

Agenda

Scheduled Council Meeting

Tuesday 20 October 2026

to be held at 2:00 PM

Council Chambers

Swan Hill Town Hall

53 – 57 McCallum Street, Swan Hill. VIC 3585

Public Access

Open to the public and live streaming from Council's website: www.swanhill.vic.gov.au

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Governance Rules

A copy of Swan Hill Rural City Council's governance rules can be found at Model Governance Rules

Executive Leadership Team

Scott Barber, Chief Executive Officer

Bruce Myers, Director of Customer and Community Services

Leah Johnston, Director of Infrastructure

Stephen Fernando, Director of Corporate Services

Dennis Hovenden, Director of Development and Planning

Swan Hill Elected Members



Cr Stuart King
0437 967 531
stuart.king@swanhill.vic.gov.au



Cr Terry Jennings
0429 449 578
terry.jennings@swanhill.vic.gov.au



Cr Les McPhee
0427 319 394
les.mcphee@swanhill.vic.gov.au



Cr Hugh Broad
0408 250 683
hugh.broad@swanhill.vic.gov.au



Cr Peta Thornton
0417 219 229
peta.thornton@swanhill.vic.gov.au



Cr Lindsay Rogers
0499 720 035
lindsay.rogers@swanhill.vic.gov.au



Cr Philip Englefield
0429 079 650
philip.englefield@swanhill.vic.gov.au

Vision Statement

We have a great place to live, work and grow, shared by our diverse culture and connected community.

Our Mission

We will lead, advocate, partner and provide efficient services and opportunities for the growth and wellbeing of our community, environment, and economy.

Our Values

This Vision is underpinned by a set of guiding principles that express what the community values most, such as:

Community Engagement - We ensure that our communities are consulted, listened to, and informed.

Accountability - We are transparent and efficient in our activities, and we consistently value and welcome feedback.

Leadership - We play a central role in our community - actively engaging to shape a shared vision on strategic issues, while providing strong advocacy and decisive action.

Fairness - We value and embrace the diversity of our community and ensure that all people are treated equally.

Trust - We act with integrity and earn the community's trust by being a reliable partner providing services, projects and facilities.

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1 Procedural Matters

1.1 Welcome

1.2 Acknowledgement Of Country

"Swan Hill Rural City Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays its respects to their elders, past and present."

1.3 Opening Declaration

"We beseech you Lord, that we may be granted wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose, in the decisions we are called on to make for the welfare of the people of the Rural City of Swan Hill."

Or

"We, the Councillors of Swan Hill Rural City Council, declare that we will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor, in the best interests of our community, and faithfully, and impartially, carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in us, to the best of our skill and judgement."

1.4 Apologies / Leaves of Absence

None when the Agenda was distributed.

1.5 Directors / Officers Present

1.6 Confirmation of Minutes

1.6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Recommendation/s

That the minutes of the Scheduled Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15 September 2026 be confirmed.

1.7 Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

1.8 Joint Letters and Reading of Petitions

1.8.1 Werril Street Calming Traffic Alterations

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Declarations of Interest:

Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

A Petition was received on 5 October 2026 from Pental Island Settlers Association for Werril Street Calming Traffic Alterations.

The submitted petition included 183 names, addresses and signatures requesting that Council:

1. Defers the proposed Werril Street traffic calming alterations until a comprehensive review has been undertaken of their impact on agricultural operations and other heavy vehicle movements.
2. Consults directly with local farmers, agricultural contractors, emergency services, and other affected stakeholders to ensure the proposed design does not adversely affect the safe movement of heavy, wide and slow-moving agricultural machinery.
3. Provides Council with a report outlining alternative traffic management options that improve road safety while maintaining Werril Street exit route for agricultural and other heavy vehicles.

Section 7.21.(6) of the Governance Rules – If a petition relates to an item listed on the Agenda for the Meeting at which it is submitted, the petition may be dealt with in conjunction with the item (as is the case).

Attachments: 1. Werril Street Petition redacted [**1.8.1.1** - 15 pages]

Recommendation/s

That Council:

1. **Receive the petition, and**
2. **Consider the petition as part of the report item "2.1 Werril Street Traffic Calming Project - Let's Talk Feedback" in this Council meeting agenda.**



WERRIL STREET CALMING TRAFFIC ALTERATIONS

Head Petitioner Details

Name:	PENTAL ISLAND SETTLERS ASSOCIATION
Address:	
Telephone / Mobile:	
Email:	
Signature:	On Behalf of Ratepayers - Kellyn Zanker
Date submitted to Council	5 / 10 / 2026

Petition Details

Total Number of Signatories: 183	Total Pages (excluding this Title Cover Page): 13
INTERNAL USE ONLY	
Date received by Chief Executive Officer	/ / 20
Submission method:	☑ In person Swan Hill Rural City Council – Swan Hill Office ☐ In person Swan Hill Rural City Council – Robinvale Office ☐Mail Chief Executive Officer Swan Hill Rural City Council 45 Splatt Street SWAN HILL VIC 3585 ☐ Email council@swanhill.vic.gov.au ☐ Online via Council website
Document assessed as (Circle) **If Joint Letter – staff assigned to. If invalid, reason why.**	Petition | Joint Letter | Joint Submission | Invalid
To be heard at Council Meeting on (if applicable)	/ / 20
Acknowledgement of receipt to Head Petitioner	/ / 20
INTERNAL DOC REF:	

SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL - PETITION SUBMISSION TITLE COVER PAGE
Once received by Swan Hill Rural City Council, the information collected in this form will be maintained in accordance with the Public Records Act 1973 and Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)

WERRIL STREET CALMING TRAFFIC ALTERATIONS

Head Petitioner Details

Name:	Scott Tonkin
Address:	
Telephone / Mobile:	
Email:	
Signature:	
Date submitted to Council	5 / 10 / 2026

Petition Details

Total Number of Signatories:	Total Pages (excluding this Title Cover Page):
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2. Consults directly with local farmers, agricultural contractors, emergency services, and other affected stakeholders to ensure the proposed design does not adversely affect the safe movement of heavy, wide and slow-moving agricultural machinery.
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Reason:
The proposed traffic calming measures have the potential to significantly restrict the safe movement of heavy, wide and slow-moving farm machinery using Werril Street. As this would force machinery down Murray valley Hwy, a key arterial exit from town with a 90 km/h speed limit, it is essential that any changes maintain safe and practical access for the agricultural industry, which is vital to the local economy. Delaying the works until further consultation and assessment has been completed will help ensure that road safety improvements do not create unintended consequences for farmers and other road users.

NOTE TO SIGNATORIES: Please include your full name, full street address and signature when signing the petition to ensure the petition conforms to 7.21 of the Governance Rules and may be accepted by Council.

Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
1	Keralyn Zanker		
2	Barry James		
3	Ken Baker.		
4	Glenn Croft		
5	Brendan Kelly		
6	MARK STORER		
7	Andrew Bennett		
8	Josh Whitla		
9	Kyle Kelly		
10	Mathew Earle		
11	Mikayla Zanker		
12	Ryan Barri		
13	[illegible]		
14	Daniel Eastwood		
15	Jeanette Whiting.		
16	Daryl Whiting		
17	William Mcdonnell		
18	Trevor Zanker		

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
19	Cody Willems		
20	ANNA PONDER		
21	[illegible] Mayes		
22	Sam le Rodeur		
23	Chloe Oxley		
24	Tim Oxley		
25	Andrew Oxley		
26	John Brady		
27	Tyson Cole		
28	REECE HARRISON		
29	PAUL MASON		
30	Rhys Behrens		
31	Jack Radolfke		
32	Sean Cullen		
33	Paul Richardson		
34	Adam Light		
35	Zach Oliver		
36	BRADLEY BENNETT		

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~~Paul Richardson~~

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
37	DARYL BRAWN		
38	JUDY BRAWN		
39	Joe Taverna		
40	[illegible]		
41	Brendan Ash		
42	MARK BURNS		
43	IAN TRIPLETT		
44	CARMEL TRIPLETT		
45	Shirley Hender		
46	Noel Hender		
47	Rod Heley		
48	G Burns		
49	CLIFF STEPHENS		
50	CLIFF HAYES		
51	Chris C		
52	Kodyn		
53	David		
54	[illegible]		

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
55	[illegible]		
56	[illegible]		
57	Claire Threadgold		
58	Brett O'Meara		
59	Mick Zambelli		
60	Mark Gow		
61	SCOTT ZAMBELLI		
62	DON VIOLI		
63	Rebecca Carragher		
64	RYAN McALISTER		
65	Rohan Hooper		
66	LIAM BARRY		
67	MARCUS POLINELLI		
68	DAMIAN SAVILLE		
69	ROBERT REED		
70	DARREN SCARCE		
71	Brooke Hoare		
72	Denise Jordan		

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
73	Daniel Jordan		
74	Kelon Braun		
75	Pam Braun		
76	Kyle Brawn		
77	Nicole Brawn		
78	Ryan [illegible]		
79	NATHAN HARRINGTON		
80	Jake Butler		
81	DENNIS TURNER		
82	Kevin Sleep		
83	JOHN BRIGGOD		
84	Julie Carnson		
85	M Carras		
86	RORY SPONG		
87	VICKI McClelland		
88	Jenny Lynas		
89	Keith Paynter		
90	Brian Lynas		

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
91	JAMES WILLIAMS		
92	Laura Laccaviello		
93	DANIEL WEBSTER		
94	TIANA SHEPHERD		
95	STEPHAN MILANO		
96	PAUL STARES		
97	SHAUN RITCHIE		
98	FRANK COSTA		
99	Bayley Cullen		
100	Nathan Sidgwick		
101	BEN NOBLE		
102	Craig Pumpa		
103	JACQUI BROOKS		
104	ROSLYN MCKENZIE		
105	HAYLEY HENDER		
106	YVONNE SIDDONS		
107	GENE BROOKS		
108	ROSS HARTLAND		

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
109	Matt Payne		
110	LUKE HOGAN		
111	JAMIE HANSEN		
112	JOHN THREADGOLD		
113	CHEREE BROWN		
114	ROSIE TAVERNA		
115	PAUL TAVERNA		
116	Marlene Rayner		
117	GLENN JAMES		
118	Dale Shipham		
119	PETER HAYES		
120	Jack Hayes		
121	Tony Manley		
122	Cain Barry		
123	Brad Cockfield		
124	IAN MUNRO		

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125	Jonathan Pierce		
126	Benjamin Shadbolt		
127	Amanda Wilson		
128	Tony Manley		
129	RYAN STEICKE		
130	Brad Cockfield		
131	CAIN BARRY		
132	Andrew Sefton-Stewart.		
133	Ritchie Boulton		
134	Jorja McDonald		
135	LIAM BARRY		
136	DAMIEN MCFARLANE		
137	Sandra Ewart		
138	Nicholas Belcher		
139	Julie Gallagher		
140	NORMAN CAMPBELL		

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
141	WAM KEIGHRAN		
142	GABIN MARMOTTAN		
143	ADAM BEST		
144	TERRY [illegible]		
145	Shaun Demario		
146	[illegible]		
147	Conna McGregor		
148	ROBERT BENNETT		
149	WADE DEVEREUX		
150	RICK TREZISE		
151	PAUL FLANTON		

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
152	Tyson Fox		
153	Jacob Oxley		
154	Kyal Siebert		

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Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
155	Alan Greenham		
156	Collin Fletcher		
157	Lynne Fletch		
158	Mary Greenham		

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159	DENNIS O'CONNOR		
160	Lyndsay McDonald		
161	RUSSELL AYARS		
162	Shaun O'Grady		
163	TONY DATE		
164	David Mannel		
165	JOHN TONKIN		
166	DEAN BERGGOLD		
167	NEIL McMANUS		
168	JEFF DALTON		

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We, the undersigned, request that Swan Hill Rural City Council:

1. Defers the proposed Werril Street traffic calming alterations until a comprehensive review has been undertaken of their impact on agricultural operations and other heavy vehicle movements.
2. Consults directly with local farmers, agricultural contractors, emergency services, and other affected stakeholders to ensure the proposed design does not adversely affect the safe movement of heavy, wide and slow-moving agricultural machinery.
3. Provides Council with a report outlining alternative traffic management options that improve road safety while maintaining Werril st exit route for agricultural and other heavy vehicles.

Reason:
The proposed traffic calming measures have the potential to significantly restrict the safe movement of heavy, wide and slow-moving farm machinery using Werril Street. As this would force machinery down Murray valley Hwy, a key arterial exit from town with a 90 km/h speed limit, it is essential that any changes maintain safe and practical access for the agricultural industry, which is vital to the local economy. Delaying the works until further consultation and assessment has been completed will help ensure that road safety improvements do not create unintended consequences for farmers and other road users.

NOTE TO SIGNATORIES: Please include your full name, full street address and signature when signing the petition to ensure the petition conforms to 7.21 of the Governance Rules and may be accepted by Council.

Line No:	Full Name	Full Address	Signature
169	John Hepburn		
170	Joanne Hepburn		
171	JAKE HEPBURN		
172	SARAH HULLAND		
173	Joanna Hulland		
174	CHRIS HULLAND		
175	Steve Jarrett		
176	CHRIS FOOTT		
177	Wes Martin		
178	Ross Hepburn		
179	David Hickey		
180	PETER LAVEY		
181	Brett Dunn		
182	Paul Dunn		
183	Rodney Dunn		

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1.9 Public Questions Time

You can access the form Public Question Time form from:
https://forms.swanhill.vic.gov.au/council-meeting-public-question-time/

Please note

- Only ONE question per form submission.
- Submission must be received no later than 10:00am on the day prior to the meeting.
- A time is set aside for public questions during a Council meeting at which time each question will be read after the Chairman has looked at its contents and determined that the question is appropriate.
- Statements and opinions are not permitted during question time and will not be read to the meeting.
- The Chairman may disallow any question. This may be because the question is repetitive of a question already asked, objectionable, irrelevant, raises an issue of a confidential nature or is asked to embarrass a Councillor or Council officer. The Chairman will provide reasons where a question is disallowed. Questions considered to be inappropriate will be made available to Councillors on request.
- The Chairman will nominate the appropriate Councillor or Council officer to answer the question or elect to answer it himself/herself.
- No debate or discussion of the questions or answers is permitted.
- The Chairman may elect to take a question on notice in which case a written response will generally be provided within 10 working days.
- A summary of the text of the question and the response will be recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting.

Who can use this form

- Any community member

While completing this form, we will request

- Your contact details (including your name, address, phone and email)
- Your question

It will take about 5 minutes to complete this form.

After you submit this form

- We will send you an email receipt to confirm we have received your submission

What happens with your information?

The information requested in this form is collected by Swan Hill Rural City Council to assist us in responding to your question.

Your name, suburb and question may be read out at the Council meeting and will be recorded in the Council meeting minutes but will not be used for any other purpose unless required by law.
We will handle any personal information you provide on this form in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014. We record this information on our customer databases and make it available to relevant Council staff in line with our Privacy Statement.
You can access your personal information by contacting our Privacy Officer.

1.10 Open Forum

Please see below "Governance Rules 2023 – Section 7 referring to Open Forum" which outlines the rules and procedure of open forum.

7. Community questions and submissions

7.1. Open Forum and Questions Of Council Time To Be Held

(1) The Council will hold Open Forum and Questions of Council Time for up to 30 minutes duration at the beginning of each Scheduled Meeting to allow public submissions and questions of Council. Extension of time may be granted by resolution of Council.

(2) Open Forum is an opportunity for the general public to present to Council on a matter listed on the Agenda or any other matter.

(3) Questions of Council are an opportunity for the general public to submit a question prior to the Scheduled Meeting and receive a response from Council in the Questions of Council time.

(4) Council meetings are recorded and broadcast to the public; this includes community questions and submissions.

Open forum and questions of council guidelines

7.2. Questions of Council time and Open Forum will not apply during any period when the Council has resolved to close the meeting in respect of a matter under section 66 (1) of the Act.

7.3. Submissions as part of Open Forum and Questions of Council may be on any matter except if it:

(a) is considered malicious, defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial, or objectionable in language or substance;
(b) relates to confidential information as defined under the Act;
(c) relates to the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer; or
(d) relates to any other matter which the Council considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
(e) If a person has submitted more than 2 questions to a meeting, the third and further questions may, at the discretion of the Chairperson be deferred until all other person who have asked a question have had their questions asked and answered and not be asked if the time allotted for public question time has expired.

7.4. Where the Mayor does not accept a question, the submitter is to be informed of the reason or reasons for which their question was not accepted.

7.5. The Mayor reserves the right to cease a submission as part of Open Forum if they deem the submission inappropriate.

7.6. Where possible Copies of all questions allowed by the Mayor will be provided in writing to all Councillors.

7.7. A submission or question submitted in writing by a member of the public, which has been disallowed by the Mayor will be provided to any Councillor on request.

Open forum

7.8. For any member of the public who wishes to be heard at Open Forum they must give prior notice:

(a) in written form;
(b) contain the name, address and email or contact telephone number of the person to be heard;
(c) by online request https://www.swanhill.vic.gov.au/;
(d) in a letter to the Chief Executive Office, 45 Splatt Street, Swan Hill, Vic 3585; or
(e) in an email council@swanhill.vic.gov.au; or
(f) hand delivery to the Council's Office, 45 Splatt Street, Swan Hill or 72 Herbert Street, Robinvale.

7.9. It is preferable for any group or association that wishes to be heard at Open Forum to nominate a spokesperson for an issue upon which the group or association may wish to be heard.

Open Forum Procedure

7.10. Public addressing the Meeting

(1) Any member of the public addressing Council must extend due courtesy and respect to Council and the processes under which it operates and must take direction from the Chairperson whenever called on to do so.

(2) Council may suspend standing orders to hear from a community member or representative of an organisation, on matters of significance to the Council, only if prior arrangements have been made by written request to the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer.

7.11. The Chair will allocate a maximum of 3 minutes to each person who wishes to address Council.

7.12. The Chair will first invite any person who has given prior notice to present to Council.

7.13. The Chair will then invite members of the gallery who would like to present to Council.

7.14. The Chair has the discretion to alter the order of persons to be heard.

7.15. The person in addressing the Council:

(a) must confine their address to the 3-minute allocation of time;
(b) shall extend due courtesy and respect to the Council and the processes under which it operates; and
(c) shall take direction from the Chair whenever called upon to do;
(d) There will be no discussion or debate with the attendees to Open Forum however Councillors may ask questions of clarification of the attendee;
(e) Standing Orders do not need to be suspended to allow discussion for the purposes of clarification.

2 Officer Reports for Decision

2.1 Werril Street Traffic Calming Project - Let's Talk Feedback

Directorate: Infrastructure

File Number: S32-27-26-12129
Purpose: For Decision

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

2. Community and Liveability – Creating inclusive, connected communities with opportunities for everyone to learn, participate and feel proud of where they live.
Objective 2.3: Foster a welcoming, inclusive, and connected community.
2.3.1 Strengthen community participation and connection.
2.3.3 Reduce barriers to involvement from underrepresented groups.

5. Infrastructure – Investing in roads, facilities and public spaces that meet community needs and support growth into the future. Objective 5.1: Maintain and upgrade road infrastructure to support safe, efficient and accessible transport.
5.1.1 Ensure road upgrades and maintenance are based on condition, usage, and community access needs.
5.1.2 Advocate for improved transport services.

Current Strategic Documents

Council Plan
Central Murray Regional Transport Strategy

Declarations of Interest

Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

Consultation on the proposed Werril Street traffic calming treatments has now closed. A total of 34 submissions from 11 individual contributors were received through the Let's Talk platform, demonstrating strong community interest in the project.

Feedback received generally acknowledged the importance of improving road safety within the Werril Street corridor. The predominant concern raised by respondents relates to the potential impact of the proposed treatments on agricultural machinery access and the suitability of specific design elements. Several submissions also sought clarification regarding the project's justification, stakeholder consultation, pedestrian connectivity and alternative options considered.

In response to the feedback received, Council is working with TAC and the project consultant to refine the design. The current preferred approach includes removal of the slow point at Location 03 and increased lane widths at Locations 02 and 04 to improve manoeuvrability for agricultural machinery and oversized vehicles while maintaining the intended road safety outcomes of the project. Updated plans are attached for review.

Discussion

The Werril Street Traffic Calming Project was developed in response to previous road safety investigations, community concerns regarding vehicle speeds and heavy vehicle movements, and recommendations arising from the TAC-funded Safe Local Roads Program review.

It is also noted that Council received a petition, tabled at the July 2026 Council Meeting, signed by 48 residents and community members expressing concerns regarding increasing volumes of freight vehicles, B-Doubles and agricultural machinery travelling through the street. The petition cited impacts on residential amenity, pedestrian activity, cycling activity and road safety, and requested Council take steps to discourage heavy vehicle traffic and improve residential amenity and road safety outcomes within the street.

It is also noted that Council subsequently received a further petition containing 183 signatories requesting that Council defer the proposed Werril Street traffic calming works until additional consultation and assessment had been undertaken. The petition expressed concerns regarding the potential impact of the proposed traffic calming treatments on agricultural machinery movements and requested that Council investigate alternative traffic management solutions that improve road safety while maintaining Werril Street as an access route for agricultural and heavy vehicles.

A review of the petition indicates that support was drawn from a broad geographic area rather than solely from residents directly affected by the proposed works. Of the 183 signatories, five were identified as residents of Werril Street, while approximately 25 signatories were from Pental Island, being the largest identifiable locality represented within the petition. A significant number of signatories were also identified from Swan Hill and surrounding localities including Lake Boga, Beverford, Tyntynder, Tyntynder South, Tresco, Wood Wood and other areas within the municipality.

The petition also attracted support from individuals residing outside the Swan Hill Rural City Council municipality, including localities such as Kerang, Piangil, Woorinen South, Tooleybuc, Robinvale, Nyah, Dilpurra, Goodnight, Mellool and Murray Downs.

Whilst the views expressed within the petition are acknowledged, the signatory analysis indicates that the petition reflects the views of a broader group of road users, agricultural stakeholders and community members rather than solely residents located within the immediate project area and have has access to a larger road network.

The petitions demonstrate that community views regarding Werril Street are varied. While the recent Let's Talk consultation identified concerns regarding the potential impact of traffic calming treatments on agricultural machinery access and corridor movements, Council has also received direct feedback from residents seeking action to address vehicle speeds, heavy vehicle movements, pedestrian safety and neighbourhood amenity. The project seeks to balance these competing interests while improving overall road safety outcomes within the corridor.

The image below indicates the proposed treatment locations:

- **Locations 01 and 05** – Flat-top Road humps (100mm high)
- **Locations 02 and 04** – Traffic calming slow points
- **Location 03** – Removed from the preferred concept design following consideration of consultation feedback



In addition to these treatments, the project includes speed zone changes and truck detour signage along the Murray Valley Highway and Donald-Swan Hill Road.

The concept design is currently under review by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) as part of the project approval process.

The recent consultation process generated strong community engagement and provided valuable feedback on the concept design. While views varied, most submissions did not dispute the objective of improving road safety. Instead, respondents largely focused on the potential impacts of traffic calming measures on agricultural machinery movements and access through the corridor.

Several matters raised during consultation have previously been considered through the project development process, including:

- The need to balance residential road safety outcomes with the operational needs of agricultural users.
- Retention of access for agricultural machinery through Werril Street.
- Consideration of heavy vehicle movements and traffic behaviours within the corridor.
- Investigation of alternative treatment options and traffic management measures.

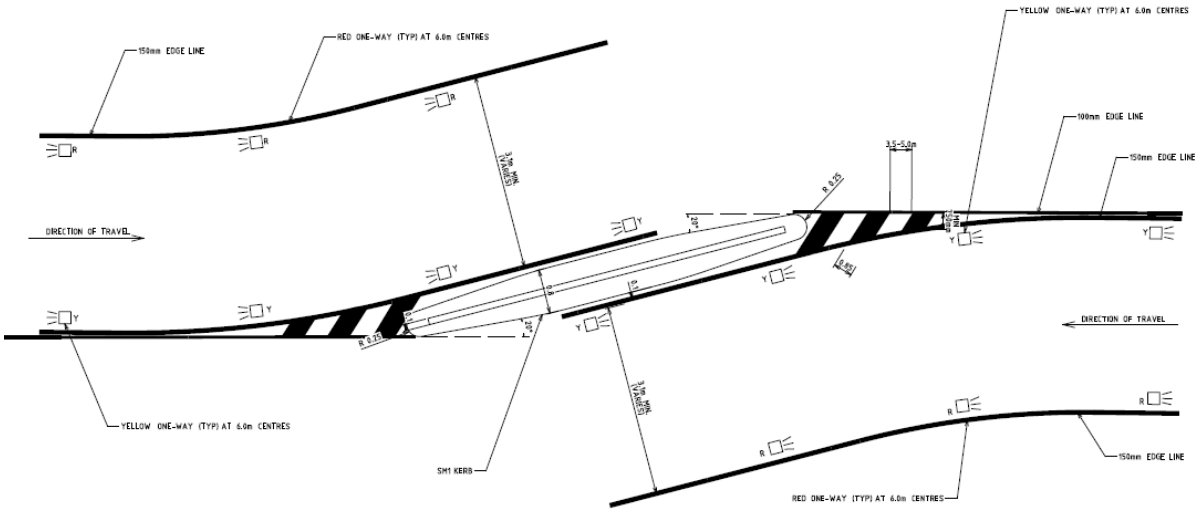
Several submissions questioned specific design treatments, particularly the proposed slow points and road narrowing arrangements. In response, Council has been working collaboratively with TAC, DTP and the project consultant to refine the design.

As part of this process, the current preferred design incorporates:

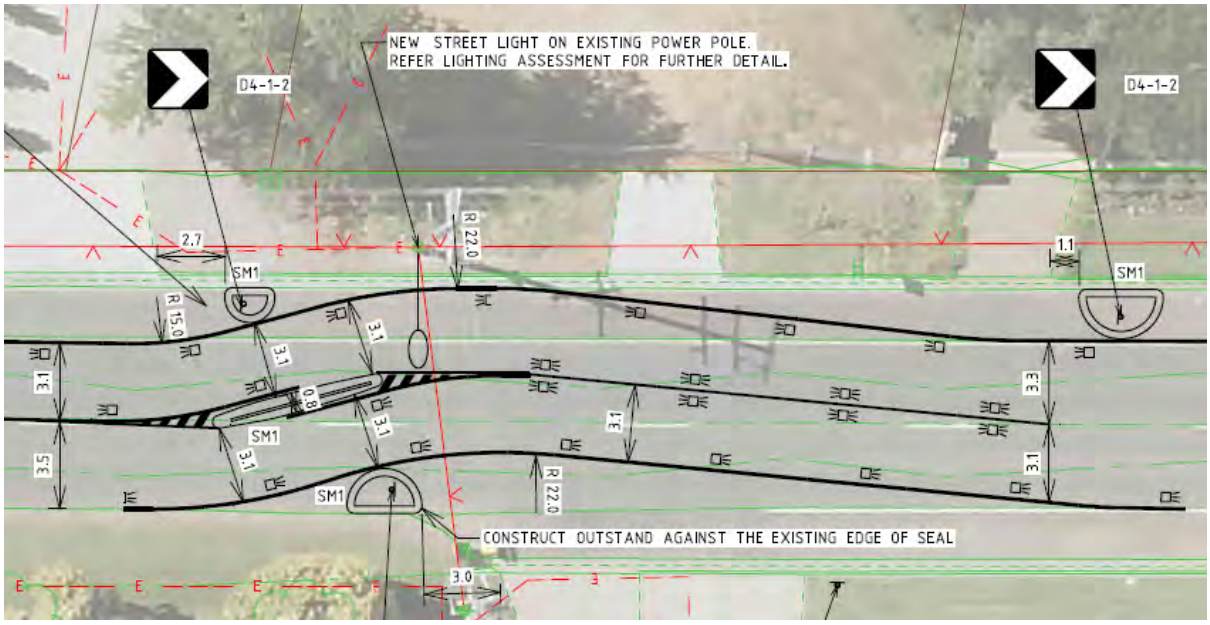
- Removal of the slow point at Location 03.
- Increased lane widths at Locations 02 and 04 to improve manoeuvrability for agricultural machinery and other oversized vehicles.
- Retention of the broader traffic calming and speed reduction objectives of the project.

These refinements are intended to address concerns raised through the consultation process while maintaining the road safety outcomes sought through the project.

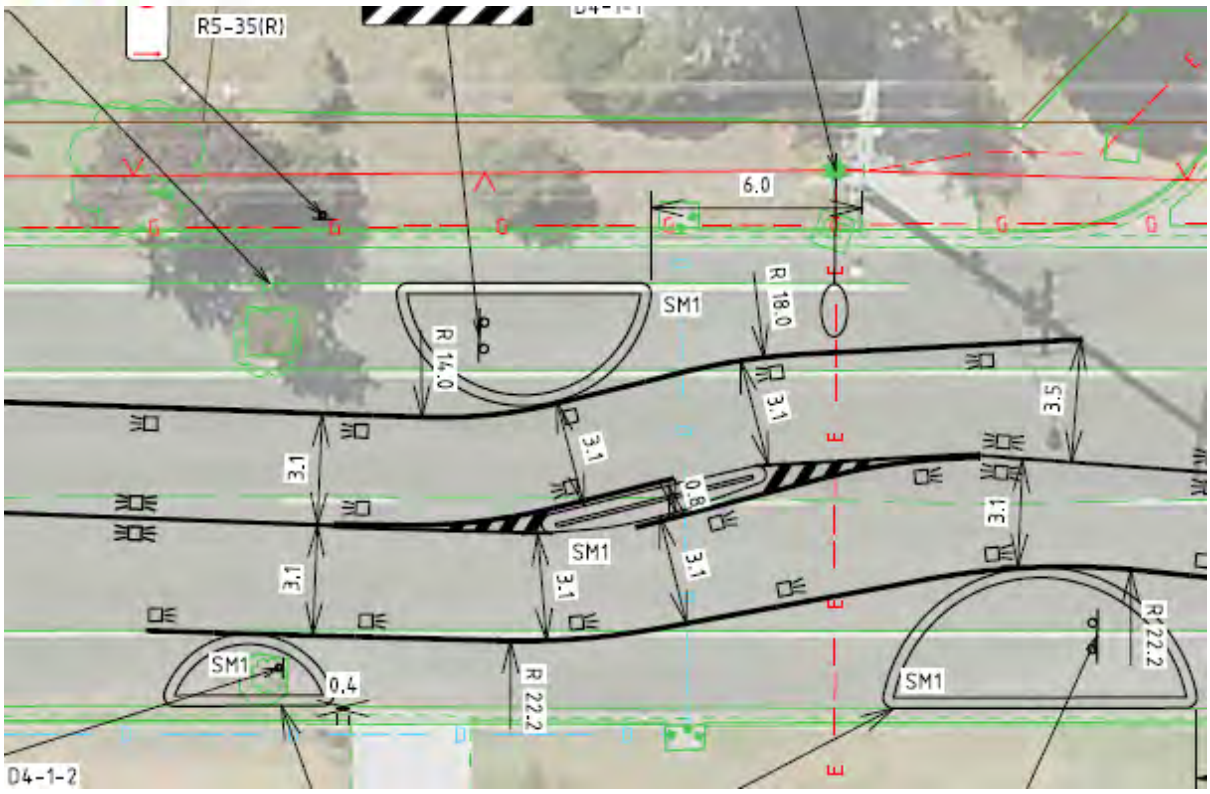
The consultation outcomes generally support the need for road safety improvements within the Werril Street corridor. The feedback has informed refinement of the preferred design to better balance road safety objectives with agricultural access requirements and the operational needs of a broad range of road users.



Slow Point – Typical Detail



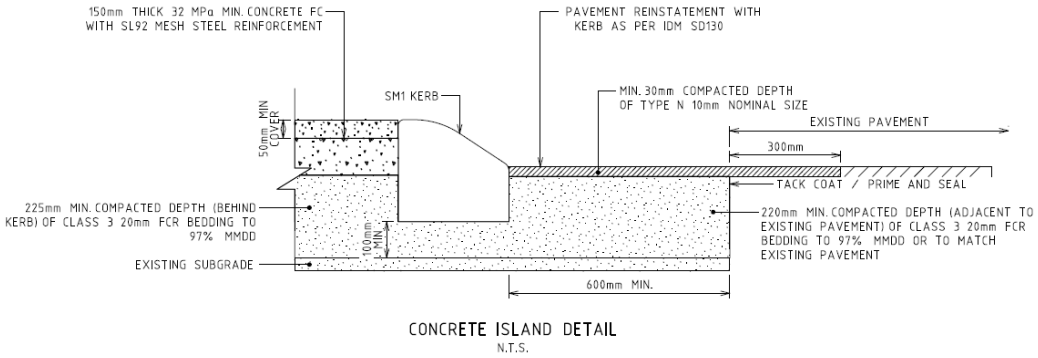
Slow Point – Location 02



Slow Point – Location 04

Officers are continuing to work collaboratively with TAC and the project consultant to finalise the revised design prior to commencement of procurement and construction activities.

It should be noted that the proposed central islands are low-profile treatments incorporating semi-mountable kerbing with a height of approximately 125-150mm. The treatments have been designed to provide traffic calming benefits whilst maintaining access for a broad range of vehicles. The proposed central islands incorporate low-profile semi-mountable kerbing to assist vehicle manoeuvrability. While vehicle movements will vary depending on dimensions and operating conditions, the treatments are intended to maintain access for agricultural machinery whilst achieving the desired road safety outcomes.



Concrete Island Detail

Concerns regarding access for larger agricultural machinery are acknowledged and have informed the design refinements currently being progressed. The revised design seeks to improve manoeuvrability while maintaining the project's safety objectives.

It is also noted that oversized agricultural vehicles are permitted to operate on public roads subject to applicable regulatory requirements, route restrictions and permit conditions where required. Depending on vehicle dimensions, operators may be required to utilise warning signage, lighting, pilot vehicles and other traffic management measures. Such vehicles commonly operate within the road reserve and, where necessary and safe to do so, may utilise available shoulders or occupy part of an opposing traffic lane in accordance with relevant road rules and permit conditions.

Several submissions also raised broader matters relating to footpaths, pedestrian connectivity, cycling infrastructure and active transport opportunities within Werril Street and the surrounding area. While these matters are recognised as important community priorities, the primary purpose of the Werril Street project is to improve road safety outcomes through speed reduction measures and Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) treatments.

Broader active transport initiatives, including pedestrian connectivity, footpath networks and cycling connectivity, will be considered through Council's forthcoming Pedestrian Connectivity Strategy. Community members will be encouraged to participate in this process to help identify priorities and inform future investment decisions across the municipality. Feedback received through the Werril Street consultation relating to pedestrian connectivity and active transport will also be considered as part of the development of the Strategy.

Consultation

Community consultation was undertaken through Council's Let's Talk platform.

Feedback was received from residents, agricultural stakeholders, businesses and other road users. The principal themes identified through the consultation process included:

- Support for improving road safety within Werril Street.
- Concerns regarding impacts on agricultural machinery access.
- Requests for further information regarding project justification and supporting traffic data.
- Consideration of alternative traffic management approaches.
- Concerns regarding specific traffic calming treatments and roadway geometry.
- Requests for additional footpaths, pedestrian infrastructure and active transport improvements.

The consultation findings have informed the design refinements currently being progressed and will continue to be considered as part of project delivery.

Financial Implications

Any design amendments arising from the consultation review will be managed within the approved project budget. This project is fully funded through the Safer Local Roads and Streets Program.

Social Implications

The project seeks to improve road safety outcomes for residents, pedestrians, cyclists and road users within the Werril Street corridor.

The proposed traffic calming measures are intended to reduce vehicle speeds and improve the overall safety and amenity of the residential environment.

The revised design maintains the intended road safety benefits while responding to concerns raised through consultation relating to agricultural access and vehicle manoeuvrability.

Broader social outcomes relating to pedestrian connectivity and active transport infrastructure will be considered separately through Council's forthcoming Pedestrian Connectivity Strategy.

Economic Implications

The project has the potential to affect movement within an area occasionally utilised by some agricultural operators and associated industries.

The design refinements being progressed are intended to provide greater flexibility for agricultural machinery movements while maintaining the project's road safety objectives.

Environmental Implications

Nil.

However, the project team is currently exploring the opportunity to utilise solar-powered luminaires in lieu of conventional hard-wired lighting infrastructure. The use of solar-powered luminaires may reduce energy consumption, minimise reliance on grid infrastructure and potentially reduce installation impacts, subject to confirmation of technical suitability, lighting performance requirements and whole-of-life cost considerations.

Risk Management Implications

Failure to adequately consider community feedback may result in stakeholder dissatisfaction, reputational impacts and reduced community confidence in the project.

There is also a risk that an inappropriate balance between road safety outcomes and agricultural access requirements may result in ongoing stakeholder concern and reduced support for the project.

The revised design seeks to address concerns raised through the consultation process while maintaining the project objectives and intended road safety outcomes.

Attachments:

1. Werril St Consultation Summary [**2.1.1** - 3 pages]
2. 2026-09-18 Form- I D-296 - CM Redacted [**2.1.2** - 2 pages]
3. 23 PACKAGE 03 DD ISSU E-07.10.26 [**2.1.3** - 39 pages]
4. 23 PACKAGE 03 SWEPT PATH ISSU E-07.10.26 [**2.1.4** - 14 pages]

Options

1. Note the outcomes of the community consultation and endorse the revised concept design incorporating removal of the slow point at Location 03 and increased lane widths at Locations 02 and 04, and proceed to tender and construction.
2. Request further design review and stakeholder consultation prior to progressing the project.

3. Do not proceed with the project.

Recommendation/s

That Council:

1. **Refer the joint letter / petition to the Director of Infrastructure for a response to the petitioners.**
2. **Notes the outcomes of the community consultation;**
3. **Endorses the revised concept design incorporating removal of the slow point at Location 03 and increased lane widths at Locations 02 and 04;**
4. **Authorises officers to proceed to tender and construction.**

Summary of Consultation Themes

Theme	Summary of Feedback	Officer Response
Agricultural Machinery Access	The most common concern raised related to the ability of agricultural machinery and oversized vehicles to continue using Werril Street. Respondents expressed concern that the proposed traffic calming treatments may restrict manoeuvrability, force vehicles onto alternative routes, or affect agricultural operations.	The concept design has been developed with consideration of agricultural vehicle movements and includes low-profile, semi-mountable central islands. Officers are currently reviewing the design with the consultant, including the traffic chicane at Position 03 and potential widening at Positions 02 and 04 to further improve manoeuvrability while maintaining road safety outcomes.
Road Safety	Many submissions acknowledged the importance of improving road safety and reducing vehicle speeds within the residential area. Some respondents supported measures that would reduce heavy vehicle movements and improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists.	Improving road safety remains the primary objective of the project and aligns with recommendations arising from the TAC-funded Safe Local Roads Program review.
Heavy Vehicle Movements	Several respondents expressed concerns regarding freight vehicles, B-Doubles and truck traffic using Werril Street. Other respondents raised concerns that traffic calming may unnecessarily affect agricultural vehicles while not adequately addressing heavy vehicle movements.	The project includes supporting measures such as truck detour signage and speed reduction treatments. The design seeks to balance road safety objectives with continued access for legitimate road users.
Alternative Treatment Options	A number of submissions suggested alternative measures including reduced speed limits, increased enforcement, truck restrictions, alternative route	Alternative options were considered during development of the concept design. Feedback received through consultation will

	planning and modified traffic management treatments.	be reviewed as part of the ongoing design refinement process.
Project Justification and Data	Respondents requested additional information regarding traffic volumes, supporting data, road safety outcomes and the rationale for the proposed treatments.	The project was developed in response to community concerns, road safety investigations and recommendations arising from the TAC-funded Safe Local Roads Program review.
Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement	Some respondents questioned whether agricultural stakeholders and industry representatives had been sufficiently consulted.	Feedback received through the consultation process will be considered alongside previous community feedback, stakeholder discussions and technical assessments during finalisation of the design.
Active Transport	Several submissions requested improvements for pedestrians and cyclists, including footpaths, crossings and cycling connections.	Broader pedestrian and cycling network improvements fall outside the scope of the current project and will be considered through Council's forthcoming Pedestrian Connectivity Strategy.
Road Geometry and Chicanes	Some respondents expressed concern regarding the location, width and operation of the chicanes and central islands.	Officers are reviewing the configuration of the proposed chicane at Position 03 and investigating opportunities to widen the roadway at Positions 02 and 04.

Overall Consultation Findings

The consultation identified strong community interest in the proposed works. While views differed on the preferred solution, the majority of submissions did not challenge the objective of improving road safety within Werril Street.

The dominant issue raised through consultation was the potential impact of the proposed treatments on agricultural machinery access. Other recurring themes included requests for additional project information, consideration of alternative traffic

management measures, active transport improvements and further refinement of the proposed chicane arrangements.

The consultation also highlighted competing community expectations. While many submissions focused on maintaining agricultural access, Council has previously received a petition from Werril Street residents seeking action to address vehicle speeds, heavy vehicle movements and associated impacts on residential amenity.

Accordingly, officers are reviewing the proposed design with the objective of maintaining the intended road safety outcomes while responding, where practicable, to concerns raised through the consultation process.

Werril Street Traffic Management Project		
Title/Question:	Untitled	
Tool Type:	Form	
Activity ID:	296	
Report Date Range:	7 Sep 2026 - 17 Sep 2026	
Date Exported:	18 Sep 2026 01:17 pm	
Exported By:	boco	
Contribution ID	**Date Submitted**	**Question:**
15196	Sep 17, 2026, 02:15 PM	for comment and was concerned that the Werril Street proposed changes would impact movement of agricultural machinery through Werril Street and how these changes would impact the Murray Valley Highway traffic. Has Council had any consultation with with the concerns raised?
15195	Sep 17, 2026, 02:11 PM	i would like to know the height on this flat top road hump from the road surface? and ask if a tillage machine that has required road clearance of 100mm will! (not should) be able to clear these structures regards
15194	Sep 17, 2026, 02:01 PM	TAC has been part of the consultation with Council in applying for funding for these proposed changes to Werril Street. Is Council aware that residents have now made contact themselves with the TAC alerting them to the impact of the extra safety concerns with machinery travelling on the Murray Valley Highway and turning onto Airport Road and Lalbert Donald Road? Documentation has now been received by residents from TAC noting these concerns and outlining they have spoken to council about the proposed changes and council's response was this is a safety upgrade to residential street. Does Council agree that the safe movement of machinery around our township should also be a safety concern, considering the impact of the upgrades now done to Karinie Street where these LATM treatments have restricted access at the other end of town?
15193	Sep 17, 2026, 01:43 PM	Is council aware that concerned residents have contacted the Victorian Farmers Federation to see whether they were part of the consultation process when looking at these LATM changes to Werril Street and have now made them aware of the impact these proposed changes will have on our farming community?
15187	Sep 17, 2026, 09:20 AM	Is this a reactive project rather than a part of councils overall strategy? As council is soon to be commencing a Pedestrian connectivity strategy that could deliver the aim of making Werril St comfortable to walk live cycle and travel as stated in the aim of this project. This project doesn't appear to offer connectivity with the Bike/walking path in Yana St or any future footpaths in Coronation Ave, only a small connection to the path on the Murray Valley Hwy.
15178	Sep 15, 2026, 05:32 PM	What will be the cost of this project? Council says it is creating a "safer neighbourhood for the whole community." Is council getting the best outcome for the whole community with this project? Werrill Street is a very small part of the whole community.
15177	Sep 15, 2026, 05:12 PM	Is council aware that if farmers are unable to move wide machinery down Werril St to the Mallee that Aerodrome Rd has a narrow bridge which will force this machinery further down the Murray Valley Hwy to the Donald-Swan Hill Rd? Shifting the safety of residents to the Hwy.
15173	Sep 15, 2026, 04:33 PM	Is council putting the cart before the horse with the Werril St LATM? A decent, dedicated truck route could solve the problem of trucks in Werril St without hindering other users.
15172	Sep 15, 2026, 04:14 PM	Council says "The project aims to make Werril St more comfortable for people to live, walk, cycle and travel while creating a safer neighbourhood fo the whole community". Would this be better achieved by improving and extending footpaths/cycle tracks to Corronation Ave and Yana St, allowing greater connectivity and safe movement without making major changes to the roadway? The current plans only have footpath improvements near the Murray Valley Hwy.
15171	Sep 15, 2026, 03:56 PM	Council says changes are needed because more people are walking and cycling to access homes along Werril St. will council publish the surveys/data that supports this statement?
15169	Sep 15, 2026, 03:46 PM	Can council publish the survey or data collected that shows the frequency of use by trucks, wide and heavy farm machinery etc using Werril St that necessitates planned changes?
15167	Sep 14, 2026, 09:48 PM	Does council have any evidence where their planning department has had consultation with relevant stakeholders other than the residents of Werril Street?
15166	Sep 14, 2026, 09:47 PM	Has council taken into consideration and understand that we are a rural community and the LATM's will restrict machinery accessing our rural township?
15165	Sep 14, 2026, 09:42 PM	Does Council realise how much restrictions they are putting on farmers and contractors travelling around our township for machinery over 2.9 metres?
15164	Sep 14, 2026, 09:40 PM	Has Council considered if a farmer from the mallee wants to travel into to Swan Hill to get new tractor tyres fitted they cannot use Werril Street or Karinie Street because the LATM will restrict the width for the tractor to pass through?
15163	Sep 14, 2026, 09:39 PM	Is the Council aware that blocking both Karine Street and Werril Street with LATM will restrict access for agricultural machinery from NSW and Pental Island to our manufacturing, engineering and agricultural businesses which contribute to the economic sustainability of our town. Has Council liaised with these businesses?
15162	Sep 14, 2026, 09:38 PM	Werril Street is an important street for agriculture stakeholders and would not like to see these LATM from looking at these plans, there will be no way machinery will pass through. Can the LATM be taken out and just have the speed humps to slow and discourage trucks?
15161	Sep 14, 2026, 09:36 PM	Are the consultants who are planning these measures based here in Swan Hill and understand the local history and that Swan Hill is an agricultural township and do they need to be reminded that Swan Hill without our agriculture we would not have development?
15160	Sep 14, 2026, 09:35 PM	Is there going to be alternative arrangements made if machinery cannot travel between the LATM?

15159	Sep 14, 2026, 09:34 PM	Why does this need to be changed when alternative arrangements do not look like have been put in the planning as clearly no machinery will get through these LATM measures?
15158	Sep 14, 2026, 09:34 PM	Isn't Werril Street an agricultural bypass I have lived in Swan Hill for 59 years and have always been aware that this was the bypass for machinery and stock? Wouldn't the LATM restrict this bypass?
15157	Sep 14, 2026, 09:33 PM	Is the council aware that these proposed changes will be forcing the diversion of these large implements back down the Murray Valley Highway which will then create another traffic hazard and how this will affect the agriculture machinery coming from Pental Island, Murrabit, Benjeroop, and other Mallee farms?
15156	Sep 14, 2026, 09:32 PM	Is the council providing alternative routes if they stop the safe passage of agriculture machinery from passing through these new LATM in Werril Street?
15155	Sep 14, 2026, 09:31 PM	2.Is the council aware that recently the Victorian Skills Authority held a regional showcase here in Swan Hill for emerging skills for regional futures and highlighted the economic output for Swan Hill and the impact that agricultural makes to our area, so why would Council want to restrict and discourage future investment by putting these LATM in Werril Street?
15154	Sep 14, 2026, 09:29 PM	Will there be a comprehensive report done by Council consulting directly with local farmers, agricultural contractors, emergency services, and other affected stakeholders to ensure the proposed design does not adversely affect the safe movement of heavy, wide and slow-moving agricultural machinery other than the proposed plans that are now up on website?
15153	Sep 14, 2026, 04:45 PM	As a resident of Werril Street for 44 years agricultural machinery movement has never been an issue. I would suggest lowering the speed limit to 50kms from Back Boga Road up to the Highway. Decent visible signage for banning heavy transport is required. The traffic island idea is ridiculous, may as well just make Werril Street a Mall.
15135	Sep 09, 2026, 06:48 PM	I have some concerns regarding the current proposal 1 Emergency Response & Transit Impacts Delayed Emergency Services: Speed humps and raised platforms can slow down fire trucks, ambulances, and police vehicles, adding vital seconds to emergency response times. 2 Bus & Service Vehicle Disruption: Outstands and narrowed lanes make maneuvering difficult for larger vehicles, such as garbage trucks, delivery vans, and public transit buses, leading to potential wear on both the vehicles and road infrastructure. 3 Driver Frustration & Traffic Displacement Traffic Rat-Running: Driver frustration from slowed speeds on treated main corridors can push traffic onto neighboring, untreated residential side streets. 4 Increased Acceleration Noise: Frequent deceleration before speed humps and aggressive acceleration immediately after can create irregular engine and braking noise for nearby residents. 5 Maintenance & Parking Constraints Loss of On-Street Parking: Installing kerb outstands and lane narrowings often requires removing existing street parking spots, which can inconvenience local residents and businesses. 6 Long-Term Maintenance Costs: Physical road modifications like raised platforms, TGSIs, and extra signage require ongoing municipal upkeep, resurfacing adjustments, and potential repairs if damaged by heavy vehicles. 7 why does there need to be three of these islands within a short distance all in front of residential areas, but nothing in front of the larger house blocks at back boga road end?
15134	Sep 09, 2026, 06:41 PM	Why have all the slow points been placed at one end of the street? Why do the residence in the middle of the street have these out front of their homes, limiting car parking, and more noise from cars accelerating and braking all the way doen the street? Place them at the east and west entrance to werril st so the trucks can't enter in the first place!
15093	Sep 08, 2026, 09:57 AM	What improvements to safe pedestrian travel are being implemented? A short section of new footpath near the Murray Valley Highway to improve pedestrian connectivity does not improve pedestrian safety regardless of the measures taken to encourage lower vehicle speeds. Please reconsider focusing less on deterring heavy vehicle usage of the road and more on safety for people to live, walk and cycle in our neighborhood.
15092	Sep 08, 2026, 09:41 AM	Will the speed limit on Werril Street be reduced to 60 kmh instead of 80 kmh currently ? I appreciate this update, however there is no information just what is taking place at the intersection of Werril Street & Back Boga Road ?
15090	Sep 07, 2026, 02:58 PM	It would be fantastic if the back boga road intersection had some drainage improvements. The road is constantly deteriorating close to this intersection and is regularly having water laying across the road after small amounts of rain, further deteriorating the road.
15088	Sep 07, 2026, 01:35 PM	why is this plan already under way without community consultation ??

SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL

TAC SAFE LOCAL ROADS AND STREETS PROGRAM

DETAILED DESIGN DRAWINGS

Controlled Copy Issue Number

PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET, SWAN HILL - TRAFFIC CALMING TREATMENTS

Computer File: 30043459-23-001-3000.dgn
Catalogue: General
Project: 30043459
Drawing No. 30043459-23-001-3000



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GENERAL NOTES

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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
LOCALITY PLAN

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	02	001-3001	E

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BOUNDARIES

CADASTRAL BOUNDARY

FEATURE SURVEY

ROAD CROWN

SIGNAGE

ELECTRICITY/LIGHTING POLE

ELECTRICITY POLE

LIGHTING OUTREACH

COMMS PIT

DRAINAGE PIPE

ELECTRICITY PIT

WATER FIRE PLUG

SEWER PIT

WATER VALVE

TREE

MAJOR CONTOURS - EXISTING

MINOR CONTOURS - EXISTING

EXISTING SERVICES

DRAINAGE

SEWER

WATER

TELSTRA (UNDERGROUND)

GAS

ELECTRICITY (UNDERGROUND)

ELECTRICITY (OVERHEAD)

ABANDONED SERVICE

DESIGN SERVICES

PROPOSED KERB AND CHANNEL

PROPOSED SIGNAGE AND POLE

PROPOSED SIGNAGE (BACK TO BACK)

TOPSOIL AND SEED

PROPOSED LIGHITNG

PROPOSED TGSI

PROPOSED DRAINAGE PIPE

PROPOSED DRAINAGE PIT

WORKS BY OTHERS

MAJOR CONTOURS - DESIGN

MINOR CONTOURS - DESIGN

PROPOSED SUBSURFACE DRAINAGE (SSD)

PROPOSED FLUSH-OUT RISER

PROPOSED ELECTRICAL PIT

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LEGEND

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GENERAL NOTES

1. THESE DRAWINGS SHALL BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS AND OTHER SUCH WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS THAT MAY BE ISSUED DURING THE COURSE OF THE CONTRACT.
2. DO NOT OBTAIN DIMENSIONS BY SCALING FROM DRAWINGS.
3. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
4. ALL COORDINATES ARE IN METRES TO THE MAP GRID OF AUSTRALIA ZONE 54 (GDA2020). SETOUT IS APPROXIMATE ONLY AND SHOULD BE VERIFIED BY THE CONTRACTOR ON SITE PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. SETOUT DISCREPANCIES TO BE HIGHLIGHTED TO THE SUPERINTENDENT.
5. ALL REDUCED LEVELS ARE IN METRES TO THE AUSTRALIAN HEIGHT DATUM (AHD).
6. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SET OUT THE WORKS PRIOR TO EXCAVATION. WHERE A CONFLICT OR INCONSISTENCY BECOMES APPARENT, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE SUPERINTENDENT IMMEDIATELY.
7. DESIGN SURFACE SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS SHOWS THE FINISHED SURFACE LEVEL. IN LANDSCAPED AREAS THIS IS REPRESENTED THE TOP OF TOPSOIL.
8. ALL DISTURBED SURFACES SHALL BE REINSTATED TO ORIGINAL CONDITION UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
9. NO TREE OR NATIVE VEGETATION SHALL BE DISTURBED OR REMOVED WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM COUNCIL. ALL TREES AND VEGETATION THAT SHALL BE RETAINED WILL BE PROTECTED AS PER AS4790 REQUIREMENTS.
10. SHOULD ANY ABORIGINAL ARTEFACTS BE DISCOVERED THEN THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE SUPERINTENDENT IMMEDIATELY.
11. SURVEY MARKERS AFFECTED BY THE WORKS TO BE RE-ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE RELEVANT AUTHORITY
12. REMOVED INFRASTRUCTURE MUST BE DISPOSED, OR WHERE REQUESTED BY THE EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE OWNER, DELIVERED AND STACKED TO THE SPECIFIED LOCATION.
13. EXISTING REDUNDANT STREET FURNITURE SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE COUNCIL.
14. WHERE EXCAVATING TRENCHES GREATER THAN 1.5 m, WORKSAFE MUST BE NOTIFIED AND WORKS ARE TO BE COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH WORKSAFE EXCAVATION COMPLIANCE CODE.
15. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL OBTAIN NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM RELEVANT AUTHORITIES BEFORE WORK ON SITE IS COMMENCED.
16. THE PROJECT WORKS ARE TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS, APPROVALS AND APPLICABLE STANDARDS ETC.
17. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO SUPPLY RELEVANT SECTIONS OF THESE NOTES AND THE SPECIFICATION TO SUB-CONTRACTORS.

UTILITIES NOTES

1. UTILITY INFORMATION SHOWN ON THE PLANS ONLY DEPICT THE PRESENCE OF A SERVICE, BASED ON AVAILABLE EVIDENCE. THE LOCATIONS OF THE SERVICES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY, AND SINGLE LINES MAY REPRESENT MULTIPLE PIPES / CABLES / CONDUITS. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFIRMING THE PRESENCE OF A UTILITY SERVICE, ITS SIZE, NUMBER AND LOCATION PRIOR BY FIELD INSPECTION PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF ANY CONSTRUCTION WORKS.
2. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF EXISTING UTILITY SERVICES DURING CONSTRUCTION.
3. ALL SERVICES SHALL BE TREATED AS LIVE UNTIL REMOVED.
4. UTILITY SERVICES SHOWN ON THIS PLAN ARE BASED ON BYDA DATA AND/OR DESKTOP ANALYSIS. THEY ARE TO A QUALITY LEVEL D AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS5488.
5. CONTRACTOR TO ENSURE VERTICAL CLEARANCES BETWEEN FINISHED SURFACE LEVEL AND EXISTING OVERHEAD UTILITIES TO BE MAINTAINED AS PER THE REQUIREMENTS OF UTILITY PROVIDER.
6. SMEC PROVIDES UTILITY INFORMATION AS PER AUSTRALIAN STANDARD 5488.1:2022, WITH THE QUALITY OF THE UTILITY SHOWN THROUGH BOTH THE LAYER NAME AND LINETYPE.

KERBS AND ROAD FURNITURE NOTES

1. KERB TYPES SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH IDM SD100 WHERE APPLICABLE, OR DTP STANDARD DRAWING SD2001 OTHERWISE. KERB TYPE AND LOCATION ARE NOTED ON THE ALIGNMENT PLANS. ALL KERBS ARE SET OUT ACCORDING TO THE KERB LIP. KERB TYPE AND LOCATION ARE NOTED ON THE DETAIL PLANS.
2. WHERE TRANSITION OCCURS BETWEEN DIFFERENT KERB TYPES, REFER DTP SD2101 FOR DETAILS. ALL KERB TRANSITIONS SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED OVER A LONGITUDINAL LENGTH OF 1.0m (MIN).
3. WHERE WIDTH BETWEEN BACK OF KERB AND FOOTPATH IS LESS THAN 1.0m AREA TO BE CONCRETED UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE ON DRAWINGS.
4. ALL KERB OUTSTANDS TO BE CONSTRUCTED WITH SM1 KERB UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
5. ALL PRAM RAMPS / KERB RAMPS SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH IDM SD200 WHERE APPLICABLE, OR AS 1428.1 OTHERWISE, OR AS SPECIFIED ON THE PLANS.
6. TGSIs TO BE INSTALLED IN ACORDANCE WITH AS1428.4.1.
7. ALL NEW FOOTPATHS / SHARED USER PATHS TO BE CONSTRUCTED AS PER IDM SD205 AND SD210 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN THE DRAWING.

ROAD PAVEMENT WORKS NOTES

1. ROAD SURFACING MUST NOT BE PERFORMED UNTIL ALL OTHER WORKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.
2. PAVEMENT MATERIALS, CONSTRUCTION AND CONFORMANCE CRITERIA TO CONFORM TO THE RELEVANT COUNCIL SPECIFICATIONS, STANDARD AND DRAWINGS.
3. CONSTRUCTION OF ALL CONCRETE PAVEMENTS MUST BE COMPLIANT WITH DTP SPECIFICATION SECTION 703. JOINT SEALANTS OF ALL CONCRETE PAVEMENTS MUST BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH DTP SPECIFICATION SECTION 503.
4. ROAD HUMPS SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 1742.13.
5. SUBSURFACE DRAINAGE (SSD) TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT COUNCIL STANDARDS (IDM SD145) OR IF NOT APPLICABLE, DTP STANDARD DRAWING SD1621.
   (A) WHERE VERTICAL GEOMETRY OF THE ROAD IS <0.5%, SUBSURFACE DRAINS SHALL BE GRADED INDEPENDENTLY TO MIN. 0.5%
   (B) PROPOSED SSDs TO BE CONNECTED TO EXISTING SSDs OR, IF NONE, EXTENDED TO AN EXISTING DRAINAGE PIT. THIS IS TO BE CONFIRMED DURING CONSTRUCTION PHASE.
6. FOR FLUSH-OUT RISER AND BATTER OUTLET DETAILS REFER TO RELEVANT COUNCIL STANDARDS (IDM SD525 AND SD530) OR IF NOT APPLICABLE, DTP STANDARD DRAWINGS SD1631 AND SD1641.
7. INSTALLATION OF PROPOSED KERB AND CHANNEL ABUTTING EXISTING PAVEMENT TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT COUNCIL STANDARDS (IDM SD130) OR IF NOT APPLICABLE, DTP SPECIFICATION SECTION 704.

DRAINAGE NOTES

1. EXISTING DRAINAGE PIT AND PIPE LAYOUT SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS IS INDICATIVE ONLY. ALL LOCATIONS, ORIENTATION AND LEVELS OF EXISTING DRAINAGE MUST BE VERIFIED ON SITE PRIOR TO COMMENCING ANY WORK.
2. BACKFILLING OF TRENCHES TO BE COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL STANDARD DRAWINGS OR WITH DTP SECTION 701.
3. ALL DRAINAGE PITS TYPES AS SHOWN IN THE DRAWINGS TO BE AS PER RELEVANT COUNCIL STANDARDS WHERE APPLICABLE, OR RELEVANT DTP STANDARD DRAWINGS OTHERWISE.
4. DRAINAGE PIT LIDS IN TRAFFICABLE AREAS MUST BE TRAFFICABLE. CONTRACTOR TO CONFIRM THAT EXISTING PITS LIDS IN WITHIN THE WORKS AREA ARE TRAFFICABLE AND REPLACE OTHERWISE.
5. GRATED PITS LIDS MUST BE CYCLIST AND HEEL SAFE.
6. EXISTING STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE SHOWN TO BE DECOMMISSIONED ARE TO BE REMOVED AND BACKFILLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL STANDARDS. WHERE PIPES ARE TO BE DECOMMISSIONED THE CONTRACTOR IS TO CONFIRM THAT UTILITY SERVICES ARE NOT LOCATED WITHIN PIPES PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS. WHERE A UTILITY IS FOUND TO BE PRESENT WITHIN A PIPE CONTRACTOR TO RAISE WITH SITE SUPERINTENDENT.

