



West Wimmera Shire Council

AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

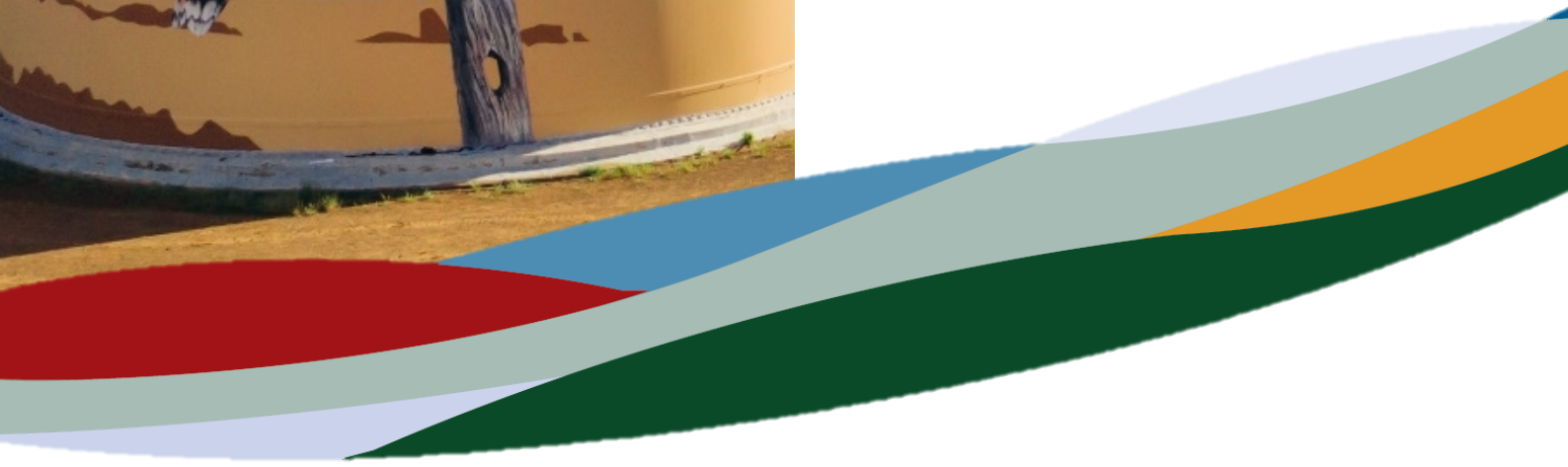
Wednesday 15 April 2026
2:00 pm

Apsley Hall
Apsley

PUBLIC ACCESS

Open to the public and Live streaming from
Council's website:

www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au





Councillors and Shire Map



MAYOR
Cr. Tim Meyer



**DEPUTY
MAYOR**
Cr. Helen Hobbs



**Cr. Richard
Hicks**



Cr. Jodie Pretlove



Cr. Tom Houlihan





COUNCIL VISION

In 2041 West Wimmera is a great place to live, work, and play. We are growing and we are known for our natural environment, resilience and sense of community. We are proud of our heritage and are building new economic capacity based on innovation and tourism, which is creating local employment. Our towns are vibrant and welcoming, offering the services and facilities that meet the needs of our community and visitors. We are a confident community and will empower everyone to be part of our future.

OUR VALUES

INNOVATIVE – We will proactively respond to change, are optimistic about our future and pursue continuous improvement in everything that we do.

ACCOUNTABLE – We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency, achievement of goals and advocating for our community.

UNITED – We will do everything within our ability to encourage and form trusting relationships, to work together as one team to achieve our goals and advocate for ‘One West Wimmera’.

COLLABORATIVE – We will actively and openly consult with you and work constructively with community organisations, agencies, the business community and other levels of government to our community’s benefit.

OUR GOALS





Purpose of Council meetings

- (1) Council holds scheduled meetings and, when required, unscheduled meetings to conduct the business of Council.*
- (2) Council is committed to transparency in decision making and, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, Council and Delegated Committee meetings are open to the public and the community are able to attend.*
- (3) Meetings will only be closed to members of the public, in accordance with section 66 of the Act, if:*
 - (a) there are clear reasons for particular matters to remain confidential; or*
 - (b) a meeting is required to be closed for security reasons; or*
 - (c) it is necessary to enable the meeting to proceed in an ordinary manner.*
- (4) A meeting closed to the public for the reasons outlined in sub-rule 3(b) or 3(c) will continue to be livestreamed. In the event a livestream is not available:*
 - (a) the meeting may be adjourned; or*
 - (b) a recording of the proceedings may be available on the Council website*

The West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules set out the meeting procedure rules for this Council Meeting.

Members of the public are reminded that they are required to remain silent during this meeting, except during Section 5 Questions from the Gallery.

This Council meeting will be recorded for live streaming.

Recording of Meeting and Disclaimer

Please note every Council Meeting (other than items deemed confidential under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2020) is being recorded and streamed live on West Wimmera Shire Council's website in accordance with Council's Governance Rules. Live streaming allows everyone to watch and listen to the meeting in real time, giving you greater access to Council debate and decision making and encouraging openness and transparency. All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however, as a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded. By remaining in the public gallery, it is understood your consent is given if your image is inadvertently broadcast. Opinions expressed or statements made by individual persons during a meeting are not the opinions or statements of West Wimmera Shire Council. Council therefore accepts no liability for any defamatory remarks that are made during a meeting.



Councillors pledge

As Councillors of West Wimmera Shire Council, we solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that we will consider each item on this agenda in the best interests of the whole municipal community.



REQUIRED TO ATTEND:

Councillors:

Tim Meyer, Mayor
Helen Hobbs, Deputy Mayor
Richard Hicks
Jodie Pretlove
Tom Houlihan

Executive Leadership Team:

David Bezuidenhout - Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Dalton Burns – Director Corporate and Community Services (DCCS)
Brendan Pearce - Director Infrastructure Development and Works (DIDW)



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1 Welcome

2 Acknowledgement of Country

The West Wimmera Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays respect to their elders, past, present and emerging.

3 Opening Prayer

Almighty God, we humbly ask your blessing upon this Council. Guide and prosper our decisions to the advancement of Your Glory and the true welfare of the people of West Wimmera Shire. Amen.

4 Apologies, Leave of Absences, Declaration of Conflict of Interest

4.1 Apologies

4.2 Leave of Absence

4.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

All Councillors and Council Staff have a personal responsibility to ensure they are aware of the provisions mandated in the Local Government Act 2020 with regard to Conflict of Interest disclosures.



5 Questions from the Gallery

5.1 Written Questions on Notice

Governance Rules – Division 8 Section 53:

53.4 Questions submitted to Council can be submitted as follows:

53.4.1 In writing, stating the name and address of the person submitting the question and generally be in a form approved or permitted by Council; and

53.4.2 Placed in the receptacle designated for the purpose at the place of the meeting at least two hours prior to the Council meeting, or be lodged electronically at the prescribed email address at least two hours prior to the Council meeting.

53.5 No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting.

The Question on Notice template is available from the Edenhope and Kaniva Council Offices, and from Council's website.

Written Questions on Notice submitted to Council no later than the deadline of 5:00pm on the Monday in the previous week to the relevant Council Meeting, will be included in the agenda.

Written Questions submitted subsequent to that deadline can be lodged electronically to Katiefrost@westwimmera.vic.gov.au, no later than two hours prior to the Council Meeting.

No questions on notice were received.



5.2 Verbal Questions without Notice

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council suspend Standing Orders at XX for the purpose of receiving questions without notice from the members of the Gallery.

Time permitting, this section of the Agenda allows members of gallery to ask verbal questions of Councillors, following the removal of standing orders and when prompted by the Mayor (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.4.3)

Members of the Gallery providing verbal questions without notice at a Council Meeting must state their name, to be recorded in the minutes (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.4.4)

No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.5)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resume Standing Orders at XX.



6 Delegates Reports

Delegate Reports are for providing feedback on formal council business and are for information only

6.1 Councillor Tim Meyer (Mayor)

Date	Event
19/03/2026	CEMAC Meeting
19/03/2026	Unscheduled Confidential Council Meeting
25/03/2026	2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget Meeting
25/03/2026	Unscheduled Council Meeting
27/03/2026	VLGA Psychosocial Hazards - the Council's role as the CEO's employer workshop
01/04/2026	Councillor Forum
07/04/2026	Strategic Leadership Team Meeting
15/04/2026	Pre Council Meeting
15/04/2026	Council Meeting

6.2 Councillor Helen Hobbs (Deputy Mayor)

Date	Event
19/03/2026	CEMAC Meeting
19/03/2026	Unscheduled Confidential Council Meeting
25/03/2026	2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget Meeting
25/03/2026	Unscheduled Council Meeting
27/03/2026	VLGA Psychosocial Hazards - the Council's role as the CEO's employer workshop
01/04/2026	Councillor Forum
07/04/2026	Strategic Leadership Team Meeting
15/04/2026	Pre Council Meeting
15/04/2026	Council Meeting

6.3 Councillor Richard Hicks

Date	Event
19/03/2026	CEMAC Meeting
19/03/2026	Unscheduled Confidential Council Meeting
25/03/2026	2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget Meeting
25/03/2026	Unscheduled Council Meeting
27/03/2026	Western Highway Action Committee Meeting



27/03/2026	VLGA Psychosocial Hazards - the Council's role as the CEO's employer workshop
01/04/2026	Councillor Forum
15/04/2026	Pre Council Meeting
15/04/2026	Council Meeting

6.4 Councillor Jodie Pretlove

Date	Event
19/03/2026	CEMAC Meeting
19/03/2026	Unscheduled Confidential Council Meeting
25/03/2026	2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget Meeting
25/03/2026	Unscheduled Council Meeting
27/03/2026	VLGA Psychosocial Hazards - the Council's role as the CEO's employer workshop
01/04/2026	Councillor Forum
15/04/2026	Pre Council Meeting
15/04/2026	Council Meeting

6.5 Councillor Tom Houlihan

Date	Event
19/03/2026	CEMAC Meeting
19/03/2026	Unscheduled Confidential Council Meeting
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25/03/2026	Unscheduled Council Meeting
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01/04/2026	Councillor Forum
15/04/2026	Pre Council Meeting
15/04/2026	Council Meeting

7 Condolences

Nil



8 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

8.1 Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 18 March 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 18 March 2026 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Attachments

Nil

8.2 Unscheduled Confidential Council Meeting held on Thursday, 19 March 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Unscheduled Confidential Council Meeting held on Thursday, 19 March 2026 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Attachments

Nil

9 Business Arising From Previous Minutes

10 Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion submitted for the agenda.

11 Councillor Forum Record

11.1 Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 4 March 2026



RECOMMENDATION:

That the Record for the Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 4 March 2026 be received and noted.

11.2 Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 1 April 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Record for the Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 1 April 2026 be received and noted.

12 Deputations and Petitions

There were no Petitions or Deputations submitted for the agenda.



13 Chief Executive Officer

13.1 Public Advertisement of 2026-27 Draft Budget and Annual Plan

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Chief Financial Officer

Report Purpose: For Decision

Purpose

Under Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Council is required to prepare and adopt a budget for each year by June 30 each year. The budget is required to include certain information about the rates and charges that Council intends to levy as well as a range of other information required by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations which support the Act.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Presents the 2026-27 draft Budget, Annual Plan and Fees and Charges in accordance with Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.**
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to:**
 - a. Give public notice of the preparation of the 2026-27 draft Budget Annual Plan and Fees and Charges, in accordance with Council's community engagement policy under Section 96(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*; and**
 - b. Make the 2026-27 draft Budget, Annual Plan and Fees and Charges available for public inspection at Council's Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva, online via Council's website and broadcast on Council's social media channels in accordance with council's Community Engagement Policy.**
 - c. Make minor editorial changes if required to the Draft Annual Budget 2026-27 prior to final adoption.**
- 3. Consider public feedback before adoption of the final budget.**
- 4. Consider the 2026-27 final Budget, Annual Plan and Fees and Charges at a Council Meeting convened before 30 June 2026.**

Declaration of Interests



No officer declared an interest under the Local Government Act 2020 in the preparation of this report.

Background

In accordance with section 96(1)(b) of the Act, Council must prepare the proposed budget in line with its community engagement policy. This report seeks Council to formally advertise the proposed 2026-27 Budget and Annual Plan for a period of 21 days. The community is invited to provide feedback in relation to the annual plan or proposed budget via Council's website and at its customer service centres.

Council's Innovation Platform provides the community with the opportunity to submit ideas, proposals and suggestions. This Platform is open year-round, and all submissions are investigated for potential inclusion during budget planning.

Following the public advertisement period, Council will consider the comments and feedback received from the public. The draft budget will be presented to Council for adoption at a Council Meeting following the conclusion of the public advertisement period.

Following the adoption of the 2026-27 budget, Council will start with the development of a four year Council Plan. Extensive community consultation will take place across the shire.

Annual Plan

The Annual Plan is linked to the 2025-2029 Council Plan and sets out the activities that Council will undertake during the year. The Annual Plan works in conjunction with the Budget for the financial year 2026-27. Council may amend the Annual Plan during the year by resolution. The draft budget provides allocations and resourcing for the achievement of all initiatives outlined in the Annual Plan.

Draft Budget 2026-27

This budget reflects a responsible, considered approach to planning in a challenging financial environment, with a clear focus on sustainability, service delivery, and the effective use of available resources.

Challenges for the 2026-27 Budget included the current funding constraints affecting regional and rural councils, and uncertainty around material and services cost. An allowance has been factored into the budget to cover increased fuel prices throughout the 2026-2027 budget year.



Council remains committed to pursuing state and federal funding opportunities to supplement our investment in local infrastructure and community development.

Council's budget highlights include the following:

- Operating revenue of \$25.862m
- Operating expenditure of \$29.977m
- Capital Projects expenditure of \$8.27m
- Cash operating reserves at 30th June 2027 of \$4.494m
- Repayment of borrowings of 500k.

The 2026-27 capital works program has expanded on the previous year whilst still aligning with available funding. Council will invest more than \$8.27 million in capital projects. This progressive capital works program includes \$5.441 million (65%) for renewal upgrades of our critical infrastructure assets and \$1.124 million (14%) for upgrade to existing assets. This distribution reflects our commitment towards the community.

Council's commitment to maintaining financial discipline is reflected in every aspect of this budget. We continue to strengthen internal processes, refine project planning, and identify opportunities for alternative revenue where appropriate. The allocation of resources in this budget supports our goal of delivering services in a financially responsible and community-focused way.

Risk Management Implications

There are significant risks in not producing a relevant and accurate budget. The major of these relates to the inability of Council to efficiently allocate resources to achieve all of its goals as set out in the Council Plan. The lack of an effective budget would also prevent Council from being able to measure its performance against the Council Plan, potentially leading to an inefficient use of resources.

Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to prepare and adopt a budget for each financial year by—

(a) 30 June each year; or

(b) any other date fixed by the Minister by notice published in the Government Gazette.

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1989:

- Sections 154 – 181 – Rates and charges

Local Government Act 2020:



- Section 94 – The budget
- Section 95 – Revised budget
- Section 96 – Preparation of budget or revised budget

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020:

- Regulation 7 – The financial statements
- Regulation 8 – Other information to be included

Local Government Amendment (Fair Go Rates) Act 2015

- Capped rate increase

Valuation of Land Act 1960

- Valuation of all properties within the Shire

Environmental Implications

No environmental implications

Financial and Budgetary Implications

As detailed in this report and the draft Budget 2026-27

Policy Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2025-2029:

- *Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community*
- *Goal 2 – Diverse and Prosperous Economy*
- *Goal 3 – Sustainable Environment*
- *Goal 4 – Good Governance*
- *Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values*

Communication Implications

In accordance with section 96(1)(b) of the Act, Council will undertake community engagement on the draft 2026-27 Budget in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy. Participatory engagement is required under this Policy in relation to the preparation of the annual budget.



The draft budget 2026-27 will be publicly advertised in accordance with the Community engagement Policy for a period of 21 days.

During this time, Council encourages feedback from the community in relation to the draft budget. The draft budget will be published on Council's website and physical copies made available in Council Offices in Edenhope and Kaniva.

Gender Equality

Not Applicable

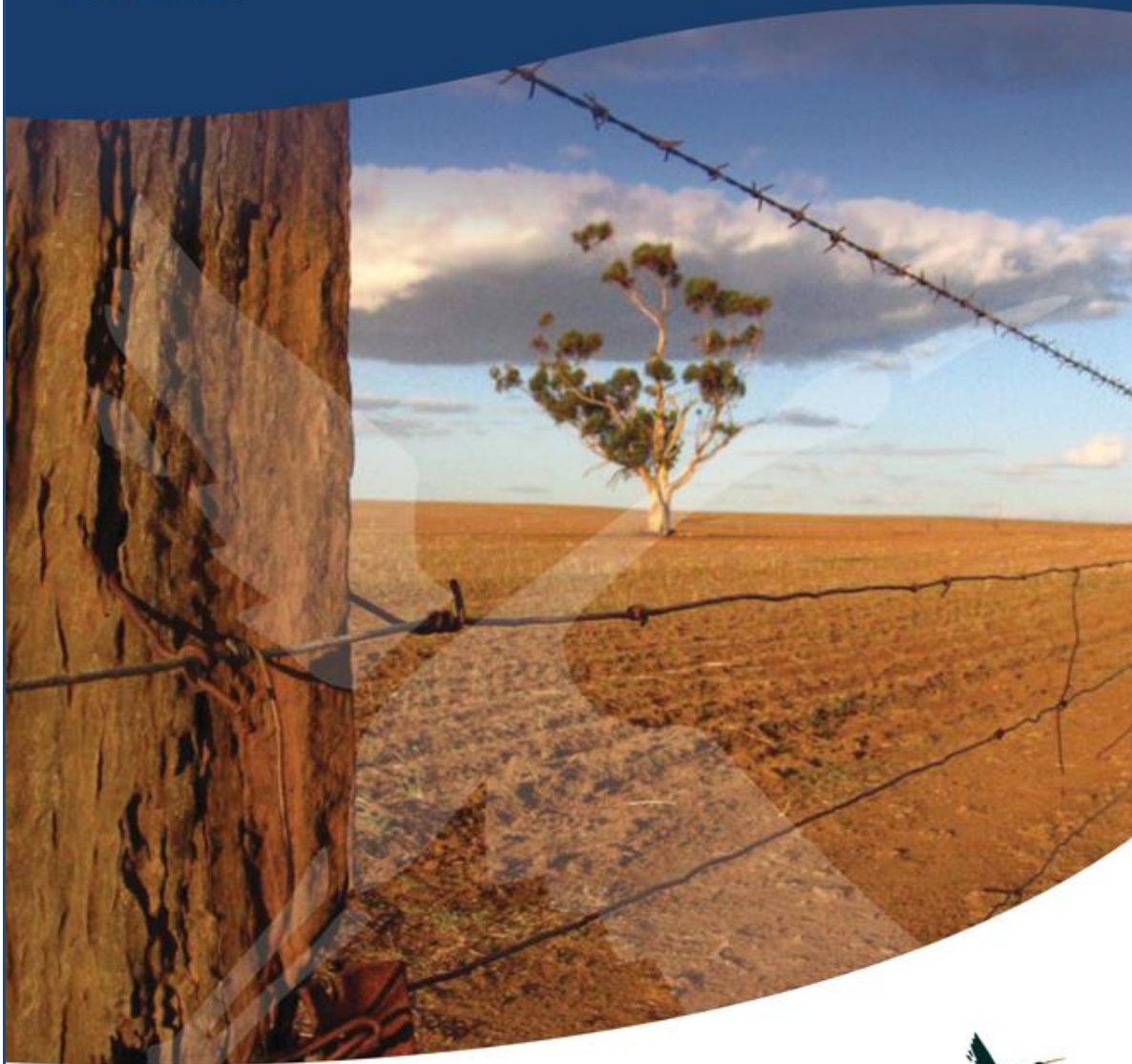
Conclusion

Council has prepared its draft Budget 2026-27 in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* and has presented the budget using the Model Budget template provided by Local Government Victoria.

Attachments

1. DRAFT BUDGET 2026-27 [**13.1.1** - 43 pages]
2. Draft Fees and Charges Report 2026 -2027 [**13.1.2** - 32 pages]
3. Annual Plan 202627 Draft April 2026 [**13.1.3** - 20 pages]

ANNUAL BUDGET 2026/27



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Mayors and CEO's Introduction

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2. Services and service performance indicators
3. Financial statements
4. Notes to the financial statements
5. Performance and financial indicators

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Mayor and CEO's Introduction

On behalf of the Councillors, we present the 2026-27 Annual Budget for West Wimmera Shire Council. This budget reflects a responsible, considered approach to planning in a challenging financial environment, with a clear focus on sustainability, service delivery, and the effective use of available resources.

The 2025-26 Budget continues to advance Council's strategic goals under the following four pillars:

1. Healthy, inviting and connected community
2. Diverse and growing economy
3. Resilient and sustainable environment
4. Operational excellence

This budget prioritises financial sustainability while continuing to invest in critical infrastructure and community assets. The 2026-27 capital works program has expanded on the previous year whilst still aligning with available funding. An allowance has been made for Council to pursue further opportunities for external funding throughout the year.

Our focus remains on maximising the efficiency of Council resources. This includes delivering more projects using Council's own staff, plant and equipment wherever practical, building internal capability, and optimising value for money.

Despite the current funding constraints affecting regional and rural councils, West Wimmera Shire Council remains committed to pursuing state and federal funding opportunities to supplement our investment in local infrastructure and community development.

The 2026-27 capital works program totals approximately \$8.27 million, with 66% allocated to the renewal of critical infrastructure and 14% to the upgrade and development of existing assets. Priority projects include improvements to roads preservation of council asset infrastructure, and community spaces.

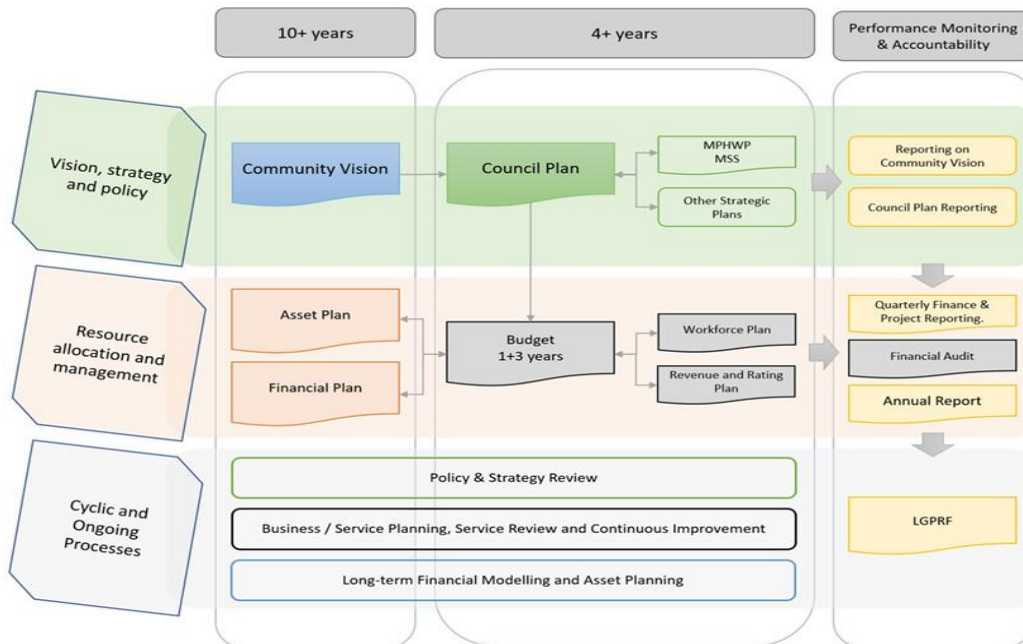
Council's commitment to maintaining financial discipline is reflected in every aspect of this budget. We continue to strengthen internal processes, refine project planning, and identify opportunities for alternative revenue where appropriate. The allocation of resources in this budget supports our goal of delivering services in a financially responsible and community-focused way.

1. Link to the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

This section describes how the Budget links to the achievement of the Community Vision and Council Plan within an overall integrated strategic planning and reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision, Financial Plan and Asset Plan), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan) and short term (Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

1.1 Legislative planning and accountability framework

The Budget is a rolling four-year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan. The diagram below depicts the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework that applies to local government in Victoria. At each stage of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input. This is important to ensure transparency and accountability to both residents and ratepayers.



Source: Department of Government Services

The timing of each component of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework is critical to the successful achievement of the planned outcomes.

1.1.2 Key planning considerations

Service level planning

Although councils have a legal obligation to provide some services— such as animal management, local roads, food safety and statutory planning—most council services are not legally mandated, including some services closely associated with councils, such as libraries, building permits and sporting facilities. Further, over time, the needs and expectations of communities can change. Therefore councils need to have robust processes for service planning and review to ensure all services continue to provide value for money and are in line with community expectations. In doing so, councils should engage with communities to determine how to prioritise resources and balance service provision against other responsibilities such as asset maintenance and capital works. Community consultation needs to be in line with a councils adopted Community Engagement Policy and Public Transparency Policy.

1.2 Our purpose

Our vision

Our West Wimmera community is healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious, prosperous, and selfsustaining, with regional and global connectivity.

Our values

Innovative - We will proactively respond to change, are optimistic about our future and pursue continuous improvement in everything that we do.

Accountable - We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency, achievement of goals, and advocating for our community.

Collaborative - We will actively and openly consult with you and work constructively with community organisations, agencies, the business community, and other levels of government to our community's benefit.

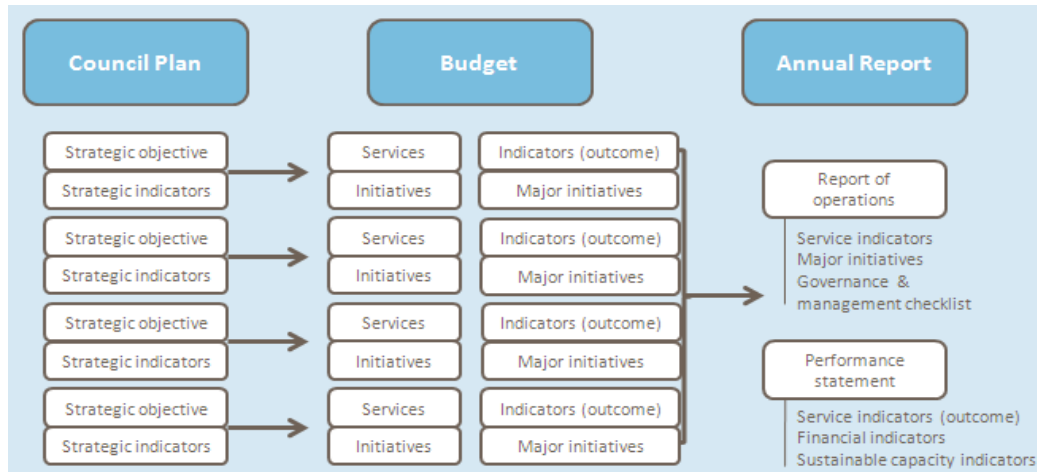
United - We will do everything within our ability to encourage and form trusting relationships, to work together as one team to achieve our goals and advocate for 'One West Wimmera'.

1.3 Strategic objectives

Strategic Objective	Description
Healthy, inviting and connected community	The health and prosperity of our community is paramount. We will work together to build strong and engaged communities where diversity, participation and healthy lifestyles are encouraged and valued. Our community will be supported, safe and inclusive. Council will work with our partners to ensure we have access to the right housing, health, education, community and recreation facilities and equitable quality services. We will seek to inspire, engage and connect with our community knowing that working collaboratively can achieve more and deliver better outcomes.
Diverse and growing economy	Our future is reliant on growing a diverse and viable economic base that attracts investment and jobs and takes advantage of our natural assets. We will embrace and develop new ideas and approaches to create a vibrant community with opportunities for all, whilst building on our strengths in agriculture and supporting our town centres. To be successful we must take the lead in retaining existing employment opportunities and in attracting new and diverse opportunities, particularly for young people and families. Physical connections in our community are vital and we will pursue sustainable improvements to our road network and advocate for broader road and public transport improvements. We will support the development of tourism and leverage the potential of our history and environment to promote our place in regional tourism.
Resilient and sustainable environment	Sustainability in West Wimmera is about making decisions now that mean we can hand the Shire to future generations in a better condition than it is in today. Our focus will be on thoughtful environmental custodianship seeking to responsibly meet our future food, energy and waste needs. Water security underpins our way of life and is essential for our future. We will consider and promote innovative and sustainable waste management options for our community. Support for the agricultural sector will include advocacy on matters of importance to the sector that enable sustainable land management. Our natural areas, lakes and wetlands are highly valued for their environmental and recreational values and we will partner with others to promote and maintain these special assets.
Operational excellence	In delivering good governance, Council has an opportunity to share with the community the challenges for future service planning and provision. Active community participation in engagement processes and transparent decision making will give insights and confidence that engagement has informed decision making. Council's leadership will focus on developing a high performing and sustainable organisation that is customer focused and delivers responsive services. The provision of timely community information and a commitment to excellence and responsible financial management are paramount. Financial sustainability will be maintained through effective use of Council's resources and assets and prudent management of risk.

2. Services and service performance indicators

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the Budget for the 2026/27 year and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan. It also describes several initiatives and service performance outcome indicators for key areas of Council's operations. Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives, initiatives and service performance outcome indicators in the Budget and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these accountability requirements in the Council Plan, the Budget and the Annual Report is shown below.



Source: Department of Government Services

2.1 Strategic Objective 1: Healthy, inviting and connected community

The health and prosperity of our community is paramount. We will work together to build strong and engaged communities where diversity, participation and healthy lifestyles are encouraged and valued.

Our community will be supported, safe and inclusive. Council will work with our partners to ensure we have access to the right housing, health, education, community and recreation facilities and equitable quality services. We will seek to inspire, engage and connect with our community knowing that working collaboratively can achieve more and deliver better outcomes.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2024/25 Actual \$'000	2025/26 Forecast \$'000	2026/27 Budget \$'000
Parks and Reserves	Maintenance of community green spaces and community reserves.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	793	701	631
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(793)	(701)	(631)
Projects and Innovation	Development and delivery of community projects.	<i>Inc</i>	2,625	1,776	100
		<i>Exp</i>	2,755	2,499	893
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(130)	(723)	(793)
Community Support and Wellbeing	Aged, maternity and early education services.	<i>Inc</i>	2,110	35	1,202
		<i>Exp</i>	2,234	1,691	1,547
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(124)	(1,656)	(345)
Aerodromes	Maintenance of shire Aerodromes	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	9	1	1
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(9)	(1)	(1)
Buildings and Property	Maintenance and preservation of shire buildings and properties inclusive of community amenities	<i>Inc</i>	-	23	23
		<i>Exp</i>	1,049	899	817
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(1,049)	(876)	(794)
Bridges and Culverts	Maintenance and preservation of shire bridges and culverts	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	72	14	14
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(72)	(14)	(14)
Assets and Engineering	Administration and design of major infrastructure	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	543	744	945
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(543)	(744)	(945)
Private Works	Provision of private road and civil works in conjunction with partners	<i>Inc</i>	30	1,230	650
		<i>Exp</i>	10	1,207	625
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	20	23	25
Roads and Footpaths	Maintenance and preservation of shire roads and footpaths	<i>Inc</i>	7,391	3,478	-
		<i>Exp</i>	5,109	1,617	3,456
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	2,282	1,861	(3,456)
Facilities and Quality	Administration relating to the use, running and contracting of council facilities for the public consumption.	<i>Inc</i>	129	188	208
		<i>Exp</i>	771	859	754
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(642)	(671)	(546)
Depot Operations	Support services in relation to works teams.	<i>Inc</i>	638	96	98
		<i>Exp</i>	3,661	1,583	62
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(3,023)	(1,487)	36

Major initiatives

- 1) Delivery Kaniva Bowling Club Upgrade & Edenhope Changerooms Upgrade
- 2) Deliver Toilet Upgrade at Edenhope Lions Park Development

Other initiatives

- 3) Maintain and facilitate access to Council facilities for community and commercial use
- 4) Continue to implement and promote our community & business grants

Service performance outcome indicators

Domain	Indicator	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Budget
Roads	Condition	100%	100%	100%
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	2.87	3.5	3
Libraries	Participation	24.02%	24.00%	24.50%

* refer to table at end of section 2.2 for information on the calculation of Service performance outcome indicators

2.2 Strategic Objective 2: Diverse and growing economy

Our future is reliant on growing a diverse and viable economic base that attracts investment and jobs and takes advantage of our natural assets. We will embrace and develop new ideas and approaches to create a vibrant community with opportunities for all, whilst building on our strengths in agriculture and supporting our town centres. To be successful we must take the lead in retaining existing employment opportunities and in attracting new and diverse opportunities, particularly for young people and families. Physical connections in our community are vital and we will pursue sustainable improvements to our road network and advocate for broader road and public transport improvements. We will support the development of tourism and leverage the potential of our history and environment to promote our place in regional tourism.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Community Development	Provision of community events, tourism, art and cultural events and facilities.	-	35	49
	<i>Inc</i>			
	<i>Exp</i>	1,330	1,120	1,305
	<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(1,330)	(1,085)	(1,256)

Major initiatives

- 1) Deliver Council 2026–27 Capital Road Works Program
- 2) Deliver Council 2026–27 Annual Road Maintenance Program

Other initiatives

- 3) Implement actions from Business-Friendly Councils Program
- 4) Progress implementation of a schedule to clean signs and replace ageing signs across the shire

2.3 Strategic Objective 3: Resilient and sustainable environment

Sustainability in West Wimmera is about making decisions now that mean we can hand the Shire to future generations in a better condition than it is in today. Our focus will be on thoughtful environmental custodianship seeking to responsibly meet our future food, energy and waste needs. Water security underpins our way of life and is essential for our future. We will consider and promote innovative and sustainable waste management options for our community. Support for the agricultural sector will include advocacy on matters of importance to the sector that enable sustainable land management. Our natural areas, lakes and wetlands are highly valued for their environmental and recreational values and we will partner with others to promote and maintain these special assets.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2024/25 Actual \$'000	2025/26 Forecast \$'000	2026/27 Budget \$'000
Emergency Management	Councils response to natural disasters and major events.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	-	20	20
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	0	(20)	(20)
Waste Management	Provision of council run transfer stations and kurb side waste collection	<i>Inc</i>	75	105	110
		<i>Exp</i>	341	1,174	1,123
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(266)	(1,069)	(1,013)
Development Services	Provision of and enforcement of local laws including, animal registration, food safety, building and planning services.	<i>Inc</i>	267	329	258
		<i>Exp</i>	1,558	1,318	1,296
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(1,291)	(989)	(1,038)

Major initiatives

- 1) Undertake roadside pest and weed control, subject to annual funding
- 2) Complete West Wimmera Planning Scheme amendments to incorporate Harrow and Chetwynd flood studies.

