



## STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 22 APRIL 2014 AT THE EUROA COMMUNITY CONFERENCE CENTRE COMMENCING AT 5.00 P.M.

**Councillors:** Debra Swan (Chair)  
Colleen Furlanetto  
Malcolm Little  
Alister Purbrick  
Robin Weatherald  
Graeme (Mick) Williams

**Officers:** Steve Crawcour - Chief Executive Officer  
Roy Hetherington - Director, Asset Services  
David Woodhams – Director, Corporate and Community

#### **BUSINESS**

1. Welcome
2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Land Owners  
*'In keeping with the spirit of Reconciliation, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting today. We recognise indigenous people, their elders past and present'.*

3. Apologies

Councillor Patrick Storer  
Phil Howard – Director, Sustainable Development

4. Disclosure of Interests

*Cr Williams declared an Interest in Item 5.7.3 due to being a Life Member of the Euroa Football Club.*

#### **EXCERPT FROM MEETING PROCEDURE LOCAL LAW NO. 1**

##### **CONDUCT OF PUBLIC**

##### **52. VISITORS**

- (1) Visitors must not interject or take part in debate.
- (2) Silence shall be preserved in the gallery at all times.
- (3) If any visitor is called to order by the Chairperson and again acts in breach of this Local Law, the Chairperson may order that person to be removed from the gallery.

**53. CALL TO ORDER**

Any person who has been called to order, including any Councillor who fails to comply with the Chairperson's direction, will be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: \$500

**54. REMOVAL FOR DISRUPTION**

The Chairperson has discretion to cause the removal of any person, including a Councillor, who disrupts any meeting or fails to comply with a direction under the provisions of this Local Law.

- 5. Reports of Council Officers
  - 5.1 Climate Change
  - 5.2 Infrastructure
  - 5.3 Private Enterprise
  - 5.4 Public Institutions
  - 5.5 Housing and Recreation
  - 5.6 Tourism
  - 5.7 Organisation

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**5. REPORTS**

**5.7 ORGANISATION**

**5.7.1 2013 – 2017 Strathbogie Shire Council Plan (2014 Review)  
- Amended Actions and Strategic Indicators for Year Ending 30th June 2015**

**Author / Department**

Chief Executive Officer / Executive Services Directorate

**Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest in relation to advice provided in this report**

The author of this report and officers/contractors providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest, as provided in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

**Summary**

In accordance with the requirements of Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1989, Council has amended the Actions and Strategic Indicators to its 2013 – 2017 Council Plan. Copies of the draft amendments to the Council Plan have been circulated to Councillors and a copy is attached to this report. Council is required under Section 125 (2) (c) when the Strategic Indicators which monitor achievement of the objectives has changed to exhibit the changes for comment to the public for 28 days under Section 223 of the Act.

A resolution of Council is now required to give public notice that the amended Council Plan will be available for inspection, in accordance with Section 125 (9) of the Act, from 30 April 2014. Submissions will close at 5.00 pm on Wednesday 28 May 2014. A Special Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 June 2014 to receive/hear submissions to the amended Council Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the adjustment to the strategic indicators and actions in the draft amended Council Plan be proposed.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to give public notice of the proposed adjustments in accordance with Sections 125 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.
3. That Council considers any:
  - (a) submission on the proposed adjustments made in accordance with Sections 125(9) and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989, and
  - (b) recommendations or Notice of Motion to make the adjustments proposedat a Special Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 10 June 2014.
4. That a Special Council Meeting to adopt the 2013 - 2017 Strathbogie Shire Council Plan (2014 Review) be held on Tuesday 24 June 2014, commencing at 5.00 p.m.

07/14 **CRS FURLANETTO/WILLIAMS** : *That the Recommendation be adopted.*

**CARRIED**

5.7.1 2013 – 2017 Strathbogie Shire Council Plan (2014 Review)  
- Amended Actions and Strategic Indicators for Year Ending 30th June 2015  
(cont.)

**Background**

Council is required at least once in each financial year under the Local Government Act 1989 Section 125 (7) to consider whether the current Council Plan requires any adjustment in respect of the remaining period of the Council Plan. As such, Council has reviewed the 2013 – 2017 Council Plan and adjusted the Actions and Strategic Indicators for year ending 30th June 2015.

