



2013 – 2017

Strathbogie Shire Council Plan

(2015 – 16 Review)

Adopted by Council: 9 June 2015

Message from the Mayor and CEO

We are very proud to present the 2015 – 16 Review of the Strathbogie Shire Council Plan.

It is important to firstly acknowledge the success that has already been experienced in many areas through the hard work and dedication of our Councillors, Management and Staff.

However, we have much ground to cover and have set ambitious targets across all areas of our organisation.

Some of our initiatives include:

- Advocate for funding to provide an aquatic strategy
- Advocate for improved public transport across the Shire
- Introduction of a green waste service to four of our main townships
- Continue to rationalise our underutilised assets
- Continue to progress the Goulburn Valley Regional Collaborative Alliance to achieve savings across the organisation through 'Shared Services'
- Seek grant funding to support Council objectives
- Continue to roll out the actions in our Economic Development Masterplan
- Work with Goulburn River Valley Tourism to develop a Military Trail

These important initiatives along with the many other actions listed in this plan, will ensure the Strathbogie Shire is a progressive and sustainable organisation both now and into the future.

Notwithstanding the many challenges set (particularly with changes and availability of both State and Federal funding), the future looks bright.

We aim to be both an attractive and liveable destination for new residents, businesses and industry and will continue to focus significant effort and resource in this area.

Our thanks to the many stakeholders who have made our current success possible and we look forward to positive working relationships going forward.

Best regards

Mayor Deb Swan and CEO Steve Crawcour

Our Vision:

“A Shire that drives and supports investment for population growth, shared wealth and wellbeing.”

Our Mission:

“To actively consult with community, investors and industry through advocacy and collaboration; delivering quality infrastructure, lifestyle and sustainable economic and community development.”

Our Guiding Principles:

Councillors and staff at Strathbogie Shire Council are committed to the following principles (values) as a guide to all its decisions and actions:

- **Good Governance** – We value innovation, integrity, accountability, strength, and consistency in leadership and decision making with adherence to robust, transparent and equitable policies and processes.
- **Working together** – We value the ability to maximise outcomes by working in partnership and collaboration with an engaged community, government, regional bodies and other stakeholders.
- **Quality Services** – We value the role of research, strategic planning, flexibility and innovation in delivering accessible and effective services and regional solutions that enhance the quality of life.
- **Social Inclusion** – We value widespread participation in civic and community life among people of all abilities and backgrounds.
- **Environment** – We value the shire’s natural and built environment and the importance of local amenity on quality of life.
- **Stability** – We value sound financial and resource planning and management to ensure Council’s long term sustainability and provision of quality services and infrastructure.



Goal 1

A community that has equitable access to a range of quality services which respond to its diverse needs and supports the wellbeing of our communities (**Community Wellbeing**).

Objective: *Plan, support and / or deliver a broad range of responsive and accessible services to our diverse community.*

1.1 Strategy:

Enhance the wellbeing and participation of our community.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Continue to support and participate in the Strathbogie Health and Community Services Consortium.	✓	✓
Support Community Action Groups to develop methods of improved communication during emergencies.	✓	✓
Collaborate and provide support to the development of Community Action Group Action Plans.	✓	✓
Support the "Prevention of Violence against women and children supporting safer communities" Action Plan.	✓	✓
Investigate opportunities for Shire Wide youth cultural activities.	✓	✓
Advocate for funding for a review of the Aquatic Strategy	✓	✓
Support the development of a men's shed program across the Shire.	✓	✓
Investigate and seek funding for Shire Wide safe pick up and drop off areas at all Schools.	✓	
Investigate funding opportunities and suitable locations for Skate Park development in Avenel and Nagambie.	✓	✓