Other initiatives

- 3) Management of Weeds at Lake Wallace
- 4) Support the planning and coordination of emergency management activities in partnership with relevant agencies

Service performance outcome indicators

Domain	Indicator	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Budget
Food safety	Health and safety	100%	100%	100%
Animal Management	Health and safety	0	0	0
Waste management	Waste diversion	15.71%	20%	25%
Statutory planning	Service standard	87.50%	90%	90%

* refer to table at end of section 2.5 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.4 Strategic Objective 4: Operational Excellence

In delivering good governance, Council has an opportunity to share with the community the challenges for future service planning and provision. Active community participation in engagement processes and transparent decision making will give insights and confidence that engagement has informed decision making. Council's leadership will focus on developing a high performing and sustainable organisation that is customer focused and delivers responsive services. The provision of timely community information and a commitment to excellence and responsible financial management are paramount. Financial sustainability will be maintained through effective use of Council's resources and assets and prudent management of risk.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
			Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Contracts and Procurement	Administration of council contracts and procurement	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	1,644	37	177
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(1,644)	(37)	(177)
Human Resources	Provision of internal human resources services	<i>Inc</i>	50	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	858	171	335
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(808)	(171)	(335)
Occupational Health, Safety	Provision of internal OHS and risk services	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	1,428	741	779
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(1,428)	(741)	(779)
Corporate and Leadership Services	Provision of internal Finance, Rates and Leadership	<i>Inc</i>	548	482	443
		<i>Exp</i>	2,405	2,684	2,327
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(1,857)	(2,202)	(1,884)
Governance	Provision of internal governance services	<i>Inc</i>	47	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	1,399	1,699	1,881
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(1,352)	(1,699)	(1,881)

Major Initiatives

- 1) Delivery of Business Acceleration Fund - Website & Open Forms Upgrade
- 2) Delivery of Business Acceleration Fund - Digitisation of building and planning records

Other Initiatives

- 4) Maintain alliance with neighbouring councils to advocate to state and federal governments
- 5) Roll out of new Governance Rules/Council Meeting Policy as per LGV review

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
Governance	Consultation and engagement	56	57	57

* refer to table at end of section 2.5 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.5 Service Performance Outcome Indicators

All service areas are charged with the responsibility to proactively drive and live our values: Innovative, Accountable, United and Collaborative.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation
Governance	Consultation and engagement	Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement. (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council)	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement
Statutory planning	Service standard	Planning applications decided within required timeframes (percentage of regular and VicSmart planning application decisions made within legislated timeframes)	[Number of planning application decisions made within 60 days for regular permits and 10 days for VicSmart permits / Number of planning application decisions made] x100
Roads	Condition	Sealed local roads below the intervention level (percentage of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level set by Council and not requiring renewal)	[Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100
Libraries	Participation	Library membership (Percentage of the population that are registered library members)	[Number of registered library members / Population] x100
Waste management	Waste diversion	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill. (Percentage of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill)	[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	Utilisation of aquatic facilities. (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population)	Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Population
Animal Management	Health and safety	Animal management prosecutions. (Percentage of animal management prosecutions which are successful)	Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Total number of animal management prosecutions
Food safety	Health and safety	Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications. (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council)	[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about food premises] x100

2.3 Reconciliation with budgeted operating result

	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Expenditure	Income / Revenue
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Healthy, inviting and connected community	(7,464)	9,745	2,281
Diverse and growing economy	(1,256)	1,305	49
Resilient and sustainable environment	(2,071)	2,439	368
Operational Excellence	(5,056)	5,499	443
Total	(15,847)	18,988	3,141
Expenses added in:			
Depreciation	10,929		
Finance costs	60		
Surplus/(Deficit) before funding sources	(26,836)		
Funding sources added in:			
Rates and charges revenue	8,408		
Financial Assistance Grants	8,070		
Capital Revenue	5,395		
Waste charge revenue	848		
Total funding sources	22,721		
Operating surplus/(deficit) for the year	(4,115)		

3. Financial Statements

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2026/27 has been supplemented with projections to 2029/30

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Comprehensive Income Statement
Balance Sheet
Statement of Changes in Equity
Statement of Cash Flows
Statement of Capital Works
Statement of Human Resources

Comprehensive Income Statement

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		Actual 2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000
Income / Revenue						
Rates and charges	4.1.1	9,215	9,527	9,744	9,966	10,194
Statutory fees and fines	4.1.2	172	175	179	182	186
User fees	4.1.3	596	664	677	691	705
Grants - operating	4.1.4	10,619	9,245	9,430	9,618	9,811
Grants - capital	4.1.4	3,717	5,230	5,335	5,441	5,550
Contributions - monetary	4.1.5	302	65	65	65	65
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		115	100	227	227	227
Other income	4.1.6	1,269	856	856	856	856
Total income / revenue		26,005	25,862	26,512	27,047	27,594
Expenses						
Employee costs	4.1.7	10,781	11,161	11,561	11,908	12,265
Materials and services	4.1.8	8,547	7,138	7,316	7,499	7,687
Depreciation	4.1.9	8,810	10,929	8,610	8,825	9,046
Borrowing costs		80	60	34	21	8
Other expenses	4.1.12	630	689	706	724	742
Total expenses		28,848	29,977	28,228	28,978	29,747
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(2,843)	(4,115)	(1,716)	(1,931)	(2,153)
Other comprehensive income						
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods						
Net asset revaluation gain /(loss)		15,849	16,348	-	-	-
Total other comprehensive income		15,849	16,348	-	-	-
Total comprehensive result		13,006	12,233	(1,716)	(1,931)	(2,153)

Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		Actual 2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000
Assets						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		5,495	4,494	5,488	7,466	9,286
Trade and other receivables		1,525	1,597	2,258	2,310	2,357
Other financial assets		-	20	20	20	20
Inventories		135	150	150	150	150
Prepayments		-	20	20	20	20
Total current assets	4.2.1	<u>7,155</u>	<u>6,281</u>	<u>7,936</u>	<u>9,966</u>	<u>11,833</u>
Non-current assets						
Investments in associates, joint arrangement and subsidiaries		-	100	100	100	100
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment		275,711	259,802	255,842	251,667	247,416
Total non-current assets	4.2.1	<u>275,711</u>	<u>259,902</u>	<u>255,942</u>	<u>251,767</u>	<u>247,516</u>
Total assets		<u>282,866</u>	<u>266,183</u>	<u>263,878</u>	<u>261,733</u>	<u>259,349</u>
Liabilities						
Current liabilities						
Trade and other payables		1,800	2,000	1,666	1,717	1,764
Trust funds and deposits		180	577	577	577	577
Contract and other liabilities		-	900	900	900	900
Provisions		2,340	2,400	2,462	2,525	2,589
Interest-bearing liabilities	4.2.3	500	500	333	347	0
Total current liabilities	4.2.2	<u>4,820</u>	<u>6,377</u>	<u>5,937</u>	<u>6,065</u>	<u>5,831</u>
Non-current liabilities						
Provisions		396	400	404	408	413
Interest-bearing liabilities	4.2.3	1,000	500	347	-	-
Total non-current liabilities	4.2.2	<u>1,396</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>751</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>413</u>
Total liabilities		<u>6,216</u>	<u>7,277</u>	<u>6,688</u>	<u>6,473</u>	<u>6,243</u>
Net assets		<u>276,650</u>	<u>258,906</u>	<u>257,190</u>	<u>255,259</u>	<u>253,106</u>
Equity						
Accumulated surplus		30,931	(3,161)	(4,877)	(6,808)	(8,961)
Reserves		245,719	262,067	262,067	262,067	262,067
Total equity		<u>276,650</u>	<u>258,906</u>	<u>257,190</u>	<u>255,259</u>	<u>253,106</u>

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	NOTES	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2026 Forecast Actual					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		265,514	33,401	229,870	2,243
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(2,843)	(2,843)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		15,849	-	15,849	-
Transfers to other reserves		(1,870)	373	-	(2,243)
Transfers from other reserves		-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		276,650	30,931	245,719	-
2027 Budget					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		276,650	30,931	245,719	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(4,115)	(4,115)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		16,348	-	16,348	-
Transfers to other reserves	4.3.1	(29,977)	(29,977)	-	-
Transfers from other reserves	4.3.1	-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year	4.3.2	258,906	(3,161)	262,067	-
2028					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		258,906	(3,161)	262,067	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(1,716)	(1,716)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	-	-	-
Transfers from other reserves		-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		257,190	(4,877)	262,067	-
2029					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		257,190	(4,877)	262,067	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(1,931)	(1,931)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	-	-	-
Transfers from other reserves		-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		255,259	(6,808)	262,067	-
2030					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		255,259	(6,808)	262,067	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(2,153)	(2,153)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	-	-	-
Transfers from other reserves		-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		253,106	(8,961)	262,067	-

Statement of Cash Flows

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		Actual		2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
		Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities						
Rates and charges		9,215	9,468	9,533	9,946	10,176
Statutory fees and fines		172	173	192	200	204
User fees		596	657	729	759	774
Grants - operating		5,103	9,152	9,226	9,601	9,795
Grants - capital		3,487	4,035	5,219	5,431	5,541
Contributions - monetary		302	65	65	65	65
Interest received		150	175	-	-	-
Other receipts		1,126	926	926	948	948
Net GST refund / payment		932	-	978	1,084	1,116
Employee costs		(10,684)	(10,607)	(11,685)	(11,810)	(12,167)
Materials and services		(9,942)	(7,907)	(8,181)	(8,231)	(8,439)
Other payments		(730)	685	(790)	(794)	(815)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	4.4.1	(273)	6,822	6,214	7,198	7,199
Cash flows from investing activities						
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(5,042)	(7,795)	(5,115)	(5,115)	(5,275)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		250	532	250	250	250
Proceeds from sale of investments		300	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities	4.4.2	(4,492)	(7,263)	(4,865)	(4,865)	(5,025)
Cash flows from financing activities						
Finance costs		(80)	(60)	(34)	(21)	(8)
Proceeds from borrowings		-	-	-	-	-
Repayment of borrowings		(500)	(500)	(320)	(333)	(347)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	4.4.3	(580)	(560)	(354)	(354)	(354)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents		(5,345)	(1,001)	994	1,978	1,820
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		10,840	5,495	4,494	5,488	7,466
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		5,495	4,494	5,488	7,466	9,286

Statement of Capital Works

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		Actual				
		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property						
Land improvements		670	27	150	150	270
Total land		670	27	150	150	270
Buildings		594	1,574	500	500	500
Total buildings		594	1,574	500	500	500
Total property		1,264	1,601	650	650	770
Plant and equipment						
Plant, machinery and equipment		-	1,350	800	750	750
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		-	6	50	50	75
Total plant and equipment		-	1,356	850	800	825
Infrastructure						
Roads		3,672	5,081	3,000	3,000	3,000
Bridges		-	-	30	30	30
Footpaths and cycleways		66	177	70	70	70
Drainage		40	30	50	50	50
Other infrastructure		-	25	-	50	50
Total infrastructure		3,778	5,313	3,150	3,200	3,200
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	5,042	8,270	4,650	4,650	4,795
Represented by:						
New asset expenditure		-	1,705	-	-	-
Asset renewal expenditure		5,042	5,441	4,650	4,650	4,795
Asset upgrade expenditure		-	1,124	-	-	-
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	5,042	8,270	4,650	4,650	4,795
Funding sources represented by:						
Grants		3,717	5,230	4,650	4,650	4,795
Contributions		-	65	-	-	-
Council cash		1,325	2,975	-	-	-
Borrowings		-	-	-	-	-
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	5,042	8,270	4,650	4,650	4,795 -

Statement of Human Resources

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	Actual				
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Staff expenditure					
Employee costs - operating	11,301	11,161	11,561	11,908	12,265
Employee costs - capital	818	818	847	873	899
Total staff expenditure	12,119	11,979	12,408	12,781	13,164
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Staff numbers					
Employees	103.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3
Total staff numbers	103.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

Department	Budget	Comprises			
		Permanent		Casual	Temporary
		Full Time	Part time		
2026/27	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Organisational Leadership	438	341	97	-	-
Corporate and Community Services	4,290	2,615	1,597	78	-
Infrastructure Development and Works	6,433	5,509	912	12	-
Total permanent staff expenditure	11,161	8,465	2,606	90	-
Capitalised labour costs	818				
Total expenditure	11,979				

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

Department	Budget	Comprises			
		Permanent		Casual	Temporary
		Full Time	Part time		
2026/27					
Organisational Leadership	1.8	1.0	0.8	-	-
Corporate and Community Services	32.3	17.0	14.6	0.7	-
Infrastructure Development and Works	64.1	58.0	5.8	0.3	-
Total staff	98.3	76.0	21.2	1.0	-

**Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure
For the four years ending 30 June 2030**

	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000
Corporate and Community Services				
Permanent - Full time	2,615	2,733	2,815	2,899
Women	1,818	1,900	1,957	2,016
Men	797	833	858	884
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part time	1,597	1,669	1,719	1,770
Women	1,597	1,669	1,719	1,770
Men	0	0	0	0
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total <<detail organisational structure as appropriate>>	4,212	4,402	4,534	4,670
Infrastructure Development and Works				
Permanent - Full time	6,327	6,596	6,794	6,998
Women	1,086	1,135	1,169	1,204
Men	5,241	5,461	5,625	5,794
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part time	912	953	982	1,011
Women	387	404	417	429
Men	525	549	565	582
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total <<detail organisational structure as appropriate>>	7,239	7,549	7,776	8,009
Organisational Leadership				
Permanent - Full time	341	356	367	378
Women	0	0	0	0
Men	341	356	367	378
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part time	97	101	104	108
Women	97	101	104	108
Men	0	0	0	0
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total <<detail organisational structure as appropriate>>	438	458	471	486
Total <<detail organisational structure as appropriate>>	0	0	0	0
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	90	0	0	0
Capitalised labour costs	818	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total staff expenditure	11,979	12,408	12,781	13,164

	2026/27 FTE	2027/28 FTE	2028/29 FTE	2029/30 FTE
Corporate and Community Services				
Permanent - Full time	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0
Women	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
Men	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	16.3	16.3	16.3	16.3
Women	16.3	16.3	16.3	16.3
Men	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total <<detail organisational structure as appropriate>>	32.3	32.3	32.3	32.3
Infrastructure Development and Works				
Permanent - Full time	57.0	57.0	57.0	57.0
Women	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Men	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1
Women	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Men	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total <<detail organisational structure as appropriate>>	64.1	64.1	64.1	64.1
Organisational Leadership				
Permanent - Full time	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Women	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Men	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Women	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Men	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total <<detail organisational structure as appropriate>>	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Casuals and temporary staff	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Capitalised labour	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total staff numbers	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3

4. Notes to the financial statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. Council needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and nature of these components.

4.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

4.1.1 Rates and charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

As per the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over a four-year period.

In developing the Budget, rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2026/27 the FGRS cap has been set at 2.75%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate and the municipal charge will increase by 2.75% in line with the rate cap.

This will raise total rates and charges for 2026/27 to \$9.527m.

4.1.1(a) The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

	2025/26		2026/27	Change	%
	Forecast	Actual	Budget		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
General rates*	7,874		8,089	215	2.73%
Municipal charge*	519		532	13	2.50%
Service rates and charges	810		806	4	-0.49%
Special rates and charges	-	20	-	20	-100.00%
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments		2	69	67	3350.00%
Interest on rates and charges		30	31	1	3.33%
Revenue in lieu of rates		-	-	-	
Total rates and charges		9,215	9,527	312	3.39%

*These items are subject to the rate cap established under the FGRS

4.1.1(b) The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2025/26 cents/\$CIV	2026/27 cents/\$CIV	Change
General rate for rateable residential properties	0.0013366	0.0014290	6.91%
General rate for rateable commercial properties	0.0013366	0.0014290	6.91%
General rate for rateable industrial properties	0.0013366	0.0014290	6.91%

4.1.1(c) The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2025/26	2026/27	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Residential	487	567	80	16.43%
Rural	7,356	7,488	132	1.79%
Commercial	16	18	2	12.50%
Industrial	15	16	1	6.67%
Total amount to be raised by general rates	7,874	8,089	215	2.73%

4.1.1(d) The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2025/26	2026/27	Change	
	Number	Number	Number	%
Residential	1,763	1,762	-1	-0.06%
Rural	2,834	2,831	-3	-0.11%
Commercial	88	89	1	1.14%
Industrial	84	85	1	1.19%
Total number of assessments	4,769	4,767	-2	-0.04%

4.1.1(e) The basis of valuation to be used is the Capital Improved Value

4.1.1(f) The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2025/26	2026/27	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Residential	364,369	396,877	32,508	8.92%
Rural	5,505,252	5,239,485	-265,767	-4.83%
Commercial	12,115	12,398	283	2.34%
Industrial	11,273	11,461	188	1.67%
Total value of land	5,893,009	5,660,221	-232,788	-3.95%

4.1.1(g) The municipal charge under Section 159 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

Type of Charge	Per Rateable Property 2025/26	Per Rateable Property 2026/27	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Municipal	175	180	5	2.86%

4.1.1(h) The estimated total amount to be raised by municipal charges compared with the previous financial year

Type of Charge	2025/26	2026/27	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Municipal	519	532	13	2.50%

4.1.1(i) The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year and detailed disclosure of the actual service/s rendered for the amount levied

Type of Charge	Per Rateable Property 2025/26	Per Rateable Property 2026/27	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Bin Collection Charge Urban 120L	399	420	21	5.26%
Bin Collection Charge Rural 120L	467	490	23	4.93%
Bin Collection Charge Commercial 240L	620	651	31	5.00%
Bin Collection Charge Glass 120L	60	63	3	5.00%
Total	1,546	1,624	78	5.05%

4.1.1(j) The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year

Type of Charge	2025/26	2026/27	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
<i>Bin Collection Charge Urban 120L</i>	534,660	551,880	17,220	3.22%
<i>Bin Collection Charge Rural 120L</i>	93,867	93,590 -	277	-0.30%
<i>Bin Collection Charge Commercial 240L</i>	101,060	76,818 -	24,242	-23.99%
<i>Bin Collection Charge Glass 120L</i>	80,400	83,286	2,886	3.59%
Total	809,987	805,574 -	4,413	-0.54%

4.1.1(k) The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year

	2025/26	2026/27	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
<i>General Rates</i>	7,874	8,089	215	2.73%
<i>Municipal Charges</i>	519	532	13	2.50%
<i>Waste management charges</i>	810	806 -	4	-0.49%
Total Rates and charges	9,203	9,427	224	2.43%

4.1.1(l) Fair Go Rates System Compliance

West Wimmera Shire Council is required to comply with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS). The table below details the budget assumptions consistent with the requirements of the Fair Go Rates System.

	2025/26	2026/27
Total Rates	\$ 8,393	\$ 8,621
Number of rateable properties	4,769	4,767
Base Average Rate	1.759907737	1.808474932
Maximum Rate Increase (set by the State Government)	3.00%	2.75%
Capped Average Rate	\$ 1.756530000	\$ 1.808490000
Maximum General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	\$ 8,393	\$ 8,621
Budgeted General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	\$ 8,393	\$ 8,621
Budgeted Supplementary Rates	\$ 2	\$ 70
Budgeted Total Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	\$ 8,395	\$ 8,691

4.1.1(m) Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges

There are no known significant changes which may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

- The making of supplementary valuations (2026/27: estimated \$69k and 2025/26: \$2k)
- The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals)
- Changes of use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa
- Changes of use of land such that residential land becomes business land and vice versa.

4.1.2 Statutory fees and fines

	Forecast Actual		Budget	Change	
	2025/26	2026/27	2026/27		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Building, Planning, Food Safety and Registrations fees	164	168	168	4	2.44%
Administration fees	8	8	8	-	-
Total statutory fees and fines	172	176	176	4	2.33%

Statutory fees are forecast to remain consistent in the 2026/27 financial year.

4.1.3 User fees

	Forecast Actual		Budget	Change	
	2025/26	2026/27	2026/27		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Aged, health and early education services	313	350	350	37	11.82%
Waste Management	90	95	95	5	5.56%
Caravan Park Fees	138	135	135	3	-2.17%
Other	55	84	84	29	52.73%
Total user fees	596	664	664	68	11.41%

User fees are forecast to remain consistent in the 2026/27 financial year.

4.1.4 Grants

Grants are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

	Forecast Actual	Budget	Change	
	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	\$'000	%
Grants were received in respect of the following:				
Summary of grants				
Commonwealth funded grants	11,400	12,211	811	7%
State funded grants	3,226	2,263 -	963	-30%
Total grants received	14,626	14,474 -	152	-1%
(a) Operating Grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Financial Assistance Grants	7,912	8,070	158	2%
Family day care	-	-	-	
General home care	-	-	-	
Miscellaneous	10	10	-	0%
Recurrent - State Government				
Youth and Early Educaiton	893	852 -	41	-5%
School crossing supervisors	7	8	1	14%
Libraries	111	113	2	2%
Maternal and child health	377	-	377	-100%
Recreation	-	-	-	
Community safety	165	91 -	74	-45%
Add additional grants by type as appropriate	-	-	-	
Total recurrent grants	9,475	9,144 -	331	-3%
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Drainage maintenance	-	-	-	
Environmental planning	-	-	-	
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Project construction	1,144	100 -	1,044	-91%
Total non-recurrent grants	1,144	100 -	1,044	-91%
Total operating grants	10,619	9,244 -	1,375	-13%
(b) Capital Grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Roads to recovery	2,445	2,903	458	19%
Add additional grants by type as appropriate	-	-	-	
Recurrent - State Government				
Add additional grants by type as appropriate	-	-	-	
Total recurrent grants	2,445	2,903	458	19%
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Buildings	1,033	-	1,033	-100%
Plant and machinery	-	-	-	
Drainage	-	-	-	
Roads	-	1,228	1,228	
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Buildings	529	1,017	488	92%
Footpaths	-	82	82	
Total non-recurrent grants	1,562	2,327	765	49%
Total capital grants	4,007	5,230	1,223	31%
Total Grants	14,626	14,474 -	152	-1%

Insert commentaries on operating grants – e.g. sources and use of funds and projected level in the next financial year.

Insert commentaries on capital grants – e.g. sources and use of funds and projected level in the next financial year.

4.1.5 Contributions

	Forecast Actual	Budget	Change	
	2025/26	2026/27	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Monetary	302	65 -	237	-78.48%
Total contributions	302	65 -	237	-78.48%

4.1.6 Other income

	Forecast Actual	Budget	Change	
	2025/26	2026/27	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Private works	1,200	600 -	600	-50.00%
Reimbursements from employees	119	96 -	23	-19.33%
Lease of facilities	41	77	36	87.80%
Interest income	-	175	175	100.00%
Other	68	83	15	22.06%
Total other income	1,428	1,031 -	397	-27.80%

4.1.7 Employee costs

	Forecast Actual	Budget	Change	
	2025/26	2026/27	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Wages and salaries	7,580	7,789	209	2.76%
WorkCover	380	380	-	0.00%
Superannuation	1,203	1,120	(83)	-6.90%
Leave	1,202	1,286	84	6.99%
Other employment costs	706	586	(120)	-17.00%
Total employee costs	11,071	11,161	90	0.81%

Staff costs remain steady into the 2026/27 year. With the anticipated transition of aged care services reducing overall FTE being off set by a provision for staff salary increase. The council staff EBA is currently expired and being negotiated.

4.1.8 Materials and services

	Forecast Actual	Budget	Change	
	2025/26	2026/27	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Contractors	5,523	3,549 -	1,974	-35.74%
Materials	717	449 -	268	-37.38%
Plant and Equipment Maintenance and Running Costs	912	1,269	357	39.14%
Software Licences and subscriptions	498	605	107	21.49%
Insurances	480	535	55	11.46%
Subscriptions and memberships	424	134 -	290	-68.40%
Programs	209	275	66	31.58%
Communications & utilities	416	452	36	8.65%
Consultants	251	257	6	2.39%
Staff conferences and training	231	207 -	24	-10.39%
Capital recoveries	- 1,149 -	1,003	146	-12.71%
Other materials and services	535	409 -	126	-23.55%
Total materials and services	9,047	7,138 -	1,909	-21.10%

Material and services is forecast to reduce into the 2026/27 financial year. West Wimmera Shire has delivered significant operational projects in the 2025/26 financial year which contributed to the large increase. Capital recoveries are the charging of plant and materials from operational accounts to capital projects ensuring the accurate recording of asset construction costs.

4.1.9 Depreciation

	Forecast Actual		Budget	Change	
	2025/26	2026/27	2026/27		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Property	1,473	1,537		64	4.34%
Plant & equipment	1,193	1,051	-	142	-11.90%
Infrastructure	5,703	8,341		2,638	46.26%
Total depreciation	8,369	10,929		2,560	30.59%

4.1.12 Other expenses

Add additional tables for each material component of the Comprehensive Income Statement

	Forecast Actual		Budget	Change	
	2025/26	2026/27	2026/27		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
<i>Councillor Allowances</i>	212	248		36	16.98%
<i>Auditors remuneration - Internal</i>	25	40		15	60.00%
<i>Auditors remuneration - External</i>	55	50	-	5	-9.09%
<i>Legal costs</i>	73	107		34	46.58%
<i>Community Support, Grants and Donations</i>	221	175	-	46	-20.81%
<i>Other</i>	144	69	-	75	-52.08%
Total other expenses	730	689	-	41	-5.62%

4.2 Balance Sheet

4.2.1 Assets

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and investments such as cash held in the bank, petty cash and the value of investments in deposits or other liquid investments.
Council has invested significant cash (\$8.355M) in the construction and acquisition of assets during the 2024/25 financial year. This has impacted Council's cash reserves.
Council will draw down a loan of \$5M in 2024/25 to fund investments while maintaining sufficient cash reserves to meet its short term obligations.

4.2.2 Liabilities

Trade and other payables are those to whom Council owes money as at 30 June. Council's operating liabilities (monthly creditors) are anticipated to reduce over the next 3 years as significant asset projects are completed. Liabilities associated with employee benefits are anticipated to increase inline with employment costs per FTE.

4.2.3 Borrowings

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

	Forecast Actual		Budget	Projections		
	2025/26		2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	\$		\$	\$	\$	\$
Amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year	2,000		1,500	1,000	680	347
Amount proposed to be borrowed	-		-	-	-	-
Amount projected to be redeemed	- 500	-	500	320	333	347
Amount of borrowings as at 30 June	1,500		1,000	680	347	-
Amount (of opening balance) to be refinanced	-		1,500	1,000	680	-

4.3 Statement of changes in Equity

4.3.1 Reserves

Council reports an asset revaluation reserve for the purpose of reporting accumulated unrealised gains of infrastructure assets.
Council uses reserve accounts to track restricted funds relating to quarry restoration, unspent grants and carried forward projects.

4.3.2 Equity

Council's Equity is anticipated to decrease over the forecast period as asset renewal is less than 100% resulting in lower asset values.

4.4 Statement of Cash Flows

4.4.1 Net cash flows provided by/used in operating activities

Council continues to work towards a cash surplus from operations to fund capital investment and service debt. It is anticipated that available cash will increase in later forecast periods available for future capital works.

4.4.2 Net cash flows provided by/used in investing activities

Council has invested heavily in property, plant and equipment during the 2026 financial year. It is forecast to reduce debt during 2026 financial year and accumulate cash for future investments.

4.4.3 Net cash flows provided by/used in financing activities

Council is anticipating to repay \$500k of borrowings prior to the end of the the 2026 financial year.

4.5 Capital works program

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2026/27 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source. Works are also disclosed as current budget or carried forward from prior year.

4.5.1 Summary

	Forecast Actual 2025/26 \$'000	Budget 2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Property	594	1,601	1,007	169.53%
Plant and equipment	-	1,356	1,356	
Infrastructure	4,448	5,313	865	19.45%
Total	5,042	8,270	3,228	1

	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Grants	Contributions	Council cash	Borrowings
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property	1,601	1,518	73	10	1,017	-	584	-
Plant and equipment	1,356	-	1,356	-	-	-	1,356	-
Infrastructure	5,313	187	4,012	1,114	4,213	65	1,035	-
Total	8,270	1,705	5,441	1,124	5,230	65	2,975	-

4.5.2 Current Budget

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
PROPERTY								
Land Improvements								
<i>Incidental Park Furniture</i>	20	-	20	-	-	-	20	-
<i>AED replacement</i>	7	-	7	-	-	-	7	-
Buildings								
<i>Edenhope Community Centre Wall patching and painting</i>	10	-	10	-	-	-	10	-
<i>Goroke Library wall patching and painting</i>	10	-	10	-	-	-	10	-
<i>Harrow Discovery Centre repairs (Deck area and roof deteriorating)</i>	11	-	11	-	-	-	11	-
<i>Edenhope and Goroke Depot Emergency Power points</i>	10	-	-	10	-	-	10	-
<i>Kaniva Kinder Air con</i>	15	-	15	-	-	-	15	-
<i>Kaniva Tourism & Wellbeing Precinct</i>	200	200	-	-	-	-	200	-
<i>Lions Park New Toilet</i>	250	250	-	-	-	-	250	-
<i>Lake Wallace Jetty Handrail</i>	26	26	-	-	26	-	-	-
<i>Edenhope Kinder Playground Upgrade</i>	150	150	-	-	150	-	-	-
<i>Edenhope Kinder - Swing Structure</i>	10	10	-	-	-	-	10	-
<i>Goroke Kinder Building Upgrade</i>	750	750	-	-	750	-	-	-
<i>Kaniva Kinder verandah blind</i>	7	7	-	-	-	-	7	-
<i>Kaniva Caravan Park - Mens Toilets (replace urinals)</i>	10	10	-	-	-	-	10	-
<i>Kaniva Hall - Toilet Upgrade (Tiny Towns Application)</i>	36	36	-	-	27	-	9	-
<i>Apsley Hall - Accessibility (Tiny Towns Application)</i>	66	66	-	-	54	-	12	-
<i>Lake Wallace - Park Run Shelter (Tiny Towns Application)</i>	13	13	-	-	10	-	3	-
TOTAL PROPERTY	1,601	1,518	73	10	1,017	-	584	-
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT								
Plant, Fleet, Machinery and Equipment								
<i>Isuzu Tipper Truck (replacing Tipper)</i>	300	-	300	-	-	-	300	-
<i>Isuzu 3 way Tipper - Keep Truck, replace tipper with water tank</i>	90	-	90	-	-	-	90	-
<i>Isuzu NPR 250 Crew cab replacement</i>	100	-	100	-	-	-	100	-
<i>JCB Backhoe (sell 2 replace with 1)</i>	185	-	185	-	-	-	185	-
<i>Trailer</i>	10	-	10	-	-	-	10	-
<i>Replacement ute x 6</i>	330	-	330	-	-	-	330	-
<i>Replacement Car x 6</i>	335	-	335	-	-	-	335	-
Furniture & Equipment								
<i>Chairs for Kaniva and Edenhope Council Chambers</i>	6	-	-	6	-	-	6	-
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	1,356	-	1,350	6	-	-	1,356	-

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Grants	Contributions	Council cash	Borrowings
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
INFRASTRUCTURE								
Roads								
<i>Linemarking</i>	20	-	20	-	-	-	20	-
<i>Reseal</i>	1,200	-	1,200	-	1,059	-	141	-
<i>Shoulder Resheeting</i>	400	-	400	-	250	-	150	-
<i>Resheeting</i>	1,321	-	1,321	-	1,100	-	221	-
<i>Street Lighting</i>	10	10	-	-	-	-	10	-
<i>Mooree Road, Reconstruction Ch 4560 - Ch 5800</i>	60	-	60	-	-	-	60	-
<i>Goroke Nurcoung, Reconstruction Ch 1200 - Ch2600</i>	68	-	68	-	-	-	68	-
<i>Kadnook - Connewirricoo Rd., Recon Ch 990 - Ch 4710</i>	809	-	405	405	659	-	150	-
<i>Brooks Rd, Reconstruction, Ch 3000 - Ch 4000</i>	244	-	244	-	244	-	-	-
<i>Camerons & Lampards Rd</i>	250	-	125	125	250	-	-	-
<i>Western HWY service road, Kaniva - Wombat crossings</i>	569	-	-	569	569	-	-	-
<i>Ballentyne Street Apsley</i>	130	-	130	-	-	65	65	-
Footpaths and Cycleways								
<i>Various isolated footpaths identified in Moloney report</i>	20	20	-	-	-	-	20	-
<i>Webb St., Kaniva, Roache St - Commercial st</i>	39	39	-	-	39	-	-	-
<i>Compston St, Goroke, Church St - Main St</i>	43	43	-	-	43	-	-	-
<i>Edinburgh Rd, Edenhope, Orme St - Wilson St</i>	75	75	-	-	-	-	75	-
Drainage								
<i>Minor Culvert Renewal's</i>	30	-	20	10	-	-	30	-
<i>Kerb & Channel</i>	25	-	25	-	-	-	25	-
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	5,313	187	4,018	1,109	4,213	65	1,035	-
TOTAL NEW CAPITAL WORKS	8,270	1,705	5,441	1,125	5,230	65	2,975	-

**Summary of Planned Capital Works Expenditure
For the years ending 30 June 2028, 2029 & 2030**

2027/28	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land improvements	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	150	0
Total Land	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	150	0
Buildings	500	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	500	0
Heritage Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leasehold improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Buildings	500	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	500	0
Total Property	650	0	650	0	0	0	0	0	650	0
Plant and Equipment										
Heritage plant and equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plant, machinery and equipment	800	0	800	0	0	0	0	0	800	0
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	50	0
Computers and telecommunications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Library books	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Plant and Equipment	850	0	850	0	0	0	0	0	850	0
Infrastructure										
Roads	3,000	0	3,000	0	0	3,000	3,000	0	0	0
Bridges	30	0	30	0	0	30	0	0	30	0
Footpaths and cycleways	70	0	70	0	0	70	0	0	70	0
Drainage	50	0	50	0	0	50	0	0	50	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waste management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parks, open space and streetscapes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aerodromes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Off street car parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Infrastructure	3,150	0	3,150	0	0	3,150	3,000	0	150	0
Total Capital Works Expenditure	4,650	0	4,650	0	0	4,650	3,000	0	1,650	0

2028/29	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land improvements	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	150	0
Total Land	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	150	0
Buildings	500	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	500	0
Heritage Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leasehold improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Buildings	500	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	500	0
Total Property	650	0	650	0	0	0	0	0	650	0
Plant and Equipment										
Heritage plant and equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plant, machinery and equipment	800	0	800	0	0	0	0	0	800	0
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	50	0
Computers and telecommunications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Library books	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Plant and Equipment	850	0	850	0	0	0	0	0	850	0
Infrastructure										
Roads	3,000	0	3,000	0	0	3,000	3,000	0	0	0
Bridges	30	0	30	0	0	30	0	0	30	0
Footpaths and cycleways	70	0	70	0	0	70	0	0	70	0
Drainage	50	0	50	0	0	50	0	0	50	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waste management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parks, open space and streetscapes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aerodromes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Off street car parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Infrastructure	3,150	0	3,150	0	0	3,150	3,000	0	150	0
Total Capital Works Expenditure	4,650	0	4,650	0	0	4,650	3,000	0	1,650	0

2029/30	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land improvements	270	0	270	0	0	0	0	0	270	0
Total Land	270	0	270	0	0	0	0	0	270	0
Buildings	500	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	500	0
Heritage Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leasehold improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Buildings	500	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	500	0
Total Property	770	0	770	0	0	0	0	0	770	0
Plant and Equipment										
Heritage plant and equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plant, machinery and equipment	750	0	750	0	0	0	0	0	750	0
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	75	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	75	0
Computers and telecommunications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Library books	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Plant and Equipment	825	0	825	0	0	0	0	0	825	0
Infrastructure										
Roads	3,000	0	3,000	0	0	3,000	3,000	0	0	0
Bridges	30	0	30	0	0	30	0	0	30	0
Footpaths and cycleways	70	0	70	0	0	70	0	0	70	0
Drainage	50	0	50	0	0	50	0	0	50	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waste management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parks, open space and streetscapes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aerodromes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Off street car parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other infrastructure	50	0	50	0	0	50	0	0	50	0
Total Infrastructure	3,200	0	3,200	0	0	3,200	3,000	0	200	0
Total Capital Works Expenditure	4,795	0	4,795	0	0	4,795	3,000	0	1,795	0

5. Targeted performance indicators (Council selected)

The following table highlights Council's current and projected performance across eight targeted performance indicators selected by Council from the range of prescribed performance measures contained in the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's intentions and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives. Results against these indicators and targets will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Domain / Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Target	Target Projections			Trend
			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	+/-
GOV-G3 Councillor attendance at Council meetings									
		1	97.39%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%	o
GOV-G6 Councillor attendance at councillor briefings									
		2	98.18%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%	o
GOV-G10 Permanent Staff turnover									
		3	17.20%	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%	+
GOV-G8 Capital works planning									
		4	80.32%	80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	+
GOV-G5 Satisfaction with Council decisions									
		5	56	56	57	58	59	60	+
ENV-FS7 Food safety assessments									
		6	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	o
ENV-R5 Satisfaction with sealed local roads									
		7	51	51	52	53	54	55	+
RSP-SP1 Time taken to decide planning applications									
		8	35.50%	35%	34%	33%	32%	31%	+

Key to Target Trend:
+ increase in Council's overall targets
o maintaining Council's overall targets
- decrease in Council's overall targets

5a. Targeted performance indicators (Mandatory)

The following tables highlight Council's current and projected performance across a selection of targeted service and financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's intentions and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The targeted performance indicators below are the prescribed performance indicators contained in Schedule 4 of the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*. Results against these measures and targets will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Targeted service performance indicators - Mandatory

Domain / Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Target	Target Projections			Trend
			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	+ / o / -
Governance									
Community engagement (council decisions made and implemented with community input)	Satisfaction with the opportunities offered by Council to be consulted on or engaged in Council decisions Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council	9	56	56	57	58	59	60	+
Environment									
Roads (sealed local roads are maintained and renewed to ensure a safe network)	Sealed local roads below the intervention level Number of kms of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kms of sealed local roads	10	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	o
Responsiveness									
Statutory planning (Councils decide on planning applications and fulfill their legislative duties in a timely manner)	Planning applications decided within the relevant required time Number of planning application decisions made within the relevant required time / Number of planning application decisions made	11	87.50%	87.50%	88%	89%	90%	90%	+
Environment									
Waste management (waste is minimised and sustainability is promoted)	Kerbside collection waste to landfill per serviced property Waste in tonnage collected from kerbside waste collection services sent to landfill / Number of serviced properties	12	15.71%	20%	20%	25%	30%	35%	+

Key to Target Trend:
+ increase in Council's overall targets
o maintaining Council's overall targets
- decrease in Council's overall targets

Targeted financial performance indicators - Mandatory

Domain / Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Target	Target Projections			Trend
			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	+/-
Financial management									
Liquidity (sufficient working capital and cash is available to cover expenses)	Current assets compared to current liabilities Current assets / current liabilities	13	145.85%	148.40%	98.50%	133.70%	164.30%	203%	+
Financial forecasting									
Asset renewal and upgrade (renewal and upgrade of assets is planned and delivered)	Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation Asset renewal and upgrade expenses / Asset depreciation	14	60.82%	57.20%	60.10%	54%	52.70%	53%	-
Financial management									
Rates concentration (revenue is generated from a range of sources)	Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue Rate revenue / adjusted underlying revenue	15	30.50%	25.31%	30.00%	30.00%	30.00%	30.00%	o
Financial management									
Expenditure and revenue level (resources are used efficiently in the delivery of services)	Expenses per property assessment Total expenses / no. of property assessments	16	\$6,868	\$5,802	\$6,029	\$5,677	\$5,828	\$982	+

FEES & CHARGES 2026-7



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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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West Wimmera Shire Council

Governance and Administration

Freedom of Information (FOI)

FOI Application Fee	Per occasion	Statutory	N	\$33.60
Land Information Certificate	Per certificate	Statutory	N	\$30.60

Photocopying

A4 – black & white – single sided	Per page	Council	Y	\$0.35
A4 – black & white – single sided – multiple copies	Per page	Council	Y	\$0.30
A4 – black & white – double sided	Per page	Council	Y	\$0.45
A4 – black & white – double sided – multiple copies	Per page	Council	Y	\$0.40
A3 – black & white – single sided	Per page	Council	Y	\$0.55
A3 – black & white – single sided – multiple copies	Per page	Council	Y	\$0.50
A3 – black & white – double sided	Per page	Council	Y	\$0.75
A3 – black & white – double sided – multiple copies	Per page	Council	Y	\$0.70
A4 – colour	Per page	Council	Y	\$1.05
A3 – colour	Per page	Council	Y	\$1.55
A1/A0 – Black & White Plan	Per page	Council	Y	\$21.00
A1/A0 – Colour Plan	Per page	Council	Y	\$26.00
A1/A0 – Full colour/greyscale image	Per page	Council	Y	\$31.00

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Council Hire and Facilities

Community Bus

Hire Fee (Community Group only)	Per kilometre	Council	Y	\$0.88
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Note: Fuel at cost of hirer; bus must be returned with full tank of fuel. Hirers to be charged per km based on where the bus is located at that time and to be charged from pick up point.

