

Growing Gannawarra

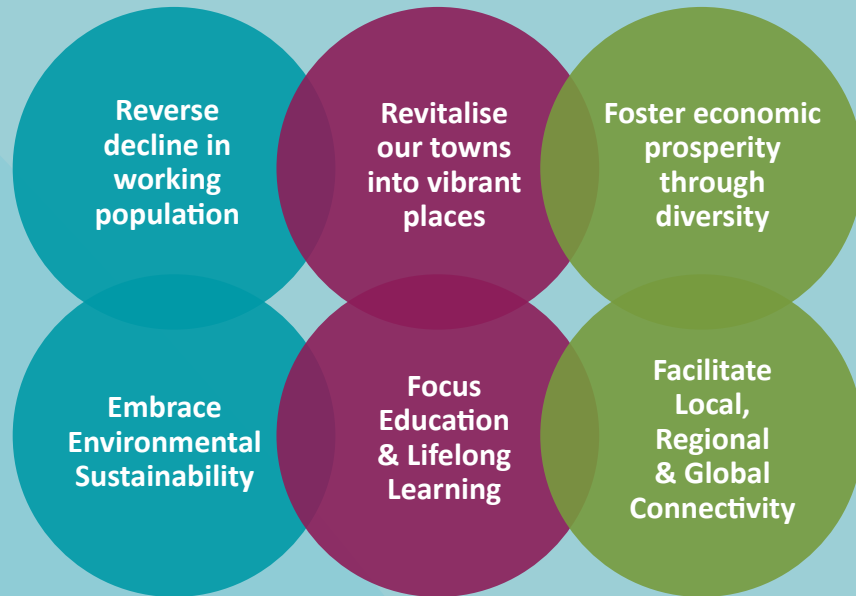
2021 - 2025
ACTION
PLAN
Year Four


GANNAWARRA
Shire Council

About this Action Plan

The 2021-2025 Council Plan and Action Plan provides a 'roadmap' for working closely with the community and our partners to Grow the Gannawarra over the coming four years.

COUNCIL'S LONG TERM COMMUNITY PLAN GANNAWARRA 2025 FOCUSES ON SIX KEY STRATEGY PLATFORMS WHICH REMAIN RELEVANT TO THE GANNAWARRA COMMUNITY:



Council offers a wide range of services to the community. This includes services that in larger municipalities would be delivered by other agencies or private business such as aged care and disability services, swimming pools, transport, and early years services such as kindergartens, long day care and family day care. This direct service delivery provides Council with the unique ability to

influence service delivery to meet the needs and expectations of the community. It also ensures that the Gannawarra community has access to high quality services that may otherwise not be available.

Council has an advocacy strategy which defines those areas where Gannawarra residents are disadvantaged and where Council

requires assistance from other levels of government and our partners to achieve the goals of the community.

In developing this 2021-2025 Council Plan and Action Plan we have listened to the feedback from our community as well as the evidence that identifies some of the challenges and opportunities for the Gannawarra.



THE TOP FIVE ISSUES FOR ADVOCACY ARE:

1. Financial sustainability

Gannawarra Shire Council is seeking a fairer funding framework for small rural councils in Victoria which provides ongoing financial sustainability.

2. Connections For Rural Communities

People living within the Gannawarra Shire need to connect and travel to surrounding communities to access services, education, recreation and employment. We advocate for improved connectivity to our rail, public transport, community transport and digital infrastructure.

3. Lakes, Riverfront And Waterfront Development

Gannawarra Shire Council is seeking policy and planning frameworks that support waterfront development to improve liveability and tourism investment in our region.

4. Investment In Renewable Energy

We require significant network upgrades to facilitate investment in solar energy production in our region. Gannawarra Shire Council is a key partner in unlocking northern Victoria's solar potential and we are uniquely placed to work with key stakeholders to maximise this opportunity for our communities.

5. Healthy Communities

We advocate for improved access to services which support the health and wellbeing of our communities.



How we will Review and Evaluate?

Performance against this Council Plan will be monitored on a twice annual basis.

Each year, the Council Plan will undergo an annual review. This review will be two-fold and include achievement against the actions set for the twelve month period in the annual Action Plan, and also at the outcome and objective level through a review of success measures.