The Council Plan is a strategic document of Council that sets its Vision / Mission / Goals and Objectives for the (4) four year term of the Council. The Actions that sit under each Goal ensure the organisation delivers what the Council has set as its long term strategic vision for its community.

**Alternative Options**

The author and other officers providing advice in relation to this report have considered potential alternatives. No feasible alternatives have been identified as it is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1989

**Risk Management**

The author of this report considers that there are no significant Risk Management factors relating to the report and recommendation.

**Strategic Links – policy implications and relevance to Council Plan**

The author of this report considers that the report is consistent with Council Policies, key strategic documents and the current Council Plan.

**Best Value / National Competition Policy (NCP / Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CCA) implications**

The author of this report considers that the report is consistent with Best Value, National Competition Policy and Trade Practices Act requirements.

**Financial / Budgetary Implications**

The author has advised that the actions identified in the 2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2014 Review) are funded through the 2014 /15 Draft Budget.

**Economic Implications**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no significant economic implications for Council or the broader community.

**Environmental / Amenity Implications**

The author has identified environmental benefits through the initiatives detailed in the 2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2014 Review).

**Community Implications**

The author of this report has identified significant community and / or social benefits for the community as detailed in the 2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2014 Review).

5.7.1 2013 – 2017 Strathbogie Shire Council Plan (2014 Review)  
- Amended Actions and Strategic Indicators for Year Ending 30th June 2015  
(cont.)

**Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

**Legal / Statutory Implications**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no legal or statutory implications which require the consideration of Council.

**Consultation**

The community will have an opportunity under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 to make comments / submissions on the 2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2014 Review).

**Attachments**

2013 – 2017 Council Plan (2014 Review).



**2013 – 2017**

## **Strathbogrie Shire Council Plan**

**(2014 – 15 Review)**

## **Message from the Mayor and CEO**

We are very proud to present the 2014 – 15 Review of the Strathbogrie Shire Council Plan.

The Council Plan 2013-17 (2014-2015 Review) is a clear statement of what the Strathbogrie Shire Council will do to help achieve the community's vision of a livable, desirable and progressive destination. This plan describes the outcomes the Council aims to achieve during its term, the priorities that will shape its program of work, and the resources required to do this.

The Strathbogrie Shire Council Plan is a future focused document that guides the work of our organisation in the medium term. It is driven on the ground through the development of an Annual Budget, which provides a detailed description of the Council's yearly funded activities.

Each Budget represents a 'one-year portion' of the four-year Council Plan and our local community has opportunities to have their say on activities the Council proposes to fund and how it will fund them each financial year.

The Council's performance against the Council Plan is recorded in the Annual Report. The Council is responsible for achieving progress on the outcomes in its Council Plan which, in turn, contributes to achieving the Future Melbourne vision by the community as a whole.

We want to take this chance to thank the staff, stakeholders and community who contribute regularly in our road shows, town meetings and surveys that went into creating this Council Plan and look forward to seeing it progress and develop over the coming years.

Kind regards

Mayor Deb Swan 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.



(Euroa Hub)

**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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Continue to support and participate in the Strathbogie Health and Community Services Consortium.	✓	✓	✓
As part of Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan identify ways to promote Shire wide health and wellbeing.	✓		
Investigate the formation of a Youth Council and seek funding.	✓		
Support Community Action Groups to develop methods of improved communication during emergencies.	✓	✓	✓
Support the State Government's current Learn to Swim Programs.	✓	✓	✓
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.	✓	✓	✓
Review and improve the community engagement plan.	✓		
Investigate opportunities for Shire Wide youth cultural activities.	✓	✓	✓
Advocate for funding for a review of the Aquatic Strategy	✓		
Support the development of a men's shed program across the Shire.	✓	✓	✓

Investigate and seek funding for Shire Wide safe pick up and drop off areas at all Schools.	✓		
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**1.2 Strategy:**

Increase community services to Nagambie post bypass.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate for a full time child care facility in Nagambie.	✓	✓	✓
Advocate for funding of Nagambie Lakes Community House.	✓	✓	✓
Advocate for an Ambulance service based in Nagambie.	✓	✓	✓
Advocate for a High School in Nagambie.	✓	✓	✓

