

Strathbogie Shire Council

Health and Wellbeing
Action Plan
2021-2025



Strathbogie
SHIRE COUNCIL

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we strive, the peoples of the rivers and the hills of the Strathbogie Shire region who walked these lands for generations.

We pay our respects to the elders of the past, and the speakers of the first words, who lived in harmony with this country.

We acknowledge the elders of the present, who seek to regain their culture, and to teach the elders of the future their law, their history and their language.

We pay our respects to them and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

We honour their spirit – and the memory, culture, art, and science of the world's oldest living culture through 60,000 years.

Strathbogie Shire Council Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-25

Introduction

Under the State Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (the Act), all local Victorian councils are responsible for public health and wellbeing planning on behalf of their community and the development of a Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan. For the first time, Strathbogie Shire Council (Council) has integrated the Municipal Health and Wellbeing plan into the Strathbogie Shire Council 2021-2025 Council Plan (Council Plan). The integration of health and wellbeing into the Council Plan provides a streamlined and embedded commitment to health and wellbeing in all areas of the council plan.

The Strathbogie Shire Council Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-25 (Action Plan) sets out the actions Council will undertake to protect, improve, and promote public health and wellbeing in Strathbogie Shire. It is an output of the Council Plan:

Action 5.1.9 Develop and implement an annual action plan for health and wellbeing priorities identifying partnerships that will support the delivery of the plan

The Action Plan addresses Council's obligations under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.

Health and Wellbeing Themes

The Action Plan has seven health and wellbeing themes which capture the areas of focus for Council in addressing public health and wellbeing matters in Strathbogie Shire over the next four years.

Health and wellbeing is driven by a complex interaction of individual characteristics, lifestyle and the physical, social and economic environment. There is a range of wider determinants on health and wellbeing including income, early childhood experiences, gender stereotypes, norms and expectations, education, employment, social inclusion, housing and geography, living and working conditions, quality of air, soil and water and health systems.

The Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023

This complexity requires a comprehensive approach to how we plan for and contribute improved public health and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Strathbogie Shire. The Strategic Focus Area Strong. Healthy. Safe in the Council Plan has been dedicated to community health and wellbeing.

However, health-related actions are not confined to one place; health and wellbeing is inherent in all that the Council does, so initiatives, actions and performance indicators relating to public health and wellbeing are spread across all Strategic Focus Areas of the Council Plan.

To determine Council's Health and Wellbeing themes Council considered:

- The Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023
- The Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
- The Climate Change Act 2017
- The Gender and Equality Act 2020
- Key state policies and strategies including:
 - Victorian Aboriginal and Local Government Strategy 2021-2026
 - Pride in our future: Victoria's LGBTIQ+ strategy 2022–2032 and the supporting Rainbow Ready Roadmap
 - Inclusive Victoria: state disability plan 2022–2026

- Safe and strong: A Victorian Gender Equality Strategy
 - Ageing Well in Victoria: an Action Plan for Strengthening Wellbeing for Senior Victorians 2022–2026
- Taungurung Land and Waters Council Memorandum of Understanding
- Data on health and social issues in Strathbogie Shire
- Community and stakeholder input through the Share Strathbogie platform and the Strathbogie Community Panel as per the Council Plan deliberative engagement process
- Council Strategies and Plans

Council's Health and Wellbeing Themes

1. Assist in reducing health harms from climate change and ensure responsible planning to protect the environment and facilitate sustainable development
2. Assist to reduce the harms from tobacco
3. Promote physical wellbeing
4. Promote gender equality, community safety and reducing gendered violence
5. Promote mental wellbeing
6. Respect and celebrate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and culture
7. An equitable, inclusive, engaged and connected community for people of all ages, cultures, identities and abilities

Table 1 shows how the Health and Wellbeing Themes align with the Strategic Focus Areas of the Council Plan.