SIGNAGE AND LINEMARKING NOTES

1. ALL SIGNS, LINEMARKING, AUDIO TACTILE LINEMARKING AND RRPMs SHALL BE PLACED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS1742 AND RELEVANT DTP SUPPLEMENTS.
2. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE TO LINE OF KERB AND CHANNEL UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.
3. SIGNS SHALL BE MANUFACTURED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DTP STANDARD SPECIFICATION 860 AND INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DTP STANDARD SPECIFICATION 714. ALL SIGNS SHALL BE CLASS 1 HIGH INTENSITY TYPE AND COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF AS1743.
4. STEEL SIGN POSTS SHALL BE HOT DIPPED GALVANISED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS / NZS 4680.
5. ALL STEEL AND ALUMINIUM TUBE POSTS SHALL BE CAPPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DTP STANDARD DRAWING TC-1125.
6. SIGN POST BRACKETS SHALL BE DTP APPROVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DTP TRAFFIC ENGINEERING MANUAL VOLUME 2.
7. EXISTING SIGNS TO BE RETAINED OR RELOCATED SHALL BE IN GOOD CONDITION- NOT BENT AND WITH GOOD COLOUR CONTRAST AND RETROREFLECTIVITY. SIGNS IN POOR CONDITION SHALL BE REPLACED.
8. ALL EXISTING SIGNAGE WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA SHALL BE RETAINED UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
9. ALL EXISTING ROAD SIGNS IMPACTED BY THE WORKS SHALL BE REMOVED UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
10. ALL EXISTING STREET BLADES SHALL BE RETAINED, OR IF IMPACTED BY THE WORKS, SHALL BE RELOCATED OR REPLACED.
11. SIGN POSITION AND MOUNTING HEIGHT SHALL COMPLY WITH DTP SUPPLEMENT TO AS1742.2. ALL SIGNAGE ON THE KERB EXTENSION SHALL COMPLY WITH FIGURE 2 OF DTP SUPPLEMENT TO AS1742.10.
12. ALL PAVEMENT MARKING SHALL BE WHITE UNLESS SHOWN OR NOTED OTHERWISE.
13. PAVEMENT MARKINGS SHALL BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DTP STANDARD SPECIFICATION 721. ALL LINEMARKING SHALL BE THERMOPLASTIC.
14. ALL RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS TO COMPLY WITH AS1742.2 AND RELEVANT DTP SUPPLEMENT AND SHALL BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DTP STANDARD SPECIFICATION 710 AND 853.
15. ROAD HUMP SIGNAGE SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS1742.13. ROAD HUMPS LINE MARKING SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS1742.2 AND RELEVANT DTP SUPPLEMENT.
16. LINE MARKING REMOVAL - REMOVE ALL REDUNDANT LINE MARKING BY USE OF HIGH PRESSURE WATER JET OR PHYSICAL MEANS OF GRINDING.

CONCRETE PATHS NOTES

1. MINIMUM STRENGTH - CONCRETE FOR KERBS, ISLANDS AND FOOTPATHS TO HAVE A MINIMUM COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH OF 32MPa AT 28 DAYS.
2. CONCRETE FOOTPATH TO BE CONSTRUCTED AS PER IDM SD200, SD205, SD210, SD220 AND SD225.

DETAILED DESIGN

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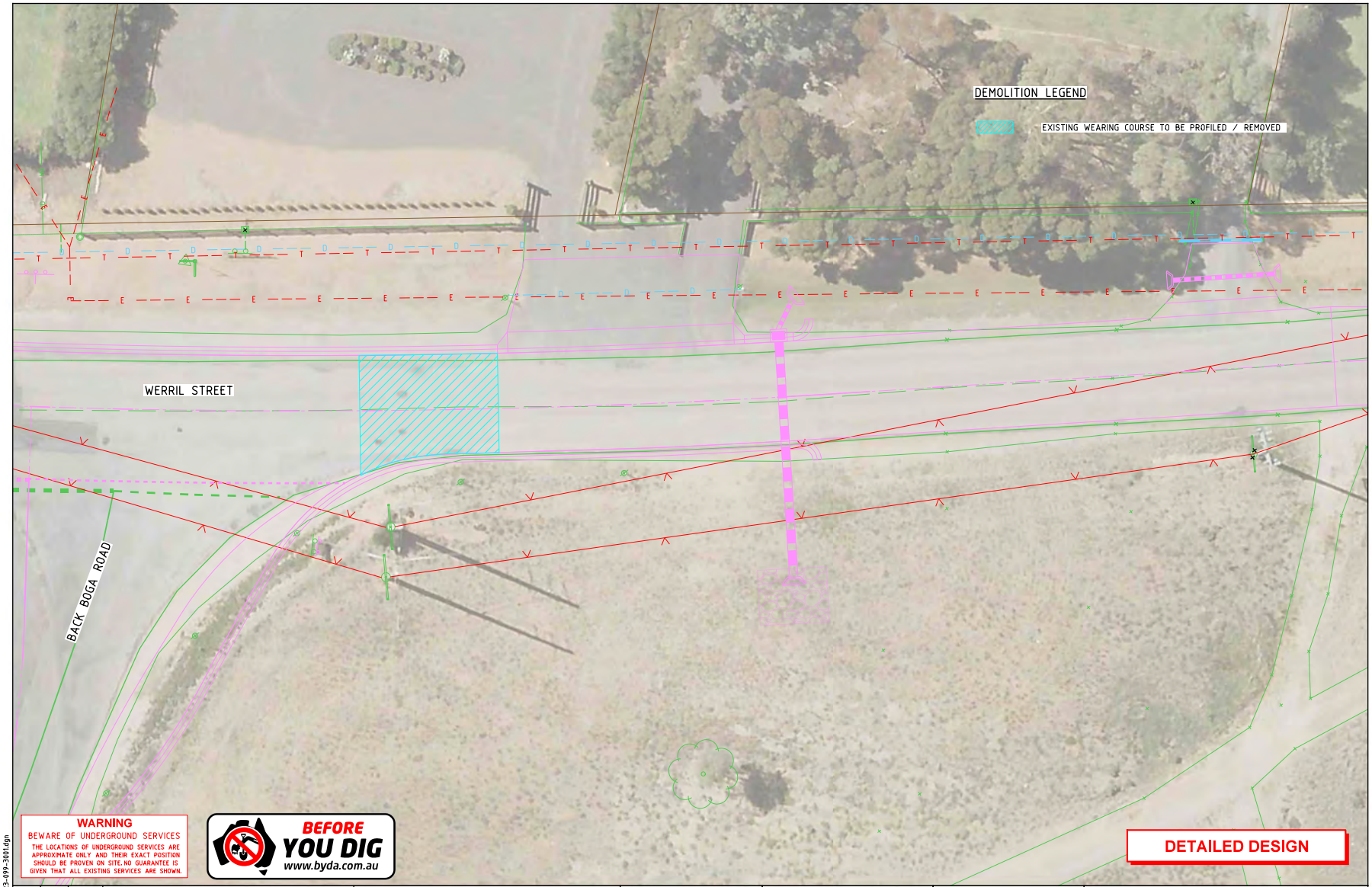
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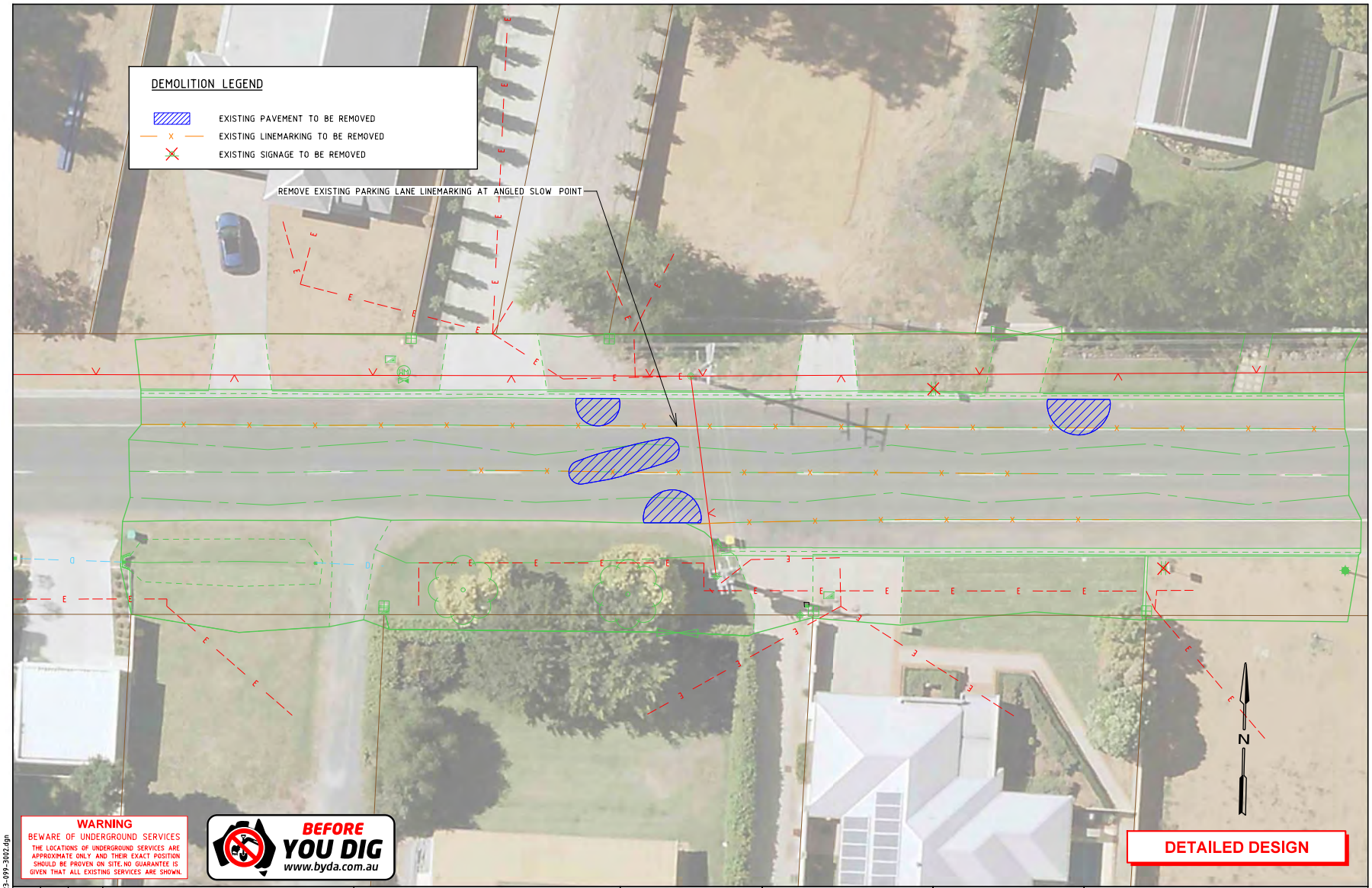
SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DEMOLITION PLAN SHEET 1 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	06	099-3001	D

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-099-3003.dgn

SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 2.5 5 VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DEMOLITION PLAN SHEET 2 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

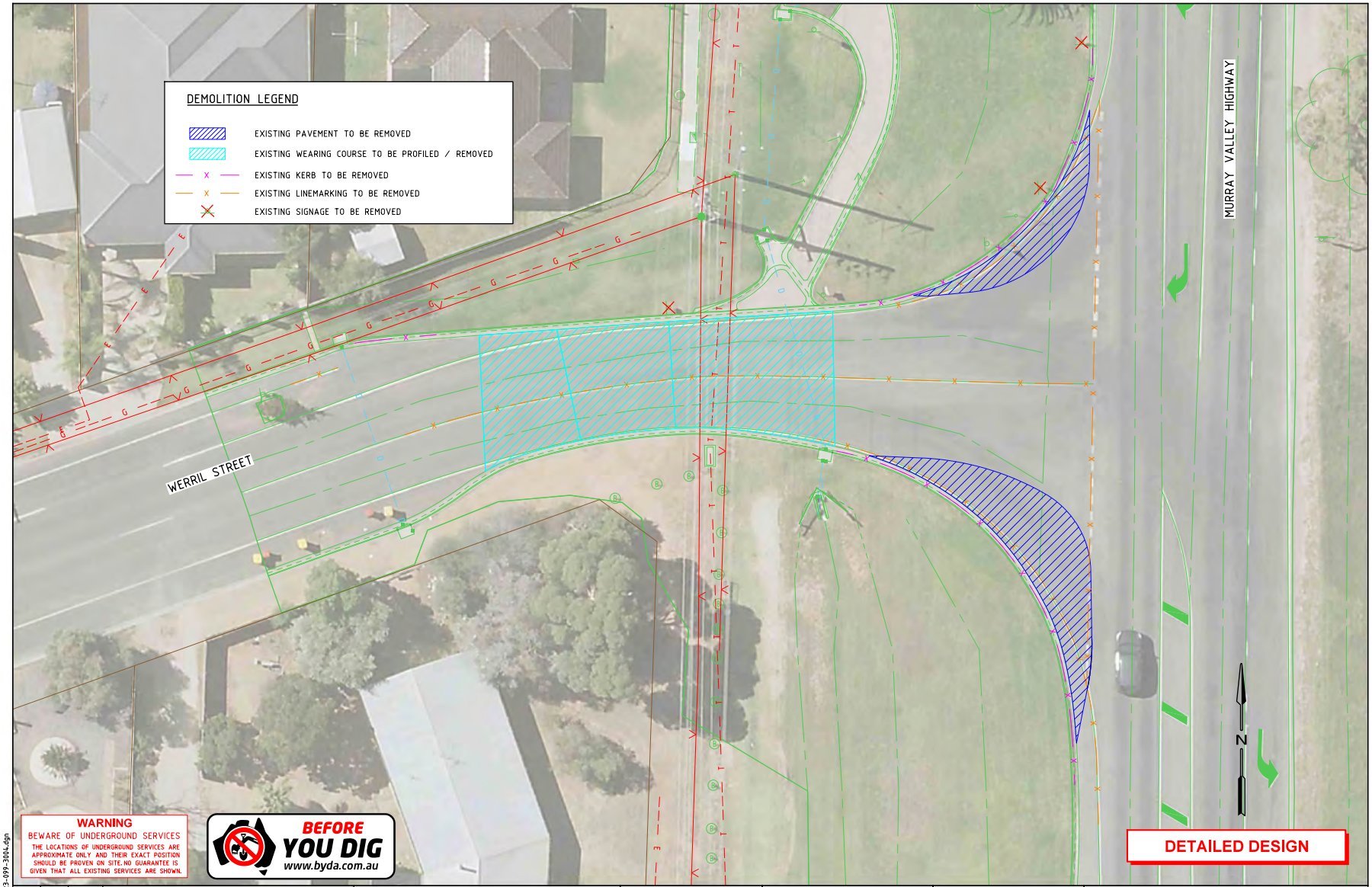
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APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-099-3004.dgn
SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 2.5 5 VER

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DEMOLITION PLAN SHEET 3 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	08	099-3003	D

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-003-3001.dgn

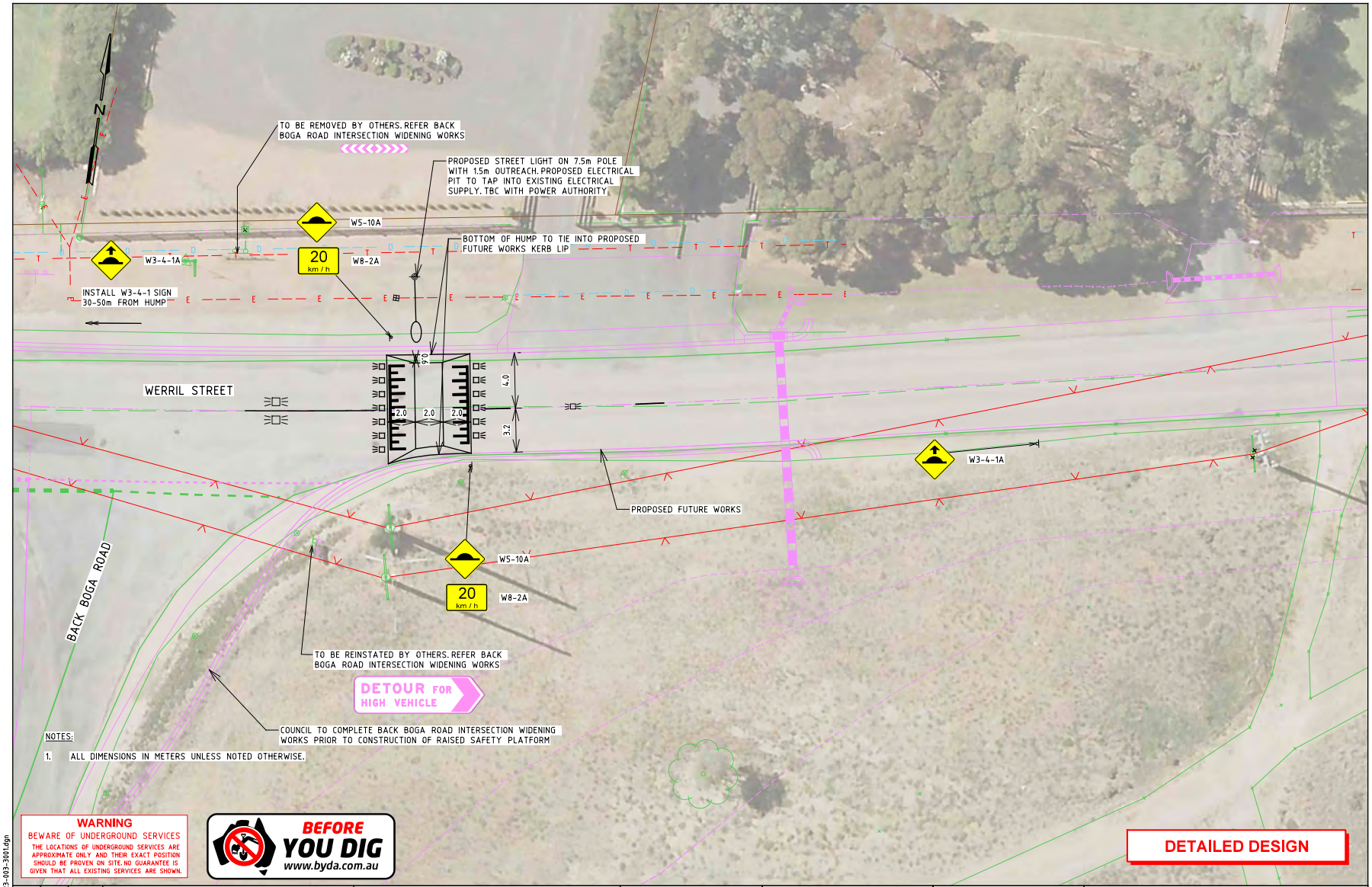
SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DEMOLITION PLAN SHEET 4 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	09	099-3004	D

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
E	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
D	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an ARCADIS company

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-003-3002.dgn

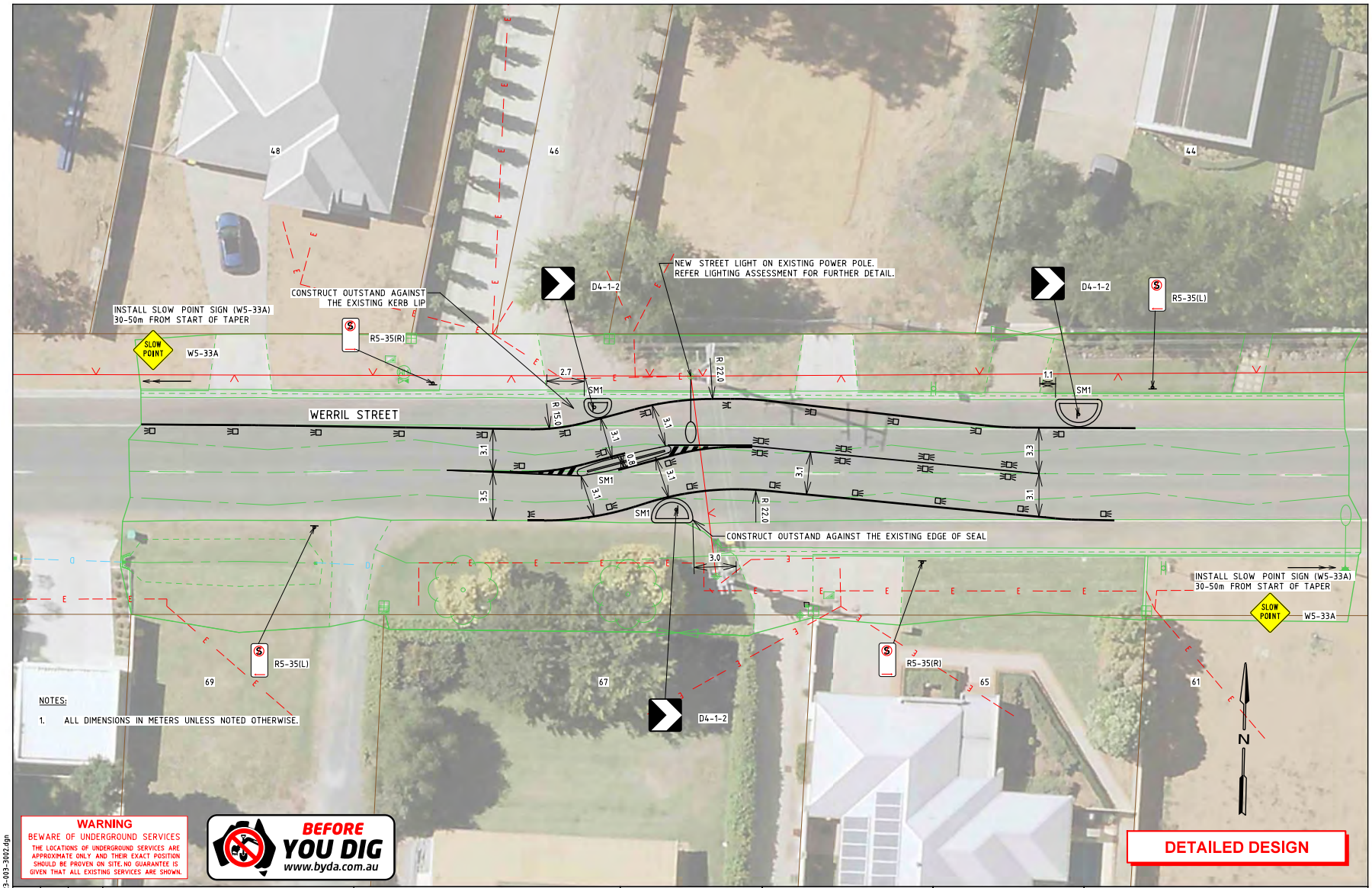
SWAN HILL Rural City Council

SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 2.5 5 VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
ALIGNMENT PLAN SHEET 1 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	10	003-3001	E

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
E	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
D	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an AECOM company

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-003-3003.dgn

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

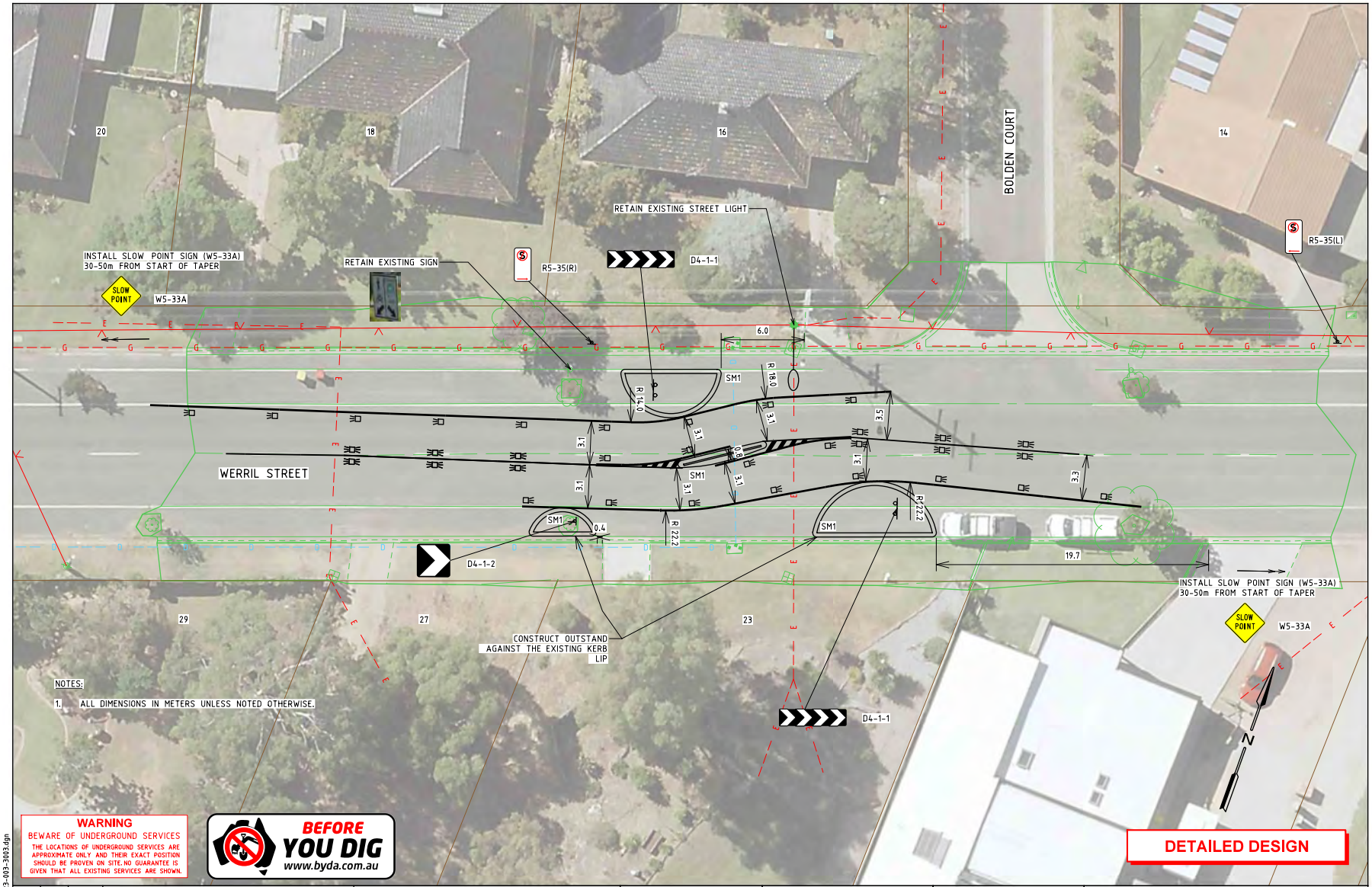
SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
ALIGNMENT PLAN SHEET 2 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	11	003-3002	E

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
E	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
D	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

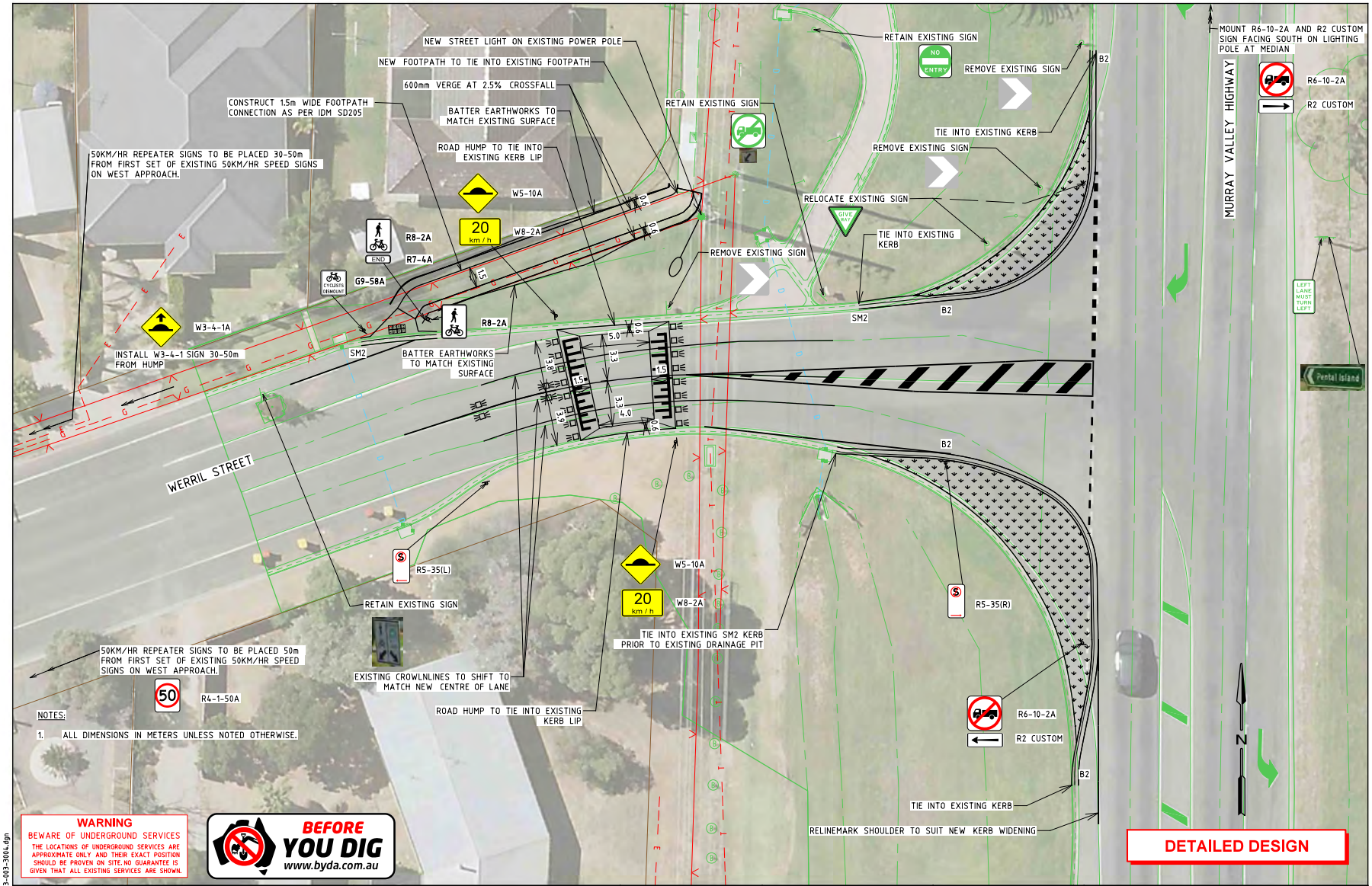
DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
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SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
ALIGNMENT PLAN SHEET 3 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	12	003-3003	E

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
E	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
D	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an ARUP company

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-004-3001.dgn

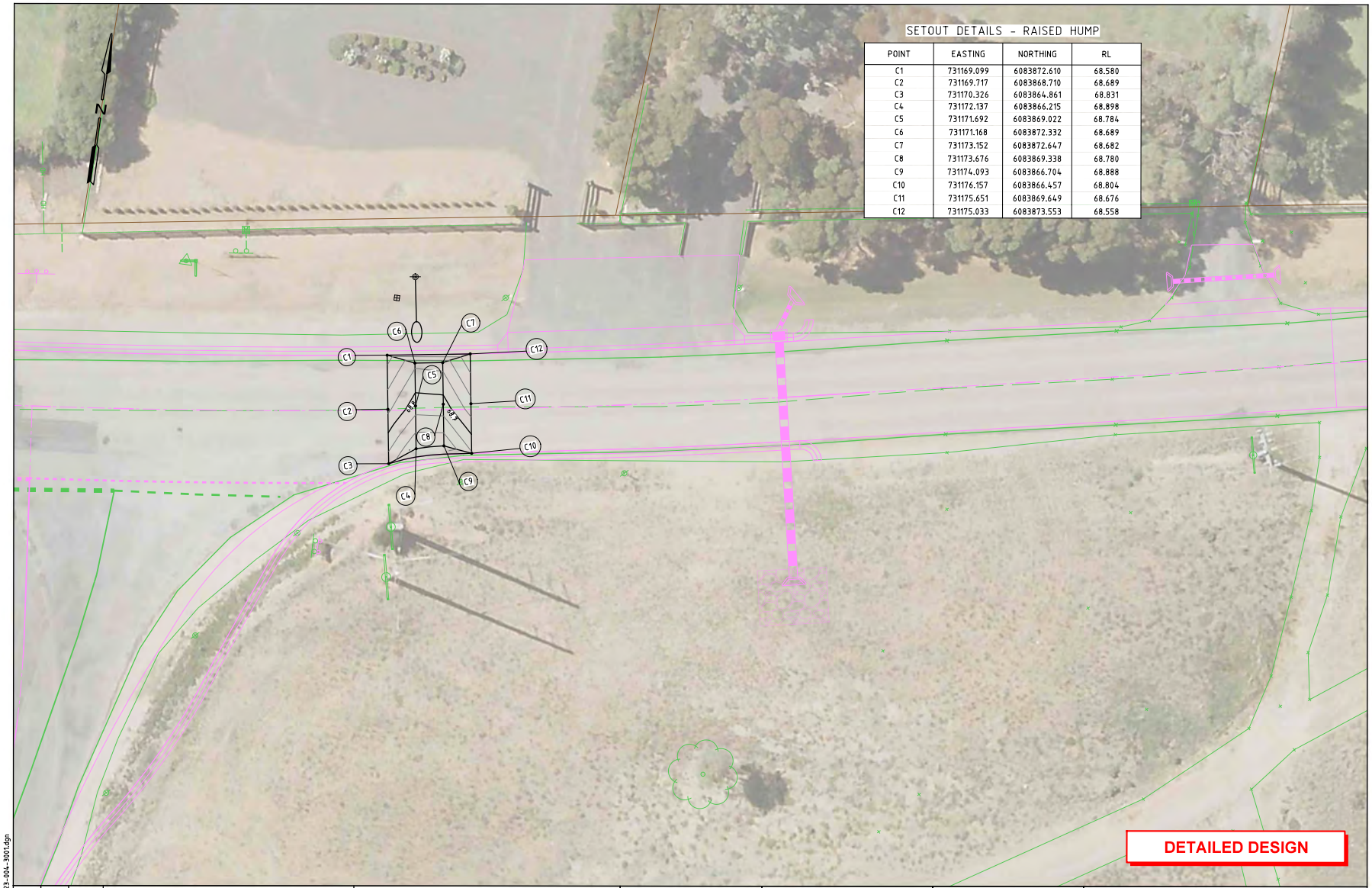
SWAN HILL Rural City Council

SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 2.5 5 VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
ALIGNMENT PLAN SHEET 4 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	13	003-3004	E

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SETOUT DETAILS - RAISED HUMP

POINT	EASTING	NORTHING	RL
C1	731169.099	6083872.610	68.580
C2	731169.717	6083868.710	68.689
C3	731170.326	6083864.861	68.831
C4	731172.137	6083866.215	68.898
C5	731171.692	6083869.022	68.784
C6	731171.168	6083872.332	68.689
C7	731173.152	6083872.647	68.682
C8	731173.676	6083869.338	68.780
C9	731174.093	6083866.704	68.888
C10	731176.157	6083866.457	68.804
C11	731175.651	6083869.649	68.676
C12	731175.033	6083873.553	68.558

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
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A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
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PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-004-3002.dgn

SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DETAIL PLAN SHEET 1 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	14	004-3001	D

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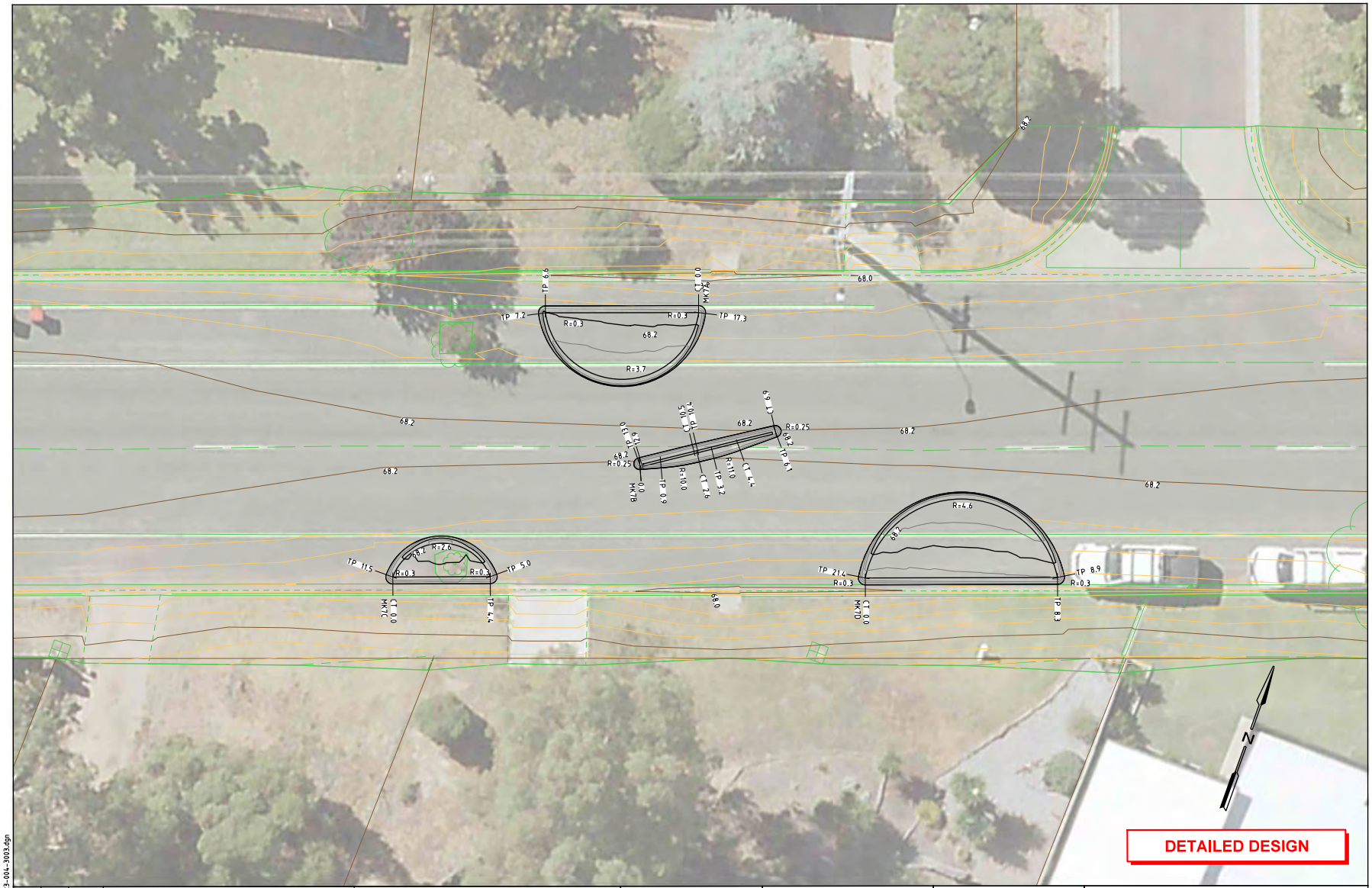
ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-004-3003.dgn
SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 1.5 3 VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DETAIL PLAN SHEET 2 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-004-3004.dgn

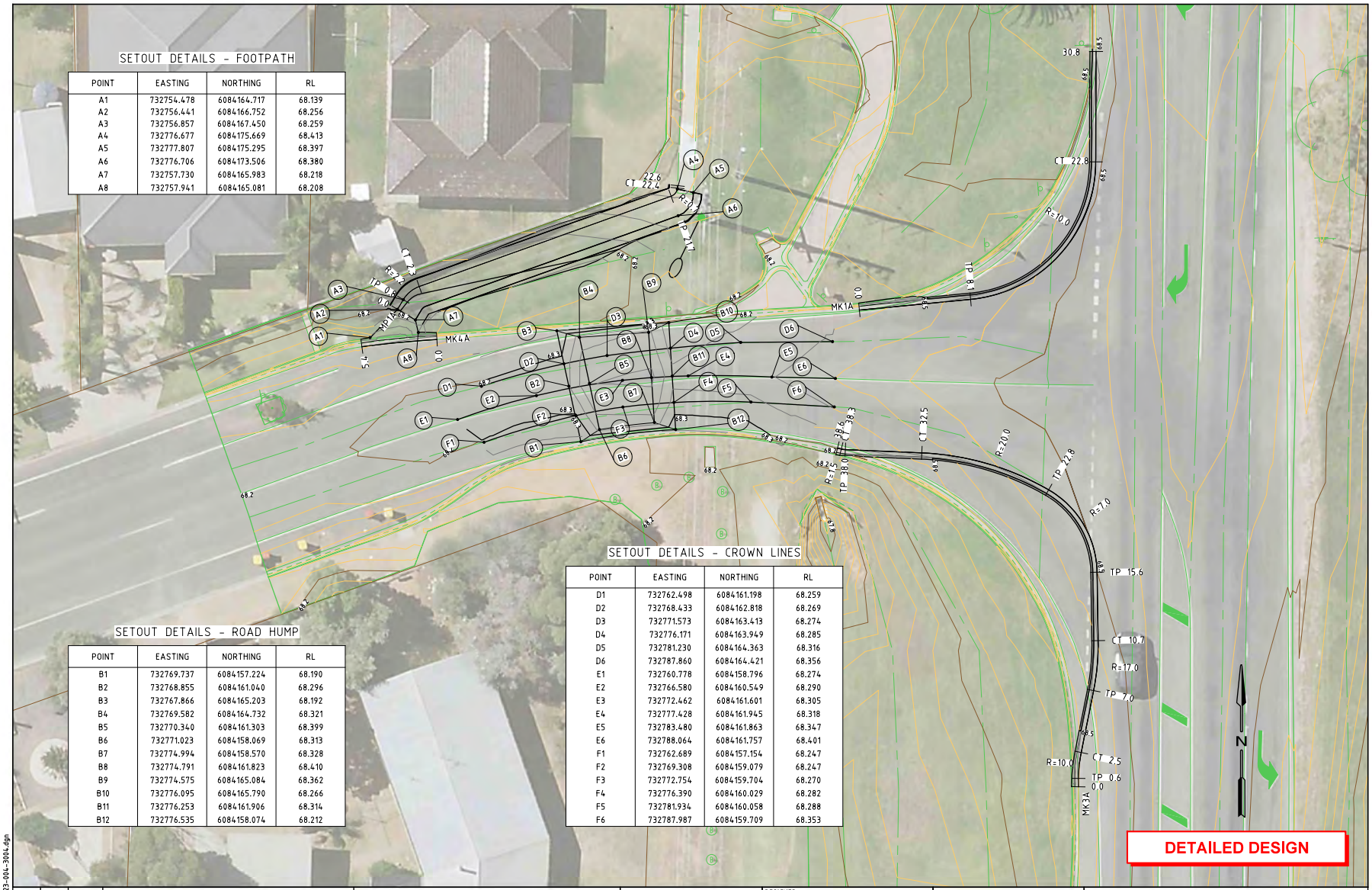
SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 1.5 3
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DETAIL PLAN SHEET 3 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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SETOUT DETAILS - FOOTPATH

POINT	EASTING	NORTHING	RL
A1	732754.478	6084164.717	68.139
A2	732756.441	6084166.752	68.256
A3	732756.857	6084167.450	68.259
A4	732776.677	6084175.669	68.413
A5	732777.807	6084175.295	68.397
A6	732776.706	6084173.506	68.380
A7	732757.730	6084165.983	68.218
A8	732757.941	6084165.081	68.208

SETOUT DETAILS - CROWN LINES

POINT	EASTING	NORTHING	RL
D1	732762.498	6084161.198	68.259
D2	732768.433	6084162.818	68.269
D3	732771.573	6084163.413	68.274
D4	732776.171	6084163.949	68.285
D5	732781.230	6084164.363	68.316
D6	732787.860	6084164.421	68.356
E1	732760.778	6084158.796	68.274
E2	732766.580	6084160.549	68.290
E3	732772.462	6084161.601	68.305
E4	732777.428	6084161.945	68.318
E5	732783.480	6084161.863	68.347
E6	732788.064	6084161.757	68.401
F1	732762.689	6084157.154	68.247
F2	732769.308	6084159.079	68.247
F3	732772.754	6084159.704	68.270
F4	732776.390	6084160.029	68.282
F5	732781.934	6084160.058	68.288
F6	732787.987	6084159.709	68.353

SETOUT DETAILS - ROAD HUMP

POINT	EASTING	NORTHING	RL
B1	732769.737	6084157.224	68.190
B2	732768.855	6084161.040	68.296
B3	732767.866	6084165.203	68.192
B4	732769.582	6084164.732	68.321
B5	732770.340	6084161.303	68.399
B6	732771.023	6084158.069	68.313
B7	732774.994	6084158.570	68.328
B8	732774.791	6084161.823	68.410
B9	732774.575	6084165.084	68.362
B10	732776.095	6084165.790	68.266
B11	732776.253	6084161.906	68.314
B12	732776.535	6084158.074	68.212

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
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B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-008-3001.dgn

SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 2.5 5 VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DETAIL PLAN SHEET 4 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	17	004-3004	D

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7/10/2026 12:34:33 PM
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HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK5A						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732184.932	6084005.856			
TC	1.394	732183.538	6084005.828	268°50'05.66"		
IP	1.616	732183.265	6084005.823		0.443	-0.3
CC	1.837	732183.245	6084005.550	184°08'46.98"		
IP	2.669	732183.166	6084004.455		1.663	-1.0
CC	3.501	732184.263	6084004.478	88°50'05.66"		
IP	4.333	732185.360	6084004.500		1.663	-1.0
CC	5.164	732185.236	6084005.590	353°31'24.34"		
IP	5.386	732185.205	6084005.862		0.443	-0.3
CT	5.608	732184.932	6084005.856	268°50'05.66"		

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK5B						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732183.893	6084001.044			
TC	0.918	732183.038	6084000.710	248°37'03.61"		
IP	1.288	732182.890	6084000.407	163°37'00.81"	0.741	-0.25
CT	1.659	732183.179	6084000.232	78°36'58.02"		
TC	3.351	732184.837	6084000.566	78°36'58.02"		
IP	4.020	732185.494	6084000.698		1.338	-11.0
CT	4.689	732186.130	6084000.909	71°38'41.07"		
TC	7.008	732188.331	6084001.639	71°38'41.07"		
IP	7.299	732188.607	6084001.731		0.582	-11.0
CT	7.590	732188.878	6084001.837	68°36'49.57"		
IP	8.190	732189.437	6084002.056			
IP	8.565	732189.584	6084002.363	342°41'43.57"	0.741	-0.25
CT	8.940	732189.289	6084002.532	256°46'37.58"		
TC	10.546	732187.725	6084002.165	256°46'37.57"		
IP	10.779	732187.498	6084002.112		0.466	-11.0
CT	11.012	732187.274	6084002.049	254°21'05.98"		
TC	13.440	732184.936	6084001.394	254°21'05.98"		
IP	13.990	732184.406	6084001.245		1.101	-11.0
CT	14.541	732183.893	6084001.044	248°37'03.61"		

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK5C						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732188.619	6083996.966			
TC	2.398	732191.017	6083997.024	88°36'53.97"		
IP	2.640	732191.329	6083997.032		0.483	-0.3
CC	2.881	732191.309	6083997.343	356°21'47.75"		
IP	4.030	732191.217	6083998.783		2.297	-1.5
CC	5.178	732189.775	6083998.748	268°36'53.97"		
IP	6.327	732188.334	6083998.713		2.297	-1.5
CC	7.476	732188.312	6083997.271	180°52'00.19"		
IP	7.717	732188.307	6083996.959		0.483	-0.3
CT	7.959	732188.619	6083996.966	88°36'53.97"		

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK5D						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732220.341	6084006.648			
TC	2.763	732217.578	6084006.585	268°40'37.50"		
IP	3.000	732217.276	6084006.578		0.474	-0.3
CC	3.237	732217.285	6084006.275	178°13'10.78"		
IP	4.551	732217.337	6084004.608		2.628	-1.7
CC	5.865	732219.005	6084004.646	88°40'37.50"		
IP	7.179	732220.673	6084004.685		2.628	-1.7
CC	8.494	732220.648	6084006.353	359°08'04.23"		
IP	8.730	732220.643	6084006.655		0.474	-0.3
CT	8.967	732220.341	6084006.648	268°40'37.50"		

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an AJ company

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
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PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-008-3002.dgn

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

SCALE OF METRES
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
KERP LIP SCHEDULES SHEET 1 OF 3

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	18	008-3001	D

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HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK7A						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732545.205	6084088.475			
TC	6.641	732538.954	6084086.231	250°14'44.73"		
IP	6.897	732538.632	6084086.115		0.511	-0.3
CC	7.152	732538.789	6084085.810	152°39'43.51"		
IP	9.777	732540.257	6084082.971		5.25	-3.7
CC	12.403	732543.265	6084084.051	70°14'44.73"		
IP	15.028	732546.274	6084085.132		5.25	-3.7
CC	17.653	732545.600	6084088.256	347°49'45.94"		
IP	17.908	732545.527	6084088.591		0.511	-0.3
CT	18.164	732545.205	6084088.475	250°14'44.73"		

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK7B						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732545.207	6084080.929			
TC	0.916	732546.045	6084081.300	66°04'27.68"		
IP	1.755	732546.814	6084081.641		1.677	-10.0
CT	2.594	732547.514	6084082.106	56°27'47.78"		
TC	3.247	732548.058	6084082.466	56°27'47.78"		
IP	3.841	732548.554	6084082.795		1.189	-11.0
CT	4.435	732549.012	6084083.175	50°16'16.36"		
TC	6.148	732550.329	6084084.270	50°16'16.36"		
IP	6.526	732550.371	6084084.610	323°47'25.21"	0.755	-0.25
CT	6.903	732550.034	6084084.673	237°18'34.05"		
TC	10.376	732547.112	6084082.797	237°18'34.05"		
IP	10.458	732547.043	6084082.753		0.164	-11.0
CT	10.540	732546.974	6084082.708	236°27'23.54"		
IP	12.888	732545.017	6084081.410			
IP	12.937	732544.979	6084081.379		0.098	-103.6
TP	12.986	732544.942	6084081.347			
IP	13.347	732544.890	6084081.021	147°35'16.68"	0.722	-0.25
CT	13.708	732545.207	6084080.929	64°51'27.42"		

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK7C						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732536.782	6084072.649			
TC	4.227	732540.757	6084074.088	70°05'29.86"		
IP	4.516	732541.160	6084074.234		0.576	-0.3
CC	4.804	732540.885	6084074.563	320°02'57.64"		
IP	6.360	732539.739	6084075.931		3.114	-2.6
CC	7.917	732538.062	6084075.323	250°05'29.86"		
IP	9.474	732536.384	6084074.716		3.114	-2.6
CC	11.031	732536.380	6084072.931	180°08'02.08"		
IP	11.319	732536.379	6084072.503		0.576	-0.3
CT	11.607	732536.782	6084072.649	70°05'29.86"		

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK7D						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732556.085	6084079.504			
TC	8.334	732563.925	6084082.330	70°10'52.04"		
IP	8.599	732564.269	6084082.454		0.531	-0.3
CC	8.865	732564.080	6084082.768	328°48'55.19"		
IP	11.987	732562.150	6084085.956		6.245	-4.6
CC	15.110	732558.644	6084084.692	250°10'52.04"		
IP	18.232	732555.138	6084083.429		6.245	-4.6
CC	21.355	732555.686	6084079.743	171°32'48.90"		
IP	21.620	732555.740	6084079.380		0.531	-0.3
CT	21.885	732556.085	6084079.504	70°10'52.04"		

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an ACS company

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-008-3003.dgn

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

SCALE OF METRES
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
KERP LIP SCHEDULES SHEET 2 OF 3

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	19	008-3002	D

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HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK1A						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732789.798	6084166.693	84°28'49.35"		
TC	8.070	732797.831	6084167.469	84°28'49.35"		
IP	15.429	732806.845	6084168.341		14.718	-10.0
CT	22.788	732806.869	6084177.396	0°09'15.01"		
IP	30.757	732806.891	6084185.365	0°09'15.01"		

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK4A						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732759.279	6084164.572	266°32'05.70"		
IP	2.721	732756.562	6084164.408		5.442	-75.3
IP	5.442	732753.864	6084164.048	262°23'45.61"		

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MK3A						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732805.621	6084132.284	0°32'56.37"		
TC	0.606	732805.627	6084132.890	0°32'56.37"		
IP	1.546	732805.636	6084133.833		1.88	10.0
CT	2.486	732805.821	6084134.758	11°19'24.16"		
TC	7.042	732806.716	6084139.224	11°19'24.16"		
IP	8.857	732807.073	6084141.011		3.63	-17.0
CT	10.672	732807.044	6084142.832	359°05'22.76"		
TC	15.612	732806.966	6084147.772	359°05'22.76"		
IP	19.220	732806.903	6084151.737		7.215	-7.0
CC	22.827	732803.470	6084153.721	300°01'49.18"		
IP	27.645	732799.217	6084156.180		9.635	-20.0
CT	32.462	732794.309	6084156.388	272°25'45.75"		
TC	37.992	732788.784	6084156.622	272°25'45.75"		
IP	38.140	732788.636	6084156.629		0.295	1.5
CT	38.287	732788.492	6084156.664	283°42'52.49"		
IP	38.567	732788.220	6084156.730	283°42'52.49"		

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an AECOM company

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-008-3004.dgn

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

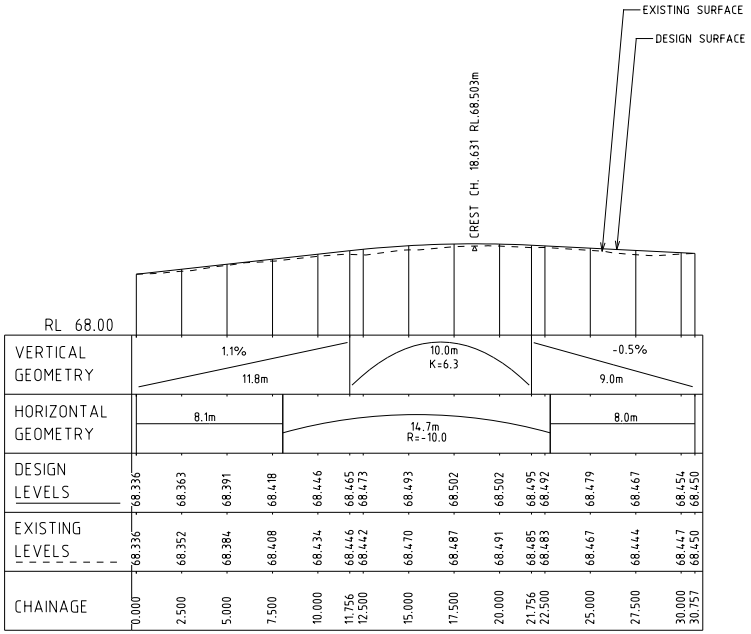
SCALE OF METRES
HOR NOT TO SCALE
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
KERP LIP SCHEDULES SHEET 3 OF 3

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	20	008-3003	D

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KERB LIP PROFILE - MK1A

H 1:250 V 1:25

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
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A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an AECOM company

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APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
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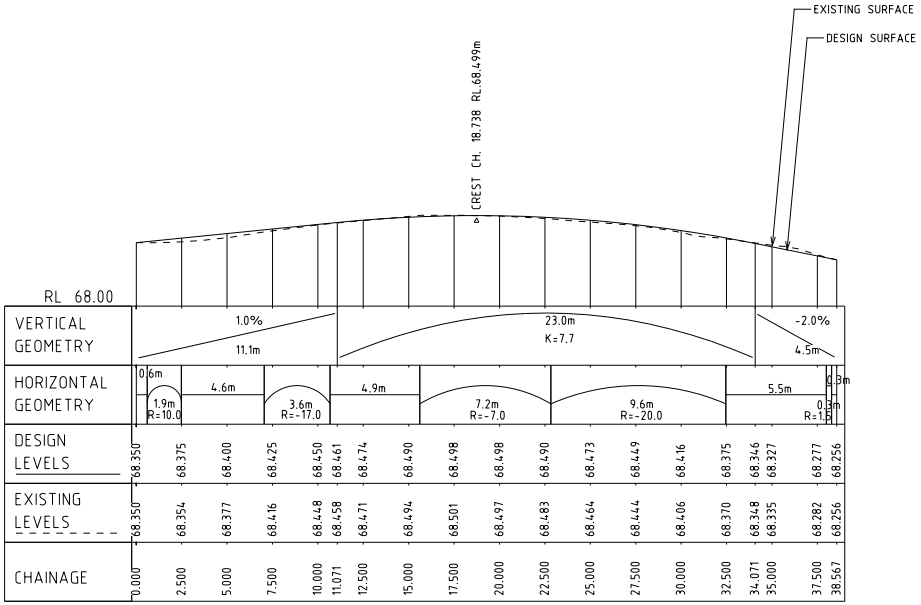
SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
KERP LIP PROFILES SHEET 01 OF 02

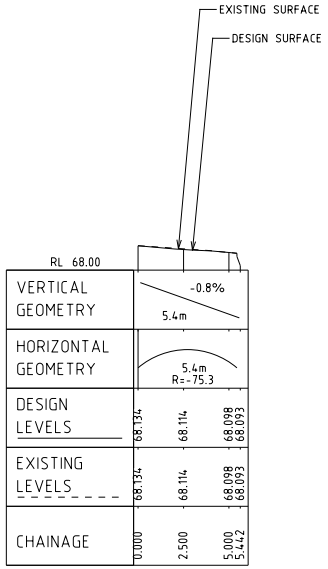
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KERB LIP PROFILE - MK3A
H 1:250 V 1:25



KERB LIP PROFILE - MK4A
H 1:250 V 1:25

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
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B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an AECOM company

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APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-008-3006.dgn

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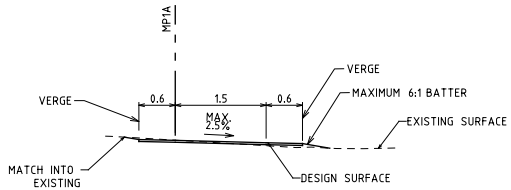
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
KERP LIP PROFILES SHEET 02 OF 02

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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PATH MP1A - CH. 13
SCALE - 1:75

HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT REPORT - MP1A						
POINT	CHAINAGE (m)	EASTING (m)	NORTHING (m)	BEARING	LENGTH (m)	RADIUS (m)
IP	0.000	732756.441	6084166.752	30°45'18.65"		
TC	0.812	732756.857	6084167.450	30°45'18.65"	1.952	-30.0
IP	1.571	732757.261	6084168.129		1.518	2.2
CT	2.330	732758.005	6084168.396	70°16'49.34"		
TC	21.658	732776.200	6084174.918	70°16'49.34"	9.513	-30.0
IP	22.052	732776.615	6084175.067		0.788	-0.7
CT	22.446	732776.660	6084175.506	5°48'21.16"		
IP	22.620	732776.678	6084175.679	5°48'21.16"		

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an AECOM company

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APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
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PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-008-3007.dgn

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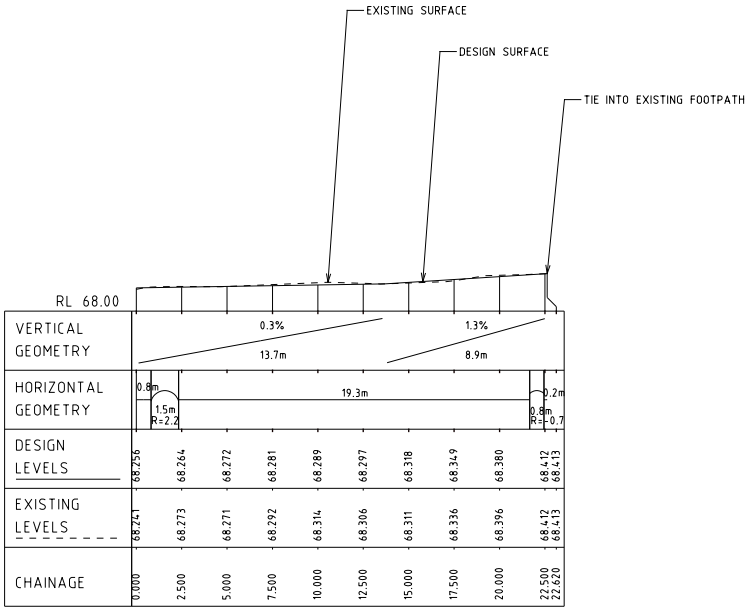
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
PATH SCHEDULE

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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LONGITUDINAL SECTION - MP1A

