

# Strathbogie Shire Council

## 2023-24 Council Plan

### Action Update

The Strathbogie Shire is a region of natural beauty with vibrant communities who are respectful, optimistic and inclusive.

We have a strong sense of belonging and of our collective history. We care deeply for Country and First Nations people.

We are bold. We embrace opportunities. We welcome you.

#### 2023-24 Annual Review – June 2024

1	Engage. Create. Unite	Complete	Comments
1.1.1	Work in partnership with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council to implement the MoU.	Ongoing	Work is ongoing with TLaWC to implement the MOU  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
1.1.2	Continue to meet with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council to review, monitor and provide feedback on the implementation of infrastructure projects in line with the Land Use Activity Agreement	Ongoing	Meetings continue to be held with Taungurung Land and Waters Council regarding the requirements of the Land Use Activity Agreement.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
1.1.3	Embed a Partnership Plan, outlining the approach, principles and assessment criteria, across the organisation.	0%	Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in March 2025.
1.1.4	Prepare and adopt a Social Inclusion Strategy which adopts an intersectionality approach to identify the guiding principles to promote equal rights and opportunities for everyone, redressing social and economic inequalities.	20%	A project team has been established and commenced work in Q1 2024.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in March 2025.
1.1.5	Complete the review and implement the Arts and Culture Strategy to support the community in driving diversity in activities and events.	50%	A review is currently underway.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in February 2025.
2	Live. Access. Connect	Complete	Comments
2.1.1	Implement the Asset Plan to guide future investment in buildings, plant and infrastructure through the Ten Year Capital Budget.	Ongoing	Strategic Asset Plan adopted. Yearly programs and budgets, based on the Asset Plan. The Asset Plan will be reviewed in 2025 as part of the incoming Council's obligations under the

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			Local Government Act 2020 to develop and maintain an Asset Plan.
2.1.2	Lobby State and Federal governments to fund improved digital and telecommunications infrastructure.	Ongoing	Council led NBNCO community engagement sessions held across shire. New mobile towers erected Boho, Euroa, Kirwans Bridge, Locksley, Mangalore, Nagambie, Tabilk and Violet Town.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
2.1.3	Work with community groups to expand community bus services.	100%	Audit of transport services completed for each townships and gaps identified. Community Development officer continues to work with community to assess appetite to expand, and advocate on their behalf.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for continued delivery in June 2025.
2.1.4	Report to Council the findings of the feasibility study for the development of a mountain bike track at Balmattum Hill.	100%	Action Complete. A report will go to Council in August 2024.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in August 2024.
2.1.5	Review and implement the Tracks and Trails Strategy to improve connectivity and physical activity across the municipality.	50%	A review is underway.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in December 2024.
2.1.6	Scope and secure funding for the development of a Cycling Strategy.	75%	Funding secured for an Active and Connected Cycling and Walking Strategy. Community engagement is underway.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in September 2024
2.1.7	To clarify land arrangements with VicTrack for the car park precinct (Saleyard Road and Bank Street, Avenel) including a funding commitment to upgrade this area	10%	A background document has been developed.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
2.1.8	Work collaboratively with the Department of Transport and Planning to address the community's safety (Saleyard Road and Bank Street, Avenel) concerns in a coordinated manner	10%	Continue to look for opportunities to advocate.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
2.1.9	Advocate to the State and Federal Governments for a funding commitment to deliver a solution for Kirwans Bridge that extends the bridge life by more than 50 years	Ongoing	Advocacy efforts are ongoing to both Federal and State Governments.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.