**1.3 Strategy:**

Provide equitable and high standard public transport services / facilities.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate for improved train station facilities across the Shire.	✓	✓	✓
Advocate for better timetabling and shuttle services between Shepparton to Seymour and Wodonga to Seymour.	✓	✓	✓

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(Avenel Recreation Reserve)

**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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Work with GBCMA to review flood mitigation requirements for residential buildings in Euroa and surrounds with the ability to release land for residential use.	✓		
Design and install Automatic Gates at the Seven Creeks Weir to control flood events and sand build up.	✓		
Work with GBCMA to develop a sand trap on the Castle Creek to reduce the amount of sand build up.		✓	
Work with GBCMA to develop a program to remove sand from the pondage of Seven Creeks and Castle Creek and develop an agreed revegetation program.	✓		
Establish a Shire Wide Sustainable Development Reference Group.	✓		
Continue to develop the Violet Town flood mitigation Scheme.	✓	✓	

Introduce an Organic Household Waste Service.		✓	
Provide a secure water supply to the Euroa Showgrounds.		✓	
Participate in Regional Street Light Retro Fit Program.	✓	✓	
Complete the Euroa Office energy retro-fit.		✓	

## 2.2 Strategy:

Develop, maintain and protect our natural and built assets.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Support the Euroa Environment Group to develop a Shire Wide Significant Tree Register on public land.	✓	✓	✓
Update 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.	✓	✓	✓

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### 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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Sell the Euroa Youth Club Hall and relocate current use to a suitable location.	✓		
Develop for residential use and sell Nagambie Shire Depot.	✓	✓	
Investigate and determine underutilised assets within the Shire.	✓	✓	✓

#### 3.2 Strategy: Continue to focus on improving operational efficiencies by decreasing costs.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Continue to drive the Shared Service Project with Shepparton 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.	✓	✓	✓
Benchmark Business Units under the Best Value Legislation to ensure efficient, effective and relevant services are provided.	✓	✓	✓
Review Council's Long Term Financial Plan and Rating Strategy.	✓	✓	✓
Reduce Council's infrastructure gap in a financially responsible manner as per Council's Long Term Financial Plan.	✓	✓	✓
Seek grant funding opportunities wherever possible.	✓	✓	✓
Conduct a Cost Benefit Analysis for the following operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shire wide operated swimming pools</li> <li>▪ Euroa Saleyards</li> <li>▪ Nagambie Lakes Regatta Centre</li> <li>▪ Boating safety (compliance) operations in Nagambie</li> <li>▪ Shire wide Youth services</li> <li>▪ Open Space / Parks Management</li> </ul>	✓		

### 3.3 Strategy:

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

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate to both Federal and State Government to ensure that the current funding formulas provide equitable funds to Local Government.	✓	✓	✓





(Strathbogie Shire Councillors)

**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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Develop a program that delivers increased Councillor interaction with the community in their local settings.	✓	✓	✓
Introduce an online system for improved community engagement.	✓		
Review Council's Communication Strategy.	✓		

**4.2 Strategy:**

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

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Support gender equity in our workforce development.	✓	✓	✓
Investigate best methods of access and surveillance in relation to safety and security at all Transfer Stations.		✓	
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.	✓	✓	✓





(Binney Street, Euroa)

### 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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate and develop online and hard copy methods for self-service enquiry and resolution for Planning Applications.	✓		
Investigate a system to broaden Council's current Business Directory on the website to also include individual skill based details.	✓	✓	✓
Investigate the use of 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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Conduct a Grants Forum / Expo on External Grants for all our community.	✓	✓	✓
Investigate the formation of an education alliance group around advocacy, information sharing, strategic partnership and economic development.	✓		
Develop and implement a change program focusing on a "Can Do" culture in business service.	✓	✓	✓
Support actions in Council's Economic Development Masterplan.	✓	✓	✓

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(Lions Club Toilet Block Opening)

**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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Develop a Risk Management Plan for Euroa Saleyards.	✓		
Investigate options for the long term sustainability of the Euroa Saleyards including funding models and major Capital Works Programs.	✓	✓	✓