H 1:250 V 1:50

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

DESIGNED SMEC
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Date:
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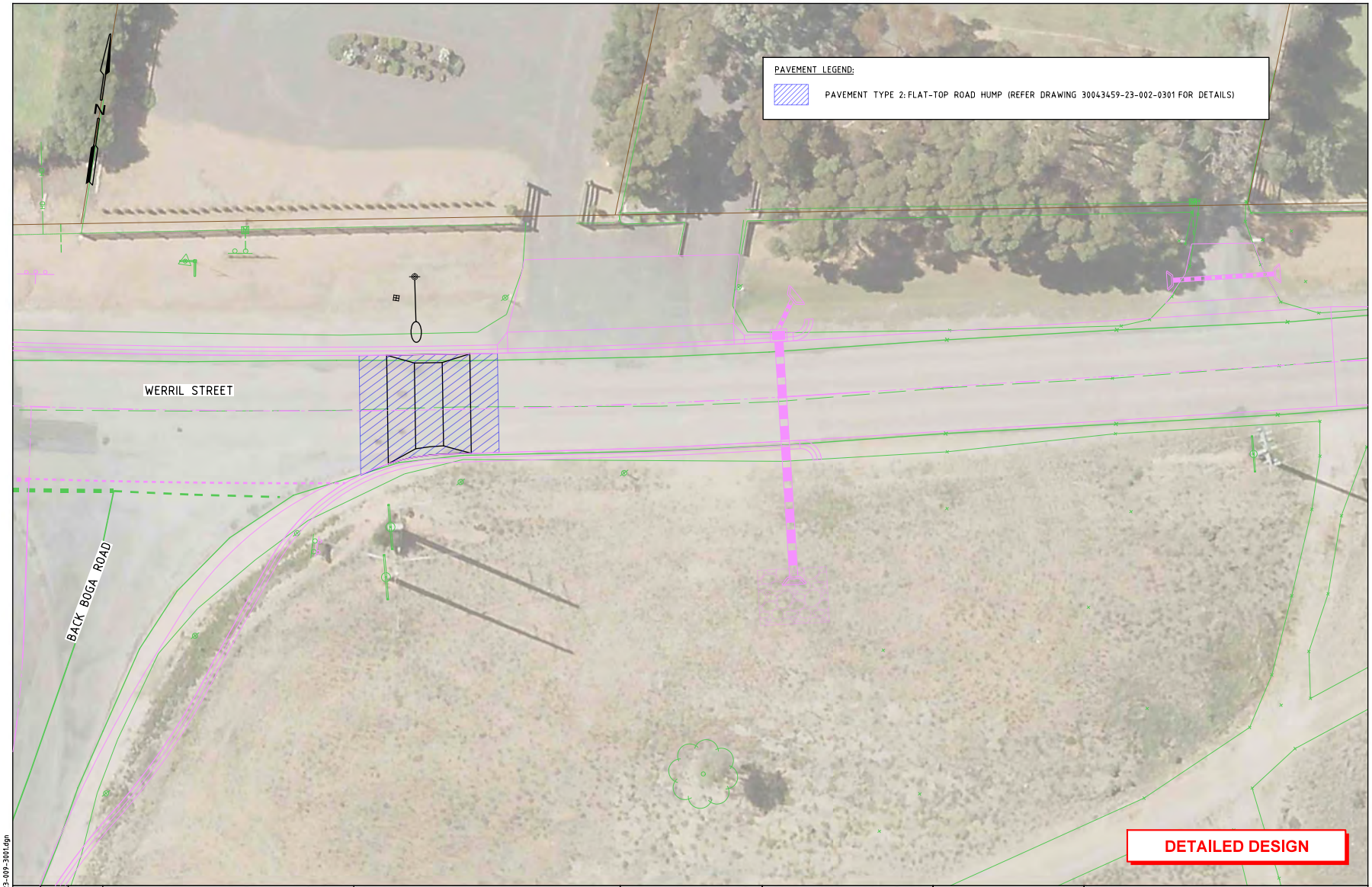
SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
PATH PROFILE

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
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A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

DESIGNED SMEC
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SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
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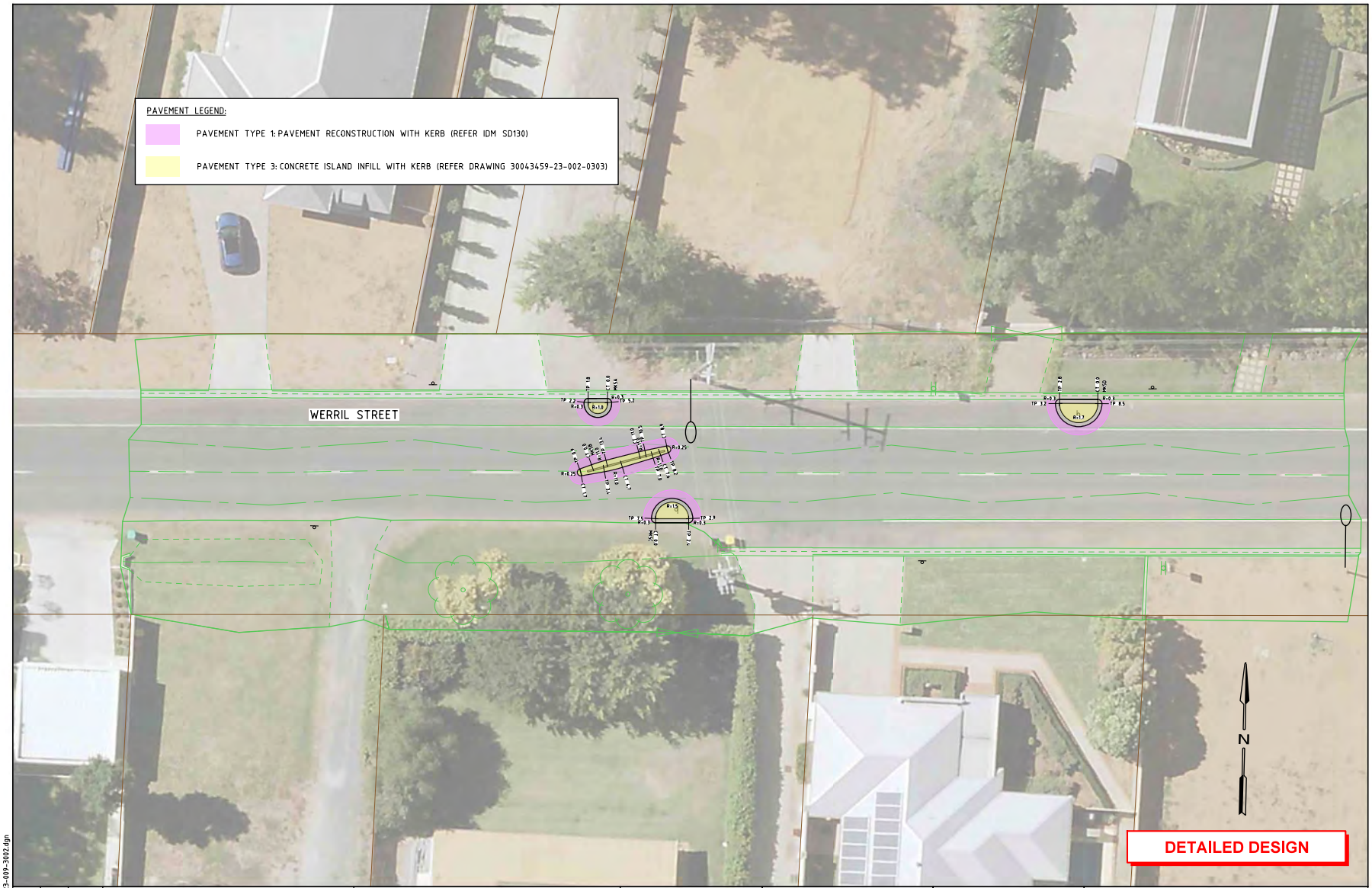
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SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
PAVEMENT PLAN SHEET 1 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
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A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

smec an AJ company

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APPROVED B.MAGAN
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PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-009-3003.dgn

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

SCALE OF METRES
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SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
PAVEMENT PLAN SHEET 2 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	26	009-3002	D

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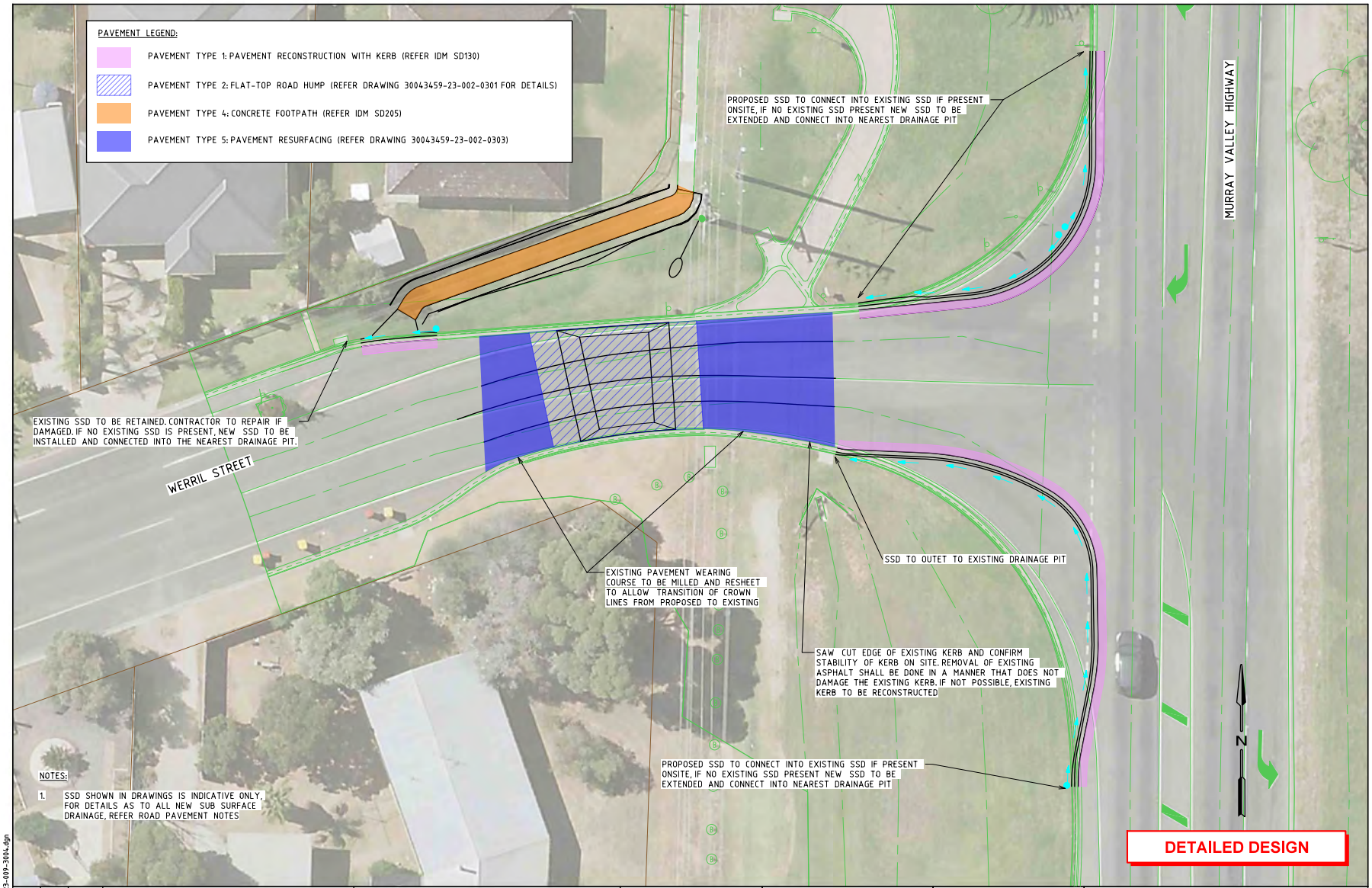
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C	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

DESIGNED: SMEC
APPROVED: B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
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FILE: 30043459-23-009-3004.dgn
SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 2.5 5 VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
PAVEMENT PLAN SHEET 3 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	27	009-3003	D

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
D	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
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B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

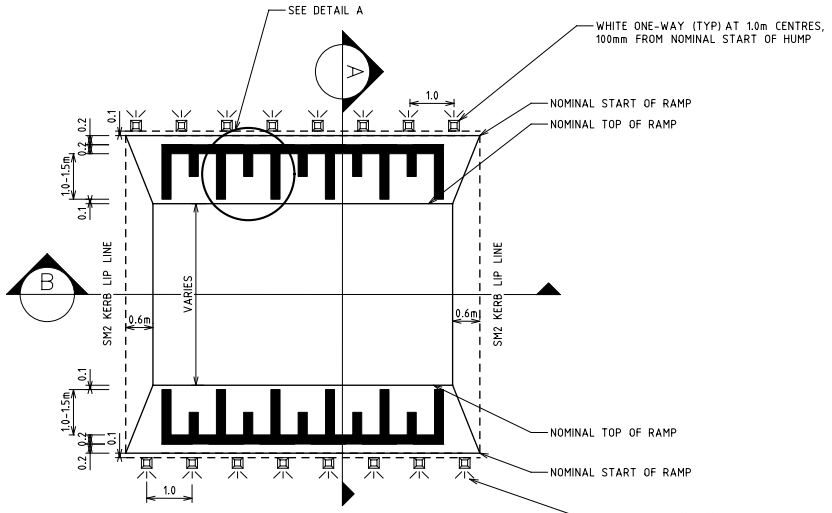
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SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 2.5 5 VER

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

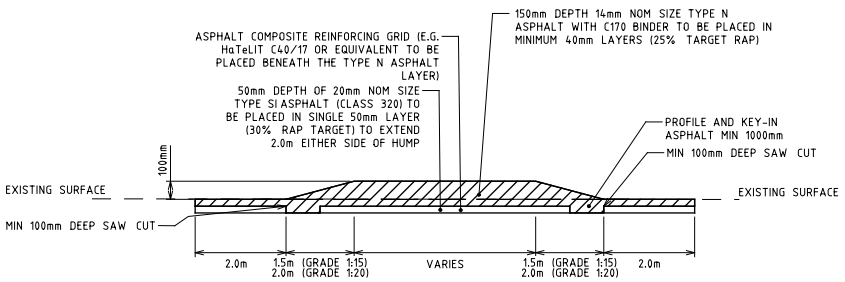
TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
PAVEMENT PLAN SHEET 4 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	28	009-3004	D

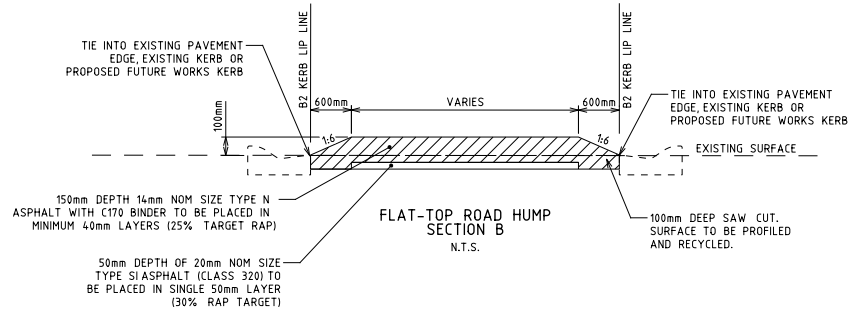
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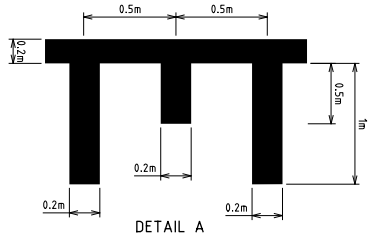
FLAT-TOP ROAD HUMP
N.T.S.



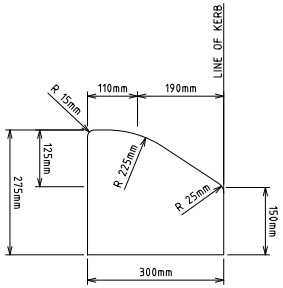
FLAT-TOP ROAD HUMP
SECTION A
N.T.S.



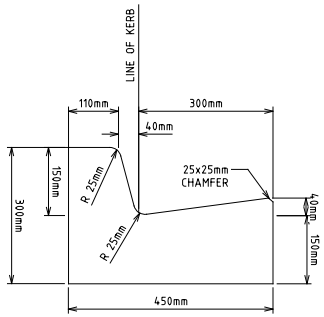
FLAT-TOP ROAD HUMP
SECTION B
N.T.S.



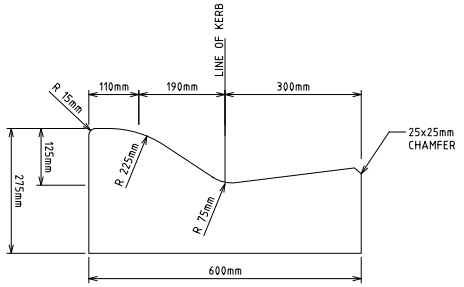
DETAIL A
N.T.S.



SM1 KERB
N.T.S.



B2 KERB
N.T.S.



SM2 KERB
N.T.S.

NOTES

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
E	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
D	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an AECOM company

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-002-3002.dgn

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

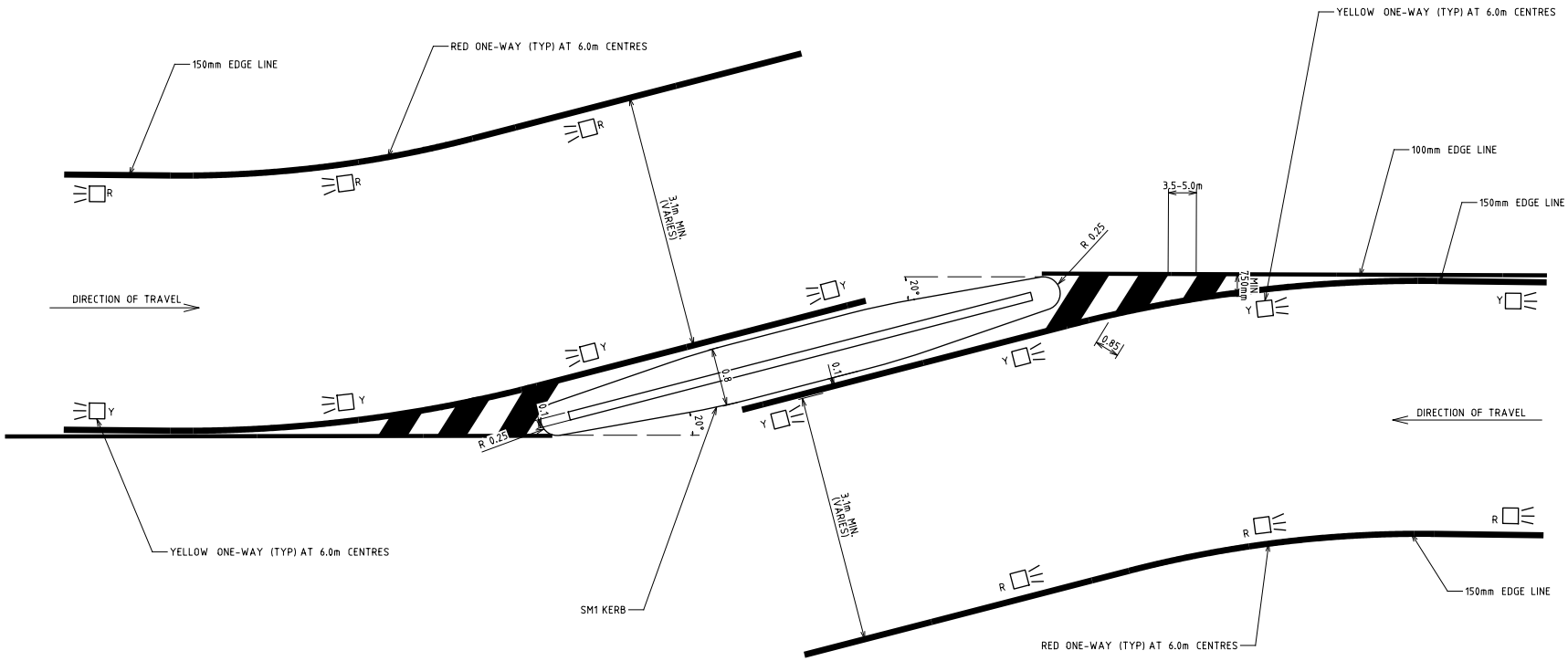
SCALE OF METRES
HOR NOT TO SCALE
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
TYPICAL DETAILS SHEET 1 OF 3

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	29	002-3001	E

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TWO-LANE ANGLED SLOW
POINT LATM ISLAND
N.T.S.

NOTES

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
2. SLOW POINT TREATMENT IS BASED ON FIGURE 3.4 AS1742.13.
3. REFER DETAIL PLANS FOR SLOW POINT ISLAND SETOUT.

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
E	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
D	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
C	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

smec an AECOM company

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-002-3003.dgn

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

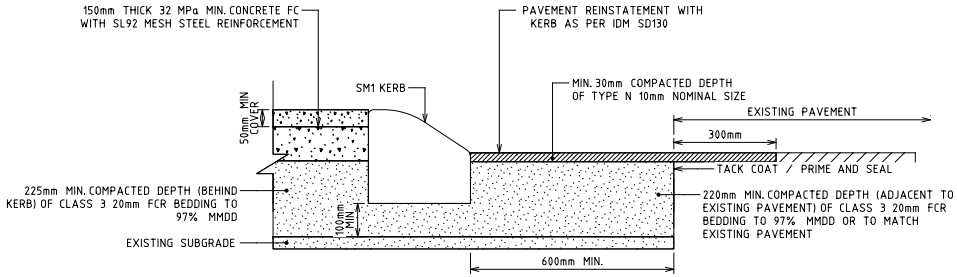
SCALE OF METRES
HOR NOT TO SCALE
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
TYPICAL DETAILS SHEET 2 OF 3

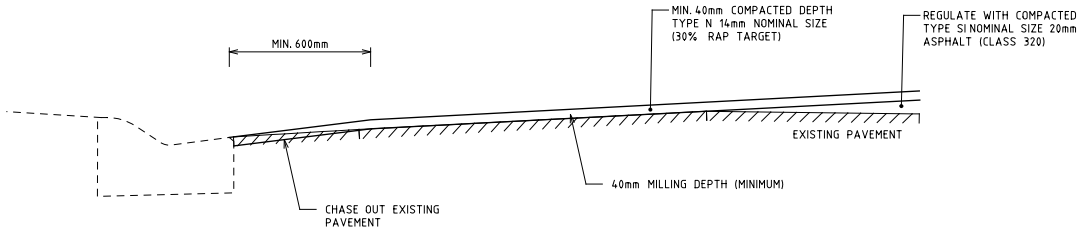
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CONCRETE ISLAND DETAIL
N.T.S.



RESURFACING DETAIL
RESURFACING OVER EXISTING PAVEMENT WITH EXISTING KERB
N.T.S.

NOTES

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
2. SLOW POINT TREATMENT IS BASED ON FIGURE 3.9 AS1742.13.
3. REFER DETAIL PLANS FOR SLOW POINT ISLAND SETOUT.

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	10.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-012-3000.dgn
SCALE OF METRES HOR NOT TO SCALE VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
TYPICAL DETAILS SHEET 3 OF 3

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	17.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-012-3001.dgn

SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 50 100
VER

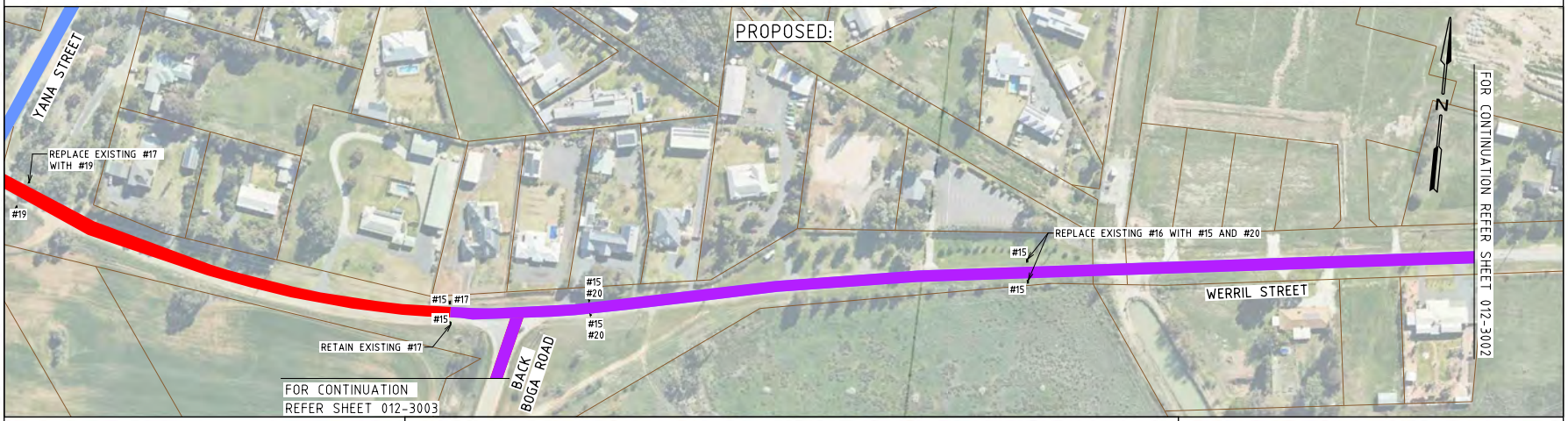
TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
SPEED SIGNAGE LOCALITY PLAN

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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LEGEND

- EXISTING 50 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 60 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 80 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 100 KM/H ZONE
- PROPOSED 50 KM/H ZONE

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

#15	50	R4-1-50A	#18	100	R4-1-100B
#16	60	R4-1-60A	#19	50 AHEAD	G9-79B
#17	80	R4-1-80B	#20	NEW LIMIT	R9-V112A

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	17.06.26	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
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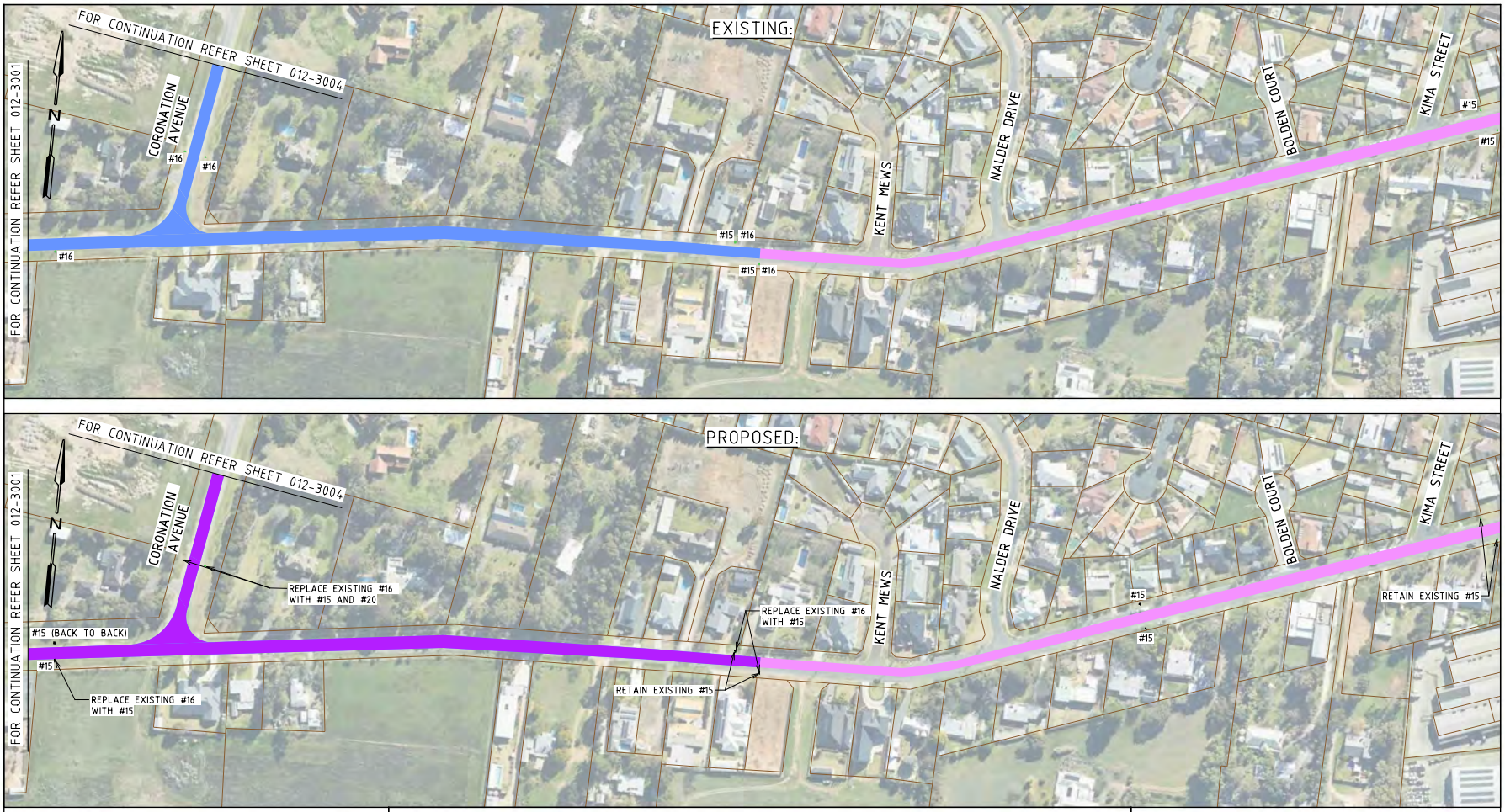
SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 25 50
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
SPEED SIGNAGE PLAN SHEET 1 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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LEGEND

- EXISTING 50 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 60 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 80 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 100 KM/H ZONE
- PROPOSED 50 KM/H ZONE

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

#15	50	R4-1-50A	#18	100	R4-1-100B
#16	60	R4-1-60A	#19	50 AHEAD	G9-79B
#17	80	R4-1-80B	#20	NEW LIMIT	R9-V112A

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	17.06.26	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-012-3003.dgn
SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 25 50 VER

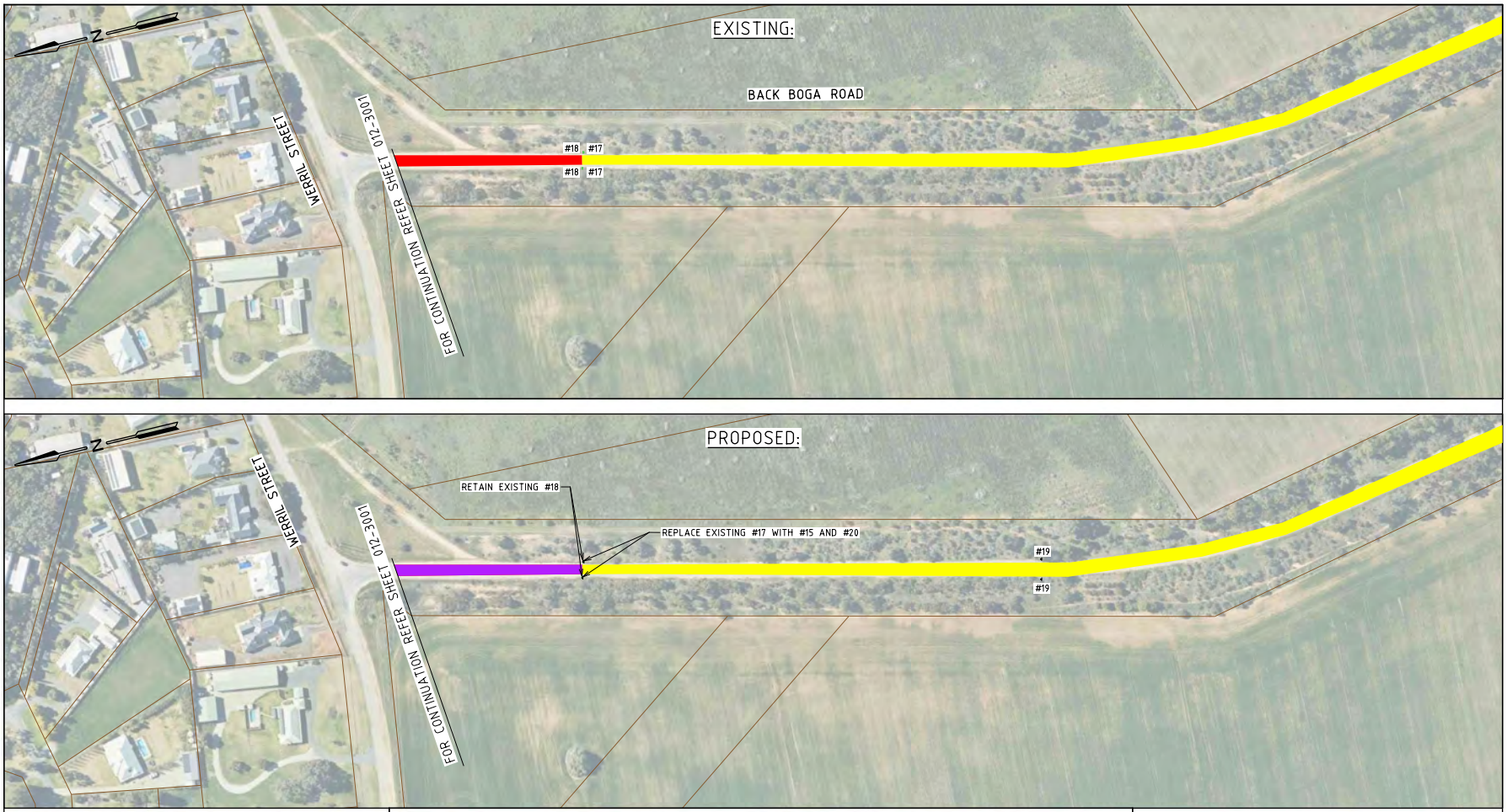
SWAN HILL Rural City Council

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
SPEED SIGNAGE PLAN SHEET 2 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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LEGEND

- EXISTING 50 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 60 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 80 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 100 KM/H ZONE
- PROPOSED 50 KM/H ZONE

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

#15	50	R4-1-50A	#18	100	R4-1-100B
#16	60	R4-1-60A	#19	50 AHEAD	G9-79B
#17	80	R4-1-80B	#20	NEW LIMIT	R9-V112A

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	17.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
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SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 25 50 VER

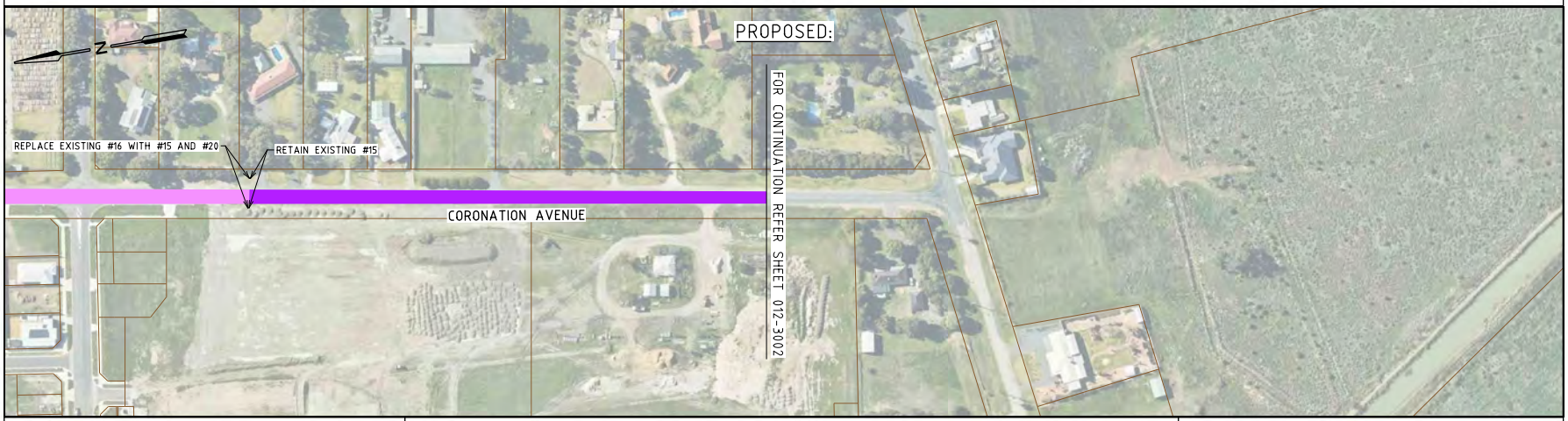
TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
SPEED SIGNAGE PLAN SHEET 3 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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LEGEND

- EXISTING 50 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 60 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 80 KM/H ZONE
- EXISTING 100 KM/H ZONE
- PROPOSED 50 KM/H ZONE

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

#15	50	R4-1-50A	#18	100	R4-1-100B
#16	60	R4-1-60A	#19	50 AHEAD	G9-79B
#17	80	R4-1-80B	#20	NEW LIMIT	R9-V112A

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
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GENERAL NOTES

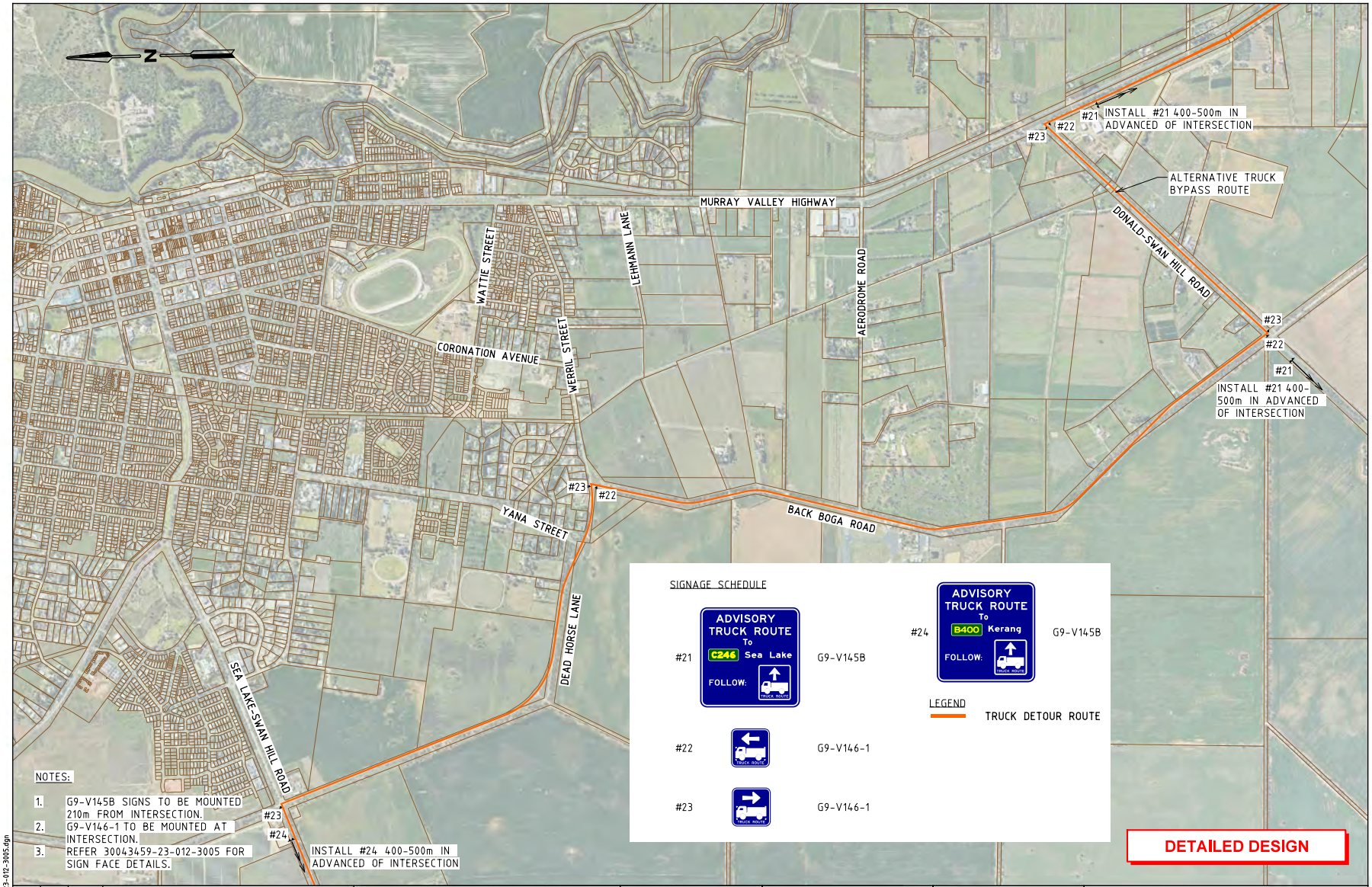
DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
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SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 25 50 VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
SPEED SIGNAGE PLAN SHEET 4 OF 4

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	17.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-012-3006.dgn
SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 200 400 VER

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
TRUCK DETOUR ROUTE SIGNAGE PLAN

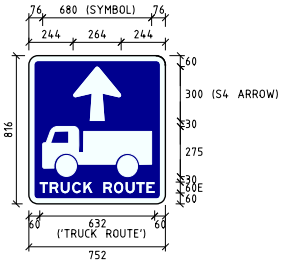
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OVERALL SIZE OF SIGN (mm): 2307 x 2335
SURFACE AREA OF SIGN (sq m): 5.39

#21
G9-V145B



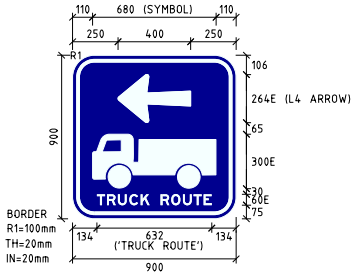
OVERALL SIZE OF SIGN (mm): 816 x 752
SURFACE AREA OF SIGN (sq m): 0.61

#21/#24 PANEL



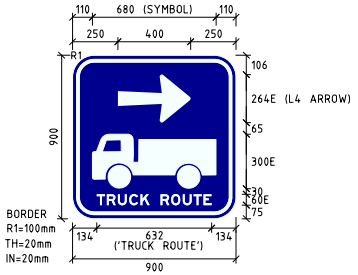
OVERALL SIZE OF SIGN (mm): 2307 x 2335
SURFACE AREA OF SIGN (sq m): 5.39

#24
G9-V145B



OVERALL SIZE OF SIGN (mm): 900 x 900
SURFACE AREA OF SIGN (sq m): 0.81

#22
G9-V146-1



OVERALL SIZE OF SIGN (mm): 900 x 900
SURFACE AREA OF SIGN (sq m): 0.81

#23
G9-V146-1

NOTES
1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES.
2. LEGEND, ARROW AND BORDER - RETROREFLECTIVE WHITE, CL.1.
3. BACKGROUND - RETROREFLECTIVE BLUE, CL.1.
4. FOR ARROW DETAILS REFER S-V401 FROM VICROADS SUPPLEMENT TO AS1743.
5. TRUCK SYMBOL TO FACE RIGHT WHEN ARROW IS HORIZONTAL OR DIAGONAL RIGHT.
6. TRUCK SYMBOL AS PER AS 1743, R7-13.
7. SIGN TO BE MANUFACTURED IN ACCORDANCE WITH VICROADS SPEC 860.

DETAILED DESIGN

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	17.06.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

DESIGNED SMEC
APPROVED B.MAGAN
Date:
CAT: -
PROJ: -
FILE: 30043459-23-012-3007.dgn
SCALE OF METRES HOR 0 0.25 0.5 VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
TRUCK SIGNAGE FACE DETAILS

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
30043459	-	38	012-3006	C

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SIGN LABEL	DESCRIPTION	WIDTH (mm)	HEIGHT (mm)	AREA (SQM)	MINIMUM MOUNTING HEIGHT (mm)	POST TYPE & SIZE (mm)	MINIMUM LENGTH OF POST (mm)	MINIMUM POST HOLE DEPTH (mm)	COMMENTS
D4-1-1 A (R)	UNIDIRECTIONAL HAZARD MARKER (TYPE 1)	1600	400	0.64	700	2 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	1650	600	
D4-1-2 A	UNIDIRECTIONAL HAZARD MARKER (TYPE 2)	450	450	0.20	700	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	1700	600	
G9-58 A	CYCLISTS DISMOUNT	450	450	0.20	2500	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3500	600	
R6-10-2 A	NO TRUCKS (SYMBOLIC)	600	600	0.36	1700	--	--	--	MOUNT ON EXISTING LIGHTING POLE IN MEDIAN
R2 CUSTOM	ARROW (RIGHT)	600	200	0.12	1500				
R6-10-2 A	NO TRUCKS (SYMBOLIC)	600	600	0.36	2200	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3550	800	
R2 CUSTOM	ARROW (LEFT)	600	200	0.12	2000				
R4-1-50 A	50 KM/HR SPEED LIMIT	450	600	0.27	2000	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3150	600	
R4-1-50 A	50 KM/HR SPEED LIMIT	450	600	0.27	2800	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	4150	800	
R9-V112 A	NEW LIMIT	450	600	0.27	2200				
R4-1-80 B	80 KM/HR SPEED LIMIT	600	800	0.48	2000	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3350	600	
G9-79 B	50 KM/HR SPEED LIMIT AHEAD	600	1000	0.60	2000	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3750	800	
R5-35-1 (L)	NO STOPPING (LEFT)	225	450	0.10	2200	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3200	600	
R5-35-1 (R)	NO STOPPING (RIGHT)	225	450	0.10	2200	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3200	600	
R8-2 A	SHARED PATH (SYMBOLIC)	300	400	0.12	2600	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3550	600	
R7-4 A	END	300	100	0.03	2500				
W3-4 A	ROAD HUMP AHEAD (SYMBOLIC)	600	600	0.36	2200	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3350	600	
W5-10 A	ROAD HUMP (SYMBOLIC)	600	600	0.36	2400	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3750	800	
W8-2 A	ADVISORY SPEED	600	400	0.24	2000				
W5-33 A	SLOW POINT	600	600	0.36	2200	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3350	600	
G9-V145 B	ADVISORY TRUCK ROUTE	2307	2335	5.39	2000	2 OFF 80 (ALUMINIUM) SIGNFIX FRANGIBLE	5485	1200	
G9-V146-1	TRUCK ROUTE	900	900	0.81	2000	1 OFF 50 N.B. STEEL PIPE	3650	800	

NOTES

1. MOUNTING HEIGHTS FOR SIDE MOUNTED SIGNS ARE MEASURED FROM UNDERSIDE OF SIGN ASSEMBLY TO EDGE OF ROAD CARRIAGEWAY (UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE) AND REPRESENT THE MINIMUM MOUNTING HEIGHT THAT MUST BE ACHIEVED.
2. MOUNTING HEIGHTS SHOULD NOT SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEED THE MOUNTING HEIGHTS SPECIFIED IN THE SIGNS SCHEDULE.

DETAILED DESIGN

7/10/2026 12:37:02 PM Default 30043459-23-012-3007.dgn

ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
B	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	18.08.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION

GENERAL NOTES

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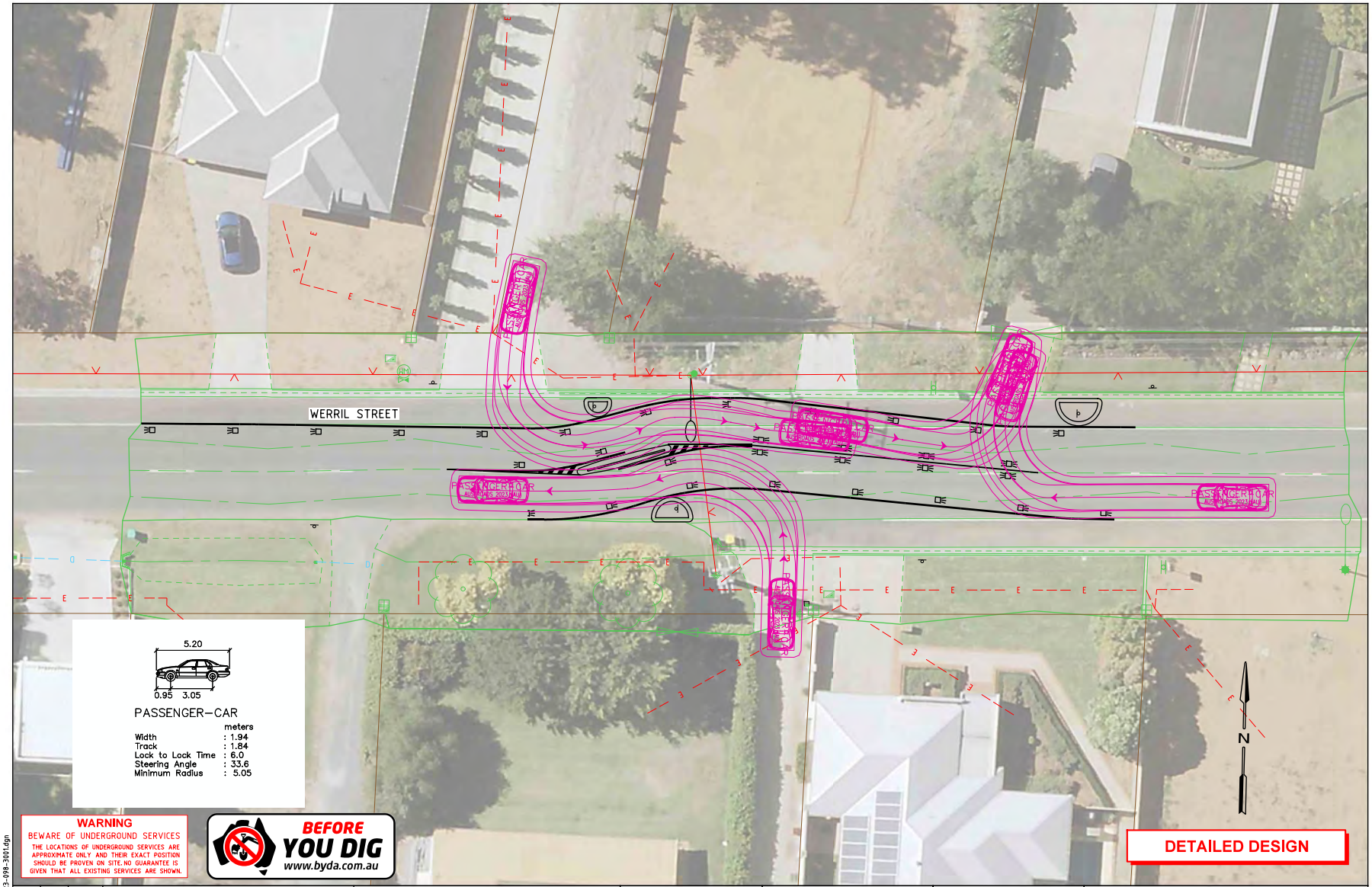
SWAN HILL Rural City Council

SCALE OF METRES NOT TO SCALE
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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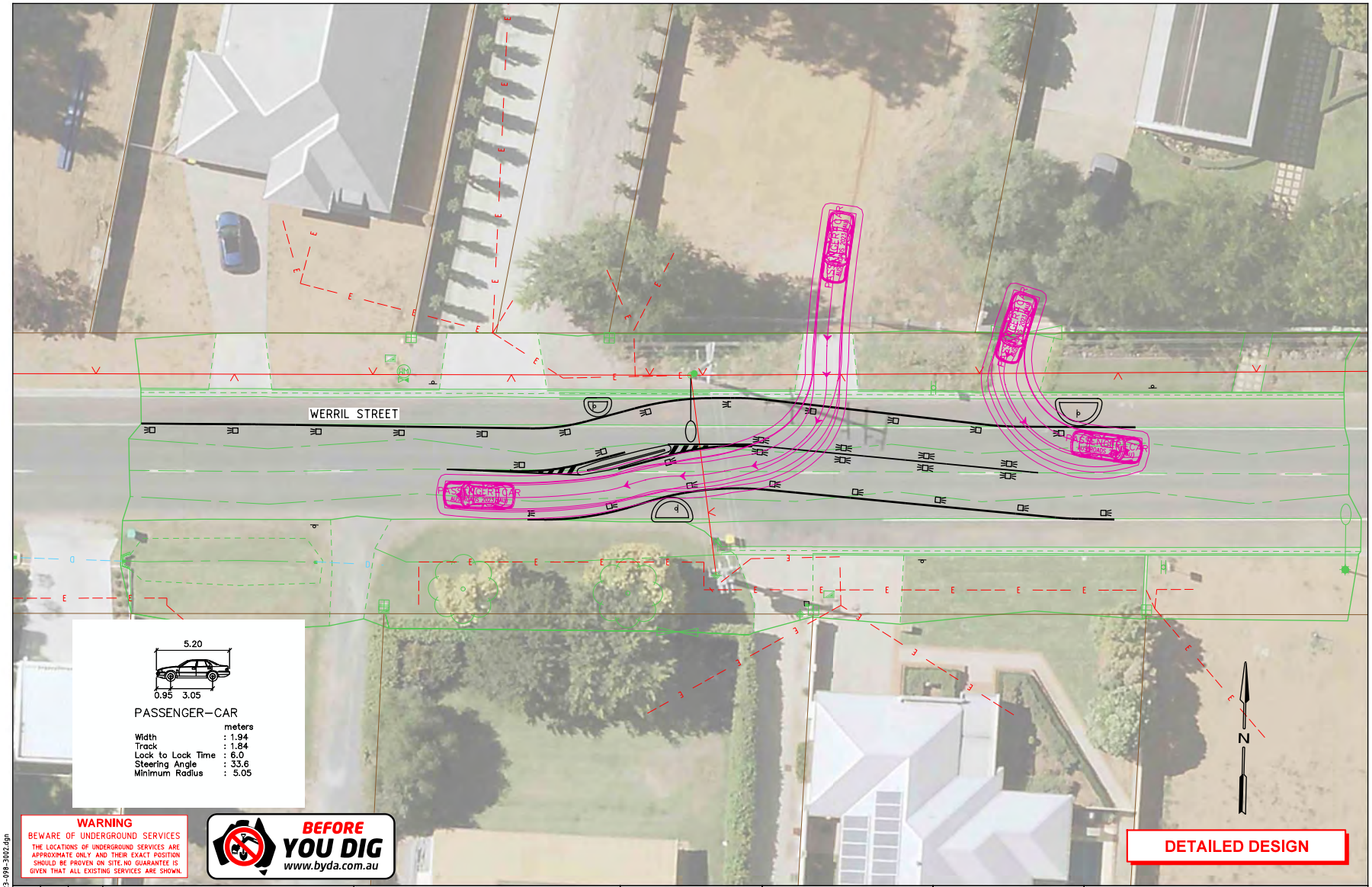
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DRIVEWAY SWEPT PATHS SHEET 1 OF 3

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
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B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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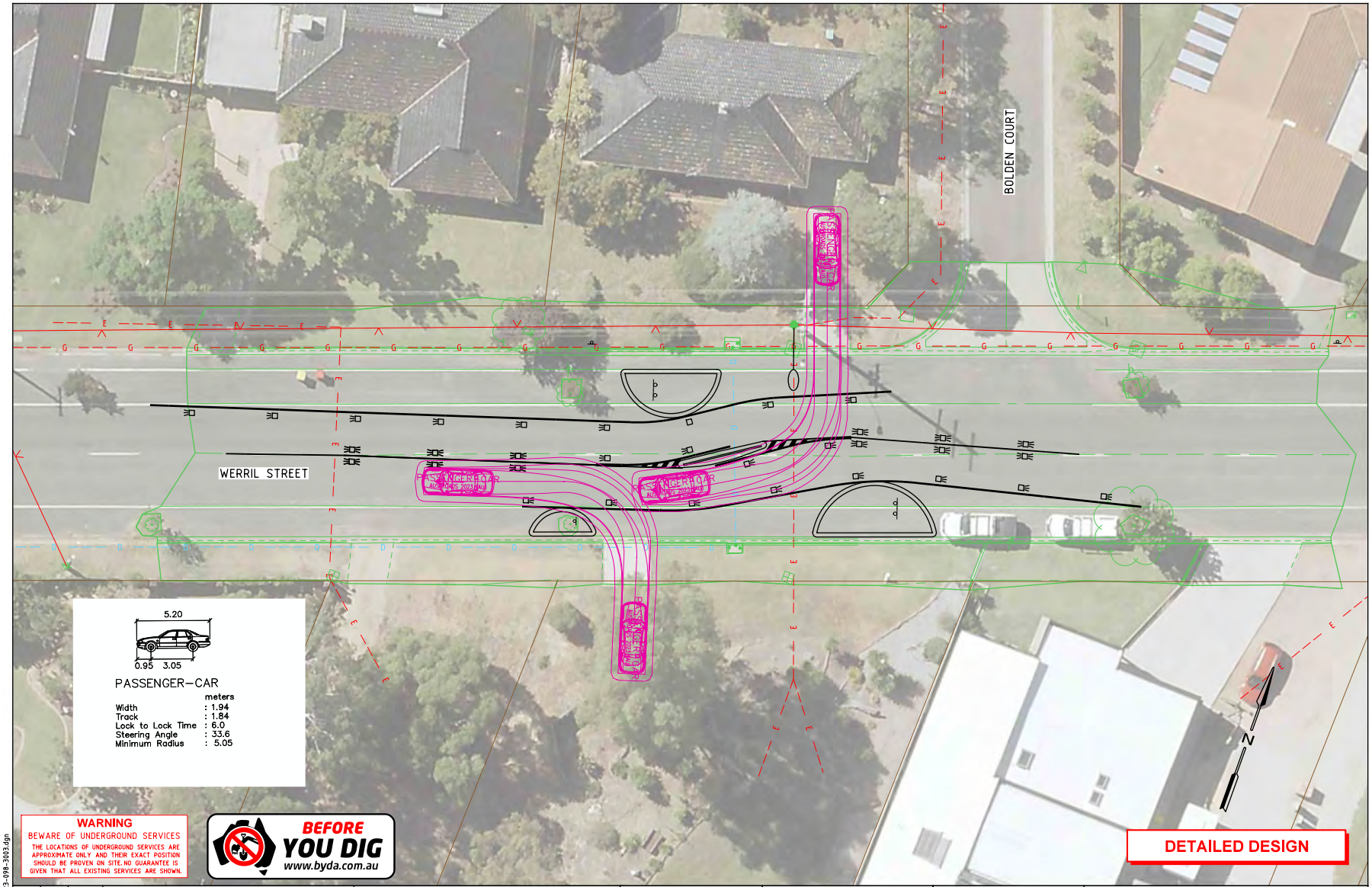
SCALE OF METRES
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DRIVEWAY SWEPT PATHS SHEET 2 OF 3

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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C	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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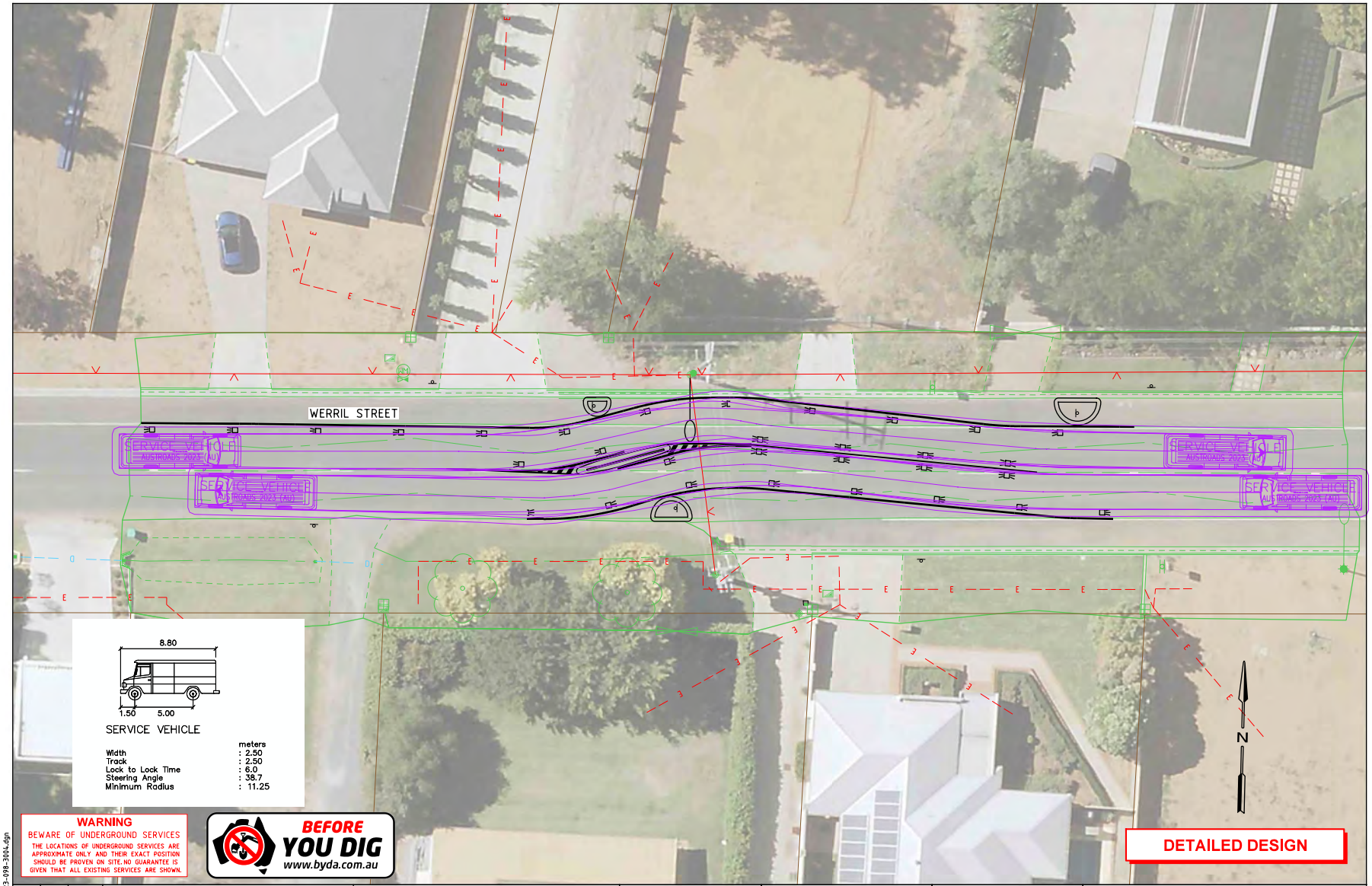
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SWAN HILL Rural City Council

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DRIVEWAY SWEPT PATHS SHEET 3 OF 3

