suite of strategic planning work to secure and protect current and future environmental preservation, land use and development goals for the community.

CLUNES TOWN HALL AND POLICE COURTHOUSE ~ 2

Restoring the 1873 Town Hall to its original grandeur will not only preserve this historic building but will enable full community use to be reinstated.

DOUG LINDSAY RECREATION RESERVE, CRESWICK ~ 3

Implementing recommendations from the Masterplan, the project will enhance accessibility and safety, increase the scope and quality of active recreation contributing to community health and wellbeing outcomes.

CLUNES OPEN SPACES DEVELOPMENT

Council is undertaking the development of Masterplans for the three community public open spaces in Clunes; The Bull Milgate Reserve (Clunes Recreation Reserve); Queens Park; and Clunes Pioneers Park. The Master Planning process will help guide the future planning of sport and active recreation provision in Clunes over the next 10 years.

GLENLYON RECREATION RESERVE PAVILION ~ 4

A key priority of the Reserve's Masterplan, upgrading the pavilion will provide a welcoming and inclusive community facility and accommodate the reserve's diverse many user groups.

KEY ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

FOCUS AREA 4: Diverse economy and opportunities



Our community is enhanced by a diverse and resilient economy that supports local aspirations through opportunity.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

- 4.1 Work in partnership to attract and retain young people in our area through the provision of improved digital connectivity, education opportunities, employment pathways, affordable housing, improved public and active transport options, and leadership opportunities
- 4.2 Advocate for improved internet infrastructure to support business, residents who work from home, students and other citizens of the Hepburn Shire area
- 4.3 Support and facilitate a diverse and innovative local economy that encourages an increase of local businesses with diverse offerings to achieve positive social, economic and environmental impacts
- 4.4 Develop and promote the circular economy to diversify our local economy and support our sustainability goals

INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL GET US THERE....

CRESWICK TRAILS

The Creswick Trails project will deliver 100km of purpose-built mountain bike trail, originating from the Hammon Park Trailhead, pump track and car park. The finished trail network will be one of the Shire's flagship recreation assets, attracting more visitors to the region, boosting tourism and the local economy. The network will feature a variety of trail types and ride zones, including a series of accessible trails designed and constructed specifically for riders who have limitations riding a standard, up-right, leg powered mountain bike. These adaptive trails will be the first of their kind in Victoria. The initial project is funded through a partnership between Regional Development Victoria and Council.

Further work is currently being planned such as signage; interpretation; emergency markers; Emergency Services (ESTA) mapping; and road crossing infrastructure, to ensure a safe and usable network.

DAYLESFORD TO HANGING ROCK RAIL TRAIL ~ 5

In partnership with Macedon Ranges Shire Council, the Rail Trail will build on the region's wellness brand and encourage the community and its visitors to explore and experience natural landscapes. The Rail Trail will be sustainable, accessible and promotes physical activity and social connection.

CROSSING THE DIVIDE – SPA COUNTRY RAILWAY – PLANNING AND DESIGN ~ 6

The project will plan and design a further 9km extended rail service from Bullarto to Trentham, bringing tourists into Trentham and creating a choice of full-day, half-day and 2 hour journeys and increase visitation into the town of Trentham.

HEPBURN TRAILS ACTIVATION ~ 7

Enabling the development and activation of Hepburn Shire's existing iconic tracks and trails and potential opportunity for promoting Indigenous Heritage.

MINERAL SPRINGS RESERVES DEVELOPMENT ~ 8

A program of works to develop and elevate the Shire's Mineral Springs sites that will increase tourism and community amenity.

MAJOR TOWNS STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS ~ 9

Implement streetscape improvements across six townships that will lead to the activation of spaces, promote economic activity, improve the pedestrian experience and safety, and attractiveness.

WHEELERS BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, LAWRENCE ~ 10

Repair the historic bridge to increase load limits and safety to future proof road access for the Shire's agribusinesses.

