

COUNCIL ACTION PLAN 2024-2025

Report Author: Corporate Planning and Performance Coordinator
Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
Ward(s) affected: All wards

The author(s) of this report and the Responsible Officer consider that the report complies with the overarching governance principles and supporting principles set out in the Local Government Act 2020.

CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is to be considered at a Council meeting that is open to the public.

SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to review its Council Plan on an annual basis to ensure the strategic direction is aligned to the long-term Community Vision 2036 and current community needs.

The Council is approaching its final year for delivery of the 2021-2025 Council Plan and its associated actions. No new actions or significant changes are proposed for the final year (2024-2025) of the Council Action Plan.

Community engagement has already commenced to develop the 2025-2029 Council Plan. Minor revisions to the wording of the current Council Plan Actions are proposed to better reflect the stage of each action that will be delivered in 2024-2025 in the final year of the 2021-2025 Council Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the updated Yarra Ranges Council Action Plan for the 2024-2025 period.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Council adopted the 2021-2025 Council Plan in October 2021.

DISCUSSION

Purpose and Background

The 2021-2025 Council Plan and associated action plan was developed using extensive community engagement. It guides the organisation to deliver on five strategic objectives and its key strategies, and to measure the performance of these strategies through a set of indicators of success.

Image 1. Yarra Ranges Council's Five Strategic Objectives



Under Council's five Strategic Objectives there are eight Major Initiatives and 35 actions that collectively make up the Council Action Plan. Minor revisions to the wording of three major initiatives and four actions are proposed for the 2024-2025 period. One action relating to the establishment of a municipal wide developer contribution plan is proposed to be removed from the plan as this action is no longer being considered.

The updated Council Action Plan for the 2024-2025 period, as included in Attachment 1, better reflects the stage of major initiatives and the actions needed to be completed in this final year of the 2021-2025 Council Plan.

Options considered

In reviewing the Council Action Plan for the 2024-2025 period several options were considered.

The option to significantly overhaul the plan was considered. However, given the current plan has a range of actions already underway which remain broadly aligned to community needs and are allocated within the 2024-2025 budget this option wasn't considered appropriate. As such, it is proposed to make only minor adjustments to the action plan to ensure delivery of key actions in 2024-2025.

Recommended option and justification

The updated Council Action Plan for 2024-2025 is presented to Council for formal adoption and public dissemination.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The delivery of the Council Action Plan is aligned to the draft 2024-2025 Council budget (which is also being considered by Council).

APPLICABLE PLANS AND POLICIES

The updated Council Action Plan for 2024-2025 identifies how Council will achieve the strategic vision and key strategic objectives as outlined in the 2021-2025 Council Plan in the final year of the Plan.

RELEVANT LAW

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to review the Council Plan on an annual basis to ensure the strategic direction is aligned to the long-term Community Vision 2036 and current community needs.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic Implications

All actions within the Council Action Plan are budgeted for within Council's draft 2024-2025 budget. Several actions will generate economic benefits across the municipality.

Social Implications

Across the 2024-2025 major initiatives and Council Plan actions a range of social and other health outcomes will be achieved. Especially, *Major Initiative One. Improve Aboriginal health and Wellbeing by providing a range of supports to Oonah Health and Community Services Aboriginal Corporation to establish the Healesville Belonging Place, an integrated Aboriginal health facility.*

Environmental Implications

Across the Council Action Plan for 2024-2025 there are a range of environmental impacts anticipated, in particular Major Initiatives 3 and 4.

Major Initiative Three. Ensure the plants, animals and ecologies of Yarra Ranges that our community value so much are supported and retained alongside us in healthy landscapes by implementing the Nature Plan.

Major Initiative Four. Reduce our ecological footprint through our commitment to shift to sourcing 100% renewable energy and help our communities to thrive in a changing climate through adaptive, resilient and regenerative programs and projects.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As the Council is now approaching its final year for delivery on the 2021-2025 Council Plan and the actions are well underway towards completion, community engagement is not applicable. However, extensive community engagement has commenced for development of the 2025-2029 Council Plan to shape and inform the priorities and actions of the Council over the coming years.

COLLABORATION, INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

No collaboration with other Councils, Governments or statutory bodies was sought.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Review of the Council Action Plan ensures organisational efforts are focused on achievement of Council Plan objectives for maximum community benefit. No action or initiative is assessed as being at risk of delivery failure.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No officers and/or delegates acting on behalf of the Council through the Instrument of Delegation and involved in the preparation and/or authorisation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest as defined within the *Local Government Act 2020*.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE REPORT

1. Yarra Ranges Council Action Plan 2024-2025