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
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B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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SCALE OF METRES
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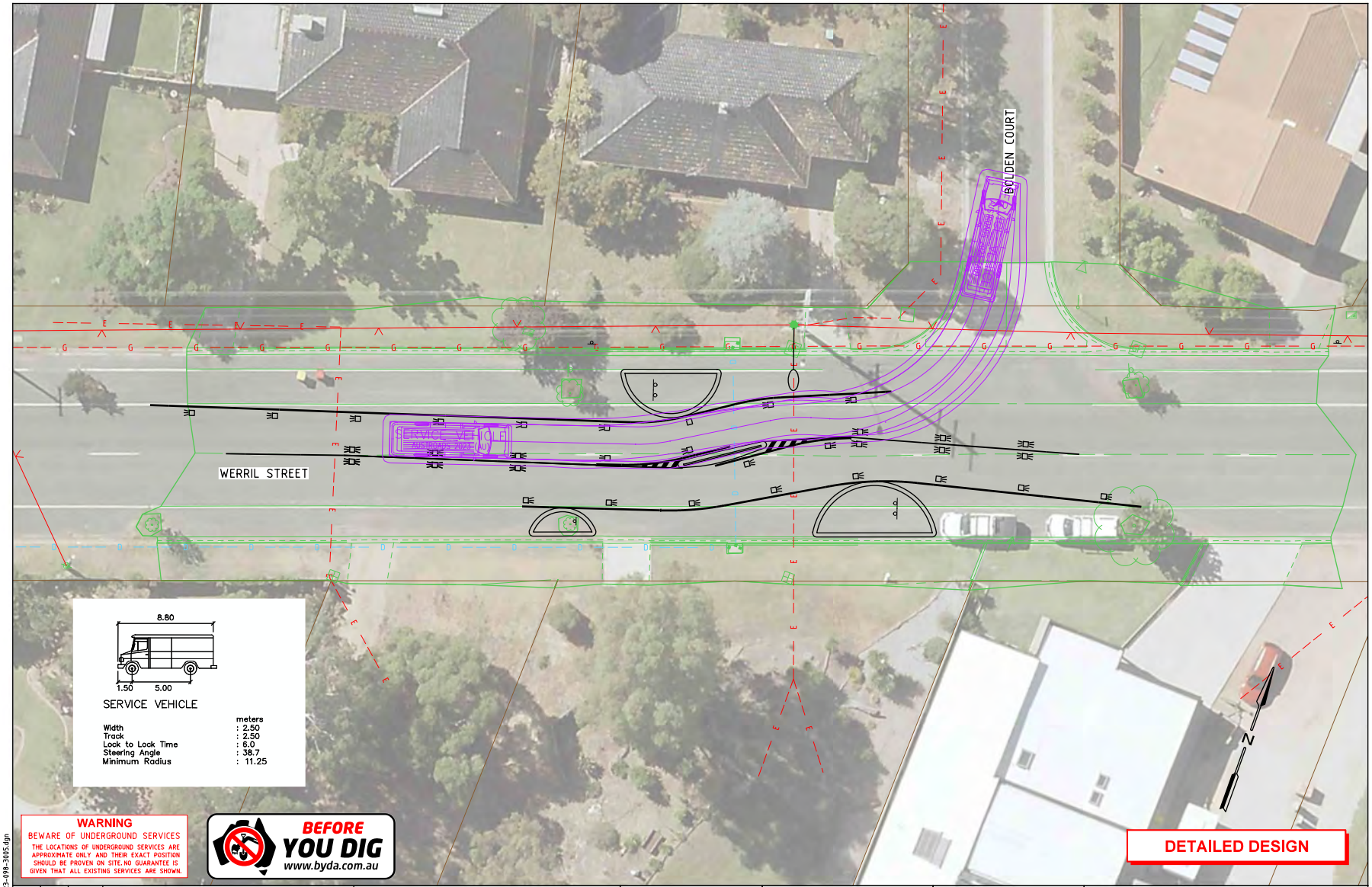
SWAN HILL Rural City Council

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DESIGN VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 1 OF 6

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B	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN
A	BM	24.10.25	FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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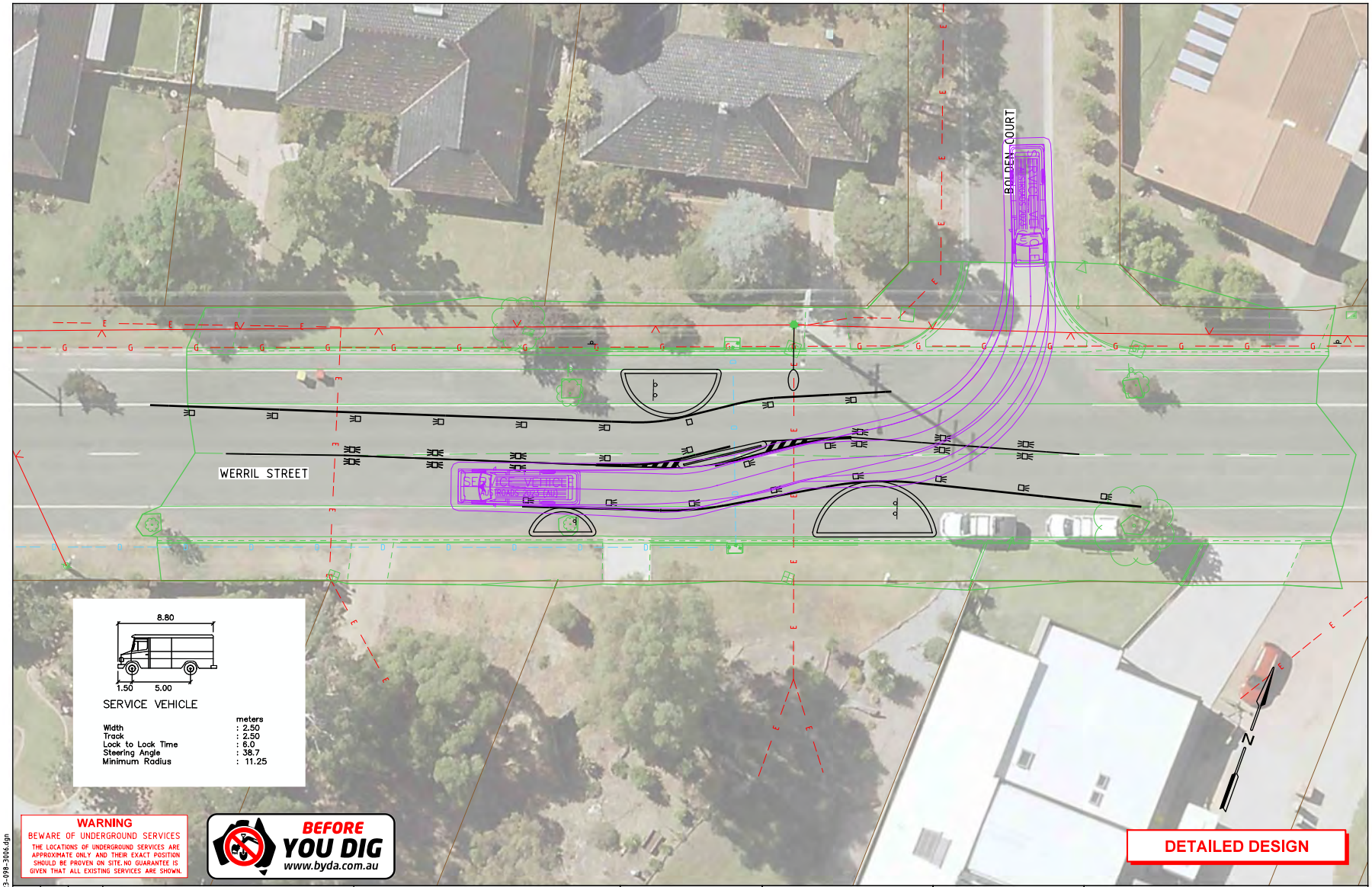
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SWAN HILL Rural City Council

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DESIGN VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 2 OF 6

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GENERAL NOTES

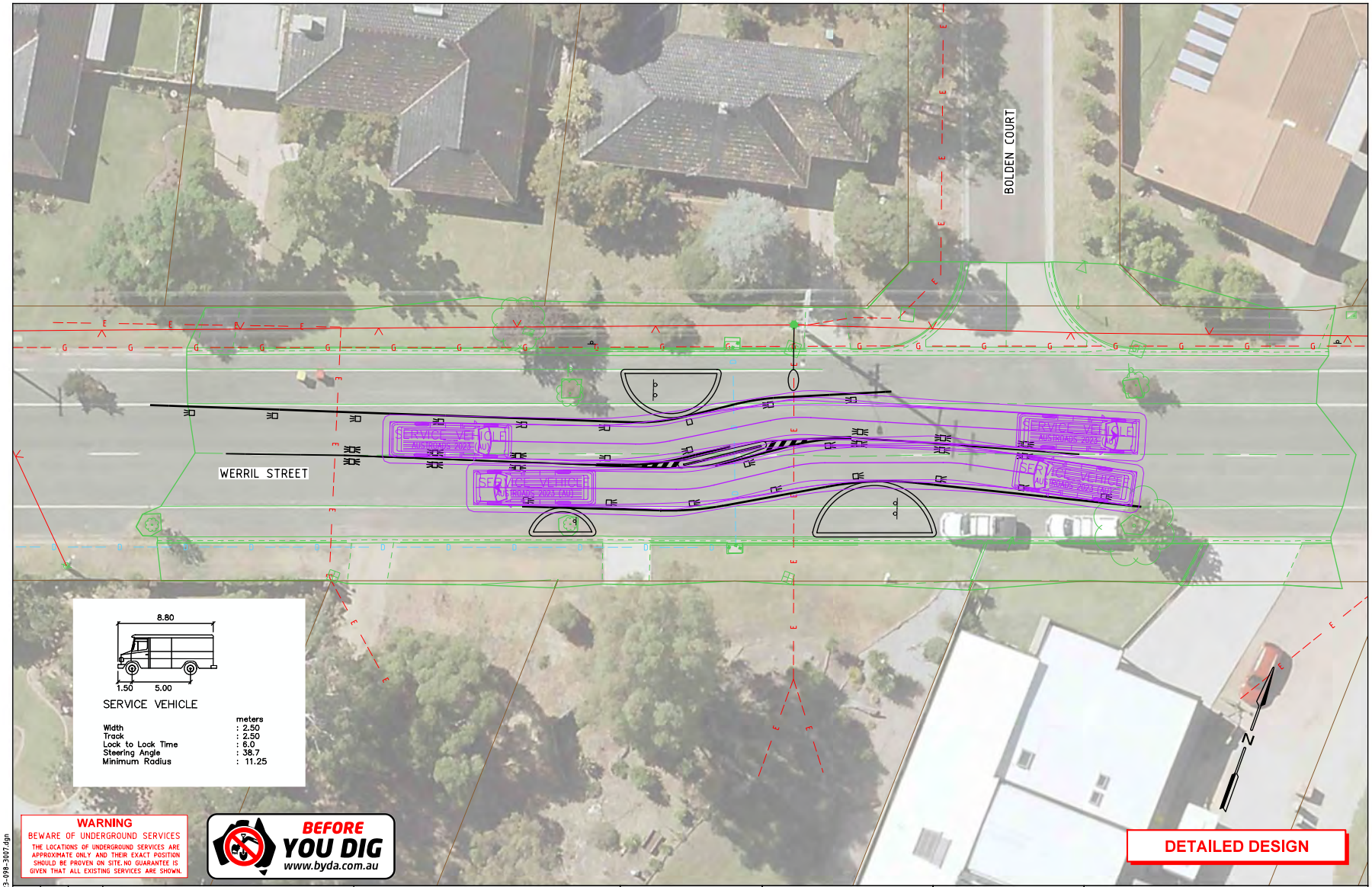
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SCALE OF METRES
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DESIGN VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 3 OF 6

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
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GENERAL NOTES

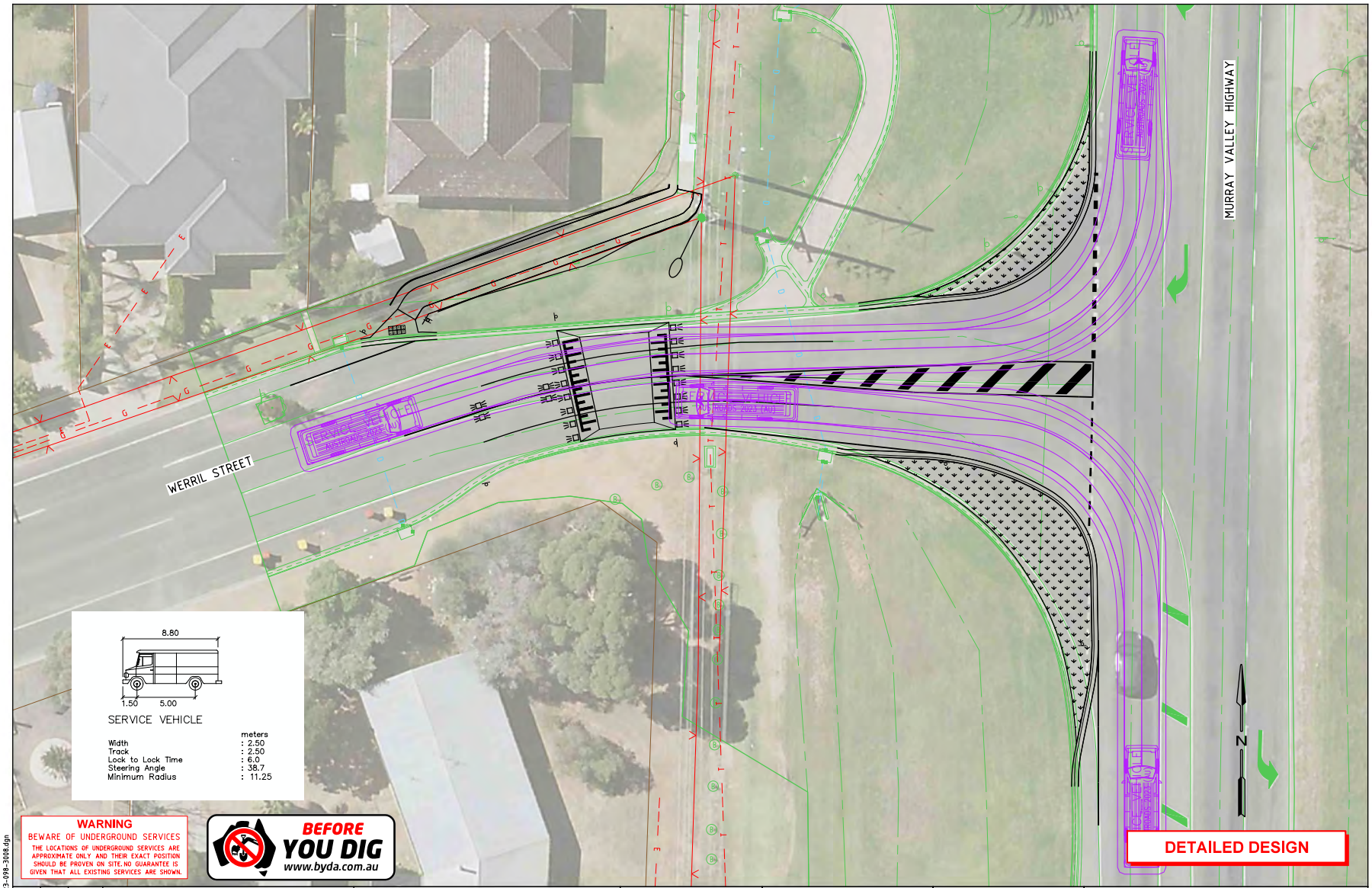
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SCALE OF METRES
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DESIGN VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 4 OF 6

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
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A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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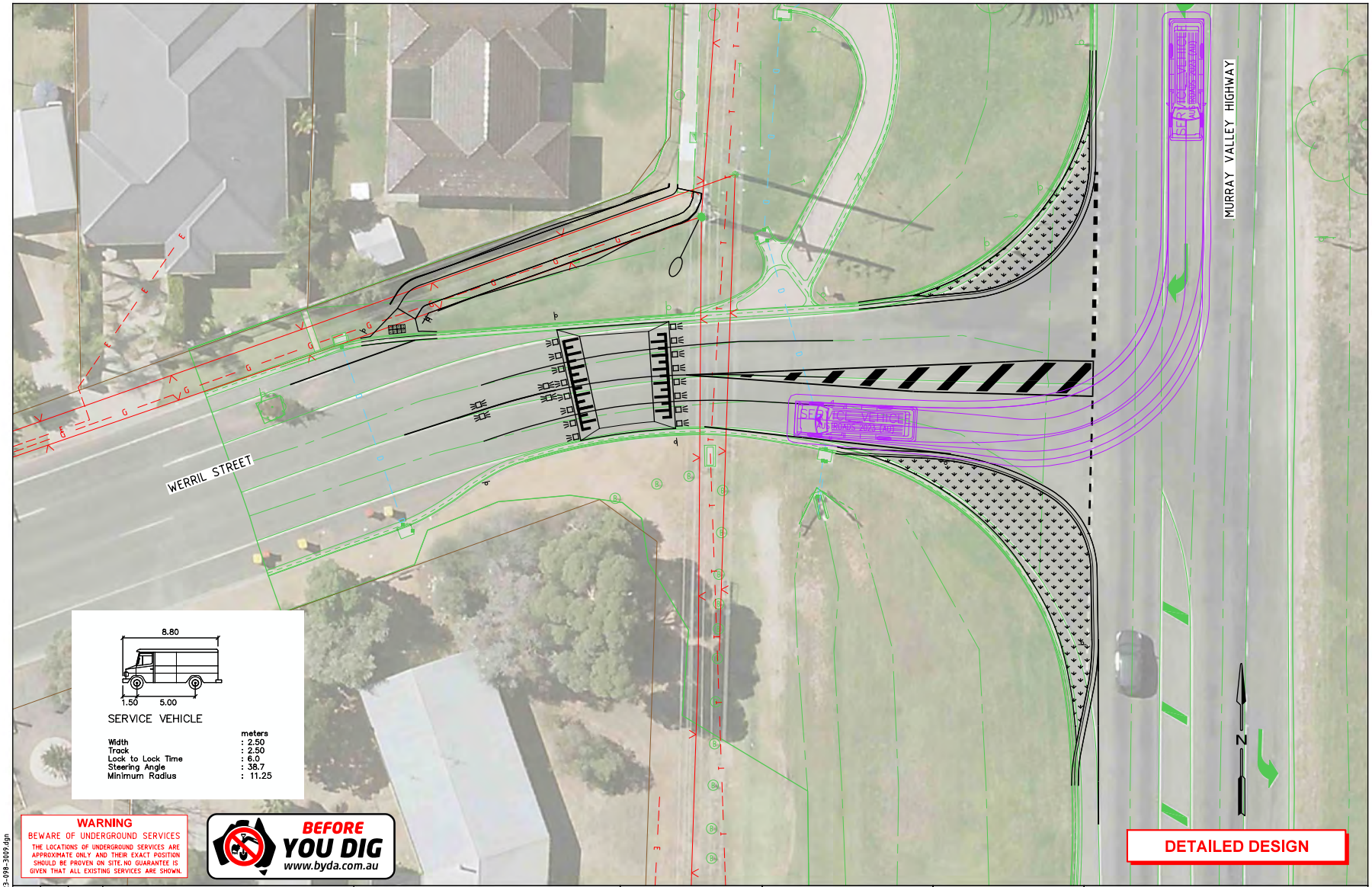
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DESIGN VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 5 OF 6

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

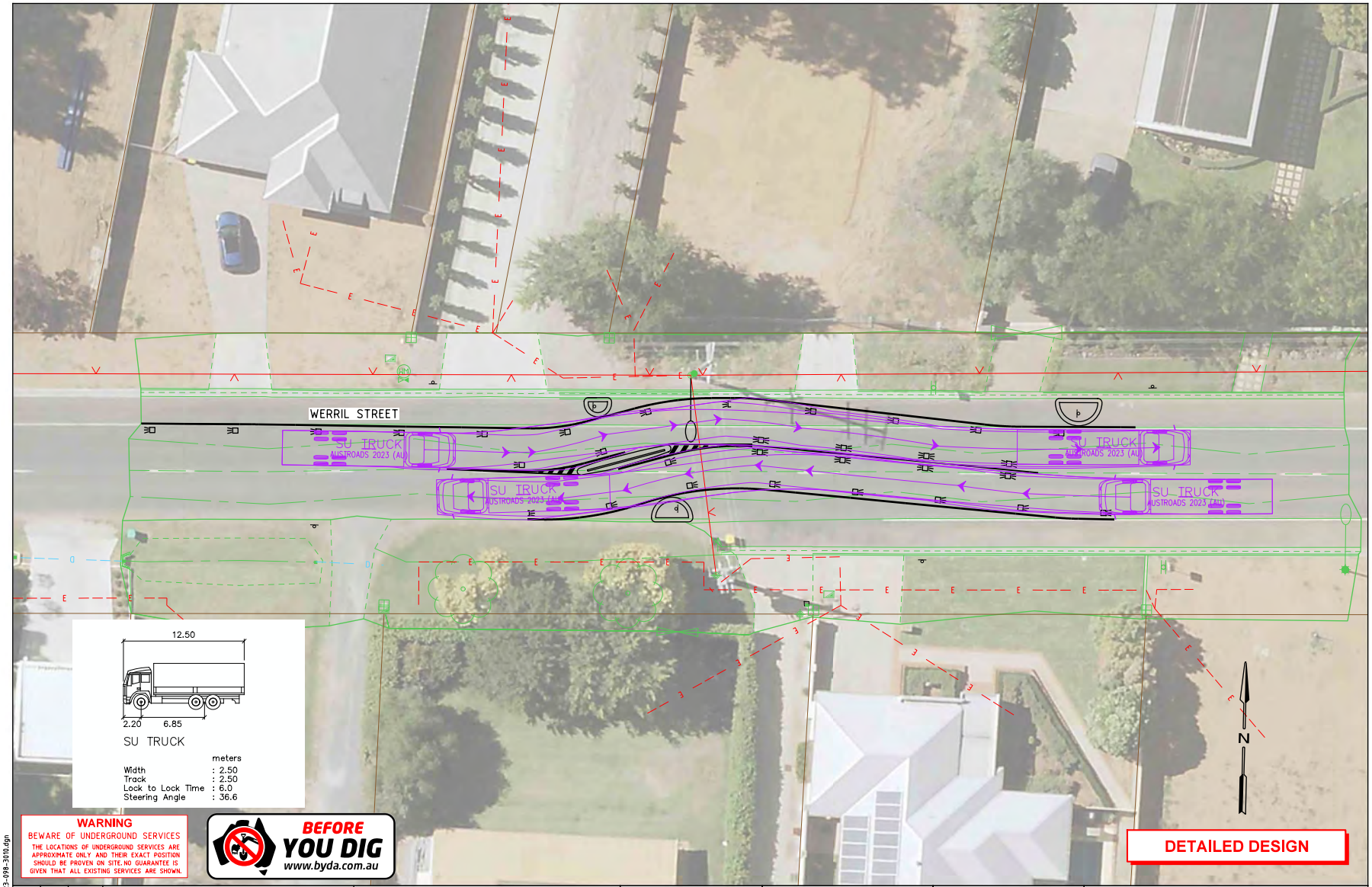
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SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
DESIGN VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 6 OF 6

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WARNING
BEWARE OF UNDERGROUND SERVICES
THE LOCATIONS OF UNDERGROUND SERVICES ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY AND THEIR EXACT POSITION SHOULD BE PROVEN ON SITE. NO GUARANTEE IS GIVEN THAT ALL EXISTING SERVICES ARE SHOWN.

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
B	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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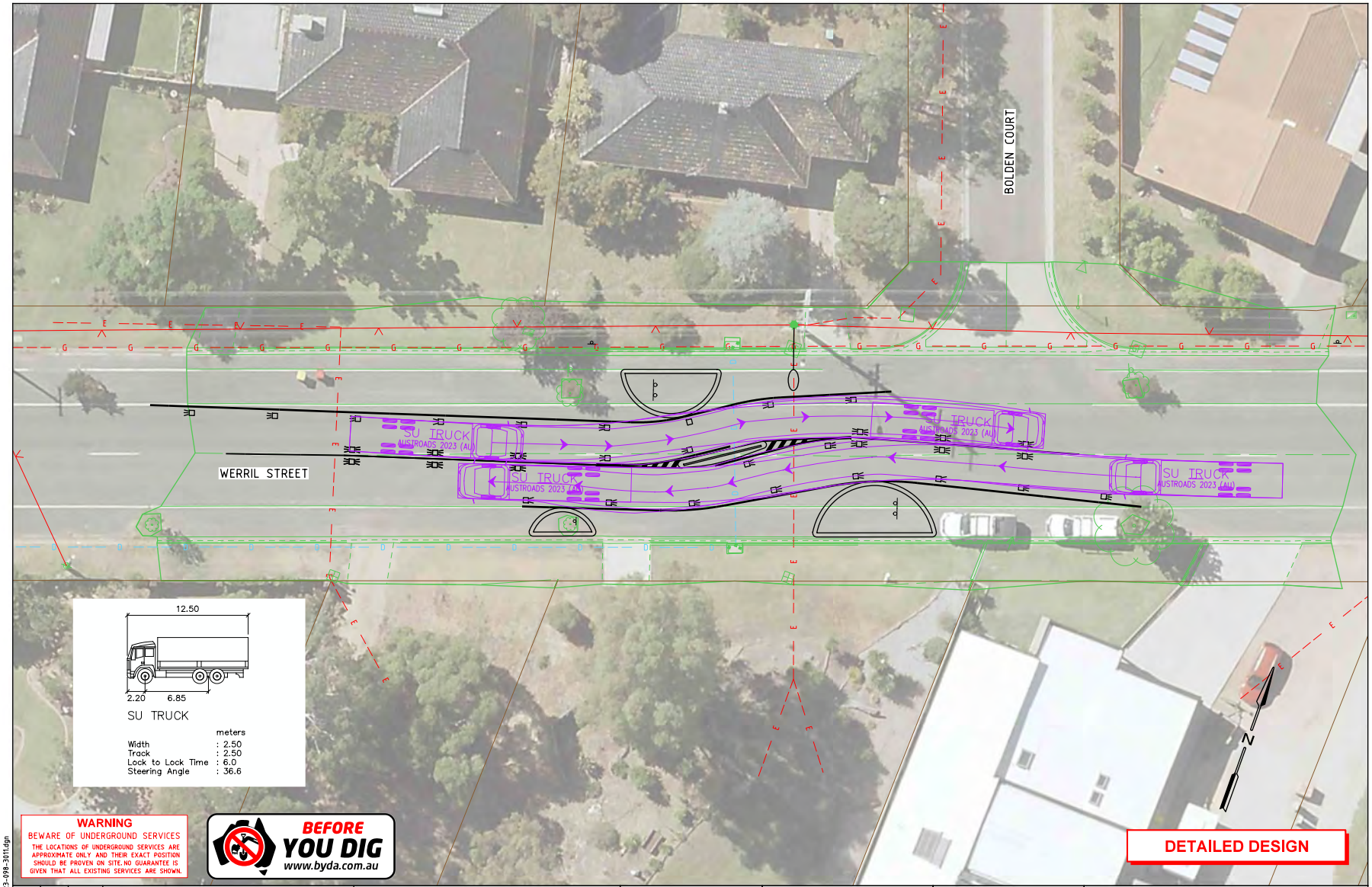
SWAN HILL Rural City Council

SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
VER

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
CHECK VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 1 OF 5

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
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A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

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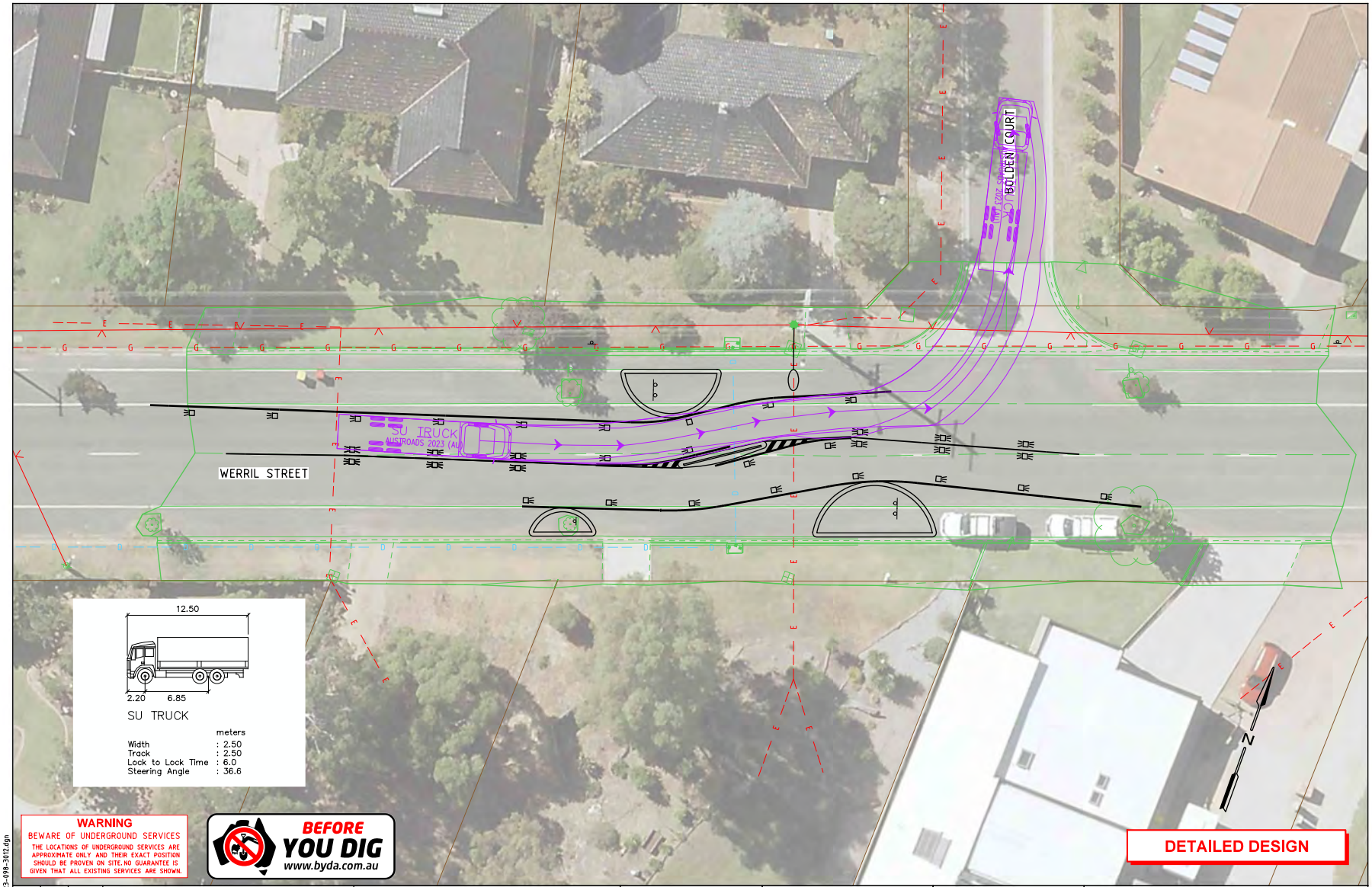
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SWAN HILL Rural City Council

TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
CHECK VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 2 OF 5

FILE NO.	CONTRACT NO.	SHEET NO.	DRAWING NO.	ISSUE
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A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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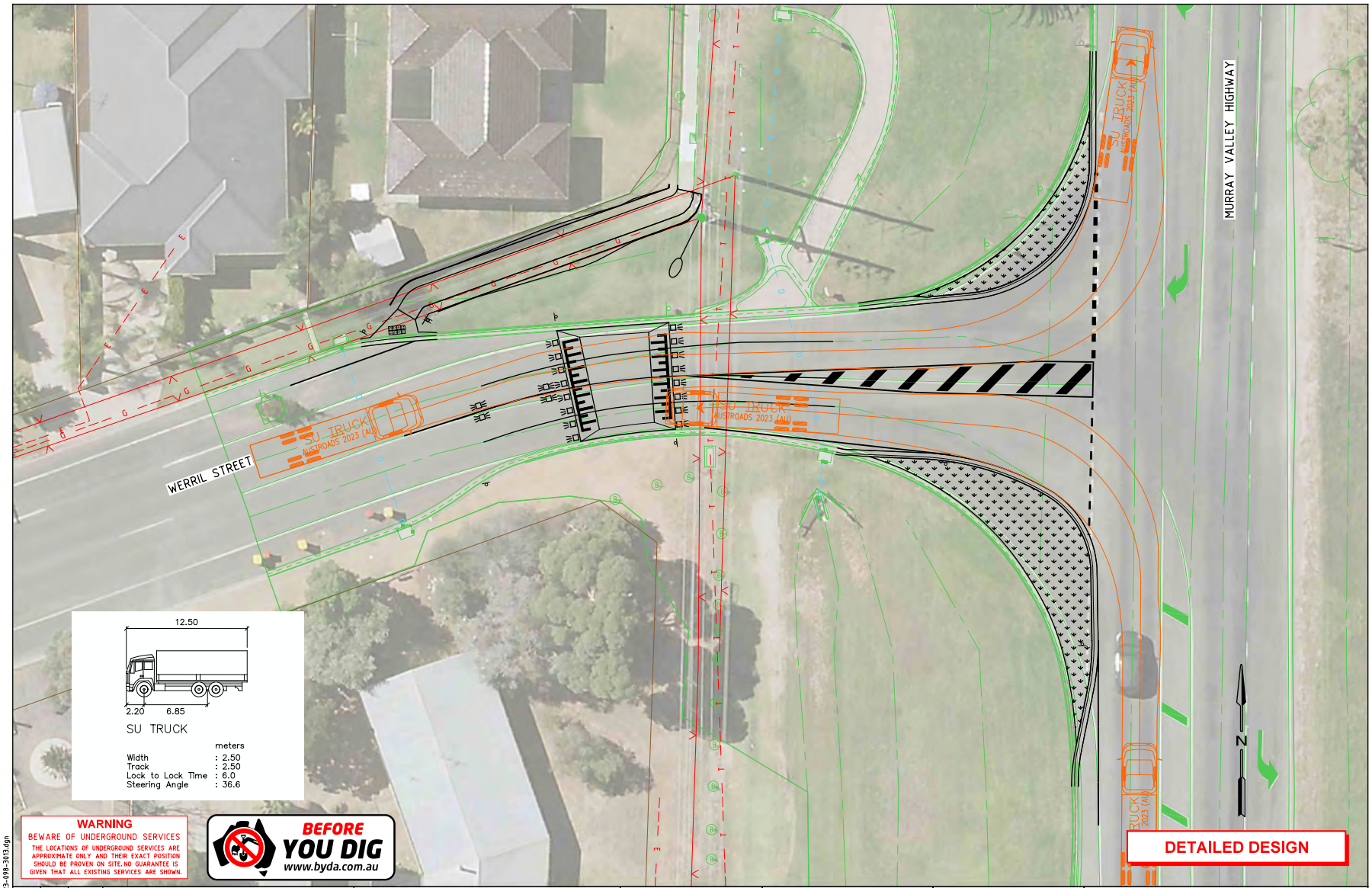
SWAN HILL Rural City Council

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SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
CHECK VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 3 OF 5

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WARNING
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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
B	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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SWAN HILL Rural City Council

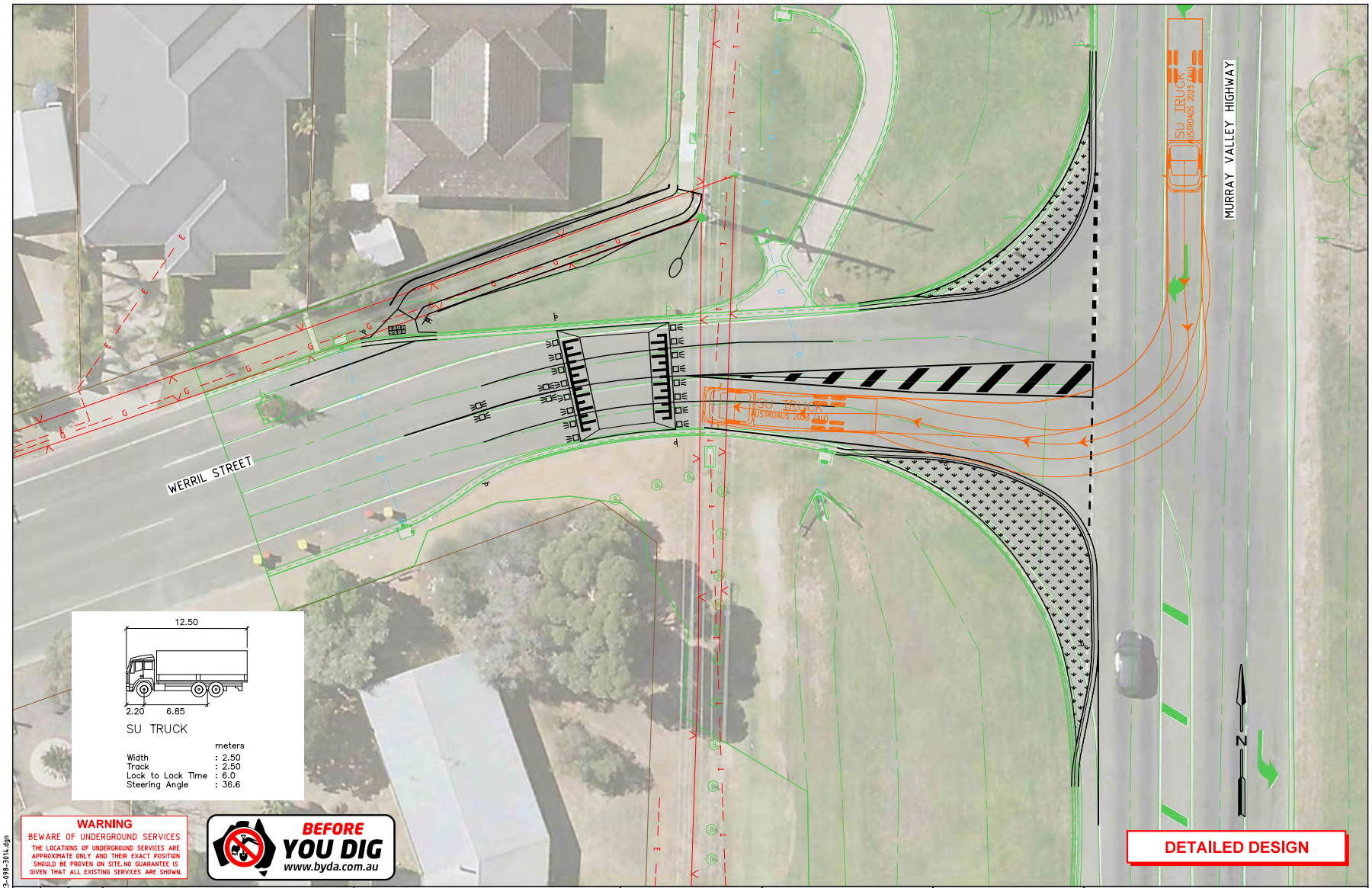
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SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
CHECK VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 4 OF 5

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ISSUE	APP'D	DATE	AMENDMENT
B	BM	06.10.26	DETAILED DESIGN RESUBMISSION
A	BM	28.05.26	DETAILED DESIGN

GENERAL NOTES

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FILE: -

SWAN HILL Rural City Council

SCALE OF METRES
HOR 0 2.5 5
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TAC SLRS PROGRAM
SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
PACKAGE 3: WERRIL STREET
CHECK VEHICLE SWEPT PATHS SHEET 5 OF 5

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2.2 Planning Application - 241 Murray Valley Highway Swan Hill - Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling

Directorate: Development and Planning

File Number: PLN2025032
Purpose: For Decision

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Application Number:	**PLN2025032**
Proposal:	Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming Zone, Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, Alteration to an Access to a Road in the Transport Zone 2, and Reduction in Car Parking
Applicant's Name:	Price Merrett Consulting Pty Ltd
Address:	241 Murray Valley Highway Swan Hill
Land Size:	12.8 ha
Site Features:	The land is irregular in shape. The access from the Murray Valley Highway is 6.14m wide.
Zoning:	• Farming Zone (FZ)
Overlays:	• Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1 (ESO1) • Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) • Specific Controls Overlay – PS MAP Ref SCO1 Schedule (SCO1)
Referral Authorities:	• Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) • Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) • North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA)
Why is a Permit Required?	• Clause 34.02-1 Use of land for Materials Recycling • Clause 35.07-1 Use of Land for Materials Recycling • Clause 35.07-4 – Building and Works • Clause 42.01-2 – Construct a Building or Construct or Carry out Works • Clause 44.04-2 – Construct a Building or Construct or Carry out Works • Clause 52.29-2 – Alter Access to a Road in a Transport Zone 2
Lodgement date:	16 April 2025

Declarations of Interest:
Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary:
The purpose of this report is to seek a decision from Council on planning application PLN2025032 for the use and development of the land for materials recycling (concrete crushing and recycling) at 241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill. The subject site is within the Farming Zone and is covered by the Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1 and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay. The site is adjacent to Transport Zone 2 (Murray Valley Highway).

It should be noted that the permission being sought to use and develop the subject land as stated above is retrospective in nature; the site is currently being used in the manner that has been applied for.

The subject site is located at the northern boundary of the Swan Hill commercial/industrial precinct and is irregular in shape with an area of 12.8 hectares with 6.14m wide access from the Murray Valley Highway. Until recently, the land contained a dwelling, which had been demolished.

The application was advertised to surrounding landowners with 13 objections being received.

The objections are summarised in the Consultation section of this report and relate to amenity impacts from the use including dust, noise, and traffic and whether the subject site is an appropriate site for this proposal.

Key Points / Issues:

Locality

All land surrounding the subject site is within the Farming Zone, other than a small parcel abutting a section of the site to the south (8 Saleyards Road, Swan Hill) which contains a fuel depot and is zoned Commercial 2 Zone.

Surrounding uses include a vet clinic, motel and a caravan park which are located to the southeast of the subject site across the Murray Valley Highway. The Karinie Street industrial precinct is located approximately 140m to the south of the land.

The nearest dwelling is located approximately 270m to the east (across Murray Valley Highway), 330m to the southeast, 300m north and 420m to the northwest.

The Proposal

The application proposes the use and development of the land for materials recycling within the Farming Zone; Environmental Significance Overlay and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay. The proposed activity will consist of concrete crushing and storage of stockpiles of a variety of materials. The proposed activity to be undertaken on the site has been summarised from the report submitted with the application as the following:

- Crushing of concreate road base occurring 12 times per year lasting 3-5 days at a time
- Operation of the crushing plant will occur on weekdays between 7am-6pm.
- Volumes of material crushed during the above stated periods of operation are estimated to be 100 –200m^3
- The use of the crushing/screening equipment up to 12 times per year, with an average of 3-5 days per batch.
- The stockpiles are proposed to be stored onsite short term and will be removed for reuse as determined by demand

Mitigation measures proposed to reduce impacts from the proposed use include:

- Water trucks to dampen the trafficable area to reduce dust emissions.
- Tipping trucks used to transport and deliver raw concrete and crushed material will have wind out tarps installed to minimize sediment and loose material being deposited on roads.
- Additional lighting is not required therefore glare, and light spill is not considered a problem.

The report submitted with the application describes the proposed use in the following way:

> *Trucks load and unload material onsite on an infrequent basis. A light vehicle is used to access the property and is parked onsite out of the way when crushing operations take place. The crusher is run by a single operator, and an excavator is used to fill the crusher with material with a single operator. No amenities buildings are located onsite as the company head office is 1km away on Saleyards Road.*
>
> *The property has an existing open drain which contains stormwater for evaporation. There is little likelihood that sediment from the concrete stockpiles will be washed into the onsite drainage channel as material is not stockpiled long term on the property. The crushing plant is not operated during rainfall events.*
>
> *The method of crushing concrete does not produce any harmful or toxic emissions which can potentially cause contamination to the environment.*

The existing access proposed to be utilised for this application is a gravel access crossover. There are no known agricultural undertakings currently occurring on the land.

The application was supported by a traffic impact assessment and functional layout plan, environmental management plan, and a site plan.

Referrals

The application was referred to:

1. Department of Transport and Planning
2. EPA
3. North Central Catchment Management Authority
4. Council's Engineering Department
5. Council's Health Department

No objections were received from the referrals but recommended relevant conditions, including the upgrade of the existing crossover to a sealed crossover.

It is noted the EPA advised:

> '*EPA considers the proposal can be supported if the applicant actively includes industrial standard measures to minimise human health and environment risks. Based on the information provided, EPA does not object to the proposal.*

While it is acknowledged the EPA advice supports the proposal, it is subject to the implementation of a management plan for the site to ensure any adverse impacts are managed. The applicant has provided an Environmental Management Plan; however, it is considered to be lacking in detail and does not contain adequate mitigation measures for dust management which is considered to be one of the most likely impacts.

Should a permit be granted for this proposal, it would require the preparation of an amended management plan to ensure offsite adverse impacts are managed appropriately.

Planning Assessment

Policy Impacts:

The proposal is contrary to the following provisions of the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Planning Policy Framework (PPF) of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme.

Municipal Planning Strategy:

- **Clause 02-03-4 Natural resource management**
  - The policy seeks to:
    - Promote agricultural use of the land
    - Protect future horticultural development
    - Promote, encourage commercial scale horticulture, and other irrigated horticulture
    - Protect agricultural activity from conflicting land uses**.**

  The strategy also discourages land uses in the Farming Zone that are not directly related to agriculture, or that have an adverse impact on agricultural activities.

Planning Policy Framework:

- **Clause 14.01-1S Protection of agricultural land**
  - The key objective is to '*protect the state's agricultural base by preserving productive farmland.*

- **Clause 14.01-1L**
  - The objective is '*to avoid land use conflicts between agricultural and non-agricultural land uses*'.

- The key strategies are
  - *Discourage non-agricultural use and development in all rural areas other than those that support agriculture.*
  - *Separate agricultural and non-agricultural uses by using landscape buffers, orientation, and siting of buildings.*
  - *Consider the effect of the proposed use and development on the amenity of adjacent land.*
- The policy also discourages industry in the Farming Zone other than rural industry or extractive industry in dryland areas.

- **Clause 17.03-2S Sustainable industry**
  - A key strategy is to '*provide adequate separation and buffer areas between sensitive uses and offensive or dangerous industries and quarries to ensure that residents are not affected by adverse environmental effects, nuisance, or exposure to hazards*'.

Zone

- **Clause 35.07 Farming Zone**

The purpose of the Farming zone:

- *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.*
- *To provide for the use of land for agriculture.*
- *To encourage the retention of productive agricultural land.*
- *To ensure that non-agricultural uses, including dwellings, do not adversely affect the use of land for agriculture.*
- *To encourage the retention of employment and population to support rural communities.*
- *To encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision.*
- *To provide for the use and development of land for the specific purposes identified in a schedule to this zone.*

The decision guidelines of the Farming Zone seek assessment of a range of issues including the capability of the land to support the use, whether the use will support and enhance agricultural production, whether the use will support soil quality or permanently remove land from agriculture the potential for the use or development to limit expansion of adjoining and nearby agricultural uses, design and siting issues.

Overlays

The Environmental Significance Overlay relates to the Murray River environs. As the site sits 1.3 km from the river and is separated by the Murray Valley Highway it is considered that there is limited environmental impacts on the river.

The Land Subject to Inundation Overlay triggered a referral to the CMA who did not object nor seek any specific conditions.

Consultation:

Advertising

The application was advertised pursuant to Section 52 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, by:

As a result of the notice, 13 objections were received and raised issues relating to:

1. **Dust.** Including air borne dust into drinking water (from roof to tanks as some dwellings in the area are not connected to town water), lowering air quality in the area, concrete dust on primary produce grown in the area and health effects on animals. An objector noted they are now unable to have a window open as fine dust particles from over the road enter their home and as the site has already been used for concrete crushing, another objector stated the dust has already been quite thick.

2. **Noise.** The level of noise from the trucks and concrete crushing will cause detriment to the surrounding dwellings, motel and caravan parks.

3. **Traffic**. Increase in trucks in the area and increase in truck noise. There is no turning lane for trucks to allow the flow of traffic.

4. **Wrong location**. Comment has been made the proposal is in the wrong location and should be located further outside of the 'Swan Hill city limits' in a more suitable location, considering most dwellings, motel, and caravan park have been established for a very long time.

Financial Implications:

Should the application be refused or approved, there is potential for the applicant, or a third party apply for review with the Victoria Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) and Council will be required to defend their position.

Social Implications:

N/A

Economic Implications:

The site is in an area that has a range of land uses. Ensuring compatibility between uses needs to consider broad economic impacts and benefits.

Environmental Implications:

There are several environmental implications that could arise from the proposal should a planning permit be granted by Council. The implications include offsite amenity impacts as outlined in this report such as dust and noise. The site is close to sensitive uses such as dwellings, caravan park and a veterinary clinic and should the proposal not be managed appropriately, there is a high chance there will be an environmental impact on the surrounding land.

Risk Management Implications:

Nil.

Conclusion:

It is considered that this proposal is inconsistent with the Swan Hill Planning Scheme as outlined in this report and has a high likelihood of creating adverse impacts on the surrounding land, therefore, it is recommended that Council refuse the application.

Attachments:

1. Functional Layout Plan (1) [**2.2.1** - 3 pages]
2. Traffic Report [**2.2.2** - 23 pages]
3. Environmental Management Plan [**2.2.3** - 19 pages]
4. EPA Registration [**2.2.4** - 7 pages]
5. Written Submission Site 2 [**2.2.5** - 19 pages]
6. Proposed Site Plan Site 2 Version 2 [**2.2.6** - 1 page]
7. Combined Submissions Redacted_241 MVH [**2.2.7** - 39 pages]
8. Applicant Response to Objections_241 MVH [**2.2.8** - 7 pages]

Options

1. Council resolves to issue a Notice of Decision to refuse the planning application.
2. Council resolves to issue a Notice of Decision to approve a Planning Permit subject to relevant planning permit conditions.

Recommendation/s

That Council:

1. **Determine that pursuant to Section 65 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to issue a Notice of Decision to Refuse a Planning Permit for the use and development of the land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming Zone, Environmental Significance Overlay, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, Alteration to an Access to a Road in the Transport Zone 2, and Reduction in Car Parking based on the following grounds:**

   a) **The proposal is not in accordance with Clause 02-03-4 Natural resource management within the Swan Hill Planning Scheme and if approved would be likely to discourage or impact the ability of the surrounding land to be used for agricultural purposes**
   b) **The proposal is not in accordance with Clause 14.01-1L Agriculture within the Swan Hill Planning Scheme which discourages the use of non-agricultural uses.**
   c) **The proposal is inconsistent with purpose and decision guidelines of Clause 35.05 Farming Zone within the Swan Hill Planning Scheme**
   d) **The proposal will result in adverse amenity impacts on surrounding land. This would include nearby dwellings and the camping and caravan park which contributes to the Rural City's tourism industry, because of dust, noise, and traffic.**

FUNCTIONAL DRIVEWAY DESIGN

241, MURRAY VALLEY HWY, SWANHILL, VIC, 3585.

SHEET INDEX

1. COVER SHEET
2. LAYOUT PLAN
3. LAYOUT PLAN WITH SWEPT PATH

GENERAL NOTES

G1. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO CONFIRM ALL DIMENSIONS AND LEVELS SHOWN ON THE PLAN PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT.

G2. ALL WORKS TO COMPLY WITH RELEVANT OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO COMPLY WITH VIC WH & S REGULATIONS.

G3. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL IMPLEMENT A MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT WORK STANDARDS AND DOCUMENT SUCH COMPLIANCE. THE CONTRACTORS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WILL INCLUDE OH&S, ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY.

G4. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO LOCATE AND DEPTH ALL UNDERGROUND SERVICES PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

G5. CONTRACTOR MUST ENSURE SURVEY PEGS, MARKERS AND CONTROL POINTS ARE NOT DISTURBED DURING CONSTRUCTION. REINSTATEMENT WILL BE AT THE CONTRACTORS EXPENSE.

G6. THE SITES IS TO BE CLEANED OF WORK MATERIALS AND RUBBISH PRIOR TO CONTRACTOR LEAVING SITE.

G7. ALL EXISTING TREES, SHRUBS AND GRASSES MUST BE PROTECTED AT ALL TIMES DURING CONSTRUCTION.

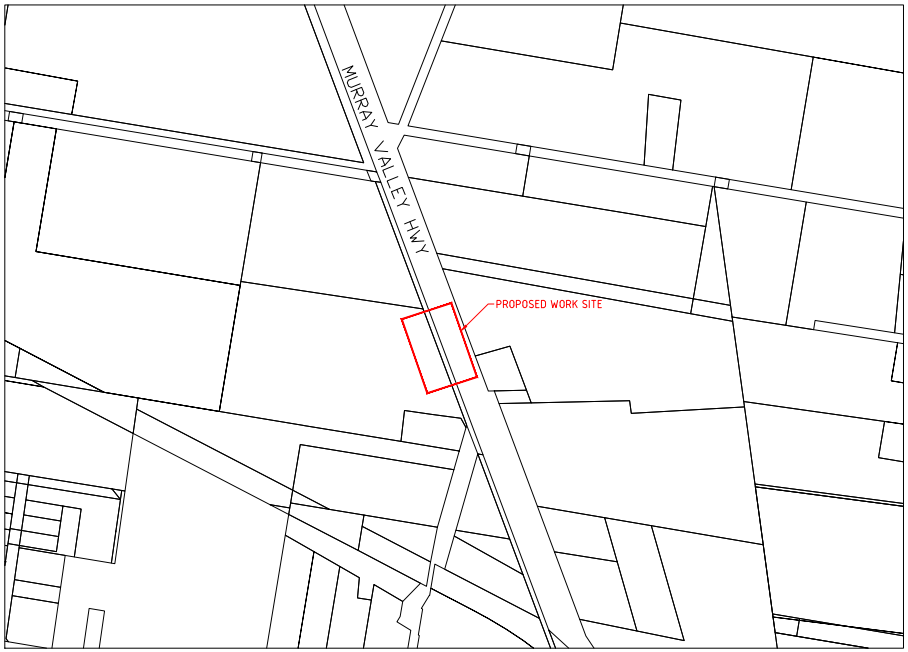
G8. BEFORE CLEARING OF NATIVE VEGETATION, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM THE LOCAL COUNCIL OR CORPORATION AND IN THE CASE OF PRIVATE LAND, CONSENT MUST BE OBTAINED FROM THE OWNER.

G9. NO TREES SHALL BE REMOVED WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.

G10. CONTRACTOR TO ENSURE CORRECT COMPACTION EQUIPMENT IS USED FOR SPECIFIED COMPACTION.

G11. NATURE STRIPS AND AREAS OF CUT SHALL BE TOPSOILED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE COUNCIL.

G12. HOLD POINT: PRIOR TO DEMOBILISATION CONTRACTOR TO ARRANGE FINAL INSPECTION WITH WATER AUTHORITY. A MINIMUM OF 24hrs NOTICE IS REQUIRED.



LOCALITY PLAN

SCALE OF METRES 1 : 5,000

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Ph: (03) 5032 3685
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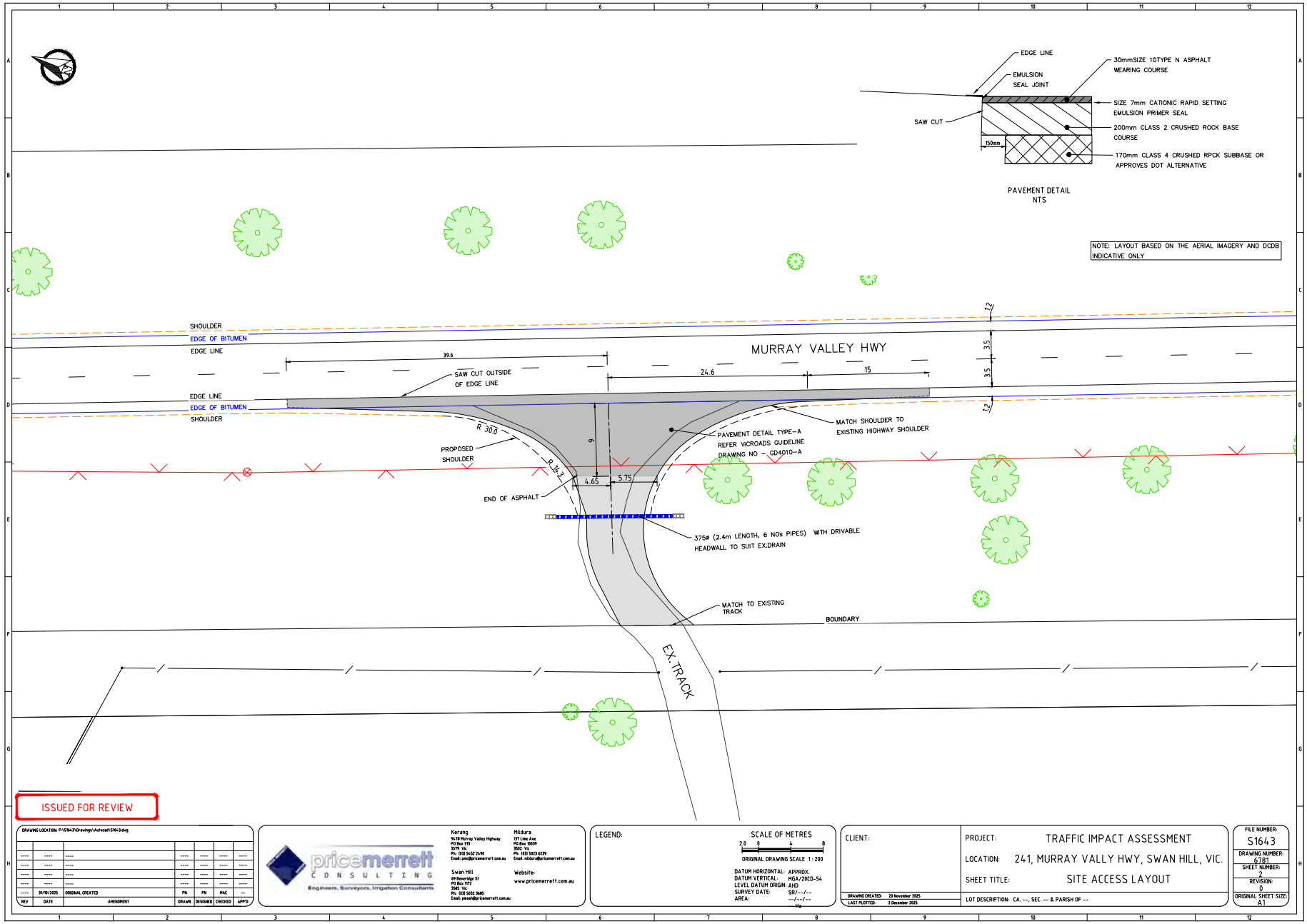
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Engineers, Surveyors, Irrigation Consultants

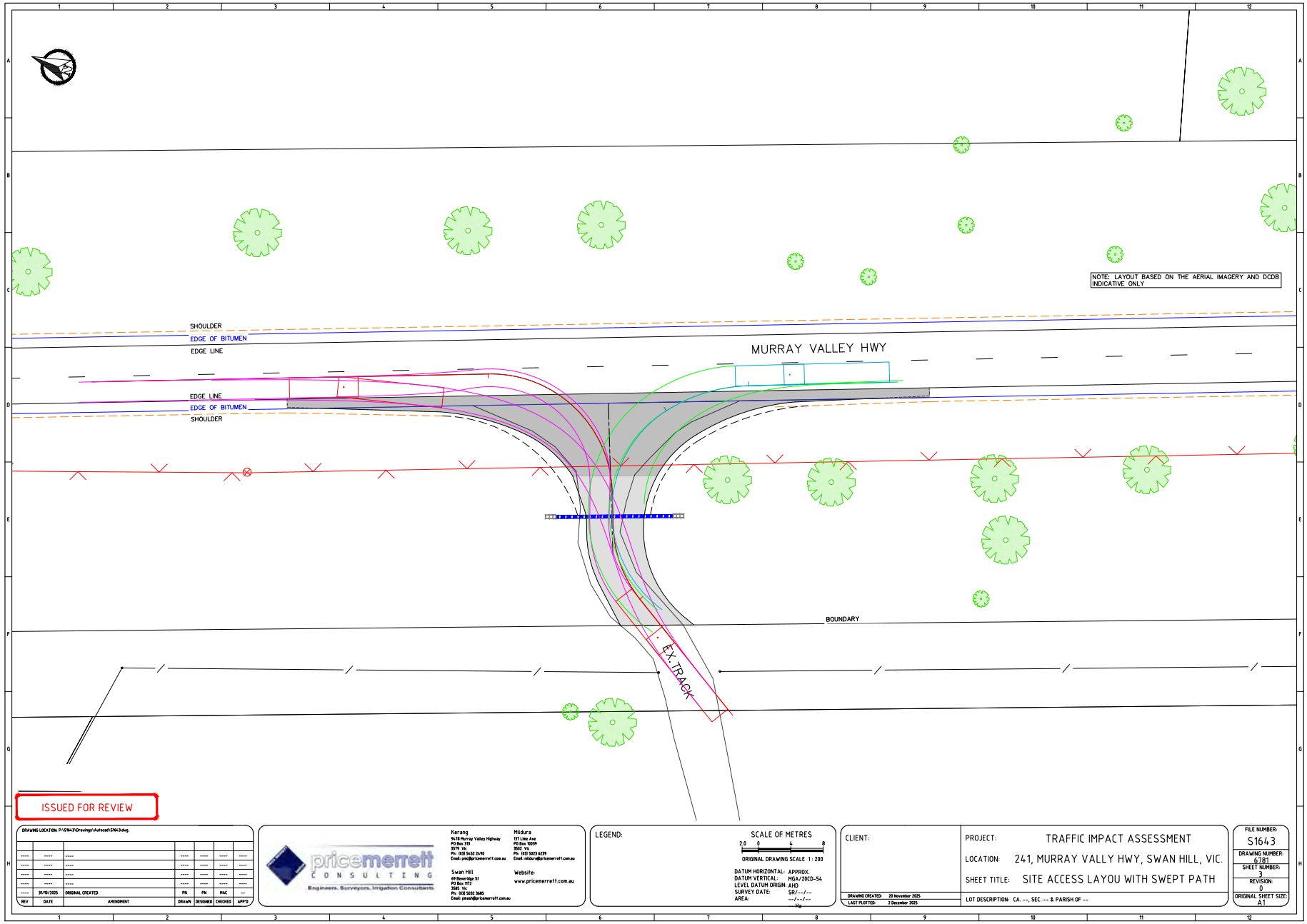
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31/10/2025 ORIGINAL CREATED PN PN MAC --
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LEGEND:
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DATUM VERTICAL: MGA/20CD-54
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CLIENT:
PROJECT: TRAFFIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT
LOCATION: 241, MURRAY VALLY HWY, SWAN HILL, VIC.
SHEET TITLE: SITE ACCESS LAYOUT
DRAWING CREATED 20 November 2025
LAST PLOTTED 2 December 2025
LOT DESCRIPTION: CA. --, SEC. -- & PARISH OF --
FILE NUMBER: S1643
DRAWING NUMBER: 6781
SHEET NUMBER: 2
REVISION: 0
ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE: A1


NOTE: LAYOUT BASED ON THE AERIAL IMAGERY AND DCDB INDICATIVE ONLY
SHOULDER
EDGE OF BITUMEN
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MURRAY VALLEY HWY
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EDGE OF BITUMEN
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ISSUED FOR REVIEW
LEGEND:
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DATUM HORIZONTAL: APPROX.
DATUM VERTICAL: MGA/20CD-54
LEVEL DATUM ORIGIN: AHD
SURVEY DATE: SR/--/--
AREA: --/--/--
--Ha
CLIENT:
PROJECT: TRAFFIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT
LOCATION: 241, MURRAY VALLY HWY, SWAN HILL, VIC.
SHEET TITLE: SITE ACCESS LAYOU WITH SWEPT PATH
DRAWING CREATED 20 November 2025
LAST PLOTTED 2 December 2025
LOT DESCRIPTION: CA. --, SEC. -- & PARISH OF --
FILE NUMBER: S1643
DRAWING NUMBER: 6781
SHEET NUMBER: 3
REVISION: 0
ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE: A1
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TRAFFICWORKS™

Traffic Impact Assessment Report

241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill

Project Number 241127
Draft Report 22/08/2025
Client

TRAFFICWORKS™

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Document prepared by:

Trafficworks Pty Ltd

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Document control	
Report title	241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill
Project number	241127
Client	
Client contact	Mark Carter of Price Merrett Consulting

Revision	**Date issued**	**Revision details / status**	**Prepared by**	**Authorised by**
Draft	22/08/2025	Preliminary draft	Stuart Redman	Kate Kennedy

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Executive summary

engaged Trafficworks to undertake a traffic impact assessment (TIA) for the proposed development for storing and recycling concrete material at **241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill.**

The table below summarises the site and the proposed development, and our conclusions and recommendations.