Table 1: Health and Wellbeing Themes aligning with Strategic Focus Areas of the Council Plan

Health and Wellbeing Theme	Link to Council Plan Strategic Area
Assist in reducing health harms from climate change and ensure responsible planning to protect the environment and facilitate sustainable development	Strategic focus area 3: Protect. Enhance. Adapt Strategic focus area 4: Inclusive. Productive. Balanced Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe
Assist to reduce the harms from tobacco	Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe
Promote physical wellbeing	Strategic focus area 2: Live. Access. Connect Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe Strategic focus area 6: Accountable. Transparent. Responsible
Promote gender equality, community safety and reducing gendered violence	Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe Strategic focus area 6: Accountable. Transparent. Responsible
Promote mental wellbeing	Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe Strategic focus area 6: Accountable. Transparent. Responsible
Respect and celebrate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and culture	Strategic focus area 1: Engage. Create. Unite
An equitable, inclusive, engaged and connected community for people of all ages, cultures, identities and abilities	Strategic focus area 1: Engage. Create. Unite Strategic focus area 2: Live. Access. Connect

Partnerships

Strathbogie Shire Council works in partnership with many stakeholders in the health, wellbeing and the social services sector at different levels depending on the nature and scope of the initiative. Council recognises the valuable role all stakeholders have to play in improving public health and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Strathbogie Shire.

Council engages in regular networking with local organisations to ensure Council can identify projects where partnering would offer the potential for better outcomes for the community. Council partner with our community and community groups in the development and delivery of programs and initiatives supporting health and wellbeing. Council participates in regional alliances and communities of practice to strengthen health and wellbeing approaches.

Key partners include:

- Nexus
- The Bridge
- Euroa health
- Nagambie health
- Primary Care Connect
- Valley Sports
- WHGNE
- Goulburn Valley Water
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Authority

Action Plan

Theme 1: Assist in reducing health harms from climate change and ensure responsible planning to protect the environment and facilitate sustainable development

Action	Council's Role	Responsible Directorate	Partners	Budget Implications	Timeframe
1.1.1 Implement the Climate Change Action Plan for Council operations, which explores initiatives such as an urban forest strategy, micro-grids for our towns and auditing council facilities to identify opportunities to minimise their net environmental impact	Deliver	Sustainable Infrastructure	Community stakeholders Peak bodies	Within existing budgets and grant funding	2021-2025
1.1.2 Adopt an Economic Development Strategy	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	2022
1.1.3 Prepare a planning scheme amendment to include an environmentally sustainable development policy that responds to climate change and minimises adverse environmental impacts created by new development	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	2021-2025
1.1.4 Implement actions from the updated Domestic Wastewater Management Plan to support growth within existing townships and mitigate health risks from wastewater	Partner	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	2022-2025
1.1.5 Implement the Greening Euroa project which will 'green' our open spaces in towns with recycled water from the towns' wastewater treatment plant	Partner	Sustainable Infrastructure	Goulburn Valley Water, Goulburn Broken Catchment Authority, Community Stakeholders	Grant funding	2021-2025

1.1.6 Support the community in sustainable food system design and delivery through the Community Grants program and other partnerships	Deliver	Community & Planning	Community stakeholders	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
1.1.7 Create 'cool places' across the municipality that welcome people during heatwave events.	Deliver	Community & Planning Sustainable Infrastructure	Hall Committees of Management	Within existing budgets	2021
1.1.8 Monitor the compliance of Council's emergency management framework with changing legislative requirements	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	2021-2025
1.1.9 Continue to seek funding to support local businesses in adapting and responding to the Covid 19 pandemic.	Advocate	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	2022-2025
1.1.10 Continue to seek funding options for the upgrade of the Euroa Railway Precinct as part of the Euroa Structure Plan's implementation	Advocate	Community & Planning	Community	Within existing budgets	2022-2025

Related Strategies

- Climate Change Action Plan
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan

Theme 2: Assist to Reduce the Harms from Tobacco

Action	Council's Role	Responsible Directorate	Partners	Budget Implications	Timeframe
2.1.1 Explore options for the development of a local law around smoking on Council managed spaces	Advocate	Community & Planning	Community stakeholders	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
2.1.2 Monitor and facilitate compliance of the Tobacco Act 1987 and Tobacco Regulations 2017	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	2021-2025
2.1.3 Participation in the Integrated Health Promotion Project annual plans developed to address 3 key themes including Reducing Tobacco Use	Partner	Community & Planning	Primary Care Connect GV Health - Public Health Unit	Within existing budgets	2021-2025

Theme 3: Promoting Health & Wellbeing

Action	Council's Role	Responsible Directorate	Partners	Budget Implications	Timeframe
3.1.1 Review and implement the Tracks and Trails Strategy to improve connectivity and physical activity across the municipality	Deliver	Community & Planning	Community	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.2 Advocate to the State government to deliver expanded public transport options to connect the community to local services and facilities.	Advocate	Community & Planning Communications & Engagement	Dept Transport Community Stakeholders	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.3 Scope and secure funding for the development of a Cycling Strategy.	Deliver	Community & Planning	Dept Transport Community Stakeholders	Subject to grant funding	2021-2025