Kaniva Caravan Park Fees

Powered Site

Occupied – per night	Per site	Council	Y	\$31.00
Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction – weekly fee	Per site	Council	Y	\$145.00
Additional persons 6yrs & over	Per site	Council	Y	\$5.50

Unpowered Site

Occupied – per night	Per site	Council	Y	\$21.00
Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction – weekly fee	Per site	Council	Y	\$90.00
Additional persons 6yrs & over	Per site	Council	Y	\$5.50

Unoccupied – no tenants

Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction – weekly fee	Per site	Council	Y	\$57.00
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Two Bedroom deluxe accessible cabin (wheelchair friendly)

Cabin (wheelchair friendly)	Per night	Council	Y	\$170.00
Based on two people per cabin – maximum sleeps five – minimum two night stay				
Additional persons (adult & children)	Per night	Council	Y	\$10.50

Three Bedroom deluxe family cabin

Cabin	Per night	Council	Y	\$191.00
Based on two people per cabin – maximum sleeps eight – minimum two night stay				
Additional persons (adult & children)	Per night	Council	Y	\$10.50

Edenhope Community Centre Hire

Security deposit for licensed functions (refundable)	Per event	Council	N	On request
Insurance – functions with or without alcohol	Per event	Council	Y	On request
Sounds System (Audio visual System & microphones) – Bond	Per event	Council	N	On request

Community Hire Rates (Edenhope Community Centre)

Function Room

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$115.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$60.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$88.00

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Meeting Room

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$19.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00

Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$35.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$19.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00

Activity Space

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$33.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$19.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00

Function Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$156.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$77.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$120.00

Meeting Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$59.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$54.00

Activity Space and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$71.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$35.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$60.00

Function Room and Activity Space

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$141.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$65.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$101.00

Function Room, Activity Space and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$177.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$89.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$141.00

Function Room, Meeting Room and Activity Space

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$166.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$94.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$130.00

Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$201.00
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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen [continued]

Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$130.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$160.00

Commercial Hire Rates (Edenhope Community Centre)

Function Room

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$237.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$119.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$176.00

Meeting Room

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$59.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$35.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$59.00

Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$65.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$35.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$59.00

Activity Space

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$67.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$24.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$35.00

Meeting Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$119.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$65.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$114.00

Activity Space and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$141.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$71.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$119.00

Function Room and Activity Space

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$291.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$136.20
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$208.00

Function Room, Activity Space and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$350.50
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$185.10
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$291.20

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Function Room, Meeting Room and Activity Space

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$338.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$171.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$267.00

Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$403.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$208.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$326.00

Kaniva Hall Hire

Security deposit for licensed functions (refundable)	Per event	Council	N	\$119.00
Insurance – functions with or without alcohol	Per event	Council	Y	On request
Sound System (PA System & microphones) – Bond	Per event	Council	N	\$107.00

Community Hire Rates (Kaniva Hall)

Function Room

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$119.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$60.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$89.00

Meeting Room

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$19.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00

Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$35.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$19.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00

Function Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$151.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$71.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$114.00

Meeting Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$60.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$30.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$54.00

Function Room, Meeting Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$176.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$88.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$141.00

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Commercial Hire Rates (Kaniva Hall)

Function Room

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$237.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$119.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$176.00

Meeting Room

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$59.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$35.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$59.00

Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$65.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$35.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$59.00

Function Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$296.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$148.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$234.00

Meeting Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$119.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$65.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$114.00

Function Room, Meeting Room and Kitchen

Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$350.00
Half Day (4 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$185.00
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	Per event	Council	Y	\$291.00

Other

Council occupancy charges for individual rental agreements		Council	Y	As per the individual agreements. Available on request from Council
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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Local Laws

Animal Registration Fees

Maximum Fee applicable to dogs and cats under Domestic Animals Act 1994

Category A – Maximum Fee	Annual fee per animal	Statutory	N	\$139.00
Category B – Maximum Fee Pensioner	Annual fee per animal	Statutory	N	\$70.00
Category C – Reduced Fee	Annual fee per animal	Statutory	N	\$48.00
Category C – Reduced Fee Pensioner	Annual fee per animal	Statutory	N	\$25.00
Dangerous/Menacing dog registration fee	Per animal	Statutory	N	\$246.50

Pound Fees

Pound Release Fees	Per occasion	Council	N	\$59.00
Pound Release Fees Registered dog/cat – within 12 months from first impoundment	Per occasion	Council	N	\$84.00
Subsequent Pound Release Fee per cat/dog	Per occasion	Council	N	\$123.00

Daily Food Fee

Dogs and Cats	Per animal per day	Council	N	\$16.50
Livestock – Small Animal (sheep or equivalent)	Per animal per day	Council	N	\$16.50
Livestock – Large Animal (cow or equivalent)	Per animal per day	Council	N	\$22.00

Surrendered Animals

Registered		Council	Y	No Charge
Unregistered	Per animal	Council	Y	\$77.00
Feral Cat		Council	Y	No Charge

Other

Roadside Grazing of livestock	No charge	Council	N	No Charge
Mobile Vendor on Council controlled land permit one off visit	per occurrence	Council	N	\$43.00
Mobile Vendor on Council controlled land permit Annual fee	Annual	Council	N	\$510.00
Local Law Permit – excess animal numbers, alcohol permit for hotels for consumption of alcohol outside of hotel	Yearly	Council	N	\$75.00
stall as part of organised event		Council	N	No Charge
Breach of a notice to comply	Per occasion	Council	N	\$198.50

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Health Registration Fees

Charge classes are as defined under the Food Act 1984

Class 1 Registration (Hospitals/aged care/child care)	Annual fee	Council	N	\$355.00
Class 2 Registration (Restaurants/cafes/prep of food)	Annual fee	Council	N	\$294.50
Class 3 Registration (Low risk food prep/package food)	Annual fee	Council	N	\$203.00
Class 4 Registration (Newsagents)		Council	N	No Charge
Fee for limited operation (operate less than 3 days or under 25 hours per week)	Annual fee	Council	N	50% of full fee
Fee for full operations of Club or Community Organisation	Annual fee	Council	N	50% of full fee

Fee for temporary food permit

Community Group – up to 2 events p.a.		Council	N	No Charge
Community Group – up to 12 events p.a. (annual charge)	Annual fee	Council	N	\$38.00
General Food Business – up to 2 events p.a. (per event charge)	Annual fee	Council	N	\$28.00
General Food Business – up to 12 events p.a. (annual charge)	Annual fee	Council	N	\$77.50
General Food Business – more than 12 events per year	Annual fee	Council	N	50% of class 2/3 full fee

Other

Penalty for late payment of Health Registration fees	Per occasion	Council	N	50% of invoice
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On-site wastewater management systems (OWMS) permits

Construct, install or alter OWMS	Per application	Council	N	\$404.50
Minor alteration to OWMS	Per application	Council	N	Prescribed Fee
Transfer a permit	Per application	Council	N	Prescribed Fee
Amend a permit	Per application	Council	N	Prescribed Fee
Renew a permit	Per application	Council	N	Prescribed Fee
Exemption	Per application	Council	N	N/A

Public Health and Accommodation Businesses

Caravan park registration – less than 25 sites (3 yearly registration fee)	Per caravan park	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Caravan park registration 26-50 sites (3 yearly registration fee)	Per caravan park	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Caravan park registration 51-100 sites (3 yearly registration fee)	Per caravan park	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Caravan park transfer of proprietor	Per instance	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Public Aquatic Facilities	3 yearly fee	Council	N	\$333.00
Prescribed Accommodation	Annual fee	Council	N	\$327.50
Hair & Beauty premises	Annual fee	Council	N	\$209.00
Transfer of registration (only for prescribed accommodation/hairstyling/beauty – not applicable to food businesses)	Per occasion	Council	N	50% of full fee

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Planning Fees

Applications for Permits (Regulation 7)

Class 1 Change or allow a new use of the land	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
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To develop land, or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of the land for a single dwelling per lot if the estimated cost of the development is:

Class 2 up to \$10,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 3 \$10,000 to \$100,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 4 \$100,000 to \$500,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 5 \$500,000 to \$1 million	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 6 \$1 million to \$2 million	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee

A permit that is subject of a VicSmart application if the estimated cost of development is:

Class 7 Up to \$10,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 8 More than \$10,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 9 VicSmart application to subdivide or consolidate land	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee

To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:

Class 10 Up to \$100,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 10 Up to \$100,000 Native Vegetation Removal Only	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 11 \$100,000 to \$1 million	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 12 \$1 million to \$5 million	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 13 \$5 million to \$15 million	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 14 \$15 million to \$50 million	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 15 More than \$50 million (to be charged at 50% until 13/10/2017)	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 16 Subdivide an existing building	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 17 Subdivide land into 2 lots	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 18 Realignment of a common boundary between 2 lots or to consolidate 2 or more lots	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 19 To subdivide land (\$1,241 for each 100 lots created)	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 20 To create or vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or to create or move a Right of Way; or to create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or to vary or remove a condition of the nature of an easement other than a right of way in a Crown grant	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 21 A permit not otherwise provided for in this Regulation	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Permit Applications for more than one Class

1. An application for more than one class of permit set out in the above table: 2. An application to amend a permit in more than one class set out in the above table:		Statutory	N	The sum of: The highest of the fees which would have been applied if separate applications were made; and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications were made.
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Amendments to Planning Schemes

Stage 1	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
a) Considering a request to amend a planning scheme; and b) Exhibition and notice of the amendment; and c) Considering any submissions which do not seek to change the amendment; and d) If applicable, abandoning the amendment.				
Stage 2	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
a) Considering submissions which seek a change to an amendment, and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel				
i) Up to 10 Submissions	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
ii) 11 to 20 submissions	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
iii) More than 20 submissions	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Stage 3	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
a) Adopting an amendment or a part of an amendment; and b) submitting the amendment for approval by the Minister; and c) giving notice of the approval of the amendment				
Stage 4	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
a) Consideration by the Minister of a request to approve the amendment; and b) Giving notice of approval of an amendment				

Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987

Class 1 Amendment to a permit to change the use of land allowed by the permit or allow a new use of land	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 2 Amendment to a permit (other than a permit to develop land for a single dwelling per lot or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to change the statement of what the permit allows or to change any or all of the conditions which apply to the permit	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 3 Amendment to a class 2, class 3, class 4, class 5 or class 6 permit, * if the cost of any additional development permitted by the amendment is \$10,000 or less	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 4 Amendment to a class 2, class 3, class 4, class 5 or class 6 permit, * if the cost of any additional development permitted by the amendment is more than \$10,000 but not more than \$100,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 5 Amendment to a class 2, class 3, class 4, class 5 or class 6 permit, * if the cost of any additional development permitted by the amendment is more than \$100,00 but not more than \$500,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 6 Amendment to a class 2, class 3, class 4, class 5 or class 6 permit, * if the cost of any additional development permitted by the amendment is more than \$500,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee

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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 [continued]

Class 7 Amendment to a permit * that is the subject of VicSmart application, if the estimated cost of the additional development is \$10,000 or less	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 8 Amendment to a permit * that is the subject of VicSmart application, if the estimated cost of the additional development is more than \$10,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 9 Amendment to a class 9 permit *	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 10 Amendment to a class 10 permit *	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 11 Amendment to a class 11, class 12, class 13, class 14, class 15 or class 16 permit * if the estimated cost of the additional development to be permitted by the amendment is \$100,000 or less	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 12 Amendment to a class 12, class 13, class 14, class 15 or class 16 permit * if the estimated cost of any additional development to be permitted by the amendment is more than \$100,000 but not more than \$1,000,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 13 Amendment to a class 11, class 12, class 13, class 14, class 15 or class 16 permit * if the estimated cost of any additional development to be permitted by the amendment is more than \$1,000,000	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 14 Amendment to a class 17 permit *	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 15 Amendment to a class 18 permit *	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 16 Amendment to a class 19 permit *	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 17 Amendment to a class 20 permit *	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 18 Amendment to a class 21 permit *	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Class 19 Amendment to a class 22 permit	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee

Other Fees

Regulation 7 For requesting the Minister to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme exempted from the requirements referred to in section 20(4) of the Act	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 8 For requesting the Minister to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme exempted from certain requirements prescribed under section 20A of the Act	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 10 For combined permit applications	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 12 Amend an application for a permit or an application to amend a permit	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 13 For a combined application to amend permit	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 14 For a combined permit and planning scheme amendment	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 15 For a certificate of compliance	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 16 For an agreement to a proposal to amend or end an agreement under section 173 of the Act	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 17 For a planning certificate	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Regulation 18 Where a planning scheme specifies that a matter must be done to the satisfaction of a responsible authority, Minister, public authority or municipal council	Per application	Statutory	N	Prescribed fee
Secondary Consent fee	Per application	Council	N	\$220.00
Extension of time request	per request	Council	N	\$220.00

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Building Fees

Extension, Alterations

- Includes partial compliance
- Protection works additional \$822
- Performance solutions additional \$1,030.00 (up to 2, more than 2 to be negotiated)
- Includes four (4) mandatory inspections. Additional inspections \$195 each

Up to \$5,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$618.00
Value of Works \$5,001 – \$10,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$836.00
Value of Works \$10,001 – \$20,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$1,092.00
Value of Works \$20,001 – \$50,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$1,576.00
Value of Works \$50,001 – \$100,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$2,100.00
Value of Works \$100,001 – \$150,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$2,428.00
Value of Works \$150,001 – \$200,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$2,860.00
Value of Works \$200,001 – \$250,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$3,203.00
Value of Works \$250,001 – \$300,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$3,593.00
Value of Works \$300,001 – \$350,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$4,077.00
Value of Works > \$350,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$4,316.00

New Dwellings, Re-erection/Re-siting

- Protection works additional \$822
- Performance solutions additional \$1,030.00 (up to 2, more than 2 to be negotiated)
- Includes four (4) mandatory inspections – additional inspections \$195 each

Value of Works Up to \$200,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$3,203.00
Value of Works \$200,001 – \$250,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$3,692.00
Value of Works \$250,001 – \$350,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$3,999.01
Value of Works > \$350,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$4,087.00

Miscellaneous – Building Permits

Garage, Car Port, Shed, Patio, Verandah, Pergola	Per application	Council	Y	\$972.00
Swimming Pool (fence alterations only)	Per application	Council	Y	\$407.00
Swimming Pool (new fence only)	Per application	Council	Y	\$721.00
Swimming Pool and all fences	Per application	Council	Y	\$923.00
Restumping (work must be performed by Registered Builder)	Per application	Council	Y	\$989.00
Demolish / Remove Building – Domestic (shed / house)	Per application	Council	Y	\$887.00
Demolish / Remove Building – Commercial	Per application	Council	Y	\$932.00

Commercial Building Work (Class 2-9) – Building Permits

- Includes partial compliance
- Protection works additional \$822
- Performance solutions additional \$1,030.00 (up to 2, more than 2 to be negotiated)
- Includes four (4) mandatory inspections – additional inspections \$195 each

New Building, Extension, Alterations

Value of Works Up to \$10,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$1,056.00
Value of Works \$10,001 – \$50,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$1,518.00
Value of Works \$50,001 – \$100,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$2,252.00
Value of Works \$100,001 – \$150,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$2,787.00
Value of Works \$150,001 – \$200,000	Per application	Council	Y	\$3,167.00

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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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New Building, Extension, Alterations [continued]

Value of Works \$200,001 – \$250,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$3,713.01
Value of Works \$250,001 – \$300,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$4,295.00
Value of Works \$300,001 – \$500,000*	Per application	Council	Y	\$4,883.00
Value of Works > \$500,000 or (negotiated with Council)	Per application	Council	Y	\$ value of works / 50

Community Group (Not-for Profit) Building Works – Building Permits

Discount on Permit fees only. State Government Levy still applies	Per application	Council	Y	Fees negotiated
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Levies / Bonds

Building Administration Fund Levy (State Levy) (Applies to all building work over \$10,000)	Per application	Statutory	N	Value of work x 0.00128
Bond / Guarantee for Re-erection of buildings	Per application	Statutory	N	The lesser of the cost of the building work or \$5,000
Council Infrastructure (Asset) Protection Deposit	Per application	Council	N	\$783.00

Inspections

Additional Mandatory Inspections	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$213.00
Compliance Inspection	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$213.00

Compliance Inspections of Swimming Pool and Spa Barriers

- Includes compliance certificate – FORM 23 or FORM 24 (non-compliance)
- Excludes prescribed lodgements fees

First Inspection	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$339.00
Re-inspection	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$213.00

Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)

Swimming Pool / Spa registration fee	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2.15 fee units = \$36.10 (rounded)
Swimming Pool / Spa records search determination fee	Per occasion	Statutory	N	3.19 fee units = \$53.60 (rounded)
Lodging a certificate of pool and spa barrier non-compliance	Per occasion	Statutory	N	26 fee units = \$437.10 (rounded)
Lodging a certificate of pool and spa barrier compliance	Per occasion	Statutory	N	1.38 fee units = \$23.20 (rounded)
Pool/Spa Failure to Register – Construction before 1 November 2020	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2 penalty units = \$407.00 (rounded)
Pool/Spa Failure to Register – Construction on or after 1 November 2020	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2 penalty units = \$407.00 (rounded)
Relocatable Pool/Spa Failure to Register	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2 penalty units = \$407.00 (rounded)
Pool/Spa Failure to register after notice given	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2 penalty units = \$407.00 (rounded)
Pool/Spa Failure to pay at lodgement of Cert of Compliance	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2 penalty units = \$407.00 (rounded)
Pool/Spa Failure to lodge Cert of Compliance after alteration	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2 penalty units = \$407.00 (rounded)
Pool/Spa Failure to lodge Cert of Compliance	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2 penalty units = \$407.00 (rounded)

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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees) [continued]

Pool/Spa Failure to pay lodgement fee – Cert of Non Compliance	Per occasion	Statutory	N	2 penalty units = \$407.00 (rounded)
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Report and Consent

Application for report and consent – Siting	Per Regulation	Statutory	N	27.45 fee units = \$461.40 (rounded)
Application for report and consent – Projections	Per Regulation	Statutory	N	19.61 fee units = \$329.60 (rounded)
Application for report and consent – Protection of public	Per Regulation	Statutory	N	19.9 fee units = \$334.50 (rounded)
Application for report and consent – Building above or below certain public facilities	Per Regulation	Statutory	N	19.61 fee units = \$329.60 (rounded)
Application for report and consent – Septic systems	Per occasion	Statutory	N	19.61 fee units = \$329.60 (rounded)
Application for report and consent – To build over an easement vested in Council	Per occasion	Statutory	N	19.61 fee units = \$329.60 (rounded)
Application for report of Council – Location of point of stormwater discharge (LPOD)	Per occasion	Statutory	N	14.17 fee units = \$238.20 (rounded)
Application for report and consent – Flood prone	Per occasion	Statutory	N	19.61 fee units = \$329.60 (rounded)
Application for report and consent – Demolition of building	Per occasion	Statutory	N	5.75 fee units = \$96.70 (rounded)

Request for Information

Property Information Requests (Regulation 51(1), 51(2) and 51(3))	Per occasion	Statutory	N	3.19 fee units = \$52.10 (rounded)
Request for Professional Advice/Consultation – per hour	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$191.00

File Retrieval / Search

File Retrieval – Minor Document (for example, Copy of Building / Occupancy Permit/ Plans)	Per occasion	Council	N	\$53.50
File Retrieval / Search (for example, Permit History)	Per occasion	Council	N	\$135.00

Amended Building Permit

Amended Building Permit – Minor Alterations	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$197.00
Amended Building Permit – Major Alterations	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$317.00
Time Extension – Building Permit (first request)	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$328.00
Time Extension – Building Permit (second request)	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$371.00
Time Extension – Building Permit (third request)	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$422.00

Refunds

Refund only for inspections not carried out based on inspection fees at time of cancellation

Withdrawn Application – Permit Lodged Not Yet Assessed	Per occasion	Council	Y	\$404.00
Withdrawn Application – Permit Lodged Not Yet Issued	Per occasion	Council	Y	40% of fees (Minimum \$480.00)
Permit Cancellation – After Permit Issued	Per occasion	Council	Y	Permit Fees Retained
Permit Cancellation – After Permit Expired	Per occasion	Council	Y	No Refund

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Lodgement Fee

Lodgement fee for Private Building Surveyors (Submission of Section 30, and 73)	Per occasion	Statutory	N	8.23 fee units = \$138.30 (rounded)
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Other

Place of Public Entertainment (POPE) Occupancy Permit	Per occasion	Council	N	\$447.00
Temporary Siting Approval or Temporary Structure Inspection	Per occasion	Council	N	\$291.00
Entertainment / Event Consideration, Notification, and Approval – No Permit Required	Per occasion	Council	N	\$27.50

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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Waste and Recycling

Green Waste

Per cubic metre (level 6 x 4 trailer/ute load)	Per cubic metre	Council	Y	\$21.00
Car boot load	Per load	Council	Y	\$10.00
Contaminated Green Waste per cubic metre	Per cubic metre	Council	Y	\$42.00
Timber, pallets, timber furniture, tree trunks, root balls, large branches >10cm diameter	per m3, 6x4 trailer load, ute		Y	\$42.00

Hard Waste

Per cubic metre (level 6 x 4 trailer/ute load)	Per cubic metre	Council	Y	\$42.00
Car boot load	Per load	Council	Y	\$21.00
General household waste – 120 litre bin	Per item	Council	N	\$12.00
General household waste – 240 litre bin	Per item	Council	N	\$15.00

Tyres

Light – tyre only	Per item	Council	Y	\$15.00
Light – with rim	Per Item	Council	Y	\$24.00
Medium – tyre only	Per item	Council	Y	\$24.00
Medium – with rim	Per item	Council	Y	\$33.00
Heavy – tyre only	Per item	Council	Y	\$37.00
Heavy – with rim	Per item	Council	Y	\$77.00
Tractor – up to 1.5m diameter tyre only	Per item	Council	Y	\$158.00
Tractor – over 1.5m diameter tyre only	Per item	Council	Y	\$317.00

Other

Loads Concrete/Builders Rubble etc	Per cubic metre	Council	Y	\$55.00
Clean concrete	Per cubic metre	Council	Y	\$55.00
Recyclables (if sorted)	Per load	Council	Y	\$0.00
Mattresses/Couches	Per item	Council	Y	\$48.00
Prescribed waste (Asbestos – must be wrapped)	Per 10m ²	Council	Y	\$22.00
E-Waste	Per item	Council	Y	\$3.00
E-Waste – Screens	Per item	Council	Y	\$7.10
Fridges / Freezers / Air-cons (degassed with certificate)			N	Free
Fridges / Freezers / Air-cons (not degassed, no certificate)	Each		N	\$15.00
Gas cylinders / Fire extinguishers (empty only)			N	Free

Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Replacement Bins

120 litre bin	Per bin	Council	N	\$85.00
240 litre bin	Per bin	Council	N	\$110.00
Lid Replacement (120/240L)	Each		N	\$15.00

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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Childcare Fees

Childcare

6mth - 3-year-old childcare	Per day		N	\$135.00
3 - 5-year-old childcare	Per day		N	\$125.00
Kindergarten	Free		N	
Before Kindergarten care	Per session		N	\$8.00
After Kindergarten care	Per session		N	\$16.00
Late Fee	Per child per minute		N	\$1.00

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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Cemetery Trust Fees

Lawn Cemetery

Land - 2.4m x 1.22m	Each		N	\$960.00
Grave Digging Fees - 1.83m (6')			N	\$1,027.62
Grave Digging Fees - 2.13m (7')	Each		N	\$1,027.62
Grave Digging Fees - Child under 12	Each		N	\$1,027.62
Grave Digging Fees - Stillborn	Each		N	Subject to grave digging cost
Grave Digging Fees - Re-opening	Each		N	Subject to grave digging cost
Grave Digging Fees - Administration Fee Internment 25% of grave digging fee	Each		N	\$235.00
Internment of Ashes in Private Grave - Interment Fee Interment fee plus internment admin fee both apply	Each		N	\$235.00
First Internment Plaque - Black, Brown Granite Desk, Flower insert - Kaniva & Lillimur Other additional works at stonemasons cost plus 10%	Each		N	\$1,265.00
First Internment Plaque - Jet Black, Granite Desk, Flower insert - Edenhope & Goroke	Each		N	\$1,380.00
Second Internment Plaque Additional works at Stonemasons Cost plus 10%	Each		N	\$545.00

Monumental Section

Land 2.4m x 1.22m	Each		N	\$960.00
Grave Digging Fees - 1.83m (6')			N	\$1,027.62
Grave Digging Fees - 2.13m (7')	Each		N	\$1,027.62
Grave Digging Fees - Child under 12			N	\$1,027.62
Grave Digging Fees - Stillborn	Each		N	Subject to Grave Digging Cost
Grave Digging Fees - Re-opening			N	Subject to Grave Digging Cost
Grave Digging Fees - Administration Fee Internment Administration fees for internment 25% of grave digging fee	Each		N	\$235.00
Internment of Ashes in Private Grave - Interment Fee Interment fees plus admin internement fee	Each		N	\$235.00

Niche Wall & Walkway

Memorial Niche Wall & Walkway - Include Internment Fee • Plaque - Stonemason costs plus 10% • Other additional works at Stonemason cost plus 10%	Each		N	\$280.00
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Other Charges

Exhumation Fee (When Authorised)	Each		N	Cost plus 25% administration charge
Administration Search Fee	Each		N	\$38.00
Memorial permit fee - installation - new works without existing foundation	Each		N	\$290.00

continued on next page ...

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Name	Basis	Nature of fee	GST	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)
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Other Charges [continued]

Memorial permit fee - installation - minor work	Each		N	\$225.00
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DRAFT

Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
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Index of all Fees

1

1. An application for more than one class of permit set out in the above table: 2. An application to amend a permit in more than one class set out in the above table:	[Permit Applications for more than one Class]	13
120 litre bin	[Replacement Bins]	20

2

240 litre bin	[Replacement Bins]	20
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3

3 - 5-year-old childcare	[Childcare]	21
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6

6mth - 3-year-old childcare	[Childcare]	21
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A

A1/A0 – Black & White Plan	[Photocopying]	4
A1/A0 – Colour Plan	[Photocopying]	4
A1/A0 – Full colour/greyscale image	[Photocopying]	4
A3 – black & white – double sided	[Photocopying]	4
A3 – black & white – double sided – multiple copies	[Photocopying]	4
A3 – black & white – single sided	[Photocopying]	4
A3 – black & white – single sided – multiple copies	[Photocopying]	4
A3 – colour	[Photocopying]	4
A4 – black & white – double sided	[Photocopying]	4
A4 – black & white – double sided – multiple copies	[Photocopying]	4
A4 – black & white – single sided	[Photocopying]	4
A4 – black & white – single sided – multiple copies	[Photocopying]	4
A4 – colour	[Photocopying]	4
Additional Mandatory Inspections	[Inspections]	16
Additional persons (adult & children)	[Two Bedroom deluxe accessible cabin (wheelchair friendly)]	5
Additional persons (adult & children)	[Three Bedroom deluxe family cabin]	5
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Application for report and consent – To build over an easement vested in Council	[Report and Consent]	17
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B

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
C		
Cabin	[Three Bedroom deluxe family cabin]	5
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Car boot load	[Green Waste]	19
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Caravan park registration – less than 25 sites (3 yearly registration fee)	[Public Health and Accommodation Businesses]	11
Caravan park registration 26-50 sites (3 yearly registration fee)	[Public Health and Accommodation Businesses]	11
Caravan park registration 51-100 sites (3 yearly registration fee)	[Public Health and Accommodation Businesses]	11
Caravan park transfer of proprietor	[Public Health and Accommodation Businesses]	11
Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction – weekly fee	[Powered Site]	5
Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction – weekly fee	[Unpowered Site]	5
Caravan, trailer or like vehicle, or tent or like construction – weekly fee	[Unoccupied – no tenants]	5
Category A – Maximum Fee	[Animal Registration Fees]	10
Category B – Maximum Fee Pensioner	[Animal Registration Fees]	10
Category C – Reduced Fee	[Animal Registration Fees]	10
Category C – Reduced Fee Pensioner	[Animal Registration Fees]	10
Class 1 Amendment to a permit to change the use of land allowed by the permit or allow a new use of land	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	13
Class 1 Change or allow a new use of the land	[Applications for Permits (Regulation 7)]	12
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Class 10 Up to \$100,000	[To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 10 Up to \$100,000 Native Vegetation Removal Only	[To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 11 \$100,000 to \$1 million	[To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 11 Amendment to a class 11, class 12, class 13, class 14, class 15 or class 16 permit * if the estimated cost of the additional development to be permitted by the amendment is \$100,000 or less	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	14
Class 12 \$1 million to \$5 million	[To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 12 Amendment to a class 12, class 13, class 14, class 15 or class 16 permit * if the estimated cost of any additional development to be permitted by the amendment is more than \$100,000 but not more than \$1,000,000	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	14
Class 13 \$5 million to \$15 million	[To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 13 Amendment to a class 11, class 12, class 13, class 14, class 15 or class 16 permit * if the estimated cost of any additional development to be permitted by the amendment is more than \$1,000,000	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	14
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Class 19 Amendment to a class 22 permit	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	14
Class 19 To subdivide land (\$1,241 for each 100 lots created)	[To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
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Class 2 Amendment to a permit (other than a permit to develop land for a single dwelling per lot or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to change the statement of what the permit allows or to change any or all of the conditions which apply to the permit	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	13
Class 2 Registration (Restaurants/cafes/prep of food)	[Health Registration Fees]	11
Class 2 up to \$10,000	[To develop land, or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of the land for a single dwelling per lot if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 20 To create or vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or to create or move a Right of Way; or to create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or to vary or remove a condition of the nature of an easement other than a right of way in a Crown grant	[To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 21 A permit not otherwise provided for in this Regulation	[To develop land if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 3 \$10,000 to \$100,000	[To develop land, or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of the land for a single dwelling per lot if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 3 Amendment to a class 2, class 3, class 4, class 5 or class 6 permit, * if the cost of any additional development permitted by the amendment is \$10,000 or less	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	13
Class 3 Registration (Low risk food prep/package food)	[Health Registration Fees]	11
Class 4 \$100,000 to \$500,000	[To develop land, or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of the land for a single dwelling per lot if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 4 Amendment to a class 2, class 3, class 4, class 5 or class 6 permit, * if the cost of any additional development permitted by the amendment is more than \$10,000 but not more than \$100,000	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	13
Class 4 Registration (Newsagents)	[Health Registration Fees]	11
Class 5 \$500,000 to \$1 million	[To develop land, or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of the land for a single dwelling per lot if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
Class 5 Amendment to a class 2, class 3, class 4, class 5 or class 6 permit, * if the cost of any additional development permitted by the amendment is more than \$100,00 but not more than \$500,000	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	13
Class 6 \$1 million to \$2 million	[To develop land, or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of the land for a single dwelling per lot if the estimated cost of the development is:]	12
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Class 7 Amendment to a permit * that is the subject of VicSmart application, if the estimated cost of the additional development is \$10,000 or less	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	14
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Class 8 More than \$10,000	[A permit that is subject of a VicSmart application if the estimated cost of development is:]	12
Class 9 Amendment to a class 9 permit *	[Amendments to permits under section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987]	14
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C [continued]

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E

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Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Meeting Room]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Kitchen]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Activity Space]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Activity Space and Kitchen]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room and Activity Space]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Activity Space]	6
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Meeting Room]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Kitchen]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Activity Space]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Activity Space and Kitchen]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room and Activity Space]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	7
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Activity Space]	8
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	8
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room]	8
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Meeting Room]	8
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Kitchen]	8
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	8
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	8
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Kitchen]	8
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room]	9
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Meeting Room]	9
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Kitchen]	9
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	9
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	9
Evening 5pm – Midnight (7 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Kitchen]	9
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F

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Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room]	5
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Meeting Room]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Kitchen]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Activity Space]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Activity Space and Kitchen]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room and Activity Space]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Activity Space]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	6
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room]	7
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Meeting Room]	7
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Kitchen]	7
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Activity Space]	7
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	7
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Activity Space and Kitchen]	7
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room and Activity Space]	7
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	7
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Activity Space]	8
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	8
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room]	8
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Meeting Room]	8
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Kitchen]	8
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	8
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	8
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Kitchen]	8
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room]	9
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Meeting Room]	9
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Kitchen]	9
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	9
Full Day 8am – 5pm (9 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	9
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G		
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Grave Digging Fees - Child under 12	[Lawn Cemetery]	22
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Half Day (4 hours)	[Kitchen]	6
Half Day (4 hours)	[Activity Space]	6
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	6
Half Day (4 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	6
Half Day (4 hours)	[Activity Space and Kitchen]	6
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room and Activity Space]	6
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	6
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Activity Space]	6
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Meeting Room]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Kitchen]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Activity Space]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Activity Space and Kitchen]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room and Activity Space]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	7
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Activity Space]	8
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room, Activity Space and Kitchen]	8
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room]	8
Half Day (4 hours)	[Meeting Room]	8
Half Day (4 hours)	[Kitchen]	8
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	8
Half Day (4 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	8
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Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room]	9
Half Day (4 hours)	[Meeting Room]	9
Half Day (4 hours)	[Kitchen]	9
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room and Kitchen]	9
Half Day (4 hours)	[Meeting Room and Kitchen]	9
Half Day (4 hours)	[Function Room, Meeting Room and Kitchen]	9
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I		
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ii) 11 to 20 submissions	[Amendments to Planning Schemes]	13
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Land 2.4m x 1.22m	[Monumental Section]	22
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Livestock – Large Animal (cow or equivalent)	[Daily Food Fee]	10
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Loads Concrete/Builders Rubble etc	[Other]	19
Local Law Permit – excess animal numbers, alcohol permit for hotels for consumption of alcohol outside of hotel	[Other]	10

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Memorial permit fee - installation - new works without existing foundation	[Other Charges]	22
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O		
Occupied – per night	[Powered Site]	5
Occupied – per night	[Unpowered Site]	5
P		
Penalty for late payment of Health Registration fees	[Other]	11
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Pool/Spa Failure to lodge Cert of Compliance	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Pool/Spa Failure to lodge Cert of Compliance after alteration	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Pool/Spa Failure to pay at lodgement of Cert of Compliance	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Pool/Spa Failure to pay lodgement fee – Cert of Non Compliance	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	17
Pool/Spa Failure to Register – Construction before 1 November 2020	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Pool/Spa Failure to Register – Construction on or after 1 November 2020	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Pool/Spa Failure to register after notice given	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Pound Release Fees	[Pound Fees]	10
Pound Release Fees Registered dog/cat – within 12 months from first impoundment	[Pound Fees]	10
Prescribed Accommodation	[Public Health and Accommodation Businesses]	11
Prescribed waste (Asbestos – must be wrapped)	[Other]	19
Property Information Requests (Regulation 51(1), 51(2) and 51(3))	[Request for Information]	17
Public Aquatic Facilities	[Public Health and Accommodation Businesses]	11
R		
Re-inspection	[Compliance Inspections of Swimming Pool and Spa Barriers]	16
Recyclables (if sorted)	[Other]	19
Registered	[Surrendered Animals]	10
Regulation 10 For combined permit applications	[Other Fees]	14
Regulation 12 Amend an application for a permit or an application to amend a permit	[Other Fees]	14
Regulation 13 For a combined application to amend permit	[Other Fees]	14

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
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R [continued]

Regulation 14 For a combined permit and planning scheme amendment	[Other Fees]	14
Regulation 15 For a certificate of compliance	[Other Fees]	14
Regulation 16 For an agreement to a proposal to amend or end an agreement under section 173 of the Act	[Other Fees]	14
Regulation 17 For a planning certificate	[Other Fees]	14
Regulation 18 Where a planning scheme specifies that a matter must be done to the satisfaction of a responsible authority, Minister, public authority or municipal council	[Other Fees]	14
Regulation 7 For requesting the Minister to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme exempted from the requirements referred to in section 20(4) of the Act	[Other Fees]	14
Regulation 8 For requesting the Minister to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme exempted from certain requirements prescribed under section 20A of the Act	[Other Fees]	14
Relocatable Pool/Spa Failure to Register	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Renew a permit	[On-site wastewater management systems (OWMS) permits]	11
Request for Professional Advice/Consultation – per hour	[Request for Information]	17
Restumping (work must be performed by Registered Builder)	[Miscellaneous – Building Permits]	15
Roadside Grazing of livestock	[Other]	10

S

Second Internment Plaque	[Lawn Cemetery]	22
Secondary Consent fee	[Other Fees]	14
Security deposit for licensed functions (refundable)	[Edenhope Community Centre Hire]	5
Security deposit for licensed functions (refundable)	[Kaniva Hall Hire]	8
Sound System (PA System & microphones) – Bond	[Kaniva Hall Hire]	8
Sounds System (Audio visual System & microphones) – Bond	[Edenhope Community Centre Hire]	5
Stage 1	[Amendments to Planning Schemes]	13
Stage 2	[Amendments to Planning Schemes]	13
Stage 3	[Amendments to Planning Schemes]	13
Stage 4	[Amendments to Planning Schemes]	13
stall as part of organised event	[Other]	10
Subsequent Pound Release Fee per cat/dog	[Pound Fees]	10
Swimming Pool (fence alterations only)	[Miscellaneous – Building Permits]	15
Swimming Pool (new fence only)	[Miscellaneous – Building Permits]	15
Swimming Pool / Spa records search determination fee	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Swimming Pool / Spa registration fee	[Swimming Pools and Spas (lodgement fees)]	16
Swimming Pool and all fences	[Miscellaneous – Building Permits]	15

T

Temporary Siting Approval or Temporary Structure Inspection	[Other]	18
Timber, pallets, timber furniture, tree trunks, root balls, large branches >10cm diameter	[Green Waste]	19
Time Extension – Building Permit (first request)	[Amended Building Permit]	17
Time Extension – Building Permit (second request)	[Amended Building Permit]	17
Time Extension – Building Permit (third request)	[Amended Building Permit]	17
Tractor – over 1.5m diameter tyre only	[Tyres]	19
Tractor – up to 1.5m diameter tyre only	[Tyres]	19
Transfer a permit	[On-site wastewater management systems (OWMS) permits]	11
Transfer of registration (only for prescribed accommodation/hairdressing/beauty – not applicable to food businesses)	[Public Health and Accommodation Businesses]	11

U

Unregistered	[Surrendered Animals]	10
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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
U [continued]		
Up to \$5,000	[Extension, Alterations]	15
V		
Value of Works > \$350,000*	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works > \$350,000*	[New Dwellings, Re-erection/Re-siting]	15
Value of Works > \$500,000 or (negotiated with Council)	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	16
Value of Works \$10,001 – \$20,000	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$10,001 – \$50,000	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$100,001 – \$150,000	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$100,001 – \$150,000	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$150,001 – \$200,000	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$150,001 – \$200,000	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$20,001 – \$50,000	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$200,001 – \$250,000*	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$200,001 – \$250,000*	[New Dwellings, Re-erection/Re-siting]	15
Value of Works \$200,001 – \$250,000*	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	16
Value of Works \$250,001 – \$300,000*	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$250,001 – \$300,000*	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	16
Value of Works \$250,001 – \$350,000*	[New Dwellings, Re-erection/Re-siting]	15
Value of Works \$300,001 – \$350,000*	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$300,001 – \$500,000*	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	16
Value of Works \$5,001 – \$10,000	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$50,001 – \$100,000	[Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works \$50,001 – \$100,000	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works Up to \$10,000	[New Building, Extension, Alterations]	15
Value of Works Up to \$200,000	[New Dwellings, Re-erection/Re-siting]	15
W		
Withdrawn Application – Permit Lodged Not Yet Assessed	[Refunds]	17
Withdrawn Application – Permit Lodged Not Yet Issued	[Refunds]	17

ANNUAL PLAN

2026/27



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

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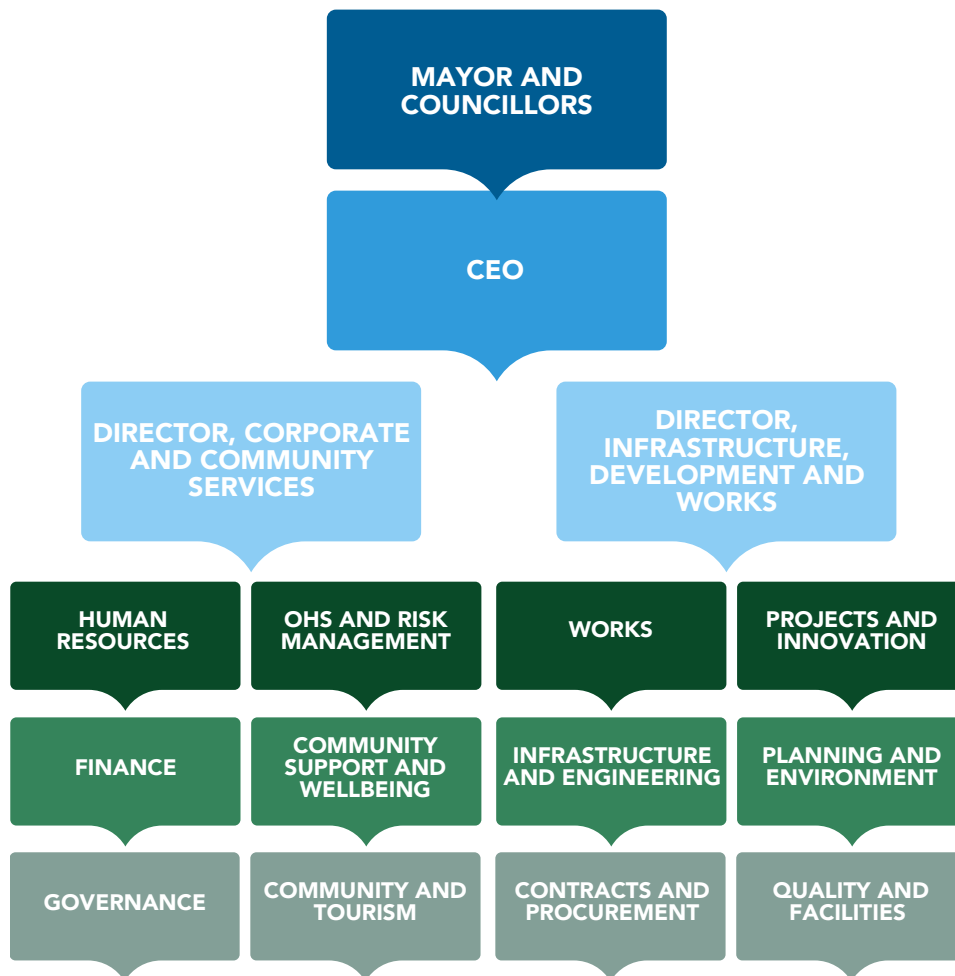
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

West Wimmera Shire Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, and pays respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

ORGANISATIONAL CHART WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Council is the governing body that appoints a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO has responsibility for the day-to-day management of operations in accordance with the strategic directions of the Council Plan. Two general managers/directors and the CEO form the senior management group.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CEO

It is with great pride that we present the 2026-27 Annual Plan, a roadmap for the year ahead that reflects our ongoing commitment to the sustainability, liveability and long-term prosperity of West Wimmera Shire.