Population health data relating to Gannawarra will be monitored over the four year period and communicated to the community.

There is a strong focus on strengthening existing partnerships and building new partnerships within this 2021-2025 Council Plan.

Working collaboratively with a broad cross section of partners enhances Council's ability to deliver on our

community's aspirations and visions for the future.

Partners as well as the community will be involved in the review and evaluation and kept informed of Council's progress towards meeting the set objectives.



Year Four Action Plan

A LIST OF ACTIONS THAT ALIGN WITH THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED IN THE GANNAWARRA SHIRE COUNCIL PLAN 2021 - 2025, TO BE REPORTED AGAINST FOR YEAR FOUR (2024/2025)



f = Facilitator



A = Advocate



P = Partner

1.
Liveability







2.
Growth

3.
Sustainability










Goal 1. Liveability

Enhance the wellbeing and liveability of the Gannawarra through creative infrastructure and services.

| | Action Item | Measure | Council's Role |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Strategic Priority 1.</p> <p>Improve the health, safety and wellbeing of our community through partnerships, services and programs.</p> | <p>1.1.1</p> <p>Continue to support the community's recovery from the 2022 floods</p> | Continue implementation of Council's Flood Recovery Plan |  |
| | <p>1.1.2</p> <p>Implement Gannawarra Free from Family Violence Action Plan 2024-2025</p> | Actions within Gannawarra Free from Family Violence Action Plan 2024-2025 implemented |  |
| | <p>1.1.3</p> <p>Continue to implement the Gannawarra Local Agency Meeting (GLAM) Action Plan 2021-2025 including the priorities of improving mental wellbeing (through reconciliation and resilience), working towards gender equality and preventing family violence, and tackling climate change and its impact on health and wellbeing.</p> | Continued implementation of partnership priorities. |  |
| | <p>1.1.4</p> <p>Adopt the Gannawarra Reconciliation Action Plan in partnership with the Gannawarra Local Agency Meeting (GLAM) and Kerang Elders Group</p> | Gannawarra Reconciliation Action Plan adopted |  |
| | <p>1.1.5</p> <p>Continue to partner to deliver the Buloke Loddon Gannawarra Population Health Implementation Plan including preventative measures to improve the health priority areas of heart and respiratory health, diabetes, mental health and oral health</p> | Continued partnership with associated agencies on the delivery of outcomes associated with the Loddon Gannawarra Population Health Implementation Plan |  |
| | <p>1.1.6</p> <p>Review of Council's Social Inclusion Strategy</p> | Development of Social Inclusion Strategy 2025-2029 |  |








Goal 1. Liveability

Enhance the wellbeing and liveability of the Gannawarra through creative infrastructure and services.

| | Action Item | Measure | Council's Role |
|--|--|---|---|
| Strategic Priority 2. Build unique transformational infrastructure that enhances liveability and passive and active recreation. | 1.2.1 Completion of Quambatook Weir Pool and Walking Tracks | Weir Pool and walking tracks completed |  |
| | 1.2.2 Development of conceptual designs for Kerang and Cohuna aquatic facilities | Conceptual designs for Kerang and Cohuna aquatic designs commenced |  |
| | 1.2.3 Complete the Kerang CBD Redevelopment-Stage 4 | Kerang CBD Development-Stage 4 completed |  |
| | 1.2.4 Planning of the Kerang-Koondrook Rail Trail | Regulatory approvals achieved |  |
| Strategic Priority 3. Construct a regional community wellbeing centre. | 1.3.1 Construction of the Glasshouse @ Gannawarra | Glasshouse construction complete |  |
| | | | |
| Strategic Priority 4. Respond to key community needs through innovative, commercially focused services including aged care and early childhood services. | 1.4.1 Implementation of municipal-wide community plans | Partner with community groups to support the delivery of community plans in 6 townships |  |
| | 1.4.2 Implementation of Pre-Prep into Gannawarra Kindergartens | Pre-Prep implemented across all four Council Kindergarten programs |  |







Goal 2. Growth

Grow the Gannawarra through a diverse and broad economy.