**6.2 Strategy:**

Support History and Cultural Monuments.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate the development of a 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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Review the management plan for Kirwan's Bridge including funding opportunities.	✓		
Investigate and consult in relation to proving a link bridge from the Friendlies Reserve to Memorial Oval over the Seven Creeks.	✓	✓	
Support community initiative in securing funding to link the Apex Walking Track across the Seven Creeks near the Rockies.	✓		
Investigate options for the replacement of the Blaney Lane bridge to Buckley Park in Nagambie.	✓		

### 6.4 Strategy:

Provide passive and active recreational facilities and paths / tracks.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate options to provide a shared pathway connecting the Regatta Centre to the Nagambie Town Centre	✓		
Investigate options to provide a shared pathway connecting Kirwan's Bridge Community to Nagambie Town.	✓		
Investigate the development of a no boating or fishing area at River Street and introduce a no life guard swimming area.	✓		
Support the Nagambie Lakes Recreational and Commercial Stakeholders Waterways Committee in implementing the Actions in the On Land and On Water Strategy.	✓	✓	✓
Secure funding to develop options for an additional sport and recreation precinct in 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.		✓	
Develop a Nagambie Recreation Reserve Masterplan.	✓		
Investigate the development of a Strathbogie Reserve Sporting Precent Master Plan.	✓		
Seek funding for stage two of Avenel Recreation Reserve upgrade.	✓		
Seek funding for the upgrade of the Avenel Memorial Hall.		✓	✓
Work with Shire wide environment groups to develop programs that deliver community benefits.	✓	✓	✓

### 6.5 Strategy:

Provide best practice asset management.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate for a pedestrian crossing at the railway gates on Birkett Street, Euroa.	✓		
Retrofit the old SES office to OH&S standards and create a more usable office space with amenities.		✓	

Investigate potential uses for Wesley Hall.	✓		
Clean up town entrances / town entry signs in the Shire.	✓	✓	✓
Investigate and communicate with the community the development of pedestrian crossings in Brock Street, Railway Street and Binney Street area.	✓		
Provide RV directional signage to Shannon's Lane Car Park Euroa.	✓		
Continue to design and seek funding for town drainage / sewerage schemes.	✓	✓	✓
Investigate the expansion of additional street lights in the Shire.	✓		
Advocate to Vicroads and Victrack for the creation of a roundabout resulting in a safer intersection at Queen Street / Bank Streets / Avenel Railway Crossing.	✓	✓	✓
Investigate costs for Plain Road Nagambie to be sealed as an alternative truck route away from the town centre.	✓		
Widen Nagambie - Locksley road to a uniform width and improve signage "to Euroa".	✓	✓	
Investigate improved signage and road condition of Mullers Road Nagambie in line with Council's Road Management Plan.	✓		

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(Regional Living Expo 2013)

### 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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate to relevant State Government departments for extra tourism funding.	✓	✓	✓
Provide RV friendly car parking signage.	✓		
Develop a tourist map of all the horse studs in Strathbogie Shire in partnership with North East Thoroughbreds.	✓		
Investigate funding for a marketing company to work with tourism groups across the Shire.	✓		
Conduct a forum with stakeholders to develop the Shire's branding as recommended in the Economic Development Masterplan.		✓	
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.

Actions:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate the feasibility of providing plaques on each building to advise of the history of that building.	✓		
Introduce a phone app. for website with town information.	✓		

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### Strategic Indicators 2014/2015

Measures:	Targets by:
<p>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).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue to support and participate in the Strathbogie Health and Community Services Consortium.</li> </ul>	<p>30 June 15</p>
<p>2. To promote and foster sustainable development in our natural and built environment. (Environment).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Design and install Automatic Gates at the Seven Creeks Weir to control flood events and sand build-up.</li> </ul>	<p>31 March 15</p>
<p>3. To ensure prudent, transparent and strategic financial planning which results in sound legacy for the future (Financial).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Benchmark Business Units under the Best Value Legislation to ensure efficient, effective and relevant services are provided.</li> </ul>	<p>30 June 15</p>
<p>4. A Shire that builds trust and recognises community needs through transparent, accountable and democratic decision making (Governance).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review Council's Communication Strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>31 March 15</p>
<p>5. Encourage investment and development into the Shire by having a responsive and proactive business development culture. (Industry, Business and Investment).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conduct a Grants Forum / Expo on External Grants for all our community.</li> </ul>	<p>31 December 14</p>
<p>6. Ensure the Shire's infrastructure enhances efficiency for people and freight movement, service delivery and community amenities (Infrastructure).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seek Funding for stage two of Avenel Recreation Reserve upgrade.</li> <li>▪ Investigate potential uses for Wesley Hall.</li> </ul>	<p>30 April 15 31 May 15</p>
<p>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).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introduce a phone app. for website with town information.</li> </ul>	<p>30 June 15</p>