Address	241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill
Zoning	Farming Zone (FZ)
Proposed development	Storing and recycling concrete material
Road network	Murray Valley Highway (B400)
Traffic generation	Vehicle trips per day: — trucks = 20 — staff = 2
Car parking	Demand for 1 staff car space
Conclusion	We conclude there are no traffic engineering reasons that would prevent the development from proceeding, subject to the implementation of our recommendations. — there is no trend of crashes near the site that requires immediate investigation — the operation of the development is to crush the concrete for road base, on an intermittent basis, around 12 times per year for 3-5 days at a time — during the operational periods, up to one light vehicle and 10 heavy vehicles will visit the subject site — there will be sufficient car parking on-site to meet the car parking demand — the sight lines along Murray Valley Highway at the site access are satisfactory.
Recommendations	It is recommended that: — **Recommendation 1:** The site access driveway should be constructed to DTP's satisfaction, generally in accordance with the guideline drawing GD4010, typical access to rural properties. The driveway should be designed to accommodate truck and dog (heavy) vehicles.

Referenced documents

References used in the preparation of this report include the following:

- AS/NZS 2890: Parking Facilities Part 1: Off-street car parking (2004)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council Planning Scheme
- Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) website:
    - crashes last 5 years
    - guideline drawing GD4010
- Transport for NSW (TfNSW) Guide to Transport Impact Assessment (GTIA), TS 00085 Version 1.1, released November 2024

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1 Introduction

engaged Trafficworks to undertake a traffic impact assessment (TIA) for the proposed development for storing and recycling concrete material at **241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill.**

For the details about:

- existing site conditions – see section 2
- description of the proposed development – see section 3
- traffic impact of the proposed development – see section 4
- car parking assessment of the proposed development – see section 5
- access to the site and impacts on the road network – see section 6
- our conclusions and recommendations – see section 7.

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2 Existing conditions

2.1 Subject site

The site is:

- within a Farming Zone (FZ)
- also known as Lot 2 of PS502667
- occupied by a residential dwelling surrounded by farmland.

Vehicular access to the site is currently available from the east via an existing driveway connecting to Murray Valley Highway.

Figure 1 shows the location of the site, which is surrounded by rural properties on the fringes of the Swan Hill township.

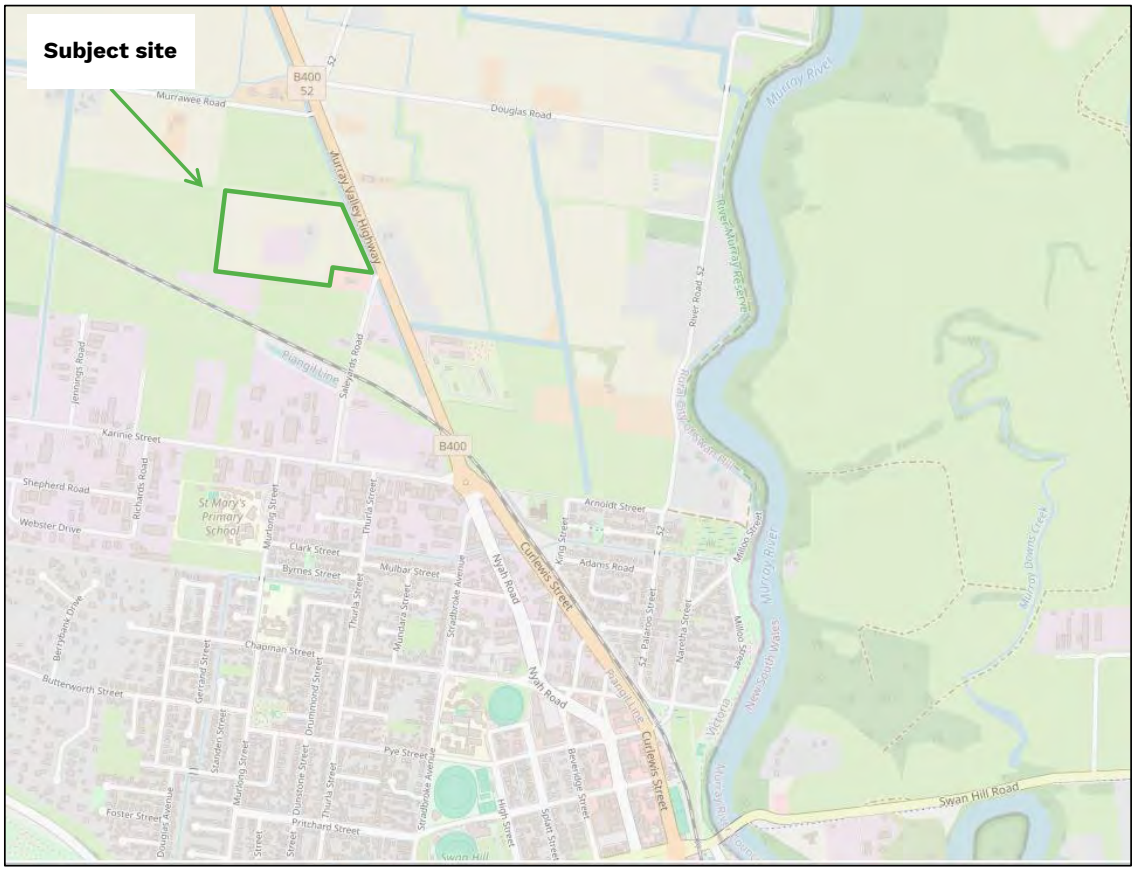


Figure 1: Location plan (reproduced with permission from Melway Publishing Pty Ltd)

Figure 2 shows the zoning for the site and the surrounding area.

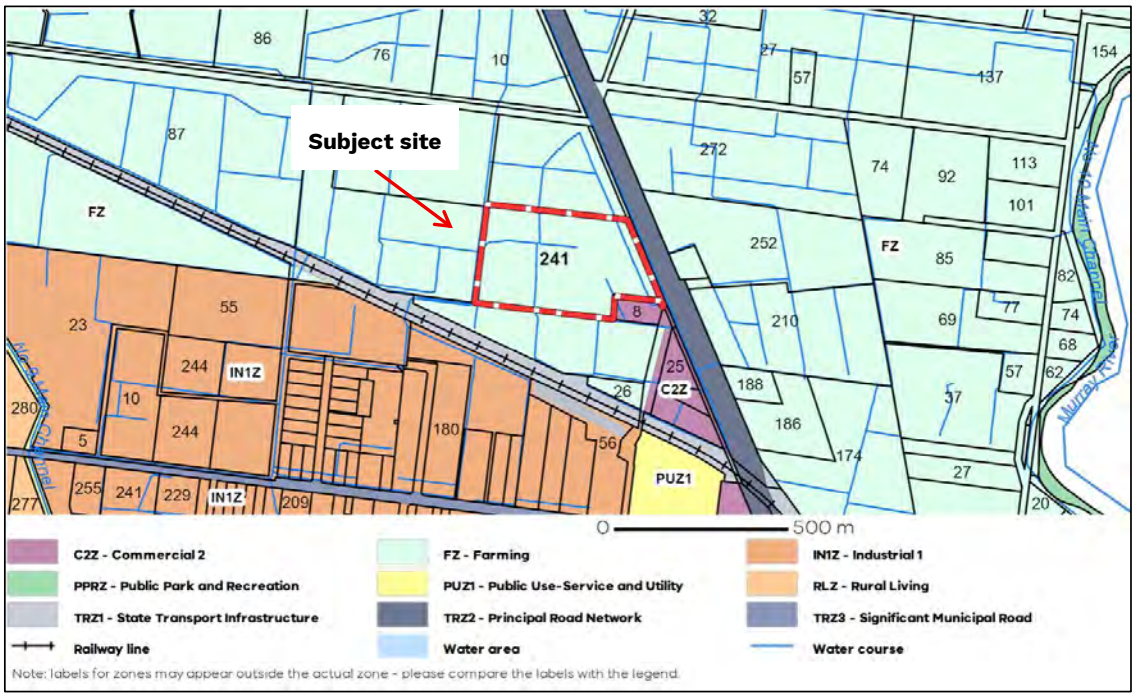


Figure 2: Zoning plan (reproduced from the VicPlan website)

2.2 Road network

The road network includes:

- Murray Valley Highway (B400)

2.2.1 Murray Valley Highway (B400)

Table 1 describes the features of this road.

Table 1: Murray Valley Highway features

Feature	Description
Road type	Arterial road (TRZ2) under the management of Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)
Access	Provides access to regional towns along the Murray River between Euston, New South Wales and Corryong, Victoria
Road reservation width	60.0 m wide
Carriageway width	9.4 m wide
Cross section	— 2-lane, 2-way undivided road — 3.5 m traffic lanes bounded by 1.2 m sealed shoulders — open swale drains
Speed limit	80 km/h past the subject site changes to: — 100 km/h, approx. 500 m to the north — 60 km/h, approx. 500 m to the south

Figure 3 and Figure 4 provide further information about the road.



Figure 3: Murray Valley Highway, northbound past the subject site access



Figure 4: Murray Valley Highway, southbound past the subject site access

2.3 Traffic volumes

The existing traffic volumes on Murray Valley Highway adjacent to the site access were surveyed by Trans Traffic Survey between Saturday, 9 August and Saturday, 16 August 2025. More detailed results are included in Appendix 1 – Traffic survey results.

The survey results are summarised in Table 2, with a 2-way daily mid-week profile shown in Figure 5.

Table 2: Existing traffic volumes

Road Name	Daily 2-way volume (vpd)	Peak hour volume (vph)			85th %ile speed (km/h)	Heavy vehicle (%)
		Two-way*	NB	SB		
Murray Valley Highway (near the subject site)	5,798	AM: 488	155	333	82	17.1
		PM: 515	281	234		

**The AM peak was 8:00 – 9:00, and the PM peak was 4:00 - 5:00*

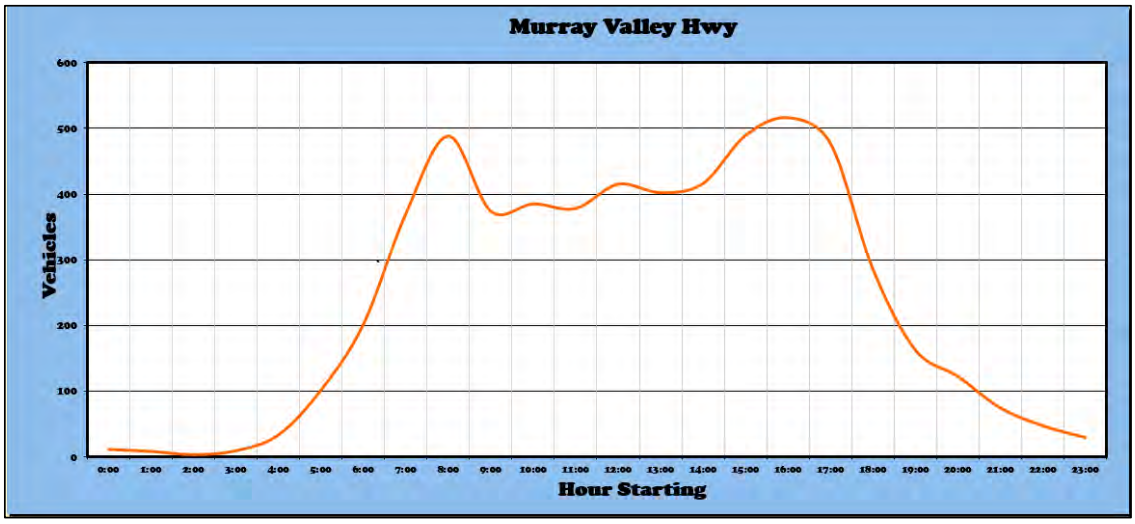


Figure 5: 2-way mid-week traffic volume profile

2.4 Crash history

The DTP data portal, which details all injury crashes on roads throughout Victoria, reports that one casualty crash occurred on the roads in the vicinity of the subject site in the last 5 years (accessed 12 August 2025).

A serious injury accident involving a collision with a vehicle, right turn sideswipe (DCA Code 136), took place in daylight at the southern end of the property on Murray Valley Highway in March 2022.

Based on this, we conclude that no crash trend requires immediate investigation.

2.5 Public transport

No public transport facilities are present along Murray Valley Highway adjacent to the subject site.

2.6 Pedestrians and cyclists

No pedestrian or cyclist facilities are present along Murray Valley Highway adjacent to the subject site.

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3 The proposal

The proposed development includes the recycling of concrete by crushing to be stored on site and reused as a base for road construction.

The plan is to crush the concrete for road base, on an intermittent basis, around 12 times per year for 3-5 days at a time. The expected volumes during these operations are 1,000 to 2,000 m^3, depending on the availability of materials to be recycled.

Vehicular access to the proposed development will be via the existing driveway connecting to Murray Valley Highway.



Figure 6: the existing driveway access to the subject site from Murray Valley Highway

Water trucks will be used to dampen the trafficable area to reduce dust. Tipping trucks will be used to transport and deliver raw concrete and crushed material (see Figure 7). A front-end loader/excavator will be used onsite to load the concrete into the crusher and processed material into the trucks.



Figure 7: example of water and tipper trucks (Source: Planning report)

A light vehicle is used to access the property and is parked onsite out of the way when crushing operations take place. The crusher is operated by a single person, who also uses an excavator to fill it and the trucks with material.

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4 Traffic assessment of the proposed development

4.1 Traffic generation

Traffic generation for new developments is typically estimated using the rates provided in the TfNSW Guide to Transport Impact Assessments, 2024 (GTIA). Storing and recycling concrete material is not listed in the GTIA, so an empirical assessment was undertaken.

The concrete recycling is expected to generate a maximum of 11 arrivals (22 trips) daily, which equates to the single plant operator on site (light vehicle), and arrival/departures for 10 heavy rigid trucks (see Figure 7). Operating hours are expected to be 7:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday, on an intermittent basis, around 12 times per year for 3-5 days at a time.

The vehicles accessing the subject site are truck and dog trailers arriving from both the north and south directions. The drivers arriving at the site with the truck and dog trailers will be loaded/unloaded by the single staff member using a front-end loader. Conservatively assuming it takes half an hour to load a truck and depart, the peak hour truck movements will be limited to a maximum of 2-3 vehicles per hour (4-6 trips in and out of the development during the peak hour).

A summary of the expected traffic volumes is:

- heavy vehicles: 10 trucks per day, generating a total trip generation of 20 vpd
- light vehicles: 1 car/ute (1 full-time staff) per day, generating a total daily trip generation of 2 vpd.

Truck loading limits peak-hour movements, allowing up to 2-3 trucks to be loaded each hour.

4.2 Traffic distribution assumptions

Traffic distribution is assumed to be:

- 50% in and 50% out
- 100% in during the AM peak and 100% out during the PM peak for the single staff.

All traffic will enter the site via the existing Murray Valley Highway site access.

Given the location of the subject site to the surrounding towns, distribution for the trucks along Murray Valley Highway is expected to be:

- 40% to the north
- 60% to the south (towards Swan Hill).

The staff member is expected to travel to/from Swan Hill from the south.

4.3 Anticipated traffic volumes

The proposed development will result in an average of 20 heavy and 2 light vehicle trips daily. The maximum peak hour movement would see up to 3 trucks loaded, resulting in 6 heavy vehicle trips during a peak hour.

It is unlikely that the peak development movement would coincide with the staff arrival, but for this assessment, it has been assumed that they will coincide. Furthermore, it has been assumed that the development peak would occur at the same time as the commuter peak for Murray Valley Highway.

Table 3 shows the anticipated development AM peak hour traffic volumes at the development access / Murray Valley Highway intersection.

Table 3: Anticipated development AM peak hour traffic volumes at the development access / Murray Valley Highway intersection

Period	Type	Left In	Right In	Left Out	Right Out	Total
Development Peak	Light	1	0	0	0	1
	Heavy	2	1	1	2	6
	TOTAL	**3**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**7**

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5 Parking assessment of the proposed development

5.1 Planning scheme car parking assessment

The GTIA provides car parking rates for new developments; however, it does not provide the rates for a storage and recycling concrete material facility. An empirical assessment was undertaken to estimate the car parking demand for the proposed development.

Section 4.1 outlined that it is anticipated that the following vehicles will access the subject site per day during the site's operational periods:

- 1 light vehicle
- 10 heavy vehicles (trucks)

The subject site has sufficient room for the single staff vehicle to park during the day, and the trucks will park in line for loading. Therefore, the car parking demand for the development will be satisfied.

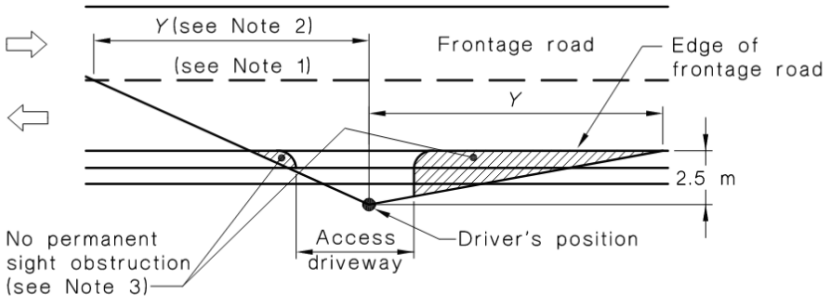
6 Access to the site

6.1 Site access – access driveway sight distance requirement

Section 3.2.4 in AS2890.1, sets out:

- entering sight distance (ESD) criteria for a driver exiting an access driveway to traffic on the frontage road
- sight distance to pedestrians.

Un-signalised access driveways shall be located so that the intersection sight distance available to drivers leaving the driveway along the frontage road is at least that shown in Figure 3.2 of AS2890.1 (reproduced in Figure 8).



Frontage road speed (Note 4) km/h	Distance (Y) along frontage road m		
	Access driveways other than domestic (Note 5)		Domestic property access (Note 6)
	Desirable 5 s gap	Minimum SSD	
40	55	35	30
50	69	45	40
60	83	65	55
70	97	85	70
80	111	105	95
90	125	130	Use values from 2nd and 3rd columns
100	139	160	
110	153	190	

Figure 8: Sight distance requirements at driveways (Source: Figure 3.2 from AS2890.1)

The proposed site access to the development along Murray Valley Highway is subject to a posted speed limit of 80 km/h. The corresponding minimum Stopping Sight Distance (SSD) is 105 m.

The available sight distance at the site access intersection to Murray Valley Highway is demonstrated in Figure 9 and Figure 10.



Figure 9: Sightlines towards the north from the subject site access with Murray Valley Highway



Figure 10: Sightlines towards the south from the subject site access with Murray Valley Highway

The site assessment concluded that the visibility requirements at the intersection of the subject site access and Murray Valley Highway are satisfied, and no further treatment is required.

6.2 Impact on the existing road network

As discussed in Section 4.3, the proposal will result in 20 heavy vehicle trips and 2 light vehicle trips per day, with a maximum of 6 heavy vehicle trips and one light vehicle trip occurring during the morning commuter/development peak period.

Given that the site will generate low traffic volumes, there will be no material impact on the adjacent section of Murray Valley Highway.

The development access with Murray Valley Highway should be constructed in accordance with DTP's guideline drawing GD4010, Typical Access to Rural Properties, for a truck and dog. An extract of the guideline drawing is shown in Figure 11.

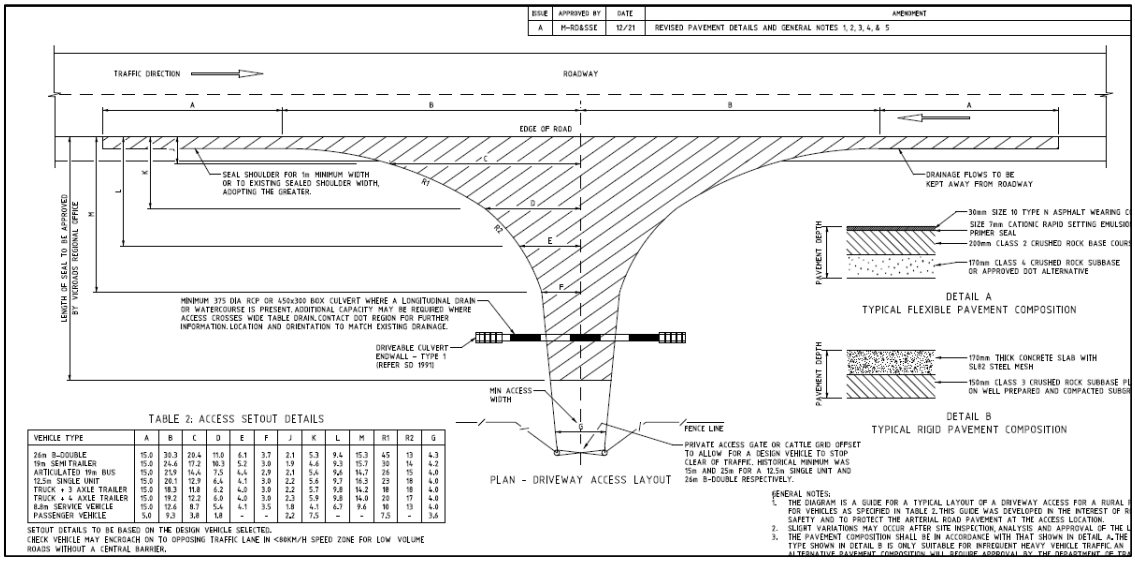


Figure 11: extract of DTP's guideline drawing GD4010, Typical Access to Rural Properties

Recommendation 1: The site access driveway should be constructed to DTP's satisfaction, generally in accordance with guideline drawing GD4010, typical access to rural properties. The driveway should be designed to accommodate truck and dog (heavy) vehicles.

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7 Conclusions and recommendations

We conclude there are no traffic engineering reasons that would prevent the development from proceeding, as outlined below:

- there is no trend of crashes near the site that requires immediate investigation
- the operation of the development is to crush the concrete for road base, on an intermittent basis, around 12 times per year for 3-5 days at a time
- during the operational periods, up to one light vehicle and 10 heavy vehicles will visit the subject site
- there will be sufficient car parking on-site to meet the car parking demand
- the sight lines along Murray Valley Highway at the site access are satisfactory.

However, this TIA has identified a recommendation that needs to be addressed:

- **Recommendation 1:** The site access driveway should be constructed to DTP's satisfaction, generally in accordance with guideline drawing GD4010, typical access to rural properties. The driveway should be designed to accommodate the truck and dog (heavy) vehicles.

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Appendix 1 – Traffic survey results

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Appendix 2 - Acronyms and terms

Acronyms / terms	Definition
AGRD4	Austroads Guide to Road Design Part 4 – Intersections and crossings
AGRD4A	Austroads Guide to Road Design Part 4A – Unsignalised and signalised intersections
AGTM6	Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 6 – Intersections, interchanges and crossings management
AGTM8	Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 8 – Local street management
AS/NZS2890.1	Australian Standard / New Zealand Standard 2890.1 Parking facilities Part 1: Off-street car parking
DTP	Department of Transport and Planning (formerly VicRoads)
ESD	Entering site distance
PSP	Precinct structure plan
SIDRA	SIDRA intersection – micro analytical traffic engineering software to model the performance of intersections
SISD	safe intersection sight distance
TIA	traffic impact assessment
vpd	vehicles per day
vph	vehicles per hour
VPA	Victorian Planning Authority

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill

S1643

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Description	Written by	Approved by	Date issued
1	Issued to council	SG	MC	11/06/2025

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name	241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill – Environmental Management		
Client	Dale Whitfield		
Report Authors	Price Merrett Consulting Pty Ltd		
PMC Project Reference	S1643		
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1. INTRODUCTION

Price Merrett Consulting have been engaged by Dale Whitfield to prepare this planning permit application for the use of his property to store and recycle concrete material. This Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has been prepared with specific details in regards to the management actions required for an effective environmental management plan for the Whitfield Excavations concrete recycling area.

1.1 Scope of Works

Whitfield Excavations have been involved in the road maintenance and construction industry for many years. The scheduled maintenance and construction works are required to ensure safe road conditions are maintained for members of the public and the sourcing materials to complete these works is an important ongoing process.

The adopted method of recycling concrete material uses modern equipment which is efficient with improved safety and minimizes environmental impacts. Hardstand areas are created to minimize any impacts from leaching or alkalinity on sub soils that could possibly occur during the operation.

2. PURPOSE

The preparation of the plan is a requirement from Swan Hill Rural City Council to obtain planning permit consent for the use of the Subject site for recycling concrete. The Project Management Plan details the potential environmental impacts of a proposed development and the ways in which these impacts can be reduced through management strategies and site practices.

Dale Whitfield will use his property 241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill industrial area to recycle concrete by crushing to be reused for road base.

The property to be used is Lot 2 PS502667S in the Farming Zone in Swan Hill.

The property is bounded by the railway line to the south and the Murray Valley Highway to the east and is surrounded by Farming zoned land.

The site is cleared and basically flat with no vegetation or development.

The purpose of the zone is to:

- To ensure that non-agricultural uses, including dwellings, do not adversely affect the use of land for agriculture.
- To encourage the retention of employment and population to support rural communities.
- To encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision.

A permit for Industry is considered a Section 2 use in the Farming Zone and will require the objectives of 33.01 to be met.

An application to use land for an industry or warehouse must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- The purpose of the use and the types of processes to be utilised.
- The type and quantity of goods to be stored, processed or produced.
- How land not required for immediate use is to be maintained.
- Whether a Development Licence, Operating Licence, Permit or Registration is required from the Environment Protection Authority.
- Whether a notification under the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 is required, a licence under the Dangerous Goods Act 1985 is required, or a fire protection quantity under the Dangerous Goods (Storage and Handling) Regulations 2012 is exceeded.
- The likely effects, if any, on the neighbourhood, including:
    - Noise levels.
    - Air-borne emissions.
    - Emissions to land or water.
    - Traffic, including the hours of delivery and dispatch.
    - Light spill or glare.

Section 4 of this report will address these the requirements of the Swan Hill Rural City Planning Schemes.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

Organisation/Stakeholder	Roles
Swan Hill Rural City Council (SHRCC)	Local Government Authority
EPA	Enforcement authority
Price Merrett Consulting (PMC)	Project Manager - design
Whitfield Excavations – Dale Whitfield	Proponent/Contractors delivering the project

Task	Responsibility
Induction and training	• Ongoing site inductions for Whitfield's Personnel and visitors to the site to be delivered by Whitfield's
Implementation	• EPA will be the overall authority responsible for the operation • Whitfield's will deliver the specific tasks throughout the operation
Monitoring	• Whitfield's to maintain incident record
Auditing and reporting	• Whitfield's Excavations will be responsible for maintaining records to be audited and are kept in worksite folder
Communication of key project elements	• Whitfield's will be responsible for the overall communication with the community

Identifying and implementation of corrective and preventative actions.	• Whitfield's will be responsible for issuing any specific management operations • Whitfield's will be responsible for the implementation of the corrective actions

Relevant Contact Details	
Price Merrett Consulting – Design & Planning	Kerang Office: 5452 2490 Mark Carter PH: 0402 606 553
Swan Hill Rural City Council	5036 2333 council@swanhill.vic.gov.au
Whitfield Excavations	Head Office -25 Saleyards Road, Swan Hill 5033 2206
Swan Hill Hospital	48 Splatt Street, Swan Hill 5033 9300
EPA	1300 372 842

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proponent plans on crushing concrete for road base, on an intermittent base around 12 times per year for 3-5 days at a time. Expected volumes during these operations are 1000-2000m^3 depending on availability of materials to be recycled. The type of crusher to be used is pictured below.



Figure 1: Concrete crusher

5. OPERATION

Operator estimates the use of the crushing/screening equipment up to 12 times per year, with an average of 3-5 days per batch.

Temporary fencing can be installed in the short term if required while permanent fencing is arranged around hardstand areas.

Trucks load and unload material onsite on an infrequent basis. A Light vehicle is used to access the property and is parked onsite out of the way when crushing operations take place. The crusher is run by a single operator and an excavator is used to fill the crusher with material with a single operator. No amenities buildings are located onsite as the company head office is 1km away on Saleyards Road.

5.1 Hours of Operation

Recommended levels are described for different periods of the day.

Definition	Day	Time
Day	Monday—Friday	0700 - 1800
	Saturday	0700 – 1300

5.2 Traffic Control

The number of trucks expected delivering material to the site is dependent on the availability of concrete to recycle. This is anticipated to be one or two trucks daily for a week delivering material until sufficient volume is stockpiled to undertake the crushing operation that lasts for 3-5 days as mentioned.

5.2.1 Type and number of vehicles

Front-end loader/excavator
Tipper trucks
Screening equipment
Water truck
Crusher – mobile (on tracks for maneuvering around the site)
Mobile fuel cart as required

2019 ISUZU CXYAA-H18 TRUCK & TIPPING TRAILER
2017 ISUZU GIGA TRUCK & TIPPING TRAILER
2015 ISUZU GIGA TRUCK & TIPPING TRAILER

Water trucks will be used to dampen the trafficable area to reduce dust emissions. Tipping trucks will be used to transport and deliver raw concrete and crushed material. These trucks have wind out tarps installed to minimize sediment and loose material being deposited on roads.

A single front end loader/excavator will be used onsite to load the concrete into the crusher and processed material into trucks.





5.2.2 Parking

The crusher is the only piece of machinery to be left onsite during operation. No vehicles are permanently parked on the site.

5.3 Incident Reporting

A register of incidents is kept at the site office at 25 Saleyards Road. All complaints and issues raised by members of the public or regulatory authorities are recorded and are bought to the attention of management. Steps to mitigate the issues are dealt with immediately and contact with complainant is made to rectify issues and suitable steps taken to prevent reoccurrence of incident.

5.3.1 Staff Management and Quality Control

Staff are trained by Whitfield's and are under supervision from senior staff. Appropriate licensing and registrations of staff and machinery are all managed through Whitfield Excavations head office at 25 Saleyards Road, Swan Hill.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

6.1 Dust Control

The use of dust suppression techniques are regularly applied to minimize dust in the air which may concentrate in nearby businesses or on roads. Water trucks are available for use to mitigate excessive dust from being blown offsite.

6.2 Noise

Operation of the crushing plant will only occur during weekdays 7am-6pm. As the closest nearby residence is 350m to the west and the intermittent nature of the operation during daylight hours there are no anticipated conflicts expected due to noise.

Given the site location, noise is not expected to be an issue.

However, construction activities should consider the EPA guidelines for works in the Industrial zone.

- All working hours to comply with EPA guidelines depending on activity being undertaken.

EPA Guideline 1411 – Noise from Industry recommends the noise levels from the generating zone, being the Industrial 1 zone to the receiving zone, being Farming Zone, Residential zones and Industrial zones

Receiving Zone recommended decibels dB

Industrial Zone (dB)	Farming Zone (dB)	General Residential Zone (dB)
Day 58 Evening 53 Night 48	Day 53 Evening 48 Night 43	Day 53 Evening 48 Night 43

Contractor shall include the following procedures when working near sensitive receptors:

- Appoint a principal point of contact for residents and provide a 24hr contact number.

- Implement a strategy to record and respond to complaints.
- Schedule high impact/noise activities for less sensitive times of the day.

6.3 Drainage

The property has an existing open drain which contains stormwater for evaporation. There is little likelihood that sediment from the concrete stockpiles will be washed into the onsite drainage channel as material is not stockpiled long term on the property. The crushing plant is not operated during rainfall events.

A stormwater management plan has been prepared indicating drainage points and onsite retention areas.

6.4 Emissions to land or water

The method of crushing concrete does not produce any harmful or toxic emissions which can potentially cause contamination to the environment. Machinery will be maintained to manufacturers specifications and oil and grease and fuel cleaned up. Spill kits will be kept onsite.

A spill kit will be kept onsite in the event of a fuel spill during refueling procedures of the crusher.

The constructed hardstand area will be compacted to minimize leaching to subsurface soil and drainage will be installed to contain all waste water onsite.

6.5 Vehicle Maintenance and wash down

Vehicles will be maintained, fueled and washed down at the Whitfield yard at 25 Saleyards Road neighbouring the property. No soil, mud, clay, sand, oil, grease, chemicals, litter, sediment or dust will be deposited on roads and vehicles will be washed down, with no waste water being discharged into the stormwater drainage system or surrounding land or road reserves.

6.6 Control Spills and Storage of Hazardous substances

No fuel or hazardous substances will be stored onsite. Refueling operations will be conducted using a mobile fuel cart. A spill kit will be kept onsite for use in the event of a fuel spill.

6.7 Weed Control

Weed control can be undertaken as part of site maintenance through spraying and removal techniques on a seasonal basis and as required.

6.8 EPA Assessment

Under the Environmental Protection Authority a registration to manage industrial waste is required.

The EPA guidelines specify for a small waste and resource recovery site:

- Sites receiving, storing or processing waste generated at another site must hold an A13c registration. This is when it's for the purposes of resource recovery or off-site transfer or disposal. Also, if there's between 5 m^3 and 5000 m^3 of stored waste on the site at any time.

An EPA registration of up to 5000m^3 of concrete material R000311496 is in place for the recycling of the concrete material at the 241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill location.

7. RISK ASSESSMENT/IDENTIFICATION

The following matrix tables outline how risks are assessed through consideration of consequence and likelihood. Once risks are identified, mitigation actions can be put in place to limit the severity or remove the risk altogether.

Consequence Level	Environment	Community
1	Low level impacts/disturbance to biodiversity, ecosystems or the environment	Little to no inconvenience to the community.
2	Minor impacts to the biodiversity, ecosystem and or environment.	Causes some inconvenience and minor property/services impacted.
3	Moderate impacts to biodiversity, ecosystem and or environment.	Moderate levels of disruption to community/residential properties. Delays greater than 1 day.
4	Major impacts biodiversity, ecosystem and or environment	Significant delays/disruption to community functions >2 weeks.
5	Catastrophic, permanent impacts to biodiversity, ecosystems and the environment.	Significant and permanent impacts to community settings.

Rating	Likelihood	Description
A	Almost certain	Almost certain risk will occur
B	Likely	Likely that event will occur
C	Possible	An event could possibly occur
D	Unlikely	Unlikely that an event will provide any impact
E	Rare	Rare for an event to have any impact

Likelihood	Consequence				
	1 Insignificant	2 Minor	3 Moderate	4 Major	5 Catastrophic
A Almost Certain	Low	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
B Likely	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme
C Possible	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
D Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium
E Rare	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium

Risk Profile	Definition
Low	A level of risk that is low and can be managed.
Medium	As low as reasonably practical (actions are required to reduce risk).
High	Major risk requiring intervention to reduce risk.
Extreme	Intolerable risk requiring highest priority (immediate) attention.

8. SITE MITIGATION MEASURES

#	Project Activities	Unmitigated Risk Description	Rating	Consequence	Risk	Mitigation actions	Rating	Consequence	Risk	Timing and Frequency	Responsibility
	Pre Operation										
1	Site Rehabilitation protocol	Discrepancies in version of site condition at end of project.	A	2	M	Dilapidation survey including photos to be taken by Whitfields.	D	1	L	Pre-operation	Whitfield
2	Site inductions	Issues, impacts arising from lack of coordination of shared site and local conditions.	B	4	H	Whitfield to ensure site inductions of staff and visiting persons. Ongoing inductions by Whitfields as necessary.	D	1	L	Pre-operation and toolbox meetings.	Whitfield
3	Location of stockpile sites	Stockpiles extend over setback to boundary	C	3	M	Whitfield to review with Council the location of stockpile sites as approved on the Plans.	D	1	L	Whitfields to inspect pre-operation	Whitfield SHRCC
4	Mobilisation of machinery to site	Issues with stockpile location, damage to undisturbed areas and neighbouring lots	D	3	M	Whitfield to monitor rollout and installation of machinery to site and locate in areas as marked on Plans. Transport of material on and offsite to be covered	C	2	L	Pre-operation and toolbox meetings	Whitfield

5	Cultural Heritage	Damages to Cultural Sites.	D	2	L	No excavation to be undertaken. Site is not in an area of Cultural Heritage sensitivity Inductions to staff to include briefing on what to do if artefacts are found in earthworks. Contact 1300 888 544 if sensitive items are uncovered.	D	2	L	Pre-operation,	Whitfield

	During Operation										
6	Machinery movement.	Damage to environment through vehicle movement in areas not permitted for heavy machinery.	C	3	M	Access to site from designated point and operation during dry weather conditions only.	D	2	L	During Operation	Whitfield
7	Machinery movement.	Spread of weeds and pathogens out or into the site.	C	3	M	Site to have monthly weed management involving monitoring and spraying as necessary. Vehicles to enter via allocated access points.	D	2	L	During Operation	Whitfield
8	Concrete materials	Concrete materials exceeding allowable onsite storage volumes as per EPA registration.	C	4	M	Materials imported to the site for crushing must be stockpiled within desired setbacks from boundary and volumes not to exceed 5000m^3	D	2	L	During Operation	Whitfield

9	Management of site after hours	Site conditions not safe.	C	4	M	Whitfield to follow SHRCC specifications for management of site during and after hours. Prior to leaving site on work days, site representative to review safety of site.	D	2	L	During Operation	Whitfield & SHRCC
10	Monitoring/Inspection	Ensure waste management practices are maintained throughout the operation	C	4	M	Inspection of all storage and service areas, spill kits and bunding will be carried out at regular intervals throughout the project timeframe. Inspections of works area will be conducted prior to commencement of construction and throughout the course of the project. All environmental incidents will be investigated by Whitfield, who will ensure that all remedial actions are completed.	D	2	L	During operation	Whitfield
11	Record keeping	Maintain required incident record	C	3	M	All records available for auditing and reporting purposes	D	2	L	During operation	Whitfield
	Post Construction										

	Clean up	Delays to clean up causing community and management issues.	C	2	L	Site left clean and tidy upon ceasing operation	D	2	L	Post Operation	Whitfield

9. SITE PLAN


98°35'
397.70
9°26'
283.85
ALL DRAINAGE TO REMAIN ONSITE
STOCKPILE MAX. HEIGHT 2m
1800m³
DWELLING
STOCKPILE MAX. HEIGHT 2m
1800m³
MOBILE CRUSHER
VEHICULAR ACCESS
2700m³
STOCKPILE MAX. HEIGHT 2m
MURRAY VALLEY HIGHWAY
159°28'
261.13
182.68
279°26'
213.89
279°21'
59.77
278°08'40"
63.29
277°31'
67.27
188°30'20"
331°00'
196°03'
SALEYARDS ROAD
JOB DETAILS
DRAWN : KHPS
DATE : 27/05/2025
SHEET No.1 OF 1
VERSION 2
REFERENCE No. S1643
SCALE OF METRES
20 0 40 80
ORIGINAL DRAWING SCALE
1 IN 2000 (A3 SHEET SIZE)
MGA NORTH
pricemerrett CONSULTING
P.O. BOX 1172
SWAN HILL VIC. 3585
Ph. (03) 5032 3685
FAX (03) 5032 2472
P.O. BOX 313
KERANG VIC. 3579
Ph. (03) 5452 2490
FAX (03) 5452 2986
FORMAL LOT DESCRIPTION:
LOT 2 ON PS502667S
DALE WHITFIELD
PROPOSED SITE PLAN
MURRAY VALLEY HIGHWAY, SWAN HILL

Registration

Environment Protection Act 2017

Registration number	R000311496
Issue date	13 February 2025
Expiry date	13 February 2030
Registration holder	WHITFIELD EXCAVATIONS PTY LTD
ACN	618129285
Activity site(s)	241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill, Victoria, 3585, Australia
Prescribed permission activities	A13c (Waste and resource recovery - small)

Granted under section 85(1) of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* (the Act).

Manager, Permissioning
Delegate of Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA)

epa.vic.gov.au

Environment Protection Authority Victoria
GPO BOX 4395 Melbourne VIC 3001
1300 372 842

Registration

Environment Protection Act 2017

Context

Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) is Victoria's environmental regulator acting in accordance with the *Environment Protection Act 2017* (the Act). Our regulatory role is to work with community, industry and business to prevent and reduce the harmful effects of pollution and waste on Victoria's environment and people.

About granting registrations

A range of registration activity types are prescribed in the Environment Protection Regulations 2021 (the Regulations) because they give rise to risks of harm to human health or the environment. We grant registrations so applicants can lawfully undertake prescribed registration activities.

Section 47 of the Act provides that a person must not engage in a prescribed registration activity except as authorised by a registration in respect of that activity.

EPA grants registrations under section 85(1) of the Act. EPA can amend, suspend or revoke a registration for a range of reasons. This can include in response to changes in activities, risks or registration holder performance. All registration details are publicly accessible via the EPA Public Register.

Key information and obligations

Interpretation

For the purposes of this registration "You" means the "registration holder" identified on the first page. Unless a contrary intention appears, words or terms used in the conditions of your registration have the same meaning as in the Act, and in any regulations made pursuant to the Act.

Compliance

Your registration is subject to conditions. These conditions confer legal obligations on you as the registration holder. The requirements of these conditions do not detract from each other in any way, nor do they affect any other duties or obligations with which you are required to comply by law. You must fulfil all duties and perform all obligations set out in this registration or otherwise required by law.

Strict penalties apply for non-compliance with any part of your registration.

You must comply with the Act and regulations administered by EPA. This includes, but is not limited to, compliance with the general environmental duty (GED).

Duties under the Act

Under the Act, you have legal obligations in relation to your prescribed and non-prescribed activities. These legal obligations exist to minimise risks of harm to human health and the environment from pollution and waste.

You may be committing an offence and be liable to a penalty under the Act if your actions or omissions constitute a breach of these legal obligations.

Registration

Environment Protection Act 2017

General environmental duty
The Act places the onus on you to understand the risks associated with your operation or activity and requires you to minimise the risk of harm. This is called the general environmental duty (GED).

Sections 6 and 25 of the Act provide the legal basis for the GED. These sections state that a person engaging in an activity which may give rise to risks of harm to human health or the environment from pollution or waste must eliminate or minimise those risks, as far as reasonably practicable.

Duty to notify EPA of notifiable incidents
A notifiable incident is a pollution incident that causes or threatens to cause material harm to human health or the environment or is a prescribed notifiable incident. Under section 32 of the Act, you have an obligation to notify EPA of a notifiable incident as soon as practicable after you become aware of the incident.

Duty to take action to respond to harm caused by pollution incident
Under section 31 of the Act, if a pollution incident has occurred as a result of an activity (whether by act or omission) and the pollution incident causes or is likely to cause harm to human health or the environment, a person who is engaging in that activity must, so far as reasonably practicable, restore the affected area to the state it was in before the pollution incident occurred.

Duty to notify of contaminated land
Under section 40(1) of the Act, a person in management or control of land must notify EPA if the land has been contaminated by notifiable contamination as soon as practicable after the person becomes aware of the notifiable contamination.

Notifiable contamination means contamination which is prescribed in the Regulations, or contamination for which the cost of action to remediate the land is likely to exceed $50,000, or any other prescribed amount.

Duties relating to industrial waste, priority wastes and reportable priority wastes
Under parts 6.4 and 6.5 of the Act, a person has obligations in relation to the generation, receiving, recording, managing, transporting, and disposal of industrial, priority wastes and reportable priority wastes. These duties include:

- Duties of persons depositing industrial waste.
- Duties of persons receiving industrial waste.
- Duty of persons involved in transporting industrial waste.
- Duties of persons managing priority waste.
- Duty to investigate alternatives to waste disposal.
- Duty to notify of transaction in reportable priority waste.
- Duty of persons transporting reportable priority waste.

For further information on waste classifications see schedule 5 of the Regulations.

Registration

Environment Protection Act 2017

Further information and resources

To aid compliance with the Act and the Regulations, Environment Reference Standards (ERS), Compliance Codes, Position Statements and Guidelines have been developed to address a range of environmental objectives, permitted and non-permitted activities and risks.

You should understand how the Victorian environment protection framework applies to you and your activity, operation or business by making yourself familiar with the Act, Regulations, Compliance Codes and other relevant guidance material.

To assist you with understanding your obligations refer to www.epa.vic.gov.au.

Duration and renewal

This registration is subject to the expiry date identified on the first page of this registration. It will remain in force until that time unless you request in writing that it be revoked and EPA consents, or it is suspended or revoked by EPA. EPA may agree to renew the registration under section 86 of the Act. Note that an application for a registration renewal must be submitted to EPA before the registration expiry date.

Registration

Environment Protection Act 2017

Registration structure

Your registration has multiple parts:

- Conditions
- Appendix 1 – waste acceptance table

Registration

Environment Protection Act 2017

Conditions

REG_G01	A copy of this registration must be kept at the activity site and be easily accessible to persons who are engaging in an activity conducted at the activity site. Information regarding the requirements of the registration and the Act duties must be included in site induction and training information.
REG_G02	You must immediately notify the Authority by calling 1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842) in the event of a discharge, emission or deposit which gives rise to, or may give rise to, actual or potential harm to human health or the environment.
REG_G03	You must: a) notify the Authority of any change to your name or address (including your registered address or activity site address as applicable); and b) update the EPA Interaction Portal if any other administrative details relevant to this registration change.
REG_WM01	For all wastes of a type listed in Appendix 1, you must keep records detailing: a) incoming and outgoing movements of waste; b) the current location of waste at your activity site; and c) the waste type of any waste located at your activity site. These records must be retained for five years and be made available to the Authority on request.
REG_WM02	All plant and equipment must be maintained and operated in proper working condition, in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
REG_WM03.01	You must ensure that: a) Only waste of a type shown in Appendix 1 of this registration is accepted at the activity site, except where waste is received in accordance with a permission, determination or designation issued by the Authority under the Environment Protection Act 2017 or regulations made pursuant to that Act; and b) if any waste is received at the activity site that is not in accordance with a) (above), that this waste is placed in a designated and clearly sign-posted temporary storage area and is transported to a site which is authorised to receive this waste within 21 days of the date it was received.
REG_WM04	You must store and manage waste in a manner which minimises the risk of fires.
REG_WR01	You must immediately notify the Authority by calling 1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842), if the volume of waste stored on the activity site exceeds 4500m3 at any time.

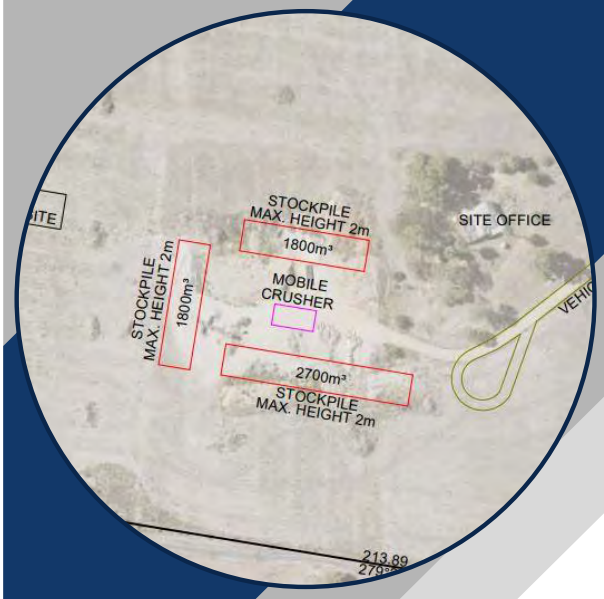
Registration

Environment Protection Act 2017

Appendix 1 - waste acceptance table

Waste Code	Waste Description	Treatment Code	Treatment Description
Y100	Concrete		

pricemerrett
CONSULTING



PLANNING REPORT
241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill

S1643

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Description	Written by	Approved by	Date issued
1	Issued to council	SG	MC	16/04/2025

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name	241 Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill		
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1. INTRODUCTION

Price Merrett Consulting have been engaged by Dale Whitfield to prepare this planning permit application for the use of his property to store and recycle concrete material. The planning permit is triggered as the site is located in the Farming zone with Industry including materials recycling specified as a Section 2 use. As such Clauses 33.01-1 Use of Land for Materials Recycling & 33.01-4 Construct a Building or construct or carry out works are applicable.

2. SITE & CONTEXT DESCRIPTION

Dale Whitfield will use his property at 241 Murray Valley Highway in Swan Hill to recycle concrete by crushing to be reused for road base.

2.1 Location & Size

The property to be used is Lot 2 PS502667 in the Farming Zone in Swan Hill.



Figure 1: Property layout (Vic planning image)

The property is 129ha and contains an existing dwelling with driveway access to the Murray Valley Highway. The property has a previous association with agricultural production including irrigated fodder production and grazing.

The property is surrounded by farms that operate as irrigated fodder production with the railway line to the south of that. Murray Valley Highway provides access to the property on the eastern boundary.

The closest offsite dwelling to the subject property is 80m to the east across the highway and 240m to the north west is another rural dwelling.

2.2 Land Use and Topography

The site is largely cleared and basically flat with native grass and weed species that has been laser graded for irrigation purposes historically. There is a dwelling and outbuilding onsite with a number of large trees and palms in the garden area and along the driveway. The site has a long history of agricultural use and as such has been cleared of native vegetation. A few remaining large scattered paddock trees grow along the boundary fences to the north and west.

Prevalent wind directions in northern Victoria are generally from the west and south and according to Clause 53.10-1 resource recovery or recycling operations has no specified threshold distance from any sensitive receptor.

3. ZONING & PLANNING OVERLAYS

3.1 Zoning

The property is located in the Farming Zone.

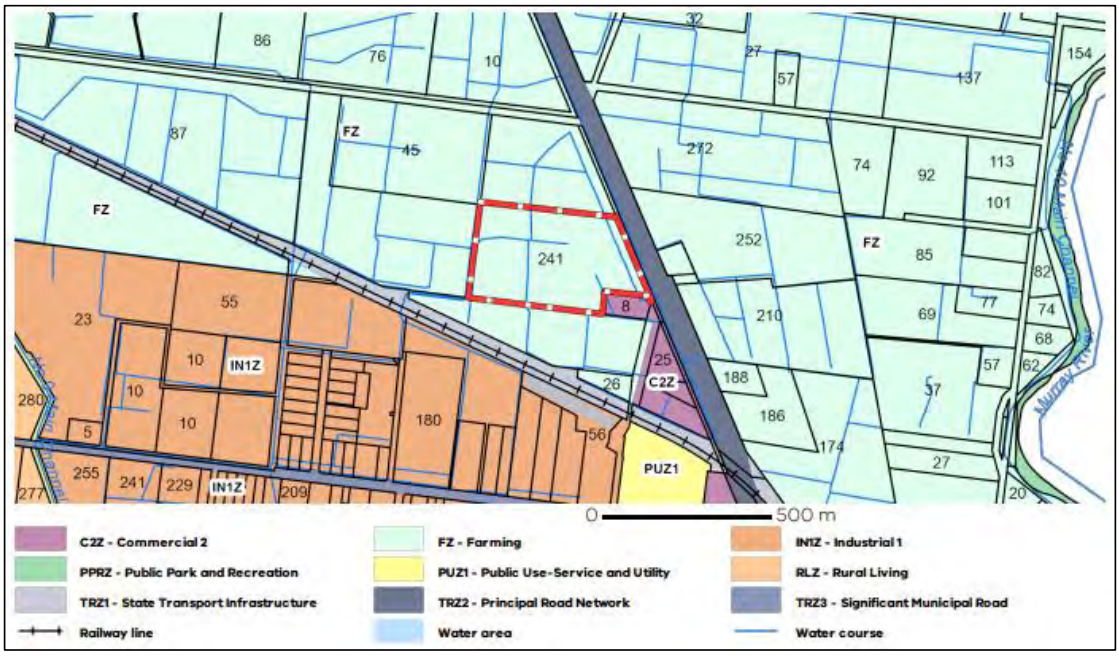


Figure 2: Farming 1 Zoning

The purpose of the farming zone is to:

- To provide for the use of land for agriculture.
- To encourage the retention of productive agricultural land.
- To ensure that non-agricultural uses, including dwellings, do not adversely affect the use of land for agriculture.
- To encourage the retention of employment and population to support rural communities.
- To encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision.
- To provide for the use and development of land for the specific purposes identified in a schedule to this zone.

The Schedule does not specify particular land uses or developments and permit requirements. The Farming Zone does encourage the use and development of land based on sustainable land practices and materials recycling will fall into this category.

The proposed uses of the land to crush concrete need to consider the related offsite impacts on neighbouring properties and mitigation methods to control these impacts.

AGRICULTURAL ISSUES AND THE IMPACTS FROM NON-AGRICULTURAL USES

- *Whether the use or development will support and enhance agricultural production.*
- *Whether the use or development will adversely affect soil quality or permanently remove land from agricultural production.*
- *The potential for the use or development to limit the operation and expansion of adjoining and nearby agricultural uses.*
- *The capacity of the site to sustain the agricultural use.*
- *The agricultural qualities of the land, such as soil quality, access to water and access to rural infrastructure.*
- *Any integrated land management plan prepared for the site.*

The use of the property to recover and recycle concrete material does not support agricultural production. Concrete rubble or dust is not considered a useful mainstream product for any agricultural operation other than possibly farm tracks. The processing and stockpiling of this material however does not affect soil quality and the plant used to process the material is not a permanent structure that would permanently remove land from agricultural production. Hardstand areas can be deep ripped and returned to viable farming land as part of remediation works upon closure.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- *The impact of the proposal on the natural physical features and resources of the area, in particular on soil and water quality.*
- *The impact of the use or development on the flora and fauna on the site and its surrounds.*
- *The need to protect and enhance the biodiversity of the area, including the retention of vegetation and faunal habitat and the need to revegetate land including riparian buffers along waterways, gullies, ridgelines, property boundaries and saline discharge and recharge area.*
- *The location of on-site effluent disposal areas to minimise the impact of nutrient loads on waterways and native vegetation.*

The existing trees do not require removal as there is sufficient space to operate the crusher plant and stockpile material.

There is no significant native vegetation on the property where the crusher plant will operate as it has been previously cleared for irrigated agriculture. As a result, the relative biodiversity value of the property in relation to its surrounds is considered very low. The property is unlikely to be inhabited by native fauna as a breeding or feeding location but may support some species of birds as a temporary haven during travel to these sites.

3.2 Environmental Significance overlay

The purpose of the Environmental Significance overlay is to:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To identify areas where the development of land may be affected by environmental constraints.
- To ensure that development is compatible with identified environmental values

There are no significant environmental constraints which may restrict or prevent the operation of the proposed concrete crushing plant on the property or on neighboring land.

There are a number of large trees around the boundary of the property and large trees close to the dwelling. The rest of the property has been cleared and used for irrigated agricultural production. No vegetation will need to be removed as there is significant space to avoid the TPZ of the existing trees.

There large trees along the Murray Valley Highway to act as a visual screen of the operation which may otherwise create a negative visual impact.

The concrete crushing operation is not expected to create significant land degradation issues as site clean-up post works will remove all traces of the concrete stockpiles and machinery can be relocated. Waste management practices and mitigation methods post operation can ensure any land degradation is returned to an acceptable standard. The irregular use of the site is not expected to create any serious or long term impacts on the environment.

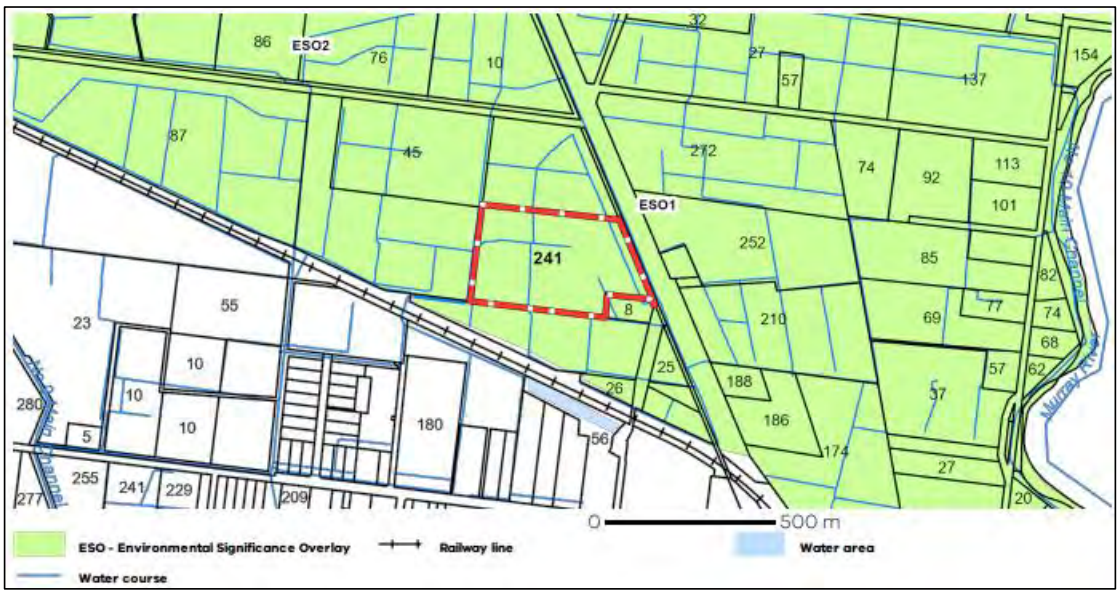


Figure 3: Environmental Significance overlay

3.3 Land Subject to Inundation overlay

The purpose of the Land Subject to Inundation overlay is to:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To identify flood prone land in a riverine or coastal area affected by the 1 in 100 (1 per cent Annual Exceedance Probability) year flood or any other area determined by the floodplain management authority.
- To ensure that development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters, minimises flood damage, responds to the flood hazard and local drainage conditions and will not cause any significant rise in flood level or flow velocity.
- To minimise the potential flood risk to life, health and safety associated with development.
- To reflect a declaration under Division 4 of Part 10 of the *Water Act, 1989*.
- To protect water quality and waterways as natural resources by managing urban stormwater, protecting water supply catchment areas, and managing saline discharges to minimise the risks to the environmental quality of water and groundwater.
- To ensure that development maintains or improves river, marine, coastal and wetland health, waterway protection and floodplain health

As the stockpile of crushed concrete and machinery are not permanent or fixed infrastructure, they are not anticipated to have any long-term restriction on the free passage of flood waters in a 1% event.

Earthworks can be completed to direct runoff to onsite retention dams.

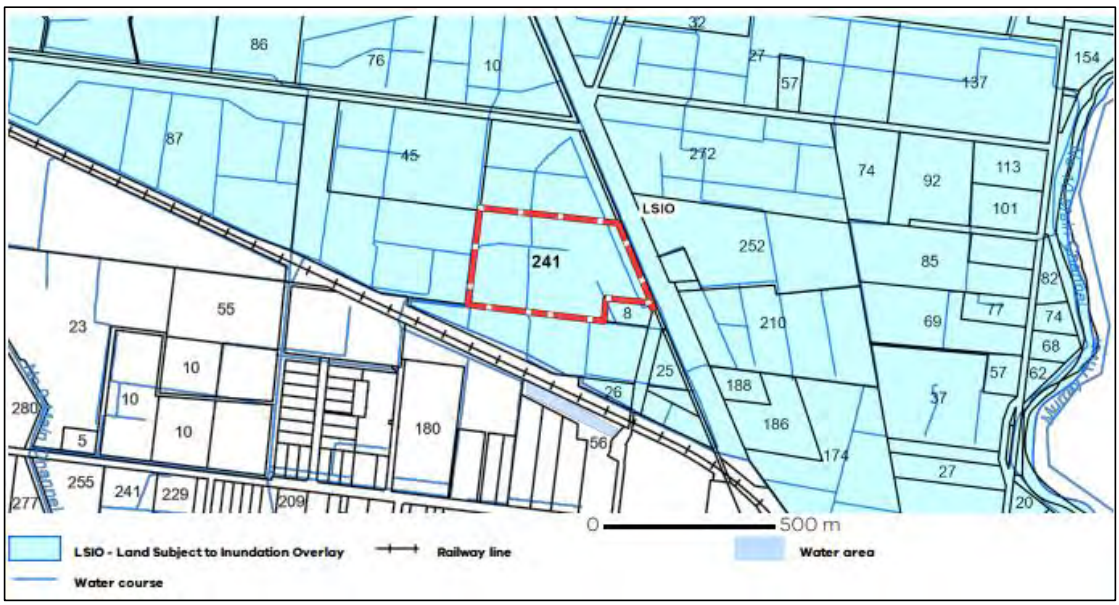


Figure 4: Land Subject to Inundation overlay

3.4 Bushfire prone area

The operation of the concrete crushing machinery and stockpiling of crushed concrete is not anticipated to increase the risk of bushfire. No hot works are completed at the site on a regular basis which may contribute to an increased risk of bushfire.