Over the past year, Council has continued to deliver key infrastructure and community-focused projects across the region. Through careful and responsible financial management, we have taken a conservative approach to our budget, ensuring long-term sustainability while also creating capacity to reinvest in priority areas for our community.

Importantly, this approach has enabled Council to reinstate a number of road and footpath projects that were deferred in the previous year. Maintaining and improving our local road network and pedestrian connections remains a core focus, supporting safety, accessibility and connectivity across the shire.

Significant progress has been made across a number of key projects. The final stage of the reconstruction and widening of Mooree Road are due to be completed by June 2026. The redevelopment of the football change rooms at Edenhope Recreation Reserve is expected to be completed by July 2026, with the Goroke Oval upgrade also due for completion by May 2026. Major upgrades at the Kaniva Bowling Club are anticipated to commence by mid-2026, and we have recently completed the Serviceton Silo Art project and the new dog park in Kaniva, further enhancing community spaces and visitor appeal.

Council has also undertaken significant strategic planning to guide the future of key assets, including the Kaniva Recreation Reserve and the Goroke Pool. In addition, we are currently awaiting funding outcomes for a number of important infrastructure projects, including upgrades at the Kaniva Pool, Goroke and Edenhope Kindergartens, Apsley Hall, Lake Wallace Jetty Handrail, Harrow Recreation Reserve and Kaniva Hall.



Looking ahead, Council will continue to prioritise investment in essential infrastructure. We will be seeking funding to expand and improve footpaths across Edenhope, Goroke and Kaniva. Major road projects will continue, including the reconstruction and widening of Kadnook–Connewirricoo Road and Brooks Road, along with pedestrian crossing upgrades in the Kaniva main street. These works are in addition to the reinstatement of Council's shoulder resheeting, road resheeting and reseal programs, which are critical to maintaining our extensive road network.

Council remains committed to supporting population growth and economic development. This includes progressing housing initiatives, advocating for improved services, and working in partnership with government and industry to create opportunities that attract and retain people in our region.

We thank our Councillors, staff and community members for their continued dedication and collaboration. Your contributions help ensure West Wimmera remains a strong, welcoming and forward-looking place to live. We invite you to read this Annual Plan and share your feedback as we work together toward the year ahead.

Mayor Tim Meyer and CEO David Bezuidenhout

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

ABOUT THE ANNUAL PLAN

The Annual Plan sets out the activities that Council will undertake during the year to deliver the outcomes of the Council Plan 2025-2029. The annual plan works in conjunction with the Annual Report and the Budget for financial year 2026-27.

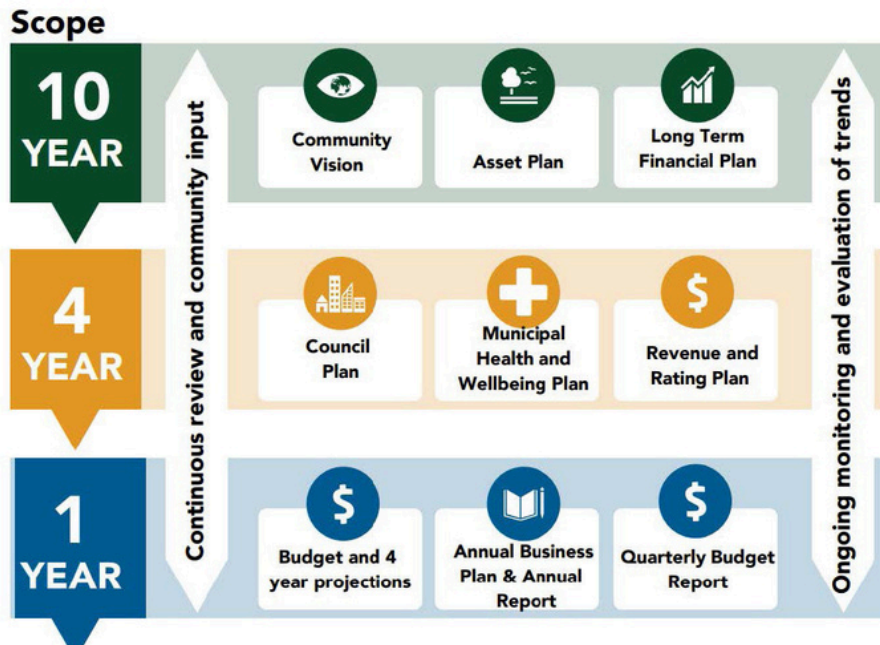
Together, the following integrated documents form the local government's system of financial management:

- Council Plan 2025-29 incorporating community vision
- Long-term financial plan and yearly budget
- Annual Report and Annual Plan

The Chief Executive Officer presents a written quarterly progress report to Council outlining progress towards implementing the Annual Plan. Council may amend the Annual Plan during the year by resolution.

OUR PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Our planning framework comprises the key plans that guide our work and decision-making and connects to long-term community needs and aspirations. The Council Plan is aligned with the 2041 Community Vision. The Annual Plan sits within our one-year scope and is an annual document Council develops to ensure that we are moving towards our goals.



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

Our core services

Council delivers a wide range of business-as-usual services that keep our shire running, meet statutory requirements, and support community wellbeing. These are our ongoing responsibilities and differ from the special initiatives listed in this plan.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

Engineering

- Strategic and technical asset management
- Civil design and engineering support
- Road, bridge and drainage planning
- Delivery of the capital works program
- Maintenance of Council buildings, halls, and public facilities

Operations

- Maintenance of 2,759 km of local roads, bridges, footpaths and drainage
- Parks, gardens, recreation reserves, and public amenities upkeep
- Fleet and plant management

Waste management

- Operation for transfer stations across the shire
- Management of roadside collection service

Quality and facilities

- Management of Councils DEECA Committee of Management requirements
- Cleaning of Council buildings
- Quality plans for service standards
- Management of leases and hire of Council facilities

Contract and procurement

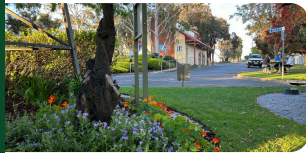
- Purchasing, contracts and tenders
- Supplier compliance and probity management

Projects and innovations

- Delivery of capital works program
- Project management and design coordination
- Innovation in service delivery and infrastructure renewal
- Strategic development projects

Planning and development

- Statutory planning and building permits
- Local laws administration
- Environmental health and compliance (food safety, septic, housing health)



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

Our core services

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES



Human resources

- Workforce planning, recruitment, and training
- Payroll, employee relations, and staff wellbeing
- Organisational culture development



Occupational health and safety

- Workplace safety management
- Risk assessments and incident response
- Compliance with WorkSafe and legislative standards



Community support services

- Early years services (childcare, kindergarten, playgroups)
- Youth engagement and inclusion programs



Community development and tourism

- Community and business grants and event support
- Tourism marketing, visitor information and regional partnerships
- Emergency management coordination and recovery



Finance and transactions

- Financial planning, budgets and audits
- Rates and property valuation
- Treasury, accounting and reporting



Governance and compliance

- Council meetings, decision-making and records management
- Policy, risk and audit oversight



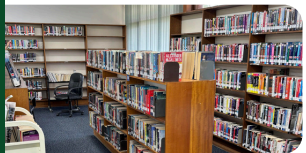
Communications

- Website Management
- Media Releases
- Newsletters
- Social Media Management
- Community engagement



Customer service

- Customer service (phone and in person)
- VicRoads agency
- Centrelink agency
- Hosting court



Library

- Open access library services across Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke and Harrow

OUR VALUES

Innovative

We will proactively respond to change, are optimistic about our future and pursue continuous improvement in everything we do

Accountable

We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency, achievement of goals and advocating for our community.

United

We will do everything within our ability to encourage and form trusting relationships, to work together as one team to achieve our goals and advocate for "One West Wimmera".

Collaborative

We will actively and openly consult with you and work constructively with community organisations, agencies, the business community and other levels of government to our community's benefit

COMMUNITY VISION

In 2041 West Wimmera is a great place to live, work and play. We are growing and we are known for our natural environment, resilience and sense of community. We are proud of our heritage and are building new economic capacity based on innovation and tourism, which is creating local employment. Our towns are vibrant and welcoming, offering the services and facilities that meet the needs of our community and visitors. We are a confident community and will empower everyone to be part of our future.



Photo: Serviceton Silo Art & Serviceton Community

OUR GOALS

The Council Plan 2025-29 includes four high-level goals.



Each of these goals includes several strategies and more specific initiatives to be implemented over the next four years:



OUR STRATEGIES

1 Healthy, Inviting & Connected Community

- 1.1 Support the provision of early years, education and childcare services within the shire
- 1.2 Identify opportunities to improve health, wellbeing and community safety
- 1.3 Create recreation, sport and active lifestyle opportunities for the community
- 1.4 Provide community development opportunities and volunteer support
- 1.5 Support youth engagement
- 1.6 Maintain and enhance community infrastructure and streetscapes

2 Diverse & Growing Economy

- 2.1 Maintain and renew assets and infrastructure
- 2.2 Increase housing availability and improve township amenity
- 2.3 Implement planning changes and regulatory reform
- 2.4 Invest in tourism and arts and cultural development
- 2.5 Encourage economic development and industry diversification

3 Resilient & Sustainable Environment

- 3.1 Manage outcomes from flood management and planning initiatives
- 3.2 Deliver waste and resource management solutions
- 3.3 Facilitate pest, weed and wildlife management solutions
- 3.4 Share education and information
- 3.5 Facilitate emergency management and community preparedness

4 Operational Excellence

- 4.1 Strengthen community consultation, engagement and trust, ensuring a diversity of perspectives across the shire
- 4.2 Provide a responsive service to the West Wimmera community
- 4.3 Explore opportunities to reduce red tape and support the community through challenging government processes
- 4.4 Secure funding and influence change through effective advocacy
- 4.5 Strive for long-term financial sustainability
- 4.6 Maintain the focus on continuous improvement
- 4.7 Ensure employee safety and manage risks effectively
- 4.8 Improve organisational efficiency

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

BUDGET INFORMATION

2021-25 Council Plan goals	FY26/27budget (\$'000)
Goal 1: HEALTHY, INVITING & CONNECTED COMMUNITY	\$20,674
Goal 2: DIVERSE & GROWING ECONOMY	\$1,305
Goal 3: RESILIENT & SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT	\$2,439
Goal 4: OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE	\$5,559

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

KEY FOCUS AREAS 2026-27

* Major Initiatives in 2026-27 budget

GOAL 1: Healthy, Inviting & Connected Community		
Council Plan Initiative	2026/27 Action	Action Type
1.1.1	Investigate opportunities with service providers to implement a childcare service in Goroke	Partner / Support
1.1.2	Investigate partnership opportunities with Parents Groups and Community to ensure the long-term sustainability of kindergarten services within the shire	Partner / Support
1.1.2	Planning & Delivery of increased Pre-Prep (4 year old) Hours from Feb 27 (16-20hrs)	Deliver
1.1.2	Deliver Bush Kinder Program in Kaniva	Deliver
1.1.2	Deliver Toy Library Pilot (pending funding)	Deliver
1.1.3	Delivery of (subject to funding) Goroke Kinder Building Upgrades & Edenhope Kinder Playground Upgrades.	Deliver
1.1.4	Continue to deliver supported playgroups at Harrow and Goroke, and support other community playgroups as required.	Deliver/Partner / Support
1.2.1	Advocate for and support mental health and wellbeing providers through regular engagement with regional partners	Advocate
1.2.10	Advocate to health service providers to maintain service levels, support telehealth, and achieve the best possible outcomes for the community	Advocate
1.2.11	Advocate for GP access across the shire	Advocate
1.2.2	Identify partnership opportunities to address health and wellbeing issues associated with social isolation	Partner / Support
1.2.3	Identify partnership opportunities to reduce tobacco and vaping use across the shire	Partner / Support

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

GOAL 1: Healthy, Inviting & Connected Community (Continued)

Council Plan Initiative	2026/27 Action	Action Type
1.2.4	Identify partnership opportunities to reduce harm from alcohol and other drugs across the shire	Partner / Support
1.2.5	Explore partnership opportunities to increase cancer prevention screening at a local community level	Partner / Support
1.2.6	Support health and wellbeing partners delivering active ageing programs	Partner / Support
1.2.7	Incorporate healthy eating where possible in current Council run programs	Deliver
1.2.8	Support and/or deliver the 16 Days of Activism program in partnership with local organisations	Partner / Support
1.2.9	Provide support to organisations delivering programs to improve gender equity and reduce family violence within the shire	Partner / Support
1.3.1*	Delivery Kaniva Bowling Club Upgrade, Edenhope Changerooms Upgrade	Deliver
1.3.1	Progress delivery of Kaniva Tourism & Wellbeing Precinct Project (pending funding) , Harrow Scoreboards Project (pending funding), Lake Wallace Jetty Handrail (pending funding), Edenhope Early Years Yard Upgrade (pending funding), Goroce Kinder Building Upgrade (pending funding), Apsley Hall upgrade (pending funding), Kaniva Hall toilet upgrades(pending funding) & Edenhope Park Run Shelter (pending funding)	Deliver
1.3.1	Partner with Wimmera Sports Assembly to deliver the "Partners in Place" program (subject to funding)	Partner / Support
1.3.4	Seek funding to upgrade the Kaniva and Goroce swimming pools and amenities	Seek / Explore
1.3.5	Seek funding to plan and upgrade the Edenhope swimming pool and amenities	Seek / Explore
1.3.6*	Deliver Toilet Upgrade & Seek funding to progress the Edenhope Lions Park Development	Deliver/Seek
1.3.7	Delivery of the Serviceton Bowling Club Facility Upgrade (subject to funding)	Deliver

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

GOAL 1: Healthy, Inviting & Connected Community (Continued)

Council Plan Initiative	2026/27 Action	Action Type
1.4.2	Seek funding for Town Community Plans	Seek / Explore
1.4.3	Continue to deliver community grant program	Delivery
1.4.4	Continue to support community events through Council grant programs	Partner / Support
1.4.5	Continue to implement and promote our community & business grants	Deliver
1.4.6	Advocate for better community transport options within the shire (Kaniva - Horsham bus service, The Overland stopping at Kaniva)	Advocate
1.5.1	Continue to fund and partner with Western Bulldogs Community Foundation to support delivery of youth services programming within the shire	Partner / Support
1.5.1	Partner with Kaniva and Harrow Neighbourhood houses to deliver School Holiday Programs in Edenhope, Harrow, Kaniva and Goroke (pending funding)	Partner / Support
1.6.1	Advocate for traffic calming initiatives (and appropriate speed limits) within township main streets	Advocate
1.6.1	Advocate for Rail Crossing signals at Serviceton	Advocate
1.6.2	Advocate for continued TAC funding to implement the Safer Local Roads and Streets Program action plan	Advocate
1.6.3	Seek funding for Dergholm ablution block	Seek / Explore
1.6.4	Seek funding for the Edenhope, Apsley, Goroke and Harrow structure plans	Seek / Explore
1.6.5	Seek funding for Harrow, Apsley and Goroke streetscape planning	Seek / Explore
1.6.6	Seek funding to maintain Council Buildings and Infrastructure to support community need.	Seek / Explore
1.6.6	Ensure agreements in place for all Councils managed Assets and Land	Deliver
1.6.6	Maintain and facilitate access to Council facilities for community and commercial use	Deliver

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

GOAL 2: Diverse and Growing Economy

Council Plan Initiative	2026/27 Action	Action Type
2.1.1*	Deliver Council 2026–27 Annual Road Maintenance Program	Deliver
2.1.1*	Deliver Council 2026–27 Capital Road Works Program	Deliver
2.1.1	Develop of Council 2027–28 Capital Road Works Program	Deliver
2.1.2	Seek funding to implement streetscape plans for Kaniva and Edenhope – including Kaniva intersection improvements	Seek / Explore
2.1.3	Progress implementation of a schedule to clean signs and replace ageing signs across the shire	Deliver
2.2.1	Explore opportunities to support improved housing quality in West Wimmera townships, including renovations, to ensure homes are fit for purpose (ie Harrow housing opportunity)	Seek / Explore
2.2.2	Seek funding for West Wimmera key housing projects – e.g. Kaniva- Kelly Street housing development, Edenhope - Langford Street development	Seek / Explore
2.3.1	Implement actions from Business Friendly Councils Program	Deliver
2.3.2	Seek funding to incorporate the Kaniva Structure plans and associated actions in the West Wimmera Planning Scheme	Seek / Explore
2.4.1	Seek funding for signage review	Seek / Explore
2.4.2	Review West Wimmera Signage Strategy and update rules/guidelines based on community feedback	Deliver
2.4.3	Seek funding to scope and plan for the Harrow Discovery Centre upgrade	Seek / Explore
2.4.4	Advocate for a Kaniva stop for The Overland Train	Advocate
2.4.5	Subject to agreement with Vic Rail, seek funding to restore and activate Serviceton Railway Station	Seek / Explore
2.4.6	Explore free & freedom camping opportunities in the shire	Seek / Explore
2.5.2	Seek funding to increase activity in industrial areas in Kaniva and Edenhope	Seek / Explore
2.5.3	Progress implementation & advocacy of Digital Connectivity Plan	Deliver

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

GOAL 3: Resilient & Sustainable Environment

Council Plan Initiative	2026/27 Action	Action Type
3.1.1	Complete Action Plan for Flood Studies	Deliver
3.1.2*	Complete West Wimmera Planning Scheme amendments to incorporate Harrow and Chetwynd flood studies.	Deliver
3.2.1	Seek funding to develop and implement the West Wimmera Waste Management Strategy	Seek / Explore
3.3.1	Review and implement Corella Management Plan	Deliver
3.3.2	Maintain Website and social media with updates on kangaroo and deer management options	Partner / Support
3.3.3*	Undertake roadside pest and weed control, subject to annual funding	Deliver
3.3.5	Seek additional funding and partner with other organisations to control pests and weeds across the shire	Seek / Explore
3.3.5	Management of Weeds at Lake Wallace	Partner / Support
3.4.1	Continue to share opportunities with our community on info sessions, grants and changes to land use. (i.e. carbon farming, drought funding and support)	Partner / Support
3.5.1	Support the planning and coordination of emergency management activities in partnership with relevant agencies	Partner / Support
3.5.2	Advocate for (and support) multi-agency centres for CFA and SES in Kaniva and Goroke and upgrades for CFA sheds across the shire.	Advocate
3.5.3	Work with relevant organisations to optimise emergency planning, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery to support our community	Partner / Support

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

GOAL 4: Operational Excellence

Council Plan Initiative	2026/27 Action	Action Type
4.1.1	Review of Community Forums and creating opportunities for engagement with Councillors and Community	Delivery
4.1.1*	Delivery of Business Acceleration Fund - Website & Open Forms Upgrade	Delivery
4.1.2	Continue to build awareness of the innovation platform for community ideas and ensure community members are updated on project status	Delivery
4.1.3	Continue to engage with BGLC and other Indigenous groups as per community engagement and procurement policy	Partner / Support
4.2.1	Review current CRM System and explore opportunities to improve the customer experience	Seek / Explore
4.2.2	Partner with service providers across the shire to support improved community outcomes	Partner / Support
4.4.1	Develop an advocacy document	Deliver
4.4.2	Maintain alliance with neighbouring councils to advocate to state and federal governments	Advocate
4.5.3	Provide monthly reports on Council's financial performance	Other
4.5.3	Internal Audits 2026–27 Project Management, business continuity and disaster management	Other
4.5.3	Development of 2027–28 Budget	Deliver
4.5.3	Development of 2025/26 Annual Financial & Performance Statement	Deliver
4.5.3	Development of 25/26 Annual Report	Deliver
4.6.1	Explore plant and equipment upgrades that improve outcomes for the West Wimmera community	Seek / Explore

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

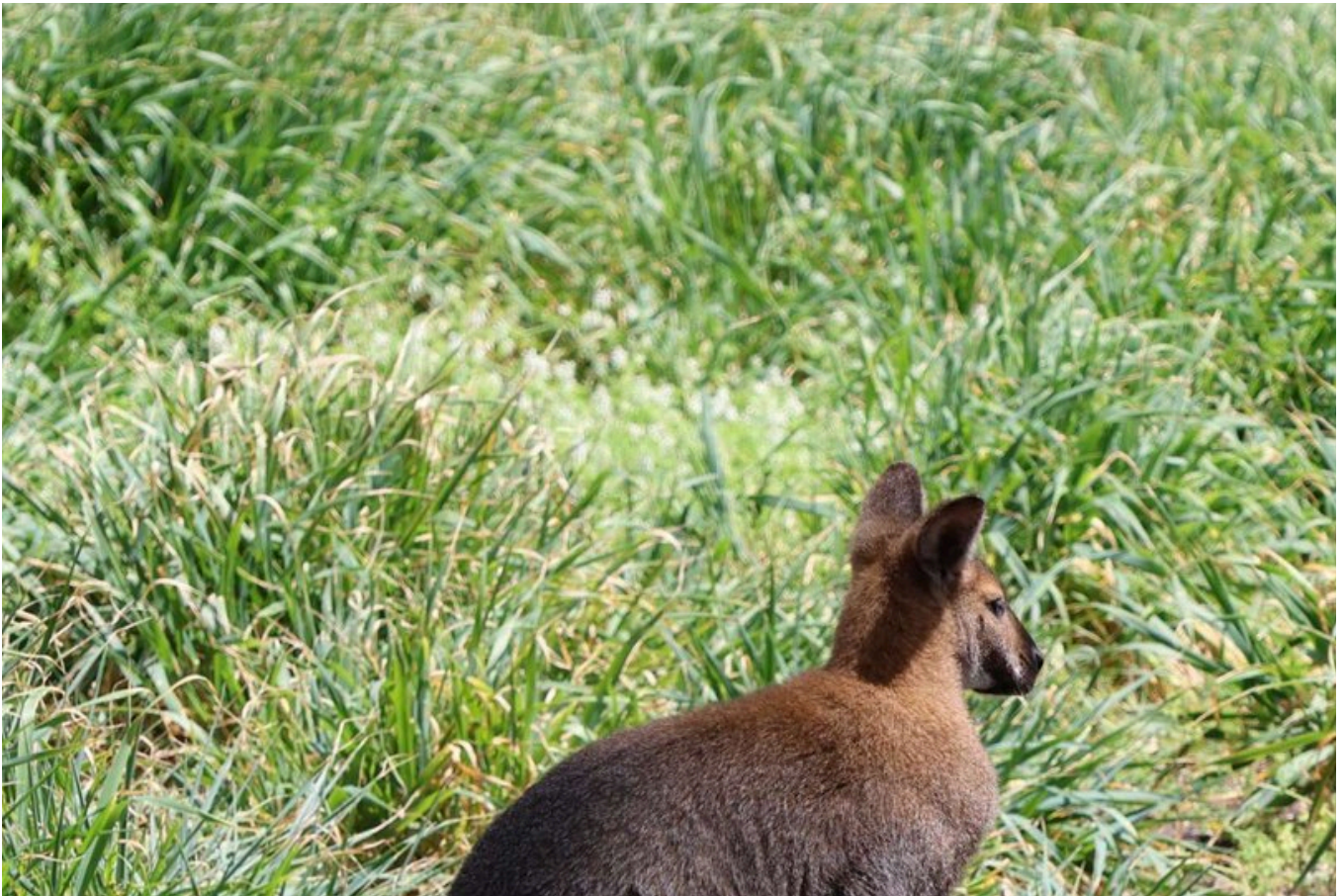
GOAL 4: Operational Excellence

Council Plan Initiative	2026/27 Action	Action Type
4.6.10	Coordinate Professional Development for Councillors as required under Local Government Regulations	Deliver
4.6.10	Roll out of new Governance Rules/Council Meeting Policy as per LGV review	Deliver
4.6.2	Provide professional development support for operations staff to optimise the use of Council equipment & resources	Deliver
4.6.3*	Delivery of Business Acceleration Fund - Digitisation of building and planning records	Deliver
4.6.3	Develop System integration and recording of plant and capital salaries	Deliver
4.6.3	Undertake Microsoft security and maturity review	Deliver
4.6.3	Progress implementation of the Reliansys Compliance Module	Deliver
4.6.5	Consider shared services model for building services and other services	Other
4.6.6	Progress upgrade current asset management system to improve depreciation management	Other
4.6.8	Continue to explore opportunities for AI Road Condition Assessments	Seek / Explore
4.6.9	Ongoing LMS Training - Online training for all staff (Code of Conduct, cultural awareness training)	Other
4.7.1	Risk Assessment on Lone Workers	Other
4.7.4	Complete Risk Assessment & Review incident reporting and investigation processes	Deliver
4.7.4	Develop an operation risk register in reliasys	Deliver
4.7.6	Risk Assessment on handling and risk management processes for hazardous materials	Other

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

GOAL 4: Operational Excellence

Council Plan Initiative	2026/27 Action	Action Type
4.8.1	Complete annual workforce plan inline with annual plan and budget	Deliver
4.8.2	Progress implementation of Training Matrix	Deliver
4.8.4	Progress Implementation of Quality Plan	Deliver
4.8.4	Progress Review and Update of Contracts Register	Deliver





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14 Corporate and Community Services

14.1 Revision of the Flag Policy - Includes Banner Guidelines

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Community Development Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Purpose

This policy ensures that flags on Council property are flown in accordance with this policy and within the Australian Government's flag protocols.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approves the revised Flag Flying and Use of Council-Owned Banner Poles in Main Street Precincts Policy.

Declaration of Interest

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)* in the preparation of this report.

Background

Council recognises that the respectful and consistent display of flags is an important expression of civic identity, national pride and community cohesion. This policy provides a clear framework for how official and non-official flags are to be flown across Council sites, ensuring alignment with Australian Government flag protocols while supporting opportunities for community recognition through the designated community flagpoles. This policy also demonstrates to use of banners and banner poles for the display of important events (i.e. Christmas) and the availability for use by the community to advertise events.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

Not Applicable



Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The financial risk rating has been assessed as: Low

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy/s:

Not applicable

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 2 – Diverse and growing economy

2.1 Maintain and renew assets and infrastructure.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Equal Impact Assessment

No Equal Impact Assessment is required

Conclusion

This policy ensures a consistent, respectful, and nationally aligned approach to the display of flags and banners across Council assets. By clearly defining protocols, responsibilities and approval processes, Council upholds the dignity of official flags while providing an equitable and transparent framework for community recognition. Through these measures, Council reinforces its commitment to unity, inclusion, and the responsible stewardship of public symbols.

Attachments

1. Flags and Banners Policy [**14.1.1** - 5 pages]



Council Policy WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY					
Flag Flying and Use of Council-Owned Banner Poles in Main Street Precincts Policy	Policy No:				
	Adopted by Council:	9 May 2022			
	Next review date:	May 2026 2030			
Senior Manager:	Director of Corporate and Community Services				
Responsible Officer:	Governance Manager <u>Community Development Manager</u>				
Functional Area:	Governance <u>Community Development</u>				
Introduction & Background	<p>The West Wimmera Shire Council proudly affirms its commitment to the Australian National Flag as the nation's symbol of unity and identity. It is Council's position that the Australian National Flag must always be displayed in the most prominent position at all Council buildings, sites and events where flags are flown.</p> <p>The West Wimmera Shire Council has three flag poles located inside both the Edenhope and Kaniva Council Chambers. The Australian Flag will always be flown on the middle flagpole inside the Council Chambers. Other official flags such as, but not limited to, the Victorian Flag, Aboriginal Flag, Torres Strait Islander Flag and Local Government Flag may be flown on the other two flagpoles.</p> <p>There is one flagpole located outside the Kaniva Council Chambers. The Australian Flag will take precedence on this flagpole.</p> <p>There are two flagpoles outside the Edenhope Council Chambers. The Australian Flag will take precedence on the first flagpole. Other official flags may be flown on the second flagpole.</p> <p>To accommodate requests for the flying of non-official flags, Council has made provision for a 'Community Flagpole' in Edenhope, Kaniva, Apsley, Goroke and Harrow.</p> <p><u>Council also has several banner poles in locations across the shire. Banner poles are used to display decorations, events and celebration materials that are not flags.</u></p>				
Purpose & Objectives	<p>This policy ensures that flags on Council property are flown in accordance with this policy and with the Australian Government's flag protocols.</p> <p>When considering requests for flying official and non-official flags, guidelines will be used which are outlined in this Policy.</p>				
Definitions	<p>For interpretation purposes, a flag is defined as a piece of cloth attached by one edge to a staff, rope, or pole, and which bears a distinctive design <u>that is adopted by a recognised body as representative of a body or cause.</u></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;">Term</th> <th>Definition</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Term	Definition		
Term	Definition				



Council Policy WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

	Council	West Wimmera Shire Council
	Non-Official Flags	Flags representing a community event, charity days, commemorations, or celebrations.
	Non-Official flagpole	Dedicated Community Flag Poles in Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke, Harrow and Apsley (marked “Community Flagpole”)
	Official Flags	Flags of countries, states or those formally proclaimed by the Governor General in accordance with the <i>Flags Act 1953</i> .
	<u>Banner</u>	<u>A banner is not a flag and is used to decorate or recognise a celebration or event.</u>
	Approval	A written application must be approved by Council and repeat applications may be approved by the Chief Executive Officer.
Policy Details		
1.	Australian National Flag	<p>The Australian National Flag was proclaimed by the Governor-General on 28 August 1996. The Australian National Flag was raised for the first time on 3 September 1901. This symbol of nationality stands for the democracy which allows Australians to discuss its meaning and origins.</p> <p>The Australian National Flag consists of three elements: The Union Jack, The Commonwealth Star and The Southern Cross. The Union Jack is to acknowledge the history of British settlement in Australia. The Commonwealth Star on the Australian National Flag, created in 1901 had six points representing the states. The seventh point was added in 1908 to represent Commonwealth territories.</p>
2.	State of Victoria Flag	<p>The State of Victoria Flag was the first Australian colony to have its own flag. It consists of a blue background with the Union Flag in the top pole-side quarter. In the background area there are five white stars representing the Southern Cross. Above the stars is a St Edward’s Crown.</p>
3.	Order of Precedence	<p>The Australian National flag takes precedence in Australia over all other flags when it is flown in company with other flags. Thereafter when flown in the community, the order of precedence of flags is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Australian National Flag. • State and Territory flags. • Other flags prescribed by the Flags Act 1953 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Australian Aboriginal flag and The Torres Strait Islander flag in either order.