1.2 Strategy:

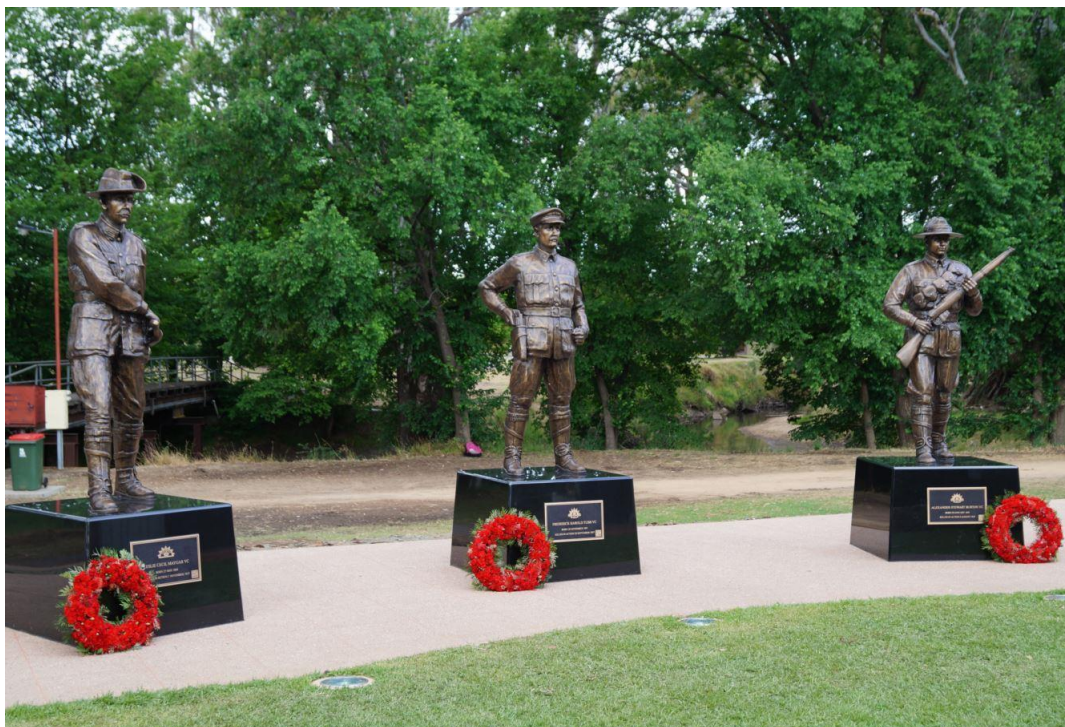
Increase community services to Nagambie post bypass.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate for a full time child care facility in Nagambie.	✓	✓
Advocate for funding of Nagambie Lakes Community House.	✓	✓
Advocate for an Ambulance service based in Nagambie.	✓	✓
Advocate for a High School in Nagambie.	✓	✓

1.3 Strategy:

Provide equitable and high standard public transport services / facilities.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate for improved train station facilities across the Shire.	✓	✓
Advocate for better timetabling and shuttle services between Shepparton to Seymour and Wodonga to Seymour.	✓	✓



Goal 2

To promote and foster sustainable development in our natural and built environment
(Environment).

Objective: To continue to protect and enhance the natural and built environment for current and future generations.

2.1 Strategy:

Encourage clean, green environmental initiatives.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Work with GBCMA to develop a program to remove sand from the pondage of Seven Creeks and Castle Creek and develop an agreed revegetation program.	✓	
Continue to develop the Violet Town flood mitigation Scheme.	✓	
Introduce an Organic Household Waste Service.	✓	
Participate in Regional Street Light Retro Fit Program.	✓	
Complete the Euroa Office energy retro-fit.	✓	

2.2 Strategy:

Develop, maintain and protect our natural and built assets.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Support the Euroa Environment Group to develop a Shire Wide Significant Tree Register on public land.	✓	✓
Update Council's Tree Management Plan.	✓	✓
Support the actions in the Shire's Community Safety Fire Action Plan.	✓	✓
Work with the "Bush Crew" where possible as part of the Shire's revegetation programs.	✓	✓



Goal 3.