3.1.4 Deliver community led actions through the implementation of the Domestic Animal Management Plan, which may include further off leash dog parks	Partner	Community & Planning	Community stakeholders	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.5 Develop and implement the Playground and Open Space Strategy	Deliver	Community & Planning Sustainable Infrastructure	Community stakeholders	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.6 Implement the outcomes of the Lake Nagambie and Goulburn River waterway zoning review to maximise opportunities for safe water-based activities	Partner	Community & Planning	Marine Safety Victoria	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.7 Review and implement programs to drive increased participation at our aquatic facilities informed by the Strathbogie Community Pools Strategy 2019-29	Deliver	Community & Planning	Community stakeholders	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.8 Support a series of events and initiatives to support healthy eating practices, reduced obesity and increased physical activity	Deliver	Community & Planning	Community stakeholders Peak bodies	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.9 Participation in the Integrated Health Promotion Project annual plans developed to address 3 key themes including Healthy Eating and Active Living	Partner	Community & Planning	Primary Care Connect GV Public Health Unit	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.10 Work with Nagambie Health Care to progress the delivery of enhanced services and facilities at the Nagambie Ageing Hub	Partner	People & Governance	Nagambie Health Care	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.11 Develop and promote information to increase awareness of, and access to essential services	Deliver	Community & Planning Communications & Engagement	Community stakeholders	Within existing budgets	2021-2025

3.1.12 Promote participation and support access to the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) program in particular the key age and stages (KAS) consultations, the Enhanced MCH program and sleep and settling support	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	2021-2025
3.1.13 Plan and implement the INFANT program	Deliver	Community & Planning	Deakin University	Within existing budgets	2022-2025
3.1.14 Continue to deliver the Supported Playgroups program	Deliver	Community & Planning		Dept Families, Fairness & Housing funding	2021-2025

Related Strategies

- Strathbogie Community Pools Strategy 2019-29

Theme 4: Promoting Gender Equality, Community Safety and Reducing Gendered Violence

Action with Council Plan reference	Council's Role	Responsible Directorate	Partners	Budget Implications	Timeframe
4.1.1 Participate in 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence	Deliver	Community & Planning	DV Vic, DVRCV, MAV	Funding from DSV Vic/DVRCV	2022-2025
4.1.2 Develop and implement of a comprehensive gender equity framework through policies, training and process	Deliver	People & Governance		Within existing budgets	2021-2025
4.1.3 Utilise the gender impact assessment tool to assess the gendered impacts of Council's policies, programs and services.	Deliver	Community & Planning People & Governance		Within existing budgets	2021-2025

4.1.4 Continue to use the Family Multi Agency Risk Assessment and Management (MARAM) framework in the MCH assessment process	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	
4.1.5 Develop an animal emergency accommodation policy for vulnerable residents that is built on the foundations of the DVRCV family violence program: • Compliance Officers complete appropriate training on emerging risks including domestic violence • Develop procedures to support victims and pets	Deliver	Community & Planning	Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
4.1.6 Raise awareness of the services and resources that are available for individuals and families who may experience violence and abuse	Partner	Community & Planning	Primary Care Connect. The Orange Door	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
4.1.7 Promote and raise awareness on ageism and elder abuse through an educational campaign that challenges ideologies	Deliver	Community & Planning	Seniors Rights Victoria	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
4.1.8 Continue to advocate to Department of Transport around improving road safety and aligning speed limits with community expectations	Advocate	Sustainable Infrastructure	Community Dept Transport	Within existing budgets	2021-2025

Related Strategies

- Gender Equality Action Plan 2021-2025
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025

Theme 5: Promoting mental wellbeing

Action	Council's Role	Responsible Directorate	Partners	Budget Implications	Timeframe
5.1.1 Develop and implement a communication and engagement plan to promote the health and wellbeing benefits of volunteering	Partner	Community & Planning Communications & Engagement		Within existing budgets	2021-2025
5.1.2 Partner with the vocational training and education sector to enhance training for young people to maximise engagement in ongoing education and training.	Partner	Community & Planning	Goulburn Murray Local Learning & Employment Network Euroa Learn Local; TAFE; Euroa Secondary College	Within existing budgets & grant funding	2021-2025
5.1.3 Support the positive mental health of our community through education, awareness campaigns, distribution of resources and use of referral pathways	Partner	Community & Planning	Community organisations GVH/ PCC	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
5.1.4 Adopt a revised hardship policy and explore new rate payment options to minimise financial impacts on households.	Deliver	People & Governance		Within existing budgets	2022-2025
5.1.5 Undertake a biannual staff satisfaction survey, supported by an action plan developed by the Executive Leadership Team to address the issues raised	Deliver	People & Governance		Within existing budgets	2021-2025
5.1.6 Explore leadership training program options.	Deliver	People & Governance		Within existing budgets	2021-2025