Council Policy WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Defence ensigns which should be flown in the following order: Australian Defence Force Ensign, the Australian White Ensign and the Royal Australian Air Force Ensign • Ensigns and pennants including local government; Commonwealth, state and territory agencies; and non-government organisations.
4.	<p>Flying Non-Official Flags</p> <p>Approved non-official flags will be flown on the dedicated “Community Flagpoles”.</p> <p>Non-official flag flying requests must be submitted to Council in writing four (4) weeks before the requested day to allow sufficient time for Council to consider and approve the application. Applications will be assessed in accordance with the below criteria by the Director Corporate and Community Services and submitted with a report to Council for consideration and approval. Once approved by Council, repeat applications will be approved by Chief Executive Officer. The CEO may also approve an application to fly an official flag on the community flagpole (e.g. Australian Flag on Australia Day).</p> <p>Groups applying to have a non-official flag flown on the Community Flagpole, will be required to provide the flag.</p> <p>The following criteria will be considered during assessment of a request to fly a non-official flag on a Council Community Flagpole:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes respect for all. • Is part of an event or ceremony or commemoration. • Is consistent with Council’s values and policies. • Embraces a sense of belonging and enhanced community life. <p>Council will not consider a request to fly a non-official flag that is connected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual advancement. • Political or cultural sensitivities. • Exposure to adverse criticism of Council or the community as a wholecommunity. <p>Council may also use the Community Flagpole to fly Official Flags upon written request.</p>
5.	<p>Protocols for display</p> <p>Official flags should always be flown aloft and free as close as possible to the top of the flag mast with the rope tightly secured.</p> <p>The flag may only be flown at night when illuminated. In accordance with National Flag Protocols, street lighting is considered appropriate illumination when the flag(s) are clearly visible. If a flag is not illuminated at night, the flag will be lowered at the end of each day.</p> <p>The flag should not be allowed to fall or lie flat on the ground.</p>
6	<p>Flying Flags at Half-Mast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Australian National Flag will be flown at half-mast, following direction from the State or Federal Government. The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and/or the Victorian



Council Policy WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

	<p>Department of Premier and Cabinet may issue a Flag Notification instructing flags to be flown at half-mast. Following that, the Shire will lower its flags accordingly and in accordance with the Protocols.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Shire may fly its flags at half-mast on the passing of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander elder or significant community members. A relevant local Aboriginal community organisation may make the request of the Shire’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Following CEO approval (and following consultation with the Shire's Cultural Heritage Advisor), the Shire will fly all flags at its Shire Offices at half-mast on the day, or part of the day, of the funeral of an elder or significant community member. • Community Members, Councillors and Shire Staff: The Shire may fly its flags at half-mast on the passing of a significant community member. On request and in consultation with the CEO and the Mayor, the Shire will fly all flags at its Shire Offices at half-mast on the death of a current or former Councillor or member of Shire staff or on the day, or part of the day, of their funeral. • In all other circumstances, the CEO, in consultation with the Mayor, has the authority to make discretionary decisions regarding flying all flags at its Shire Offices at half-mast.
7.	<p>Use of Council owned banner poles in the town’s main street precinct.</p>
	<p>Council has several will install banner poles across the shire in town’s main street precincts and provide banners recognising Christmas and other special days as formally approved by Council.</p> <p>Community events supported by Council may apply to display a banner on the main street banner poles, subject to approval by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO will determine the display location and duration, taking into account considering competing requests from other events or causes seeking to display banners. Council will maintain a centralised calendar booking system to manage and coordinate approved displays. Bookings are taken on a first in first basis and are for a maximum of 1 month with a maximum of 12 months in advanced.</p> <p>In assessing applications, the CEO will consider the purpose of the display, any potential impacts on risks of discriminatory or inappropriate messaging, and compliance with all relevant legislative requirements.</p> <p>All costs associated with the installation and removal of banners on light-pole banner mounts will be borne by the organisation requesting the display.</p> <p>Banner poles currently available for use under this policy are located in Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke, Apsley, Dergholm, and Harrow. Banner poles cannot be used for flags or any other purpose other than flying banners as approved by Council.</p>
8.	<p>References</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flag Act 1953 • Australian National Flag Protocols



Council Policy WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Policy Adopted:	Ordinary Meeting 17 th February 2022	Minute Book Page [number]	RecFind
	Unscheduled Meeting 9 May 2022		E22/000153
Policy Reviewed:	Ordinary Meeting	Minute Book Page [number]	RecFind



14.2 Council Complaints Policy

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Report Purpose: For Decision

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the draft West Wimmera Shire Council Complaints Policy for Council's consideration and adoption. This policy outlines a structured framework for the management and resolution of complaints regarding Council decisions, actions, or service delivery, and underscores the Council's commitment to fairness, transparency, and ongoing improvement in complaint handling. The report details the minor updates recommended during the recent review, ensuring continued alignment with current legislation, local laws, and operational requirements.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the draft West Wimmera Shire Council Complaints Policy.

Declaration of Interest

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)* in the preparation of this report.

Background

West Wimmera Shire Council's Complaints Policy establishes a structured approach for managing and resolving complaints related to Council decisions, actions, or service delivery. It emphasises commitment to fairness, transparency, and continuous improvement in complaint handling. The policy was last reviewed in December 2021.

During the review, only minor updates have been recommended. Recommended changes include clarification on customer service open days to allow for office closures across unforeseen circumstances and holiday periods; ensuring current policies and local laws and legislation has been referred to accurately and allows for subsequent updates; and referring to the WWSC libraries accurately since the closure of the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation.



Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

People risk

Regulatory risk

Reputation risk

Legislative Implications

Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The financial risk rating has been assessed as: Low

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council policy/s:

Complaints Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 4 – Operational excellence

4.1 Strengthen community consultation, engagement and trust ensuring a diversity of perspectives across the shire.

4.2 Provide a responsive service to the West Wimmera community.

4.6 Maintain the focus on continuous improvement.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Equal Impact Assessment

No Equal Impact Assessment is required



Conclusion

The complaints policy has been reviewed and minor changes recommended to reflect current operational conditions.

Attachments

1. WWSC Council Policy Complaints Policy Draft March 2026 [14.2.1 - 14 pages]



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COUNCIL POLICY							
COMPLAINTS POLICY	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Policy No:</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Adopted by Council:</td> <td style="padding: 2px; color: red;">15 December 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Next review date:</td> <td style="padding: 2px; color: red;">September 2023</td> </tr> </table>	Policy No:		Adopted by Council:	15 December 2021	Next review date:	September 2023
Policy No:							
Adopted by Council:	15 December 2021						
Next review date:	September 2023						
Senior Manager:	Director Corporate and Community Services						
Responsible Officer:	Director Corporate and Community Services						
Functional Area:	Corporate and Community Services <u>Whole Council</u>						
Introduction & Background	The West Wimmera Shire Council (the Council) provides a wide and diverse range of services to the community and understands that at times disputes arise around Council decisions, actions or the standard of service delivery.						
Legislative Requirements	Section 107 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> (LGA 2020) provides that a Council must develop and maintain a complaints policy. The specific legislative requirements are shown in Attachment 1.						
Purpose & Objectives	This <i>Complaints Policy</i> (the Policy) sets out guidelines to manage complaints to ensure that where possible, an effective, agreed and positive outcome is achieved. The Policy provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a process for complaints to be received; b) a structure for complaints to be investigated, processed and resolved in a timely, transparent and fair manner; and c) a process for appeals against decisions made. 						
Guiding Principles	This Policy is based around the seven following principles of complaints handling as outlined in the Ombudsman Victoria's publication <i>Councils and Complaints – A Good Practice Guide</i> . <p>1 Commitment</p> <p>Council is committed to resolving complaints received and recognises that members of the public have the right to complain. Council considers complaint handling processes to be essential and can lead to improvements in providing services to the community.</p> <p>2 Accessibility</p> <p>Support will be provided to enable people with a range of needs to lodge a complaint. Council will provide suitable resources to allow them to access the complaints handling process.</p>						



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	<p>3 Transparency</p> <p>Council will make it clear how to lodge a complaint and provide a clear framework for handling complaints.</p> <p>4 Objectivity and fairness</p> <p>All complaints will be dealt with courteously, impartially, on merit and within established timeframes.</p> <p>5 Privacy</p> <p>All information involved in receiving and processing complaints will be handled in accordance with applicable legislation and Council's <i>Information Privacy Policy</i>.</p> <p>Complainants will be provided with information about how personal information is disclosed.</p> <p>6 Accountability</p> <p>Council acknowledges that it is accountable internally and externally for its decisions and actions and will provide explanations and reasons for decisions and ensure that its decisions are subject to appropriate review processes where required.</p> <p>7 Continuous Improvement</p> <p>Acting on, learning from and using complaint data helps Council identify problems and improve service levels to the community.</p>
Definitions	<p>In this Policy, the following terms have the meaning indicated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) business day means Monday to Friday except public holidays <u>and Council closure days as advertised to the public</u>; b) in accordance with the LGA 2020, complaint includes the communication, whether orally or in writing, to the Council by a person of their dissatisfaction with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the quality of an action taken, decision made or service provided by a member of Council staff or a contractor engaged by the Council; or ii. the delay by a member of Council staff or a contractor engaged by the Council in taking an action, making a decision or providing a service; or iii. a policy or decision made by a Council or a member of Council staff or a contractor. c) complainant means the person making the complaint; d) Manager means a level three Council employee who reports to the CEO or a Director; e) party means the complainant, the person the subject of the complaint and any Council staff involved in dealing with the complaint;



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	<p>f) Councillor Conduct Officer means the person appointed in writing by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to be the Councillor Conduct Officer under section 150 of the LGA 2020; ¹</p> <p>g) Director means a level two Council employee who reports to the CEO;</p> <p>h) public interest complaint has the same meaning as in section of the <i>Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012</i>;</p> <p>i) Receiving Officer means the Council staff member who receives the complaint;</p> <p>j) Reviewing Officer means a person appointed by the CEO to conduct an appeal against a decision made; and</p> <p>k) senior officer means a Director, Manager or other officer nominated by the CEO.</p>
<p>Roles</p>	<p>1. Council</p> <p>The Council is responsible for the adoption and periodic review of the Policy.</p> <p>2. Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>The CEO is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) receiving complaints; b) referring complaints to the relevant Director or Manager for investigation; c) processing complaints which have been received from a Councillor concerning another Councillor in accordance with the Councillor Code of Conduct and referring the matter to the Local Government Inspectorate for investigation if necessary; d) receiving requests for a review of the outcome of a complaint and referring the request to a Reviewing Officer; and e) appointment of external advisers or investigators. <p>3. Director Corporate and Community Services</p> <p>The Director Corporate and Community Services is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) receiving complaints referred by the CEO and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. investigating the complaints; or ii. referring the complaint to another Council officer for investigation;

¹ The Councillor Conduct Officer is currently the Director Corporate and Community Services



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	<p>b) acting as the Reviewing Officer when requested by the CEO; and c) “maintenance” and review of the Policy.</p> <p>4. Director Infrastructure Development and Works</p> <p>The Director Infrastructure Development and Works is responsible for:</p> <p>a) receiving complaints referred by the CEO and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. investigating the complaint; or ii. referring the complaint to another Council officer for investigation; and <p>b) acting as the Reviewing Officer when requested by the CEO.</p> <p>5. Managers</p> <p>Managers are responsible for:</p> <p>a) receiving and investigating complaints referred by the CEO or relevant Director; and b) acting as the Reviewing Officer when requested by the CEO.</p>
Policy Details	
1.	<p>Scope</p> <p>This Policy applies to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Councillors, including when acting in their role as a delegate to external organisations; b) members of Council staff; c) Council contractors; d) members of Council committees; and e) volunteers.
2.	<p>The Complaints Process</p> <p>2.1 Submission of complaints</p> <p>Complaints may be received:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) in person at one of Council’s Customer Service Centres; b) by telephone; c) by email to the Council’s email address; or d) by mail. <p>A complainant has the right to remain anonymous when making a complaint. In such cases no follow up or response can be made to the complainant.</p> <p>To enable complaints to be received:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) on business days: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. the Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva during advertised opening hours shall be open between 8:30am and 5:00pm; ii. Council staff will be available by telephone between 8:30am and 5:00pm;



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	<p>iii. the email address Council@westwimmera.vic.gov.au will be monitored between 8:30am and 5:00pm;</p> <p>b) Council's mail shall be collected and reviewed; and the Council website will contain relevant information relating to the submission of complaints.</p>
	<p>2.2 Form of complaints</p> <p>Complainants should ensure that sufficient information is provided concerning the complaint to enable Council to achieve a resolution.</p> <p>This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the subject of the complaint; b) the location and time of the item or action the subject of the complaint (ie: when and where); c) any suggestions the complainant has to resolve the matter; and d) the complainant's contact details – however complainants may remain anonymous.
	<p>2.3 Assistance with complaints</p> <p>People with disabilities, special needs or other barriers may obtain personal assistance to complete a complaint by contacting the Governance Manager or Governance Coordinator.</p>
	<p>2.4 Confidentiality</p> <p>The details of all complaints will be treated confidentially. Complaints will be forwarded to and discussed by only those officers who have a direct interest in resolution of the complaint.</p> <p>All information received will be stored and treated in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014</i>.</p> <p>Some complaints may take the form of a protected disclosure under the <i>Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012</i>. (Refer to Council's <i>Protected Disclosures Policy</i> for further information).</p> <p>Some complaints such as those which involve mandatory reporting, may result in disclosure to other agencies including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Victoria Police; b) Local Government Victoria; c) the Local Government Inspectorate; d) the (Victorian) Ombudsman; e) the (Victorian) Auditor General's Office; f) the Information Commissioner (in relation to privacy matters); or g) the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission.



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<p>2.5 Who deals with complaints?</p> <p>Complaints concerning staff shall be directed to the CEO, who may then, dependent upon the nature of the complaint, delegate investigation and resolution to the relevant Director or Manager.</p> <p>Complaints concerning Councillors shall be directed to the CEO and the Councillor Conduct Officer. The Mayor shall be informed of any complaints received against Councillors.</p> <p>Complaints about the Mayor shall be directed to the CEO and the Councillor Conduct Officer.</p> <p>Complaints concerning service standards or quality shall be directed to the relevant Director (or Manager if the Manager reports to the CEO) who may then, dependent upon the nature of the complaint, delegate investigation and resolution to a relevant Manager.</p> <p>Officers receiving complaints may access the knowledge and expertise of other officers and/or external parties to assist in investigating and resolving a complaint. The onus on ensuring such investigation and resolution occurs remains with the Receiving Officer.</p>
<p>2.6 Complaints about contractors</p> <p>Council recognises that it retains a level of responsibility for the actions of contractors providing works and services on Council's behalf.</p> <p>Where a complaint relates to a contractor, the complaint shall be referred to the relevant Director (or Manager if the Manager reports to the CEO) responsible for the relevant service.</p>
<p>2.7 Rights of Complainants, Councillors, Members of Council Committees, Council Officers and Volunteers</p> <p>Complainants have the following rights under this Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>confidentiality</i> - Council will ensure that the complainant's details are treated in compliance with the <i>Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014</i> and Council's <i>Information Privacy Policy</i> and are not distributed to any person unless for the purposes of investigating and/or resolving the complaint; b) <i>to be protected from detrimental action</i> - Council will ensure that a complainant does not suffer detrimentally and is not the subject of targeted detrimental action as a result of making a complaint; c) <i>access to information on the progress of a complaint</i> - a complainant may at any stage to enquire as to the progress of a complaint; and d) <i>review of resolution</i> – a complainant may request a review of the resolution of a complaint. Requests must be made in writing to the CEO. <p>Councillors, members of Council committees, Council officers and volunteers have the following rights under this Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to provide evidence and a response to allegations made against them;



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	<p>b) review of resolution – to request a review of the resolution of the complaint. Requests must be made in writing to the CEO; and</p> <p>c) to be protected from detrimental action – Council will ensure that parties to complaints are not punished or treated detrimentally in any manner beyond action directly related to the resolution of that complaint.</p> <p>All rights conferred under this Policy are complementary to all and any rights available to complainants and parties under the Victorian <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities</i>.</p>
	<p>2.8 Review of Resolutions and Outcomes</p> <p>If a complainant or respondent to a complaint is unhappy or dissatisfied with the outcome of a complaint, then they may request a review of that outcome.</p> <p>Such request must be made in writing to Council's Chief Executive Officer. The review will be undertaken by a senior officer who was not originally involved in the complaint, or in the case where this is not possible, a suitably qualified and/or experienced external party.</p> <p>If after a review has been undertaken a complainant remains unsatisfied with the outcome, then they will be advised of relevant external agencies, such as IBAC, Local Government Victoria, The Victorian Auditor General's Office or Victorian Ombudsman, to refer their complaint.</p>
	<p>2.9 Timeliness</p> <p>Upon receipt of the complaint, the complainant will be contacted to acknowledge receipt of their complaint within two business days (except where the complaint is made anonymously).</p> <p>Formal advice of the outcome of the investigation of the complaint shall be made to the complainant within 30 days of the receipt of the complaint.</p> <p>Some complaints may be complex in nature and a resolution may not be feasible within 30 days. In such cases, the complainant will be informed of this with an estimate of when a resolution may be possible.</p>
	<p>2.10 Redress</p> <p>If a review of a complaint results in the original decision being overturned, the following remedies may be taken to redress the situation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) a reversal or partial reversal of the decision; b) an ex gratia payment: 2 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. of an amount determined by the CEO; ii. subject to the complainant signing a release; c) a commitment to undertake action to rectify the initial complaint <u>where possible; as a minimum;</u> d) a full explanation of why the initial decision was made and whether any steps have been taken to prevent an incorrect decision being made in future; e) a review of processes aimed at preventing future situations which gave rise to the initial complaint from happening again;



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) disciplinary action against a staff member where applicable; g) in the case of a contractor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. counselling; or ii. other action in accordance with the contract; and h) where Council has made an error in its initial assessment of the complaint, Council will provide a formal apology to the complainant acknowledging the error.
	<p>2.11 Exclusions</p>
	<p>This Policy does not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) complaints about third parties (unless it involves contractors carrying out work on Council's behalf), except when Council has legal responsibilities to report complaints, for example, child safe standards; b) instances where there is a statutory process to deal with an issue, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. applications for planning permits; ii. complaints/disclosures which are more appropriately handled under Council's <i>Protected Disclosure Policy</i>; iii. objections to property valuations; iv. appeals against infringements; v. reviews of freedom of information decisions; vi. the submissions process pursuant to section 223 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>; vii. a consultation or submission process in accordance with a Council policy; viii. industrial relations issues; c) initial requests for works or services; d) complaints about Councillors where the matter can be dealt with pursuant to the Councillor Code of Conduct; e) in relation to (d) above, where the Chief Municipal Inspector is investigating a complaint pursuant to section 182(2)(d) of the LGA 2020; f) public interest complaints referred from the IBAC to the Chief Municipal Inspector; g) in relation to a matter already before a court, tribunal or government agency; and h) instances where the complainant has also referred the matter to multiple government agencies.
	<p>2.12 Unreasonable complaints</p>



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2.12.1 General

Where complainants behave in ways that are inappropriate and unacceptable, despite Council's best efforts to help them, the Council or the CEO may determine their conduct to be unreasonable.

2.12.2 Unreasonable complaints

Unreasonable complainant conduct is regarded as any behaviour by a current or former complainant which, because of its nature or frequency raises substantial health, safety, resource or equity issues for the organisation, staff, other service users and complainants or the complainant himself/herself.

Unreasonable complaint conduct can be divided into five categories of conduct, namely unreasonable:

- a) persistence;
- b) demands;
- c) lack of cooperation;
- d) arguments; or
- e) behaviour.

In this context:

- a) *unreasonable persistence* is continued, incessant and unrelenting conduct by a complainant that has a disproportionate and unreasonable impact on the organisation, staff, services, time and/or resources;
- b) *unreasonable demands* are any demands (express or implied) that are made by a complainant that have a disproportionate and unreasonable impact on the organisation, staff, services, time and/or resources;
- c) *unreasonable lack of cooperation* is an unwillingness and/or inability by a complainant to cooperate with the organisation, staff, or complaints system and processes that result in a disproportionate and unreasonable use of services, time and/or resources;
- d) *unreasonable arguments* include any arguments that are not based in reason or logic, that are incomprehensible, false or inflammatory, trivial or delirious and that disproportionately and unreasonably impact upon the organisation, staff, services, time and/or resources; or
- e) *unreasonable behaviour* is conduct that is unreasonable in all circumstances, regardless of how stressed, angry or frustrated that a complainant is, because it unreasonably compromises the health, safety and security of staff, other service users or the complainant.

2.12.3 Dealing with unreasonable complainants

Council staff are aware that Council has a zero tolerance policy towards any harm, abuse or threats directed towards them. Any conduct of this kind will be dealt with in



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<p>accordance with Council's duty of care and occupational health and safety responsibilities.</p> <p>Unless a complainant's conduct poses a substantial risk to the health and safety of employees or third parties, a written warning concerning a complainant's unreasonable conduct will be provided to them in the first instance. If the behaviour of the complainant is not modified in response to the warning, further restrictions on contact or service provision will be considered.</p> <p>The complainant will then be notified of these further restrictions and advised of any limitations or consequences should they not adhere. Such restrictions may include being limited to 'in writing only' contact with Council.</p> <p>In rare cases, where employee safety and wellbeing has been compromised, the CEO may deem it necessary for the organisation to completely restrict a complainant's contact/access to Council services or facilities, including, but not limited to Council's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Customer Service Centres;b) swimming pools;c) recreation facilities;d) maternal and child health centres;e) pre-schools;f) landfill and transfer stations;g) community bus; orh) libraries. ² <p>Such provisions will only be enacted if it appears the complainant is unlikely to modify their conduct and/or their conduct poses a significant risk for Council staff or third parties because it involves one or more of the following types of conduct:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) acts of aggression, verbal and/or physical abuse, threats of harm, harassment, intimidation, stalking or assaultb) damage to property while on Council premises;c) threats with a weapon that can be used to harm another person or themselves;d) physically preventing an employee from moving around freely either within their place of work or during an off site visit – e.g. entrapping them in their home; ore) conduct that is otherwise unlawful. <p>In these cases, the complainant will be sent a letter notifying them that their access to specific services or facilities has been removed. Should this include one of</p>

² In the case of the [WWSC Edenhope Libraries](#), the matter may be referred to the [Coordinator Wimmera Libraries CEO of the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation](#).



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	<p>Council's leisure facilities, the complainant's membership of the facility may also be reviewed/suspended or terminated.</p> <p>A complainant's access to Council services and premises may also be restricted (directly or indirectly) using the legal mechanisms such as trespass laws/legislation or legal orders (i.e. a prohibited persons order) to protect Council staff from personal violence, intimidation or stalking by a complainant.</p> <p>Council will review the limitations placed on all unreasonable complainants every 12 months.</p> <p>When undertaking a review Council will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the level of compliance of the complainant with the restrictions/ limitations that have been imposed on their contact; b) evidence of capacity and willingness of the complainant to modify conduct; c) impacts on Council resources, including the time of officers spent investigating complainant matters; d) Council's OH&S and workplace responsibilities; e) other risks to Council; and f) legislative obligations.
3.	Policy Access
	This Policy will be published on the Council website.
4.	Policy Review
	This Policy will be reviewed within six months of the October 2024 Council elections or earlier if the Council so determines.
5.	Policy Amendments
	Minor amendments to the Policy may be made by the CEO to reflect legislative or organisational changes. The CEO must notify the Councillors of any such amendments.



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12 ATTACHMENT 1

Relevant provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*

Section 107 - Complaints policy

- (1) A Council must develop and maintain a complaints policy that includes:
 - (a) a process for dealing with complaints made to the Council;
 - (b) a process for reviewing any action, decision or service in respect of which the complaint is made;
 - (c) a discretion for the Council to refuse to deal with a complaint which is otherwise subject to statutory review;
 - (d) the prescribed processes for dealing with complaints about the Council;
 - (e) the prescribed processes for internal review of complaints made to a Council; and
 - (f) the prescribed processes for exercising the discretion referred to in paragraph (c);
and
 - (g) any other matter prescribed by the regulations.
- (2) A review process must provide for a review that is independent of:
 - (a) the person who took the action; and
 - (b) the person who made the decision; and
 - (c) the person who provided the service.
- (3) For the purposes of the complaints policy, complaint includes the communication, whether orally or in writing, to the Council by a person of their dissatisfaction with:
 - (a) the quality of an action taken, decision made or service provided by a member of Council staff or a contractor engaged by the Council; or
 - (b) the delay by a member of Council staff or a contractor engaged by the Council in taking an action, making a decision or providing a service; or
 - (c) a policy or decision made by a Council or a member of Council staff or a contractor.



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13 ATTACHMENT 2

13.1 Associated Agencies, Legislation and Documents

13.1.1 Agencies

The principal Victorian Complaint and Dispute Resolution Bodies

1. The Accident Compensation Conciliation Service Provides an independent service to resolve worker's compensation disputes in Victoria.
2. The Commissioner for Privacy and Data Protection is the key body regulating the way Victorian Government agencies and councils collect and handle personal information.
3. Consumer Affairs Victoria promotes consumer protection and ethical trading and ensures that consumer protection laws are properly enforced.
4. The Dispute Settlement Centre – Victorian Department of Justice and Regulation provides an informal, impartial, accessible, low cost dispute resolution service to the Victorian community.
5. The Disability Services Commissioner deals with complaints about disability services in Victoria.
6. The Health Services Commissioner deals with complaints about health services providers.
7. The Local Government Inspectorate investigates complaints of alleged breaches of the *Local Government Act 2020* by Councillors, senior Council officers and certain other persons.
8. The Mental Health Complaints Commissioner deals with complaints about public mental health services providers.
9. The Public Transport Ombudsman deals with complaints about Victorian public transport that members of the community have been unable to resolve directly with the public transport operators.
10. The Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission is responsible for eliminating discrimination in Victoria and offers information, education and consultancy services, conducts research and provides legal and policy advice.
11. The Victorian Inspectorate is the key oversight body in Victoria's integrity system and can take complaints about the IBAC, the Chief Examiner and Examiners, the Victorian Ombudsman and the Auditor General.

13.1.2 Legislation

1. *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.*
2. *Freedom of Information Act 1982.*
3. *Health Records Act 2001.*
4. *Local Government Act 2020.*
5. *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004.*



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- 6. *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014.*
- 7. *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012.*
- ~~8. *Summary Offences Act 1966.*~~

~~9. *Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Local Law 2—2017.*~~

13.1.3 Other publications

- 1. Victorian Ombudsman – Councils and Complaints – a Report on Current Practice and Issues – February 2015.
- 2. Victorian Ombudsman – Councils and Complaints – A Good Practice Guide.

13.1.4 Council policies

- 1. ~~Model Councillor Code of Conduct (February 2021).~~
- 2. ~~Customer Service Policy (February 2014)~~
- 3. ~~Information Privacy Policy (March 2021).~~
- 4. ~~Protected Disclosures Policy (June 2018).~~
- 5. ~~Public Interest Disclosure Policy (June 2020).~~
- 6. ~~Public Transparency Policy (June 2020).~~

Policy Adopted:	Ordinary Meeting 20/02/19	Minute Book Page 39781	RecFind E19/000131
Policy Reviewed:	Ordinary Meeting 19/02/20	Minute Book Page _____	RecFind E20/000028
	Ordinary Meeting 15/12/2021	Minute Book Page	Rec Find E21/000207



15 Infrastructure Development and Works

15.1 Planning Scheme Amendment C37wwim

Directorate: Infrastructure Development and Works

Report Author: Director Infrastructure Development and Works

Report Purpose: For Decision

Purpose

This report has been prepared to present planning scheme Amendment C37wwim to Council. It also provides an independent report that explains how changes to Victoria's planning system have affected the West Wimmera Planning Scheme and outlines the translation of Council's earlier policies into the current structure and seeks Council resolution to adopt C37wwim.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council considers the matter of Amendment C37wwim, previously laid on the table, and resolves to:

- 1. Note the findings of the independent review of Amendment C37wwim.**
- 2. Adopts Planning Scheme Amendment C37wwim to the West Wimmera Planning Scheme, subject to the refinements and updates outlined in the revised amendment, including adjustments to the numbering of some clauses and other minor clarifications.**
- 3. Submits the Amendment C37wwim to the Minister for Planning for approval and gazettal.**

Declaration of Interest

No officer declared an interest under the Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020) in the preparation of this report.

Background

Planning Scheme Amendment C37wwim is a policy neutral amendment that seeks to implement the recommendations from the Planning Scheme Review.

Over the past decade, the Victorian Government has introduced significant changes to how planning schemes are structured.

2013 - Local planning framework established



- Amendment C30 updated the West Wimmera Planning Scheme and set Council's local strategic direction.

2021 - Statewide reform

- The state introduced a new format for all planning schemes.
- This replaced the previous structure with a Municipal Planning Strategy and an integrated Planning Policy Framework combining state, regional, and local policy.

Amendment C36wwim - translation of policies

- Council translated its existing policies into the new format.
- This process was intended to be policy-neutral, meaning no change in intent - only a change in format.
- Subsequent review has shown that some local policy content was not fully carried across, creating gaps in the current scheme.

Amendment C37wwim – current update

Amendment C37wwim implements the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review and seeks to:

- Address and reintroduce key local policy content that was not fully translated in earlier reforms
- Strengthen the planning framework to better reflect Council's strategic direction
- Improve clarity and usability of the scheme
- Ensure alignment with current state and regional strategies

In doing so, the amendment ensures the planning scheme fully captures Council's policy position and provides clear guidance when assessing future development proposals.

Previous Council consideration (2024)

- A report was presented to a Council meeting in October 2024 recommending adoption of Amendment C37wwim.
- The matter was laid on the table at that time.
- An independent planning review has since been completed to provide additional assurance and completeness in the assessment of the amendment.



Independent review – key findings

Council engaged Plan2Place Consulting to undertake a detailed review of Amendment C37wwim. A full copy of the review is included as an attachment.

The review included:

- A side-by-side comparison of current and proposed policies
- Assessment against previous versions of the planning scheme
- Review against State planning policy and ministerial requirements

Key findings:

- The amendment is robust, clear, and strategically justified
- It is consistent with state planning policy and ministerial directions
- It provides an appropriate and defensible update to the planning scheme
- It meets all relevant planning requirements and guidelines

The consultant recommended that the amendment proceed to approval, subject only to minor technical changes relating to the numbering of clauses.

Policy neutrality - clarification

A policy-neutral amendment:

- Does not change the overall direction of policy
- Maintains the original intent of planning controls
- Updates structure, wording, and clarity only

Assessment findings of C37wwim review

- The independent review confirms that Amendment C37wwim:
 - Aligns with required planning scheme structure
 - Is supported by appropriate strategic work
 - Does not introduce unintended policy changes



- While earlier translation work (in 2021) did not fully capture all local policy content, this does not undermine the validity of C37wwim.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

Not Applicable

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council policy/s:

Not applicable

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

1.7 Improve the liveability of the shire to assist in growing our population into the future.

Goal 2 – Diverse and Prosperous Economy

2.1 Encourage and support the establishment and expansion of innovative, creative and sustainable businesses.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications



Equal Impact Assessment

No Equal Impact Assessment is required

Conclusion

The Victorian planning system required Council to restructure its planning scheme in 2021.

This process was complex and resulted in some gaps in translated local policy.

Amendment C37wwim builds on this work and provides a comprehensive and updated planning framework.

Independent expert review confirms that the amendment:

- Meets all ministerial requirements
- Is strategically sound
- Is appropriate for adoption

The earlier concerns regarding policy neutrality have now been addressed through independent review and clarification.

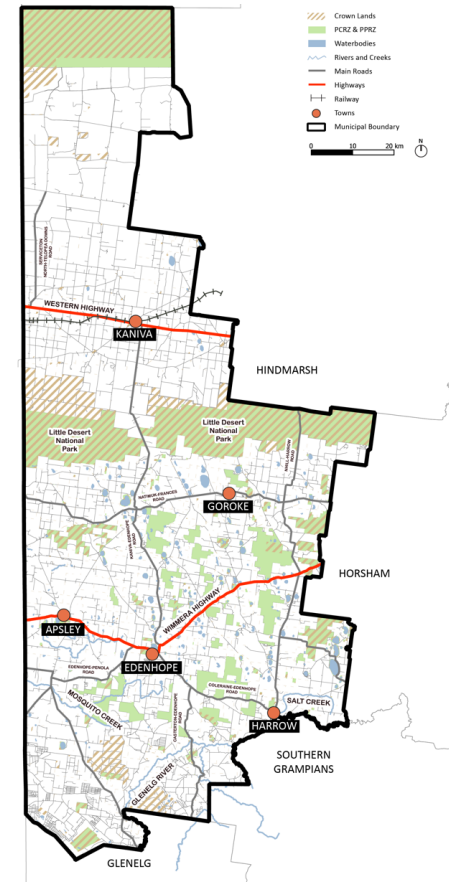
Attachments

1. West Wimmera Am C 37 wwim Peer Review - V 2 Final Report 20032026 [**15.1.1** - 20 pages]
2. APPENDIX 2 West Wimmera Formatted V2 issued Changes 9 April 2026 [**15.1.2** - 49 pages]

West Wimmera Planning Scheme, Amendment C37wwim – Peer Review, Advice and Recommendations



For: West Wimmera Shire Council
March 2026



This report is the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Amendment C37wwim – Peer Review, Advice and Recommendations for the West Wimmera Shire Council. It has been prepared with expertise, advice and inputs using background reports and information provided by Council and from other government sources. The report issue date is March 2026.

Every reasonable effort has been made to validate information provided by Council staff in the preparation of this report throughout the project.

The report has been prepared in conjunction with the West Wimmera Shire Council and is based upon up-to-date information provided at the time of report preparation and finalisation.

No part of the report can be replicated or reproduced in part or whole (other than by the West Wimmera Shire Council,) without the permission of Plan2Place Consulting – see www.plan2place.com.au.



PLAN2PLACE CONSULTING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that every project enabled or assisted by Plan2Place Consulting in Victoria exists on traditional aboriginal lands which have been sustained for thousands of years.

We honour their ongoing connection to these lands and seek to respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians in our work.

Version	Date	Notes
V1	6 March 2026	Draft Report Prepared for Council
V2	20 March 2026	Final Report

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ABBREVIATIONS AND LEGISLATION

Abbreviations

C or C#wwim	Council led Amendment
DTP	Department of Transport and Planning
WWSC	West Wimmera Shire Council
WWPS	West Wimmera Planning Scheme
LGA	Local Government Area
MPS	Municipal Planning Strategy
MSS	Municipal Strategic Statement
PPN	Planning Practice Note
PPF	Planning Policy Framework
VC	Victoria and Council Amendment
VPP	Victoria Planning Provisions

Numeric Abbreviations

ha	hectare
m	metre

Related Legislation and Regulations

Planning and Environment Act 1987 (P&E Act)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Plan2Place Consulting was engaged by the West Wimmera Shire Council (WWSC) to undertake a comprehensive review of Amendment C37wwim to provide a further professional planning view of the work undertaken by Council to date.

The project included a structured review of the proposed planning scheme amendment through a detailed side-by-side comparison of the current clauses and the proposed clauses of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme (WWPS), presented in a clear tabular format to enable transparent assessment. This has considered the:

- Strategic directions of the WWPS that was restructured in 2013 by the publicly exhibited Amendment C30 and continued to operate until May 2021.
- Revised scheme with a new Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Planning Policy Framework (PPF) that was approved by the Victorian Government in May 2021 through Amendment C36wwim.
- Proposed implementation of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review through Amendment C37wwim.

The review has identified and documented any actual or implied policy differences, supported by commentary about potential planning and strategic implications and whether further changes are warranted or if the details of Amendment C37wwim are robust, sufficient and appropriate.

As well as comparing the strategic directions of the WWPS over the last 13 years, Amendment C37wwim has been assessed against all relevant State planning policies (PPF clauses) and Ministerial Directions and other relevant guidelines and Planning Practice Notes (PPNs). The Amendment is consistent with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes as well as Ministerial Direction No. 11 – Strategic Assessment. This peer review demonstrates through detailed analysis that the amendment implements the

objectives of planning in Victoria and complies with all applicable Ministerial Directions, PPNs and other relevant guidelines.

Of critical importance is efficient implementation of the planning framework for the municipality that is strategically justified through the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review and is then incorporated into the WWPS. In our opinion, there is sufficient strategic basis for new or updated strategic directions, local policies and planning provisions as proposed in Amendment C37wwim. We believe that these proposed changes to the planning scheme are robust, clear and defensible and that they meet the requirements of adopted state, regional and local planning strategies, the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and associated PPNs and guidelines.

Council should feel confident that Amendment C37wwim and the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review updates the planning framework for the municipality in an appropriate way and that it meets all relevant Victorian Government planning requirements and guidelines.

It is recommended that Amendment C37wwim and the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review be approved as drafted subject to minor clause number changes as discussed in the peer review with the planning scheme review and the Amendment then submitted to the Minister for Planning for approval and gazettal.

1. INTRODUCTION

Plan2Place Consulting was engaged by the Council to undertake a comprehensive review of Amendment C37wwim to provide a further professional planning view of the work undertaken by Council to date.

The project included a structured review of the proposed planning scheme amendment through a detailed side-by-side comparison of the current clauses and the proposed clauses of the WWPS, presented in a clear tabular format to enable transparent assessment. This has considered the:

- Strategic directions of the WWPS that was restructured in 2013 by the publicly exhibited Amendment C30 and continued to operate until May 2021.
- Revised scheme with a new MPS and PPF that was approved by the Victorian Government in May 2021 through Amendment C36wwim.
- Proposed implementation of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review through Amendment C37wwim.

The peer review is required to identify and document any actual or implied policy differences, supported by commentary about potential planning and strategic implications and whether further changes are warranted or if the details of Amendment C37wwim are robust, sufficient and appropriate.

As well as comparing the strategic directions of the WWPS over the last 13 years, Amendment C37wwim is to be assessed against all relevant State planning policies (PPF clauses), Ministerial Directions, PPNs and other relevant guidelines.

The analysis undertaken in the peer review is contained below.

2. PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENTS REVIEWED

2.1 Overview

The following three planning scheme amendments analysed and reviewed in this peer review include:

- Amendment C30
- Amendment C36wwim
- Amendment C37wwim.

An overview of the amendments is provided below. These have been assessed and reviewed against a range of state planning policies, planning practice notes and associated guidelines and Ministerial Directions.

2.2 The Reviewed Amendments

2012-13

Amendment C30 introduced a revised Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) following a review of the WWPS. This implemented the findings of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review in 2012-13, undertaken to fulfil the requirements of Section 12B of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. The amendment introduced a revised Municipal Strategic Statement with updated content and a format in clauses 21.01 – 21.12 that reflected the restructured State Planning Policy Framework from Amendment VC71, as well as the Council Plan dated 2012. The Amendment was exhibited to the community, approved by Council as the planning authority in February 2013 and then gazetted on 20 June 2013.

2021

Amendment C36wwim translated the Local Planning Policy Framework of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme into the new MPS at Clause 02, integrated state, regional and local planning policies into the PPF at Clauses 11-19 and various new and updated local schedules based on changes introduced to the VPP through Amendment VC148. Amendment C36wwim was not exhibited to the community or approved by Council. The Minister for Planning was the planning authority for the amendment and it was gazetted on 28 May 2021.

2026

Amendment C37wwim proposes to implement the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review 2022 through updates to the MPS and local planning policies of the PPF, as well as update schedules to some zones and overlays and outline the revised further strategic work program for Council. The Amendment was exhibited to the community and Council are the planning authority for the amendment. No decision has as yet been made by Council about the amendment following exhibition.

Council is required to undertake a review of its planning scheme every four years, following the adoption of its Council Plan, and then forward the review to the Minister for Planning.

Council has previously considered reports about the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review 2022 and proposed Amendment C37wwim. This peer review provides additional analysis and review of that Amendment compared to the content that was translated into the new format of the planning scheme through Amendment C36wwim in May 2021 and the content in the WWPS prior to May 2021.

Amendments C30, C36wwim C37wwim have been analysed through a side-by-side comparison with commentary and a recommendation as shown in **Table 1**. Further analysis of Amendment C37wwim is also provided against all relevant State planning policies (PPF clauses), Ministerial Directions, PPNs and other relevant guidelines as shown in **Tables 2 and 3**.