INSTITUTE OF GASTRONOMY, DAYLESFORD ~ 11

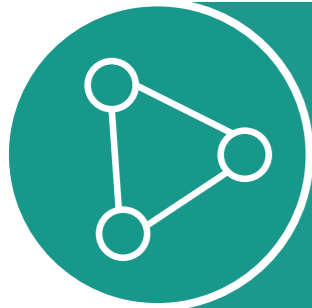
Advocate for the construction of a flagship regional education facility in partnership with William Angliss TAFE, that will attract and grow investment in the food industry, will achieve skilled workforce outcomes and support the transformation of the good food economy

ACCESS TO SECONDARY EDUCATION

Advocacy for an additional secondary school in the west of the Shire to provide choice for families and help address the high level of disengagement with young people across the Shire.

KEY ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

FOCUS AREA 5: A dynamic and responsive council



Council and the community partner to achieve their aspirations through excellent communication and engagement, the delivery of effective services, strong financial management and governance

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

- 5.1 Harness community expertise
- 5.2 Actively communicate, inform and engage with our community about events and decision-making
- 5.3 A sustainable and agile organisation with strong corporate governance that supports excellent operations
- 5.4 Improve staff resourcing, support and capacity building
- 5.5 Strong asset management and renewal
- 5.6 Be a leader in gender equality and equity and promote respect and safety in our community

INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL GET US THERE....

INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND MAINTAINENCE

Council will continue to advocate for government investment into the Shire's infrastructure and roads through programs such as the Roads to Recovery, Black Spot and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Programs, for our network of paths and roads in our Shire. This also includes advocacy for the return of the Country Roads and Bridges Program.

Council will pursue opportunities for co-investment for infrastructure renewal and development of our facilities and open spaces, utilising its strong partnerships with governments.

SHARED SERVICES PLANNING

Planning for a Shared Services model for Hepburn Shire Council, together with other neighbouring Councils, that will deliver greater service benefits for communities by strengthening the financial stability of all the participating Councils. The sharing of services encourages collaboration of knowledge and reduce costs and resources, so that Councils can deliver efficient and sustainable services to their communities.

REGIONAL ADVOCACY

OUR PARTNERS

Hepburn Shire strongly advocates for regional projects through its strong partnerships with our neighbouring LGAs, Regional Cities of Ballarat and Bendigo, State and Federal Government and Industry. These partnerships provide benefits and opportunities to our Shire's businesses and community.

This includes, but not limited to, partnerships with:

- Central Highlands Council Groups
- Loddon Campaspe Councils Group
- Central Highlands Regional Partnership
- Regional Development Australia Grampians
- Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation
- Central Highlands Rural Health
- Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance
- Daylesford Macedon Tourism
- Hepburn Z-Net
- Hepburn Wind

REGIONAL PRIORITIES

This includes support for projects and advocacy activities in our region such as;

- Victorian Goldfields World Heritage UNESCO Bid to unlock the full potential of the Goldfields region, bringing economic diversification, jobs and investment into tourism
- Supporting the regional circular economy through the Ballarat Materials Recovery Facility which will see the establishment of organic and recyclable processing infrastructure within the region
- More community and affordable housing through the State Governments 'Big Build' Initiative.
- Commitment and response to adapt to and mitigate climate change through its partnerships with government, not-for-profits and industry to ensure that the lives of the community are improved.

And more broadly

- 'Developing the Golden Triangle' - Improved regional rail through increased freight and passenger services and reconnecting lines between Bendigo, Maryborough, Ballarat, and Geelong
- Maximising the region's competitive advantage by capitalising on agricultural and food manufacturing with a focus on value-adding
- Realise the full benefits of digital innovation and inclusion
- Attract and educate workers to ensure that employers can thrive.

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Appendix: Project Information Sheets

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Hepburn Settlement Strategy – Phase 1

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 Hepburn Shire

 2021/22

 \$440,000 annually

 3 Jobs



This will be the Shire's most comprehensive suite of Strategic Planning work in decades. Following on from the recommendations in the Planning Scheme Review, a considerable amount of Strategic Planning work is required to secure and protect current and future environmental preservation, land use, development goals for the community. The key pieces of work will be the Township Structure Plans, which also require suite of technical reports to be completed to inform and deliver them.





- Land Demand and Supply Study
- Biodiversity Strategy - flora and fauna study for township structure plans
- Aboriginal Heritage Strategy - part 1 indigenous engagement
- Agriculture and Rural Settlement Strategy - part 1 Restructure Plans
- Creswick Structure Plan - Part 1 tech reports: including Infrastructure and Services, Land Capability, Access Management, Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, and Heritage
- Community consultation for all township structure plans
- Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Study
- Hepburn Integrated Water Management Plan

✓ The entire environmental, social and economic future of the Shire of Hepburn is contingent on the successful application and delivery of the Hepburn Settlement Strategy.