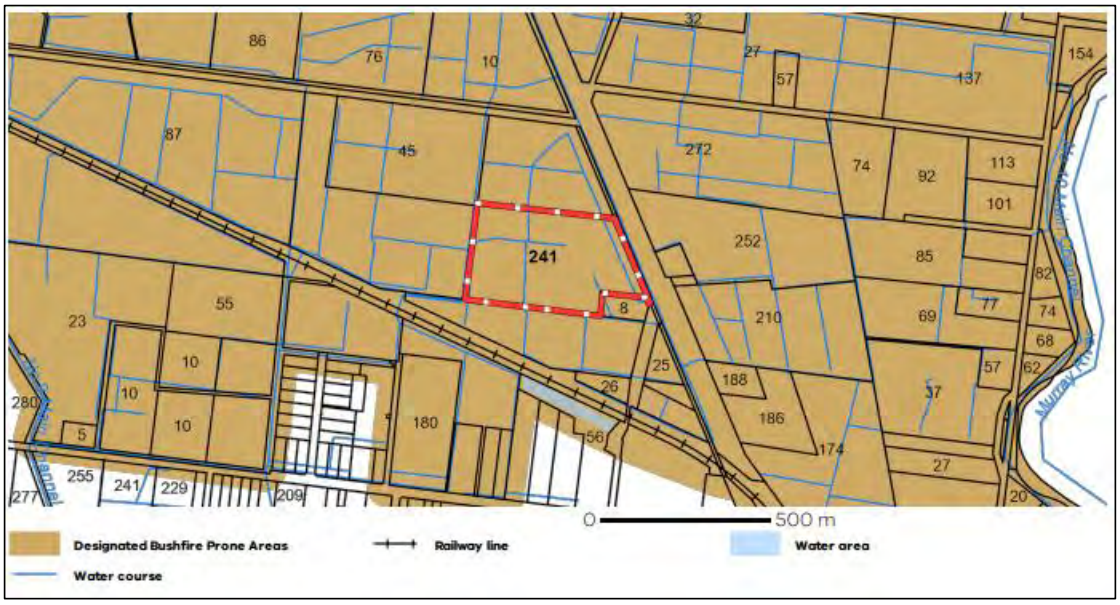


Figure 5: Bushfire prone area

4. PROPOSAL

The proponent plans on crushing concrete for road base, on an intermittent base around 12 times per year for 3-5 days at a time. Expected volumes during these operations are 1000-2000m^3 depending on availability of materials to be recycled. The type of crusher to be used is pictured below.



Figure 6: Concrete crusher

4.1 Site Access & Traffic Management

The subject site is accessed from Murray Valley Highway.

Water trucks will be used to dampen the trafficable area to reduce dust emissions. Tipping trucks will be used to transport and deliver raw concrete and crushed material. These trucks have wind out tarps installed to minimize sediment and loose material being deposited on roads.



Figure 7: Water truck & tipper truck

A front-end loader/excavator will be used onsite to load the concrete into the crusher and processed material into trucks.

4.2 Machinery

Front-end loader/excavator
Tipper trucks
Screening equipment
Water truck
Crusher – mobile (on tracks for maneuvering around the site)

4.3 Operation

Operator estimates the use of the crushing/screening equipment up to 12 times per year, with an average of 3-5 days per batch.

Temporary fencing can be installed in the short term if required while permanent fencing is arranged.

Trucks load and unload material onsite on an infrequent basis. A Light vehicle is used to access the property and is parked onsite out of the way when crushing operations take place. The crusher is run by a single operator and an excavator is used to fill the crusher with material with a single operator. No amenities buildings are located onsite as the company head office is 1km away on Saleyards Road.

4.4 Site Amenity & Environmental Values

4.4.1 Noise

Operation of the crushing plant will only occur during weekdays 7am-6pm. As the closest nearby residence is 80m to the east and the intermittent nature of the operation during daylight hours there are no anticipated conflicts expected due to noise.

4.4.2 Drainage

The property has an existing open drain which contains stormwater for evaporation. There is little likelihood that sediment from the concrete stockpiles will be washed into the onsite drainage channel as material is not stockpiled long term on the property. The crushing plant is not operated during rainfall events.

4.4.3 Emissions to land or water

The method of crushing concrete does not produce any harmful or toxic emissions which can potentially cause contamination to the environment.

The stockpiles are stored onsite short term until they are removed for reuse as determined by demand from the proponent's other construction jobs.

4.4.4 Air- borne emissions

Dust released from the concrete crushing plant during operation will be controlled with dust suppressant techniques such as watering.

4.4.5 Light spill or glare

Additional lighting is not required as the operation only occurs during daylight hours therefore glare and light spill is not considered a problem.

4.5 EPA Assessment

Under the Environmental Protection Authority an assessment as to whether a license or permit or registration to manage industrial waste is required.

The EPA guidelines specify for a small waste and resource recovery site:

- *Sites receiving, storing or processing waste generated at another site must hold an A13c registration. This is when it's for the purposes of resource recovery or off-site transfer or disposal. Also, if there's between 5 m^3 and 5000 m^3 of stored waste on the site at any time.*

An EPA registration of up to 5000m^3 of concrete material R000311496 is in place for the recycling of the concrete material at the Jennings Road location.

5. PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The site is affected by the provisions of the Swan Hill Rural City Council Planning Scheme.

5.1 State Planning Policy Framework

The State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) contains the overarching state level policies that apply across Victoria. The following provisions are relevant to this application and the associated application for the proposal.

State Planning Policy Framework	
12.03-1S River and Riparian corridors, waterways, lakes, wetlands and billabongs	*To protect and enhance waterway systems including river and riparian corridors, waterways, lakes, wetlands and billabongs.* **The Murray River is located approximately 1.6km east of the subject site**
13 Environmental Risks and Amenity	*Planning should strengthen the resilience and safety of communities by adopting a best practice environmental management and risk management approach.* *Planning should identify, prevent and minimise the risk of harm to the environment, human health, and amenity through:* • *Land use and development compatibility.* • *Effective controls to prevent or mitigate significant impacts.* *Planning should identify and manage the potential for the environment and environmental changes to impact on the economic, environmental or social wellbeing of society.* *Planning should ensure development and risk mitigation does not detrimentally interfere with important natural processes.* *Planning should prepare for and respond to the impacts of climate change.* **The planned concrete recycling plant at the property is not a consistently operated facility and can be dismantled and moved at the end of the operation. There is a slight likelihood that the Stockpiles of crushed concrete can degrade soil through several mechanisms, including leaching of pollutants, changes in soil pH, and physical disturbance. The alkaline nature of concrete can elevate soil pH, and leaching can release metals and other contaminants into the soil, potentially harming plant growth and soil health are no toxic substances used in the processing of the material that can lead to environmental degradation and contamination.**
13.05-1S Noise	*To assist the management of noise effects on sensitive land uses* **The proposed materials recycling will generate noise during daylight hours 7am-6pm weekdays when in operation. It is expected that this will only be operated 12 times per year for 3-5 days at a time.**

State Planning Policy Framework	
17.03 **Industry**	*Objective* *To ensure availability of land for industry.* *Strategies* *Provide an adequate supply of industrial land in appropriate locations including sufficient stocks of large sites for strategic investment.* *Identify land for industrial development in urban growth areas where:* • *Good access for employees, freight and road transport is available.* • *Appropriate buffer areas can be provided between the proposed industrial land and nearby sensitive land uses.* *Protect and carefully plan existing industrial areas to, where possible, facilitate further industrial development.* *Preserve locally significant industrial land for industrial or employment generating uses, unless long-term demand for these uses can be demonstrably met elsewhere.* *Avoid approving non-industrial land uses that will prejudice the availability of land in identified industrial areas for future industrial use.* **The concrete crushing plant is located in Farming Zone of Swan Hill. An EPA registration has been granted for this operation R000311496.** **Appropriate landscaping such as tree screens can be planted to shield nearby sensitive areas such as the highway from view of the works area.** **All waste and recyclables will be stored in and collected from an area set aside for this purpose. This area will be graded, drained and screened from public view to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.** **Suitable dust control measures will be utilized to avoid nuisance dust impacting on adjoining land** **There will be no sediment or concrete waste allowed to enter water drainage or spread onto roads or their reserves**

Zone	
35.07 **Farming Zone**	*Purpose* *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.* *To provide for 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.* **A permit is required for the proposed materials recycling operation.** **Crushed concrete material is stockpiled onsite up to 5000m^3. Stockpiles are less than 2m in height for stability.**
35.07-1 **Table of Uses**	*Section 2 – Permit required* *Industry* **A permit is required.**

Overlays	
42.01 Environmental Significance overlay	**ESO1** **MURRAY RIVER CORRIDOR** *Land degradation* *1. Whether it is appropriate for any approval to include conditions which specifically address land degradation processes including erosion, native vegetation decline, pollution of ground or surface water, salinisation and soil acidity and adverse effects on the quality of land and water habitats.* **To prevent land degradation caused by concrete crushing, implementing proper waste management practices will be adopted. Some effective strategies to be considered will include** **1. Recycling and Reusing Concrete:** **○ Crushing and Screening: Use specialized equipment to crush and screen concrete, separating it into different sizes for reuse in new construction projects.** **○ Reclaimed Aggregate Usage: Utilize recycled concrete aggregates (RCA) in new concrete mixes, reducing the need for natural aggregates.** **2. Dust Control:** **○ Water Sprays: Use water sprays to suppress dust during crushing and handling processes.** **○ Enclosures: Enclose crushing operations to contain dust and prevent it from spreading.** **3. Soil Protection:** **○ Containment Areas: Designate specific hard stand areas for concrete crushing and storage to prevent soil contamination.** **4. Environmental protection and monitoring:** **○ Environmental Management Plan prepared and regularly updated** **○ Site monitoring** **5. Drainage works** **○ Drainage from hardstand areas can be directed to onsite retention ponds to accommodate stormwater and prevent land degradation and contamination.** **Crushed concrete can leach calcium and other elements into the soil. While some of these are necessary nutrients, excessive amounts can be detrimental. Construction of suitable hardstand areas should assist in minimizing the effects on subsurface soils**
44.04 Land Subject to Inundation	*To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.* *To identify flood prone land in a riverine or coastal area affected by the 1 in 100 (1 per cent Annual Exceedance Probability) year flood or any other area determined by the floodplain management authority.* *To ensure that development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters, minimises flood damage, responds to the flood hazard and local drainage conditions and will not cause any significant rise in flood level or flow velocity.* *To minimise the potential flood risk to life, health and safety associated with development.* *To reflect a declaration under Division 4 of Part 10 of the Water Act, 1989.*

	To protect water quality and waterways as natural resources by managing urban stormwater, protecting water supply catchment areas, and managing saline discharges to minimise the risks to the environmental quality of water and groundwater. *To ensure that development maintains or improves river, marine, coastal and wetland health, waterway protection and floodplain health.* **A permit is required** **The stockpiles of crushed concrete are a temporary feature in the landscape and are recycled to be reused in other construction jobs by the proponent.** **Concrete is highly alkaline, meaning it has a high pH. If crushed concrete material is exposed to rain or groundwater, it can leach alkali compounds, raising the soil pH. A persistently high pH can negatively impact soil health and the ability of plants to uptake nutrients.** **Hardstand areas will be installed to reduce the likelihood that the crushed concrete will leach into the ground below.** **Proper drainage will be installed to prevent any offsite runoff.**

44.04-8 Decision Guidelines	*Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:*
	• *The Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.*
	• *Any local floodplain development plan.*
	• *Any comments from the relevant floodplain management authority.*
	• *The existing use and development of the land.*
	• *Whether the proposed use or development could be located on flood-free land or land with a lesser flood hazard outside this overlay.*
	• *Alternative design or flood proofing responses.*
	• *The susceptibility of the development to flooding and flood damage.*
	• *The potential flood risk to life, health and safety associated with the development. Flood risk factors to consider include:*
	  ○ *The frequency, duration, extent, depth and velocity of flooding of the site and accessway.*
	  ○ *The flood warning time available.*
	  ○ *Tidal patterns.*
	  ○ *Coastal inundation and erosion.*
	  ○ *The danger to the occupants of the development, other floodplain residents and emergency personnel if the site or accessway is flooded.*
	• *The effect of the development on redirecting or obstructing floodwater, stormwater or drainage water and the effect of the development on reducing flood storage and increasing flood levels and flow velocities.*
	• *The effect of the development on river, marine and coastal health values including wetlands, natural habitat, stream stability, erosion, environmental flows, water quality, estuaries and sites of scientific significance.*
	• *Any other matters specified in a schedule to this overlay.*
	No works are undertaken within 100m of the Murray River or its tributaries.

5.2 Local Planning Policy Framework

The Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) identifies long term directions about land use and development within the Swan Hill Rural City Council and provides the rationale for the zone and overlay requirements and particular provisions in the Swan Hill Rural City Council Planning Scheme. It also includes local policy to guide land use and development decision making. The following are relevant to this application:

Particular Provision	
53.10-1 Uses and Activities with Potential Adverse Impacts	*To identify those types of uses and activities, which if not appropriately designed and located, may cause offence or unacceptable risk to the neighbourhood.* **The operation may create dust and some noise. However, the intermittent use will be during daylight hours in the Farming Zone. The crushed product will be stockpiled and reused as road base offsite in the region where required on Whitfield projects.** **In some cases, soil remediation techniques may be necessary to address contamination or pH imbalances caused by crushed concrete stockpiles.** **Recycling crushed concrete into new construction materials can reduce the need for landfills and lessen the environmental impact.**
53.10-1 Threshold distance	*The threshold distance referred to in the table to this clause is the shortest distance from any part of the land to:* • *land (not a road) in an Activity Centre Zone, Capital City Zone, Commercial 1 Zone, Docklands Zone, residential zone or Rural Living Zone; or* • *land used for a hospital, an education centre or a corrective institution; or* • *land in a Public Acquisition Overlay to be acquired for a hospital, an education centre or a corrective institution.* *An application to use land for an industry, utility installation or warehouse for a purpose listed in the table to this clause must be referred to the Environment Protection Authority under section 55 of the Act if the threshold distance is not to be met or no threshold distance is specified.* **Other resource recovery or recycling operations has no specified threshold distance from any sensitive receptor.**



JOB DETAILS	SCALE OF METRES			
DRAWN : KHPS DATE : 27/05/2025 SHEET No.1 OF 1 VERSION 2	20 0 40 80 ORIGINAL DRAWING SCALE 1 IN 2000 (A3 SHEET SIZE)	MGA NORTH	pricemerrett CONSULTING P.O. BOX 1172 SWAN HILL VIC. 3585 Ph. (03) 5032 3685 FAX (03) 5032 2472 EMAIL- pmash@pricemerrett.com.au P.O. BOX 313 KERANG VIC. 3579 Ph. (03) 5452 2490 FAX (03) 5452 2566 EMAIL- pmc@pricemerrett.com.au	FORMAL LOT DESCRIPTION: LOT 2 ON PS502667S
REFERENCE No. S1643				

DALE WHITFIELD

PROPOSED SITE PLAN

MURRAY VALLEY HIGHWAY, SWAN HILL

The information contained in these documents have been redacted as defined in the Privacy & Data Protection Act 2014 and is provided for the purpose of the planning process as set out in the Planning & Environment Act 1987. The information must not be used for any other purpose. By entering this internet site, you acknowledge and agree that you will only use the document for the purpose specified above and that any dissemination or distribution of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have any questions, please contact Council's Privacy Officer on 5036 2333.

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

Note: A petition is considered as one objection under Section 57(3), (4a) and (4b) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. The first person listed will receive correspondence from Council unless another contact is specifically provided.

Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming and Commercial 2 Zones, Environmental Significance – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlays Alteration to an Access to a Road in the Transport Zone 2, and Reduction in Car Parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

We are concerned about the dust, We are not on a pipeline and our water/ drinking water is all rainwater. We don't want to be drinking concrete dust.

Yes I believe there would be some sort of plan put in place to keep the dust down.. But as they have already been crushing on this site without this permit and the dust has already been quite thick.

45 Splatt St (PO Box 488) SWAN HILL VIC 3585
Ph: 03 5036 2333 | council@swanhill.vic.gov.au
swanhill.vic.gov.au | ABN 97435620016

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 21/01/2026**

Important notes over page

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

I want to object to a concrete crushing plant due to excessive dust and noise. It is within the city limits and residential buildings close by that have been there for decades.

I have a horses opposite Whitfield's now that suffer from very sore eyes and coughing due to the excessive dust. We have to clean water troughs all the time due to sand blowing over the road.

It is time time this buisness was moved further out of town.

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How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 25/01/2026**

Important notes over page

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming and Commercial 2 Zones, Environmental Significance – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlays Alteration to an Access to a Road in the Transport Zone 2, and Reduction in Car Parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

I am writing to formally object to the planning application for the proposed concrete crushing plant to be located within a farming area at 241 Murray Valley Highway Swan Hill, Victoria.

This objection is based on serious concerns regarding human health, animal welfare, environmental impacts, and the incompatibility of such an industrial use within an established agricultural zone.

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Concrete crushing plants generate significant quantities of airborne dust, including fine particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) and silica dust. Exposure to these particles is widely recognised as a risk to respiratory health and has been linked to conditions such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, silicosis, and other long-term lung diseases.

Given the proximity of the proposed site to rural residences and farms, the risk of ongoing exposure is unacceptable.

This area is actively used for farming, including the keeping of livestock. Airborne dust and noise generated by a concrete crushing operation have the potential to cause stress and respiratory issues in animals, contaminate feed and water sources, and negatively affect animal health and productivity.

Such impacts are inconsistent with the purpose of a farming zone and threaten the viability of surrounding farming programs.

All rural properties on the western side of Murray Valley highway rely on rainwater tanks for household and for some, stock water supply. Dust emissions from concrete crushing operations can settle on roofs and be washed into rainwater tanks during rainfall events.

This creates a high risk of contaminated water containing cement particles, heavy metals, and other pollutants, rendering the water unsafe for human consumption and animal use. Preventing such contamination in an open rural environment is extremely difficult and cannot be reliably mitigated.

A concrete crushing plant is an industrial activity that is fundamentally incompatible with the quiet, low-impact nature of a farming area. The introduction of heavy machinery, truck movements, noise, vibration, and dust would significantly diminish rural amenity and undermine the long-term use of the land for agriculture.

For the reasons outlined above, the proposed concrete crushing plant presents unacceptable risks to human health, animal welfare, water quality, and the agricultural character of the area. These impacts cannot be adequately mitigated and are inconsistent with the intent of the planning scheme for farming land.

I respectfully request that this planning application be refused.

Thank you for considering this objection.

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 25/01/2026**

Important notes over page

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming and Commercial 2 Zones, Environmental Significance – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlays Alteration to an Access to a Road in the Transport Zone 2, and Reduction in Car Parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

In regards to planning application No PLN2025032, 241 Murray Valley Highway Swan Hill.

Our concern is with dust settling on our roof catchment for rain water for domestic use (as we don't have town water on Murrawee Road).

Depending on the scale of the operation with noise, dust and traffic, there is a potential to de-value surrounding properties, and limit any chance of future re-zoning, eg., Rural lifestyle blocks, which Swan Hill badly needs on the edge of the town.

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How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 23/01/2026**

Important notes over page

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming and Commercial 2 Zones, Environmental Significance – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlays Alteration to an Access to a Road in the Transport Zone 2, and Reduction in Car Parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

WE ARE AGAINST THIS PLANNING PERMIT, REASON BEING WE HAVE THE ADJOINING PROPERTY AND IT WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO OUR PLANS TO SUB-DIVIDE IN THE FUTURE

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How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 22/01/2026**

Important notes over page

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming and Commercial 2 Zones, Environmental Significance – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlays Alteration to an Access to a Road in the Transport Zone 2, and Reduction in Car Parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

I am writing to formally object to the application for "Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling)" at the above address. As the owner of the neighboring Commercial 2 Zone fuel outlet, I will be directly affected by this proposal. My grounds for objection are as follows:

1. Misleading Application & Illegal Site Activity

* Unauthorised Operations: The applicant is currently operating a crushing plant on-site without a valid planning permit. Large stockpiles of crushed gravel and dirt are already present. This unauthorised activity demonstrates a disregard for the planning process and is already causing dust and traffic issues.

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* Demolition without Permit: The application incorrectly refers to an "old farmhouse" on the site. This building was demolished months ago I believe without a building permit. Providing false information about existing site conditions should invalidate the current application.

2. Dangerous Site Access & Traffic Hazards

* Unsuitable Entry: While the application claims access will be via the Murray Valley Highway, the operator is currently using Saleyards Road. The entry point on Saleyards Road is only 6.1 meters wide—insufficient for twoway heavy vehicle traffic.

* Saleyards Road Entry/Exit: The operator or property owner of 241 Murray Valley Highway has removed our joint adjoining fence and is currently travelling on part of my land to gain entry/exit.

* Infrastructure Risk: This access point is situated over a main irrigation pipeline. Constant heavy-vehicle loads from industrial recycling risk a pipeline rupture, which would devastate local water security.

* Highway Safety: Increased heavy vehicle movements near the Saleyards Road/Highway intersection pose a significant risk of queuing onto the highway, endangering my properties customers and other road users.

3. Dust Contamination & Health Risks

* Amenity Impact on Fuel Outlet: Concrete crushing produces hazardous silica dust. As a fuel outlet, my tenant and any future tenants business requires a clean environment. Dust contamination poses a risk to vehicle fuel systems and health of customers on my site.

* Asbestos Risk: Without a permit and proper oversight, there is no guarantee that incoming demolition waste is screened for asbestos before crushing.

4. Perceived Conflict of Interest

* The applicant is a major civil contractor for the Swan Hill Council. Given they are currently operating illegally and have provided misleading site details, I request that an independent external planner assess this application to ensure no conflict of interest influences the Council’s decision.

Conclusion

I request that the Council refuse this permit. I also request that Council’s enforcement team immediately

investigate the current unauthorised crushing and illegal demolition on the site.

Please notify me of any Consultation Meetings or the date this matter will be heard by the Council.

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 20/01/2026**

Important notes over page

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming Zone, Commercial 2 Zone, Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, alteration to an access to a road in the Transport Zone 2, and reduction in car parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

Objection -1

The proposed application will effect the Quite enjoyment of my current business (www.big4swanhill.com.au) which is a mid sized caravan park with 40 cabins / 20 ensuite sites and 60 powered sites and holds 450 people at capacity and is a major tourist attraction of the town of Swan Hill.

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In addition to effecting the current caravan park we have approved permits for any additional 190 permanent houses to accommodate long term workers accommodation and or permanent customers (12 month or longer stays)

Objection -2

I am concerned about the creation of cement dust and drifting on to my site.

Objection -3

I am concerned about the level of noise from the operations and effecting a major tourist operation on the opposite side of the highway.

Objection -4

I am concerned about the operating hrs as these plants are usually starting at 4/5 am in the morning which would effect our quite enjoyment for our customers .

Objection - 5 Lighting

I am concerned about the required lighting that would be required for safety of operating a plant of this size and effecting our quite enjoyment of our current premises.

Objection -6

I reserve the right to adjust my comments and objections as above as i will need to be provided with more documentation - site plans / hrs of operation etc to then review with my consultants and make final objections .

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 16/01/2026**

Important notes over page

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming Zone, Commercial 2 Zone, Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, alteration to an access to a road in the Transport Zone 2, and reduction in car parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

Reasons for objection to Application No PLN2025032 include

- Has the applicant been penalised for already crushing concrete at this Murray Valley Highway location without having a permit?

- The applicant didn't use proper environmental safeguards whilst crushing concrete at this Murray Valley Highway location, no use of dust suppression in the manner of a water cart etc were used throughout the crushing of this concrete and in extreme dry and windy days

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there has been no evidence of dust suppression being used, what is to say that this will happen in the future if a crushing permit is granted.

- If this permit is granted, this limits opportunity for future commercial growth of the north side of Swan Hill. The applicant has already been granted re-zoning of near-by property from farming zone (FZ) to commercial zoning (C2Z).

By creating a hazardous quarry (of sorts) in a C2Z property, this limits further expansion and potential growth of this area. Neighbouring properties may be interested in development in the future but with hazardous dust being blown off of stockpiles all year round, this will effect opportunities for any other potential developers.

- What consideration has been given to the residences in the area that rely solely on their rainwater supply. Has the applicant considered the risk of crystalline silica compounds (a hazardous chemical in concrete) becoming airborne. In the crushing process and whenever there is wind in the area this dust will settle in nearby residences gutters, being washed straight into their drinking supply when it rains.

- Crystalline silica dust may cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure, shouldn't a permit or this type of material crushing be sought in a less built up area where there are no residences and commercial growth opportunity.

- Has the local business and growth of the Big 4 Caravan park been considered in this application? This park attracts thousands of people to the district each year for holidays, of which is a significant boost for the local economy. Noise and dust pollution should be considered by the SHRCC.

- As residences to the north of the proposed crushing property, we already receive excessive dust from the stockpiles at 241 Murray Valley Highway and 10 Saleyards Road Swan Hill. We would be very disappointed if this permit application was approved as it would increase the risk on our family, as our only drinking supply is rainwater, gathered directly from our roof and gutter system.

Please give this objection serious consideration.

Thank you

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 17/01/2026**

Important notes over page

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Rural City Council

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming Zone, Commercial 2 Zone, Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, alteration to an access to a road in the Transport Zone 2, and reduction in car parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

I am totally against a concrete crushing plant as I have always been against a sand yard on my western front. Where does the most wind come from in Swan Hill? The West. I am on the East side, so I am the most affected property from Whitfields yard. The dust now is unbearable most days. Concrete dust is cancer producing, very similar to cutting stone benches.

There will be increased traffic which means more

dust as well. Ever evening now when the trucks come in for the day, you can't see my house for dust.

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The noise also is shocking most days loading and unloading trucks all hours. Some trucks are started up and left to iddle for hours early in the morning, when most people are trying to sleep.

I do think it would be an environmental problem as well, seeing as it is on a flood plain.

Given my concerns I request the council refuse the application for Whitfields to further add to anymore dust or noise polution within the city limits.

Whitfields own several properties at Pental Island away from city limits. How about they put there sand and concrete cushing yard out there away from populated areas.

I do also have concerns about my property value decreasing, if this permit goes ahead.

These are some of my cocerns and I am happy to take this further with photo and video evidence I have gathered. I think A Current Affair would be happy to enter this discussion.

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 19/01/2026**

Important notes over page

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Rural City Council

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What application do you object to?

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The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

I want to object to the concrete crushing plan which has been submitted for planning permission.

Due to excessive dust and noise to my home.

I do believe it will devalue my property. I have been living here for 72 years and the dust is shocking most days from the sand yard let alone concrete dust which also causes cancer. No problems before Whitfields moved in, due to the paddocks were always green and no dust.

My other concern is the amount of trucks coming and going, all hours of the day and night.

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The paddock next to my property is owned by the Swan Hill Rural City Council and it is a fire hazard. My grandson received a letter to clean up his block by the 10th of December, which he did and he cleaned my block as well. The Council need to also clean up their property.

Whitfields have properties at Pental Island, why don't they shift their sand and concrete yard out there, instead of interferring with a major entrance to Swan Hill.

I totally object to this planning permit.

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 19/01/2026**

Important notes over page

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Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

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The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

I want to object to a concrete crushing plant due to excessive dust and noise. It is within the city limits and residential buildings close by that have been there for decades.

Caravan park and Motel very close as well. There would be increased trucks to the area. This plant could cause problems to livestock at the saleyards due to being very close. Horse Stud over the road which would be affected by the dust and noise.

I have heard concrete dust causes cancer.

Surely there is a more suitable area for this activity out of the Swan Hill city limits.

I truly object to this plant going forward.

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How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 19/01/2026**

Important notes over page

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Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming Zone, Commercial 2 Zone, Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, alteration to an access to a road in the Transport Zone 2, and reduction in car parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

Our property, 77 Murrawee Road, runs parallel to the western boundary of the proposed site. The boundaries are separated by a GMW drainage channel. On our property we run horses, cattle and sheep. We also grow a yearly crop of barley/oats for the production of hay for our stock and have open water troughs and dams. The crops are planted in the paddock closest to the proposed site of this business.

We are opposed to this business unless detailed information of how the owners/operators of this business will ensure that concrete dust does not impact our farming production, or the health of our animals. We have already witnessed this business in operation, as they

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have held large amounts of dirt/sand and stone on the property already. On windy days we see the sediment that is blown off the stockpiles already on site. Will these other piles of dirt/sand/rock be removed if the site becomes a concrete crushing and recycling business?

We are also aware of the drainage/wash pits that have been constructed along the western boundary of the property. We would like assurances that what ever is being cleaned out of the direct drill trucks is not going to impact the soil, especially as these pits are alongside the open GMW drainage channel. There is no mention of direct drill trucks in the submission, so would like to understand how these trucks are used in the concrete crushing process. If the permit is for concrete crushing and recycling, what is stopping the owners from diversifying beyond this scope, which is already happening.

Furthermore we would appreciate information regarding the demolished dwelling that was erected on the site and is now in the south western corner of the site. We know Whitfield's to be professional in their work, and assume that this pile does not contain any asbestos. A guarantee of this would be appreciated. We also appreciate notice of the burning of this pile in advance.

Our last concern is regarding the possible precedence this permit will set for other property owners on either side of Murray Valley Highway and along Murrawee Road.

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 13/01/2026**

Important notes over page

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Objection to a Planning Permit

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Who is objecting?

What application do you object to?

Permit application No: PLN2025032

Address of proposed permit: 241 Murray Valley Highway SWAN HILL VIC 3585

What is proposed: Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (Concrete Crushing and Recycling) in the Farming Zone, Commercial 2 Zone, Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1, and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, alteration to an access to a road in the Transport Zone 2, and reduction in car parking

The Objection:

Reasons for your objection:

I object to this application for the following reasons:

1: Cushing plant has significant environment risks including to the air which can be worsen of wind days, risks water ways this increases in areas which are classified as flood zones. Also risks to people living close by with reduced air quality and noise.

2: Dust from crushing plant and other produces stored on sight what dust suppression methods are in place as we all have significant dust coming from this sight. what dust monitoring is in place.

3: Noise from the sight at what levels will they be and what measures are there to reduce the noise levels and how will it be monitored.

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Ph: 03 5036 2333 | council@swanhill.vic.gov.au
swanhill.vic.gov.au | ABN 97435620016

4: What traffic management is in place with trucks turning off the highway and there would need to be a turning lane introduced there are currently no turning signs in place for truck tuning or entering from Murray Valley Highway.

5: what hours of operation would the plant be running.

6: We now cannot have window open in our home as fine dust partials from over the road enter our home.

7: Our son is on a ventilator and has significative respiratory problems and is in the care of The Austin Respiratory Clinic we have four air filtration systems running in the home which in the past year the filters have needed to be replaced twice a year doubling from 2023 usage as there is very little dust suppression on piles of produces stored on site across the road at 241 Murray Valley Highway.

8: has been in earther moving for over 40 years and know what noise crushers produce and the levels of dust they make. Rock brakers also make a lot of noise these are require breaking up the concrete into small enough pieces to crush.

9: Is this plant going to be taking concrete from the public as this will also increase the traffic.

How will you be affected by the grant of this permit?

Signed: **Date: 13/01/2026**

Important notes over page

The Swan Hill Rural City Council:

Regarding Planning Permit No PLN2025032

Objection to Proposed Development of Recycling Concrete Crushing Plant 241 Murray Valley Highway Swan Hill

To Warrick Fisher Planning Team Leader & the Swan Hill Council

We are writing to formally object to the proposed development at **Lot 2 PS:502667 241 Murray Valley Highway Swan Hill,** as outlined in Development Application currently on public exhibition. While I appreciate the need for thoughtful growth in our community and recycling, I have serious concerns that this proposal, in its current form, will have a detrimental impact on the local area and its residents.

1. Impact on Neighbourhood

.

2. Traffic Concerns

The development is likely to significantly increase traffic including trucks turning on and off the highway on the Murray Valley Highway where there is no turning lane allowing the flow of traffic and also currently no signage warning of trucks turning or entering the highway. Trucks would need to be covered to ensure that concrete was not falling on the highway causing safety concerns for other road users.

3. Noise Impacts

The scale and positioning of the proposed structure result in increased noise levels from the crusher and rock breaker for adjoining properties and nearby properties.

Noise at a plant can be generated from activities such as delivery of concrete, handling, loading and breaking concrete up and then crushing truck movements reversing beepers the running of machinery such as pumps, conveyor belts, and compressors.

4. Environmental Considerations

The crushing plant will reduce local biodiversity and, contribute to reducing air quality on surrounding home and businesses. What measure will be in place it this is allowed to go ahead to monitor the noise and dust levels. Excessive Dust at a plant can come from the delivery, storage and transfer of cement, truck movements and the concrete crushing process. As I urge the council to require stronger environmental protections and provisions.

The land should not be flood prone (it should have a flood average recurrence interval less than 100 years) to reduce the risk of wastes being discharged to waterways. Planners are encouraged to use Land Subject to Inundation

Overlays, Special Building Overlays, Floodway Overlays and Urban Floodway Zone as a basis for identifying high risk flood prone areas

Environmental imparts Concrete crushing plants can cause air pollution from dust emissions, noise and other potential environmental impacts. Proper site selection and operational practices are essential to mitigate these risks

5. Dust levels

Above ground storage bays are not enclosed on three sides by solid walls as recommended for dust reduction and that Bays fitted with additional screening over and above wall height as required (e.g. shade cloth) • Bays fitted with functional, well-maintained, effective sprinkler systems • Bays - stockpiles kept damp to maintain adequate moisture levels to prevent dust dispersal • Bays - stockpiles kept at least 0.5 m below the top of walls and 0.5m inside open end of bays • Bays clearly sign-posted instructing staff: “Do not overfill” • Other ‘do-not-overfill’ management procedures in place and enforced

Boundary screening • Additional screening at boundaries of premises and around dust-generating areas.

6: Potential health risk from air born dust

Breathing dust may cause irritation of the throat and lungs. Respirable silica dust particles are small enough to penetrate deep into the lungs and may cause damage including chronic bronchitis, emphysema, silicosis, lung cancer, kidney damage or scleroderma.

Given these concerns, I respectfully request that the council **refuse the application in its current form** or require substantial amendments to address the issues outlined above.

I trust that the council will give due consideration to the long-term impacts on our community and ensure that any approved development aligns with the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP) objectives.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I would appreciate confirmation that my objection has been received and recorded.

Kind regards,

pricemerrett CONSULTING

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Our Ref# S1643

29/01/2026

Swan Hill City Council
Warrick Fisher
planning@swanhill.vic.gov.au

Dear Warrick,

PLN2025032 – 241 Murray Valley Highway _Objection response

We wish to acknowledge that the objections raised are understandable but do not warrant refusal of this application. The applicant recognises that the proposal sits within the Farming Zone, an area not ordinarily associated with industrial activity, and acknowledges the sensitivity that comes with operating near established homes and the neighbouring caravan park. These concerns are understood and taken seriously.

For this reason, the protection of local amenity has been a central consideration in shaping the proposal, with operational limits, mitigation measures, and site management practices specifically designed to ensure that surrounding residents and visitors experience minimal impact. By openly recognising these sensitivities, the applicant aims to demonstrate respect for the community and a commitment to responsible, context-appropriate land use.

The Victorian Planning Scheme anticipates industrial uses with amenity impacts and provides a clear framework for managing them. With appropriate permit conditions, the proposed concrete-crushing facility can operate safely, responsibly, and in a manner consistent with both State and Local planning policy.

The proposal must also comply with EPA Victoria guidelines for concrete batching and crushing operations, including dust suppression, enclosure, water misting, and stockpile management.

EPA Publication 3001 (2023) outlines assessment criteria and mitigation measures for concrete plants, which the proposal can demonstrate compliance with Environment Protection Authority Victoria.

In addition, under Clause 53.10 of the Swan Hill Planning Schemes, the use is recognised as having potential amenity impacts, but mitigation—not prohibition—is the planning intent.

The proposal delivers clear environmental, economic, and strategic benefits, including reduced landfill, lower transport emissions, and support for local industry. I respectfully request that the responsible authority issue a planning permit for the proposal.

We trust that the information will assist council with their decision. Notwithstanding, should the above be insufficient for council to proceed to permit issuance, we respectfully request an extension of time to provide a response, in addition to written details regarding any additional information or further alterations required.

Regards,



Andrew Merrett
Price Merrett Consulting Pty Ltd

ITEM	NAME & ADDRESS	KEY CONCERNS	COMMENT
1		Concerned about the dust	There is an existing concrete stockpile onsite. The only thing that has been crushed so far is limestone.
		Dust will affect drinking water	The dwelling at 45 Murrawee Rd is 490m north west of subject land and share a common boundary. Under Clause 53.10 of Planning Schemes the recommended threshold distance is 300m for a batching plant producing more than 5000 tonnes per year of material. The proposed plant will produce less than this. The predominant wind direction is from the west and we consider any impact to 76 Murrawee Rd would not be significant nor on a regular basis. Best practice dust controls which are engaged onsite include: • High pressure misting at crusher points • Enclosed or shielded crushing equipment • Sealed internal roads • Water carts and wheel wash systems • Moisture controlled stockpiles • Wind triggered shutdown protocols • Real time dust monitoring if required Operating Hours are 7am-6pm weekdays, 12 times per year and 3-5 days at a time
2		Dust causing problems to horses water	Stockpiles of crushed material that produces dust can be covered or sprayed with water.
			A hardstand area and driveway will be constructed for an all weather surface so that dust is kept to a minimum. Moisture controlled stockpiles and water carts are utilised as well as sprays on conveyor belts to
			Best practice dust controls which are engaged onsite include: • High pressure misting at crusher points • Enclosed or shielded crushing equipment • Sealed internal roads • Water carts and wheel wash systems • Moisture controlled stockpiles • Wind triggered shutdown protocols • Real time dust monitoring if required

ITEM	NAME & ADDRESS	KEY CONCERNS	COMMENT
3		Human Health	The location of 76 Murrawee Rd is 800m north west of the subject site and Under Clause 53.10 of Planning Schemes the recommended threshold distance is 300m for a batching plant producing more than 5000 tonnes per year of material. The proposed plant will produce less than this. The predominant wind direction is from the west and we consider any impact to 76 Murrawee Rd would not be significant
		Animal Welfare Environmental Impacts Industrial use in Farming Zone	• The FZ allows non agricultural uses where impacts are acceptable • The proposal supports regional construction and reduces landfill • The site's highway frontage makes it suitable for service based uses • Landscaping and screening maintain rural character • The use is temporary and reversible if needed Works will be operated within EPA guidelines
4		Dust will affect drinking water	87 Murrawee Rd is 810 m north west of the subject land • The concerns raised are valid but manageable • The proposal includes industry leading mitigation measures • The planning scheme does not prohibit the use in the FZ • EPA compliance ensures health and amenity are protected • Permit conditions can guarantee ongoing performance • The proposal delivers regional economic and environmental benefits
		Devaluation of land	This is not a planning consideration
5		Devaluation of land due to adjacent land use and rezoning	1111 Murray Valley Highway is located 8km north of the subject land Devaluation is not a planning consideration
6		Unauthorised operation	8 Saleyards Rd is located in the Commercial Zone adjacent to the subject land Applicant is in the process of obtaining council approval for the operation since 16/04/2025
		Dust	Best practice dust controls which are engaged onsite include: • High pressure misting at crusher points • Enclosed or shielded crushing equipment • Sealed internal roads • Water carts and wheel wash systems • Moisture controlled stockpiles • Wind triggered shutdown protocols • Real time dust monitoring if required

ITEM	NAME & ADDRESS	KEY CONCERNS	COMMENT
		Traffic issues	• A Traffic Impact Assessment shows the Murray Valley Highway can safely accommodate movements • Trucks will use designated entry/exit points • On site queuing prevents roadside congestion • Sight distance and turning lane requirements can be conditioned Road rules apply to all users regardless of vehicle type Once a permit is granted a new access can be created off Murray Valley Highway
		Demolition of existing dwelling	Dwelling was demolished under permit number …..... Material will be disposed of when considered safe to do so due to bee infestation Concerns over asbestos are not warranted as only limestone and concrete will be crushed at the site.
7		Impact to Big 4 Caravan Park	The BIG4 is within 490m south east of the subject land. Under Clause 53.10 of Planning Schemes the recommended threshold distance is 300m for a batching plant producing more than 5000 tonnes per year of material. The proposed plant will produce less than this. • The caravan park is acknowledged as a sensitive receptor • Modelling shows compliance at its boundary • Visual screening and landscaping will soften views • Hours of operation avoid peak evening periods • Dust and noise controls exceed minimum requirements
		Operating hours	Operating hours of plant are between 7.00am and 6.00pm weekdays & 7.00am to 1.00pm
		Lighting	No additional lighting is required as the plant is operated during daylight hours only
			The proposal protects the amenity of the caravan park through robust, enforceable mitigation measures
8		Dust	10 Murrawee Rd is located within 280m north of the northern boundary of the subject land Best practice dust controls which are engaged onsite include: • High pressure misting at crusher points • Enclosed or shielded crushing equipment • Sealed internal roads • Water carts and wheel wash systems • Moisture controlled stockpiles • Wind triggered shutdown protocols • Real time dust monitoring if required Plant will operate within EPA guidelines
		Big4 Caravan park concerns	The proposal protects the amenity of the caravan park through robust, enforceable mitigation measures

ITEM	NAME & ADDRESS	KEY CONCERNS	COMMENT
9		Dust	210 Murray Valley Highway is directly east of the proponents works yard on Saleyards Road. The dwelling is located approximately 370m from the proposed works area. Best practice dust controls will be undertaken to minimize dust
		Traffic	The proposed concrete batching plant will be located at 241 Murray Valley Highway, not at the depot on Saleyards Raod as implied. This is an improved outcome as the activity will not be undertaken on the proponenets Commercial zoned land on Saleyards Road.
		Noise	Noise levels at nearby residences and the caravan park will comply with EPA standards and remain within acceptable limits. Noise can be conditioned and enforced. An Environmental Noise Impact Assessment can be produced as a Permit Condition
		Property values decrease	Not a planning consideration
10		Noise	The dwelling at 26 Saleyards Road is approximatley 240m south of the subject land southern boundary. Noise levels at nearby residences and the caravan park will comply with EPA standards and remain within acceptable limits. Noise can be conditioned and enforced. An Environmental Noise Impact Assessment can be produced as a Permit Condition. Amenity conflicts exist between 26 Saleyards Road and the adjoining Commercial zoned land uses to the north and east and is an ongoing issue for the landholder.
		Dust	Best practice dust controls which are engaged onsite include: • High pressure misting at crusher points • Enclosed or shielded crushing equipment • Sealed internal roads • Water carts and wheel wash systems • Moisture controlled stockpiles • Wind triggered shutdown protocols • Real time dust monitoring if required No sand is stockpiled at the proposed site and all weather surfaces will be created to minimize dust
11		Dust	Objector has no dwelling onsite and is adjacent to the south of the Commercial zoned property owned by proponent
		Noise	Objector does not live onsite therefore no direct amenity impact on the liveability of the property. Plant will operate under EPA Guidelines

ITEM	NAME & ADDRESS	KEY CONCERNS	COMMENT
I2		Dust	77 Murrawee Road is adjacent to the west of the subject land and shares a common boundary. The dwelling is located approximately 740m north west of the works area. The perdominant wind direction is from the west in the region and best practice dust control measures will be undertaken to mitigate impacts to the farming land on this property.
		Drainage & Stormwater	A stormwater Management plan can be a Condition of the permit
		Demolished dwelling	Dwelling was demolished under a permit issued by SHRCC. Material will be disposed of when considered safe to do so due to bee infestation Concerns over asbestos are not warranted as only limestone and concrete will be crushed at the site.
I3		Dust	232 Murray Valley Highway is located directly east of the subject land within 80m. Strict dust control techniques will need to be adhered to to prevent dust from impacting the residents at this property.
		Noise	Noise levels at nearby residences and the caravan park will comply with EPA standards and remain within acceptable limits. Noise can be conditioned and enforced. An Environmental Noise Impact Assessment can be produced as a Permit Condition if required.
		Traffic	A driveway upgrade is proposed from highway as part of this proposal.
		Human Health	Impacts from dust prior to 2023 are not a planning consideration for this application and objectors concerns appear to apply to the Commercial zoned land
		Hours of Operation	7am-6pm weekdays on an 12 times per year and 3-5 days at a time

2.3 Planning Scheme Review

Directorate: Development and Planning

File Number: Nil
Purpose: For Discussion

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

1. Growth and Development – Building a resilient local economy, supporting businesses and attracting investment for a thriving future. Objective 1.1: Support housing that meets community needs and enables future population growth 1.1.3 Proactive strategic planning for future land use.

Current Strategic Documents

Council Plan

Declarations of Interest

Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

The purpose of the report is to inform Council about the Planning Scheme Amendment review process that is required under Section 12B of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act). A summary of the process undertaken and the final report with a number of recommendations are discussed below.

Key Points / Issues:

Section 12B of the Act requires Council to regularly review the Swan Hill Rural City Council Planning Scheme (the planning scheme) and more specifically requires that the review should be no later than one year after the Council Plan is prepared under Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The purpose of the review is to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the planning scheme in achieving;

a) The objectives and strategies of the planning scheme include the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS), Planning Policy Framework (PPF), and the Local policies and schedules.
b) The objectives of planning identified by the Act.

c) Correcting any clerical and/or mapping errors.

The review is an audit of the performance of the planning scheme at a point of time and will inform the continuous improvement of the planning scheme by addressing:

- What has been achieved since the last review?
- Where are we now?
- Where to from here?

The review has identified additional strategic work and/or separate planning scheme amendments which will improve the performance of the planning scheme. Any proposed improvements to the planning scheme that flow from the review should be carried out as strategic planning projects and subsequent planning scheme amendments separate to this review.

The review process should also investigate the current processing of statutory planning permit assessment within Council, which;

- identifies the major planning issues facing the municipality;
- demonstrates how the planning scheme implements the PPF;
- assesses the strategic performance of the scheme;
- documents the strategic work that has been completed or carried out since the previous review and any additional work required to strengthen the strategic direction of the planning scheme;
- provides an assessment of statutory planning performance;
- outlines the consultation process and its outcomes; and
- makes recommendations arising from the review.

Key recommendations from this review include the following;

1. Suggested changes to update the Municipal Planning Strategy and local policies within the PPF.
2. New strategic work necessary to support future policy development or changes to the provisions of the planning scheme (e.g. Township strategy to update the strategic framework plans and support rezoning to LDRZ and RLZ).
3. Undertake a review of the Rural Land Use Strategy with two core elements being farms within irrigation districts and other uses (e.g. mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects) in all Farming Zone land
4. Prepare an anomalies amendment to fix mapping errors and ensure compliance with the Ministerial Direction Form and Content.

Section 12B (5) of the Act requires that, on the completion of the review, council reports the findings of the review to the Minister.

Policy Impacts:

This review has identified a number of strategic land use planning projects that will need to be adequately resourced and ensure ongoing communication with the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning (DTP). These projects will provide updated policy within the Swan Hill Planning Scheme and deliver greater guidance for planning decisions.

Whilst the Municipal Planning Strategy will be revised with updated data and population statistics to reflect the current day situation.

Consultation

Agency consultation was undertaken and letters were sent to the following;

- Department of Transport and Planning
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
- Powercor
- Vic Track
- North Central Catchment Management Authority
- Mallee Catchment Management Authority
- Lower Murray Water
- Goulburn Murray Water
- Country Fire Authority
- Wamba Wemba Aboriginal Corporation
- Environment Protection Authority

Unfortunately, at the time of preparing this briefing report only two agencies had responded to our consultation letter. Both the catchment management authorities provided responses regarding flooding and correction to the referral requirements within the planning scheme.

Financial Implications

A financial commitment from Council will be required to pursue a number of the strategic planning projects, which will follow the standard budget processes. However, an early estimate of the projects identified is likely to cost Council more than $450,000 over the next four years of implementation (i.e. strategic project and planning scheme amendment process).

Social Implications

A more efficient and up to date Planning Scheme is important for the municipality to ensure the community is provided with greater clarity about the planning processes.

Economic Implications

Council commitment within future budget processes will be required to progress any future strategic planning projects and planning scheme amendment(s).

Environmental Implications

The review has identified the need to update flood mapping as part of the key recommendation, which will be led by the State agencies. This should ensure that environmental impacts from flooding are mapped more precisely. The review of the Rural Land Use Strategy should also identify opportunities for rural landowners to enhance and improve the environment in the rural areas of the municipality.

Risk Management Implications

Failure to be successful in using this analysis to update the Swan Hill Planning Scheme will require additional finances to carry out more work and potentially cause reputational damage.

Attachments: 1. Attachment A - Planning Scheme Review (Final Report) -

Options

1. Council to adopt the Planning Scheme Review final report and write to the Minister.
2. Council does not adopt the Planning Scheme Review.

Recommendation/s

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Planning Scheme Review 2026 (Attachment A), including the relevant appendices.**
2. **Write to the Minister for Planning and submit the adopted report in accordance with section 12B(5) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Attachment B).**

Swan Hill Planning Scheme Review Report

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Version 3

8 October 2026
[Draft]



Prepared by:

Acknowledgement of Country

Swan Hill Rural City Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which this report is based, and pays its respects to their elders, past and present.

Planning and Environment Act 1987 (PE Act)

Planning Scheme Review pursuant to Section 12B of the PE Act

Swan Hill Planning Scheme

Version	Author	Issue date
1.0	DB	3 September 2026
2.0	DB	24 September 2026
3.0	DB	8 October 2026

Acronyms

Abbreviation	Meaning
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
DEECA	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
DTP	Department of Transport and Planning
MDFC	Ministerial Direction on the form and content of planning schemes
MPS	Municipal Planning Strategy
PE Act	Planning and Environment Act 1987
PPV	Planning Panels Victoria
PPARS	Planning Permit Activity and Report System
PG	Practitioner's Guide to Victoria's Planning Schemes
PPF	Planning Policy Framework
RPH	Regional Planning Hub
RPP	Regional Planning Partnerships
SHRCC	Swan Hill Rural City Council
VCAT	Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
VIF	Victoria in Future

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1. Executive summary

1.1. Why is the planning scheme being reviewed?

The Swan Hill Rural City Council (SHRCC) as the planning authority for the Swan Hill Planning Scheme is required to review its planning scheme every four years under Section 12(B) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (PE Act)

Council last undertook a comprehensive review of the planning scheme in 2015. The findings of this review were translated into the planning scheme via amendment C73swan which was gazetted on 22 October 2021.

As part of the above amendment the planning scheme was restructured to insert a new Municipal Planning Strategy and local Planning Policies to replace the former Local Policy Planning Framework.

Once adopted by the council, the planning scheme review will be forwarded to the Minister for Planning as required under Section 12(B) of the PE Act.

A planning scheme amendment or amendments to implement the findings of the planning scheme review will be required. The marked-up ordinance to support two amendment pathways forms Appendix Two of this report.

1.2. Health check and findings

The Swan Hill Planning Scheme has been operating at a sufficiently effective level over the past 10 years which is when the last scheme review was completed. There are some gaps with local policy, but nothing that prevents effective decisions being made. It would appear that local influences and delegation are causing more issues with Council's statutory decision making over recent years.

One of the biggest issues has been staff turnover, after a relatively stable senior leadership within the planning team, a number of key staff changes have occurred in recent years. This has been compounded with a number of statutory planning staff also turning over in the past five to 10 years.

The main gaps within the planning scheme appear to be related to farms without access to irrigation, small lot subdivisions within the Farming Zone and out of date framework plans for each of the townships within the municipality. This combined with a lack of investment within the strategic planning function within Council has resulted in a period of limited strategic work being undertaken.

This situation has occurred because of:

- Lack of adequate investment in the strategic planning function over the last 5 – 10 years meaning that basic work such as industrial land planning, low density residential strategy and response to change of farming practices has not taken place.
- There is a shortage of planning professionals across the country meaning it is difficult to attract and retain staff.
- There has been no commitment, until very recently, to employ a dedicated strategic planner.
- Poor staff attraction and retention is creating ongoing staff shortages which is affecting productivity with difficulties recruiting and retaining staff, particularly at the more experienced levels.

During this planning scheme review, it has become clear that the Council have realised the extent of the problem and are committed to addressing the underlying issues and directing adequate resources to improve the performance of the planning function at council. This process will take time and it is critical that council remain focused on the strategic planning projects that will make the most difference to the wider community and building the capacity and confidence of the statutory planning team.

1.3. Top priorities for council

The review has identified key further strategic work projects and these should be included in the schedule to Clause 74.02 of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme. Any other additional strategic projects that are identified once the key projects have been completed could be further advanced if organisational priorities change or if other funding opportunities arise. These priority and other projects can be adjusted as best seen fit by Council through the usual budget and resource planning phases during the future four years.

The review has identified the following priority projects for council over the next four years:

1. Commence and complete the planning scheme amendment to implement the corrections and updates identified from this review project.
2. Establish a clear vision for the all townships (Swan Hill, Robinvale, Lake Boga, Woorinen, Nyah-Nyah West, Manangatang and Ultima) and prepare updated Framework Plans to guide future development.
3. Review and update the Rural Land Use Strategy to provide clear guidance for decision making in irrigation districts within the Farming Zone.
4. Review and update the Rural Land Use Strategy to provide clear policy guidance for future mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects within the Farming Zone.
5. Adoption of the Draft Industrial Strategy and subsequent planning scheme amendment to implement the final strategy.
6. Complete the pending planning scheme amendments for rural living/low density residential rezoning and industrial land rezoning.
7. Undertake a review of the potential land use implications on the municipality from increased mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects.
8. Undertake a planning scheme amendment to implement the updated framework and settlement plans.
9. Undertake an in-depth analysis to further identify new residential opportunities within Robinvale.

1.4. Consolidated recommendations

This section of the report outlines the recommendations and next steps for this planning scheme review. Recommendations are grouped as follows:

- Planning scheme recommendations
- Further strategic work recommendations
- Process improvement recommendations
- Advocacy recommendations
- Minister for Planning recommendation

1.4.1. Planning scheme amendment

It is recommended that a planning scheme amendment is undertaken by the council to implement the findings of this review that relate to administrative matters and to incorporate council or State adopted strategic planning work into the scheme.

The review has identified a small number of policy neutral changes that should be made to the scheme to bring it into alignment with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes (MDFC).

These are administrative matters and do not change the policy intent of the scheme.

There are several factual changes that should be made to the Municipal Planning Strategy to bring it up to date with the most recent ABS and economic data, and the Council Plan. There are also a number of errors and anomalies within the zoning maps which will be corrected.

An audit of local and regional strategies and policies that have been completed since the last planning scheme review has been done and planning policy from these strategies incorporated into the planning scheme as relevant. The working documents that were used to do the analysis have been provided to council officers for reference.

These changes are marked up on the supporting marked up Ordinance at Appendix One.

Within the Ordinance, the reason for each change is included in orange text in brackets like this: [source code]. This reason will take the reader back to the correct page of the parent document or the correct provision in the planning scheme as appropriate and enable changes to be understood in their original context. If the words NEW is at the start of the source code, it means that this is new, strategically justified policy to be included in the scheme and will require a full amendment. The reason for changes may also be included in blue brackets like this: [reason].

Recommendation:

It is recommended that council:

1. **Prepare a planning scheme amendment using the marked-up ordinance at Appendix One to:**
    a) **Incorporate the policy neutral changes identified in Chapter 5 to align the ordinance with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes.**
    b) **Make various corrections to mapping errors found throughout the planning scheme maps as referred to in Chapter 5.**
    c) **Amend Clause 2.01 MPS to introduce updated statistics and reference to the current Council Plan.**
    d) **Include an updated schedule to Clause 72.04 to include the *Infrastructure Design Manual* (Local Government Infrastructure Design Association, 2020).**
    e) **Include an updated Clause 74.02 Further strategic work that prioritises the strategic work program based on the findings of this review.**

1.4.2. Further strategic work

Appendix Three of this report outlines the strategic planning work that has been identified through this planning scheme review.

Through the review process, the highest priority tasks for council to undertake over the next four years to improve the planning scheme has been identified and is included in the recommendations below.

A number of other recommendations for further strategic work have been identified through this review and are included in Appendix Three. The list below represents the further strategic work that the report authors believe will have the most positive impact for the municipality community and the efficient functioning of the planning service.

Only work that can be completed in the next four years should be included in Clause 74.02 of the planning scheme. A recommended Clause 74.02 is included in the marked-up ordinance at Appendix One.

This should be considered by council to ensure that the work can be included in the annual budgets and is reasonable to complete over the next four years and, if not, what the priority projects that should be included in Clause 74.02 are for the council.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that council prioritise the following further strategic work over the next four years:

2. **Undertake a Rural Land Use Strategy review to further investigate land use planning solutions for farms that are located within irrigation districts.**
3. **Undertake a Rural Land Use Strategy review to investigate the potential positives and negatives of mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects located within the Farming Zone.**
4. **Progress the township and settlement strategy project to update the various framework plans and subsequent planning scheme amendment to implement updated settlement and framework plans.**
5. **Complete the Draft Industrial Strategy and subsequent planning scheme amendment to implement the findings.**
6. **Investigate relevant controls to restrict further subdivision of Low Density Residential Zone lots that have access to sewer but with poor drainage.**
7. **Undertake an in-depth analysis to further identify new residential opportunities within Robinvale.**

1.4.3. Process improvements

Process improvement recommendations are drawn from analysis of the planning scheme, permit activity data, consultation with council staff and referral authorities.

These recommendations relate to improvements that could be made to the process associated with collection and analysis of data (such as planning permits), processing and referral of applications, an communication. Process improvements may apply to Council, the Victorian government or referral agencies.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that council:

8. **Adequately resource the proposed strategic work program to enable the delivery of the highest priority strategic planning projects identified in Chapter 11 of the report.**
9. **Review the resourcing of the statutory planning function to ensure that adequate resources and systems are available to maintain the performance in meeting statutory processing timeframes for planning permit applications.**
10. **Further investigate the potential of implementing a 'call in system' for statutory planning applications which receive objections. This system could allow delegations of statutory**

planning officers to increase, meaning decisions could be made at an officer level on applications which receive objections (number of objections would need to be further explored). However, under this system Councillor's may still be provided the opportunity to 'call' applications to Council for a decision.

11. **Update the schedule to Clause 66.04 to refer applications under ESO Schedule 1 to the correct catchment management authority.**

1.4.4. Advocacy

These recommendations are generally beyond the scope of what council can achieve in its planning scheme under the current Victoria Planning Provisions or scope of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. They are matters that council may wish to discuss with the Victorian government to highlight the issue and advocate for change.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that council:

12. **Seek DTP and the relevant catchment management authority funds and support the implementation of available local flood studies into the planning scheme.**
13. **Align Council's current housing target monitoring goals with those provided by the State Government.**

1.4.5. Minister for Planning

The council, with assistance from Eighth Street Planning P/L has prepared a planning scheme review as required by section 12B(1) of the PE Act.

In accordance with section 12B(3) of the PE Act, this review identifies opportunities to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the scheme in achieving the objectives of planning in Victoria and the objectives of the planning framework established in the PE Act.

In accordance with section 12B(4) of the PE Act, the review evaluates the scheme to ensure that it:

- Is consistent with Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes.
- Sets out the policy objectives for the use and development of land.
- Makes effective use of state and local provisions to achieve state and local planning policy objectives.

Recommendation:

14. **That the Swan Hill Rural City Council accept this Planning Scheme Review and forward it to the Minister for Planning as evidence the Swan Hill Rural City Council, as the planning authority for Swan Hill Planning Scheme, has met its obligations in accordance with Section 12B of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to review the planning scheme every four years.**

2. Introduction

2.1. Purpose

The council, as the planning authority for the scheme, is required to review its scheme every four years under Section 12(B) of the PE Act.

The scope of a planning scheme review is established under Section 12(B) of the PE Act and should focus on:

- The **effectiveness and efficiency** of the planning scheme in achieving the objectives of planning and the planning framework in Victoria.
- **Aligning** the planning scheme with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes.
- Ensuring the planning scheme contains a **clear narrative** about the way use and development of land will be managed to achieve the planning vision or objectives of the area.

Planning scheme reviews also provide the opportunity to:

- Align council's policy position with the planning scheme.
- Update out of date or redundant information.
- Educate and inform stakeholders about how the planning scheme works and the process by which to improve it.

This review will be forwarded to the Minister for Planning as required under section 12(B) of the Act once complete. A planning scheme amendment or amendments to implement the findings of the review is recommended.

2.2. Methodology

The planning scheme review project has been prepared in partnership with the council and the Eighth Street Planning P/L, at the request of the council.

This methodology is supported by the '*Good Practice Guide to Planning Scheme Reviews*' and templates that have been developed to assist with each stage of the process.

