



## CONSIDERATION OF PRINCIPLES OUTLINED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020

Principle	Comment
<b>Governance and Strategic Principles (section 9)</b>	
Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law	The declaration of a Special Rate and Charge Scheme is done in accordance with the Local Government Act.
Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations	This policy will help Council to achieve best outcomes for our municipality by ensuring that properties that are deriving a special benefit from new infrastructure are contributing to the cost.
The economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted	This policy will ensure that the Special Rate and Charge Scheme achieves efficient and effective use of Council resources.
The municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making	This policy has a strong emphasis on engagement with the community and initiatives can be led by the community.
Innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued	This policy will implement the special charge scheme process in an effective manner that is fair for all.
Collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought	Where possible we will collaborate with other councils.

Principle	Comment
<b>Governance and Strategic Principles (section 9)</b>	
The ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured	This policy will implement the special charge scheme process in an effective manner that is fair for all.
Regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making	This policy has considered relevant policies in relation to special charge schemes.
The transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured	This policy will be placed on Councils website to ensure transparency for our community. This policy will also be considered at an open Council meeting before being adopted.
<b>Community Engagement Principles (section 56)</b>	
A community engagement process must have a clearly defined objective and scope	This policy has a clearly outlined community engagement process.
Participants in community engagement must have access to objective, relevant and timely information to inform their participation	This policy has a clearly outlined community engagement process.
Participants in community engagement must be representative of the persons and groups affected by the matter that is the subject of the community engagement	This policy has a clearly outlined community engagement process.
Participants in community engagement are entitled to reasonable support to enable meaningful and informed engagement;	This policy has a clearly outlined community engagement process.
Participants in community engagement are informed of the ways in which the community engagement process will influence Council decision making	This policy has a clearly outlined community engagement process.
<b>Public Transparency Principles (section 58)</b>	
Council decision making processes must be transparent except when the Council is dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act	This policy will be placed on Councils website to ensure transparency for our community. This policy will also be considered at an open Council meeting before being adopted.
Council information must be publicly available unless— (i) the information is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act; or (ii) public availability of the information would be contrary to the public interest	This policy will be placed on Councils website to ensure transparency for our community. This policy will also be considered at an open Council meeting before being adopted.

Principle	Comment
<b>Public Transparency Principles (section 58)</b>	
Council information must be understandable and accessible to members of the municipal community	This policy will be placed on Councils website to ensure transparency for our community. This policy will also be considered at an open Council meeting before being adopted.
Public awareness of the availability of Council information must be facilitated	This policy will be placed on Councils website to ensure transparency for our community. This policy will also be considered at an open Council meeting before being adopted.
<b>Strategic Planning Principles (section 89)</b>	
A Council must undertake the preparation of its Council Plan and other strategic plans in accordance with the strategic planning principles	This policy will promote transparency, accountability and consistency in Council decision making.
An integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted	This policy will promote transparency, accountability and consistency in Council decision making.
Strategic planning must address the Community Vision	This policy will promote transparency, accountability and consistency in Council decision making.
Strategic planning must take into account the resources needed for effective implementation	This policy will guide the efficient and effective use of Council resources.
Strategic planning must identify and address the risks to effective implementation	This policy will promote transparency, accountability and consistency in Council decision making.
Strategic planning must provide for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular reviews to identify and address changing circumstances.	This policy will promote transparency, accountability and consistency in Council decision making.
<b>Financial Management Principles (section 101)</b>	
revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments and financial transactions must be managed in accordance with a Council's financial policies and strategic plans	This policy will guide the financial contribution of Council to any special charge schemes and will implement a special charge scheme process in an effective manner that is fair to all.
<p>Financial risks must be monitored and managed prudently having regard to economic circumstances</p> <p>For the purposes of the financial management principles, financial risk includes any risk relating to the following—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the financial viability of the Council</li> <li>(b) the management of current and future liabilities of the Council</li> </ul>	This policy will guide the financial contribution of Council to any special charge schemes and will implement a special charge scheme process in an effective manner that is fair to all.

(c) the beneficial enterprises of the Council	
<b>Principle</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>Financial Management Principles (section 101)</b>	
Financial policies and strategic plans, including the Revenue and Rating Plan, must seek to provide stability and predictability in the financial impact on the municipal community	This policy will guide the financial contribution of Council to any special charge schemes and will implement a special charge scheme process in an effective manner that is fair to all.
Accounts and records that explain the financial operations and financial position of the Council must be kept	This policy will guide the financial contribution of Council to any special charge schemes and will implement a special charge scheme process in an effective manner that is fair to all.
<b>Service Performance Principles (section 106)</b>	
Services should be provided in an equitable manner and be responsive to the diverse needs of the municipal community	This policy allows for properties that derive a special benefit from infrastructure to pay for this. It ensures that infrastructure is provided in an equitable manner to all residents.
Services should be accessible to the members of the municipal community for whom the services are intended	This policy allows for properties that derive a special benefit from infrastructure to pay for this. It ensures that infrastructure is provided in an equitable manner to all residents.
Quality and costs standards for services set by the Council should provide good value to the municipal community	This policy allows for properties that derive a special benefit from infrastructure to pay for this. It ensures that infrastructure is provided in an equitable manner to all residents.
A Council should seek to continuously improve service delivery to the municipal community in response to performance monitoring	This policy allows for properties that derive a special benefit from infrastructure to pay for this. It ensures that infrastructure is provided in an equitable manner to all residents.
Service delivery must include a fair and effective process for considering and responding to complaints about service provision	This policy has a strong focus on community participation and consultation .