Council's previous Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) was the precursor to the new Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS). An MSS was a statement of the key strategic planning, land use and development objectives for the municipality containing strategies and actions for achieving those objectives. The MPS now sets the basis for the local content in the planning scheme, succinctly explaining the municipality's context and providing overarching strategies for major land use and development matters affecting it.

Table 1: Comparison of Planning Scheme Content: Amendments C30, C36wwim C37wwim

Theme / Planning Scheme Clauses: Renewable Energy / 02.03-9 - Infrastructure				
Amendment C30	Amendment C36wwim	Amendment C37wwim	Comments	Recommendation
<p>(Note: these clauses were in the previous WWPS prior to 28 May 2021)</p> <p>Clause 21.04-2 Outcomes stated: Outcome 3.7 Opportunities from climate change maximised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.7.1 Support the identification and development of business opportunities from carbon trading and renewable energy industries 3.7.2 Support the identification and development of business opportunities through innovative water use and associated niche food industries. <p>Clause 21.07-4 Climate Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy 1.3 Encourage the uptake of renewable energy options. <p>21.09 INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 1 To provide infrastructure services to meet the needs of the community in a cost effective and sustainable manner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy 1.3 Promote and source energy supply from renewable energy sources such as biofuels from biomass, wind and solar energy. 	<p>The amendment that translated Council’s previous MSS did not include any specific strategic directions for renewable energy in Council’s MPS at clause 02.03-9 Infrastructure or in a local policy.</p> <p>State planning policy at clause 19.01-2 was relied on which provides a state-wide objective and range of strategies about renewable energy.</p> <p>Council’s local content that gave some local policy direction for renewable energy facilities from the WWPS prior to May 2021 was not effectively translated into the new MPS and PPF with its integrated state, regional and local planning policies.</p>	<p>Reflects the opportunity for the municipality to be a provider of renewable energy and proposes to include a new strategic direction as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Promote the establishment of renewable energy facilities that make use of the nature attributes in West Wimmera”. (previously at clause 21.04-2, strategy 3.7.1 and lost in Amendment C36wwim) <p>Proposes to include a new local policy at clause 19.01-2 Renewable energy – West Wimmera with existing content from clause 02.03-9. Strategy proposes to promote alternative and sustainable energy projects.</p>	<p>Content about Renewable energy in Council’s previous MSS was not sufficiently translated into the new MPS or PPF at clause 19.01-2 Renewable energy.</p> <p>Amendment C37wwim proposes to reinstate the strategic content into the WWPS that was lost through Amendment C36wwim.</p>	<p>Retain wording in Amendment C37wwim.</p>

Theme / Planning Scheme Clauses: Carbon Farming / 14.01-2L -Sustainable agricultural land use – West Wimmera				
Amendment C30	Amendment C36wwim	Amendment C37wwim	Comments	Recommendation
<p>(Note: these clauses were in the previous WWPS prior to 28 May 2021)</p> <p>Clause 21.06-3 Industry stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 2 To promote the development of certain industry in appropriate locations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy 2.1 Encourage the establishment of ‘value-adding’ industries within the Shire. Strategy 2.3 Encourage investment in and development of biofuel industries. <p>Clause 21.06-5 Agriculture stated (context):</p> <p>It is recognised that niche agriculture, new and emerging initiatives, such as carbon farming, provide opportunities for new economic activity to become established in rural areas. These new initiatives need to be facilitated as they present a major opportunity for the municipality to prosper from leveraging off of the main economic asset of rural land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 1 To establish a strong and vibrant rural agricultural community comprising a range of diversified enterprises that is efficiently managed and ecologically sustainable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy 1.4 Promote the potential benefits from the emerging carbon market. 	<p>The amendment that translated Council’s previous MSS did not include any specific strategic directions for carbon farming or the emerging carbon market in Council’s MPS or in a local policy.</p> <p>State planning policy at clause 14.01-2 was relied upon which provides a state-wide objective to encourage sustainable agricultural land use and range of associated strategies of a broad nature. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support adaptation of the agricultural sector to respond to the potential risks arising from climate change. Assist genuine farming enterprises to embrace opportunities and adjust flexibly to market changes. Facilitate ongoing productivity and investment in high value agriculture. <p>Council’s local content that gave some local policy direction for value adding industries and carbon farming at clauses 21.06-3 and 21.06-5 was not translated into the new PPF with its integrated state, regional and local planning policies.</p>	<p>The amendment proposes a new strategy at clause 14.01-2L stating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Encourage development that takes advantage of benefits from the emerging carbon market.” (previously at clauses 21.06-3, strategies 2.1 and 2.3 and 21.06-5, strategy 1.4 and lost in Amendment C36wwim) 	<p>The new MPS and PPF translation amendment (C36wwim) did not neutrally translate all content from the previous MSS.</p> <p>There appears to have been a lack of thoroughness undertaken in translating strategic and policy content to the new MPS and PPF in Amendment C36wwim. This has resulted in significant policy omissions and gaps in the WWPS, failing to give guidance at the Council level.</p> <p>The recent West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review will fill that gap and correct the policy content omissions from Amendment C36wwim.</p>	<p>Retain wording in Amendment C37wwim.</p>

Theme / Planning Scheme Clauses: Vegetation Cover / 12.01-1L -Protection of biodiversity – West Wimmera				
Amendment C30	Amendment C36wwim	Amendment C37wwim	Comments	Recommendation
<p>21.07-1 Biodiversity Conservation and Habitat Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 1 To effectively manage and conserve the Shire’s biologically diverse natural environment as an ecologically sustainable resource for present and future generations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy 1.1 Protect and enhance significant habitat on public and private land in order to maintain biodiversity. Strategy 1.3 Encourage the revegetation of degraded rural land, including in creeks and waterways. Strategy 1.4 Encourage the establishment, protection and enhancement of lineal vegetation corridors along drainage lines, waterways and roadsides. Strategy 1.4 Investigate appropriate locations within the municipality to set aside land to facilitate the planting of vegetation offsets and provide the opportunity to establish carbon offsets for the Shire. Strategy 1.5 Protect Red Tailed Black Cockatoo and Jumping Jack Wattle habitat within the Shire. Objective 4 To identify and protect good quality vegetation stands throughout the municipality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy 4.1 Encourage the protection and enhancement of remnant indigenous vegetation, including roadside vegetation where possible. 	<p>The amendment that translated Council’s previous MSS did include some content and specific strategic directions for biodiversity or vegetation in Council’s MPS at clause 02.03-2 Environment and landscape values and in a local policy at clause 12.01-1L.</p> <p>Council’s local content was mostly translated into the new MPS and PPF with its integrated state, regional and local planning policies to give local policy direction for biodiversity and vegetation cover.</p>	<p>The amendment proposes a new strategic direction at Cl 02.03-2 stating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect the habitat for the Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo including live and dead hollow bearing eucalypt trees. (previously at Cl 21.07-1, strategies 1.5 and 4.3 that were lost in Amendment C36wwim). <p>This proposed new strategic direction links to the existing Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 2 (ESO2) that applies to land south of the Western Highway. The ESO2 requires a permit to remove dead eucalyptus trees with a trunk diameter greater than 40 cm at 1.3 metres above ground level.</p> <p>Proposed words in clause 02.03-2 to reflect the Natimuk-Douglas Chain of Lakes as a significant landscape feature of the region reflects existing conditions and directions in the South-West Victorian Landscape Assessment Study,</p>	<p>The new MPS and PPF translation amendment (C36wwim) did not neutrally translate all content from the previous MSS.</p> <p>There appears to have been a lack of thoroughness undertaken in translating strategic and policy content to the new MPS and PPF in Amendment C36wwim. This has resulted in significant policy omissions and gaps in the WWPS, failing to give guidance at the Council level.</p> <p>The new strategic direction at clause 02.03-2 reflects existing settings in the scheme and better reflects previous content in the WWPS that should have been translated into existing policy and provisions.</p>	<p>Retain wording in Amendment C37wwim.</p>

Theme / Planning Scheme Clauses: Vegetation Cover / 12.01-1L -Protection of biodiversity – West Wimmera				
Amendment C30	Amendment C36wwim	Amendment C37wwim	Comments	Recommendation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strategy 4.2 Encourage the planting of locally indigenous and native vegetation species, while encouraging the removal of exotic and environmental weed species. – Strategy 4.3 Encourage wildlife survival through the establishment of wildlife corridors and biolinks between native vegetation on private and public land. <p>Clause 21.06-5 Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strategy 5.2 Encourage the planting of locally indigenous vegetation to provide shelter for livestock, minimise soil erosion and salinity, enhance landscape quality, and provide further opportunities for wildlife corridors. <p>21.07-4 Climate Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strategy 1.4 Halt the process of vegetation clearance. – Strategy 1.5 Expand the indigenous vegetation cover of the Shire. <p>Clause 21.07-2 Catchment Management stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 4 To recognise the significance of water courses and bodies such as lakes, wetlands, rivers and streams as areas of environmental significance and sensitivity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strategy 4.1 Identify and protect the environmental values of significant water courses, lakes and wetlands. 		2013 and previous strategies in the planning scheme.	<p>The new strategy at clause 12.01-1L seeking to increase vegetation cover reflects the previous strategy 4.3 at clause 21.07-1 and strategy 5.2 at clause 21.06-5 of the former WWPS and gives clearer directions.</p> <p>The recent West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review will fill that gap and correct the policy content omissions from Amendment C36wwim.</p> <p>Note: remember that these strategies are discretionary and need to be balanced against a range of other policies and provisions where a permit application is required. They cannot be assessed if a permit is not required for use or development.</p>	

Other matters

Due to the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review being prepared in 2022, a new Council Plan has been adopted. There are opportunities to revise the vision included at clause 02.02 of the WWPS to align with this vision (only relatively minor edits are required).

2.3 Assessment of C37wwim against Planning Practice Notes, Ministerial Directions and Other Guidelines

An assessment of C37wwim against Planning Practice Notes, Ministerial Directions and Other Guidelines has been undertaken in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Assessment of Amendment C37wwim against Planning Practice Notes, Ministerial Directions and Other Guidelines

Resource	Summary of Document	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
<p>A Practitioner's Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes, August 2025 (Version 8) Practitioners Guide</p>	<p>The guide applies to the preparation and application of a planning scheme provision in Victoria. It is primarily intended for use by practitioners considering or preparing a new or revised provision for a planning scheme. The guide sets out and explains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The principles that should underpin the creation, selection and application of a planning scheme provision. • How a planning scheme relates to the VPP. • Rules and advice about how the various components of a planning scheme operate. • How to select, write and apply various elements of a planning scheme. 	<p>This guide establishes the VPP principles and good drafting conventions and examples. It must be followed when preparing a planning scheme policy or provision. The Amendment has addressed and followed the guide by implementing the six principles for planning schemes in Victoria which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User focused • Consistent • Proportional • Land use focused • Policy and outcome focused • Digital ready. <p>The amendment has been drafted so that it follows VPP rules so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The intended outcome is within the scope of the objectives and power of the Act and has a sound basis in strategic planning and policy. • A provision is necessary and proportional to the intended outcome and applies the VPP in a proper manner. • A provision is clear, unambiguous and effective in achieving the intended outcome. <p>The policies and provisions that are included in the Amendment are drafted in accordance with the requirements of the Practitioners Guide.</p>
<p>Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes, Am VC245, 12 February 2026 Ministerial directions (planning.vic.gov.au)</p>	<p>This Direction provides the schedule template for zone, overlay, particular provision and general provision schedules and how local planning schemes are to be prepared based on the VPP. It includes requirements and parameters about how State provisions can be applied at the local level and how local provisions can be given effect.</p>	<p>These templates can change from time to time and have been used as the basis for the preparation of schedules in the Amendment to implement the planning scheme review. The proposed changes to the MPS will result in a document with a total word count that is less than 5000 words with a further strategic work schedule that is less than 500 words.</p>

Resource	Summary of Document	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
<p>Strategic Assessment Guidelines (Planning Practice Note 46) Planning-Practice-Notes</p>	<p>Planning Practice Note 46 – <i>Strategic Assessment Guidelines</i>, requires a planning authority to evaluate and determine how an amendment addresses strategic considerations and what should be considered as part of the Ministerial Direction 11. The PPN outlines a consistent framework for preparing and evaluating a proposed planning scheme amendment and its outcomes. The appropriate application of these outcomes is a requirement of the authorisation process for a planning scheme amendment.</p>	<p>This PPN outlines the need for a clear strategic basis and the level of strategic justification and information requirements for a planning scheme amendment. Reinserting strategic directions and content into the MPS and local planning policies that existed prior to the gazettal of Amendment C36wwim in May 2021 will return the WWPS focus to strategic issues that formed the foundation of Amendment C30. Content that was lost from Amendment C36wwim followed a poor method of translation and went beyond the scope of a policy neutral translation, significantly changing the strategic directions of the WWPS and providing minimal direction. The Strategic Assessment Guidelines have been followed for Amendment C37wwim.</p>
<p>Role of Mandatory Provisions in Planning Schemes (Planning Practice Note 59) Planning-Practice-Notes</p>	<p>This PPN outlines the role of mandatory provisions in planning schemes where mandatory provisions are to provide certainty and ensure a preferable and efficient outcome with an overall net community benefit.</p> <p>It outlines the principle of the performance based approach of the VPP and that good planning outcomes should not be compromised by a mandatory planning scheme control.</p> <p>The PPN provides criteria for the assessment of whether a provision should be mandatory or not and how to draft a mandatory provision if that is included.</p>	<p>This PPN provides guidance for the use of mandatory provisions and in the drafting of mandatory controls such as built form controls.</p> <p>Mandatory controls should be based on achieving a clear strategic outcome that are unable to be achieved with discretionary controls.</p> <p>In the case of Amendment C37wwim, no mandatory planning provisions or planning policies have been proposed so this PPN has not relevance to the amendment.</p>
<p>Planning for Housing and Using the Residential Zones (Planning Practice Notes 90 and 91) January 2026 Planning-Practice-Notes</p>	<p>These PPNs provides guidance on how to plan for housing growth to meet municipal housing targets, ensure planning schemes have sufficient capacity for new homes and outline implementation approaches through a planning scheme.</p> <p>A residential development framework is required to be prepared at a municipal level that identifies residential changes areas and implementation mechanisms. Built form outcomes are driven by the application of specific types of residential zones.</p> <p>Extensive changes and improvements have been made by the Victorian Government in the last few years to residential zones, overlays and schedules, with a greater focus on housing provision.</p>	<p>The principles established through these PPNs are sound and need to be nuanced to settlement hierarchies based on a housing and settlement strategy and/or structure plans prepared for towns.</p> <p>These PPNs are of limited relevance to the planning scheme review and the associated amendment and will be of greater importance in the preparation of structure plans for towns, which flows from the proposed further strategic work program.</p>
<p>Guide to Council Planning Scheme Reviews, DTP, January 2026</p>	<p>These guidelines assist rural and smaller councils in undertaking a planning scheme review (PSR) as required under section 12(B) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (PE Act).</p> <p>It outlines a holistic approach to:</p>	<p>These Guidelines and their associated templates have been followed for the planning scheme review and in preparing Amendment C37wwim.</p> <p>The outcomes follow the holistic approach suggested with a review of local ordinances and improved content and drafting being suggested, a further strategic</p>

Resource	Summary of Document	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review local ordinances and identifying improvements Prioritise further strategic planning efforts Allocate resources to the tasks that make the most difference to the effectiveness of a planning scheme Adopt a continuous improvement approach to planning scheme development. 	work program, making the planning scheme more effective and implementing a continuous improvement approach.
Ministerial Direction 22 – Climate Change Consideration The role of the Minister (planning.vic.gov.au)	<p>This Direction aims to ensure that climate change considerations are formally undertaken by a planning authority having regard to requirements for minimising greenhouse gas emissions and increasing resilience to climate change risks through the preparation of a planning scheme or amendment to a planning scheme.</p> <p>Such considerations should inform future directions or measures relevant to strategic or precinct-scale responses. This must aim for the minimisation of greenhouse gas emissions and increasing resilience to climate change risks that respond appropriately to sections 5a) to d) and 6 a) to c) of the Ministerial Direction.</p>	<p>This Direction is triggered for the preparation of a planning scheme or any planning scheme amendment (including a planning scheme review) and specifies the matters relating to climate change considerations for a planning authority.</p> <p>The Direction is new and an assessment has not been undertaken given that the planning scheme review dates from 2022. An assessment could be provided by Council if it approves Amendment C37wwim and would be of very limited relevance to the amendment.</p>

Analysis of the Practitioner’s Guide, associated Ministerial Directions and relevant PPNs shows that Council’s planning scheme review from 2022 and Amendment C37wwim have been formulated correctly and based on best practice approaches.

As identified in the 2022 PSR, content from the scheme as it was operating prior to 2021 is proposed to be reinstated, albeit in a slightly different format as required now in Council’s MPS and the integrated PPF. There is a strong strategic basis to reinstate this strategic content into the WWPS so that clearer direction is provided. This content should have been translated and retained in Amendment C36wwim and this can be corrected now in Amendment C37wwim.

Amendment C37wwim was authorised by the Department of Transport and Planning in 2023. It was then tested during exhibition in 2024 with the community and key stakeholders and no submissions were received. There is an expectation that the Amendment will progress to the next stages and be decided on by Council.

2.4 Assessment of C37wwim against the Planning Policy Framework

An assessment of Amendment C37wwim against the relevant sections of the Planning Policy Framework has been undertaken in **Table 3**.

Table 3: Amendment C37wwim - Planning Policy Framework Assessment Against Key Policies

PPF Clause	Strategies: Analysis and Discussion	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
<p>11 SETTLEMENT 11.01-1S – Settlement <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the sustainable growth and development of Victoria and deliver choice and opportunity for all Victorians through a network of settlements. <p>11.01-1R – Settlement - Regional Victoria 11.01-1R – Settlement - Wimmera Southern Mallee 11.01-1L.01 - 11.01-1L.05 – Settlement (revised)</p>	<p>Strategies aim to deliver 2.24 million homes across Victoria by 2051 in sustainable communities through a settlement framework that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers a range of housing choices. Provides convenient access to jobs, services, infrastructure and community facilities. Takes into account regional and municipal contexts and frameworks. <p>Investment and growth is focused in: Melbourne Central City; Metropolitan Activity Centres and Suburban Rail Loop Precincts in Metropolitan Melbourne; Priority Precincts (including the Suburban Rail Loop East Precincts); Major regional cities of Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong and the regional cities of Horsham, Latrobe City, Mildura, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Warrnambool and Wodonga.</p> <p>Expansion of settlements is managed by creating and reinforcing settlement boundaries, promoting for urban renewal and infill redevelopment, limiting urban sprawl and directing growth into existing settlements and ensuring land that may be required for future urban expansion is not compromised.</p> <p>Growth in population and development of facilities and services is to occur across a regional or sub-regional network in accordance with housing targets.</p> <p>The role of Horsham as the key population and employment centre for the region is supported. Easy access to housing, education, employment and community facilities is to be provided particularly in Horsham and district towns along with an ongoing supply of infill and greenfield residential land. Edenhope is identified as a district town.</p> <p>Council’s local strategies identify the five key towns of Apsley, Edenhope, Goroke, Harrow and Kaniva as providing different levels of services within the municipality. Township development, albeit at differing levels, are encouraged so as to retain community and commercial facilities in the towns.</p>	<p>A policy application section is proposed to strengthen the five local policies, which is appropriate.</p> <p>Future structure plans for the towns could re-examine the role and function of each town including township strategies and the associated framework plan.</p>
<p>12 ENVIRONMENTAL AND LANDSCAPE VALUES 12.01-1S – Protection of biodiversity <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect and enhance Victoria’s biodiversity. 	<p>Strategies aim to protect and conserve Victoria’s biodiversity by protecting and conserving important areas of biodiversity across Victoria through recognition of various international conventions. Assessment of applications occurs against the <i>Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation</i> (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, 2025).</p>	<p>Minor wording changes are proposed to the local policy to reflect an existing strategic direction which seeks to increase vegetation cover. This wording change is appropriate as it links more clearly to the intent of the existing strategies and the outcomes they are seeking to achieve.</p>

PPF Clause	Strategies: Analysis and Discussion	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
<p>12.01-1R – Protection of biodiversity - Wimmera Southern Mallee</p> <p>12.01-1I – Protection of biodiversity – West Wimmera</p>	<p>Greater connectivity and improved ecosystem resilience is promoted and environmental assets protected and managed as cropping expands in the southern parts of the region.</p> <p>Council’s local strategies seek to protect the Red Tailed Black Cockatoo and Jumping Jack Wattle habitat; clearly delineate boundaries between reserves and abutting properties; protect reserves from incursions; encourage planting of indigenous vegetation to provide shelter for livestock, minimise soil erosion and salinity, enhance landscape quality, and provide further opportunities for wildlife corridors; and remove exotic and environmental weed species.</p>	
<p>14 NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</p> <p>14.01-1S – Protection of agricultural land</p> <p><i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect the state’s agricultural base by preserving productive farmland. <p>14.01-1L - Protection of agricultural land - West Wimmera (revised)</p>	<p>Strategies seek to identify areas of productive agricultural land, including land for primary production and intensive agriculture and to protect it from incompatible uses or loss due to changes in land use without consideration of the economic importance of the land for agricultural production.</p> <p>New housing in rural areas should be avoided by directing housing growth into existing settlements and discouraging development in isolated small lots in rural zones. When considering proposals to use, subdivide or develop agricultural land, consider the land capability and compatibility between the proposed development and the existing use of the surrounding land.</p> <p>Council’s local strategies seek to consolidate land holdings in the Farming Zone in order to increase economies of scale and create more viable farming systems and to ensure a clear link between the need for a dwelling and the agricultural use of the land.</p>	<p>The previous strategies from Council’s MSS at Clause 21.06-5 were not adequately translated into the PPF through Amendment C36wwim. There are also strategic directions in Council’s MPS at clause 02.03-4 that are more appropriately located in the local policy at clause 14.01-1L.</p> <p>This revised local policy is appropriate. It will provide improved direction about the role and effect in the protection of agricultural land in the West Wimmera Shire (remembering that these are just strategies that need to be assessed on their merits to each application where relevant).</p>
<p>14.01-2S – Sustainable agricultural land use</p> <p>14.01-2R – Agricultural productivity - Wimmera Southern Mallee</p> <p><i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage sustainable agricultural land use. <p>14.01-2L – Sustainable agricultural land use - West Wimmera (new)</p>	<p>Strategies seek to ensure agricultural and productive rural land use activities are managed to maintain the long-term sustainable use and management of existing natural resources.</p> <p>The development of innovative and sustainable approaches to agricultural and associated rural land use practices are supported, as are diversification and value adding enterprises.</p> <p>Regional strategies support local industries, activities and infrastructure that complement and enhance the region’s agricultural sector and the economic opportunities presented by the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline taking advantage of water security to encourage more intensive agriculture.</p>	<p>The previous strategies from Council’s MSS at Clause 21.06-5 were not adequately translated into the PPF through Amendment C36wwim. There are also strategic directions in Council’s MPS at clause 02.03-4 that are more appropriately located in the new local policy at clause 14.01-2L.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate. It will provide improved direction about sustainable agricultural land use in the West Wimmera Shire.</p>

PPF Clause	Strategies: Analysis and Discussion	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
<p>14.01-3S – Forestry and timber production <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the establishment, management and harvesting of plantations and the harvesting of timber from native forests. <p>14.01-3L – Forestry and timber production – West Wimmera (existing)</p>	<p>Strategies seek to identify areas that may be suitably used and developed for plantation timber production and promoting the establishment of softwood and hardwood plantations on predominantly cleared land, as well as other areas that are subject to, or contributing to, land and water degradation.</p> <p>Victoria’s greenhouse sinks should be protected and timber production should meet the <i>Code of Practice for Timber Production 2014</i> (as amended 2022).</p> <p>Council’s local strategies seek to not remove indigenous vegetation for the establishment of timber plantations and discourage plantations from locating in areas of high landscape and environmental quality. Appropriate buffer zones of indigenous vegetation should be planted around timber plantations and they should be located close to existing infrastructure, including road networks and water supply.</p>	<p>There are no changes proposed to the existing local planning policy in the WWPS.</p>
<p>15 BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE 15.01-1S – Urban design <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create urban environments that are safe, healthy, functional and enjoyable and that contribute to a sense of place and cultural identity. <p>15.01-1S – Urban design (new)</p>	<p>Strategies aim to create urban and rural environments that are safe, healthy, functional and enjoyable and provide good quality environments with a sense of place and cultural identity.</p> <p>A high level objective and eight related strategies are considered along with the Urban Design Guidelines for Victoria (DELWP 2017).</p> <p>These support the creation of well-designed places and townships that are memorable, distinctive and liveable with new development that is sympathetically located.</p>	<p>A new local planning policy is proposed to be included about urban design in the WWPS with content moved from the MPS.</p> <p>Strategies aim to ensure that development will contribute to the character of main streets and town entrances with safety and natural overlooking provided from community facilities.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help improve the design of towns and community facilities.</p>
<p>15.01-3S – Subdivision design <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the design of subdivisions achieves attractive, safe, accessible, diverse and sustainable neighbourhoods. <p>15.01-3L – Subdivision design (new)</p>	<p>Strategies aim to develop new residential areas and redevelop existing areas with subdivision that creates liveable and sustainable communities. This should include compact neighbourhoods, activity centres, urban places with a strong sense of place that are functional, safe and attractive and a variety of lots sizes.</p>	<p>A revised local planning policy is proposed to be included on subdivision design in the WWPS with content moved from the MPS.</p> <p>This revised local policy is appropriate as it will help to direct small rural lots from environmentally sensitive areas and is a more appropriate location for this strategy.</p>
<p>16 HOUSING 16.01-1S – Housing supply</p>	<p>Strategies seek to accommodate housing targets for each municipality by ensuring zones and overlays deliver sufficient realisable development capacity.</p>	<p>A new local planning policy is proposed to be included about housing diversity in the WWPS with content moved from the MPS.</p>

PPF Clause	Strategies: Analysis and Discussion	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
<p>Objective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate well-located, integrated and diverse housing that meets community needs. <p>16.01-1L – Housing Diversity – West Wimmera (new)</p>	<p>Appropriate quantity, quality and type of housing should be provided with good access to opportunities and services (including under-utilised urban land) and reduce the share of new dwellings in greenfield, fringe and dispersed development areas.</p> <p>Higher density housing development should be on sites that are well located in relation to jobs, services and public transport and that help to consolidate urban areas.</p> <p>The development of well-designed housing should provide a high level of internal and external amenity and incorporate universal design and adaptable internal dwelling design.</p> <p>The housing target for the West Wimmera municipality to 2051 is 200 additional dwellings.</p>	<p>Strategies aim to ensure that there will be increased housing in towns, a diversity of housing for residents and visitors to the Shire and more affordable housing options.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help to improve the provision, type, options and affordability of housing in the Shire.</p>
<p>17 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>17.01-1S – Diversified economy</p> <p>Objective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To strengthen and diversify the economy. <p>17.01-1R – Diversified economy – Wimmera Southern Mallee</p> <p>17.01-1L – Diversified economy – West Wimmera (new)</p>	<p>These policies aim to strengthen and diversify the economy and facilitate growth in a range of employment sectors, including health, education, retailing, tourism, knowledge industries and professional and technical services based on the emerging and existing strengths of each region. They also seek to improve access to jobs closer to where people live and support rural economies to grow and diversify.</p> <p>Regional strategies seek to capitalise on economic development opportunities through building on a region’s assets, particularly agriculture, energy, mining and tourism and for secure water supplies to develop a region’s economy.</p>	<p>A new local planning policy is proposed to be included about diversified economy in the WWPS with content from the Council Plan.</p> <p>Strategies aim to support the use of development that adds values to major agricultural industries and farming in the municipality.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help to support agriculture and farming in the Shire.</p>
<p>18.01-2S Transport system</p> <p>Objective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the efficient, coordinated and reliable movement of people and goods by developing an integrated and efficient transport system. <p>18.01-1L Transport system – West Wimmera (new)</p>	<p>Strategies include the development of a transport system integrated across all movement networks that support 20-minute neighbourhoods in Victoria’s regional cities and towns.</p> <p>The State Transport System is to be planned and developed comprising the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Bicycle Network: Existing and future high quality cycling routes that provide access to major destinations and facilitate cycling for transport, sport, recreation and fitness. Principal Public Transport Network: Existing and future high quality public transport routes in the Melbourne metropolitan area. Regional Rail Network: Existing and future passenger rail routes in regional Victoria. 	<p>A new local planning policy is proposed to be included about the transport system in the WWPS with content from the MPS and Council Plan.</p> <p>Strategies aims to facilitate tracks for pedestrians and cyclists for transport and recreational purposes and expand the shared path network in town centres.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help to promote the active transport network in the municipality.</p>

PPF Clause	Strategies: Analysis and Discussion	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Road Network: Declared arterial roads and freeways under the Road Management Act 2004. Principal Freight Network: Existing and future corridors and precincts where the movement of high volumes of freight are concentrated or of strategic value. Principal Transport Gateways: Existing and future ports, airports and interstate terminals that serve as key locations for moving passengers and freight into, out of and around Victoria. <p>Proposed local strategies seek to facilitate tracks for pedestrians and cyclists and expand the shared path network in town centres.</p> <p>The clause is shown as 18.01-1L but should now be renumbered to 18.01-2L.</p>	<p>The clause is shown as 18.01-1L but should now be renumbered to 18.01-2L.</p>
<p>18.02-1S Walking <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate an efficient and safe walking network and increase the proportion of trips made by walking. <p>18.02-2S Walking - West Wimmera (new)</p>	<p>Strategies seek to develop walking networks that are safe, direct and comfortable to use, enable people to access services and facilities without the need of a car, and connect to key destinations including activity centres, towns and public transport.</p> <p>Proposed local strategies seek to expand the footpath network in town centres.</p> <p>The clause is shown as 18.02-2L but should now be renumbered to 18.02-1L.</p>	<p>A new local planning policy is proposed to be included about the walking network in the WWPS with content from the Council Plan.</p> <p>Strategies aims to expand the footpath network in town centres.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help to promote the active transport network in town centres.</p> <p>The clause is shown as 18.02-2L but should now be renumbered to 18.02-1L.</p>
<p>18.02-4S Roads <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate an efficient and safe road network that integrates all movement networks and makes best use of existing infrastructure. <p>18.02-4L Roads – West Wimmera (new)</p>	<p>Strategies seek to plan and develop a road network that ensures people are safe on and around roads, improving road connections for all users and facilitating the use and needs of walking, cycling and public transport. Road space should be designed to complement land use and meet the needs of the community by providing wider footpaths, cycle lanes and transit lanes as appropriate. The Principal Road Network is to be protected and developed.</p> <p>The proposed local policy strategies aims to facilitate electric vehicle charging stations in Edenhope and Kaniva, protect the service, safety and amenity of the Western Highway and minimise the effects of noise from vehicles using the Western Highway on adjacent sensitive uses.</p>	<p>A new local planning policy is proposed to be included about the electric vehicle stations and the protection of the Western Highway in the WWPS with content from the MPS and Council Plan.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help to protect an important part of the Principal Road Network in the region and encourage electric vehicle charging stations.</p>
<p>18.02-7S - Airports and airfields <i>Objective</i></p>	<p>Strategies aim to protect airports and airfields from incompatible land use and development and prevent land use or development that poses risks to the safety or efficiency of an airport or airfield, from a range of identified risks.</p>	<p>A new local planning policy is proposed to be included about the Edenhope Aerodrome in the WWPS with content from the Council Plan.</p>

PPF Clause	Strategies: Analysis and Discussion	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To strengthen the role of Victoria's airports and airfields within the state's economic and transport infrastructure, guide their siting and expansion, and safeguard their ongoing, safe and efficient operation. <p>18.02-5L Edenhope Aerodrome – West Wimmera (new)</p>	<p>The detrimental effects of aircraft noise are to be minimised when planning for areas around airports and airfields.</p> <p>The proposed local policy strategy aims to protect the use and development of Edenhope Aerodrome.</p> <p>The clause is shown as 18.02-5L but should now be renumbered to 18.02-7L.</p>	<p>A strategy aims to protect the Edenhope Aerodrome.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help to protect important aviation infrastructure in the region.</p> <p>The clause is shown as 18.02-5L but should now be renumbered to 18.02-7L.</p>
<p>19 INFRASTRUCTURE 19.01-2S – Renewable energy <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the provision and use of renewable energy in a manner that ensures appropriate siting and design considerations are met. <p>19.01-2L– Renewable energy – West Wimmera (new)</p>	<p>Strategies aim to facilitate renewable energy development in appropriate locations such as renewable energy zones and protect them against competing and incompatible uses.</p> <p>The economic, social and environmental benefits of renewable energy generation should be considered to the broader community as well as the need to minimise the effects of a proposal on the local community and environment.</p> <p>Wind energy facilities are supported in locations with consistently strong winds over the year.</p> <p>A range of different guidelines apply to renewable energy proposals.</p> <p>The proposed local policy strategy aims to promote alternative and sustainable energy projects.</p>	<p>A new local planning policy is proposed to be included about renewable energy in the WWPS with content from the Council Plan.</p> <p>Strategies aim to promote alternative and sustainable energy projects.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help to support alternative and sustainable energy projects in the Shire.</p>
<p>19.02-4S – Social and cultural infrastructure <i>Objective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide fairer distribution of and access to, social and cultural infrastructure. <p>19.02-4L Recreational facilities (revised to Social and cultural infrastructure – West Wimmera)</p>	<p>Strategies aim to plan and develop the necessary physical and social infrastructure throughout Victoria.</p> <p>The local policy strategy aims to ensure that recreational facilities provide for year-round activities and that water based recreational activities and facilities are encouraged in suitable locations.</p>	<p>A revised local planning policy is proposed in the WWPS to plan for sufficient social and cultural infrastructure with content from the MPS and Council strategies.</p> <p>New strategies aim to plan for recreational, youth and other social and cultural infrastructure in the municipality.</p> <p>This new local policy is appropriate as it will help to support social and cultural infrastructure in the Shire.</p>
<p>19.03-2S – Infrastructure design and provision <i>Objective</i></p>	<p>Strategies aim to provide an integrated approach to the planning and engineering design of new subdivision and development.</p> <p>Developments should be integrated with infrastructure and services, whether they are in existing suburbs, growth areas or regional towns.</p>	<p>There are no changes proposed to this existing local planning policy in the WWPS.</p>

PPF Clause	Strategies: Analysis and Discussion	Implications for Amendment C37wwim
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide timely, efficient and cost-effective development infrastructure that meets the needs of the community. <p>19.03-2S – Infrastructure design and provision – West Wimmera (existing)</p>	<p>The local policy strategy aims to upgrade or replace infrastructure when the load imposed by development would exceed the existing capacity.</p>	

2.5 Recommendations

Based on the analysis included in this peer review report, it is recommended that Council should continue to progress with the next steps for Amendment C37wwim and the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review 2022 as drafted, as the Amendment implements strategically justified changes to the WWPS based on contemporary planning scheme guidance and directions.

Due to the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review being prepared in 2022, a new Council Plan has been adopted. There are opportunities to revise the vision included at clause 02.02 of the WWPS to align with the Council Plan vision (only relatively minor edits are required)

There are minor clause numbering changes that will be needed to some local planning policies in the amendment to align to more recent Victorian Government state policy changes through VC Amendments. These include:

- Renumbering proposed clause 18.01-1L to clause 18.01-2L.
- Renumbering proposed clause 18.02-2L to clause 18.02-1L.
- Renumbering proposed clause 18.02-5L to clause 18.02-7L.

A climate change report under the new Ministerial Direction 22 will now also be required for the amendment, but this has very little relevance or impact on the amendment.

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02.01 CONTEXT

The West Wimmera Shire straddles the Western and Wimmera Highways, midway between Melbourne and Adelaide. The traditional owners of the land include the Wergaia, Jardwadjali, Gunditjmarra, Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa and Jupagulk First Nations among other groups. Barengi-Gadjin people and Gunditj Mirring people are the traditional inhabitants of the West Wimmera Shire region and have been present for at least 40,000 years, well before the arrival of European settlers. [Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies website] [BGCP, p5] [GMCP] [to include appropriate recognition of First Nations people]

It is bordered by the Rural City of Mildura to the north, Glenelg and Southern Grampians Shires to the south, and Hindmarsh Shire and the Rural City of Horsham to the east. The Shire is bounded to the west by the South Australian border.

Approximately 30 per cent of the Shire is public land. Significant natural features include the Big Desert Wilderness Park and Little Desert National Parks, and the Mount Arapiles – Tooan State Park and Dergholm State Park. West Wimmera Shire contains 2174~~over 3000~~ wetlands, representing 8.525 per cent of Victoria's wetlands. These wetlands are an important natural asset for the municipality and wider region.

Occupying an area of approximately 9000 square kilometres, West Wimmera Shire is one of the largest municipalities in Victoria. Despite its land size the Shire has a small population of 39034,006 persons as of the 2016~~21~~ [ABS Census 2021] [To update with current factual data] census. After many years of gradual decline (1000 people, or 23% decline since the 1991 census), the population of West Wimmera grew by about 4000~~100~~ people in the last census period. Whether this is a long term trend will be monitored. [Comment on implications of ABS data]~~Over recent years population loss has been experienced throughout the Shire. This population decline reflects the changes in the structure of agriculture, the steady increase in average farm size, and the migration of people in search of better education and employment opportunities.~~

The Shire is one of Victoria's most diverse and productive agricultural areas and. ~~As such~~ the local economy is directly affected by the performance of rural industry. Farms are getting bigger to become more viable, resulting in less demand on the small rural towns that service them.

The predominant towns in West Wimmera Shire are Apsley, Edenhope, Goroke, Harrow, and Kaniva. There are also a number of smaller townships located throughout the Shire, including Dergholm, Chetwynd and Serviceton.