1 Initiate	2 Analyse	3 Engage	4 Report	5 Implement
Establish timelines	Audit the planning scheme	Statutory and strategic planners	Planning scheme review report	Develop a shortlist of priority further strategic work
Collate materials	Review strategic documents and new policy	Internal referrals	Further strategic work plan	Planning scheme review to Minister for Planning
Survey planners and key staff	VCAT decisions	Councillors and Executive	Marked – up ordinance	Planning Scheme Amendment
Contact referral authorities	Planning panel recommendations	External referrals		Budgeting for further strategic work

Inform DTP	Previous planning scheme review	Registered Aboriginal Parties		Process improvements & advocacy
	Planning permit activity	Other identified stakeholders		
	Survey results			

Figure 1: Planning scheme review methodology

The timing for the project is:

Stage	Timing
Initiate	February 2026
Analyse	March – June 2026
Engage	June – July 2026
Report	August 2026
Consult	September 2026
Implement	October 2026

This planning scheme review has been prepared in consideration to the following directions and guidance provided by DTP.

Ministerial directions:

- Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes
- Ministerial Direction No. 11 Strategic Assessment of Amendments

Planning practice notes and advice:

- A Practitioner's Guide to Victoria's Planning Schemes
- PPN32 Review of planning schemes
- PPN46 Strategic Assessment Guidelines

2.3. Council Context

Swan Hill Rural City Council covers 6,116 square kilometres and is home to approximately 21,403 people in the northwest of Victoria. From Robinvale and Boundary Bend in the north to Ultima and Lake Boga in the south, our municipality brings together communities with strong local identities and a shared sense of connection.

The municipality welcomes people from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, with around one in four residents born overseas and many speaking a language other than English at home.

The municipality has a median age of 39 and a household size of 2.5 people, in line with the Victorian average. A mix of younger families, older residents and volunteers all contribute to the community's character.

The context for the Swan Hill Rural City Council is shown in **Figure 2**.

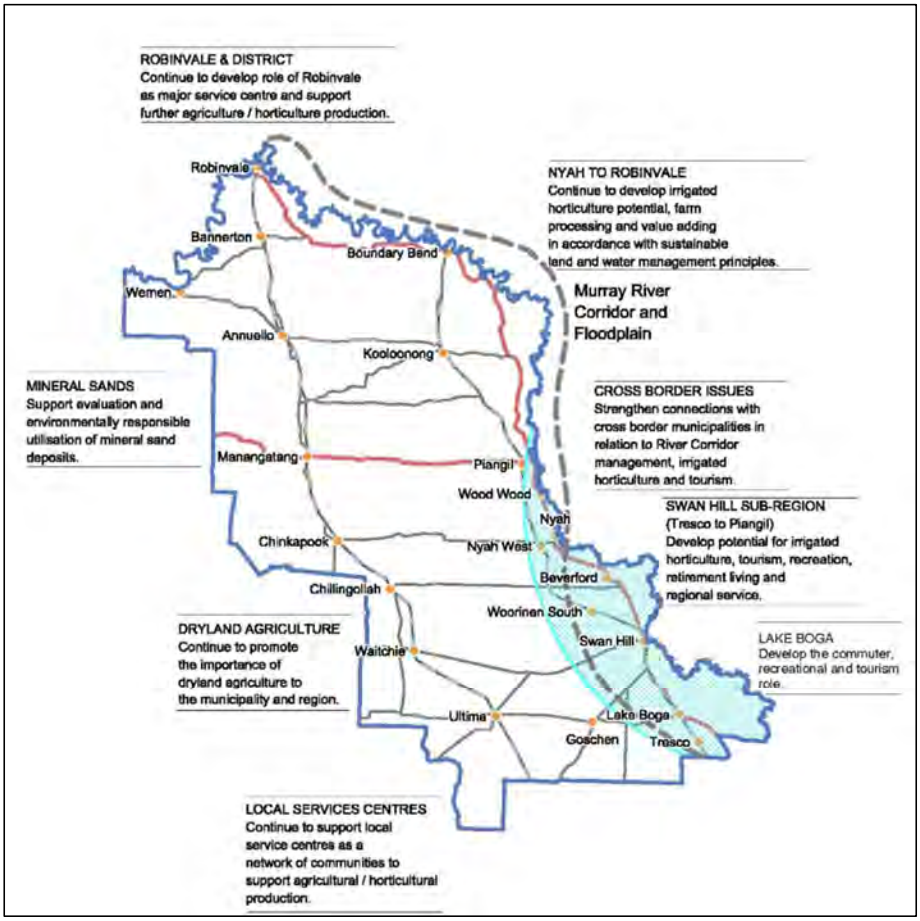


Figure 2 - Municipality Shire Context

2.4. Existing Zones and Overlays

The Swan Hill Planning Scheme consists of ten zones and 18 overlays, which are depicted in the maps below.

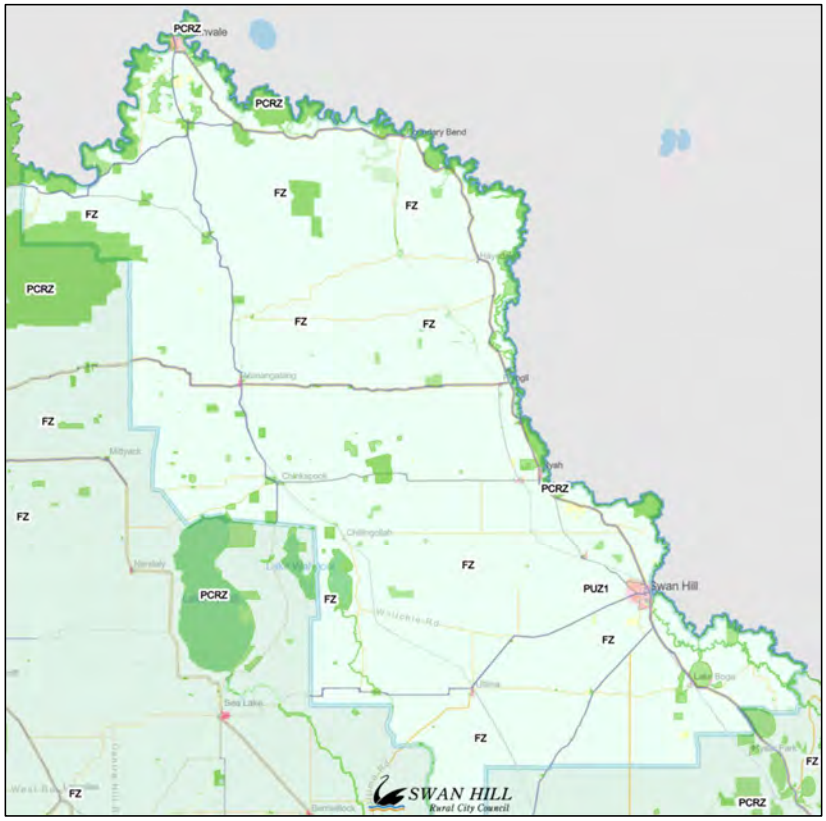


Figure 3 – Zones map for the municipality.

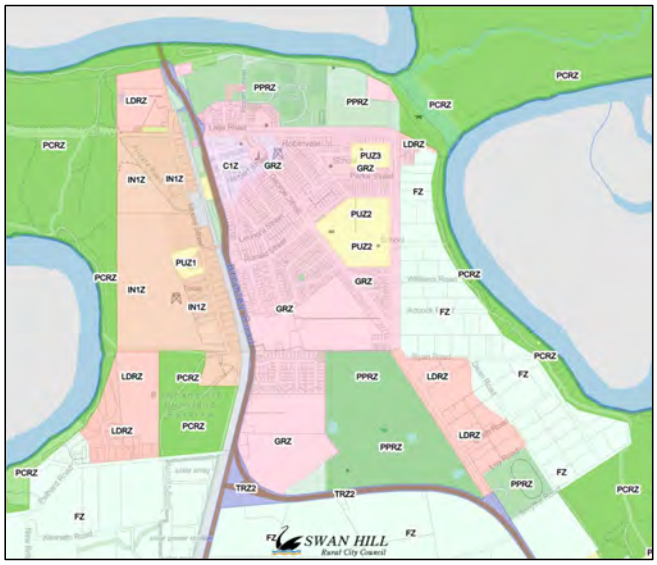


Figure 3A – Zones map for Robinvale.

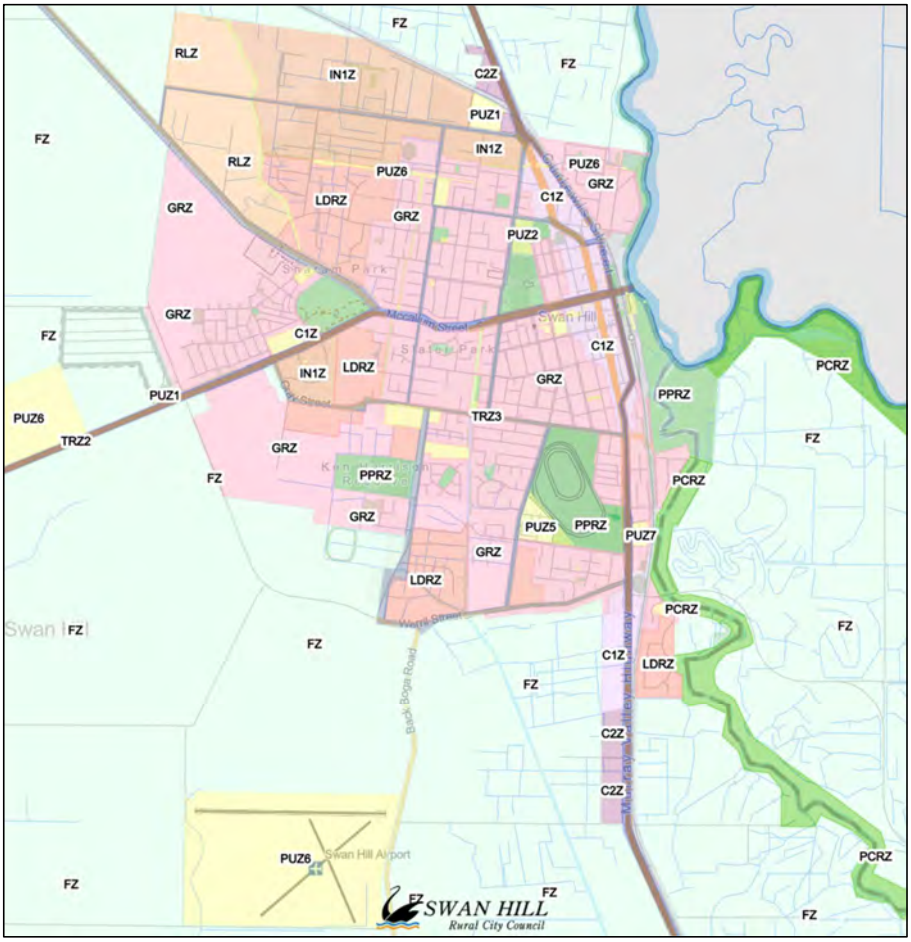


Figure 3B – Zones map for Swan Hill.

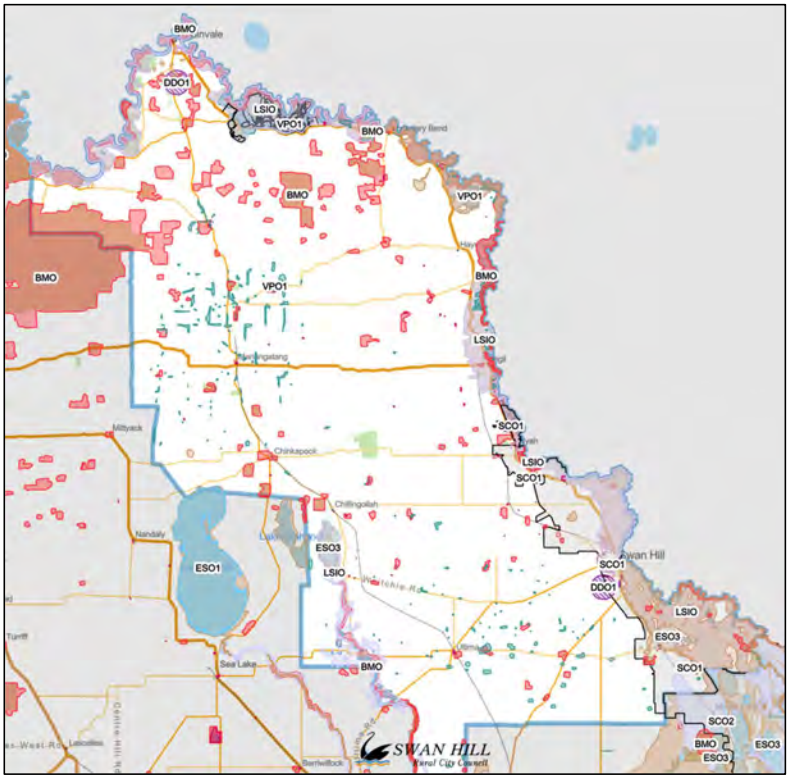


Figure 4 – Overlays map for the municipality.

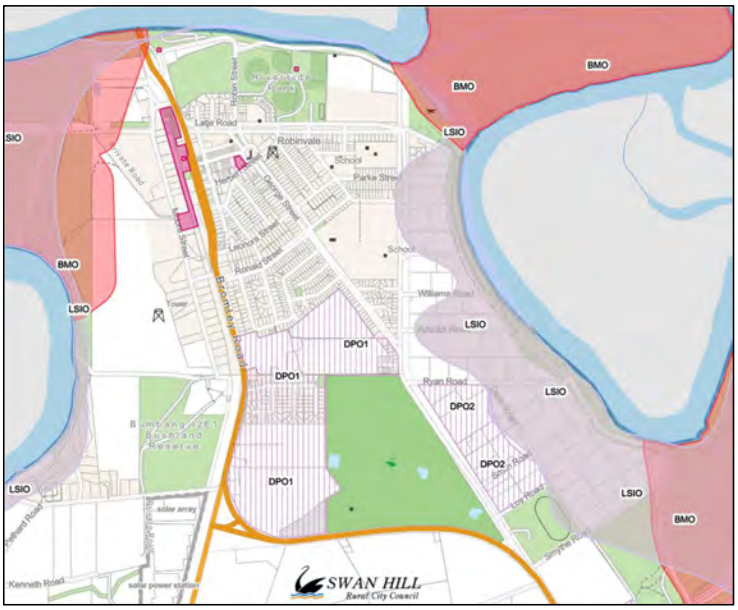


Figure 4A – Overlays map for Robinvale.

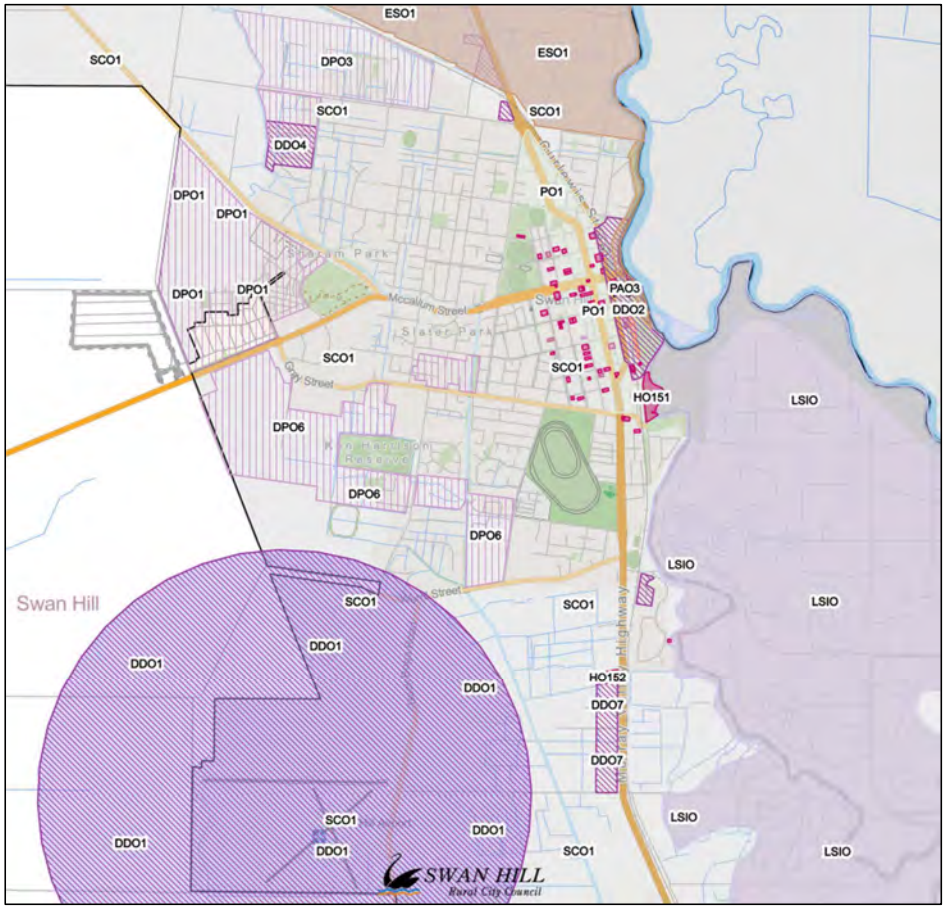
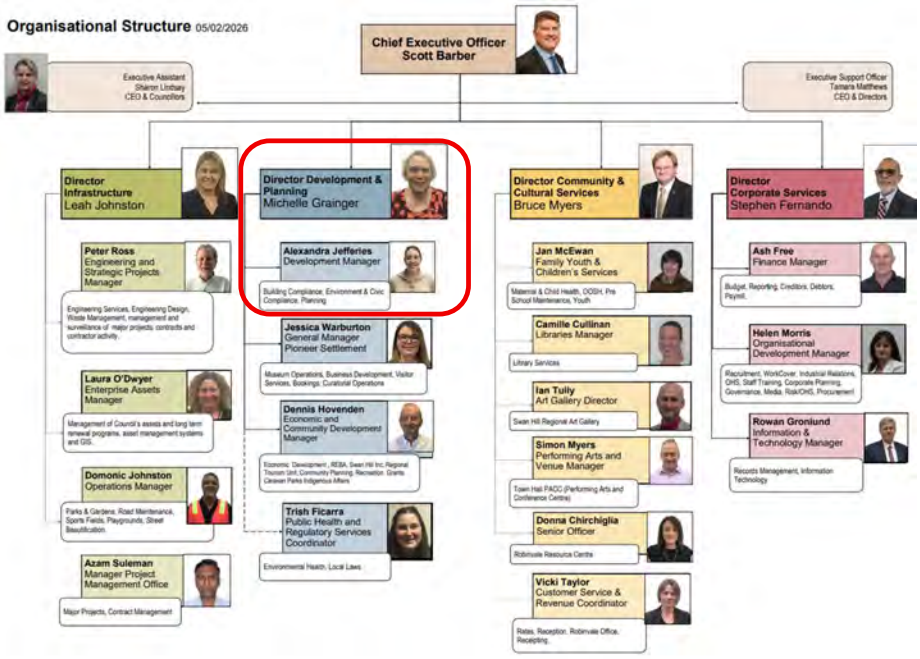


Figure 4B – Overlays map for Swan Hill.

2.5. Council Organisational Structure



3. What's driving change

3.1. Population, growth, and economy

Swan Hill Rural City Council is home to 21,403 people in the northwest of Victoria. From Robinvale and Boundary Bend in the north to Ultima and Lake Boga in the south, our municipality brings together communities with strong local identities and a shared sense of connection.

Most people live in either Swan Hill or Robinvale which are the two largest towns within the municipality.

The Swan Hill municipality has experienced sustainable growth over the past decade, led by the expansion of horticultural and agricultural practices and supported by an innovative manufacturing sector.

This success is depicted by the fact that irrigated areas have been increasing with a higher proportion of mature, high value crops such as almonds and table grapes. The region is one of Australia's largest producers of almond and table grape plantings, vegetables including potatoes and carrots, stone fruit, olives, avocados and field crops.

The region also boasts an impressive 69% of its municipality dedicated to cropping and associated dryland infrastructure, including wheat, barley, lentils, cereal/hay, pulses (including chickpeas and lupins), grazing, oats, and canola. In 2023/24, the total value of agricultural output in Swan Hill was $1.053B, with this sector accounting for 2,184 local jobs, the largest employer in the municipality.

Located along the Murray River, tourism also plays an important role in our region's economy. In 2024, the Murray Region attracted around 6.29 million visitors, and contributed an estimated $2.5 billion to the region's economy. The climate and natural beauty attracted around 718,300 visitors to Swan Hill in 2024, with close to 1 million domestic overnight stays recorded. While interstate day trips have returned to, and exceeded, pre-pandemic levels, intrastate day trips, and overseas visitors, continue to remain variable. (Murray Regional Tourism - 2024)

Furthermore, an analysis of the Housing Capacity Assessment Platrom (HCAP) indicates that the municipality currently has a "realistic" capacity of 11,900 lots based on current planning controls within the Scheme. This is significantly above the minimum number of dwellings to be supplied by 2051 in Plan for Victoria, which is only 2,100 dwellings.

3.2. Climate change and other environmental risks

The Mallee Climate Projections 2024 show that by 2050, Swan Hill is likely to be 1.5 °C warmer and have 4–8 % less annual rainfall than 1986–2005, meaning hotter summers, more very hot days, and drier conditions impacting farming, water, infrastructure, and health.

SHRCC is regularly affected by significant natural events, particularly flooding along the Murray River and it's tributaries. This is a major natural asset for the community but the Murray River now needs sensitive and appropriate management into the future.

Council adopted it's formal submission to the Murray-Darling Basin Plan Review on 28 April 2026, which seeks to protect the viability of irrigation-dependent industries and the jobs they sustain across the Mallee and Lower Murray Water region, while delivering stronger environmental outcomes through smarter river operations.

Water access and allocation remains a key environmental threat to the viability of sustainable farming and land management. The integrated water management within SHRCC needs to recognise

that the Murray River is the critical water supply for potable and irrigation purposes. A sustainable water system will need to address issues such as salinity, drainage, stormwater management and irrigation infrastructure.

Water allocations also have created environmental issues with jurisdictional issues and lack of coordination for water allocations and rights. This often can lead to confused responses regarding future land use and development when farms sell off water rights and no longer have access to irrigation water.

Whilst potential bushfires are another risk, the fuel loads within the Mallee region are significantly less than other parts of Victoria.

3.3. Victorian government amendments

The Victoria Planning Provisions are constantly being reviewed and updated at a state level with numerous VC and GC amendments occurring each year. The State also provides advice to planners in the form of updates to the Practitioner's Guide and new planning practice notes. The full list of Victorian and Regional amendments that have been gazetted, and practice notes that have been released since the last review forms Appendix Three.

Most significant of all VC amendments has been the introduction of Plan for Victoria and the associated housing targets for each municipality throughout the State. To support the review of these housing targets the State released an electronic tool for each municipality to undertake an assessment of housing capacity to ensure that these housing targets can be met by 2050.

4. Previous planning scheme review

4.1. Previous planning scheme review

The First Planning Scheme Review (2002)

Consistent with the requirements of the (then) Planning and Environment Act 1987, Council undertook a brief review of the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) (rather than the full Planning Scheme) in 2002. The report noted that since its introduction, officers and Councillors had had the opportunity to "road test" the new scheme. The report summarised the strategic and statutory aspects of the scheme and it was adopted by Council in October 2002 and forwarded to the Minister for Planning. The Initial review recommended (among other things) that new strategy statements be prepared to cover the following:

- Investigate future supply and location of residential land and industrial land in Swan Hill.
- Investigate future supply and location of residential and industrial land in Robinvale.
- Provide a stronger strategic focus and sub-regional planning framework for Robinvale.
- Identify future retail floor space requirements and locations for new retailing in Swan Hill.
- Identify suitable locations outside of Swan Hill CBD for businesses requiring larger sites.
- Encourage industry and business development on the south side of Swan Hill – Ultima Road at Tower Hill.
- Investigate option for co-location of aged care accommodation in Swan Hill.

- Investigate need for revised Aircraft Environs Overlay at Swan Hill airport.
- Protect the option for an inter-modal freight facility at Swan Hill in the Karinie Street Industrial Area.
- Protection of irrigation infrastructure.
- Better links with the Mallee and North Central Catchment Management Strategies.

The report also recommended that the following 'Further Strategic Work' be undertaken:

- Prepare integrated planning strategy for Robinvale focussing more specifically on residential and industrial land use and development.
- Prepare a Robinvale sub-regional strategic framework.
- Continuing development of the Karinie Street Industrial Precinct
- Continuing the staged development of Tower Hill
- Robinvale Flood Mitigation Program
- Swan Hill Levee Project
- Continuing development of Swan Hill River Precinct
- Identify suitable locations in Swan Hill regional centre for the establishment of businesses with larger site requirements.

The initial review report was adopted in October 2002 and was implemented by Amendment C12 which was gazetted on 30 June 2005.

The Second Planning Scheme Review (2010)

In 2010 Council undertook a more substantial review of its planning scheme (ISIS Planning) incorporating considerable community consultation as part of the review process. The report documented the:

- Findings of the first planning scheme review conducted in 2002;
- State government initiatives since the 2002 review;
- Council's continuous improvement program comprising planning scheme amendments and its further strategic work program;
- Council's strategic context in the Council Plan and other strategies;
- Consultation outcomes;
- Effectiveness of the MSS including how it implements State Planning Policy;
- Effectiveness of local planning policies;
- Status of the further current strategic work program;
- Identification of gaps in the strategic work program;
- Identification of new major strategic issues facing Council;

• Matters that required the attention of the (then) Department of Planning and Community Development; and

• Planning file audit, internal administrative processes and staff resourcing.

Some of the key outcomes and recommendations of the 2010 Review were:

Key and Emerging Issues

• The emergence of the solar industry.

• The impacts of climate change.

• Farming will continue to be the backbone of the local and regional economy.

• Swan Hill will continue to grow as a regional city.

• Robinvale will continue to provide important sub regional services.

• Smaller towns will also provide important local level services.

• The protection of the environment will underpin the prosperity of the region.

• The Murray River corridor will provide important urban, social, economic and infrastructure challenges.

• The 'dewatering' of irrigated land will create unviable farming land that needs to be addressed.

Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) Issues

• While the planning scheme has performed well over its first 10 years, there is a need to restructure and update its content.

• There is a need to improve the readability of planning scheme.

• A new local areas section will provide a 'one-stop shop' for town based issues.

• There is a need to align the planning scheme with the Council Plan.

• Most of the local planning policies should be absorbed into the MSS.

Land Uses Issues - Residential

• Tower Hill will continue to provide the bulk of Swan Hills' residential development until development starts at the South West Precinct.

• There is a need to finalise the planning of the South West Development Precinct in Swan Hill.

• A Review of the Swan Hill Residential Development Strategy will be required to consider other residential options not previously supported, such as the land south of Werril Street.

• The Robinvale Land Use Strategy 2007 will continue to provide the basis for residential development.

• Beverford should be rezoned to a Township Zone to reflect its town characteristics.

Land Uses Issues - Industrial

• There is an adequate supply of industrial land in Swan Hill and Robinvale.

Land Uses Issues - Commercial

• The extension of the southern entrance to Swan Hill will need to be strategically supported to address constraints such as access, infrastructure, servicing, urban design while protecting the primary commercial role of the Swan Hill CBD.

• The demand for commercial land in the Swan Hill and Robinvale CBD's can be accommodated by infill development on 'brownfield' sites.

• The Robinvale Land Use Strategy 2007 will continue to provide the basis for commercial development.

Land Uses Issues - Rural

• The supply of worker or itinerant accommodation in the rural areas particularly for horticulture.

• The provision of rural residential opportunities.

Planning Processes Issues

• Council's internal planning processes met the requirements of the P and E Act.

• The processing times for planning applications were 20% better than the Victorian rural average.

• Council makes 30% more decisions within the statutory timeframes compared to the Victorian rural average.

A key outcome of the 2010 Review was the identification of the following 'Further Strategic Work' program:

• Initiate the Swan Hill South West Development Precinct planning scheme amendment.

• Consider a review of the Swan Hill Residential Development Strategy if the South West precinct does not proceed.

• Initiate the flooding mapping amendment.

• Conduct a highway business strategy for land in Swan Hill, particularly the southern entrance.

• Conduct a rural residential strategy to address the potential of rural living and low density residential opportunities in the Shire.

• Consider a Housing Strategy if the new residential zones are to be introduced.

Notably, most of the above elements of further work have been achieved in the inter review period between 2010 and 2015.

The second Planning Scheme Review Report was adopted by Council in May 2010.

The Third Planning Scheme Review (2015)

In 2015 Council undertook a more substantial review of its planning scheme incorporating considerable community consultation as part of the review process. The report documented the:

• Findings of the first and second planning scheme reviews conducted in 2002 and 2010;

• State government initiatives since the 2015 review;

• Council's continuous improvement program comprising planning scheme amendments and its further strategic work program;

- Council's strategic context in the Council Plan and other strategies;
- Consultation outcomes;
- Effectiveness of the MSS including how it implements State Planning Policy;
- Effectiveness of local planning policies;
- Status of the further current strategic work program;
- Identification of gaps in the strategic work program;
- Identification of new major strategic issues facing Council;
- Matters that required the attention of the (then) Department of Planning and Community Development; and
- Planning file audit, internal administrative processes and staff resourcing.

The third Planning Scheme Review Report was adopted by Council in 20 October 2015.

Observations Regarding Previous Review Recommendations

The initial introduction of the 'new format' Swan Hill Planning Scheme was considered by an Independent Advisory Planning Panel in 1999 and has since been reviewed three times by Council (2002, 2010 and 2015).

Since the last formal review, the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) has been introduced into the Victoria Planning Provisions in 2018, through VC148. This resulted in a structural change from the State and Local Planning Policy Framework to a new 'Planning Policy Framework' (PPF). Subsequently the change of the policy structure was introduced into the Swan Hill Planning Scheme in 2022 via Planning Scheme Amendment C73swan.

It is considered too early to understand the changes that has been on policy decisions with the new PPF structure.

4.2. Progress since last review

4.2.1. Completed projects

Council has implemented several of the recommendations from the last review through:

- Swan Hill Riverfront Commercial Development Strategy (Confidential)
- Potential for a new industrial estate south of Pethard Road and west of the Murray Valley Highway, Robinvale. (Development of Solar Farm has been approved and completed on this site.)
- Investigate a future heavy vehicle bypass to the west of Swan Hill with access to industrial areas in the vicinity of Dead Horse Lane, Back Boga Road and Memorial Drive as identified on the Swan Hill Framework Plan at Clause 02.04. (Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy – 2026)
- Develop and implement a settlement strategy, including investigating opportunities that may arise for land around Lake Boga. (Partially completed with rezoning and development of residential land along Hayes Road South, Lake Boga.)

4.2.2. Projects underway

Council is currently undertaking two projects that will implement a number of projects already identified in the previous review:

- Swan Hill Industrial Strategy
- Low Density and Rural Living Supply and Demand Analysis
- Townships Strategy – Including updates to Framework Plans

4.3. Outstanding work since last review

Items that are outstanding from the last planning scheme review are:

- Investigate and develop options for de-watered farming land.
- Engage with Goulburn-Murray Water, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, the Victorian Planning Authority and the community regarding the viability and sustainability of previously farmed small irrigated lots and review planning controls accordingly.
- Investigate the need for a revision of the Airport Environs Overlay at Swan Hill airport.
- Investigate the appropriate zones and overlays to apply to existing landfill and transfer stations.

Many of the issues that were identified in the last review have not emerged as issues through this review process. Furthermore, a number of the above outstanding projects that have not been completed are not relevant to the Planning Scheme functionality or effectiveness. Given the passage of time since the last review and many being irrelevant to the Planning Scheme review, it is recommended that only a key number of outstanding projects need to progress.

4.4. Obsolete recommendations

Some recommendations from the last review are obsolete because of changes that have been implemented by the Victorian government, are no longer a priority for SHRCC or are not appropriately aligned with land use planning. These include recommendations relating to:

- Investigate options for seasonal farmer accommodation.
- Complete updated flood data and local floodplain development plans for all relevant river precincts.
- Investigate options for the location and alignment of the river crossing at Swan Hill.
- Investigate the Swan Hill Racecourse land fronting the highway for potential urban uses.
- Prepare a town entry design concept for Murray Valley Highway/Latje Road intersection at Robinvale.
- Identify longer term land use opportunities for the former aerodrome site adjacent to Anzac Road in Robinvale.

4.5. Findings

Since the 2015 review, Council has undertaken a number of strategic planning projects and attempts were made to finalise a number of associated planning scheme amendments. However, due to the

lack of resourcing and changing State priorities, a number of strategic projects have either become redundant or unachievable.

The following list of strategic projects that have not yet been completed and should be included as part of this review for the future work program are shown below.

Findings / recommendations:

A. The following proposed further strategic work should continue to be undertaken throughout 2025- 2029 and beyond:

- **Investigate and develop options for de-watered farming land.**
- **Engage with Goulburn-Murray Water, Lower Murray Water, the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action, the Department of Transport and Planning and the community regarding the viability and sustainability of previously farmed smaller irrigated lots and review planning controls accordingly.**
- **Swan Hill Industrial Strategy and subsequent planning scheme amendment.**

5. Audit and assessment of current scheme

5.1. Audit Methodology

An audit of each local provision (policies and schedules) in the planning scheme has been undertaken. This audit has compared the drafting and application of each local provision against the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes, *a Practitioners' Guide to Victorian Planning Schemes* (Version 1.5, April 2022) and relevant planning practice notes.

Each provision has also been assessed with consideration to the work it is doing in achieving the strategic objectives that are set out in the State, regional and local planning provisions.

The detailed outcomes of the audit have been provided to council officers, and changes that can be made without further strategic work have been made to the ordinance at Appendix One.

Findings on improvements that could be made are listed below. Some of these can occur as part of a planning scheme review based on the findings in this report and are included in the marked-up ordinance at Appendix One. Others require further strategic work to justify the change and are listed as findings.

5.2. Municipal Planning Strategy

As well as the assessment outlined above, the MPS was cross referenced against all the other local provisions in the scheme to ensure that there is a link to all local policies in the MPS. The relevant clauses within the MPS that require amendments are listed in the Table below.

Clause no. and name	Change	Action
02.01 Context	Make minor amendments to the Context (02.01) to use the 2021 Census data to increase the population to	Policy neutral amendment

Clause no. and name	Change	Action
	21,400 and the median age to 39. Update the labour force numbers to increase the total labour force at 10,200 which is 59% of the population 15 years and over employed. Also need to check the economic figures within this clause to ensure each is up to date.	
02.02 Vision	The vision for Swan Hill Rural City derived from the 2025-2029 *Council Plan* which is as follows; We have a great place to live, work and grow, shared by our diverse culture and connected community The relevant land use planning principles are built on a number of foundation elements including: **Liveability and Lifestyle** – supporting quality of life through local services, spaces, and opportunities to grow. **Opportunity and Aspiration** – enabling people to thrive through jobs, education, and a healthy environment. **Pride of Place** – protecting what makes us unique while building a place that people are proud to call home.	Policy neutral amendment
02.03-1 Settlement	Only update required is to the Robinvale population, which should now be "about 6,000 people".	Policy neutral amendment
02.04 Strategic Framework Plan	Each of these need to be updated and additional plans for the smaller villages is also required. This project will be funded by the DTP Regional Planning Hub program.	Full amendment

5.3. Planning Policy Framework

All the Local PPF policies that are included in the planning scheme are included in the table below, and a notation about whether they comply or require changing because of this review. Changes may be required to align with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes, or they may be suggested to clarify the policy as identified through the analysis and engage stages of the review.

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	Action
SETTLEMENT		

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	Action
11.02-3L Sequencing of development	This policy remains relevant for future development expected within Swan Hill and Robinvale residential areas.	Complies
ENVIRONMENT VALUES AND LANDSCAPES		
12.01-1L Protection of biodiversity	None	Complies
12.03-1L River corridors, waterways, lakes and wetlands	Setbacks from water bodies are still relevant guidance for development proposals.	Complies
ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AND AMENITY		
13.07-1L Non-residential uses in residential areas	None	Complies
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT		
14.01-1L Agriculture	Will require further strategic assessment of small lot subdivisions and land use for properties with no water rights.	Full amendment
14.01-2L Sustainable agriculture	Will require further strategic assessment of what types of sustainable agriculture is possible without access to water rights.	Full amendment
BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE		
15.01-1L Urban design	None	Complies
15.01-2L Industrial development siting	None	Complies
15.01-3L Heritage conservation	None	Complies
HOUSING		
16.01-1L Location of residential development	None	Complies
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	Action
17.02-1L Business	None	Complies
17.02-2L Out-of-centre development	None	Complies
17.03-1L Industrial land supply	None	Complies
17.04-1L Facilitating tourism	None	Complies
TRANSPORT		
18.02-4L Road system	None	Complies
INFRASTRUCTURE		
19.01-2L Renewable energy	Need to redraft to the modern style of local policy and will require further strategic assessment of renewable energy projects within rural areas of the municipality.	Full amendment
19.02-1L Health facilities	None.	Complies
19.03-2L Infrastructure design and provision	None	Complies
19.03-5L Waste and resource recovery	None	Complies

5.4. Zones

All the zone schedules that are included in the planning scheme are included in the table below, and a notation about whether they comply or require changing because of this review. Changes may be required to align with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes, or they may be suggested to clarify the policy as identified through the analysis and engage stages of the review.

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	Action
RESIDENTIAL ZONES		
32.03s1 Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ)	No changes proposed	Complies
32.04s1 Mixed Use Zone (MUZ1)	"Lake Boga Mixed Use Area" – No changes proposed	Complies

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	Action
32.05s Township Zone (TZ)	"Swan Hill Townships" – No changes proposed	Complies
COMMERCIAL ZONES		
34.01s Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z)	No changes proposed	Complies
RURAL ZONES		
35.03s Rural Living Zone (RLZ)	No changes proposed	Complies
35.07s Farming Zone (FZ)	No changes proposed. (Additional review of minimum subdivision lot size may be required for land no longer with a water licence. Investigate the need for an updated rural land use strategy.)	Complies
PUBLIC USE ZONES		
36.01s Public Use Zone (PUZ)	No changes proposed	Complies
36.02s Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ)	No changes proposed	Complies
36.03s Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ)	No changes proposed	Complies
SPECIAL PURPOSE ZONES		
37.01s Special Use Zone (SUZ)	No changes proposed	Complies

5.5. Overlays

All the overlay schedules that are included in the planning scheme are included in the table below, and a notation about whether they comply or require changing because of this review. Changes may be required to align with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes, or they may be suggested to clarify the policy as identified through the analysis and engage stages of the review.

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	ACTION
ENVIRONMENTAL AND LANDSCAPE OVERLAYS		
42.01s1 Murray River Corridor (ESO1ESO1)	No changes proposed	Complies
42.01s2 Areas of Poor Drainage or Potentially Subject to Inundation (ESO2ESO2)	Schedule contains three objectives, whilst the Ministerial Direction only allows one. These objectives can be rationalised into one without further work.	Policy neutral amendment
	Mapping for this overlay appears to lack any logic and will require more detailed further work.	Full amendment
42.01s3 Waterways, Wetlands and Lake Environs (ESO3)	No changes proposed	Complies
42.02s1 Remnant Vegetation (VPO1)	No changes required to the ordinance	Complies
	Mapping for this overlay schedule appears to lack any specific alignment to remnant vegetation patches when view over an aerial image and will require more detailed further work. Alternatively remove this schedule and rely on Clause 52.17 only or undertake a more detailed study of the Regent Parrot habitat and map these biolink aeas.	Full amendment
HERITAGE AND BUILT FORM OVERLAYS		
43.01s Heritage Overlay Schedule	Opportunity to update and review the schedule with the development of 'Statement of significance' for each place. Undertake an audit of any anomalies within the schedule.	Full amendment
43.02s1 Airport Environs – Restricted Building Heights (DDO1)	No changes proposed	Complies

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	ACTION
43.02s2 Swan Hill River Precinct (DDO2)	No changes proposed	Complies
43.02s4 Williams Road LDRZ – IN1Z Interface (DDO4)	No changes proposed	Complies
43.02s5 Former Swan Hill Technical School Oval (DDO5)	Minor ordinance changes are required to update the reference to a 'Small second dwelling' and remove the 'dependant person's unit' reference.	Policy neutral amendment
43.02s7 Commercial 2 Zone Highway Entrances (DDO7)	No changes proposed	Complies
43.04s1 General Residential Zone (DPO1)	Potentially change the name to "General Residential Precincts".	Policy neutral amendment
43.04s2 Low Density Residential Zone (DPO2)	Potentially change the name to "Lower Density Residential Precincts".	Policy neutral amendment
43.04s3 Industrial 1 Zone (DPO3)	Potentially change the name to "Industrial Precincts". Also consider updating the content of this DPO schedule based on findings from the Industrial Land Use Strategy.	Full amendment
43.04s4 Hayes Road South, Lake Boga (DPO5)	No changes proposed	Complies
43.04s6 Swan Hill South West Development Precinct (Stage 1) (DPO6)	No changes proposed	Complies
LAND MANAGEMENT OVERLAYS		
44.04s Riverine Flooding (LSIO)	Update to schedule with a number to comply with Ministerial Direction and update mapping to also include a number for the 'Riverine Flooding' area only.	Policy neutral amendment

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	ACTION
OTHER OVERLAYS		
45.02s2 Airport Environs Overlay (AEO2)	No changes proposed	Complies
45.09s1 Swan Hill Central Activity Area (PO1)	No changes proposed	Complies

5.6. Particular provisions

All the particular provision schedules that are available to be applied in the planning scheme are included in the table below, and a notation about whether they comply or require changing because of this review. Changes may be required to align with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes, or they may be suggested to clarify the policy as identified through the analysis and engage stages of the review.

Clause no. and name	Is it applied? Changes required (if relevant)	Action
51.01s Specific sites and inclusions	Applied. Very old incorporated document from 2002. Consider deleting from the scheme.	Policy neutral amendment
52.02s Easements, restrictions, and reserves	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies
52.05s Signs	Not applied. Blank schedule.	**Complies**
52.16s Native vegetation precinct plan	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies
52.17s Native vegetation	Applied. No changes required.	Complies
52.28s Gaming	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies
52.32s Wind energy facility	Applied. No changes required.	Complies
52.33 Post boxes and drystone walls	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies
53.01s Public open space contributions and subdivision.	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies
53.06s Live music entertainment venues	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies

Clause no. and name	Is it applied? Changes required (if relevant)	Action
53.15s Statement of underlying provisions	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies
59.15s Local VicSmart applications	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies
Schedule 1 to Clause 59.16 Information requirements and decision guidelines for local VicSmart applications	Not applied. Blank schedule.	Complies

5.7. General provisions

There are two general provisions that have a schedule available. They are included in the table below with a notation about whether they comply or require changing because of this review. Changes may be required to align with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes, or they may be suggested to clarify the policy as identified through the analysis and engage stages of the review.

Clause no. and name	Is it applied? Changes required (if relevant)	Action
66.04s Referral of permit applications under local provisions.	Applied, a small change is required for referrals listed under ESO1 and ESO3 regarding the North Central Catchment Management Authority and the Mallee Catchment Management Authority.	Policy neutral amendment
66.06s Notice of permit applications under local provisions	Applied, no changes required.	Complies

5.8. Operational provisions

All the operational provision schedules that are available to be applied in the planning scheme are included in the table below, and a notation about whether they comply or require changing because of this review. Changes may be required to align with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes, or they may be suggested to clarify the policy as identified through the analysis and engage stages of the review.

Clause no. and name	Changes required (if relevant)	Action
72.01s Responsible authority for this planning scheme	Applied, no changes required	Complies
72.01s What area is covered by this planning scheme?	Applied, no changes required	Complies
72.03s What does this planning scheme consist of?	Applied, no changes required	Complies
72.04s Documents incorporate into this planning scheme.	Applied. Include the Infrastructure Design Manual (*Local Government Infrastructure Design Association, 2020*).	Policy neutral amendment
72.05s When did this planning scheme begin?	Applied, no changes required	Complies
72.08s Background documents	Applied. Include new background documents when adopted and planning scheme amendments are approved.	Full scheme amendment
74.01s Application of zones, overlays, and provisions	Applied, no changes required	Complies
74.02s Further strategic work	Applied. Update required to the list of strategic work based on the current review.	Policy neutral amendment

5.9. Mapping errors and anomalies

A significant number of mapping errors and anomalies have been identified during this review, which includes public zoned land in private ownership, private zones applied to land in public ownership and mapping errors. More than 40 errors have been identified throughout the municipality, and the list of mapping errors can be found at Appendix Five.

In addition to the clear mapping errors, there are potentially three other properties that have been identified that should be rezoned to a more appropriate zoning. However, prior to commencing any further rezoning a detailed investigation and consultation with the land owners will be required and consideration of a Special Use Zone. The three potential rezoning sites are;

- 141A Aerodrome Road, Swan Hill (Swan Hill Christian School)
- 103-109 Latje Road, Robinvale (Murray Valley Aboriginal Corporation)
- 4240 Murray Valley Highway, Robinvale (Robinvale Golf Club)

5.10. Findings

B. Amend the MPS, local PPF policies and schedules to include changes identified in the audit of the planning scheme review and shown on the marked up ordinance at Appendix One.

C. Amend the planning scheme maps as identified in the audit of the planning scheme review as listed at Appendix Five.

D. **Undertake a comprehensive review of the mapping of Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 2 (Areas of Poor Drainage or Potentially Subject to Inundation) and update the planning scheme maps.**
E. **Undertake a comprehensive review of the mapping of Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 1 (Remnant Vegetation), including a more detailed study of the Regent Parrot habitat and these biolink aeas, with updates to the planning scheme maps.**
F. **Three properties throughout the municipality may benefit from rezoning to a Special Use Zone, including;**
   - **141A Aerodrome Road, Swan Hill (Swan Hill Christian School)**
   - **103-109 Latje Road, Robinvale (Murray Valley Aboriginal Corporation)**
   - **4240 Murray Valley Highway, Robinvale (Robinvale Golf Club)**

6. Planning scheme performance

This section contains an analysis of planning permit activity that has taken place during the last four years. It draws on both publicly available Planning Permit Activity and Reporting System (PPARs) data and data provided by council.

6.1. Planning permit activity

6.1.1. Number of permits assessed

Evidence

Table 1 shows the number of permit applications received between the 2020 calendar year and 2025 calendar year. The planning permit application numbers varied, with a low of 110 in 2023 and a high of 204 in 2021, with the average permits being received per year at 142. Permit activity in Swan Hill Rural City Council has been generally steady, if somewhat declining over the last three years.

Table 1: PPARs report for permits issued between the 2020 calendar year and 2025 calendar year.

Permits (including refusals)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Received	175	204	134	110	129	100
Approved	156	176	129	105	89	97
Withdrawn/Not required/Lapsed	13	11	9	8	8	7
Determined	153	192	147	122	100	104
Refused	3	4	1	5	0	0

Source: PPARS

Discussion

There has been a general trend across the state in increased permit activity in regional areas which has been attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is apparent from council's permit data above in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

The number of Refusals issued has been minimal, with most issued being 5 in 2023. This indicates that most planning permit applications are granted in Swan Hill, with refusals making up only 1.5% of all decisions made over 2020-2025.

6.1.2. Service performance

Evidence

The average timeframe taken to decide applications at Swan Hill has fluctuated over the past 5 years. Between 2021 and 2025 the time taken to make a decision has varied from the lowest being 81 days (2021) to the highest at 147 days (2022). This is relatively consistent with the average for all other small and medium rural councils across the same five year period (100.6 days).

Whilst the decisions made within the statutory requirement set out in the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (60 days) has improved significantly to the best percentage of 89.4% in 2025. This compares extremely well for Swan Hill when considering the percentage of 67.9% for all other small and medium rural councils across the same five-year period.

Overall, the percentage of applications decided within the requisite timeframes has also fluctuated over the past 5 years, but the best result has been last calendar year in 2025. Council's performance when compared against similar regional centres indicates a positive timeframe assessment, being only second to Horsham RCC for the decisions made within the statutory timeframe. Much of this success can be attributed to having a fully resourced team**.** Council aims to improve performance in in the coming years with increased retention of statutory planning staff.

There is anecdotal evidence form the statutory planning team to suggest that the applications which exceed the 60-day timeframe are those which are required to proceed to a Council meeting for a decision. Currently the statutory planning officers are only delegated to make decisions on applications which do not receive objections. It is considered that in some cases the decision timeframe of applications is being prolonged potentially unnecessarily when receiving objections that are based around issues it is considered the officers have the expertise to decide on. It was discussed that applications which are required to proceed to a council meeting for a decision can take an additional 60 days.

Discussion

The performance of the statutory planning service at Swan Hill has varied significantly over the last five years.

Even though application numbers have dropped, the processing time for applications has varied from 81% and 81 days per application in 2021, to the worst performance in 2022 of only 59% and 147 days. Whilst the most recent calendar year has improved to 89% and 97 days.

Whilst overall planning permit applications has decreased from a high of 204 in 2021 to a low of 100 applications in 2025, the decision timeframes have varied. This can be attributed to a variety of factors, including staff shortages, change of management and constant changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions.

Overall, when compared to other similar regional municipalities, it is considered that Swan Hill is delivering an acceptable statutory planning service based on timely decision making. Table 2 compares the recent service performance of the SHRCC against comparable regional centres and neighbouring councils.

When considering the anecdotal evidence provided by the statutory planning team as part of this Planning Scheme review is could be considered appropriate to further explore implementing a 'call in' process, where Councillors are provided with the opportunity to bring applications which have received objections to a council meeting. This could allow officer delegation to be expanded to include decisions which have received objections. The appropriate threshold number of objections, along with a procedure requires refining and further discussion, however it is considered worth investigating in order to help maintain strong application timeframes, particularly during times of low staff or busy periods.

Measure	Council	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Time taken to decide planning applications	**Swan Hill**	**81 days**	**147 days**	**113 days**	**83 days**	**97 days**
	Gannawarra	59 days	94 days	89 days	69 days	88 days
	Ararat	42 days	73 days	110 days	61 days	76 days
	Horsham	80 days	70 days	80 days	72 days	67 days
	Moira	85 days	91 days	52 days	113 days	141 days
Planning applications decided within required timeframes	**Swan Hill**	**81.25%**	**59.18%**	**70.49%**	**80.0%**	**89.66%**
	Gannawarra	80.13%	61.07%	62%	59.42%	66.15%
	Ararat	91.6%	87.0%	71.55%	84.03%	83.82%
	Horsham	86.96%	94.81%	90.72%	88.75%	93.75%
	Moira	54.93%	52.12%	73.22%	64.46%	70.85%
Decisions upheld at VCAT	**Swan Hill**	**1**	**0**	**4**	**3**	**1**
	Gannawarra	1	2	1	0	0
	Ararat	1	0	1	0	0
	Horsham	1	0	0	0	0
	Moira	1	2	0	1	2

Table 2: Comparison of service performance against comparable rural councils (Source: PPARS)

6.1.3. Findings

G. Review the resourcing of the statutory planning function to ensure that adequate resources and systems are available to maintain the performance in meeting statutory processing timeframes for planning permit applications.

H. Investigate an appropriate 'call in' system for applications that receive objections.

I. **Further investigate the delegations of the statutory planning team, increase officers' delegation to allow decisions to be made when a low number of objections are received (currently the delegation is only 1 objection).**

6.1.4. VCAT matters

Swan Hill does not appear regularly at VCAT, a total of nine applications for review have upheld Council's decision in the last 5 years. These are based on the following types of appeals lodged:

- 2 Appeals against issue of permit
- 8 Appeals against refusal of permit
- 1 Appeals against conditions

The level of activity is relatively low given the number of applications council processes during the same five year period. Of the above 11 appeals, the majority were supported Council's decision, with a break down of the VCAT decisions as follows;

- A total of one Council decision was overturned by VCAT
- A total of nine Council decisions were supported by VCAT
- A total of one Council decision was partially supported (i.e. varied) by VCAT

6.1.5. Geographic spread of applications

Unsurprisingly most of the permit activity is happening in the main townships of Swan Hill and Robinvale.

The high level of applications are located within other areas not listed and are often in smaller villages or part of the farming land which are subject to other constraints relating to bushfire and flooding permit triggers. Refer to table below for break down of applications within specific locations.

Locality	Number of Applications	%
Swan Hill	309	44%
Robinvale	82	12%
Lake Boga	26	4%
Nyah-Nyah West	19	3%
Piangil	24	3%
Tyntynder-Tyntynder South	22	3%
Woorinen-Woorinen South	21	3%
All other locations	196	28%

Table 3: Distribution of planning permit applications between 2020 and 2025 (Source: Greenlight Data, Swan Hill Rural City Council)

6.2. Planning Panels Victoria

6.2.1. Summary of planning scheme amendments

Council has undertaken 16 'C' planning scheme amendments since the last planning scheme review. A detailed analysis of these has been provided to council officers. The ones that went to Panel are summarised below.

C32 – Sought to rezone 138-142 Gray Street, Swan Hill (Lot 3 PS 603866 and Lot 1 TP 12802) from Low Density Residential Zone to Residential 1 Zone.

C58 – Rezoned land within Sub-Precincts 1 2 3 4 5 and 6 of the Swan Hill South West Development Precinct from the Farming Zone and the Public Park and Recreation Zone to the General Residential Zone (Sub-Precinct 1) from the Farming Zone to the General Residential Zone (Sub-Precinct 2) from the Low Density Residential Zone to the General Residential Zone and the Road Zone - Category 2 (Sub-Precinct 3) from the Farming Zone to the General Residential Zone (Sub-Precinct 4) from the Low Density Residential Zone to the General Residential Zone (Sub-Precinct 5)| from the Low Density Residential Zone to the General Residential Zone (Sub-Precinct 6)| inserts Schedule 6 to the Development Plan Overlay (Swan Hill South West Development Precinct) into the planning scheme| deletes the Development Plan Overlay (Schedule 2) from Sub-Precincts 3 5 and 6 (with the exception of Lot 2 LP205853S in Sub-Precinct 6 to which the overlay did not apply) and from the water reserve to the west of Sub-Precinct 6| and applies the Development Plan Overlay (Schedule 6) to the affected land (including all sub-precincts and the water reserve to the west of Sub-Precinct 6 but excluding the Gray Street road reserve).

C59 – Rezoned part of 52 Werril Street, Swan Hill from GRZ to LDRZ and deletes the DPO1 from part of 52 Werril Street and part of 54 Werril Street, Swan Hill.

C60 – Sought to rezone part of land at Deadhorse Lane from Farming Zone to General Residential Zone and Farming Zone to Commerial 1 Zone| Introduce a new Schedule to the DPO7 to Clause 43.04.

C61 – Sought to rezone land at 183-187 Gray Street Swan Hill (part of)| 177 Gray Street Swan Hill| 175 Gray Street Swan Hill| 173 Gray Swan Hill| 179 Gray Street Swan Hill frow Density Residential Zone to General Residential Zone| New Schedule 8 to the DPO and deletes Schedule 2 to the DPO from land affected by this amendment.

C62 – Sought to rezone land at 70 and 98 Yana Street Swan Hill from Farming Zone to General Residential Zone, Introduce a new Schedule to the DPO9 to Clause 43.04 and amend Map 39DPO.

C63 – Sought to rezone land at 75 Yana Street Swan Hill from Low Density Residential Zone to General Residential Zone, introduce a new Schedule 10 to the DPO to Clause 43.04, delete Schedule 2 to the DPO from land affected by the amendment, and apply the DPO Schedule 10 to land affected by the amendment.

C64 – Sought to rezone land at 112 Coronation Ave Swan Hill and 152 Coronation Ave Swan Hill from Low Density Residential Zone to General Residential Zone, introduce a new Schedule 11 to the DPO to Clause 43.04, delete Schedule 2 to the DPO from land affected by this amendment and apply the DPO Schedule 11 to land affected by this amendment.

C65 – Corrected minor zoning anomalies.

C67 – Rezoned 1,300m2 of land at 20 Lloyd Street, Nyah West from Public Use Zone, Other Public Use to General Residential Zone, rezones 1,695m2 of land known as Lots 1 and 2, PS742361C, forming part of 24 Lloyd Street, Nyah West from part Public Use Zone, Other Public Use and part Public Park and Recreation Zone to General Residential Zone, rezones 297m2 of land known as Lot 3, PS742361C, forming part of 24 Lloyd Street, Nyah West from Public Park and Recreation Zone to Commercial 1 Zone, rezones part of the road reserve of Lloyd Street abutting 20 and 24 Lloyd Street, Nyah West from Commercial 1 Zone to General Residential Zone, deletes part of the Heritage Overlay (HO84 - Monash Avenue Precinct, Nyah West) from land known as part of Lot 1 and Lot 2, PS742361C, forming part of 24 Lloyd Street, Nyah West, applies the Heritage Overlay (HO75 - Former Picture Theatre, 14 Lloyd Street, Nyah West) to part of Lot 3, PS742361C, forming part of 24 Lloyd Street, Nyah West and amends Planning Scheme Map Nos. 27 and 27HO.

C73swan – Implemented the recommendations of a range of adopted strategic work, including the Swan Hill Planning Scheme Review Report (2015); replaces the Local Planning Policy Framework of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme with a new Municipal Planning Strategy at Clause 02 and a modified Planning Policy Framework at Clauses 11-19; and updates local schedules to zones, overlays, particular provisions, general provisions and operational provisions in a manner consistent with changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions introduced by Amendment VC148.

C79swan - Rezones land at 42 Monash Drive, Swan Hill from the Transport Zone 1 to Commercial 1 Zone, applies the Environmental Audit Overlay to the land, amends Clause 17.02-2L, amends the Schedule to the Commercial 1 Zone, Schedule 2 to Clause 43.02, Schedule to Clause 66.06 and Schedule to Clause 72.03, and makes associated mapping changes. This amendment supports the implementation of the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan.

6.3. VCAT

6.3.1. VCAT cases reviewed

There have only been a handful of VCAT Tribunal hearings (nine in the inter review period) arising from decisions made by Council under the Swan Hill Planning Scheme. The most relevant Tribunal decisions that contained important observations with respect to the planning scheme are addressed below.

Truelove v Swan Hill Rural CC [2016] VCAT 1372 (15 August 2016)

In this matter the Tribunal considered the proposal to establish a Shell service station for Coles Express on the land at 56 McCallum Street, Swan Hill. The application to VCAT was a review of Council's notice of decision to grant a permit. Ultimately the Tribunal determined to overturn Council's decision and the proposal was refused.

Specific commentary was provided by the Tribunal about the local policy regarding economic development and urban design. Furthermore, the Tribunal made the following statement in it's written decision;

However, it was also my observation that the built form character encouraged by planning policy does not exist on the west side of Beveridge Street, including on the subject land.

This is a clear indication that additional strategic work is required to prepare a more detailed structure plan for the Swan Hill CBD and immediate periphery, including an urban design review.

P & M Camera Pty Ltd v Swan Hill RCC [2017] VCAT 554 (26 April 2017)

In this matter the Tribunal considered the proposal to remove two carriageway easements from the land at 126 and 164 Royston Road, Tol Tol. The application to VCAT was a review of Council's notice of decision to grant a permit. Ultimately the Tribunal determined to vary Council's decision with changes to the conditions in the planning permit.

This decision provided no specific commentary about necessary improvements to the Swan Hill Planning Scheme or any local policy.

Swan Hill RCC v Obetz Holdings Pty Ltd [2019] VCAT 1579 (9 October 2019)

In this matter the Tribunal considered the declaration application by Council to consider the characterisation of workers accommodation. Specifically, it was proposed to construct four, four room unit buildings to cater for eight persons in each unit (total 32 persons), a separate amenities block and a separate kitchen building. Ultimately the Tribunal determined that no permit was required for the use of the land for workers' accommodation.

Ultimately the Tribunal declared that housing workers would be ancillary to the main farming use;

> *30. The provision of accommodation to house workers to undertake the harvesting and packaging of the table grapes grown on the land is not a separate and distinct purpose but an ancillary use to the dominant purpose undertaken on the land. The provision of accommodation for thirty-two workers on the subject land during the period of harvesting is ancillary to the dominant use.*

No specific discussion was raised in the written decision regarding the Swan Hill Planning Scheme, however, this declaration was important for the future consideration of "workers accommodation" and ultimately the introduction of the land use term "Rural worker accommodation" into the Victoria Planning Provisions.

Black v Swan Hill RCC [2021] VCAT 1501 (13 December 2021)

This application to the Tribunal was to review Council's decision to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit to use and develop a convenience restaurant on the land at 71-77 Bromley Road, Robinvale. The decision of the Council was set aside and no permit was granted. This matter did go into specific detail about a number of local policies and Amendment C73 which introduced the new Planning Policy Framework.

The written decision by the Tribunal makes specific reference to the Robinvale Framework Plan and other local policies to guide the decision, as explained below;

> *20 The key guidance for the township of Robinvale that remains in the Swan Hill Planning Scheme is found on the Robinvale Framework Plan that is found at Clause 02.04 of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme, and is repeated on the following page. In that Framework Plan, the review site and surrounding land on the western side of Bromley Road is not provided with any guidance. However, on the opposite side of Bromley Road is a dashed circle, marked as the Town Centre. This Town Centre is also marked as expanding in the future in a south-easterly direction, down George Street. As such, I am guided by the policy framework that the review site is not within the identified town centre, and is not within land identified for future expansion of the town centre.*
>
> *21 This guidance from the Framework Plan is supplemented by the following policies:*

Identify long-term opportunities for the Robinvale town centre expansion to the south along George Street.[3]

Encourage major commercial uses to locate in Swan Hill and Robinvale townships.

Strengthen the rural service role of Swan Hill and Robinvale by providing adequate land for business.[4]

22 Given the zoning of the review site within the General Residential Zone, the following policy from Clause 16.01-1L is also relevant.

Encourage infill residential development within the Swan Hill and Robinvale town boundaries.