Related Strategies

- Gender Equality Action Plan 2021-2025

Theme 6: Respect and celebrate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and culture

Action	Council's Role	Responsible Directorate	Partners	Budget Implications	Timeframe
6.1.1 Establish a joint consultative team with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council to review, monitor and provide feedback on the implementation of infrastructure projects	Partner	Community & Planning	Taungurung Land and Waters Council	Within existing budgets	2021-2023
6.1.2 Implement the Memorandum of Understanding with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council	Partner	Community & Planning	Taungurung Land and Waters Council	Within existing budgets	2021
6.1.3 Work with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council on the integration of cultural awareness into existing programs	Partner	Community & Planning	Taungurung Land and Waters Council	Within existing budgets	2021-2025
6.1.4 Celebrate and recognise Indigenous history and culture through NAIDOC Week, Reconciliation Week and other days of significance	Partner	Community & Planning	Taungurung Land and Waters Council	Within existing budgets & grants funding	2021-2025

Theme 7: An equitable, inclusive, engaged and connected community for people of all ages, cultures, identities and abilities

Action	Council's Role	Responsible Directorate	Partners	Budget Implications	Timeframe
7.1.1 Embed a Partnership Plan, outlining the approach, principles and assessment criteria, across the organisation	Deliver	Communications & Engagement		Within existing budgets	2022-2025
7.1.2 Prepare and adopt a Social Inclusion Framework/Strategy which adopts an intersectionality approach to identify the guiding principles to promote equal rights and opportunities for everyone, redressing social and economic inequalities	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budgets	2022-2025
7.1.3 Review and implement the Arts & Culture Strategy to support the community in driving diversity in activities and events	Partner	Community & Planning	Community	Within existing budgets	2022-2025
7.1.4 Ensure that upgrades of Council facilities, as identified in the capital works program, are compliant with the <i>Disability and Discrimination Act 1992</i> to improve access for people of all abilities	Deliver	Sustainable Infrastructure		Within existing budgets	2022-2025
7.1.5 Coordinate a calendar of events that celebrate and promote days of significance such as Cultural Diversity Week; Volunteers Week, Youth Week, Children's Week and Seniors Festival and International Day of People with a Disability	Partner	Community & Planning	Community stakeholders, peak bodies	Within existing budgets & grant funding	2022-2025
7.1.6 Coordinate and host accessible events and training opportunities for young people that are safe, fully supervised, drug, alcohol and smoke-free	Partner	Community & Planning	North East Pride Collective. Euroa Secondary College.	Within existing budgets	2021-2025

			GO Tafe. GMLLEN Benalla Council.	& grant funding	
7.1.7 Give young people the opportunity to organise local activities; advocate for youth-focused needs to Council and their communities; learn leadership skills; and connect with other young people in their communities.	Partner	Community & Planning	Young community members	Within existing budgets & grant funding	2021-2025
7.1.8 Support learner drivers aged under 21 years to gain the driving experience required to apply for a probationary licence through the VicRoads L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program	Partner	Community & Planning	Vic Roads Berry Street	Vic Roads funding	2021-2025
7.1.9 Provide a safe place for young people to attend a diverse range of programs and activities or to access support services and information.	Deliver	Community & Planning	GO Tafe. Goulburn Murray Local Learning & Employment Network	Within existing budgets & grant funding	2021-2025
7.1.10 Provide funding opportunities for events that promote and contribute to health and wellbeing through Council's event sponsorship	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budget	2021-2025
7.1.11 Provide funding to community groups that promote and contribute to health and wellbeing through Council's Community Grants program	Deliver	Community & Planning		Within existing budget	2021-2025

Related Strategies

- Arts and Culture Strategy 2019-2023

Reporting

This action plan will be monitored, reported, and reviewed annually as part of the Council's integrated planning and performance reporting process.