



Hepburn
SHIRE COUNCIL

Priority Projects

Advocating for our people and our community

February 2026



Hepburn Life

Hepburn Life is about building a vibrant, resilient, and inclusive community where every person feels connected, informed, and supported to thrive.

Glenlyon Recreation Reserve Pavilion

Construction

Total project cost: \$1.3m

- ✔ Federal Government - \$500,000
- Victorian Government - \$800,000

Council is seeking funds to deliver an accessible, fit-for-purpose pavilion that meets the needs of user groups and satisfies planning controls.

Aquatic provisions

Advocacy

Council is calling for the establishment of a dedicated funding program to substantially support the refurbishment and improvement of rural and regional outdoor swimming pools, as well as to ensure further investments into aquatic infrastructure, including the enhancement of natural waterways.

Doug Lindsay Recreation Reserve - Female friendly soccer facility

Construction

Total project cost: \$3.52m

- ✔ Federal Government - \$600,000
- Victorian Government - \$2,920,000

Council is seeking funds to construct inclusive, female-friendly and gender-neutral soccer facilities for players and officials to respond to participation growth.

Clunes Recreation Reserve Masterplan

Planning

- Victorian Government - \$250,000

Council is seeking funds to finalise a masterplan and develop detailed plans that focus on the renewal and upgrade of the recreation site (Bull Milgate Reserve) including long term flood protection.

Victoria Park, Daylesford - Soccer pitch realignment

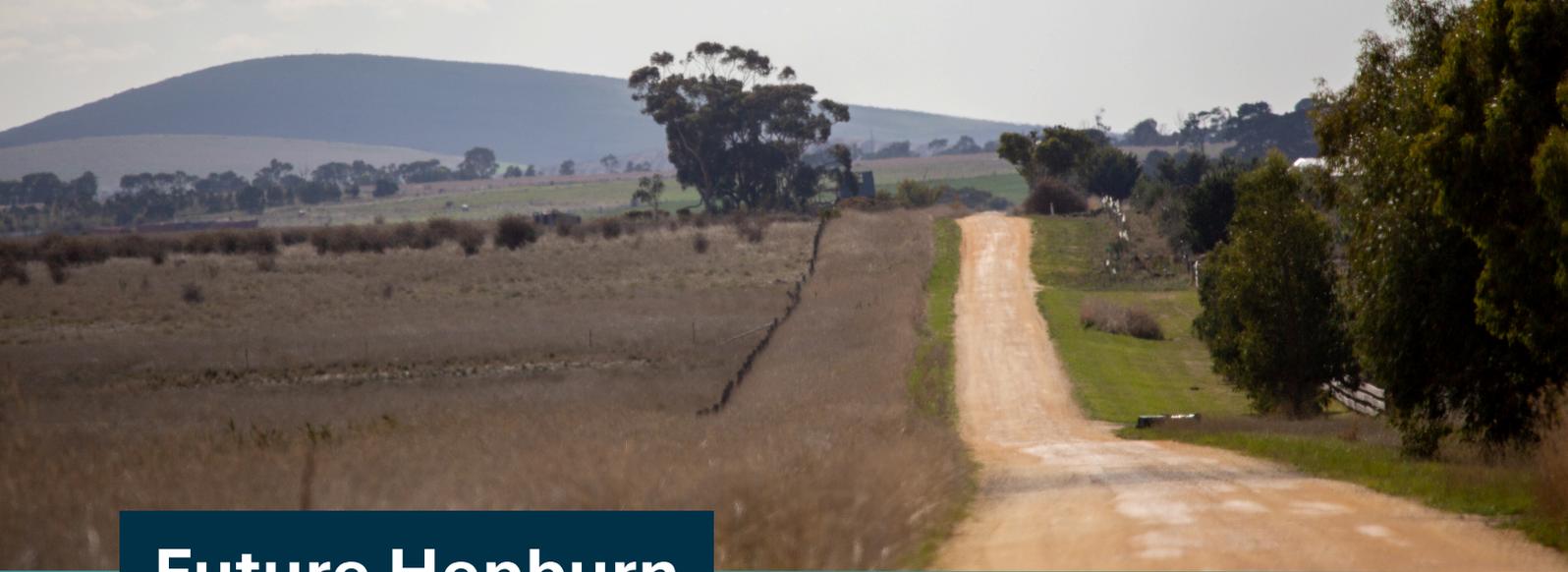
Construction

Total project cost: \$2,131,000

- ✔ Federal Government - \$600,000
- Victorian Government - \$1,530,000

Council is seeking funding to realign the current single soccer pitch into two new soccer pitches, addressing a high priority identified in the Park's Masterplan and responding to participation growth.





Future Hepburn

Council is committed to shaping a future that honours the distinctive character of its towns and rural landscapes while fostering sustainable growth, infrastructure, and economic vitality.

Albert Street, Daylesford Realignment

Construction

Total project cost: \$900,000

- Victorian or Federal Government - \$890,000

Council is seeking funding to provide a long-term safety upgrade to realign the intersections at Duke and Albert streets and Albert Street and Midland Hwy (Howe Street), Daylesford and transform Albert Street into a community activation space.