| | Action Item | Measure | Council's Role |
|--|---|---|--|
| Strategic Priority 1. Facilitate infrastructure, programs and policies that support economic development and productivity, whilst considering our natural environment. | 2.1.1 Continue to implement adopted Waterfront Masterplans | Cohuna Waterfront Stage 2 funding application submitted |  |
| | 2.1.2 Develop the Koondrook Economic Development Plan as part of the Timber Towns Transition program | Consultants appointed and community reference group established |  |
| Strategic Priority 2. Facilitate the implementation of new energy infrastructure and energy projects. | 2.2.1 Continue to advocate for delivery of VNI-West and transmission infrastructure to connect local generation | AEMO confirms final route for VNI-West and VicGrid REZ planning commenced |  |
| | 2.2.2 Facilitate new energy projects in Gannawarra | Provide support to relevant stakeholders to facilitate new investment |   |
| Strategic Priority 3. Advocate for improvements in digital connectivity and services. | 2.3.1 Support upgrades to connectivity in areas experiencing poor services | Implementation of signal boosters in poor connected townships as part of the flood recovery process |   |

Goal 2. Growth

Grow the Gannawarra through a diverse and broad economy.

| | Action Item | Measure | Council's Role |
|---|---|---|--|
| Strategic Priority 4. Support the creation of destinations in the Gannawarra to attract visitors to our region. | 2.4.1 Implement Economic Development, Retail and Tourism Strategies that support destination development | Completion and continuation of actions from Tourism Strategy, Economic Development Strategy and Retail Strategy relevant to 2024/25 |  |
| | 2.5.1 Continue to facilitate new industry projects which diversify agriculture | Provide support to relevant stakeholders to facilitate new investment |   |
| | 2.6.1 Review the Gannawarra Planning Scheme | Submit the review of the Gannawarra Planning Scheme to the Minister for Planning |  |
| Strategic Priority 6. Support growth through land rezoning for future residential development opportunities. | 2.6.2 Identify new land development sites across the municipality for residential and industrial use as per Council's Urban Growth Strategy | Key new development sites identified |  |
| | 2.6.3 Update Kerang, Cohuna and Koondrook town structure plans to establish key growth areas for development | Commence planning scheme amendment to incorporate updated town structure plans |  |

Goal 3. Sustainability

Achieve long-term financial and environmental sustainability.

| | Action Item | Measure | Council's Role |
|--|--|--|--|
| Strategic Priority 1. Generate additional revenue through new energy infrastructure and commercially viable services. | 3.1.1 Continue support to develop Payment in Lieu of Rates (PiLoR) certified energy farms across Gannawarra | Increase income from PiLoR |   |
| | 3.1.2 Active pursuit of grants to assist in delivery of Council's capital and operational service delivery | Number of grants applied for vs successful grants |   |
| Strategic Priority 2. Carefully monitor expenditure to ensure value for money and monitor the long term financial plan to maintain financial sustainability. | 3.2.1 Continue Rural Transformation Fund Asset Management software partnership project with Swan Hill RC and Buloke SC | Finalise specifications for the required asset management software |  |
| | 3.2.2 Adopt Asset Management Sub Plans and Asset Management Strategy | Asset Management Plan and Asset Management Strategy adopted |  |
| | 3.2.3 Establishment of a Service Review Framework for the organisation | Commence implementation of Service Review Program |  |

Goal 3. Sustainability

Achieve long-term financial and environmental sustainability.

| | Action Item | Measure | Council's Role |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Strategic Priority 3.</p> <p>Be a creative employer of choice through our adherence to good governance and our inclusive culture.</p> | <p>3.3.1</p> <p>Review Council's Workforce Plan</p> | <p>Commence implementation of reviewed Workforce Plan</p> |  |
| | | | |
| <p>Strategic Priority 4.</p> <p>Support community resilience through climate adaptation, clean energy, environmental sustainability and waste management programs.</p> | <p>3.4.1</p> <p>Review Council's Waste Management Strategy</p> | <p>Waste Management Strategy adopted</p> |  |
| | <p>3.4.2</p> <p>Implement Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Plan which considers impacts on health and wellbeing</p> | <p>Implement actions focussed on increasing canopy cover in townships and updating the tree planting guide</p> |  |
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