FOCUS AREA 3: EMBRACING OUR PAST AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Clunes Town
Hall and Police
Courthouse
– Stage C

-  Clunes
-  2022/23
-  \$600,000
-  3 Jobs



Restoring the 1873 Town Hall to its original grandeur will not only preserve this historic building but will enable full community use to be reinstated. The Clunes Town Hall supports significant community events such as the annual Clunes Booktown, private functions, education programs and provides tourism opportunities with the restoration of the historically significant Courthouse. The rare example of a combined Courthouse and Town Hall is also a major attraction for Wesley College’s curriculum with history and drama classes and re-enactments of historical court proceedings.

A program of restoration works (Stage A & B) has been completed with structural underpinning of the building to secure the internal arches and wall rendering, with remedial works to the Police Courthouse, external façade painting and repairs to portico, completed in 2021.





Stage C includes repairs to the upstairs former clerical offices, upgrade of toilet facilities to meet current standards, heating, improvements to stormwater management and overall accessibility.

- ✓ Preservation of historic and iconic building
- ✓ Improve community facilities
- ✓ Supporting major events
- ✓ Supporting regional education opportunities



**FOCUS AREA 3:
EMBRACING OUR PAST AND PLANNING
FOR THE FUTURE**

Doug Lindsay
Recreation
Reserve
Masterplan
Implementation
- Stage 2

-  Creswick
-  2022/23
-  \$750,000+
-  5 Jobs



Doug Lindsay Recreation Reserve in Creswick is an active recreation reserve accommodating AFL, Netball, Soccer and Lawn Bowls activities. It also includes informal active recreation use such walking, free ball play and fitness training, and community events.

Stage One of the Masterplan implementation project is currently underway that will see the installation of CCTV / lighting, landscaping and main entrance. This was funded through the Commonwealth Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program 2020.

Stage 2 implementation will include the delivery of a water harvesting project, new playspace, and provision of outdoor fixed fitness equipment.

A future second Masterplan project will include planning for;

- Redevelopment of the community pavilion to include gender neutral change rooms to service use of the soccer pitches
- Additional parking and traffic management, and pedestrian reserve access
- Feasibility planning for a second bowling green

- ✓ Community health and wellbeing outcomes
- ✓ Significant community facility with multiple user groups
- ✓ Enhance the accessibility and safety
- ✓ Increase the scope and quality of the active recreation



**FOCUS AREA 3:
EMBRACING OUR PAST AND PLANNING
FOR THE FUTURE**



Glenlyon
Recreation
Reserve
Pavilion

Glenlyon Recreation Reserve is a much-used reserve services Glenlyon and surrounding towns. It supports several sporting clubs, notably non-traditional, including the Riding for the Disabled, Pony Club and Adult Riding, Carriage Drivers, Gun Club, Collectors and Restorers, Landcare and various neighbours, residents and casual users. It is also home to some significant events including the New Year's Day Wood Chop.

The redevelopment of the Glenlyon Recreation Reserve is a key priority of the Glenlyon Recreation Reserve Masterplan. The redeveloped pavilion will provide universal access public amenities, upgraded meeting space and kitchen for minor catering purposes and storage to accommodate existing user groups.

- ✓ Provide a welcoming and inclusive community facility
- ✓ Accommodate the reserve's diverse formal and informal activities from many user groups
- ✓ Provide universal access public amenities

 Glenlyon

 2022/23

 \$1.0M to 1.5M

 7 Jobs



**FOCUS AREA 3:
EMBRACING OUR PAST AND PLANNING
FOR THE FUTURE**



Daylesford to
Hanging Rock
Rail Trail
- Planning
and Design

Building on the region's wellness brand, the Rail Trail will encourage visitors to unwind and explore the region's unique offering of dramatic scenery, food, wine and health and wellness activities, based around local mineral springs. Passing through beautiful landscapes the trail, along the former Carlsruhe-Daylesford railway, will offer a variety of quality visitor experiences only an hour from Melbourne International Airport and accessible by public transport.