02.02 VISION

West Wimmera Shire's Vision ~~2021-17-2025~~0 is that West Wimmera is a great place to live, work and play. The Shire is growing and is known for its natural environment, its resilience and its sense of community. The community values its heritage and is creating new economic capacity and local employment based on innovation and tourism and existing local strengths consistent with the municipality's rural character. The towns of the Shire are vibrant and welcoming and provide services and facilities that meet the needs of the community and visitors. [WWCP, p17] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

~~to ensure the municipality's communities are healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious, prosperous and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity.~~

From a land use and development perspective, this will be achieved by supporting the following ~~objectives~~directions:

- Enabling the community to live active, healthy and safe lives. [WWCP, p17] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

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- ~~Providing health and education services which meet community needs.~~ [WWCP, p17] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- ~~Providing opportunities for the community and visitors to value and enjoy the natural environment.~~ [WWCP, p17] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- ~~Providing a safe and sustainable road network.~~ [WWCP, p17] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- ~~Creating attractive and viable town centres.~~ [WWCP, p17] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- ~~Facilitating a thriving economy that takes advantage of the Shire's economic strengths and generates employment in farming, business and tourism.~~ [WWCP, p17] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- ~~Providing facilities which encourage active participation in physical activity and community life.~~ [WWCP, p17] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- ~~Strategic objective 3: quality sustainable community infrastructure.~~
- ~~Strategic objective 4: building on agricultural and business strengths and supporting economic development.~~
- ~~Strategic objective 5: thriving, safe and diverse communities.~~
- ~~Strategic objective 6: addressing health and wellbeing issues.~~
- ~~Strategic objective 7: providing access to and promoting the natural environment.~~

02.03 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

02.03-1 Settlement

Overview

The West Wimmera Shire retains a distinctive pattern of urban development based on separate townships and settlements, with the predominant towns being Edenhope ([District town](#)), Kaniva ([Town](#)) and Goroke, Apsley, and Harrow ([small settlements](#)). There are also a number of smaller settlements located throughout the Shire, each retaining its own local history, culture, individual character and role, that contributes to a sense of place and community association. ~~There is a reasonably clear hierarchy among the towns and villages related to their function and the range of services and facilities provided.~~ [consolidate text to match 2.04 Strategic Framework plan]

The towns and settlements in the Shire have important roles as service and business centres and as community foci for the local community, visitors and the surrounding rural hinterland. Population decline within towns ~~has been a~~ ~~is a~~ threat to service provision and liveability [in recent years, however this trend may be reversing](#).

Edenhope

Edenhope is the administrative centre for the Shire. The town has a compact commercial area offering convenience and weekly shopping. Industrial activities are concentrated in the east of the town, with some service industries on the southern edge of the commercial area.

Edenhope is located on the shores of Lake Wallace, which has been integral in the formation of the character of the township. The Lake provides recreation opportunities as well as providing a unique residential amenity.

Kaniva

Kaniva functions both as a service centre for the surrounding agricultural area and as a rest stop for travellers on the way to regional destinations and Adelaide. The commercial area is centrally located along the Western Highway, putting it in a prime position to capture freight and logistics-oriented activity.

The local community sees the location of the town on the Western Highway and the railway as a major asset, and its location has significantly contributed to the formation of the town's character.

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Goroke

Goroke is a quiet township close to Lake Charlegrark and Lake Boorooopki and many other district lakes, which provide for a various tourist and recreational pursuits including yabbing, fishing, bird and wildlife watching. The Goroke township extends along Main Street with the Community Health Centre and Goroke College well separated from the hub of the township, located some 900 metres east of the centre. Rural land separates the hub of township from the school, health centre and a handful of dwellings.

~~Goroke is experiencing a declining population, which in turn is placing pressure on the ability of the town to provide services to the region~~^[NEW, the decline of Goroke was only 4 people between 2016 and 2021]

Apsley

Apsley is a small town set amongst red gums located approximately ten kilometres east of the South Australian border, [in close proximity to Newlands Lake](#). The town began as a central point for four sheep stations and continues to provide a local service function for the surrounding community.

Harrow

Harrow is a small pastoral town located on the banks of the Glenelg River, beneath the rolling hills and grand old red gums. Harrow is particularly picturesque, boasting a number of heritage buildings which significantly contribute to the town's beauty and tourist potential.

Other townships

There are several smaller townships located throughout the Shire which provide local convenience shopping and an important community focus. Beyond catering for the immediate needs of the local communities, there is little demand for any extension of the shopping facilities within these towns or to the townships generally.

Strategic directions

- Provide sufficient land and direct growth to the major townships of Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke, Apsley, and Harrow.
- Enhance the roles of the major townships of Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke, Apsley, and Harrow as the service and business centres for the Shire and as focal points for communities.
- Minimise any detrimental impact of development on the landscape, the environment and existing character.
- Avoid encroachment of residential development on industry.
- ~~Promote Kaniva as a key service centre in the northern part of the Shire for the local and surrounding rural community.~~
- Promote Goroke as the local community service centre within the centre of the Shire.
- Promote development in Apsley that provides opportunities for service provision, new business initiatives and housing.
- Promote Apsley as a dormitory town for Edenhope and Naracoorte.

02.03-2 Environmental and landscape values

Biodiversity

The decline and fragmentation of indigenous vegetation and loss of biodiversity is a major environmental issue ~~in the Shire~~, and a contributing factor towards all other land and water degradation issues.

Large areas ~~of the Shire~~ have been cleared for agriculture, resulting in limited areas of natural vegetation cover. There is a risk that scattered trees on farms will die out and the roadside vegetation will be all that remains. The protection and management of the

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bushland reserves is important to provide a diversity of flora and wildlife refuge areas and habitat.

~~There is a particular need to protect habitat for endangered species: the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Jumping Jack Wattle. Red-tailed Black Cockatoo relies on Buloke and Stringbark trees for habitat. Protecting this habitat requires a long term approach to ensure mature, seed bearing habitat is available in future decades. There is a particular need to protect habitat for endangered species: the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Jumping Jack Wattle which relies on the Buloke tree for habitat. Protecting this habitat requires a long term approach as it takes decades for the Buloke tree to seed and Jumping Jack Wattle. [NEW, clarifying the reason why protection required]~~

Flora communities, and the fauna they support, vary throughout the Shire ranging from woodlands and wetlands in the south and desert scrublands in the north. However, with less than 3 per cent of the original Buloke woodlands intact and threats from pest species and development, there is the need to protect existing communities in order to maintain biodiversity.

The Shire contains significant areas of public land, including the Public Conservation and Resource Zone. ~~Accordingly, and~~ there is the need to protect this resource and ensure that it and adjacent private land are properly managed. This is important to maintaining a broad range of qualities from tourism to the health of the natural ecosystem. Roadside vegetation is very important in maintaining and restoring connectivity to the fragmented parcels of public land, which are important for the survival of many species.

Water bodies and wetlands

The lakes system is an important environmental, cultural and economic feature of the Shire. Care is needed to ensure that the qualities of the significant waterways of the municipality are not degraded by upstream activities.

~~The Natimuk-Douglas Chain of Lakes is a significant landscape feature of the region. [NEW, Western Victoria Landscape Assessment Study, DELWP and Planisphere. 2013]~~

Significant environments and landscapes

The West Wimmera Shire contains many areas containing significant natural landscapes and features of environmental value and include the numerous natural wetlands and waterways in the south and the Little Desert in the north. There are also small areas such as narrow reserves along streams, roadsides and railways and nature reserves that retain native vegetation, contribute to nature conservation, are valuable for migratory and nomadic birds and are valuable for flora and fauna habitat and as wildlife corridors for fauna.

The private land in the Shire has been substantially altered during the past 150 years but still contains small pockets of remnant habitat, wetlands and other original features. These areas have become increasingly important ~~with the realisation that~~ only 3 per cent of the original vegetation remains intact. The subdivision of land into smaller lot sizes within environmentally sensitive areas can make it more difficult to manage these resources.

Strategic directions

- ~~■ Ensure small rural lots do not occur in environmentally sensitive areas. [moved to 15.01-3L subdivision design]~~
- Protect the habitat for the Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo including live and dead Buloke hollow bearing eucalypt trees. [Links to ESO2]
- Conserve the Shire's biologically diverse natural environment.
- Encourage development to increase indigenous vegetation cover.
- Minimise impacts on areas with high habitat value.
- Retain high quality vegetation stands throughout the municipality.
- Minimise impacts of use and development on adjacent public land.
- Maintain the environmental values of significant water courses, lakes and wetlands.

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02.03-3 Environmental risks and amenity

Climate change impacts

With the Shire's economy heavily reliant on agriculture, the potential risks to the municipality from changes in climate are significant. Council has a critical role to play in providing leadership and working with local communities to improve the environmental performance of the municipality, and ensure the long-term sustainability of the community, economy and environment of the municipality.

Strategic directions

- Improve the environmental performance of use and development, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Adapt to the impacts of climate change through risk-based planning.

Bushfire

There are large areas of grass and cropping land and bushland in the Shire which regularly burn as a result of natural causes, accidents or deliberate action. One of the major issues is that of uncontrolled bushfires. Planning is required to decrease the level of risk to life and property and ensure safe access for emergency services.

Strategic directions

- Restrict development on land prone to bushfire.
- Ensure development is designed to respond to the risk of fire.

Floodplains

Some areas within the municipality are subjected to flooding and inundation from storms and flood events, as identified by [through the Floodway Overlay and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay](#). [Current flood mapping is out of date and Planning planning](#) should ensure that the community is protected from risks associated with these events [by applying appropriate flooding overlays](#).

Strategic directions

- [Protect areas in and near township subject to flooding to protect floodplains and manage risks to the community. Minimise the impact of flooding on the community by preventing inappropriately located use and development.](#) [Stronger wording]

Soil degradation

The widespread clearing of land for agriculture has led to increased pollution of waterways and increased salinity. The natural watercourses have changed, with extensive harvesting and redistribution from the surface water system to sustain agriculture and the rural and township communities. The ground water resources in the Shire are limited both in terms of quality and yield. There is the potential for the further extraction of the ground water resource, although the extent of extraction requires monitoring to ensure that it is not depleted or contaminated from pollution by saline groundwater and nutrients, pesticides and herbicides or any other source.

Soil erosion and salinity are other key land management issues. Erosion can be severe when hot, dry winds remove topsoil from fallow or overgrazed land. The extent and distribution of salinity continues to be a concern for future agricultural production.

It is important to protect the community from health risks that may emerge from being exposed to contamination.

Strategic directions

- Ensure use or development does not cause water pollution, land degradation or pose a threat to the sustainable productive capacity of the Shire's major economic base.
- ~~Ensure potentially contaminated sites are suitable for intended future use or development.~~ [duplicates PPF]

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02.03-4 Natural resource management

Agriculture

Agriculture is both the dominant land use in the West Wimmera Shire and key economic driver, with just over half the workforce of the Shire employed in this sector.

The northern part of the municipality produces primarily cereal and grain legume crops and to a lesser extent sheep and cattle while the southern part relies predominantly on sheep, cattle and some hay production. This variation is attributable to the differing climate and rainfall regimes.

More recently agroforestry has been introduced into the southern districts, with the soil types and rainfall providing suitable conditions for further expansion of this industry. Significant areas of pine plantation are already established and are in various stages of production.

Other agricultural initiatives include large scale cattle feedlots, [ducks and piggeries](#), horticultural operations such as commercial cut flowers, herbs, pistachio nuts, onions, potatoes, [carrots](#) and grape vines. Irrigation industries based on the high-quality underground water have also emerged. Less traditional areas of agriculture are also emerging such as the production of wildflowers. The diverse conditions of the Shire offer prospects for these new agricultural activities and provide opportunities for producers relying on the traditional agricultural pursuits.

A key attribute of the Shire's agricultural land is the large land area available for use. Lot sizes are generally large. This presents a unique opportunity for Council to promote new and emerging rural based initiatives, such as carbon farming and renewable energy projects that can make use of this key asset.

The creation of small Farming Zone lots is generally inappropriate in rural areas. The additional house entitlement created is rarely necessary to improve farm operations on the land from which it was excised and can lead to land use conflict and poor land management practices that may reduce the productivity of the land.

Forestry and timber production is a relatively new and small scale industry for the Shire. The growing of softwood and hardwood timber plantations by farmers to supplement their incomes, or whole properties being used for timber plantations is a legitimate use of rural land, particularly if it is not productive agricultural land and the land is predominantly cleared.

Strategic directions

- Retain viable rural land holdings within the Farming Zone.
- ~~Ensure dwellings in rural areas do not adversely affect the use of the land for agriculture and are consistent with sustainable land management practices.~~ [move to 14.01-1L]
- ~~Discourage the fragmentation of viable rural land holdings through the creation of small rural lots in the Farming Zone.~~ [move to 14.01-1L]
- Support a rural agricultural community comprising a range of diversified enterprises that is efficiently managed and ecologically sustainable.
- ~~Encourage a range of value-adding rural industries to establish in the Shire.~~ [move to 14.01-1L]
- ~~Promote intensive agriculture and niche agricultural activities in areas where externalities can be managed.~~ [move to 14.01-1L]
- ~~Minimise Prevent~~ [previous Clause 21.06-5] [to reinstate wording inadvertently omitted during the PPF translation] land use conflicts in agricultural areas.
- ~~Promote land and farm management to address erosion, drainage, nutrient run-off and pest control throughout the municipality.~~ [move to 14.01-1L]
- Minimise the impact of timber plantations and forestry on the environment, significant landscapes and infrastructure.

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- Ensure rural land holdings are available in a range of sizes to accommodate rural industries.
- [Support a transition to the highest value agricultural production in the Shire.](#) [WWSEDC, p18][to reflect adopted Council policy]

Water

Catchment management is a growing issue within West Wimmera Shire. [The municipality is within the Millicent Coast Basin, the Glenelg River basin and the Wimmera River basin. The municipality is largely within the Wimmera River catchment but the southernmost part of the municipality drains into the Glenelg River system.](#)

The natural drainage patterns in the flat parts of the Shire are dramatically affected by activities such as clearing, roads and railway lines and the creation of levee banks and channels. The drainage of agricultural land without regard to adjoining, downstream and upstream land holders also significantly affects natural drainage patterns. Drainage is being undertaken continuously as farmers try to make more land suitable for cropping. The interference with natural drainage patterns also has major implications for the conservation of wetlands.

Strategic directions

- Conserve existing water reserves and prevent degradation of water catchment areas.
- Facilitate improved water quality and availability.
- [Manage rural drainage to protect the hydrology and ecology of wetlands.](#) [Link to ESO1]

Earth and energy resources

Exploration and mining of mineral sands presents both an opportunity and a constraint for the future development of the Shire. The Shire only contains one mining licence (for the mining of mineral sands), however many mining exploration licences have been granted. This may bring about future development in this industry.

Strategic directions

- Ensure the long-term protection of known and potential sand resources.
- Minimise potential adverse impacts from extractive industry on surrounding land uses and the natural environment.

02.03-5 Built environment and heritage

Built environment

Maintaining the valued built form aspects of the municipality helps to provide character and identity to townships and landscapes and in certain situations contributes to the tourism potential of the municipality. Where the built form character of an area is established and valued, new development should respect this character and add to the overall quality of the urban environment as well as incorporating the principles of Environmentally Sensitive Design.

Landscaping is an integral and valued component of West Wimmera's urban environment. Good landscape design enhances the quality of the urban environment and contributes to the continuity and connectivity of township character. When we plan our townships, greater consideration should be given to the value of landscape design.

Strategic directions

- Facilitate built form and public spaces that are safe, healthy, functional and enjoyable and contribute to a sense of place and cultural identity.
- Encourage energy saving, water conservation, and the principles of Environmentally Sustainable Design to be incorporated into development.
- Encourage residential subdivisions to integrate with the existing community.

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- Ensure development does not detract from the natural qualities of the site and surrounding area.
- Increase vegetation across the municipality.
- Ensure that development creates and maintains a landscape setting that supports the amenity, attractiveness and safety of the public realm.
- [Ensure new development contributes to the existing urban character of townships.](#)
[Added by Council]

Heritage

West Wimmera Shire contains a number of places of historic and cultural significance that are important to the local and wider community and must be protected and enhanced for their conservation and tourism potential.

As traditional owners, indigenous communities have a central role in land management across the West Wimmera region. Within the region there are thousands of sites and places of Aboriginal heritage. Catchment restoration and protection works have the potential to impact heavily on these sites. Works on waterways, fencing, revegetation programs and pest plant and animal control can all directly or indirectly destroy or seriously affect sites of importance. Other activities involving ground disturbing works, for example: road works, new housing, or intensive agriculture, all have the potential to impact on sites of Aboriginal cultural significance.

Strategic directions

- Ensure the protection, maintenance and enhancement of places of historic and cultural significance, including both Aboriginal and post European settlement heritage sites.

02.03-6 Housing

As the population ages a more diverse range of housing is required. Provision also needs to be made for housing that can be adapted to cater for people with disabilities when the need arises. Urban consolidation is encouraged in areas that have the physical infrastructure, community facilities and commercial facilities to support the population.

Strategic directions

- [Focus residential development in and adjacent to existing townships.](#) [Rewording of directions below]
- [Support affordable and appropriate housing that meets the needs of the community.](#)
- ~~Encourage increased housing densities in existing settlements.~~
- ~~Encourage a diversity of housing types and lot sizes to meet the needs of all residents and visitors to the municipality.~~
- ~~Facilitate more affordable housing options in the municipality.~~

02.03-7 Economic development

General

While the traditional agricultural pursuits such as cropping, grazing, wool and beef have formed the basis of the economy of West Wimmera, diversity in production is being pursued. Taking advantage of the Shire's natural resource attributes has enabled new investment in production as diverse as legumes, oilseeds, flowers, potatoes and other emerging horticultural products.

Further diversity in the economic base, employment and business opportunities is also occurring through the establishment of new agriculturally linked value-added industries together with the continuing expansion of tourism [including eco tourism](#), recreation and leisure opportunities provided in the Shire.

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Commercial

The role and function of commercial areas need to adapt as population and work practices change. The commercial centres throughout the municipality provide the day to day needs of the local community as well as acting as a social gathering point. Some businesses are home based which also provide an economic benefit to the municipality.

Commercial development in the Shire is largely limited to small-scale activities related to the servicing of the rural and agricultural sector.

Industry

Industrial activity provides significant economic benefits for the Shire and is a significant employer of people. Smaller industrial estates can provide a local service industry function.

Tourism

The natural assets of the municipality play an important role in tourism in the Shire and there is a growing demand for environmentally sustainable tourism developments. The municipality possesses a number of natural tourist attractions and features together with a number of recreation and leisure facilities and attractions in townships. A range of accommodation, eating establishments and shops contribute to the visitor's experience and to the economy; providing local job opportunities, investment and facilities for residents.

Strategic directions

- Facilitate opportunities for increased employment within and adjacent to the towns.
- Capitalise on economic development opportunities by building on the region's assets, particularly agriculture, energy, mining and tourism.
- Support the development of attractive, functional and viable business clusters.
- Facilitate the establishment and further development of industry within existing and planned industrial estates.
- Encourage a diverse range of tourism-related development in areas other than on high quality agricultural land and areas of high environmental and landscape quality.
- [Ensure the commercial areas of towns are zoned to facilitate business development.](#) [Planning Scheme Review]

02.03-8 Transport

The primary transport mode for residents, workers and visitors within the Shire is the private vehicle, making the ongoing maintenance of the road network a key transport priority. The Edenhope Aerodrome is important to the Shire's transport system, providing access for commercial flights and emergency services.

The Western Highway is a designated National Highway that links Melbourne and Adelaide and traverses the northern area of the Shire. Land use and development planning should take full account of this National Highway when development occurs in its vicinity, including controlling noise effects on sensitive land uses.

Strategic directions

- Facilitate an effective and efficient road network.
- [Protect Edenhope Aerodrome from encroachment by development.](#) [New strategic direction to set the context for new 18.02-7L Edenhope Aerodrome]
- ~~Ensure that use and development does not prejudice the levels of service, safety and amenity of the Edenhope Aerodrome.~~ [moved from 02.03-9 to policy]
- ~~Ensure that use and development does not prejudice the levels of service, safety and amenity of the Western Highway.~~ [moved to 18.02-4]
- ~~Minimise adverse effects of noise from traffic using the Western Highway on adjacent sensitive land uses.~~ [moved to 18.02-4]

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

02.03-9 Infrastructure

Community infrastructure

The Shire is well served by a range of community services which are integral to maintaining communities, including youth services. Accordingly, there is the need to retain the existing provision and standard of services in a manner that is both economically and socially sustainable.

There are a number of community clubs, groups and associations currently active in the Shire which make up the fabric of the towns and villages. They are the focus for the community, particularly in generating social activities and maintaining community spirit, interest and association.

There are a wide range of recreational facilities and open space areas available to both residents and visitors for year-round use. The lakes and wetlands of the Shire are a popular destination for day-trippers and holiday makers, particularly in the summer months. Popular activities include swimming, boating, fishing, cycling, walking and sightseeing. Local shops, eating establishments, and the service industry associated with recreational equipment, meet the needs of day-trippers and holiday makers.

Development infrastructure

Infrastructure services are important in providing transport and protecting environmental and community health and should be provided in a cost-effective manner. There is increasing pressure on the existing infrastructure services and on Council for the provision and maintenance of these infrastructure services, particularly on funding for increased road maintenance. However, Council is unable to fund the level of infrastructure service which the community expects, owing to the competing demands for other services.

There is a significant opportunity for West Wimmera to be a provider of renewable energy.
[NEW WWCP]

Strategic directions

Promote the establishment of renewable energy facilities that make use of the natural attributes in West Wimmera. [NEW WWCP]

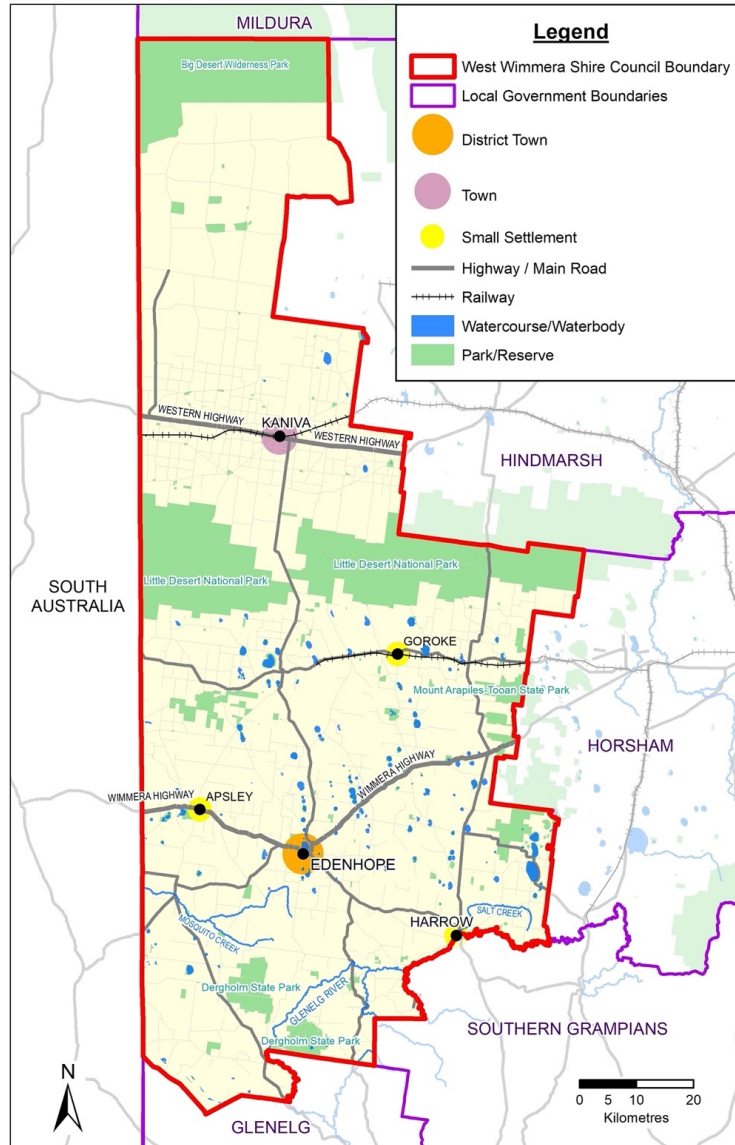
- Provide infrastructure and services that meet the needs of the community in a cost effective and sustainable manner.
- Encourage a range of accessible educational, medical and community services for all sectors of the community.
- Encourage a range of passive and active recreational facilities that cater for the needs of the local population and visitors.
- Provide open spaces that cater for a range of users and age groups and encourage physical activity
- Facilitate a variety of tracks for pedestrians and cyclists for both transport and recreational purposes.
- Encourage use and development that supports the use of waterways, lakes and reserves for recreational purposes.
- Provide open spaces that cater for a range of users and age groups and encourage physical activity.
- Promote development that facilitates safe places for social interaction.
- Encourage uses that complement or provide youth services.
- Ensure community facilities are designed to promote natural surveillance.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

02.04 Strategic framework plan

The plan contained in Clause 02.04 is to be read in conjunction with the strategic directions in Clause 02.03.

West Wimmera strategic framework plan



WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

11.01-1L-01 Settlement - Edenhope – [West Wimmera](#)

Policy application

[This policy applies to land shown in the Edenhope Framework Plan.](#) [to comply with MD]

Strategies

Ensure active retail frontages within the commercial precinct, as identified on the Edenhope Framework Plan.

Promote low density and rural living development in lifestyle living areas, as identified on the Edenhope Framework Plan.

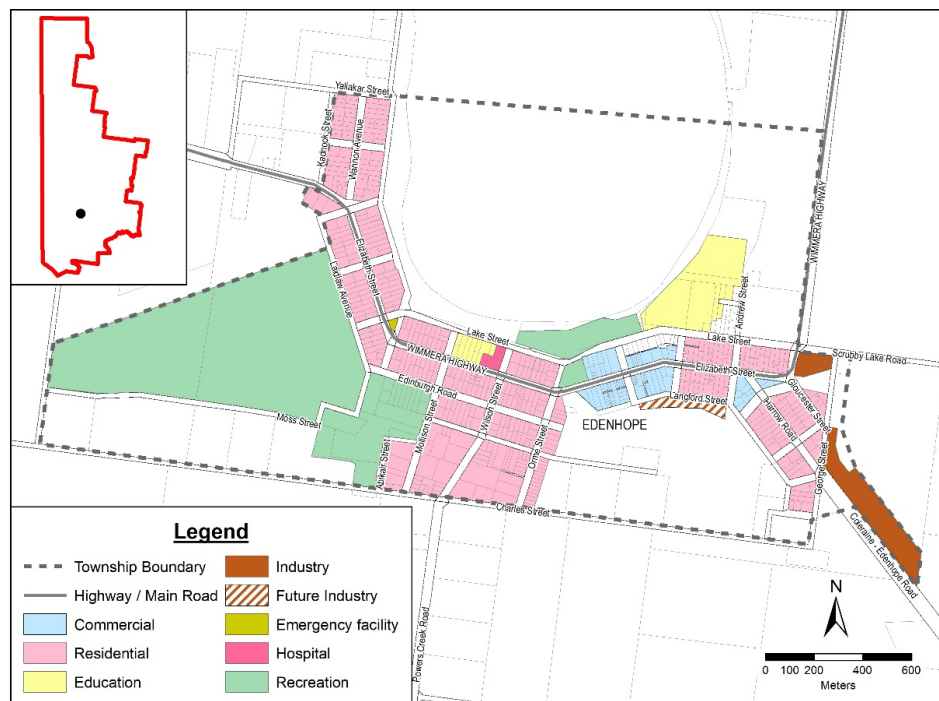
Encourage use and development to orient towards and activate Lake Wallace and its foreshore.

Support the establishment of a pedestrian and cycle trail network for recreational purposes that accesses nearby environmental assets, such as Lake Wallace.

Encourage the development and expansion of the Edenhope Industrial Estate.

Facilitate the relocation of storage uses from Elizabeth Street into the Edenhope Industrial Estate.

Edenhope framework plan



11.01-1L-02 Settlement - Kaniva – [West Wimmera](#)

Policy application

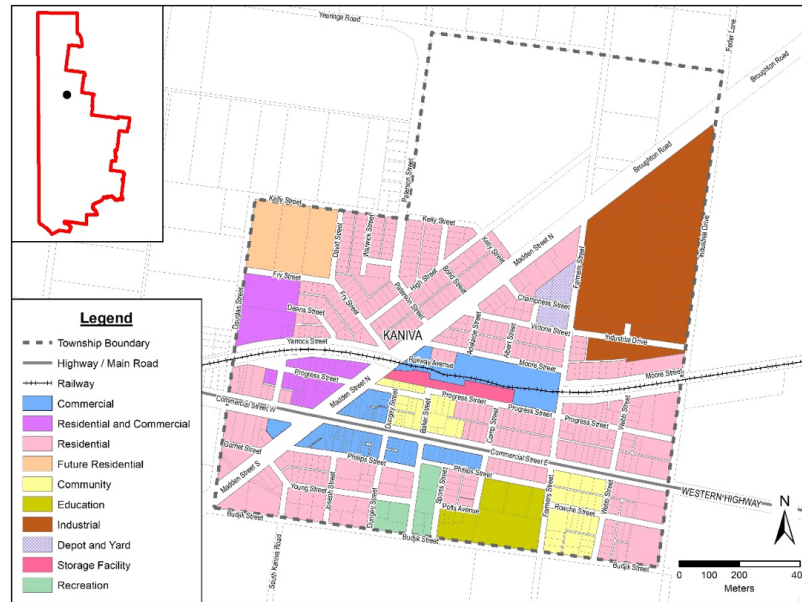
[This policy applies to land shown in the Kaniva Framework Plan.](#) [to comply with MD]

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Strategies

- Encourage development of the Kaniva Industrial Estate.
- Ensure that development within the Kaniva Industrial Estate does not prevent residential growth in the town.
- Retain community and commercial facilities in the town.

Kaniva framework plan



11.01-1L-03 Settlement - Apsley – [West Wimmera](#)

Policy application

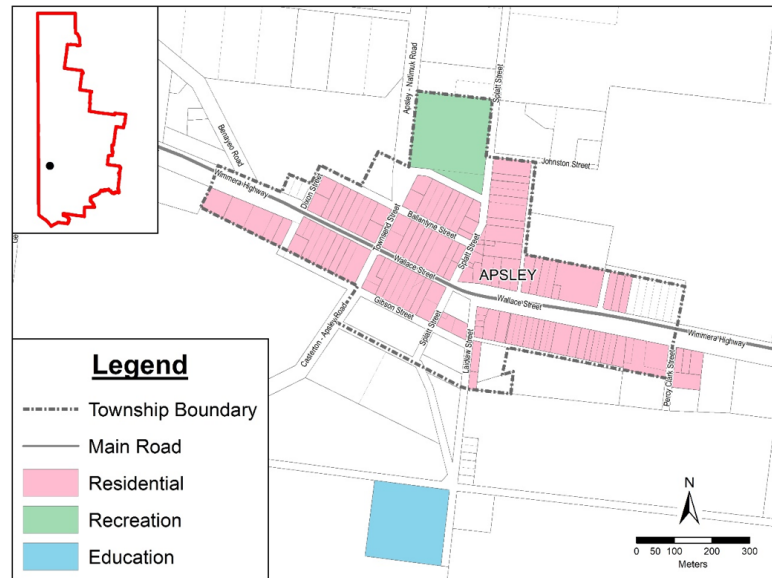
This policy applies to land shown in the Apsley Framework Plan. [\[to comply with MD\]](#)

Strategy

Support the establishment of cycling and horse-riding trails as a way of attracting visitors to the area.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Apsley framework plan



11.01-1L-04 Settlement - Goroke – [West Wimmera](#)

Policy application

This policy applies to land shown in the Goroke Framework Plan. [to comply with MD]

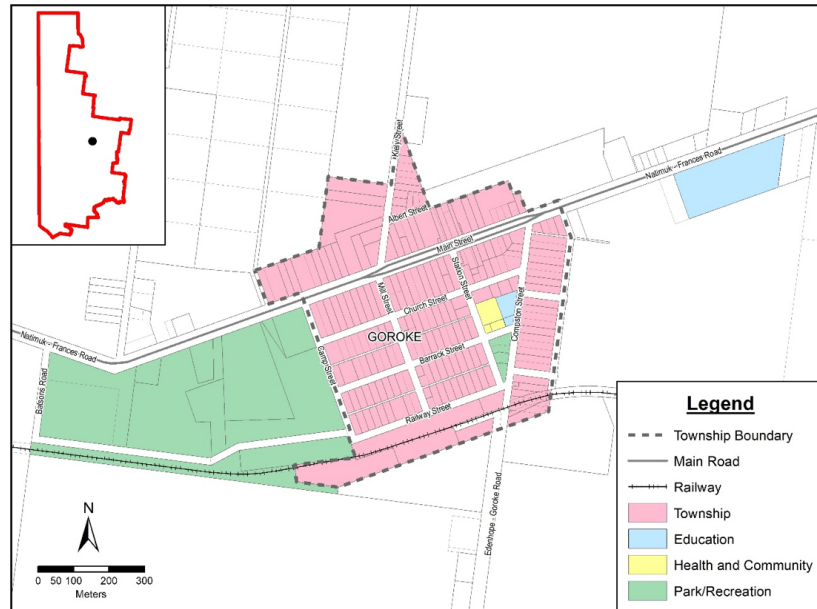
Strategies

Encourage commercial and industrial activities to locate along the main street or in the vicinity of the grain receiving silo.

Support the establishment of a walking and bicycle path alongside the train line that can connect with other rail trails emerging throughout the Wimmera region.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Goroke framework plan



11.01-1L-05 Settlement - Harrow – [West Wimmera](#)

Policy application

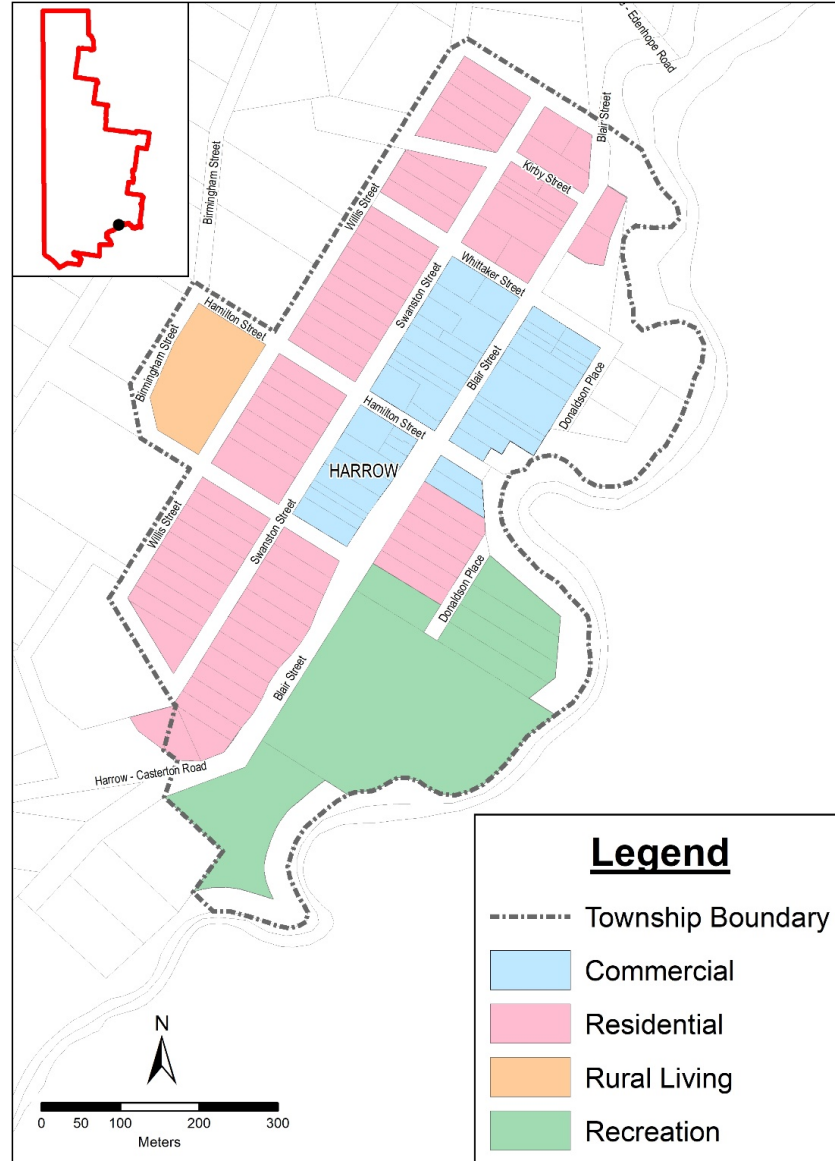
This policy applies to land shown in the Harrow Framework Plan.[\[to comply with MD\]](#)

Strategies

- Avoid development within the floodplain of the Glenelg River.
- Ensure built form is responsive to Harrow’s rural valley setting.
- Ensure development enhances the town’s historic 19th Century pastoral character.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Harrow framework plan



WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

12.01-1L Protection of biodiversity - West Wimmera

Strategies

Support the protection of the Red Tailed Black Cockatoo and Jumping Jack Wattle habitats ~~within the Shire~~.

Ensure that the boundaries between reserves and abutting properties are clearly delineated and that reserves are protected from incursions by adjacent use and development.

Encourage the planting of indigenous vegetation to increase vegetation cover. [02.03-2] [to reflect existing strategic direction] provide shelter for livestock, minimise soil erosion and salinity, enhance landscape quality, and provide further opportunities for wildlife corridors.

Encourage the removal of exotic and environmental weed species.

14.01-1L Protection of agricultural land - West Wimmera

Strategies

Consolidate land holdings in the Farming Zone ~~in order~~ to increase economies of scale and create more viable farming systems.

Encourage restructuring of existing titles to more adequately respond to sustainable farming operations and environmental objectives. [previous Clause 21.06-5] [to reinstate important policy inadvertently omitted during the PPF translation]

Ensure a clear link between the need for a dwelling and the agricultural use of the land.

