

27 July 2023

Kristy Hourigan | Resignation Statement

It is with mixed emotions that I have resigned from my role as a Councillor at Strathbogrie Shire Council in the Seven Creeks Ward.

It has truly been a privilege to serve the community and contribute to its growth and development.

I am proud of the work we have achieved in the past three years. We now have:

- A new (and impressive) footbridge across the Seven Creeks
- One (soon to be two) pedestrian crossings in Binney St, Euroa and upgraded streetscapes
- A splash park in Nagambie
- A new website
- A 2021/25 Council Plan and Community Vision developed with community at the heart
- Delivered capital works in the tens of millions that included:
 - Toilet upgrades at the Friendlies
 - Sewer at the Euroa Tennis Club
 - Pathway upgrades at the Euroa Farmers Arms Museum
 - Footpath Upgrades
 - Truck wash for Euroa Saleyards

On top of this we have changed the way we engage with the community to ensure that their input is welcomed and heard. In 2021/22 alone we engaged on 51 projects and received 4215 community contributions.

It was important for me to make sure the community was always informed, and they were able to openly express their opinions in all decisions I was making.

I have worked hard to represent the best interests of our community and to advocate for positive change.

I publicly called and held the state government to account over the lack of flood recovery funding during a time that we were all suffering.

I have faced many challenges.

Being a Councillor can be a thankless task – both inside and outside the chamber – and more recently the in-house political bureaucracy has taken its toll.

We need to work together. To support each other through the wins and the disagreements.

We are a small rural shire with many challenges – this isn't a secret – but we need to work together, to respect each other, to ensure we continue to thrive.

I hope Council can create a respectful and inclusive environment where all voices are heard, and concerns are addressed constructively. We cannot continue to feel the gender bias that sadly still exists.

In my resignation, I would like to say thank you to the community and my fellow (former) Councillors, CEO, and Council staff.

I am committed to continuing to be strong advocate for our region and our community.

For further information:

Kristin Favaloro
E: Kristin.favaloro@strathbogie.vic.gov.au
P: 0438 670 762