The significant increase in visitors using the trail will provide huge opportunities for existing and new businesses, including farmgate produce sales. The Daylesford to Hanging Rock Rail Trail builds on the existing plans to develop the Woodend to Hanging Rock Rail Trail being developed by Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

The Daylesford to Tylden stage planning project will undertake significant, stakeholder consultation and design required to progress the project to construction and will complement the planning already undertaken by Macedon Ranges Shire for the Tylden to Hanging Rock portion of the Rail Trail.

Construction phase is estimated to be \$30M

- ✓ Significant increase in visitation (est. 62,5000 visits p.a.) across completed trail
- ✓ Economic benefit of \$4.1M annually
- ✓ Creating over 50 new jobs post construction
- ✓ Sustainable, accessible and promotes physical activity and social connection

 Daylesford to Tylden

 2022/23

 \$1.5M

 9 Jobs



**FOCUS AREA 4:
DIVERSE ECONOMY AND OPPORTUNITIES**



.....
**Crossing the
 Divide – Spa
 Country Railway
 – Planning and
 Design**

Hepburn Shire is a popular tourist destination that has a reputation for indulgence and relaxation, festivals and outdoor recreational activities.

There is an opportunity to uplift our tourism offer through an extension to the existing iconic and unique product by Daylesford Spa Country Railway, an accredited museum, which operates a vintage train service between Daylesford, Musk and Bullarto on the former Daylesford branch line. The popular tourist attraction currently journeys 9km through the picturesque Wombat State Forest and attracts over 12,000 patrons annually and contributes nearly \$1.7M to the local economy.

The project will plan and design a further 9km extended rail service from Bullarto to Trentham, bringing tourists into Trentham and creating a choice of full-day, half-day and 2 hour journeys and increase visitation into the large village of Trentham. An extension to the rail will also create an opportunity for the community to travel between Trentham and Daylesford.

- ✓ Enhancing business and creating opportunities for new tourism developments, products and employment
- ✓ Promotion and preservation of Victoria’s Rail history
- ✓ Opportunity to increase operational days and take advantage of the railway’s ability to move people through the region

 Bullarto -Trentham

 2022/23

 \$1.0M

 5 Jobs



**FOCUS AREA 4:
 DIVERSE ECONOMY AND OPPORTUNITIES**



.....
**Hepburn Trails
 Activation
 - Business
 Planning**

The Hepburn Shire has many tracks and trails for walkers and cyclists. From short walks highlighting our parks and reserves, such as the mineral springs reserves to more adventurous trails, the Goldfields Track, mountain bike trails in Creswick, rail trails such as the Domino Trail in Trentham, and the future Daylesford to Hanging Rock Rail Trail development.

The project will enable further tourism development and activation through to branding, marketing and way finding and visitor interpretation signage construction activities of Shire wide walking and cycling trails. Potential early opportunities identified include Indigenous Heritage Trails products.

Included in the planning will be the identification of a strategic program to upgrade existing trails, create connections and ongoing maintenance standards, and opportunities for collaboration with stakeholder groups and public authorities.

- ✓ Development of iconic trails that highlight and celebrate the natural assets of the Hepburn Shire in a state, national and international environment
- ✓ Supporting business in developing the nature based tourism market
- ✓ Increased tourist visitation providing immediate economic activity

 Hepburn Shire

 2022/23

 \$500,000

 4 Jobs



**FOCUS AREA 4:
 DIVERSE ECONOMY AND OPPORTUNITIES**



Mineral Springs Reserves Development

The majority of Australia's mineral springs are located in Victoria and concentrated in the Central Highlands area, particularly in and round the townships of Daylesford and Hepburn Springs. These naturally occur in a diverse range of settings from ranges, waterways, forested areas and agricultural surroundings.

A program to develop our iconic Hepburn Mineral Springs sites has been identified with an aim to build upon and elevate spring sites to improve amenity, access and interpretation of their significance to Australia.