## CONSIDERATION OF CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006 IMPACTS

Council can limit human rights when those limitations can be justified. This means that Council can continue to make decisions on behalf of the community about how best to balance rights, ensure community safety, and use limited funding for competing public interest challenges.

Are there any human rights implications arising from this policy or directive in relation to the 20 substantive rights? Note: some rights have been excluded that do not apply to local government (eg deprivation of liberty)	Analysis
Recognition and equality before the law (section 8)	Not applicable
Right to life (section 9)	Not applicable
Protection from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (section 10)	Not applicable
Freedom from forced work (section 11)	Not applicable
Freedom of movement (section 12)	Not applicable
Privacy and reputation (section 13)	Not applicable
Freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief (section 14)	Not applicable
Freedom of expression (section 15)	Not applicable
Peaceful assembly and freedom of association (section 16)	Not applicable
Protection of families and children (section 17)	Not applicable
Right to take part in public life (section 18)	Not applicable
Cultural rights (section 19)	Not applicable
Property rights (section 20)	Not applicable
Liberty and security of person (section 21)	Not applicable
Fair hearing (section 24)	Not applicable
Rights in criminal proceedings (section 25)	Not applicable
Overall, does the policy, local law or decision raise human rights issues?	Not applicable
Are there any human rights implications arising from this policy or directive in relation to the 20 substantive rights? Note: some rights	Analysis

have been excluded that do not apply to local government (eg deprivation of liberty)	
<p>Overall, does the policy, local law or directive restrict or interfere with the scope of the human right/s identified?</p> <p>If yes, are the limitations or restrictions reasonably and demonstrably justified under Section 7 of the Human Rights Charter?</p>	No
<p>Are there any less restrictive means reasonably available to achieve the purpose that the limitation seeks to achieve?</p>	No

## GENDER EQUITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Gender impact assessments (GIAs) are designed to help organisations think critically about how policies, programs and services will meet the different needs of women, men and gender diverse people. The purpose GIAs is to create better and fairer outcomes, and make sure all people have equal access to opportunities and resources.

Your gender can affect your needs and experiences. This means that policies, programs and services can affect people of different genders in different ways. If we don't think about how their work affects different people, they might unintentionally reinforce inequalities.

A gender impact assessment must:

- assess the effects that the policy, program or service may have on people of different genders
- explain how the policy, program or service will be changed to better support Victorians of all genders and promote gender equality
- where practical, apply an intersectional approach to consider how gender inequality can be compounded by disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience on the basis of other factors such as age, disability or ethnicity.

Step 1 – Defining the issues and challenge your assumptions	
What is the issue the policy or directive is aiming to address (think about why it is needed)?	This policy is addressing the need to levy a special charge to fund infrastructure in our municipality.
Are the people who are targeted and impacted by the policy or directive included in the decision-making?	This policy has a strong focus on community engagement and participation.
Do you think that people of different genders access this policy or directive at the same rate?	This policy will impact on all rate payers included equally.
Do the different social roles and responsibilities that people take on affect the way people access and use this policy or directive?	This policy will impact on all rate payers equally.
Do you think that everyone who accesses this policy or directive has the same needs from it?	This policy will fund infrastructure that is required by our community.
Do the different social roles and responsibilities that people take on affect the way people access and use this policy or directive?	This policy will impact on all ratepayers equally.
What additional needs might there be for people with disabilities, or from different cultural identities, ages, gender identities, sexual orientations or religions?	Additional explanations regarding the special charge scheme may be required.

Step 2 – Understanding the policy context	
What information is available to understand who is likely to be affected by the policy or directive?	Rate payers that derive a special benefit from the new infrastructure will be affected by this policy
Do you already have this information?	Yes No
How will you find the further information you need? Think about internal data, research, consultation.	
What did the research and evidence tell you? List key points and references/evidence	
Have you consulted with affected stakeholders on this aspect? State if it was formal or informal consultation. What were the key issues/outcomes/views?	
What information is available to understand the lived experiences of the diverse groups who will be affected?	This policy will impact on rate payers equally. Rate payers that are likely to be impacted by a special charge scheme will be consulted with directly.
Do you already have this information?	Yes No
How will you find the further information you need? Think about internal data, research, consultation.	
What did the research and evidence tell you? List key points and references/evidence	
Have you consulted with affected stakeholders on this aspect? State if it was formal or informal consultation. What were the key issues/outcomes/views?	
How is this policy or directive likely to have different impacts for different people?	This policy will impact all ratepayer equally.
Do you already have this information?	Yes No
How will you find the further information you need? Think about internal data, research, consultation.	
What did the research and evidence tell you? List key points and references/evidence	



