



2013 – 2017

Strathbogie Shire Council Plan

(2016 – 17 Review)

21/06/2016

Message from the Mayor and CEO

This Council, elected in October 2012, continues to grow clearer in its direction and purpose. In a challenging financial climate, we know that all our efforts must be directed toward future sustainability.

In order to make Council and community aspirations happen, we will be seeking positive and diverse ways of working together and seeking feedback and ideas from our local community.

We will also be supporting and fostering community leadership through the ongoing development of our action groups. Strong communities are healthy communities.

Being more strategically focussed is one of our primary objectives and with the introduction of Local Government Performance Reporting Indicators and the Know Your Council website, this will mean that the Strathbogie Shire will be accountable for its performance like never before.

Our ongoing efforts to close the infrastructure gap are drawing closer by the day, and we will continue to foster leadership at the front line and deliver works on the ground.

The provision of great customer service is a key motivation of the Strathbogie Shire and our staff have undertaken significant training and development to improve our overall customer experience. This performance is also being monitored closely.

Our vision for the Strathbogie Shire community is one of harmony and diversity. A place where all members of the community can feel a sense of belonging and pride. There is a shared responsibility to ensure that all people, regardless of age or cultural or socio-economic background, can enjoy our townships and participate in all it has to offer.

We look forward to a prosperous year ahead.

Best regards

Mayor Colleen Furlanetto and CEO Steve Crawcour

Our Vision:

“A Shire that drives and supports investment for population growth, shared wealth and wellbeing.”

Our Mission:

“To actively consult with community, investors and industry through advocacy and collaboration; delivering quality infrastructure, lifestyle and sustainable economic and community development.”

Our Guiding Principles:

Councillors and staff at Strathbogie Shire Council are committed to the following principles (values) as a guide to all its decisions and actions:

- **Good Governance** – We value innovation, integrity, accountability, strength, and consistency in leadership and decision making with adherence to robust, transparent and equitable policies and processes.
- **Working together** – We value the ability to maximise outcomes by working in partnership and collaboration with an engaged community, government, regional bodies and other stakeholders.
- **Quality Services** – We value the role of research, strategic planning, flexibility and innovation in delivering accessible and effective services and regional solutions that enhance the quality of life.
- **Social Inclusion** – We value widespread participation in civic and community life among people of all abilities and backgrounds.
- **Environment** – We value the shire’s natural and built environment and the importance of local amenity on quality of life.
- **Stability** – We value sound financial and resource planning and management to ensure Council’s long term sustainability and provision of quality services and infrastructure.



Goal 1

A community that has equitable access to a range of quality services which respond to its diverse needs and supports the wellbeing of our communities (**Community Wellbeing**).

Objective: *Plan, support and / or deliver a broad range of responsive and accessible services to our diverse community.*

1.1 Strategy:

Enhance the wellbeing and participation of our community.

Strategic Indicators:
Continue to support and participate in the Strathbogie Health and Community Services Consortium.
Collaborate and provide support to the development of Community Action Group Action Plans.
Support the “Prevention of Violence against women and children supporting safer communities” Action Plan.
Investigate opportunities for Shire-wide youth cultural activities.
Provide customer friendly access and services to our community.
Continue to investigate funding opportunities and suitable locations for Community Precinct developments (incorporating Skate Facilities) in Avenel and Nagambie.
Support Euroa Health’s new development by providing up to \$300,000 to fit out the 75 rooms by the way of beds, bed heads, overbed table and bedside cabinet, console and hall tables.

1.2 Strategy:

Increase community services to Nagambie post bypass.

Strategic Indicators:
Advocate for a full time child care facility in Nagambie.
Advocate for funding of Nagambie Lakes Community House.
Continue to advocate for an Ambulance service and a combined emergency services hub based in Nagambie.
Advocate for a High School in Nagambie.

1.3 Strategy:

Provide equitable and high standard public transport services / facilities.

