

Lets
talk

We're
listening

Mayor's Welcome



On behalf of Council, I would like to firstly thank everyone who was involved

in our *"Let's Talk – We are Listening"* Campaign. This Campaign allowed us the opportunity to travel all around our beautiful Shire to listen to you... our community.

We listened to your wants, needs, goals, aspirations and concerns and you will be very pleased to hear that much of the information and many of the ideas gathered were then incorporated into our Council Plan and Budget. We are proud to deliver a Plan that is created with the community, for the community.

Council hopes that you find the information included in this flyer both helpful and informative in providing a brief snapshot of our future direction.

Our Vision

Together we are building a flourishing community.

Our Mission

To support our community to grow through effective partnerships, engagement and equitable and efficient delivery of services.

Our Values

To be a respectful, innovative, open and transparent, inclusive, fair and ethical Council.

Our Goals

- To enhance community health and wellbeing
- To sustainably manage our natural and built environment
- To provide quality infrastructure
- To support and drive economic development
- To be a high performing Shire
- The Strathbogie Shire will advocate on behalf of our community



What is a rates holiday?

It is a fantastic new initiative that provides first home buyers (who are eligible for the State Government First Home Owners Grant of \$20,000) a two-year rates free period for both the general rate and municipal charge. This rates holiday aims to attract new residents and grow our Shire population.

An example of how this will benefit first home buyers looks like this...

**Property Value \$300,000 + Rates Holiday =
Approx. \$3,700 savings over a two year period.**

*Terms and Conditions apply and full details are available via our website www.strathbogieshires.vic.gov.au

Tourism, Arts & Culture



Some of the feedback from our Conversation Cafes highlighted that our residents wanted to see a greater focus on developing tourism, arts and culture opportunities within the Shire.

We are certainly listening and our first item of business in this area – we have established a dedicated sub-committee and will be employing a Tourism, Arts and Culture Officer who will also manage and promote our grants programs.

This is a great step forward and we certainly look forward to seeing this space grow and develop.

Zero to One Roads

Did you know that the Strathbogieshires maintains one of the largest road networks in regional Victoria?

Our Zero to One Roads Program will target some of our least maintained roads in the Shire (Class Zero), with the aim of improving their overall maintenance to bring them up a level in our maintenance program (Class One).

We will provide priority works on roads to market and roads with higher levels of residents.

What does this equate to? Over 60 roads in 2017/18 will receive drainage, gravel spreading and general grading work to improve their overall standard.






Total cost: \$400k | Total kilometres: Over 60km



Capital Works – At a Glance

Capital Works Budget = \$14.5m

This includes an investment of:

-  **\$400,000** works to some of our least maintained roads (Zero to One Roads Program)
-  **\$300,000** on footpaths and walking trails
-  **\$1.3m** on drainage works
-  **\$9.5m** on road and bridge maintenance
-  **33.6km** in road upgrades

Continuing the War on Waste

Did you know in Australia alone our waste is growing at double the rate of our population?

Yes it's true. Australia generates over 52 million tonnes of waste a year. Australia is ranked 5th highest for generating the most municipal waste in the world.

Source: abc.net.au

This is a damning statistic that the Strathbogie Shire takes very seriously. Thankfully there are many things we can do as a community to reduce this figure:



Council will investigate opportunities to reduce single use plastic bags and bottles in the Strathbogie Shire.



Continue to support the Organics Waste Kerbside Collection that has already collected over 1,315 tonnes in 2016-2017.

This is an increase of approximately 25% from the previous year!



Ongoing promotion of our three bin system to improve community understanding of exactly what can go into each bin.



Sustainable Strathbogie 2030

Sounds serious doesn't it? Well here at Council we take sustainability very seriously. So much so we are developing a plan to address sustainable living into and beyond the next decade. It includes important items such as:

- Reducing emissions and waste
- Bogie Bulk Buy (solar scheme)
- Environmentally sustainable land use planning
- Partnerships to reduce single use plastics consumption
- Continued support for roadside weed and pest program
- Roadside conservation

More information on Sustainable Strathbogie 2030 will be made available on our website

www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au

DID YOU KNOW?

Strathbogie Shire has grown by 316 people in the year. This is the highest population growth we have seen in the last 11 years!

Refugee Welcome Zone

One of the items in our Council plan that we feel very proud of, is our focus toward becoming a Refugee Welcome Zone. This was an initiative that came directly from the community and was widely supported throughout the Shire during the Conversation Cafes.

Strathbogie Shire will be joining more than 140 other Shires across Australia in pledging to be a friendly and welcoming place to refugees who integrate into our community.

The Strathbogie Shire is very lucky to be such a safe and friendly community, without war, devastating poverty and the unspeakable crimes against humanity that often forces individuals and families to seek refuge in other countries.

So, we could think of no better way to show our compassion and empathy to refugees, than by creating a welcoming community for them to integrate into.

Council sincerely hopes our community will support this with open hearts, minds and actions.

Welcome to the World Wide Web

Did you know that the Strathbogrie Shire has a wide range of helpful information available on its website? Some new items include our What's On in the Strathbogrie Shire page (your one stop shop for upcoming events across our townships) and E-RATES, where you can register to receive your Council Rates via email and help us reduce printing costs and work towards a paperless workplace.

You will also find handy links to our social media pages including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Are you a Local Businesses or Event looking for extra social media exposure? ... follow us and we will follow you back!



www.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au



Know YOUR COUNCIL

Did you know that there is a quick and easy way to compare the performance of the Strathbogrie Shire against other similar Councils in Victoria?

The Know Your Council Website

www.knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au is a compulsory reporting mechanism where you can see everything from our financial performance to how we compare in terms of food safety requirements. Building, Planning, Pools, it's all there in an open and transparent format for you... the ratepayer to see.

DID YOU KNOW?
Strathbogrie Shire is made up of an area of 330,326 hectares and has over 10,000 residents.

Advocacy

The Strathbogrie Shire has firmly cemented its commitment to Advocacy in the 2017-2021 Council Plan. This is important to the growth and prosperity our community for many different reasons.


But what does this really mean? As a Council, we will actively put resources toward promoting and creating discussions at all levels of Government and Industry about issues that are important to us as a Shire – that we have no direct ability to deliver as a Council.




Our main advocacy priorities include:




- Diplomacy
- Education
- Environment
- Funding
- Health
- Public Transport
- Roads
- Telecommunications
- Tourism
- Transport Linkages
- Utilities and Natural Resources

Contact Council

Do you need more information and would like to contact us directly?

 Come see us in person:
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 www.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au

 facebook.com/strathbogrieshirecouncil
 twitter.com/lovestrathbogrie
 instagram.com/strathbogrieshire

Your Dollars Working for You

This graph shows how Council's dollars are spread across the Shire.

For every \$100 Council spends, it goes towards:

To download a full version of our Council Plan and Budget please go to our website www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au and click the *Budget and Council Plan* button on our homepage.



DID YOU KNOW?

Strathbogie Shire maintains 2,243km of roads as well as 516 bridges and culverts and over 200 public buildings.