To ensure prudent, transparent and strategic financial planning which results in a sound legacy for the future **(Financial)**.

Objective: Provide best practice management and administrative systems and structures to support the delivery of Council services and programs.

3.1 Strategy:

Rationalise Council Owned Assets.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Sell the Euroa Youth Club Hall and relocate current use to a suitable location.	✓	
Develop for residential use and sell Nagambie Shire Depot.	✓	
Investigate and determine underutilised assets within the Shire.	✓	✓

3.2 Strategy:

Continue to focus on improving operational efficiencies by decreasing costs.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Continue to drive the Shared Service Project with Shepparton in an endeavour to reduce operating expenditure and ensure efficiencies of service.	✓	✓
Target major Capital Works Projects to seek government funding to reduce Councils costs.	✓	✓
Explore and take up partnership opportunities of non-core services with other Shires and organisations.	✓	✓
Benchmark Business Units under the Best Value Legislation to ensure efficient, effective and relevant services are provided.	✓	✓
Reduce Council's infrastructure gap in a financially responsible manner as per Council's Long Term Financial Plan.	✓	✓
Seek grant funding opportunities wherever possible.	✓	✓
Conduct a Cost Benefit Analysis for the following operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Euroa Saleyards ▪ Boating safety (compliance) operations in Nagambie ▪ Finance Services 	✓	

3.3 Strategy:

Ensure Council has equitable support financially from both Federal and State Governments.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate to both Federal and State Government to ensure that the current funding formulas provide equitable funds to Local Government.	✓	✓



Goal 4

A Shire that builds trust and recognises community needs through transparent, accountable and democratic decision making (**Governance**).

Objective: *To provide all our stakeholders with consistent and timely decision making.*

4.1 Strategy:

Engage our community in our decision making processes.

Strategic Indicators	2015/16	2016/17
Continue to deliver a program that provides increased Councillor interaction with the community in their local settings.	✓	✓
Introduce an online system for improved community engagement.	✓	✓

4.2 Strategy:

Provide a workforce that is accountable and transparent in its operations.

Strategic Indicators	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate best methods of access and surveillance in relation to safety and security at all Transfer Stations.	✓	
Address the actions required from the Internal Auditors Reports and report back to Council via the Audit Committee.	✓	✓
Executive Management Team to monitor and review the ongoing performance of all staff operations and report back to Council.	✓	✓



Goal 5

Encourage investment and development into the Shire by having a responsive and proactive business development culture (**Industry, Business and Investment**).

Objective: Pursue opportunities to increase the range of businesses and industries in the Shire to further strengthen our economy.

5.1 Strategy:

Ensure Council has the ability to provide a single point of contact for its customers.

Strategic Indicators	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate a system to broaden Council's current Business Directory on the website to also include individual skill based details.	✓	✓
Seek funding to use interactive Kiosks at each Library with up to date Council information and with the ability to print.	✓	

5.2 Strategy:

Support Nagambie traders post bypass.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Support the Nagambie Lakes Tourism and Commerce Committee in relation to branding, marketing and development of High Street Nagambie retail area.	✓	✓

5.3 Strategy:

Support and enhance a "Can Do" Culture.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate the formation of an education alliance group around advocacy, information sharing, strategic partnership and economic development.	✓	
Support actions in Council's Economic Development Masterplan.	✓	✓



Goal 6

Ensure the Shires infrastructure enhances efficiency for people and freight movement, service delivery and community amenities **(Infrastructure)**.

Objective: Provide well maintained, affordable and appropriate infrastructure.