Strategic Indicators:
Advocate for improved train station facilities across the Shire.
Advocate for better timetabling and shuttle services between Shepparton to Seymour and Wodonga to Seymour.



Goal 2

To promote and foster sustainable development in our natural and built environment
(Environment).

Objective: *To continue to protect and enhance the natural and built environment for current and future generations.*

2.1 Strategy:

Encourage clean, green environmental initiatives.

Strategic Indicators:
Continue to develop the Violet Town flood mitigation Scheme.
Review Organic Household Waste Service Roll out.
Investigate and support alternative energy options for the Shire.
Encourage commercial food waste collection services.

2.2 Strategy:

Develop, maintain and protect our natural and built assets.

Strategic Indicators:
Support the Euroa Environment Group to develop a Shire-wide Significant Tree Register on public land.
Adopt Council's Tree Management Plan.
Support the actions in the Shire's Community Safety Fire Action Plan.
Work with the "Bush Crew" where possible as part of the Shire's revegetation programs.
Promote responsible dog ownership across the Shire by disposing of litter responsibly.
Review Council's Local Law Number 6 in relation to increasing penalties for illegal dumping such as dumping of householders' waste in public place bins.
Include in the revision of the Road Management Plan intervention levels and Council Policy on providing Dust Suppressant.
Investigate options to engage an Environmental and Land Management Officer by either shared services / contractor or direct employment and report back to Council no later than the 31 / 12 / 16.



Goal 3.

To ensure prudent, transparent and strategic financial planning which results in a sound legacy for the future **(Financial)**.

Objective: Provide best practice management and administrative systems and structures to support the delivery of Council services and programs.

3.1 Strategy:

Rationalise Council Owned Assets.

Strategic Indicators:
Investigate and determine underutilised assets within the Shire.

3.2 Strategy:

Continue to focus on improving operational efficiencies by decreasing costs.

Strategic Indicators:
Continue to drive the Shared Service Project with Shepparton and Moira in an endeavour to reduce operating expenditure and ensure efficiencies of service.
Target major Capital Works Projects to seek government funding to reduce Councils costs.
Explore and take up partnership opportunities of non-core services with other Shires and organisations.
Reduce Council’s infrastructure gap in a financially responsible manner as per Council’s Long Term Financial Plan.
Seek grant funding opportunities wherever possible.
Investigate and maximise use of Special Charge Schemes / Levies.

3.3 Strategy:

Ensure Council has equitable support financially from both Federal and State Governments.

Strategic Indicators:
Advocate to both Federal and State Government to ensure that the current funding formulas provide equitable funds to Local Government.



Goal 4

A Shire that builds trust and recognises community needs through transparent, accountable and democratic decision making (**Governance**).

Objective: *To provide all our stakeholders with consistent and timely decision making.*

4.1 Strategy:

Engage our community in our decision making processes.

Strategic Indicators
Continue to deliver a program that provides increased Councillor interaction with the community in their local settings.

4.2 Strategy:

Provide a workforce that is accountable and transparent in its operations.

Strategic Indicators
Address the actions required from the Internal Auditors Reports and report back to Council via the Audit Committee.
Executive Management Team to monitor and review the ongoing performance of all staff operations and report back to Council.



Goal 5

Encourage investment and development into the Shire by having a responsive and proactive business development culture (**Industry, Business and Investment**).

Objective: Pursue opportunities to increase the range of businesses and industries in the Shire to further strengthen our economy.

5.1 Strategy:

Ensure Council has the ability to provide a single point of contact for its customers.

Strategic Indicators
Seek funding to use interactive Kiosks at each Library with up to date Council information and with the ability to print.

5.2 Strategy:

Support Nagambie traders post bypass.

Strategic Indicators:
Support the Nagambie Lakes Tourism and Commerce Committee in relation to branding, marketing and development of High Street Nagambie retail area.

5.3 Strategy:

Support and enhance a “Can Do” Culture.

