



**MEDIA RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE, 2019**

**Have your say on what meaningful community engagement means to you**

What do you think is important for Strathbogieshire Council to consider in the community engagement process to ensure it is meaningful and effective?

Council is calling on the community to provide feedback on its draft Community Engagement Strategy, which is currently out for public comment until 5pm Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Strathbogieshire Mayor Amanda McClaren said the strategy aims to improve the way Council informs and engages with the community and key stakeholders.

“We are committed to providing opportunities for more meaningful engagement to ensure our community feels informed and connected with Council’s decision-making and operations,” Mayor McClaren explained.

“The draft Community Engagement Strategy outlines Council’s commitment to engagement, objectives and how we plan to put this into action.”

Mayor McClaren encouraged the community to view the strategy and contribute their ideas and feedback on Council’s online forum [www.oursay.org/strathbogies/communityengagement](http://www.oursay.org/strathbogies/communityengagement) where they will need to create a login.

Alternatively, you can get a copy of the strategy at Customer Service in Euroa and Nagambie and hand in written feedback or email [info@strathbogies.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@strathbogies.vic.gov.au).

“What we would really like to ascertain from the community is what they define as meaningful and effective engagement and the types of things Council should be considering in the engagement process to achieve this,” Cr McClaren said.

The recent release of Council’s Community Satisfaction Survey report has revealed a significant improvement in community satisfaction ratings for Council’s performance in informing the community and conducting consultation and engagement.

“We have been pleased to see a four-point improvement in both informing the community and consultation and engagement sections in just 12 months, receiving index scores of 59 and 55 out of 100, respectively,” Cr McClaren said.

“It’s great to see these significant improvements and we want to build on this in future years, with guidance from our policy and strategy.”

-ENDS-

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