**5.7.2 Draft 2014-2015 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget  
- Preparation of Budget for Exhibition and Comment**

**Author & Department**

Chief Executive Officer / Executive Directorate

**File Reference**

F30/0020/10

**Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest in relation to advice provided in this report**

Officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest, as provided in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

**Summary**

In accordance with the requirements of Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act), Council has prepared a budget for the financial year ending 30 June 2015

Copies of the draft budget have been circulated to Councillors, and a copy will be tabled at the meeting, and Appended to the Minutes of the meeting for identification purposes.

A resolution of Council is now required to give public notice that the budget will be available for inspection, in accordance with Section 129 of the Act.

Submissions on the proposed budget will be invited in accordance with Section 223 of the Act. Submissions will close at 5.00 pm on Wednesday 28 May 2014. A Special Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 June 2014 to receive/hear submissions to the draft Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. That the draft budget annexed to this resolution and initialled by the Mayor for identification be the budget prepared by Council for the purposes of Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989.**
- 2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to give public notice of the preparation of such budget, in accordance with Sections 129 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.**
- 3. That Council receive / hear any submission on any proposal (or proposals) contained in such budget, made in accordance with Sections 129 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989, at a Special Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 10 June 2014, commencing at 5.00 p.m. at the Euroa Community Conference Centre.**

5.7.2 Draft 2014-2015 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget  
- Preparation of Budget for Exhibition and Comment (cont.)

4. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial changes, if required.
5. That the 2014-2015 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget be adopted at a Special Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 24 June 2014, commencing at 5.00 p.m. at the Euroa Community Conference Centre.

08/14 **CRS WILLIAMS/LITTLE** : *That the Recommendation be adopted.*

**CARRIED**

### **Background**

In accordance with the requirements of Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act), Council has prepared a budget for the financial year ending 30 June 2015.

In preparing the 2014/2015 Draft Budget, the Council has considered many factors in an effort to continue to balance community expectations and benefits with financial responsibilities. The Council is pleased to place on public display a draft budget that works hard to maintain existing service levels and deliver strong investment in capital works across the municipality. The Council will continue to provide significant funding for renewal works on our ageing and outdated infrastructure, based on the requirements of the Road Management Plan and taking into account financial constraints.

The Council is proposing a 7.0 per cent increase in the total declared rates and charges revenue for 2014/2015. This level allows us to maintain existing service levels, fund a number of significant new initiatives and continue to allocate sufficient funds for the continuing strategic renewal of Council's infrastructure. The proposed rise matches the 7% forecast in the 2012 update to the Rating Strategy.

The 2014/2015 Draft Budget provides for a \$8.54 million capital works program with the following highlights:

- Roads (\$3.51 million) - including resealing, resheeting and rehabilitation.
- Bridges (\$0.72 million)
- Drainage (\$0.29 million)
- Footpaths, Kerb and Channel (\$0.19 million)
- Plant and Machinery (\$0.85 million)
- Information Systems (\$0.15 million)
- Automatic weir gates - Sevens Creek Park Weir (\$0.20 million)
- Nagambie drainage - retention dam (\$0.07 million)
- Violet Town flood mitigation (\$0.50 million)
- Violet Town Library (\$0.46 million)
- Violet Town Community Centre - new roof (\$0.19 million)

5.7.2 Draft 2014-2015 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget  
- Preparation of Budget for Exhibition and Comment (cont.)