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2.1.10	Advocate to the State Government regarding a solution to Chinamans Bridge and urgent funding to implement the solution.	Ongoing	<p>Working with Heritage Victoria and Consultants Extent Heritage appointed to identify costs and recommend a solution to Heritage Victoria as directed by Council at the June 2024 Council meeting.</p> <p>Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
3	Protect. Enhance. Adapt	Complete	Comments
3.1.1	Develop and implement a Climate Change Action Plan.	100%	The Climate Change Action Plan 2022-27 was adopted in August 2022. All year two actions complete. Year 3 actions due to be undertaken in 2024.
3.1.2	Integrate Naturally Cooler Towns into day-to-day operations in partnership with Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance.	100%	<p>Council adopted recommended tree planting lists from the Naturally Cooler Towns Project. GMCA is in the process of convening a Regional Arborist Network.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
3.1.3	Complete Violet Town landfill rehabilitation project.	100%	<p>Onsite works have been completed and Council is awaiting formal sign off from the EPA.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
3.1.4	Involve the community in tree planting projects across Shire.	100%	This year's actions complete. 350 trees were planted in June 2024. Additional plantings and maintenance will continue in 2025.
3.1.5	Advocate to Federal and State governments for investment in reliable power supply infrastructure, focus on renewable energy.	Ongoing	<p>Advocacy ongoing.</p> <p>Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
3.1.6	Deliver the Gender Equitable Access and Use Policy (in line with State Government requirement) / Fair Access Policy	100%	Fair Access policy adopted by Council 16 April 2024.
3.1.7	Continue to support community recovery from the October 2022 Flood Event	Ongoing	<p>Community recovery is underway in partnership with Mitchell Shire Council to deliver services.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and year one actions due for delivery in June 2025.</p>



4	Inclusive. Balanced. Safe	Complete	Comments
4.1.1	Implement year two actions of the Economic Development Strategy.	100%	<p>The Strathbogie Shire Council Economic Development Strategy was adopted by Council in June 2023 and Year one actions complete.</p> <p>Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and year two actions due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
4.1.2	Implement the recommendations of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme review.	100%	<p>Underway. A review of Rural Land Use and Rural Residential Strategies and Urban Growth Strategy has commenced. Reported presented to July 2024 Council meeting to endorse engagement approach.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
4.1.3	Continue to advocate for the development of the Mangalore Airport as a freight intermodal and transport/ industrial hub.	On Hold	<p>Awaiting advice and direction from Mangalore site owners.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
4.1.4	Undertake the development of the Euroa Railway Precinct Master Plan	50%	<p>\$100K in Victorian Government funding received and procurement process complete and consultant appointed.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in December 2024.</p>
4.1.5	Continue to advocate to the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) for a community led outcome for the redesign of railway infrastructure in Euroa.	100%	<p>Successfully lobbied ARTC to explore two options. ARTC now progressing community led option.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
4.1.6	Finalise and adopt the Avenel 2030 Strategy to guide future development and growth while maintaining local character.	95%	<p>Avenel 2030 Strategy and public consultation complete. Completion dependent on public consultation relating to the Rural Residential and Land Use Strategy and Urban Growth Strategy which is underway.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
4.1.7	Upgrade systems to support online and automated processes for approvals and permits through the Collaborative Digital Transformation Project in partnership with Benalla, Murrindindi and Mansfield Councils	50%	<p>The Collaborative Digital Transformation Project is well underway.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>

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4.1.8	Adoption of the updated Rural Land Use and Rural Residential Strategies	50%	Underway. A review of Rural Land Use and Rural Residential Strategies and Urban Growth Strategy has commenced. Reported presented to July 2024 Council meeting to endorse engagement approach.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
4.1.9	Adoption of the Urban Growth Strategy	50%	The Urban Growth Strategy consultation process is underway.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
5	Strong. Healthy. Safe	Complete	Comments
5.1.1	Prepare a Play and Open Space Strategy	95%	Council endorsed the release of the Play and Open Space Strategy 2024-2034 for community consultation and feedback commencing 19 June 2024. A full report to be received by Council in August 2024.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in August 2024.
5.1.2	Continue to deliver a series of events and initiatives to support healthy eating practices, reduced obesity and increased physical activity.	100%	Ongoing and 2024 actions complete.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
5.1.3	Implement outcomes of Lake Nagambie and Goulburn River waterway zoning review to maximise opportunities for safe water-based activities.	100%	Review complete. Report sent to Marine Safety Victoria for review and approval.
5.1.4	Complete annual audit of tobacco sales, prosecuting businesses who sell tobacco to people under 18 years.	100%	Annual audit undertaken in May 2024.
5.1.5	Continue to deliver a range of Youth Leadership Events and Activities across the municipality.	100%	A full calendar of events was delivered January -June 2024.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.