Daylesford Community Facilities - Phase 1

Construction

Total project cost: \$4,050,000

- Victorian or Federal Government - \$4,050,000

Council is seeking funding to support Phase 1 of a major upgrade to the Daylesford Town Hall to reinvigorate it as a hub for community activities and events, that meets the evolving needs of residents and local groups with long-term ambition to house the library within the Town Hall.

Future Hepburn Settlement Strategy

Planning

- Victorian Government - \$500,000

Council is seeking funding to support the implementation of Future Hepburn, a crucial initiative shaping land use, development, and community benefit for the Shire. Future Hepburn will integrate the Rural Hepburn Strategy and town structure plans of Creswick, Clunes, Daylesford, Glenlyon and Trentham into the planning scheme.

Whealers Bridge

Construction

Total project cost: \$10m

- ✓ Federal Government/Council - \$3.8m
- Victorian or Federal Government - \$6.2m

Council is seeking funding to ensure the long-term preservation of this historic bridge which was closed in December 2025 due to safety concerns. The 125-year-old arch bridge was one of the first in Victoria to be completed using the early Monier system of reinforced concrete and is a beloved community asset.





Hepburn Working Together

Council is committed to building an inclusive and sustainable community. Our strategic focus is guided by a commitment to delivering high-quality services, ensuring strong governance, and fostering a positive and skilled workforce.

Improved Workplace Occupation Violence Legislation

Advocacy

Following several unacceptable and intolerable incidents of violence and aggression directed at Council staff and Councillors, Council is urging the Victorian and Federal governments to strengthen legislation.

The goal is to better protect Councillors and Council officers, both physically and online, by ensuring their safety against such threats. Council is also advocating that local government be included in forthcoming Workplace Protection Orders. This addition would empower councils to seek orders from the Magistrates' Court, allowing them to prohibit individuals from entering or approaching a workplace if there are concerns about ongoing violent or intimidating conduct in the workplace.

Financial Sustainability of Councils

Advocacy

Council is actively advocating for legislative reforms aimed at tackling the financial sustainability issues faced by councils, with a particular focus on rural councils.

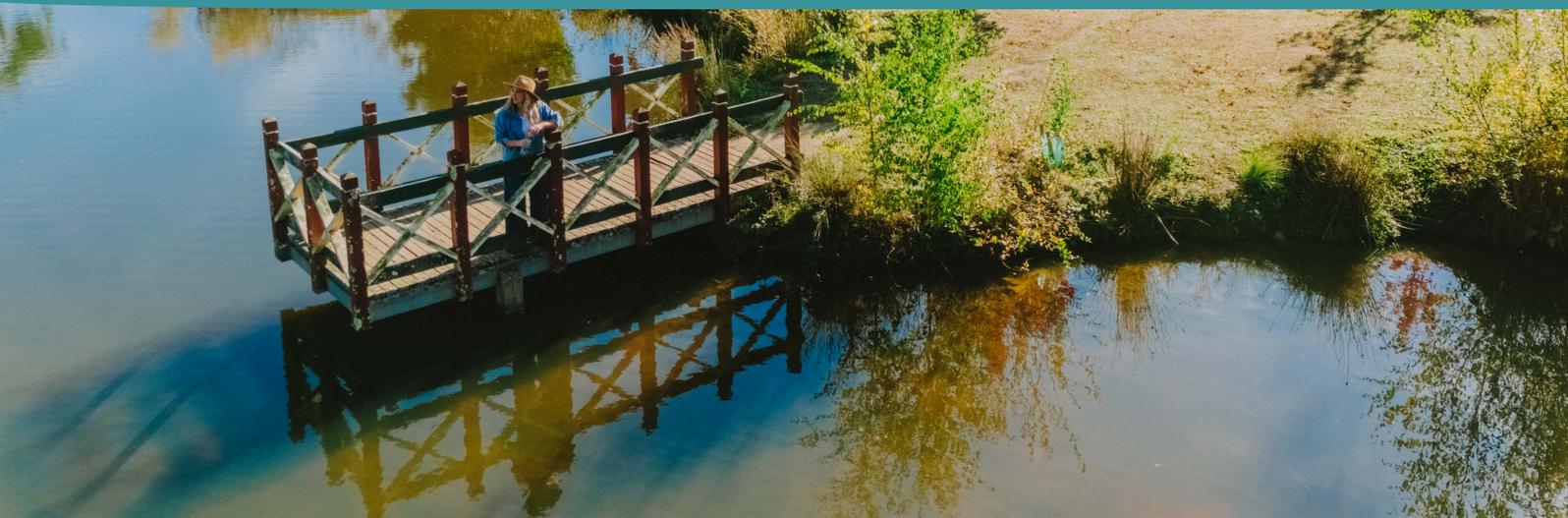
Proposed measures include the establishment of a local government cost index to inform rate capping, shifting the management of the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund collection responsibility away from councils, and increasing the funding available to rural councils.

These changes are designed to address long-standing challenges and provide greater financial security for councils, especially those in rural areas.





Scan the QR code or visit www.participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au to find out more about these priority projects.



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