- Waste transfer station upgrades (\$0.28 million)
- Avenel Memorial Hall - stormwater drainage/underpin footings (\$0.04 million)
- Euroa Third Age Club - accessible toilets (\$0.04 million)
- Euroa Little Theatre relocation (\$0.05 million)
- Sevens Creek sheet piling/sea wall (\$0.06 million)

**Alternative Options**

Not applicable.

**Risk Management**

The author of this report considers that there are no significant Risk Management factors relating to the report and recommendation.

**Strategic Links – policy implications and relevance to Council Plan**

The report is consistent with Council Policies, key strategic documents and the Council Plan.

**Best Value / National Competition Policy (NCP / Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CCA) implications**

The report is consistent with Best Value, National Competition Policy and Competition and Consumer Act 2010 requirements.

**Financial / Budgetary Implications**

The budget is fiscally responsible and is prepared in accordance with the objectives of the Council Plan, Rating Strategy and Long Term Financial Plan.

**Economic Implications**

The budget will provide long term economic benefit through increased investment in the renewal of community infrastructure assets.

**Environmental / Amenity Implications**

The budget has a number of initiatives which will provide positive environmental outcomes.

**Community Implications**

The 2014/2015 draft budget has been prepared using the current Council Plan and associated priorities and the long term strategic financial plan as the basis for Council decision making during the budget setting process.

The Council will, in the week commencing Monday 28 April 2014 place the statutory public notices in local newspapers advising that documents are now available for inspection and that written submission are being sought in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Submissions will close at 5.00pm on Wednesday 28 May 2014.

**Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006**

The recommendations do not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

5.7.2 Draft 2014-2015 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget  
- Preparation of Budget for Exhibition and Comment (cont.)

**Legal / Statutory Implications**

The recommendations have no further legal or statutory implications which require the consideration of Council.

**Consultation**

The budget will be advertised in the community and opportunity provided for submissions in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989

**Attachments**

Nil

**5.7.3 Contract No. 13/14-15**  
**Euroa Conference and Function Centre**

**Author & Department**

Projects Officer / Projects and Works Department

**Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest in relation to advice provided in this report**

The author of this report and officers/contractors providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest, as provided in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

**Summary**

Strathbogie Shire Council invited tenders for the construction of the Euroa Conference and Function Centre.

Nine tenders were received when tenders closed at 4.00pm on Tuesday 1 April 2014.

The evaluation of tenders has been completed by Council Officers. Having considered all of the evaluation criteria, it is recommended that Council accept the lowest tender, which is from Harper & Morphet for a total lump sum amount of \$349,570.42 excluding GST.

This amount includes the tendered lump sum of \$343,188.60, plus an additional amount of \$6,381.82 for re-laying of the sewer connection.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. That the tender received from Harper & Morphet, of 71 Railway Street, Euroa, for Contract 13/14-15 – Euroa Conference and Function Centre, for the lump sum of \$349,570.42, excluding GST, be accepted by Council**
- 2. That the associated Confidential Attachments provided to Councillors for their consideration be noted.**
- 3. That the unsuccessful tenderers be advised.**

*09/14 CRS FURLANETTO/LITTLE : That the Recommendation be adopted.*

*CARRIED*

***Due to having declared an Interest in this matter at the commencement of the meeting, Cr Williams abstained from voting.***

**Background**

Construction of the Euroa Conference and Function Centre involves works to extend and refurbish the existing George Hunter Room at the Euroa Memorial Oval

The project is a joint initiative of Strathbogie Shire Council and Regional Development Victoria, Putting Locals First Program.

5.7.3 Contract No. 13/14-15  
Euroa Conference and Function Centre (cont.)

The project budget is \$400,000 which comprises funding of \$300,000 from Regional Development Victoria, \$65,000 from Council and \$35,000 from the Memorial Oval Committee of Management.