Ensure dwellings in rural areas do not adversely affect the use of the land for agriculture and are consistent with sustainable land management practices. [02.03-4] [moved as more appropriate as a strategy]

Discourage the fragmentation of viable rural land holdings through the creation of small rural lots in the Farming Zone. [02.03-4] [moved as more appropriate as a strategy]

14.01-2L Sustainable agricultural land use - West Wimmera

Strategies

Encourage use, development and management of land that is conducive to maintaining options and opportunities for future farming activities. [previous Clause 21.06-5] [to reinstate important policy inadvertently omitted during the PPF translation]

Encourage a range of value-adding rural industries to establish in the Shire. [02.03-4] [moved as more appropriate as a strategy]

Promote intensive agriculture and niche agricultural activities in areas where externalities can be managed. [02.03-4] [moved as more appropriate as a strategy]

Promote land and farm management to address erosion, drainage, nutrient run off and pest control throughout the municipality. [02.03-4] [moved as more appropriate as a strategy]

Facilitate high value agricultural land uses. [WWSEDC, p18] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

Facilitate a grower-controlled grain receival and storage facility at Kaniva. [WWSEDC, p18] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

Encourage development that takes advantage of the emerging carbon market. ~~Promote the potential benefits from the sustainable land management practices~~. [previous Clause 21.06-5] [to reinstate important policy inadvertently omitted during the PPF translation]

Encourage rural industries which package and/or process local primary products in proximity to their raw product. [previous Clause 21.06-5] [to reinstate important policy inadvertently omitted during the PPF translation]

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

14.01-3L Forestry and timber production - West Wimmera

Strategies

Ensure indigenous vegetation is not removed for the establishment of timber plantations.
Discourage timber plantations from locating in areas of high landscape and environmental quality.
Ensure that extensive buffer zones of indigenous vegetation are planted around timber plantations.
Locate timber plantations close to existing infrastructure, including road networks and water supply.

15.01-1L Urban design – West Wimmera

Strategies

Ensure that development contributes to the character of main streets and town entrances. [WWCP, p36] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

Design community facilities to promote natural surveillance. [moved from 02.03-9]

15.01-3L Subdivision design – West Wimmera

Strategies

Encourage residential subdivision to include permeable fencing or landscaping in areas adjacent to roads and reserves.

Ensure small rural lots do not occur in environmentally sensitive areas. [moved from 02.03-2] [more appropriate as a subdivision strategy]

16.01-1L Housing diversity – West Wimmera

Encourage increased housing densities in existing settlements. [moved from 02.03-6]

Encourage a diversity of housing types and lot sizes to meet the needs of all residents and visitors to the municipality. [moved from 02.03-6]

Facilitate more affordable housing options in the municipality. [moved from 02.03-6]

17.01-1L Diversified economy – West Wimmera

Strategies

Support use and development that adds value to the major agricultural industries of:

- Broad acre cropping. [WWCP, p7] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- Production and processing of wheat, barley, canola, beans, chickpeas, lentils, oats, hay, fruit trees, native flowers and potatoanes. [WWCP, p7] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- Vegetable and forage cultivation and seed production. [WWCP, p7] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- Animal husbandry and processing. [WWCP, p7] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

- [Private sector employment.](#) [WWCP, p7] [to reflect adopted Council policy]
- [Public sector employment.](#) [WWCP, p7] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

[Support the use and development of agricultural for new and emerging niche agricultural production.](#) [NEW, Council addition]

18.01-1L Transport system – West Wimmera

Strategies

[Facilitate a variety of tracks for pedestrians and cyclists for both transport and recreational purposes.](#) [moved from 02.03-9]

[Expand the shared path network in town centres.](#) [WWCP, p36] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

18.02-2L Walking – West Wimmera

Strategies

[Expand the footpath network in town centres.](#) [WWCP, p36] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

18.02-4L Roads – West Wimmera

Strategies

[Facilitate the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in Edenhope and Kaniva.](#) [WWCP, p36] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

[Ensure that use and development does not prejudice the levels of service, safety and amenity of the Western Highway.](#) [moved from 02.03-8 Strategic Directions]

[Minimise adverse effects of noise from traffic using the Western Highway on adjacent sensitive uses.](#) [moved from 02.03-8 Strategic Directions]

18.02-5L Edenhope Aerodrome – West Wimmera

[Ensure that use and development does not prejudice the levels of service, safety and amenity of the Edenhope Aerodrome.](#) [moved from 02.03-9 to policy]

19.01-2L Renewable energy – West Wimmera

Strategies

[Promote alternative and sustainable energy projects.](#) [WWCP, p41] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

19.02-4L Social and cultural infrastructure – Recreational facilities – West Wimmera

Strategies

Ensure that recreational facilities provide for year-round activities.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Encourage water based recreational activities and facilities in suitable locations.

Ensure that recreational facilities are varied enough to cater for as many sporting, recreational and leisure interests as practical.[CPRP, p2] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

Support the use of community buildings, such as schools, recreation spaces and Council facilities for recreational uses by encouraging the multi-purpose use of facilities by community groups. [CPRP, p2] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

Locate recreational facilities to be accessible to the resident population, easey to access, attractive to tourists-and safe and secure.[CPRP, p2] [to reflect adopted Council policy]

Promote use and development that facilitates safe places for social interaction. [moved from 02.03-9]

Encourage uses that complement or provide youth services. [moved from 02.03-9]

Encourage use and development that supports the use of waterways, lakes and reserves for recreational purposes. [moved from 02.03-9]

19.03-2L Infrastructure design and provision - West Wimmera

Strategy

Upgrade or replace infrastructure when the load imposed by development would exceed the existing capacity.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 35.03 RURAL LIVING ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **RLZ**.

1.0 Subdivision and other requirements

	Land	Area/Dimensions/ Distance
Minimum subdivision area (hectares)	All land	8 hectares
Minimum area for which no permit is required to use land for a Dwelling (hectares)	All land	8 hectares
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to construct an out-building associated with an existing dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing building used for Agriculture (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Minimum setback from a road (metres)	None specified	None specified
Minimum setback from a boundary (metres)	None specified	None specified

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

Minimum setback from a dwelling not in the same ownership (metres)	None specified	None specified
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Permit requirement for earthworks	Land
Earthworks which change the rate of flow or the discharge point of water across a property boundary	All land
Earthworks which increase the discharge of saline groundwater	All land

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 35.07 FARMING ZONE [TO COMPLY WITH MD]

Shown on the planning scheme map as **FZ1**.

1.0 Subdivision and other requirements

	Land	Area/Dimensions/Distance
Minimum subdivision area (hectares)	Land in Edenhope described as Lot 2 PS434694 Part CA45 Parish of Edenhope All other Land [to comply with MD]	Minimum area necessary to create a balance lot in the Farming Zone 80 hectares [to comply with MD]
Minimum area for which no permit is required to use land for a dwelling (hectares)	All land	80 hectares
Maximum area for which no permit is required to use land for timber production (hectares)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to construct an out-building associated with a dwelling (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing building used for agriculture (square metres)	None specified	None specified
Minimum setback from a road (metres).	A Road-Zone Category Transport Zone 1 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 1	100 metres 40 metres 20 metres

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

	A Road-Zone Category Transport Zone 2 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 2 Any other Road	
Minimum setback from a boundary (metres).	Any other boundary	5 metres
Minimum setback from a dwelling not in the same ownership (metres).	Any dwelling not in the same ownership	100 metres

Permit requirement for earthworks	Land
Earthworks which change the rate of flow or the discharge point of water across a property boundary	All land
Earthworks which increase the discharge of saline groundwater	All land

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 35.07 FARMING ZONE [TO COMPLY WITH MD]

Shown on the planning scheme map as **FZ2**.

1.0 Subdivision and other requirements

	Land	Area/Dimensions/Distance
<u>Minimum subdivision area (hectares)</u>	All land	80 hectares
<u>Minimum area for which no permit is required to use land for a dwelling (hectares)</u>	All land	80 hectares
<u>Maximum area for which no permit is required to use land for timber production (hectares)</u>	None specified	None specified
<u>Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing dwelling (square metres)</u>	None specified	None specified
<u>Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to construct an out-building associated with a dwelling (square metres)</u>	None specified	None specified
<u>Maximum floor area for which no permit is required to alter or extend an existing building used for agriculture (square metres)</u>	None specified	None specified

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

<u>Minimum setback from a road (metres).</u>	<u>A RoadTransport-Zone 1 Category 1 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 1</u>	<u>100 metres</u>
	<u>A Road-Zone CategoryTransport Zone 2 or land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a road, Category 2</u>	<u>40 metres</u> <u>20 metres</u>
	<u>Any other Road</u>	
<u>Minimum setback from a boundary (metres).</u>	<u>Any other boundary</u>	<u>5 metres</u>
<u>Minimum setback from a dwelling not in the same ownership (metres).</u>	<u>Any dwelling not in the same ownership</u>	<u>100 metres</u>
<u>Permit requirement for earthworks</u>		<u>Land</u>
<u>Earthworks which change the rate of flow or the discharge point of water across a property boundary</u>		<u>All land</u>
<u>Earthworks which increase the discharge of saline groundwater</u>		<u>All land</u>

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 37.01 SPECIAL USE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SUZ1**.

RACECOURSE

Purpose

- To ensure that use and development of land associated with the Edenhope Racecourse does not prejudice the amenity of surrounding land.
- To ensure that development takes place in an orderly and proper manner.

1.0

Table of uses

Section 1 – Permit not required	
Use	Condition
Agriculture (other than animal husbandry)	
Natural systems	
Racecourse	
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01

Section 2 – Permit required	
Use	Condition
Leisure and recreation (other than racecourse)	
Market	
Place of Assembly	
Store (other than freezing and cool storage)	
Any other use not in Section 1 or 3	

Section 3 - Prohibited	
Use	
Adult sex product shop	
Brothel	
Cemetery	
Corrective institution	
Fuel Depot	
Freezing and cool storage	
Intensive animal husbandry	
Transport terminal	
Utility installation	

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

2.0 Use of land

Amenity of the neighbourhood

A use must not detrimentally affect the amenity of the neighbourhood, including through the:

- Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land.
- Appearance of any building, works or materials.
- Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil.
- Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil.

Application requirements

An application to use land must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- The purpose of the use and the types of activities which will be carried out.
- The likely effects, if any, on adjoining land, including noise levels, traffic, hours of operation and light spill, solar access and glare.
- The means of maintaining areas not required for immediate use.

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate by the responsible authority:

- The effect that existing uses may have on the proposed use.
- The drainage of the land.
- The availability of and connection to services.
- The effect of traffic to be generated on roads.
- The interim use of those parts of the land not required for the proposed use.

3.0 Subdivision

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The effect the subdivision will have on the potential of the land to accommodate the uses which will maintain or enhance its competitive strengths.
- Any natural or cultural values on or near the land.
- Streetscape character.
- Landscape treatment.
- The interface with adjoining land, especially the relationship with residential areas.

4.0 Buildings and works

A permit is not required to construct a building or construct or carry out works shown on a development plan approved under this schedule.

Preparation of the development plan

The development plan may consist of plans or other documents and may, with agreement of the responsible authority, be prepared and implemented in stages. The responsible authority will consult with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning prior to approving the development plan.

The development plan must describe:

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

- The land to which the plan applies.
- The proposed use and details of development of each part of the land.
- A plan which clearly describes how native vegetation on the sites are to be managed.
- The development plan may be amended to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

5.0 Signs

None specified.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 37.01 SPECIAL USE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SUZ2**.

GOLF COURSE

Purpose

- To ensure that use and development of land associated with the Harrow Golf Course does not prejudice the amenity of surrounding land.
- To ensure that the development takes place in an orderly and proper manner.

1.0

Table of uses

Section 1 - Permit not required	
Use	Condition
Agriculture (other than animal husbandry)	
Natural systems	
Racecourse	
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01

Section 2 - Permit required	
Use	Condition
Leisure and recreation (other than racecourse)	
Market	
Place of Assembly	
Store (other than freezing and cool storage)	
Any other use not in Section 1 or 3	

Section 3 - Prohibited	
Use	
Adult sex product shop	
Brothel	
Cemetery	
Corrective institution	
Fuel Depot	
Freezing and cool storage	
Intensive animal husbandry	
Transport terminal	
Utility installation	

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

2.0 Use of land

Amenity of the neighbourhood

A use must not detrimentally affect the amenity of the neighbourhood, including through the:

- Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land.
- Appearance of any building, works or materials.
- Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil.

Application requirements

An application to use land must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- The purpose of the use and the types of activities which will be carried out.
- The likely effects, if any, on adjoining land, including noise levels, traffic, hours of operation and light spill, solar access and glare.
- The means of maintaining areas not required for immediate use.

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The effect that existing uses may have on the proposed use.
- The drainage of the land.
- The availability of and connection to services.
- The effect of traffic to be generated on roads.
- The interim use of those parts of the land not required for the proposed use.

3.0 Subdivision

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The effect the subdivision will have on the potential of the land to accommodate the uses which will maintain or enhance its competitive strengths.
- Any natural or cultural values on or near the land.
- Streetscape character.
- Landscape treatment.
- The interface with adjoining land, especially the relationship with residential areas.

4.0 Buildings and works

A permit is not required to construct a building or construct or carry out works shown on a development plan approved under this schedule.

Preparation of the Development Plan

The development plan may consist of plans or other documents and may, with agreement of the responsible authority, be prepared and implemented in stages. The responsible authority will consult with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning prior to approving the development plan.

The development plan must describe:

- The land to which the plan applies.
- The proposed use and details of development of each part of the land.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

- A plan which clearly describes how native vegetation on the sites are to be managed.
- The development plan may be amended to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

5.0 Signs

None specified.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

SCHEDULE 3 TO CLAUSE 37.01 SPECIAL USE ZONE

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SUZ3**.

EDENHOPE AERODROME

Purpose

To provide for the use and development of land as an airport and associated activities.

To ensure that any proposed use and development is compatible with the airport and other uses in the vicinity of the airport.

1.0

Table of uses

Section 1 - Permit not required	
Use	Condition
Airport	Ensure that conditions against uses listed have a basis in a strategic document such as a relevant masterplan
Car Park	Must be used in conjunction with the airport
Heliport	Must be limited to one aircraft hangar Floor areas of buildings, excluding aircraft hangar, must be less than 324 square metres
Mineral exploration	
Service industry	Must be used in conjunction with the airport
Telecommunications facility	Buildings and works must meet the requirements of Clause 52.19
Warehouse	Must be used in conjunction with the airport
Any use listed in Clause 62.01	Must meet the requirements of Clause 62.01

Section 2 - Permit required	
Use	Condition
Airport - if the section 1 condition is not met	
Place of Assembly	
Service industry - if the section 1 condition is not met	Must be associated with aviation
Utility installation	

Section 3 - Prohibited	
Use	
Any use not in section 1 or 2	

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

2.0 USE OF LAND

Application requirements

Any application must demonstrate how the proposed use of the land relates to the airport and is compatible with other uses in the vicinity of the airport.

3.0 Subdivision

Application requirements

Any application must state the intended outcome of the proposed subdivision and its strategic impact on the airport and its associated facilities.

4.0 Buildings and works

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 37.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 37.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- Whether the proposed development is compatible with the airport and surrounding land uses.

5.0 Signs

None specified.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO1.

SIGNIFICANT WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

The Shire's waterways and wetlands are a significant environmental resource which should be protected from inappropriate development. Significant wetlands and waterways should be retained as natural drainage corridors with vegetated buffer areas in order to perform their long term function as drainage areas, stream habitat, wildlife corridors and landscape areas, and to minimise erosion and reduce polluted surface runoff from adjacent land uses.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

To maintain environmental diversity and quality of ~~areas that constitute~~ wetlands, swamplands, lagoons and significant waterways ~~by preventing pollution of, and inappropriate development adjacent to, significant wetlands, waterways and associated habitats~~ ~~to comply with MD, only 1 objective allowed]~~

~~To Preventing inappropriate development adjacent to significant wetlands and waterways.
To Preventing pollution of significant waterways and wetlands and the degradation of habitat areas.~~

3.0 Permit requirement

None specified.

4.0 Application requirements

None specified.

5.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- An assessment of the likely environmental impact of the proposal on the water quality of the wetlands or waterways.
- Whether the siting and management of the proposal is capable of treating and retaining wastewater without an adverse impact on wetlands or waterways.
- An assessment of the likely impact of the proposal on the flora, fauna and landscape features of wetlands or waterways.
- The availability of alternative sites for the proposal not within the overlays area.
- Whether the proposal will impose any flooding or drainage risk or constraints on land in the vicinity.

~~▪ The comments of any environmental or catchment management authority. [Moved to 66.06s]~~

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

**SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE
OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO2**.

RED-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO HABITAT AREAS

2.0 ~~1.0~~ **Statement of environmental significance**

The Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii graptogyne*) of south-eastern Australia has been classified as an endangered species. The current population is estimated at about 1000 birds with approximately 600- 700 breeding birds. The Red-tailed Black Cockatoo is a highly nomadic species and its population ranges throughout parts of the West Wimmera Shire Council and the Glenelg Shire Council in Victoria, as well as part of the Tatiara District Council, Naracoorte-Lucindale Council, Wattle Range Council, and District Council of Grant in South Australia. The absence of Red-tailed Black Cockatoos from a locality within its range does not mean that the locality does not provide habitat for this species.

The Red-tailed Black Cockatoo's Stringybark feeding habitat is mainly located on public land while its Buloke feeding and eucalyptus nesting habitat is mainly located on private land. Live and dead hollow bearing eucalypts provide suitable nesting sites for the species, while seed producing Buloke (*Allocasuarina leuhmannii*) and Stringybark (*Eucalyptus baxteri*, *Eucalyptus arenacea*) provide feeding habitat for the species. Buloke have separate male and female trees and both male and female trees are required to allow female trees to produce seed. The feeding and nesting habitat of the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo must be protected in order to secure the long term survival of the species.

The aim of the national Red-tailed black cockatoo recovery program is to increase the size of the current population. It is therefore important to ensure that there are adequate nesting and feeding resources available to support an expanded population into the future.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

To protect the habitat of the endangered Red-tailed Black Cockatoo ~~through retaining Buloke and Stringybark feeding habitat trees, live and dead hollow bearing trees and other suitable trees within the bird's known nesting area.~~; [to comply with MD, only 1 objective allowed specific mention of feeding habitat is required for this control]

- ~~• To ensure the availability of suitable nesting sites for the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo through the protection of live and dead hollow bearing trees and other suitable trees within the bird's known nesting area.~~

~~To protect the feeding habitat of the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo through the retention of Buloke and Stringybark trees.~~

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is not required to:

- ~~construct~~ Construct a building or construct or carry out works.
- ~~remove~~ Remove, destroy or lop vegetation in accordance with a Property Management Plan approved by the responsible authority and endorsed by Department of Sustainability and Environment.

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- ~~Remove~~, destroy or lop any dead vegetation, except dead eucalyptus trees with a trunk diameter greater than 40 centimetres at 1.3 metres above ground level.
- ~~remove~~~~Remove~~, destroy or lop the minimum extent of native vegetation necessary for the maintenance of farm fences. The combined maximum width of clearing permitted either side of the fence is 4m.
- ~~remove~~~~Remove~~, destroy or lop any live vegetation, unless the vegetation is:
 - ~~a~~~~A~~ hollow bearing eucalypt tree.
 - Buloke with a trunk diameter of greater than 20 centimetres at 1.3 metre above ground level.
 - Buloke with a density of more than 1 tree per 10 hectares of development.
 - Stringybark with a trunk diameter of greater than 30 centimetres at 1.3 metre above ground level.[This duplicates 52.17]

4.0 Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- ~~provides~~~~Provides~~ full details of the vegetation to be removed, destroyed or lopped, including species, age, dimensions and number of plants to be removed, destroyed or lopped.
- ~~identifies~~~~Identifies~~ whether any Buloke or Stringybark trees:
 - ~~are~~~~Are~~ in close proximity to other Bulokes to facilitate pollination;
 - ~~produce~~~~Produce~~ large seed crops or have a history of producing large seed crops;~~and~~.
 - ~~are~~~~Are~~ known or have been recorded as having been used by Red-tailed Black Cockatoo for feeding.
- ~~includes~~~~Includes~~ a detailed, scaled site map showing the location of vegetation proposed to be removed.
- ~~demonstrates~~~~Demonstrates~~ conclusively that the vegetation removal is essential.
- ~~provides~~~~Provides~~ details of native vegetation offset planned to mitigate the loss of vegetation.

5.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- ~~whether the proposal conflicts with the objectives of the overlay.~~[The parent provision specifies this]
- ~~the~~~~The~~ significance of the vegetation identified for removal as nesting and~~or~~ feeding sites for the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo.
- ~~the~~~~The~~ significance of vegetation to be removed in relation to the levels of Buloke and Stringybark in the vicinity.
- ~~whether~~~~Whether~~ the proposed development can be accommodated on land where no Buloke or Stringybark are required to be removed.
- whether proposed vegetation offsets are commensurate with the significance of vegetation to be removed, and particularly if the offset includes the protection of large old trees consistent with the large old tree objectives of Appendix 4 of Victoria's Native Vegetation Management – A Framework for Action, 2002.

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- whether there are statutory requirements under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 or the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988. [\[This is required to be considered. It doesn't need to be listed.\]](#)

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 42.02 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO1**.

JUMPING JACK WATTLE – ROADSIDE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

1.0 ~~1.0~~ Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

The Jumping Jack Wattle is a rare and threatened species.

2.0 Vegetation protection objectives to be achieved

To identify and protect roadsides within the Shire which contain the Jumping Jack Wattle.
To maintain habitat corridors for indigenous fauna.
To ensure development minimises loss of indigenous vegetation.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop Jumping Jack Wattle and other indigenous vegetation where such vegetation occurs along these roadsides. An application for this purpose should:

- Specify the reason why the vegetation concerned should be removed, destroyed or lopped.
- Demonstrate that the need for removal, destruction or lopping of the vegetation concerned has been reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable.
- Specify revegetation proposals.

4.0 Application requirements

None specified.

5.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The value of the vegetation in terms of physical condition, rarity or variety.
- The purpose of removing, destructing or lopping the vegetation concerned, and whether there are alternative options.
- The likely effect of removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation on resident and migratory fauna.

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- The need to maintain the connectivity in a local or regional context of linear remnants and biolinks.
- Whether it is appropriate to include conditions requiring planting, replanting or other treatment of any part of the land as a condition of the approval.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 43.01 HERITAGE OVERLAY

1.0 ~~1.0~~ Application requirements

None specified.

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2.0 Heritage places

The requirements of this overlay apply to both the heritage place and its associated land.

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alterations controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses permitted?	Name of Incorporated Plan under Clause 43.01-2	Aboriginal heritage place?
Harrow									
HO1	Former Log Lockup, 2-6 Blair Street	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H306	Yes		No
HO2	Kout Norien Estate, 47 Harrow-Clear Lake Road	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H307	Yes		No
HO3	Mullagh Memorial, Johnny Mullagh Park Blair St. Harrow	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
HO4	Harrow Cemetery,	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No

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	Harrow-Clear Lake Rd. Harrow								
HO5	Primary School No. 2049, Hill St. Harrow	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
HO6	Hamilton Street Steps, Hamilton St. Harrow	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
Kaniva									
HO7	Kaniva Railway Station, Moore Street	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H1569	Yes		No
HO8	State Emergency Services building (former courthouse) Commercial St. Kaniva	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
HO11	Former Kaniva Shire Hall and Municipal offices on the corner of Commercial	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No		No

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	Street and Baker Street, Kaniva								
Miram South									
HO9	Public Hall, Bill's Gully, N. Allens Rd. Miram South	No	No	No	No	No	No	-	No
Serviceton									
HO10	Serviceton Railway Station, Elizabeth Street, Serviceton	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H1592	Yes		No

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 43.02 DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **DDO1**.

EDENHOPE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

1.0 ~~1.0~~ Design objectives

To foster a distinct urban character that identifies the area as the main entrance to Edenhope.

To improve the attractiveness of the corridor.

To encourage new development to contribute to the urban character of the street.

To ensure new development is of a high standard of urban design, [contributes to a consistent landscape for the street and manages any interface with adjoining residential areas](#). [merged to comply with MD, only 5 objectives allowed]

~~To ensure new development contributes to a consistent landscape for the street.~~

To ensure signs do not dominate the streetscape or create visual clutter.

~~To ensure that new development manages any interface with adjoining residential areas~~

2.0 Buildings and works

A permit is required to construct a fence that does not meet the design requirements of this schedule.

A permit is not required for:

- Internal alterations.
- Repairs or routine maintenance that do not change the appearance of the existing buildings and works. The repairs must be undertaken to similar details, specifications and materials.

Site Design

All new developments must:

- Provide an active frontage to the street.
- Have a set back that is consistent with existing buildings in the corridor.

Site Layout

Where new development abuts residential land, new development will provide acoustic screen fencing, and landscaped buffers.

New development will ensure adjoining residential land is not affected by light spill.

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Car Parking

The front set back of all new buildings shall contain visitor parking areas.
Staff parking and loading bays shall be to the side or rear of the building.
Those parts of the frontage not required for car parking or driveways will be landscaped.

Fencing

New buildings must include fencing along all lot boundaries, including boundaries that have a frontage to the street.
Fences must be black in color and constructed of a cyclone mesh material.

Landscaping

The front setback of all buildings shall be landscaped to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. Incorporation of existing native vegetation into landscape plans is encouraged.

3.0 Subdivision

None specified.

4.0 Signs

In addition to any requirement in the zone, the following requirements must be met:

- New development will be limited to **one+** business identification pole sign.
- Signage shall not dominate the facades of buildings.
- Signage shall not obscure the glazed portions of building facades.
- Signage shall not be attached to fences.
- Signs should not unreasonably obscure the identity of adjoining businesses.

5.0 Application requirements

None specified.

6.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 43.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 43.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- ~~The West Wimmera Planning Scheme Municipal Planning Strategy.~~ [already required in the parent provision. Does not require repeating]
- ~~The consistency of the proposal with the design objectives contained in this schedule.~~ [already required in the parent provision. Does not require repeating]
- ~~How the~~ ~~The likelihood that the new~~ building will contribute **positively** to the streetscape. [drafted neutrally as per Practitioners Guide]
- The siting, design and massing of proposed buildings and works and the impact on the amenity of adjoining residential areas.
- Access into and from the site, the location of car parking, and the likely impact of traffic on local amenity.

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- The ~~proposed appropriateness of~~ landscaping ~~proposed for the site.~~ [drafted neutrally as per Practitioners Guide]
- ~~The manner in which~~ ~~Whether~~ the signage integrates with the building and ~~does not detract from the~~ ~~contributes to the~~ visual amenity of the streetscape. [drafted neutrally as per Practitioners Guide]

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 43.02 DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **DDO2**.

KANIVA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

1.0 Design objectives

~~To facilitate economic development through efficient and functional industrial development that achieves. To ensure~~ a high standard of built form and visual amenity ~~is achieved in the Kaniva Industrial Estate.~~ [to comply with MD, only 5 objectives allowed]

To ensure the design and layout of buildings enables efficient vehicle movements and provides adequate on-site parking.

To ensure signs do not dominate the streetscape or create visual clutter.

To ensure new development minimises any interface issues with nearby land uses.

~~To facilitate economic development through efficient and functional industrial development.~~

To ensure that all new developments include fencing that achieves a consistently high visual amenity.

2.0 Buildings and works

A permit is required to construct a fence that does not meet the design requirements of this schedule.

A permit is not required for:

- Internal alterations.
- Repairs or routine maintenance that do not change the appearance of the existing buildings and works. The repairs must be undertaken to similar details, specifications and materials.

Site Design

All new developments must:

- Provide an active frontage to the road.
- Be of a contemporary design that contributes positively to the amenity of the area.
- Demonstrate how any proposed loading bay, dock, or service area adjacent to residential land manages noise, smells, light spill, dust and vibration to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Site Layout

New building will provide an active frontage to the street.

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Buildings and works should include measures that minimise adverse amenity impacts on nearby residential areas with respect to visual presentation, noise and external lighting.

The design and location of external security lighting, rubbish storage and collection areas, and loading and unloading facilities should minimise potential adverse amenity impacts.

Car Parking

The front set back of all new buildings shall contain visitor parking areas.

Staff parking and loading bays shall be to the side or rear of the building.

All driveways and car parking in the setback area between a road frontage and the building line must be constructed of an impervious all-weather seal coat such as concrete or bitumen. Pervious surfaces that reduce the rate of rainfall run-off and have a structural standard comparable to concrete or bitumen will be accepted for all other driveway, parking and loading areas.

Fencing

New buildings must include fencing along all lot boundaries, including boundaries that have a frontage to the street.

Fences must be black in color and constructed of a cyclone mesh material.

Landscaping

Those parts of the frontage not required for car parking or driveways will be landscaped.

The front setback of all buildings shall be landscaped to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. Incorporation of existing native vegetation into landscape plans is encouraged.

Existing vegetation should be retained where practical.

Landscaping areas should be designed to be low maintenance, including selection of hardy landscape species that require minimal ongoing maintenance and have low water usage.

The quality and quantity of landscaping should reflect the scale of the building and car park area in order to address screening and softening of visual bulk.

3.0 Subdivision

None specified.

4.0 Signs

In addition to any requirement in the zone, the following requirements must be met:

- New development will be limited to [+one](#) business identification pole sign.
- Signage shall not dominate the facades of buildings.
- Signage shall not obscure the glazed portions of building facades.
- Signage shall not be attached to fences.
- Signs should not unreasonably obscure the identity of adjoining businesses.

5.0 Application requirements

None specified.

WEST WIMMERA PLANNING SCHEME

6.0 Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 43.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 43.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- ~~The West Wimmera Planning Scheme Municipal Planning Strategy.~~
- ~~The consistency of the proposal with the design objectives contained in this schedule.~~
- The likelihood that the new building will contribute positively to the streetscape.
- The siting, design and massing of proposed buildings and works and the impact on the amenity of adjoining residential areas.
- Access into and from the site, the location of car parking, and the likely impact of traffic on local amenity.
- The appropriateness of landscaping proposed for the site.
- Whether the signage integrates with the building and does not detract from the visual amenity of the streetscape.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 44.04 LAND SUBJECT TO INUNDATION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **LSIO**.

1.0 Land subject to inundation objectives to be achieved

None specified.

2.0 Statement of risk

None specified.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is not required to construct a building and/or works, including a fence, if the land on which the buildings and works are to be situated has been filled in accordance with the requirements of a planning permit relating to an approved plan of subdivision affecting the land, or other planning permit issued in relation to the land.

A permit is not required if appropriately detailed information is submitted to the satisfaction of the responsible authority showing the natural level of the land on which the buildings and works are proposed to be situated above the 1 in 100 year flood level.

4.0 Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 44.04, in addition to those specified in Clause 44.04 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- The application should be accompanied by flood level information where the responsible authority does not have access to such information in relation to the land.
- Where the responsible authority has accurate flood level information, the responsible authority will advise the applicant of the appropriate floor level for any proposed buildings.

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5.0 Decision guidelines

None specified.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 45.01 PUBLIC ACQUISITION OVERLAY

1.0 Public acquisition

PS map ref	Acquiring Authority	Purpose of acquisition
PAO1	Roads Corporation	Rest Area

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 52.28 GAMING

1.0 Objectives

None specified.

2.0 Prohibition of a gaming machine in a shopping complex

Installation or use of a gaming machine as specified in Clause 52.28-4 is prohibited on land described in Table 1 below.

Name of shopping complex and locality	Land description
None specified	

3.0 Prohibition of a gaming machine in a strip shopping centre

A gaming machine as specified in Clause 52.28-5 is prohibited in all strip shopping centres on land covered by this planning scheme.

4.0 Locations for gaming machines

None specified.

5.0 Venues for gaming machines

None specified.

6.0 Application requirements

None specified.

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7.0 Decision guidelines

None specified.

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 66.04 REFERRAL OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS UNDER LOCAL PROVISIONS

1.0 Referral of permit applications under local provisions

Clause	Kind of application	Referral authority	Referral authority type
Schedule 1 to Clause 42.01 (ESO)	All applications	Catchment Management Authority	Recommending referral authority
Schedule 2 to Clause 42.01 (ESO)	Removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation	Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	Determining referral authority

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.08 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1.0 Background documents

Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
Land Development Strategy 2013-2017 (West Wimmera Shire Council, 2013)	C36 - Clause 02
Statements of Significance for Items on the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Heritage Overlay (Wendy Jacobs, October 2002)	C36 - Clause 02
West Wimmera Land Use Strategy 1998 (West Wimmera Shire Council, 1998)	C36 - Clause 02
Wimmera Regional Catchment Strategy, 2003-2008 (Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, 2003)	C36 - Clause 02
Wimmera Regional Salinity Action Plan 2005-2010 (Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, 2005)	C36 - Clause 02
Roadside Weed and Rabbit Control Plan (West Wimmera Shire Council, 2013)	C36 - Clause 02
Mallee Regional Catchment Strategy (Mallee Catchment Management Authority, 2013)	C36 - Clause 02
Mallee Dryland Salinity Management Plan (Mallee Dryland Salinity Community Working Group, 1993)	C36 - Clause 02

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Draft Wimmera Native Vegetation Plans (Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, 2000)	C36 - Clause 02
Land Conservation Council Final Recommendations for the Mallee Area (Land Conservation Council, 1989)	C36 - Clause 02
The Conservation Status of Roadsides in the Shire of Lowan (Martin E. Westbrooke, 1989)	C36 - Clause 02

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.01 APPLICATION OF ZONES, OVERLAYS AND PROVISIONS

1.0 Application of zones, overlays and provisions

This planning scheme applies the following zones, overlays and provisions to implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the objectives and strategies in Clauses 11 to 19:

- **Township Zone** to residential development and a range of commercial, industrial and other uses in small towns.
- **Industrial 1 Zone** to manufacturing industry, the storage and distribution of goods and associated uses in a manner which does not affect the safety and amenity of local communities.
- **Industrial 3 Zone** to industries and associated uses in specific areas where special consideration of the nature and impacts of industrial uses is required or to avoid inter-industry conflict.
- **Rural Living Zone** to residential uses in a rural environment which protect and enhance the natural resources, biodiversity and landscape values of the area.
- **Public Conservation and Resource Zone** to larger parcels of land in public ownership that have an environmental focus.
- **Public Park and Recreation Zone** to public open space reserves.
- **Farming Zone** to land for agricultural uses.
- **Public Use Zone** to public land used for public utility and community services and facilities.
- **Special Use Zone** to use and development of land for specific purposes.
- **Bushfire Management Overlay** to areas at risk of bushfire.
- **Design and Development Overlay** to areas that are affected by specific requirements relating to the design and built form of new development.
- **Environmental Significance Overlay** to areas where the development of land may be affected by environmental constraints.
- **Vegetation Protection Overlay** to protect areas of significant vegetation.
- **Heritage Overlay** to heritage places of natural or cultural significance.
- **Land Subject to Inundation Overlay** to land in a flood storage or flood fringe area affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other area determined by the floodplain management authority.
- **Public Acquisition Overlay** to land that is proposed to be acquired by a Minister, public authority or municipal council.
- **Environmental Audit Overlay** to ensure potentially contaminated land is suitable for a use that could be significantly adversely affected by any contamination.

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SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.02 FURTHER STRATEGIC WORK

1.0 Further strategic work

None specified:

Prepare a rural strategy for the municipality that addresses all of the rural zones to ensure that planning controls that have been applied are current, support the economic development of the municipality, and respond to climate change impacts. This study should address suitable locations for:

- Providing appropriate rural housing opportunities
- Smaller lot sizes to promote the establishment of intensive and niche agricultural activities.
- Intensive animal husbandry based on infrastructure availability and environmental considerations. [previous Clause 21.06-5]

Utilise the schedules to the Rural Living Zone and Farming Zone to reduce the permit triggers for sheds and outbuildings.

Apply the SLO to the Natimuk-Douglas Wetland System as recommended in the South West Landscape Assessment Study (DELWP and Planisphere, 2013).

Prepare and implement targeted settlement plans for Harrow, Apsley, Kaniva, Goroke and Edenhope that facilitate development, provide housing in response to community and Council preference, and coordinate infrastructure for these areas.

Prepare a dwellings in the Farming Zone policy based on local policies that have been prepared by other councils with similar lot sizes and environments (e.g. Mildura, Horsham,).

- Prepare and implement the Stage 2 Heritage Study, including:
- Assessment and documentation of the places of post-contact cultural significance identified as being worthy of future conservation in Stage 1.
- Review and finalisation of the Thematic Environmental History.
- Recommendations for the conservation of the municipality's cultural heritage.

Prioritise the incorporation of up-to-date flood mapping recently prepared by the Glenelg Hopkins CMA

Prepare and implement a Tourism Strategy [WWCP, p35]

Prepare and implement an Economic Development Strategy [WWCP, p36]

Investigate the potential to expand the Edenhope Industrial Estate. [WWSEDC, p18]

Identify high-value sites for intensive agriculture. [WWSEDC, p40]

Prepare and implement a Stage 2 Heritage Study, including:

- Assessment and documentation of the places of post-contact cultural significance identified as being worthy of future conservation in Stage 1;
- Review and finalisation of the Thematic Environmental History; and
- Recommendations for the conservation of the municipality's cultural heritage. [WWHS1, P6]

Prepare a plan showing the location of infrastructure that supports rural industries for inclusion in Clause 2.04 of the planning scheme. [previous Clause 21.06-7]

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16 Sealing Schedule

Nil.

17 Late Items of Business

Pursuant to West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules – Division 3 Section 20:

20. Late Business

If the agenda for a Council meeting makes provision for late business, business cannot be admitted as late business other than by resolution of Council, and only then if it:

- *20.1 relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda; and*
- *20.2 cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting.*

18 Confidential Reports

Nil

19 Close of Meeting

Next Meeting:

20 May 2026

Kaniva Council Chambers