6.1 Strategy:

Provide industry standard facilities.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Develop a Risk Management Plan for Euroa Saleyards.	✓	
Investigate options for the long term sustainability of the Euroa Saleyards including funding models and major Capital Works Programs.	✓	✓

6.2 Strategy:

Support History and Cultural Monuments.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate the development of a long term Masterplan for the Euroa RSL and Third Age Club precinct.	✓	

6.3 Strategy:

Deliver Council's bridge replacement in line with industry best practice.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Review the management plan for Kirwan's Bridge including funding opportunities.	✓	
Investigate and consult in relation to proving a link bridge from the Friendlies Reserve to Memorial Oval over the Seven Creeks.	✓	
Support community initiative in securing funding to link the Apex Walking Track across the Seven Creeks near the Rockies.	✓	

6.4 Strategy:

Provide passive and active recreational facilities and paths / tracks.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Investigate options to provide a shared pathway connecting the Regatta Centre to the Nagambie Town Centre	✓	
Investigate options to provide a shared pathway connecting Kirwan's Bridge Community to Nagambie Town.	✓	
Investigate the development of a no boating or fishing area at River Street and introduce a no life guard swimming area.	✓	
Support the Nagambie Lakes Recreational and Commercial Stakeholders Waterways Committee in implementing the Actions in the On Land and On Water Strategy.	✓	✓
Secure funding to develop options for an additional sport and recreation precinct in Nagambie.	✓	
Subject to funding extend landing in front of rowing club around to staged area at Buckley Park and back to walking bridge at boat ramp area.	✓	
Develop a Nagambie Recreation Reserve Masterplan.	✓	
Investigate the development of a Strathbogie Reserve Sporting Precinct Master Plan.	✓	
Seek funding for stage two of Avenel Recreation Reserve upgrade.	✓	✓
Seek funding for the upgrade of the Avenel Memorial Hall.	✓	✓
Investigate and seek funding for the development of a Strategic Walking Tracks, Horse Trails and Bike Routes for the Shire in conjunction with the Action Groups and Goulburn River Valley Tourism (GRVT).	✓	

6.5 Strategy:

Provide best practice asset management.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Advocate for a pedestrian crossing at the railway gates on Birkett Street, Euroa.	✓	
Clean up town entrances / town entry signs in the Shire.	✓	✓
Investigate and communicate with the community the development of pedestrian crossings in Brock Street, Railway Street and Binney Street area.	✓	
Continue to design and seek funding for town drainage / sewerage schemes.	✓	✓
Investigate the expansion of additional street lights in the Shire.	✓	
Advocate to VicRoads and Vic track for the creation of a roundabout resulting in a safer intersection at Queen Street / Bank Streets / Avenel Railway Crossing.	✓	✓
Investigate costs for Plain Road Nagambie to be sealed as an alternative truck route away from the town centre.	✓	
Investigate improved signage and road condition of Muller's Road Nagambie in line with Council's Road Management Plan.	✓	
Investigate road widening / upgrading options east of the Kelvin View Fire Station ("S" Bends) and Bends in Longwood – Ruffy Road south of Tarcombe – Longwood Road near Ardroy Corner.	✓	



Goal 7

A desirable and safe destination that supports the development of tourism and hospitality enterprises that drive economic growth across our Shire (**Tourism and Hospitality**).

Objective: *Ensure a coordinated and effective approach to economic and tourism development is maintained at all times.*

7.1 Strategy:

Ensure there is consistent branding and marketing of the Shire.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Work with Goulburn River Valley Tourism to advocate to relevant State Government departments for extra tourism funding.	✓	✓
Investigate funding for a marketing company to work with tourism groups across the Shire.	✓	
Conduct a forum with stakeholders to develop the Shire's branding as recommended in the Economic Development Masterplan.	✓	
Ensure the successful implementation of the Tourism Strategies in the Economic Development Masterplan.	✓	✓
Continue to roll out updated Council Branding	✓	✓

7.2 Strategy:

Develop the Shire's tourism story and café culture.

Strategic Indicators:	2015/16	2016/17
Fund plaques on each building to advise of the history of that building.	✓	
Introduce a phone app. for website with town information.	✓	
Work with Goulburn River Valley Tourism to develop a Military Trail	✓	✓
Work with Goulburn River Valley Tourism to develop a Digital Tourism Platform	✓	✓