Strategic Indicators:
Investigate the formation of an education alliance group around advocacy, information sharing, strategic partnership and economic development.
Support actions in Council's Economic Development Masterplan.
In partnership with Federal and State Government Departments host foreign trade missions to deliver potential economic growth opportunities.
Support Business Enterprise Euroa to develop and conduct a Shire-wide Business Survey.



Goal 6

Ensure the Shires infrastructure enhances efficiency for people and freight movement, service delivery and community amenities (**Infrastructure**).

Objective: *Provide well maintained, affordable and appropriate infrastructure.*

6.1 Strategy:
Provide industry standard facilities.

Strategic Indicators:
Investigate options for the long term sustainability of the Euroa Saleyards including funding models and major Capital Works Programs.
Investigate funding options to re develop the Brock street toilets including accessible toilets.

6.2 Strategy:
Support History and Cultural Monuments.

Strategic Indicators:
Update the long term Masterplan for the Euroa RSL and Third Age Club precinct.

6.3 Strategy:
Deliver Council's bridge replacement in line with industry best practice.

Strategic Indicators:
Investigate and consult in relation to providing a link bridge from the Friendlies Reserve to Memorial Oval over the Seven Creeks.
Investigate the upgrading of short life bridges to long life bridges

6.4 Strategy:

Provide passive and active recreational facilities and paths / tracks.

Strategic Indicators:
Implement priorities from the Walking Track and Trails Strategy.
Investigate options to develop an additional sport and recreation precinct in the Northern section of Nagambie.
Subject to funding extend landing in front of rowing club around to staged area at Buckley Park and back to walking bridge at boat ramp area.
Seek funding for stage two of Avenel Recreation Reserve upgrade.
Seek and secure funding to complete the Livingstone Street walking track between Mitchell Street and Jubilee Crescent Avenel.
Support the actions as adopted in the Nagambie Lakes Waterway Strategy.
Consider joint Implementation of priority projects from Violet Town Action Group Community Plan and VT Rec Reserve Masterplan.
Seek funding for stage one of the Friendlies Recreation Oval upgrade.
Seek and support funding for Violet Town playground redevelopment at the Violet Town Recreation Reserve.

6.5 Strategy:

Provide best practice asset management.

Strategic Indicators:
Advocate for a pedestrian crossing at the railway gates on Birkett Street, Euroa.
Investigate and introduce angle parking in Nagambie Main Street.
Continue to design and seek funding for town drainage and sewerage schemes.
Investigate the expansion of additional street lights in the Shire.
Advocate to VicRoads / VicTrack and the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) for the creation of a roundabout resulting in a safer intersection at Queen Street / Bank Streets / Avenel Railway Crossing.
Investigate funding for upgraded Muller's Road Nagambie.
Investigate options in consultation with the community for footpaths, kerb and channelling and parking at the east end of Bank Street Avenel.
Continue to advocate to VicRoads for the construction of an interchange on the Hume Freeway at the Service Centre crossing Avenel.
Design and investigate funding options for kerb / channelling and widening the road surface opposite Euroa Secondary College.
In line with the Nagambie Growth Management Plan commence community consultation and seek funding for the northern roundabout in High Street Nagambie.
Conduct community consultation in relation to traffic management design options at the corner of Binney Street and Railway Street.



Goal 7

A desirable and safe destination that supports the development of tourism and hospitality enterprises that drive economic growth across our Shire (**Tourism and Hospitality**).

Objective: *Ensure a coordinated and effective approach to economic and tourism development is maintained at all times.*

7.1 Strategy:

Ensure there is consistent branding and marketing of the Shire.

Strategic Indicators:
Work with Goulburn River Valley Tourism to advocate to relevant State Government departments for extra tourism funding.
Ensure the successful implementation of the Tourism Strategies in the Economic Development Masterplan.

7.2 Strategy:

Develop the Shire's tourism story and café culture.

Strategic Indicators:
Upgrade town information on relevant technology.
Work with Goulburn River Valley Tourism to develop a Military Trail