<b>5.1.6</b>	Review and implement the Public Open Space Contributions Policy.	<b>25%</b>	Pre-planning commenced. To be completed once Public Open Space Strategy is endorsed.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
<b>5.1.7</b>	Promote participation in MCH programs for 0-4 year olds.	<b>100%</b>	Continue to promote via social media platforms and follow up parents on missed appointments.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
<b>5.1.8</b>	Implement an annual action plan for health and wellbeing priorities identifying partnerships to support delivery of the plan.	<b>100%</b>	Completed and ongoing. An annual review has been completed and a new Health and Wellbeing Plan will be developed in 2025 in line with the election of a new Council and the requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> to develop a new Council Plan.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
<b>5.1.9</b>	Participate in 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence — deliver local initiatives throughout the municipality.	<b>100%</b>	Completed and planning underway for 2024 event.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
<b>5.1.10</b>	Educate and raise awareness on ageism and elder abuse through an educational campaign that challenges ideologies.	<b>100%</b>	Communication and education plan was completed to raise awareness of World Elder Abuse Awareness day in June 2024.
<b>5.1.11</b>	Review and implement programs to drive increased participation at our aquatic facilities informed by the Strathbogie Community Pools Strategy 2019-2029	<b>100%</b>	Ongoing. Foster partnership with Friends of the Pool to implement new initiatives.  Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
<b>5.1.12</b>	Deliver community led actions through the implementation of the Domestic Animal Management Plan, which may include further off leash dog parks.	<b>50%</b>	Year one and two actions delivered. Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.
<b>5.1.13</b>	Develop and implement a communication and engagement plan to promote the health and wellbeing benefits of volunteering	<b>95%</b>	Draft Volunteer Policy developed and due to go to Council in August 2024.  Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in December 2024.

5.1.14	Continue to monitor the compliance of Council's emergency management framework with changing legislative requirements	100%	<p>The 2023-26 Municipal Emergency Management Plan was adopted in May 2023.</p> <p>Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
6	Accountable. Transparent. Responsible	Complete	Comment
6.1.1	Implement the Workforce Plan 2021-25.	50%	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
6.1.2	Implement the Gender Equity Action Plan 2021-25, along with celebrating the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia	50%	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
6.1.3	Develop and implement a performance reporting system to track delivery of Council Plan and performance indicators.	100%	Tracking document developed and in use.
6.1.4	Develop and implement an Information Technology Strategy to ensure fully integrated systems to maximise efficiency.	Deferred	<p>The strategy is dependent on the finalisation of the Digital Transformation Strategy(Project CODI). The project is well progressed with some business areas ready to implement new systems.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025</p>
6.1.5	Support the Audit and Risk Committee in completing its work plan.	100%	<p>2023-24 actions complete. 2024-25 plan developed and awaiting endorsement in September 2024.</p> <p>Ongoing action included in 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025.</p>
6.1.6	Complete an audit of Council's property portfolio to identify options to maximise community benefit.	20%	<p>External valuation of land complete. Data cleansing work is underway.</p> <p>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in June 2025</p>
6.1.7	Implement the action plan in response to the 2023-24 Staff Satisfaction Survey	100%	Implementation of action plan is underway
6.1.8	Implement an ongoing good governance training program for Councillors and staff, including self-assessment elements, which is monitored by the Audit and Risk Committee	50%	To be implemented as part of Councillor Induction Program for Councillors elected in October 2024. Induction program is being developed. The <i>Local Government Amendment (Governance and Integrity) Act 2024</i> has new legislation relating to Councillor and Mayor training and development obligations.



			Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in April 2025
6.1.9	Review the Customer Service Charter to refine our service standards and responses	0%	<div>Not started.</div> <div>Realigned to 2024-25 actions and due for delivery in January 2025</div>