Projects identified as priority works by the Hepburn Mineral Springs Advisory Committee, include;

- Hepburn Mineral Springs Pavilion Café structure
- Central Springs Master Plan Implementation
- Park furniture upgrades, landscape improvements and various weeding programs across all mineral spring sites
- Reinstate Central Spring Reserve bores
- Hepburn Mineral Spring Reserves Development Masterplan

- ✓ Increase tourism and community amenity
- ✓ Enhance the interpretation of the iconic reserves to engage all visitors
- ✓ Provide high quality facilities suitable for regional, state and international visitors
- ✓ Ensure ongoing viability of safe mineral water from all of the springs



FOCUS AREA 4: DIVERSE ECONOMY AND OPPORTUNITIES



Major Towns Streetscape Improvements

The project will implement the next stage of planned improvements to streetscapes across Hepburn's six major towns. The improvement works include:

- Clunes** – Present the historic Clunes Town Hall as a prominent and welcoming entrance to the township through heritage street lamps, trees and DDA compliant car parking
- Creswick** – Landscaping to create welcoming town entrances and improve traffic flows and safety for pedestrians
- Daylesford** – Traffic calming measures by creating green spaces through parklets and plantings to the main retail strip
- Hepburn** – Improve pedestrian experience with upgraded plantings, creative and safety elements
- Glenlyon** – Landscaping to provide shade canopy and seating outside general store and cafes and development of outdoor market square in the centre of town complete with pavilion, public amenities and BBQ
- Trentham** – Pedestrian safety and landscaping improvements to the main street

- ✓ Activation of spaces
- ✓ Promote economic activity
- ✓ Improve liveability and attractiveness
- ✓ Improve pedestrian experience and safety

Hepburn Shire

2023/24

\$3.0M

14 Jobs



FOCUS AREA 4: DIVERSE ECONOMY AND OPPORTUNITIES



Wheeler's
Bridge
Replacement

Wheeler's Bridge on the Creswick-Lawrence Rd in Creswick was constructed in 1900 and is the oldest Monier Arch still in service. It is classified as a local access road limited to light vehicles only, carries 97 vehicles a day and is in an agricultural zoned area. This is one of the earliest examples of reinforced concrete structures by famed Civil Engineer Sir John Monash.

The project will see this historical bridge repaired to enable its ongoing and safe use. Works will involve retaining the original arches and use them as formwork for new arches and spandrel walls. The project will strengthen and reinforce the bridge enabling continued community and agricultural vehicle access into the future.

Full design works for reconstruction of the bridge are being undertaken during 2021.

- ✓ Increase in road usability (load limits) and safety
- ✓ Heritage asset protection
- ✓ Future proof road access for agribusiness

Creswick

2022/23

\$3.0M

14 Jobs



**FOCUS AREA 4:
DIVERSE ECONOMY AND OPPORTUNITIES**



Institute of
Gastronomy
- Construction

This exciting project involves the new construction of a flagship regional facility which will act as a hub and catalyst to support the transformation of the good food economy.

The facility will comprise of infrastructure to support cutting edge and innovative educational and good food outcomes including lecture theatres, offices, student accommodation, kitchens, boning rooms, incubator spaces, food storage and a host of other facilities for culinary and agricultural education all fitted with world-class, specialised equipment.

The new Institute supported by William Angliss TAFE, will enable collaboration between education, agriculture, food production and hospitality in the Grampians region.

- Institute of Gastronomy and Good Food Initial Business Case completed in 2018 funded in partnership with William Angliss Institute, Victorian Government and Regional Development Australia Grampians
- Full Business Case Planning currently underway and will be completed in 2022

- ✓ State significant project
- ✓ Skilled workforce outcomes
- ✓ Agri-Tourism development
- ✓ Attract and grow investment in the food industry and regional Victoria
- ✓ Driver for regional economic development

Daylesford

2022/23

\$25.0M (est.)

147+ Jobs



**FOCUS AREA 4:
DIVERSE ECONOMY AND OPPORTUNITIES**



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 www.facebook.com/hepburncouncil

DAYLESFORD

Cnr. Duke & Albert Streets,
Daylesford
8:30am – 5:00pm

CRESWICK

Creswick Hub
68 Albert Street, Creswick
8:30am – 5:00pm

TRENTHAM

13 Albert Street, Trentham
Mon, Wed, Fri 10am-5pm
Sat 10am-1pm

CLUNES

The Warehouse – Clunes
36 Fraser Street, Clunes
Mon & Thurs 10am – 6pm
Wed & Fri 10am – 4pm