Tenders were invited by advertising on Council's website and in the following newspapers:

- The Age
- Shepparton News
- Euroa Gazette
- Benalla Ensign
- Seymour Telegraph

By close of tenders at 4.00pm on 1 April, 2014, a total of nine tenders had been received as follows:

1. Harper & Morphet
2. BG & JK Douglas Builders
3. Crow Constructions Pty Ltd
4. Landmark Construction Group Pty Ltd
5. G & D Godson Builders Pty Ltd
6. Daniel Duna Constructions Pty Ltd
7. J.Mar Constructions Pty Ltd
8. Farley & White Constructions
9. LC & SE Walker Building Contractors

Tenders were assessed by an evaluation panel of Strathbogie Shire Council staff members comprising:

1. Mr Peterson Asante, Manager Projects and Works
2. Ms Mary Townsend, Projects and Contracts Coordinator
3. Mr Bruce Braines, Project Engineer

The principle that underlies the awarding of all Council contracts is that a contract is awarded on the basis of providing the best value for money, offering the most benefit to the community and the greatest advantage to Council.

Tenders were evaluated against the following criteria:

- Price
- Compliance with Specification
- Quality Systems
- Track Record
- Skills & Resources
- Financial Capability

Of the nine tenders, only two are within the budget of \$400,000.

5.7.3 Contract No. 13/14-15  
Euroa Conference and Function Centre (cont.)

A full tender evaluation was applied to the three lowest tenders. Significantly, each of the remaining tenders is above the budget by such an amount that their score on price alone makes them uncompetitive on a best value assessment.

For that reason, they were not further considered.

The tenders were assessed as follows:

**Tender 1 – Harper & Morphet (\$343,188.60)**

This is a conforming tender and complies with the specification.

The tender sum is within the budget of \$400,000.

The tenderer is a local company with commercial registration and is considered to have sufficient systems and skills in place to complete the contract.

Clarification on prices was sought and provided.

The tenderer has also priced additional works that their investigation has indicated will be required to re-lay the sewer connection. This additional amount of \$6,381.82 ex GST should be added to the tendered contract amount.

The evaluation rated this tender as No. 1.

It is also the lowest tender and is the preferred tender considering value for money.

**Tender 2 –**

This is a conforming tender and complies with the specification.

The tender sum is within the budget of \$400,000.

Clarification on prices was sought and provided.

The evaluation rated this tender as No. 2

**Tender 3 –**

This is a conforming tender and complies with the specification, but is above the budget.

The tenderer is experienced in this type of project and scores well in all other areas.

The evaluation rated this tender as No. 3

**The remaining six tenders are all conforming and comply with the specification, but the tender prices are all significantly over budget.**

5.7.3 Contract No. 13/14-15  
Euroa Conference and Function Centre (cont.)

**Alternative Options**

The evaluation panel providing advice in relation to this report has considered potential alternative courses of action. No feasible alternatives have been identified.

**Risk Management**

The evaluation panel considers that there are no significant Risk Management factors relating to the report and recommendation.

**Strategic Links – policy implications and relevance to Council Plan**

The author of this report considers that the report is consistent with Council Policies, key strategic documents and the Council Plan.

**Best Value / National Competition Policy (NCP / Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CCA) implications**

The author of this report considers that the report is consistent with Best Value, National Competition Policy and Competition and Consumer Act requirements.

**Financial / Budgetary Implications**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no capital or recurrent budget considerations. Upon completion of the project, the Euroa Memorial Oval Committee of Management will be responsible for the ongoing management of the facility.

The tender sum recommended for acceptance is within the available budget.

**Economic Implications**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation will enable an expansion in the use of the facility and increase economic activity for Council and within the broader community.

**Environmental / Amenity Implications**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no significant environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community.

**Community Implications**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no significant community or social implications for Council or the broader community.

**Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.”

**Legal / Statutory Implications**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no legal or statutory implications which require the consideration of Council.



5.7.3 Contract No. 13/14-15  
Euroa Conference and Function Centre (cont.)

**Consultation**

The author of this report considers that the matter under consideration did not warrant a community consultation process. Consultation regarding the design of the building and timing of the works has been undertaken with the Euroa Memorial Oval Committee of Management.

**Conclusion**

The tender evaluation indicates that the tender received from Harper & Morphet for the lump sum amount of \$343,188.60 excluding GST offers the best value for money and the most benefit to the community and to Council.

An additional amount of \$6,381.82 excluding GST for re-laying of the sewer connection is recommended to be added to the contract sum.

The contract amount will therefore be a total of \$349,570.42 excluding GST.

***THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 5.14 P.M.***

Confirmed as being a true and accurate record of the Meeting

.....  
Chair

.....  
Date