<p>Have you consulted with affected stakeholders on this aspect? State if it was formal or informal consultation. What were the key issues/outcomes/views?</p>	
<b>Step 3 – Options analysis</b>	
<p>What are the policy options? For each option describe the proposed policy solution. Provide a brief description of the proposed strategies, activities or service design elements and how they will meet the needs and create benefit for the target audience.</p>	<p>If this policy is not adopted by Council then Council will not have a mechanism to levy a special charge to pay for infrastructure needs in our community.</p>
<p>What are the potential policy options and what gendered impact might they have?</p>	<p>This policy will impact on all rate payers equally.</p>
<p>What are the gendered costs and risks?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who is likely to be negatively impacted by this? How are the most vulnerable groups likely to be impacted?</li> <li>• Will this reduce a certain group's access to economic resources or opportunities? If so, are they already disadvantaged?</li> <li>• Does it reinforce harmful gender stereotypes, for example, further promoting men in a male dominated industry?</li> </ul>	<p>Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. The policy has a strong commitment to community engagement and consultation.</p>
<p>What are the gendered benefits?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will some people benefit more because they have greater access, or does this policy, program or service do everything it can to ensure resources are distributed and used equally?</li> <li>• Will it contribute to transforming gender norms in a positive way? Eg will it contribute to a more balanced distribution of unpaid care labour and family responsibilities between women and men?</li> <li>• Will it make women and children safer in public or private spaces?</li> </ul>	<p>This policy will impact on all ratepayers equally with no gendered benefits.</p>
<p>Will some people benefit more because they have greater access, or does this policy, program or service do everything it can to make sure resources are distributed and used equally?</p>	<p>This policy will impact on all rate payers equally.</p>
<p>Will it contribute to transforming gender norms in a positive way?</p>	<p>This policy will impact on all rate payers equally.</p>
<p>Does your policy, program or service potentially have negative unintended consequences for certain groups of people?</p>	<p>This policy will impact on all rate payers equally.</p>

Overall, do the benefits outweigh the costs or vice versa?	
<b>Step 4 Recommendations</b>	
Provide the rationale for the proposed recommendation and include any mitigation strategies that could be used to avoid any harmful unintended outcome.	This policy will impact on all rate payers equally.
<p>Include here the rationale for your recommendation as well as any mitigation strategies needed. In line with the Gender Equality Act, explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how your recommendation meets the needs of persons of different genders</li> <li>• how it addresses gender inequality</li> <li>• how it promotes gender equality.</li> </ul>	This policy will impact on all rate payers equally.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION/MITIGATION AND SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

The Local Government Act 2020 requires council to consider climate change mitigation and adaptation measures in all its key decision making, which includes policy development.

Council is also in the process of finalising a Climate Change Action Plan after declaring a Climate Emergency in 2021.

The Victorian Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017-2020 sets out Council's responsibilities under the Act [Victorias-Climate-Change-Adaptation-Plan-2017-2020.pdf \(climatechange.vic.gov.au\)](#). The following factors should inform your analysis statement:

- Provide leadership and good governance, represent the needs and values of local communities, and foster community cohesion
- Manage climate change risks to council community services and assets, with support from the State Government
- Identify the needs and priorities of the municipality and communicate these to State Government where needed
- Develop and deliver locally-appropriate adaptation responses
- Build the resilience of local assets and services
- Plan for emergency management at the municipal level, provide relief and recovery services, and support emergency response operations
- Help the State Government understand localised impacts and responses
- Work with the community to help people understand and get involved in climate change adaptation
- Help connect the State Government with the community.

**Sustainable Strathbogie 2030 Strategy (to be updated to the Climate Change Action Plan once adopted)**

Chapter 6 Climate Resilient Shire	Comment
Increasing heat	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Changing rainfall patterns, drought conditions, and extreme meteorological conditions	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Increased bushfire conditions and declining volunteer numbers	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Increased social impacts	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Chapter 7 A low carbon shire	Comment
Net Zero by 2025	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Energy Efficiency	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Energy Storage	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Renewable Energy	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Community Renewable Energy	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Chapter 8 A water sensitive shire	Comment

Conserving valuable potable water	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Stormwater management	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Adaptive and recycled water resources	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Keeping our shire green, cool and resilient	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
<b>Chapter 9 A zero waste shire</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Environmental impacts of landfill	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Limited landfill capacity	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Increased illegal dumping	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Economic benefits from resource recovery	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
<b>Chapter 10 An ecologically rich shire</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Deforestation	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Rural green infrastructure	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.

Increasing our urban canopy	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Rural roadsides	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Rivers & Wetlands	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Benefitting from our native forests	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
<b>Chapter 11 An active and connected shire</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Security of fuel supply	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Transition to new fuel economy	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.
Enabling access to the outdoors	Ratepayers that derive a special benefit from new infrastructure will be impacted by this policy. It can be used to fund drainage, foot paths, car parks or roads.