27 The guidance provided by the Robinvale Framework Plan is clear in its intent to focus the town centre functions, including retail activities, inside the existing Commercial 1 Zoned land that is marked as the town centre, and to identify opportunities for the expansion of the town centre within certain parts of the town. The review site is not within the existing town centre, and nor is it part of the land identified for a future expansion of the town centre. On this basis, the Robinvale Framework Plan discourages the establishment of core retail activities on the review site.

Further more direct advice about updating the Robinvale Framework Plan was provided in the following paragraph;

31 I understand that the Swan Hill City Council supports the proposed location of a retail premises on the review site, despite the guidance found in the Robinvale Framework Plan. From my experience, such decisions to divert from long term strategic planning can be tempting, particularly in rural locations where new development is difficult to attract, and in situations such as this where a proponent also offers the 'carrot' of undertaking improvement works on the adjacent Council land. However, good strategic planning supports long term goals and aspirations, that sometimes may appear to conflict with short term opportunities. If the Council is now wanting to depart from its own detailed strategic planning for Robinvale, by allowing the expansion of the town centre role to the review site, a more comprehensive approach to reviewing the strategic direction for the town as a whole is needed, and indeed encouraged.

The commentary within this written decision by the Tribunal clearly indicates greater detail is required within the Robinvale Framework Plan and that Council should maintain the long term strategic intent of the relevant local policies.

Redland Fruit Pty Ltd v Swan Hill Rural CC [2023] VCAT 601 (29 May 2023)

This matter considered by the Tribunal was a declaration sought by Redland Fruit Pty Ltd to classify workers accommodation as ancillary to the use of the land for horticulture on the land at 269 Long Lake Road, Lake Boga. The decision of the Council was set aside and no permit was required. Specifically, it was proposed to be ancillary based on the following;

- the workers must be accommodated generally in accordance with the complex of detached buildings as shown on the drawings prepared by Julnic Pty Ltd, drg no. 2022-074, sheets 1 of 5, 2 of 5, 3 of 5, 4 of 5 and 5 of 5 all dated July 2022, which is yet to be constructed;
- a maximum of 32 workers may be accommodated on the land;
- the workers may only be accommodated during the harvest season that is, from July through to December;

- the workers accommodation may only be used by workers actively working on the land for the harvesting of the fruit from the land; and
- the accommodation must be provided at no cost to the workers and their rooms must not be serviced.

Ultimately the Tribunal determined that no permit was required for the use of the land for a Rural workers accommodation based on "fact and degree". This will make it very difficult for all Councils in regional Victoria to not seek a planning permit application for the use of the land for 'Rural workers accommodation'. The decision is largely reliant on the fact that 'Horticulture' is the predominant land use and the degree that 'Rural workers accommodation' is considered to take up a small area of the land.

Delmenico v Swan Hill RCC [2023] VCAT 580 (1 June 2023)

In this matter the Tribunal considered an amendment to the three lot subdivision approved under Planning Permit 2021-031-1 to remove two conditions which prevented construction of a dwelling on two of the three lots created at 57 Butler Road, Murraydale. The application to VCAT was a review of Council's decision to refuse the amendment. Ultimately the Tribunal determined to affirm Council's decision and the planning permit must not be amended.

This decision provided no specific commentary about necessary improvements to the Swan Hill Planning Scheme or any local policy.

Burns v Swan Hill RCC [2023] VCAT 1184 (25 October 2023)

This was a review of Council's decision to refuse a Planning Permit to subdivide land at 5 Little Murray Weir Road, Castle Donnington. The decision of the Council was affirmed and no permit was granted. This matter did refer to a number of clauses within the Swan Hill Planning Scheme.

The written decision by the Tribunal makes specific reference to the policies to guide the decision, as explained below;

33. *Having considered the submissions presented with regards to the applicable policies and provisions of the planning scheme, I find I am generally in agreeance with the Council and find the amendment of Condition 4(a) would risk conflict with policy which seeks to discourage small lot subdivision in rural areas that undermine the productive agricultural base.*

36. *I note the policy guideline under Clause 14.01-1L that includes consideration of whether there is a need for an agreement under section 173 of the P and E Act that specifies that the land may not be further subdivided (except in accordance with the minimum lot size in the zone). Mr Costa considered this policy only relates to proposals involving subdivisions that create additional lots. I accept this interpretation may be true. However, I consider the policy can equally relate to further subdivisions that re-configure lots where, although additional lots may not be created, they may be re-arranged in a way that includes lots below the minimum lot size under the zone.*

37. *This type of outcome is why Council has determined to impose Condition 4(a) on the current permit. The imposition of Condition 4(a) is relevantly linked with policy directions and reinforced by the changes flowing from Amendment C73. This provides the authority for Council to consider such as restriction. It was a condition that is valid and exists and was not challenged pursuant to section 80(1) of the P and E Act when it was granted.*

41. *In addition, I note that the land has been the subject to a past house lot excision and note a strategy under Clause 14.01-1L that discourages further subdivision (by any method) of land where a dwelling has already been excised from the land. This further reinforces my view that Condition 4(a) should not be amended as sought by the applicants.*

The commentary within this written decision by the Tribunal clearly indicates the local policy regarding subdivisions within the Farming Zone are appropriate and are required to be maintained within the Planning Scheme.

Davoli v Swan Hill RCC [2023] VCAT 1257 (17 November 2023)

This application to the Tribunal was to review Council's decision to refuse a Planning Permit to subdivide land at 124 Lae Road, Robinvale. The decision of the Council was affirmed and no permit was granted. This matter did go into specific detail about a number of local policies.

The written decision by the Tribunal makes specific reference to the policies to guide the decision, as explained below;

25. *The weight of policy does not support the proposal. The subject land is highly productive irrigated agricultural land of State significance, used for horticulture. The Planning Scheme policies detailed earlier in these reasons encourage the retention and protection of such land. Fragmentation of agricultural land is discouraged.*

26. *The policies specifically discourage small-lot subdivisions as these can undermine agricultural productivity by permanently removing land from agriculture and introducing potential land use conflict. Although the dwelling and surrounding outbuildings have not historically been used in association with the agriculture on the land, this does not mean that they cannot do so in the future.*

34. *In the circumstances of this application, there is insufficient justification for a departure from the clear and consistent policies in the Planning Scheme which seek to protect (and prevent the fragmentation of) productive agricultural land, and which discourage small-lot excisions and the creation of rural lifestyle lots in farming zones.*

There is clear policy within the existing scheme to prevent small lot subdivisions within the Farming Zone and this decision should be promoted.

Englefield v Swan Hill Rural CC [2024] VCAT 652 (15 July 2024)

This application to the Tribunal was to review Council's decision to refuse a Planning Permit to subdivide land at 110 Madang Road, Robinvale. The decision of the Tribunal was to summarily dismiss the application pursuant to Section 75 of the VCAT Act. This matter did not go into specific detail about any local policies.

15. *In terms of the 'summary dismissal' option, the main principles and points to consider are helpfully clarified in the leading case of Axicom Pty Ltd v Melton CC (Red Dot) [2020] VCAT 190. Some main points made by DP Dwyer in this decision are that for a proceeding to be summarily dismissed, the proceeding must be "obviously unsustainable in fact or in law, can on no reasonable view justify relief, or must be bound to fail". DP Dwyer similarly states that it must be very clear that the proceeding is "absolutely hopeless".*

16. *Another possible grounds for 'summary dismissal' is that the proposal is fatally 'misconceived' or 'lacking in substance'.*

Stanton v Swan Hill RCC [2024] VCAT 811 (23 August 2024)

This application to the Tribunal was to review Council's decision to refuse a Planning Permit to subdivide land at 23 Ray Road and Cottman Road, Beverford. The decision of the Council was set aside and a permit was granted. This matter did go into specific detail about a number of local policies, especially the use of section 173 agreements.

> 52. *I support the use of a section 173 Agreement. It is referenced in the policy guidelines under Clause 14.01-1L as part of considering whether there is a need for such. It can reduce pressure on the land for uses that would otherwise conflict with the intent of the planning scheme for agriculture and preserve the opportunity for farming to take place.*

When all the various considerations for boundary realignment are determined, the Tribunal clearly identifies the local policy for 'Agriculture' supports the application of a section 173 agreement to newly created lots (either via boundary realignment or excision).

Four North Investments Pty Ltd v Swan Hill RCC [2024] VCAT 914 (25 September 2024)

This application to the Tribunal was to review Council's conditions to require sealing of a road for a residential subdivision land at 15 Donald Street, Nyah West. The decision of the Council was varied and a number of conditions were either deleted or amended. This matter did go into specific detail about a number of local policies

> 46. *Mr McIlrath submits that as the approved subdivision introduces an urban form of residential development, it is reasonable to expect an urban standard of road, which he implies to require a sealed road. I have a number of concerns with this contention. Firstly, Nyah West is a town, with an existing urban pattern of development, that currently comprises both sealed and unsealed roads. While the approved subdivision comprises smaller than normal lot sizes, it is no more or less urban than the existing township.*
>
> 47. *Secondly, I was not taken to any policy or provision in the Swan Hill Planning Scheme that stipulates what is an urban standard of road, or that urban roads must be sealed. As explored above, the various objectives and standards of Clause 56 only encourages roads to be suitably safe, while providing strength, quality and durability. The Council has failed to make any submissions or evidence that the existing unsealed road fails in relation to any of these aspects.*
>
> 48. *Thirdly, I am aware of a number of urban roads that are unsealed, in a range of contexts throughout Metropolitan Melbourne. I therefore am not persuaded by Mr McIlrath that there is a reasonable expectation that all urban roads must be sealed.*

The decision of the Tribunal clearly states in the conclusion that there is no clear policy to require the construction of a 'sealed' road in association with new residential subdivisions. As such, this might be a requirement to consider further strategic work to require future residential subdivisions to meet the Infrastructure Design Manual requirements and seal any future road connections.

Redland Fruit Pty Ltd v Swan Hill RCC [2025] VCAT 127 (10 February 2025)

This application to the Tribunal was to review Council's decision to refuse a certificate of compliance to confirm the workers accommodation is ancillary to the existing horticultural use of the land at 269 Long Lake Road, Lake Boga. The decision of the Council was affirmed and it was deemed to refuse to

issue a certificate of compliance. This matter did not go into specific detail about any of the local policies, because the decision was primarily focused on the consideration if a proposed use is ancillary to an existing use of the land.

6.3.2. Policy issues raised at VCAT

The issues raised with policy implications at VCAT over the past five years related to:

- Strategic Framework Plan for Robinvale
- Small lot farming subdivisions and s.173 agreements
- Dwellings in the Farming Zone

7. Stakeholder engagement

This section contains an overview and analysis of stakeholder engagement that has informed the Planning Scheme Review. It includes data collected through responses from key referral agencies and external stakeholders as well as feedback provided by planning staff and key internal staff.

The intention of this part of the review is to provide context from those who most use the planning scheme. The findings of this engagement help refine the key issues that council needs to address and prioritise the scope of further strategic work that should be undertaken during the next four years.

7.1. Planners' feedback

Council officers were asked to respond to questions about the Swan Hill Planning Scheme, prior to any analysis documents or findings being shared. This included questions to determine, from an officer perspective, how well the Scheme is performing, controls that need refining or could be removed, applications that are taking more time than they should, and policy gaps.

Council officers raised numerous matters influencing the operation of the Planning Scheme, that may be grouped under the following headings:

- Small lot Subdivision in the Farming Zone.
- Dwellings in the Farming Zone
- Flood overlays appear to be incorrectly mapped in some areas.
- Drainage conditions in Planning Permits continue to raise concerns (primarily Swan Hill).
- Vegetation overlays appear to be incorrectly mapped in some areas.

7.2. Executive team

The Executive team participated in a workshop on 13 November 2025. The workshop introduced the planning scheme review, discussed the objectives of planning in Victoria, and included a summary of analysis findings to date.

The executive raised several matters, including:

- Small lots in the Farming Zone.
- *Infrastructure Design Manual* (Local Government Infrastructure Design Association, 2020)
- Providing for a planning framework to support growth and development.

Recommendation

J. Introduce the *Infrastructure Design Manual* (Local Government Infrastructure Design Association, 2020) into the schedule to Clause 72.04 of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme.

7.3. Referral and notice agencies

All relevant Referral and Notice agencies and Registered Aboriginal Parties were invited to provide their written comments and feedback regarding the current performance of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme, in relation to their specific area(s) of responsibility.

Referral and notice agency responses are included in Appendix Three.

Agency responses

Mallee Catchment Management Authority

Mallee CMA has recently completed the Mid Murray Flood Intelligence Project. The study produced flood mapping for a range of riverine flooding scenarios as well as minor, moderate and major flood class levels for each location along the Murray River.

Consideration should be given to the introduction of a Flood Overlay based on updated flood depth data provided by the Mid Murray Flood Intelligence Project.

Removal of LSIO from land protected by the Robinvale town levee has previously been identified but not undertaken as yet.

Recommendation

K. Undertake further investigations and advocacy with the Mallee Catchment Management Authority to update the LSIO area that is currently protected by the Robinvale town levee.

North Central Management Authority

North Central CMA has recently responded to the Development Manager requesting that they do not have waterway management jurisdiction further north of White Road, Woorinen North. As such it is requested that the schedule to Clause 66.04 is updated and does not include “all applications” to be referred to the North Central CMA.

Recommendation

L. Update the referral requirements of Clause 66.04 to ensure that future referrals under ESO1 are sent to the correct Catchment Management Authority.

Agencies that did not respond.

Unfortunately, a number of agencies have not responded at the date of finalising this report. These include the following;

- Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA)

- Country Fire Authority (CFA)
- Powercor
- VicTrack
- Lower Murray Water
- Goulburn Murray Water
- Wamba Wemba Aboriginal Corporation
- Department of Transport & Planning

7.4. Summary of issues raised through engagement

The following table prioritises the various matters raised during the Stakeholder Engagement phase of the review and recommends appropriate actions:

Issue	Planners	Internal staff	Executive	Referral Agencies	Other stakeholders
Development in the Farming Zone	✓	✓	✓		
Dwatered lots within the irrigation district	✓		✓		
Flood mapping updates	✓			✓	
Stormwater treatment	✓	✓			✓
Affordable housing			✓		

8. New strategic work

New strategic work that has been adopted by council and prepared for the Loddon Mallee Region was reviewed to identify whether any policy should be incorporated into the planning scheme.

The intention of this part of the review process is to incorporate policy that may have been developed by another part of council (for example, Economic Development, Sustainability, Community Planning etc.) and that is unlikely to be incorporated into the planning scheme through a stand-alone amendment.

The scope of this does not include significant strategic land use planning projects such as Structure Plans for Activity Centres, or Housing Strategies, which should go through a separate, dedicated planning scheme review process.

Regional documents, such as Catchment Management Plans, are also reviewed, to identify if there are any council specific proposals that should be reflected in the planning scheme. (For example, the construction of a new wetland).

8.1. Council projects and documents

8.1.1. Documents reviewed

The following documents that have been prepared since the 2015 planning scheme review, were reviewed for relevance to the Swan Hill Planning Scheme:

- Council Plan 2025-29
- Economic Development Strategy 2024-2030
- Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2025-2028
- Rural Land Use Strategy (September 2016)
- Environmental Management Policy (June 2021)
- Submission – Murray-Darling Basin Authority Basin Plan Review Discussion Paper – May 2026
- Nyah Riverfont Masterplan (May 2023)
- Robinvale Riverfront Masterplan (September 2023)
- Sustainable Living Strategy 2017-2027
- Swan Hill Car Parking Strategy (June 2016)
- Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan 2013
- Urban Tree Management Plan (June 2020)

Council is currently undertaking a project to develop a Master Plan for the Swan Hill CBD. Once this project is completed a further land use planning structure plan can be prepared for the Swan Hill CBD.

Council has also undertaken in depth analysis of service levels for water, sewer and banking in Robinvale which has identified that the population is potentially greater than what the official ABS data provides. As such further investigation about residential land availability is required.

Recommendation

M. Prepare a structure plan for the Swan Hill CBD.
N. Commence an in-depth investigation into residential land availability in Robinvale

8.2. Regional projects and documents

8.2.1. Documents reviewed

The following regional documents were reviewed and are considered to be relevant to the Swan Hill Planning Scheme:

- Mallee Regional Economic Development Strategy (Victorian Government, March 2022).
- Mallee Regional Catchment Strategy, 2022-2028 (Mallee Catchment Management Authority, 2022).
- Central Murray Regional Transport Strategy 2024
- Murray-Darling Basin Plan Review Discussion Paper – May 2026

9. Work underway

There are no concurrent planning scheme amendments occurring now.

Council is currently preparing the following strategic planning projects.

- Industrial Land Use Strategy - analysis of existing industrial land within Swan Hill and Robinvale to identify if there is a current requirement rezone land and also identify long-term opportunities for future industrial development.
- Townships Strategy – this is a review of existing housing settlement within the key townships of the municipality to identify bushfire, flooding and other constraints. This project will prepare updated framework plans and ultimately provide additional justification for rezoning land to either a Low Density Residential Zone or Rural Living Zone where appropriate.

Council is currently scoping the following projects;

Review of the Rural Land Use Strategy – a brief has been prepared to go to market which will seek the services of a relevant consultant to undertake a review of the currently adopted Rural Land Use Strategy. The intent of the project will provide clearer directions for the community about how to re-purpose farms within the irrigation districts that no longer have access to water rights. It will also investigate the development of planning policy in response to additional mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects within the Farming Zone.

The above projects will assist and support a number of recommendations and updates to planning policy that have been identified as part of this review.

10. Key policy updates

This section expands on the key issues that have emerged from the Planning Scheme Review, as well as other less significant matters that have emerged and require policy updates include the following;

- Industrial land supply
- Framework plans
- Low Density Residential and Rural Living land supply
- Subdivision and dwellings in the Farming Zone

A summary of each update, along with the findings and key policy recommendations for the planning scheme review provided below.

10.1. Industrial land supply

10.1.1. Planning Issue

The provision of industrial land within Swan Hill and Robinvale has appeared to be an issue for a number of years. However, the land zoned within the Industrial 1 Zone would appear to provide sufficient supply based on rate of development and the 15 year land supply rule. This conundrum required further investigation and assessment of the “real” amount of land available for industrial development.

10.1.2. Discussion

Businesses in industrial precincts are a vital source of employment income and economic activity for the community. Today the municipality's industrial precincts provide critical technological, service and material support for local industry sectors while also incorporating enterprises that export building, household, food and farming supplies across the nation. Industrial precincts are also critical locations for delivering the mechanical, engineering, trades and construction services, skills and inputs required by the municipality's community.

In 2023, industrial sectors generated an estimated $2.2 billion in economic output for the municipality, an increase of $300 million since 2018 at an annual average growth rate of 2.8% (Source: Economy id). Ensuring industrial land and ancillary uses are available and affordable is therefore essential to the prosperity of new and existing businesses.

The current industrial land that is vacant and available is either constrained by various environmental risks in Robinvale or is potentially constrained by owners willing to develop land in Swan Hill. As such the actual amount of land available for industrial development is far less than what is shown as vacant land in Robinvale and Swan Hill.

10.1.3. Recommendation

O. Finalise the Industrial Strategy project and implement into the Planning Scheme.

10.2. Framework plans

10.2.1. Planning Issue

The current framework plans within the Swan Hill Planning Scheme at Clause 2.04 have not been updated since before the 2015 review. Many of the plans are outdated and lack clear detail.

10.2.2. Discussion

The framework plans within the Swan Hill Planning Scheme at Clause 2.04 are significantly out of date and include elements that have been delivered years ago or provide very little clarity about future growth in the town. For example, the Swan Hill Framework Plan identifies land for 'Industrial Area Expansion' on land that is already within the Industrial 1 Zone and the location for a potential 'Solar Farm' that has now been developed.

Whilst the Robinvale, Lake Boga and Nyah-Nyah West framework plans all lack significant detail about potential future growth of the townships, environmental constraints and key transport corridors/connections. There are also no framework plans for Ultima or Manangatang.

It is considered necessary that these plans are urgently updated and provide greater guidance about future growth and development within each town.

10.2.3. Recommendation

P. Finalise the Township Strategy project, including updates to the Framework Plans.

10.3. Low Density Residential and Rural Living land supply

10.3.1. Planning Issue

Housing supply within the municipality is intertwined with a mixture of traditional township block sizes and also the provision of lower density block sizes. The need to provide a sufficient supply of lower density and hobby farm blocks is critical to the overall supply of housing in the SHRCC.

10.3.2. Discussion

The Council team undertook a supply and demand analysis of lower density lots and hobby farm lots throughout the municipality, based on advice from DTP. However, once this analysis was finalised and a planning scheme amendment submitted for authorisation, it was refused by DTP. Unfortunately, further strategic justification was required by DTP.

As a result of various meetings and discussions with DTP, the Council was successful to receive funding from the Regional Planning Hub to undertake a 'Township Strategy Project' to identify the various environmental constraints and opportunities for growth within each town.

10.3.3. Recommendation

Q. Finalise the Township Strategy project, including identification of rezoning to Low Density Residential and Rural Living around the periphery of selected towns.

10.4. Subdivision and dwellings in the Farming Zone

10.4.1. Planning Issue

Minimum subdivision lot sizes require further review, especially the farms that are located within an irrigation district but no longer have water rights and/or a licence. Serious considerations about how these lots can be re-purposed and the value of the land retained even without access to water.

10.4.2. Discussion

The concerns regarding small lot subdivision within the Farming Zone has been a significant issue for planning schemes throughout the State. However, this issue is exacerbated within irrigation districts and farms that have sold or transferred their water rights. The ability for these farms to viably survive and contribute to the agricultural production of the municipality and the State is almost impossible.

The ability to provide support to these farmers to re-purpose their land will continue to be an issue for land use planning. However, conversion to residential land uses is not supported by State planning policies. These State policies include various strategies as follows;

- *Identify areas of productive agricultural land, including land for primary production and intensive agriculture.*
- *Avoid permanent removal of productive agricultural land from the state's agricultural base without consideration of the economic importance of the land for the agricultural production and processing sectors.*
- *Protect productive agricultural land from unplanned loss due to permanent changes in land use.*
- *Prevent inappropriately dispersed urban activities in rural areas.*
- *Limit new housing development in rural areas by:*
  - *Directing housing growth into existing settlements.*

- *Discouraging development of isolated small lots in the rural zones from use for dwellings or other incompatible uses.*
- *Encouraging consolidation of existing isolated small lots in rural zones.*

It remains to be a major and complex land use planning issue for all of the Councils that have declared irrigation districts. As such, it is critical for SHRCC to undertake a further review of the current local policies to potentially develop a solution for this complex matter.

10.4.3. Recommendation

R. Commence a review of the Rural Land Use Strategy to identify a potential solution for smaller lot subdivisions on land with no access to water.

11. Summary of Findings & Recommendations (further strategic work, actions & advocacy)

Through the review process, the highest priority tasks for council to undertake over the next four years to improve the planning scheme have been identified and is included in the recommendations summary below. The priority tasks include strategic planning projects, planning scheme amendments, planning permit process improvement actions and advocacy of State government.

All of the further strategic work projects have been identified through this review and are included in Appendix Two.

The list below represents the further strategic work, process improvement actions and advocacy that the consultants believe will have the most positive impact for the Swan Hill community and the efficient functioning of the planning service.

Only work that can be completed in the next four years should be included in Clause 72.04 of the planning scheme. A recommended Clause 72.04 is included in the marked-up ordinance at Appendix One. This should be considered by council to ensure that the work is reasonable to complete over the next four years and, if not, the priority projects that should be included in Clause 74.02.

Recommendations summary:

The below is a summary of the recommendations found throughout the report above.

Report Reference	Further Strategic Work Recommendations
1 & J	**Prepare a planning scheme amendment using the marked-up ordinance at Appendix One to:** **a) Incorporate the policy neutral changes identified in Chapter 5 to align the ordinance with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes.**

	b) Make various corrections to mapping errors found throughout the planning scheme maps as referred to in Chapter 5. **c) Amend Clause 2.01 MPS to introduce updated statistics and reference to the current Council Plan.** **d) Include an updated schedule to Clause 72.04 to include the *Infrastructure Design Manual* (Local Government Infrastructure Design Association, 2020).** **e) Include an updated schedule to Clause 74.02 (Further strategic work) that prioritises the strategic work program based on the findings of this review.**
2 & R	**Undertake a Rural Land Use Strategy review to further investigate land use planning solutions for farms that are located within irrigation districts.**
3	**Undertake a Rural Land Use Strategy review to investigate the potential positives and negatives of mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects located within the Farming Zone.**
4, P & Q	**Progress the township and settlement strategy project to update the various framework plans, including identification of rezoning to Low Density Residential and Rural Living around the periphery of selected towns and subsequent planning scheme amendment to implement updated settlement and framework plans.**
5 & O	**Complete the Draft Industrial Strategy and subsequent planning scheme amendment to implement the findings.**
6 & M	**Prepare relevant controls to restrict further subdivision of Low Density Residential Zone lots that have access to sewer but with poor drainage.**
7 & N	**Undertake an in-depth analysis to further identify new residential opportunities within Robinvale.**
D	**Undertake a comprehensive review of the mapping of Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 2 (Areas of Poor Drainage or Potentially Subject to Inundation) and update the planning scheme maps.**
E	**Undertake a comprehensive review of the mapping of Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 1 (Remnant Vegetation), including a more detailed study of the Regent Parrot habitat and these biolink aeas, with updates to the planning scheme maps.**

Findings summary:

The below is a summary of the actions and advocacy items found throughout the report above.

Report Reference	Findings
A	**The following proposed further strategic work should continue to be undertaken throughout 2025- 2029 and beyond:** • **Investigate and develop options for de-watered farming land.** • **Engage with Goulburn-Murray Water, Lower Murray Water, the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action, the Department of Transport and Planning and the community regarding the viability and sustainability of previously farmed smaller irrigated lots and review planning controls accordingly.** • **Swan Hill Industrial Strategy and subsequent planning scheme amendment.**

B	Amend the MPS, local PPF policies and schedules to include changes identified in the audit of the planning scheme review and shown on the marked up ordinance at Appendix One.
C	Amend the planning scheme maps as identified in the audit of the planning scheme review as listed at Appendix Five.
D	The mapping of Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 2 (Areas of Poor Drainage or Potentially Subject to Inundation) within the planning scheme appears to require further review and updates to the overlay mapping.
E	The mapping of Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 1 (Remnant Vegetation), including the current Regent Parrot habitat and biolink aeas need further review and updates to the overlay mapping.
F	Three properties throughout the municipality may benefit from rezoning to a Special Use Zone, including; • 141A Aerodrome Road, Swan Hill (Swan Hill Christian School) • 103-109 Latje Road, Robinvale (Murray Valley Aboriginal Corporation) • 4240 Murray Valley Highway, Robinvale (Robinvale Golf Club)
G	Review the resourcing of the statutory planning function to ensure that adequate resources and systems are available to maintain the performance in meeting statutory processing timeframes for planning permit applications.
H	Investigate an appropriate 'call in' system for applications that objections.
I	Further investigate the delegations of the statutory planning team, increase officers' delegation to allow decisions to be made on applications where a low number of objections are received (currently the delegation is only 1 objection).

Actions summary:

The below is a summary of the process improvement actions found throughout the report above.

Report Reference	Actions
7	Adequately resource the proposed strategic work program to enable the delivery of the highest priority strategic planning projects identified in Chapter 11 of the report.
8	Review the resourcing of the statutory planning function to ensure that adequate resources and systems are available to maintain the performance in meeting statutory processing timeframes for planning permit applications.
9	Further investigate the delegations of the statutory planning team, increase officers' delegation to allow decisions to be made when a low number of objections are received (currently the delegation is only 1 objection). Investigate an appropriate 'call in' system for applications that receive objections.
10 & L	Update the schedule to Clause 66.04 to refer applications under ESO Schedule 1 to the correct catchment management authority.
13	That the Swan Hill Rural City Council accept this Planning Scheme Review and forward it to the Minister for Planning as evidence the Swan Hill Rural City Council, as the planning authority for Swan Hill Planning Scheme, has met its obligations in accordance with Section 12B of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to review the planning scheme every four years.

Advocacy summary:

The below is a summary of the process improvement actions found throughout the report above.

Report Reference	Advocacy
11	**Seek DTP and the relevant catchment management authority funds and support the implementation of available local flood studies into the planning scheme.**
12	**Align Council's current housing target monitoring goals with those provided by the State Government.**
K	**Undertake further investigations and advocacy with the Mallee Catchment Management Authority to update the LSIO area that is currently protected by the Robinvale town levee.**

Appendix One

Marked up ordinance (extracts only) with policy neutral and strategically justified changes to the planning scheme.

02.01 CONTEXT

--/--/---- C82swan

Swan Hill Rural City Council has an area of over 6,000 square kilometres and is located in the north-west of Victoria.

The population of the Rural City is about 21,400 (ABS Census, 2021) and is forecast to grow to about 22,300 by 2031, with most growth expected in Swan Hill and Robinvale. Population growth in other townships in the Rural City has been limited, except for Lake Boga. The population is ageing, and there has been significant population loss from rural areas and small centres. Population statistics show a median age of 39 years. Almost 10,200 residents are employed and nearly 41 per cent of these individuals work in agricultural, health care or the retail industry.

Agriculture and manufacturing drive the economy with a gross regional product of $1.77 billion. Agriculture accounts for almost 19 per cent of the region's total economic output, with more than 40 products grown commercially in the municipality. Irrigated farming accounts for over 13 per cent of economic output, while traditional livestock and broadacre farming accounts for almost four per cent. More than 19 per cent of jobs are directly related to agriculture. The tourism and retail sectors are also strong. About 768,000 people visit the municipality each year, injecting about $235 million into the local economy.

The future prospects of mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects will become a prominent part of the economic profile within Swan Hill. These projects are likely to attract an increase in population and a demand for additional housing and services.

The municipality is part of a unique area of north-west Victoria, consisting of riverine floodplains and Mallee dunefields. The Rural City has a number of sites of threatened fauna, flora and grassland communities. Only limited vegetated land has been retained as protected public land. Much of the remaining vegetation exists on roadsides and as freehold remnants.

02.02 VISION

--/--/---- C82swan

The vision for Swan Hill Rural City derived from the 2025-2029 *Council Plan* which is as follows;

We have a great place to live, work and grow, shared by our diverse culture and connected community.

The relevant land use planning principles are built on a number of foundation elements including:

Liveability and Lifestyle – supporting quality of life through local services, spaces, and opportunities to grow.

Opportunity and Aspiration – enabling people to thrive through jobs, education, and a healthy environment.

Pride of Place – protecting what makes us unique while building a place that people are proud to call home.

19.01-2L Renewable energy

DD/MM/YYYY Proposed C73

Strategies

Discourage renewable energy facilities, including solar farms, on irrigated land within the Farming Zone 2 (FZ2).

Encourage solar farms and other renewable energy facilities on other agricultural land.

DD/MM/20-- Proposed C73

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

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

AREAS OF POOR DRAINAGE OR POTENTIALLY SUBJECT TO INUNDATION

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

DD/MM/20-- Proposed C73

Flooding is a major issue for the Swan Hill municipality. Existing floodplain management studies need to be implemented through the planning scheme. This schedule will assist in the implementation of floodplain management studies and support strategic policies in the Planning Policy Framework.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

DD/MM/20-- Proposed C73

To identify land in urban and non-urban areas that is potentially liable to inundation by overland flow or sheet flooding and ensure that any development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters, minimises flood damage, is compatible with the flood hazard and local drainage conditions and will not cause any significant rise in flood level or flow velocity.

3.0 Permit requirement

DD/MM/20-- Proposed C73

A permit is not required to construct or carry out works undertaken by a public authority to:

- Regulate the flow of water in a watercourse.
- Regulate flooding.
- Construct or redirect a watercourse.Any building or works located more than 60 metres from any waterway, wetland or lake.

DD/MM/20-- Proposed C82swan

SCHEDULE 5 TO CLAUSE 43.02 DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **DDO5.**

FORMER SWAN HILL TECHNICAL SCHOOL OVAL

1.0 Design objectives

DD/MM/20-- Proposed C8swan

To ensure that future subdivision provides for lower density residential lots.

To provide for the orderly development of interface land between the General Residential Zone and the Low Density Residential Zone.

2.0 Buildings and works

DD/MM/20-- Proposed C82swan

A permit is not required to construct or carry out:

- A building or works associated with a single dwelling or outbuildings ancillary to a dwelling.

The following buildings and works requirements apply to an application to construct a building or construct or carry out works:

- There must be only one dwelling on each lot. This does not apply to a small second dwelling.
- The building must not be a relocated building or movable structure. This does not apply to a small second dwelling.
- All buildings must be constructed of new materials.
- External walls of all buildings, including outbuildings, must be set back at least 6 metres from the frontage and at least 3 metres from any side street boundary.

30/07/2018

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 44.04 LAND SUBJECT TO INUNDATION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **LSIO1.**

RIVERINE FLOODING

1.0 Land subject to inundation objectives to be achieved

30/07/2018

None specified.

2.0 Statement of risk

30/07/2018

None specified.

30/07/2018

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 51.01 SPECIFIC SITES AND EXCLUSIONS

1.0 **Specific sites and exclusions**

XX/XX/XXXX
C82swan

Address of land	Title of incorporated document
~~The Robinvale Line (Inglewood to Robinvale) shown on the project area map for the Rail Gauge Standardisation Project in the incorporated document.~~ None specified	~~Rail Gauge Standardisation Project (December 2002)~~ None Specified

~~26/06/2017~~

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 66.04 REFERRAL OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS UNDER LOCAL PROVISIONS

1.0 **Referral of permit applications under local provisions**

26/06/2017

Clause	Kind of application	Referral authority	Referral authority type
Clause 4 of Schedule 1 to Clause 42.01 (ESO)	An application for development and/or works within:		
	▪ 30 metres of a Water Authority channel or drain, or Water Authority land or infrastructure asset	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
	▪ 60 metres of a lake or waterway	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
	▪ 100 metres of the Murray River	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
		Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (as constituted under Part 2 of the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987)	Determining authority
	▪ 100 metres of any public land managed by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action	Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (as constituted under Part 2 of the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987)	Determining authority
	An application for subdivision creating lots of less than the minimum specified in the zone	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
	An application for development associated with intensive animal production, pig farm, poultry farm or poultry hatchery	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
	All applications within the North Central Catchment Management Authority boundary	North Central Catchment Management Authority	Recommending authority

Clause	Kind of application	Referral authority	Referral authority type
	All applications within the Mallee Catchment Management Authority boundary	Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Recommending authority
Clause 4 of Schedule 3 to Clause 42.01 (ESO)	An application for development and/or works within:		
	• 30 metres of a Water Authority channel or drain, or Water Authority land or infrastructure asset	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
	• 60 metres of a lake or waterway	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
	• 100 metres of the Murray River	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
		Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (as constituted under Part 2 of the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987)	Determining authority
	100 metres of any public land managed by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action	Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (as constituted under Part 2 of the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987)	Determining authority
	An application for subdivision creating lots of less than the minimum specified in the zone.	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
	An application for development associated with intensive animal production, pig farm, poultry farm or poultry hatchery	Relevant Water Authority	Determining authority
	All applications within the North Central Catchment Management Authority boundary	North Central Catchment Management Authority	Recommending authority

26/06/2017

Clause	Kind of application	Referral authority	Referral authority type
	All applications within the Mallee Catchment Management Authority boundary	Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Recommending authority
Clause 3 of Schedule 2 to Clause 42.01 (ESO)	An application for removal or destruction of native vegetation	Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (as constituted under Part 2 of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987*)	Determining authority
Schedule 2 to Clause 45.02 (AEO)	Uses listed in Schedule 2 to the clause	Airport owner	Determining authority

30/07/2018

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 74.02 FURTHER STRATEGIC WORK

1.0 Further strategic work

XX/XX/XXXX C82swan

- Townships Strategy Project and planning scheme amendment to update the framework plans and potential rezoning of land to a Low Density Residential Zone or Rural Living Zone.
- Industrial Land Use Strategy and planning scheme amendment to rezone land as appropriate.
- Review of the Rural Land Use Strategy to investigate all rural land within irrigation districts and potential implications from increased mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects within the Farming Zone.
- Commence an in-depth investigation into residential land availability in Robinvale.
- Undertake further investigations and advocacy with the Mallee Catchment Management Authority to update the LSIO area that is currently protected by the Robinvale town levee.
- Investigate potential rezoning to a more appropriate zone for the following properties;
  - 141A Aerodrome Road, Swan Hill (Swan Hill Christian School)
  - 103-109 Latje Road, Robinvale (Murray Valley Aboriginal Corporation)
  - 4240 Murray Valley Highway, Robinvale (Robinvale Golf Club)
- Undertake a review of the Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 2 (Areas of Poor Drainage or Potentially Subject to Inundation) mapping in the planning scheme.
- Undertake a review of the Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 1 (Remnant Vegetation) mapping in the planning scheme, including the current Regent Parrot habitat and biolink aeas.

Appendix Two

Comprehensive list of further strategic work

The following list of work is a comprehensive list of all the further strategic work that has been identified through this planning scheme review.

Project Name	Project source:	Project commenced?	Geographic location
Townships Strategy Project and planning scheme amendment to update the framework plans and potential rezoning of land to a Low Density Residential Zone or Rural Living Zone.	Chapter 10	Yes	Municipal wide
Industrial Land Use Strategy and planning scheme amendment to rezone land as appropriate.	Chapter 10	Yes	Municipal wide
Review of the Rural Land Use Strategy to investigate rural land without water rights and potential implications from increased mineral sand mining and renewable energy projects.	Chapter 10	No	Municipal wide
Prepare an anomalies amendment to fix mapping errors and update the ordinance with corrections.	Chapters 5	Yes	Municipal wide
Prepare a structure plan for the Swan Hill CBD.	Chapter 8	No	Swan Hill
Commence an in-depth investigation into residential land availability in Robinvale.	Chapter 8	No	Robinvale
Undertake further investigations and advocacy with the Mallee Catchment Management Authority to update the LSIO area that is currently protected by the Robinvale town levee.	Chapter 7	No	Robinvale
Update the referral requirements of Clause 66.04 to ensure that future referrals under ESO1 are sent to the correct Catchment Management Authority.	Chapter 7	No	Murray River corridor
Investigate potential rezoning to a more appropriate zone for the following properties; • 141A Aerodrome Road, Swan Hill (Swan Hill Christian School) • 103-109 Latje Road, Robinvale (Murray Valley Aboriginal Corporation) • 4240 Murray Valley Highway, Robinvale (Robinvale Golf Club)	Chapter 5	No	Site specific
Undertake a comprehensive review of the mapping of Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 2 (Areas of Poor Drainage or Potentially Subject to Inundation) and update the planning scheme maps.	Chapter 5	No	Municipal wide
Undertake a comprehensive review of the mapping of Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 1 (Remnant Vegetation), including a more detailed study of the Regent Parrot habitat and these biolink aeas, with updates to the planning scheme maps.	Chapter 5	No	Municipal wide

Appendix Three

State and regional planning scheme amendments and planning practice notes issued since last planning scheme review

VC (Victorian) and GC (group of council) amendments.

Since the last planning scheme review in 2015, several VC and GC amendments have introduced new policy and provisions into the Swan Hill Planning Scheme and are directly relevant to this review:

VC110: Implemented the government's response to the recommendations of the Managing Residential Development Advisory Committee.

VC126: The Amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes by: Amending Clause 52.32 (Wind energy facility) to: exempt an application to amend a permit for a wind energy facility made under section 97I of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act) from requirements in section 97E (if the amendment of the permit does not increase the number of turbines or change the location of a turbine in specified circumstances) clarify that the location of a turbine is measured from the centre of its tower at ground level for the purpose of provisions relating to the amendment of a permit update the reference to the Policy and Planning Guidelines for Development of Wind Energy Facilities in Victoria (the guidelines) which have been amended to reflect the amendments to Clause 52.32 and make minor corrections. Amending Clause 19.01-1 (Provision of renewable energy) to update the reference to the guidelines and delete reference to the outdated Renewable Energy Action Plan (Department of Sustainability and Environment July 2006).

VC130: The Amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes by amending Clause 52.32 (Wind energy facility) to delete clause 52.32-8 to restore the panel hearing process where submissions are received regarding relevant permit amendment applications.

VC131: The amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes by amending Clause 52.19 - Telecommunications facility, to exempt a permit application for a telecommunications facility funded (or partly funded) under the Commonwealth Government's Mobile Black Spot Programme from the notice and review requirements.

VC135: The amendment introduced additional classes of application into the VicSmart provisions, and increases the cost of development threshold of some existing VicSmart buildings and works classes of application.

VC136: Better Apartments Design Standards – the amendment introduced state-wide planning requirements for apartment developments.

VC137: The amendment introduced additional classes of application into the VicSmart provisions for residential zones.

VC138: Updated to the Native Vegetation Framework.

VC140: Provisions for the Planning Policy Framework transition.

VC141: The Amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes by: Amending Clause 19.01-1 - updating policy guidelines to the revised document Policy and Planning

Guidelines for Development of Wind Energy Facilities in Victoria (Department of Environment Land Water and Planning November 2017) Amending Clause 43.01 - Heritage Overlay to ensure that an application to subdivide land for a place which is included in the Victorian Heritage Register is referred to the Executive Director under the Heritage Act 2017.

VC142: Update to the Ministerial Direction on From and Content and clean-up of permit triggers.

VC144: The Amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisionsand all planning schemes by: Amending Clause 52.05 (Advertising signs) to: specify electronic sign in Section 2 of Category 3 - High amenity areas (Clause 52.05-9) with a condition that the advertisement area must not exceed three square metres increase the size of the permitted maximum advertisement area of a promotion sign in Section 2 of Category 3 from two to three square metres.

VC147: Enabled the online publishing of planning schemes through the DTP Amendment Tracking System (ATS).

VC148: The amendment introduced changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes arising from the Victorian Government's Smart Planning program. The program aims to simplify and modernise Victoria's planning policy and rules to make planning more efficient, accessible and transparent.

VC149: Amended the Victoria Planning Provisions by introducing the Commercial 3 Zone. Amends the Victorian Planning Provisions and all planning schemes by: (1) introducing new requirements for the assessment of solar panel overshadowing; and (2) revising Clause 52.32 (Wind Energy Facility) to implement the recommendations of the EPA Inquiry.

VC150: Implemented actions outlined in the Victorian Government's Planning for Sustainable Animal Industries Report.

VC152: The amendment delivered on commitments of the Victorian Governments housing strategy Homes for Victorians (2017) through the introduction of permit exemptions for community care accommodation to enable the streamlined renewal and development of these facilities. The amendment delivers on Actions 1 and 3 of the Government Response to establish planning policy for the management of land for major hazard facilities and their respective buffer distances. The amendment also implements a new particular provision to support a simpler and streamlined assessment process for residential aged care facilities.

VC154: Implemented of the integrated water management reforms.

VC155: Amended the Planning Policy Framework in Clause 15.03 Heritage to introduce a new strategy to consider restoration or reconstruction of a heritage building unlawfully or unintentionally demolished and a policy guideline 'The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013'.

VC157: Amended the Victoria Planning Provisions to require planning approval for power lines to connect new large-scale electricity generation facilities to the electricity network.

VC159: Amended the Victoria Planning Provisions to introduce new land use terms, revise the definition of land use terms and change where land use terms are nested.

VC161: Introduced new requirements for solar energy facilities.

VC165: Amended the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes to introduce notice and review exemptions and to amend the responsible authority status for certain planning applications for non-government schools.

VC169: Updated State policy to direct balanced outcomes for housing growth and built form, while also clarifying and consolidating housing policy.

VC175: Improved the way the planning system addresses buffers for amenity, human health and safety impacts by updating the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) and introduced the Buffer Area Overlay.

VC176: Amended Clause 52.12 (Bushfire Protection: Exemptions) to align the 10/30 and fence line vegetation exemptions with the Bushfire Prone Area map across all Victorian councils, make administrative updates and further clarify the exemptions for dwellings and defendable space under the Bushfire Management Overlay.

VC180: Facilitates the development of new, and the upgrade and expansion of existing, non-government primary and secondary schools.

VC181: The amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes by replacing Clause 52.18 [No content] with a new Clause 52.18 (State of emergency exemption), to facilitate the delivery of food and other essential goods during and following a state of emergency declared in relation to Novel Coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV).

VC183: The amendment introduces a new state planning policy Clause 13.07-3S (Live Music) and makes changes to Clause 53.06 (Live Music Entertainment Venues) of the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes to encourage, create and protect opportunities for the enjoyment of live music.

VC187: Introduced a new particular provision, Housing by or on behalf of the Director of Housing at clause 53.20 of the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes to streamline the planning permit process to construct or extend a dwelling, or to construct or extend a front fence if the application is made by or on behalf of the Director of Housing.

VC190: Introduced a new particular provision, Victorias Big Housing Build at clause 52.20 of the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes. Clause 52.20 removes the need for a planning permit to develop a housing project if funded under Victorias Big Housing Build and supported by the Director of Housing.

VC192: Amended the Victoria Planning Provisions (clause 72.01-1) to make the Minister the responsible authority for all large energy generation facilities and utility installations.

VC193: The amendment amended clause 52.18 (State of emergency exemption) to support Victorias social and economic recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic through temporary planning scheme and permit condition exemptions that enable outdoor dining and facilitate the reopening and safe operation of restaurants and other food and drink businesses.

VC194: The amendment inserted two new particular provisions at clauses 52.30 and 52.31 to facilitate state projects and local government projects.

VC195: Changed the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes by modifying the particular provision at clause 52.32 (Wind energy facilities) to streamline the application process for minor changes to approved wind energy facilities, clarify consent requirements and simplify review and panel exemptions.

VC196: Reformed the Victorian planning system by introducing new zone and overlay controls to provide stronger recognition and protection to existing extractive industries, and to designate land with State-significant earth resources, where extractive industries may be established in the future, as strategic extractive resource areas.

VC200: The amendment introduced exemptions for projects carried out by or on behalf of the Head, Transport for Victoria, and makes the Minister for Planning the responsible authority for planning permit applications made by or behalf of the Head, Transport for Victoria or the Secretary to the Department of Transport.

VC202: Introduced a definition for 'Rural worker accommodation' in clauses 73.03 (Land Use Terms) and 73.04 (Nesting Diagrams), and permit requirements to facilitate this type of accommodation in the Farming Zone (FZ).

VC203: This amendment implemented the new environment protection framework in the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes.

VC205: The amendment introduced a new Transport Zone to replace the Road Zone and Public Use Zone Schedule 4.

VC206: The amendment implemented requirements of the Environment Protection Act 2017 for the regulation of wind turbine noise from a wind energy facility.

VC212: The amendment made changes to Clause 35.07 (Farming Zone) and to Clause 66.05 (Notice of permit applications under State standard provisions) to support the ongoing operation of wind energy facilities and amenity protections for nearby accommodation uses.

VC216: Changed the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) to support Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD).

VC217: The amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes to implement the decriminalisation of sex work.

VC219: The Amendment changed the VPP and all planning schemes in Victoria to support the ongoing operation of extractive industry across Victoria and increase amenity protections for nearby accommodation.

VC220: The amendment supports the efficient delivery of neighbourhood batteries into the electricity distribution network by amending clause 73.03 Land use terms of the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes.

VC221: The amendment facilitates all-electric developments to support implementation of Victorias Climate Change Strategy 2021 (Strategy) and Gas Substitution Roadmap 2022 (Roadmap).

VC222: Amendment VC222 made changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes to support the co-location of new government primary schools with kindergartens and facilitate projects that support the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

VC224: Amended the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes that relate to declared irrigation districts and solar energy facilities, delivery exemptions, electorate offices, Future Homes, healthy waterways, land use terms, stormwater management and tree removal under VicSmart.

VC226: This amendment made changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes to support emergency recovery, telecommunications, solar energy systems and community care accommodation.

VC227: This amendment made changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes to support the facilitation of container deposit scheme (CDS) infrastructure under the Victorian Governments, Recycling Victoria: a new economy policy.

VC231: Reduced permit requirements in the Rural Living, Farming and Rural Activity Zones in rural and regional municipalities.

VC234: The amendment clarifies noise requirements for wind energy facilities and the responsible authority for enforcement matters.

VC236: The amendment supports renewable hydrogen gas production and distribution and makes the Minister for Planning the responsible authority for large-scale production of hydrogen gas.

VC237: The Amendment changes the VPP and all planning schemes in Victoria by introducing a permit exemption for a remote sellers packaged liquor licence under Clause 52.27, replacing references to EPAs Recommended Separation Distances for Industrial Residual Air Emissions document with the new Separation Distance Guideline and Landfill Buffer Guideline, replacing existing references to superseded state and regional waste and resource recovery plans with the new Victorian Recycling Infrastructure Plan.

VC241: The amendment removed prohibitions for specified sign types for a Freeway service centre, Service station and Open sports ground in a zone where Category 4 - Sensitive areas sign controls apply.

VC242: Introduced new particular provisions to facilitate significant residential development and significant economic development.

VC243: Introduced a raft of changes to codify residential development standards, implement the Future Homes project across Victoria, remove permit requirements for single dwellings on lots of 300 square metres or more and introduce VicSmart permits for single dwellings on lots less than 300 square metres.

VC246: The amendment introduced new land use controls in the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes to improve facilitation of Victorias Container Deposit Scheme. The amendment introduces a new land use term, Container deposit scheme centre, nested under Transfer station. The amendment also makes corrections to ordinance.

VC249: The amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria by exempting development for a small second dwelling from Development Contributions Plan requirements and correcting typographical errors related to small second dwellings.

VC250: The amendment supports Victorias Gas Substitution Roadmap (Victorian Government, 2022) by prohibiting new gas connections for new dwellings, apartments and residential subdivisions where a planning permit is required.

VC257: The amendment made changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes to introduce Clause 32.10 Housing Choice and Transport Zone (HCTZ) and Clause 43.06 Built Form Overlay (BFO) to support housing growth in and around activity centres and other well-serviced locations in line with Victorias Housing Statement, The Decade Ahead 2024-2034.

VC261: The amendment expands the operation of the existing Development Facilitation Program (DFP) planning provisions that fast-track the assessment of significant economic development by enabling an application for renewable energy facility, utility installation and associated subdivision to be assessed.

VC267: The amendment implemented new residential development planning assessment provisions to boost housing construction to meet the housing needs of Victorians.

VC268: This amendment was required to give effect to the Victorian Transmission Plan and update strategies to facilitate renewable energy development in declared renewable energy zones. Changes to references to the *Climate Action Act 2017* are required to ensure that planning schemes are accurate.

VC271: The amendment supports the provision of energy-related infrastructure by facilitating the creation of new smaller lots for utility installations that transmit, distribute or store electricity in the Farming Zone and Rural Activity Zone.

VC275: The amendment introduced a planning exemption for outdoor dining on public land.

VC277: This amended car parking requirements to align car parking rates with demand and reduce the number of car parks required in locations well-serviced by public transport.

VC279: The amendment made changes to the land use definition of Minor utility installation in the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes to ensure the appropriate planning assessment of large battery storage systems.

VC280: The amendment introduced the Great Design Fast Track into the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria. The Great Design Fast Track implements a new planning assessment pathway to facilitate the delivery of high-quality townhouse and apartment developments.

VC283: The amendment changed the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria to implement Plan for Victoria (Department of Transport and Planning, 2025), update and introduce policy, remove reference to Plan Melbourne 2017-2050: Metropolitan Planning Strategy and make general drafting improvements and clarifications.

VC286: The amendment changed the VPP and all planning schemes in Victoria by removing the requirement for a planning permit for licensed premises.

VC288: The amendment extended the streamlined VicSmart assessment process to include planning permit applications for the construction of two dwellings on a lot and the subdivision of land into two lots.

VC289: The amendment introduced a planning permit requirement to remove, destroy or lop a canopy tree in residential areas at clause 52.37 (Canopy trees) into the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and all planning schemes. Minimum canopy tree replacement requirements will apply to an application to remove a canopy tree. The amendment is required to implement Action 12 of Plan for Victoria to protect and enhance canopy trees.

VC291: The amendment updated the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes to replace the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation, 2017 with the version published in 2025 and amend clause 66.01 (Subdivision Referrals) to enable the direct referral of planning applications to Fire Rescue Victoria for the existing fire hydrant referral matter.

VC294: The amendment reformed sign provisions to exempt specified signs from planning permit requirements and remove mandatory permit expiration dates for most signs.

VC300: The amendment changed the VPP and all planning schemes in Victoria by implementing the Mid-Rise Code to introduce new deemed to comply assessment provisions for four to six storey residential development in residential zones.

VC307: The Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes are amended to increase the estimated cost of development thresholds for classes of VicSmart application to account for increased building construction costs in Victoria since their introduction and to provide for future cost inflation.

VC309: The amendment clarified that hemp brick production is included as a rural industry and requires a planning permit to produce hemp bricks in rural zones.

GC73: The amendment changes the planning provisions for one site that is owned by the Victorian Government that has been determined to be surplus to government requirements and one site that will remain under Victorian Government ownership: Rezones 119 and 123 Curlewis Street, Swan Hill from Public Park and Recreation Zone to Commercial 1 Zone and applies an Environmental Audit Overlay to 119 Curlewis Street, Swan Hill.

GC117: The amendment made administrative, format and technical changes to the Buloke, Campaspe, Central Goldfields, Gannawarra, Greater Bendigo, Loddon, Macedon Ranges, Mildura, Mount Alexandra, Swan Hill planning schemes in the Loddon Mallee region to support the publishing of these planning schemes from the Amendment Tracking System (ATS).

GC160: The amendment replaced the Incorporated Document titled Goulburn-Murray Water Connections Project, August 2015 with Goulburn-Murray Water Connections Project, June 2020 to extend the expiry from 30 June 2020 to 31 December 2021; applies Clause 45.12 Specific Controls Overlay to the area affected by the document, in place of Clause 51.01, and makes consequential changes to the Schedules to Clause 72.03 What does this Scheme consist of? and Clause 72.04 Documents incorporated in this Planning Scheme in the Campaspe, Gannawarra, Greater Bendigo, Greater Shepparton, Loddon, Moira and Swan Hill planning schemes.

GC161: The amendment maps and transfers sites from the Schedule to Clause 51.01 (Specific Sites and Exclusions) into the Schedule to Clause 45.12 (Specific Controls Overlay) or deletes expired documents from the Schedule to Clause 51.01 and makes other related consequential changes, as part of the Smart Planning Program to improve the transparency of site specific controls. The changes improve the clarity and format of the Alpine, Ararat, Baw Baw, Benalla, Buloke, Central Goldfields, Colac Otway, Corangamite, East Gippsland, Gannawarra, Golden Plains, Greater Shepparton, Hepburn, Latrobe, Moira, Moorabool, Mount Alexander, Murrindindi, Northern Grampians, Strathbogie, Swan Hill and Yarriambiack planning schemes by implementing reforms introduced by VC148.

GC202: The amendment applied the Specific Controls Overlay to land approximately 30 kilometres upstream of the Euston Weir near Robinvale and approximately 75 kilometres south of Mildura in north-west Victoria to facilitate the use and development of land for the Belsar-Yungera Floodplain Restoration Project and the Hattah Lakes North Floodplain Restoration Project.

GC262: Deleted references to incorporated documents relating to the completed Wimmera Mallee Pipeline Project from the Buloke, Gannawarra, Hindmarsh, Horsham, Northern Grampians, Swan Hill and Yarriambiack Planning Schemes and corrects a technical error in Schedule 1 to Clause 42.02 in the Buloke Planning Scheme.

11.1.1. New Planning Practice Notes

Since the last planning scheme review in 2015, Several Planning Practice Notes (PPNs) have been introduced which may impact on the future development of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme.

PPN03 - Applying the Special Use Zone
PPN23 - Applying the Incorporate Plan and Development Plan Overlays
PPN24 - Shipping Container Storage
PPN30 - Potentially Contaminated Land
PPN58 - Structure Planning for Activity Centres
PPN59 - The Role of Mandatory Provisions in Planning Schemes
PPN60 - Height and Setback Controls for Activity Centres
PPN61 - Licensed Premises – Assessing Cumulative Impact
PPN63 - Applying for a Planning Permit to Farm Chickens
PPN74 - Making Planning Documents Available to the Public
PPN81 - Live Music and Entertainment Noise
PPN84 - Applying the Minimum Garden Area Requirement
PPN85 - Applying the Commercial 3 Zone
PPN86 - Applying for a Planning Permit for a Pig Farm
PPN87 - Preparing a Planning Permit Application for Animal Production
PPN88 - Planning for Domestic Rooftop Solar Energy Systems
PPN89 - Extractive Industry and Resources
PPN90 - Planning for Housing
PPN91 - Using the Residential Zones
PPN92 - Managing Buffers and Land Use Compatibility
PPN94 - Land Use and Transport Integration
PPN95 - Local Heritage Provisions
PPN96 – Glint and reflectivity

Appendix Four

Referral authorities and agencies written responses

Mallee Catchment Management Authority

Mallee CMA has recently completed the Mid Murray Flood Intelligence Project. The study produced flood mapping for a range of riverine flooding scenarios as well as minor, moderate and major flood class levels for each location along the Murray River.

Consideration should be given to the introduction of a Flood Overlay based on updated flood depth data provided by the Mid Murray Flood Intelligence Project.

Removal of LSIO from land protected by the Robinvale town levee has previously been identified but not proceeded to a planning scheme amendment.

North Central Catchment Management Authority

North Central CMA has recently responded to the Development Manager requesting that they do not have waterway management jurisdiction further north of White Road, Woorinen North. As such it is requested that the schedule to Clause 66.04 is updated and does not include “all applications” to be referred to the North Central CMA.

Appendix Five

List of mapping errors proposed to be corrected

Property Address	Current Zone	Corrected Zone	Current Map
7 Whittaker Street, Swan Hill	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	General Residential Zone	
22 Larundel Street, Manangatang	Public Park & Recreation Zone	Township Zone	
Sutton Lane, Manangatang (Allot. 2004 & 2005, Township of Manangatang)	Farming Zone, Public Use Zone 7 & Township Zone	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	

52 New Guinea Road, Robinvale	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
Madang Road, Robinvale (Allotment 17A, Sec. E, Parish of Bumbang)	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
117 Alexishafen Road, Robinvale	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
Alexishafen Road, Robinvale (Allotment 45, Sec. E, Parish of Bumbang)(Council Property No. 5493)	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
Shaggy Ridge Road, Robinvale (Allotment 45, Sec. E, Parish of Bumbang)(Council Property No. 12256)	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	

Bolton-Kooloonong Road, Bolton (Allotment 15, Township of Bolton)	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
497 Bolton-Natya Road, Bolton	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
Bolton-Kooloonong Road, Bolton (Allotment 17, Township of Bolton)	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
Waitchie Road, Waitchie (Allotment 18C, Parish of Chillingollah)	Public Use Zone 3 (Health & Community)	Farming Zone	
Ultima-Culgoa Road, Chinangin (Allot. 19B Parish of Chinangin)	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	

4332 Sea Lake-Swan Hill Road, Ultima	Farming Zone	Public Use 6 (Local Government)	
Wilson Road, Tresco (Lot 39, LP14666)	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility) & Farming Zone	Farming Zone	
Long Lake Road, Lake Boga (Lot 1, TP855392)	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility) & Farming Zone	Farming Zone	
55 Hayes Road, Lake Boga	Public Conservation & Resource Zone and Farming Zone	Public Conservation & Resource Zone and Low Density Residential Zone	

Lake Boga-Ultima Road, Goschen (Allot. 29B, Sec 1, Parish of Kooem)	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	
10 Nalder Drive, Swan Hill	General Residential Zone	Public Park & Recreation Zone	
18 Nowie Street, Swan Hill	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	General Residential Zone	
Sea Lake-Swan Hill Road, Swan Hill (Lot 2 PS405842)	Part Farming Zone & General Residential Zone	GRZ part to Low Density Residential Zone	

219 Gray Street, Swan Hill	Farming Zone	Low Density Residential Zone	
71 Sea Lake-Swan Hill Road, Swan Hill	Farming Zone	Low Density Residential Zone	
69 Sea Lake-Swan Hill Road, Swan Hill	Farming Zone	Low Density Residential Zone	
Woorinen-Goschen Road, Woorinen South (Allot. 18C & 18D, Parish of Woorinen)	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	Farming Zone	
58 White Road, Woorinen North	Part Public Conservation & Resource Zone and Farming Zone	Farming Zone	

Henson Lane, Turoar (Allot. F, Parish of Turoar)	Farming Zone	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	
10 Mary Street, Nyah West	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	General Residential Zone	
27 Allan Street, Nyah West	Part Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility) and General Residential Zone	General Residential Zone	
Monash Avenue, Nyah West (Allot. 1B, Sec 1, Parish of Tyntynder West)	Farming Zone	Public Use Zone 3 (Health & Community)	
2636 Murray Valley Highway, Nyah	Part Public Park and Recreation Zone and Low Density Residential Zone	Low Density Residential Zone	

96 Stradbroke Avenue, Nyah	Part General Residential Zone and Public Conservation and Resource Zone	Public Park and Recreation Zone	
310 Yarraby Road, Nyah West (Lot 2 PS410464)	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	Farming Zone	
Yarraby Road, Nyah West (Lot Reserve 1, PS410464)	Part Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility) and Farming Zone	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	
2949 Mallee Highway, Manangatang	Part Public Conservation and Resource Zone and Farming Zone	Farming Zone	
10 McGradie Street, Piangil	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	Township Zone	

49 & 51 Murray Street, Piangil	Public Use Zone 1 (Service & Utility)	Public Use Zone 7 (Other public use)	
Coonimur-Piangil Rd, Piangil (Allot. 8A, Parish of Piangil)	Part Farming Zone and Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
262 Piangil West Rd, Piangil	Part Farming Zone and Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
Jager Lane, Piangil (Allot. 6A, Parish of Piangil)	Part Farming Zone and Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
3131 Bolton-Natya Rd, Natya	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	

700 Bolton-Natya Rd, Natya	Transport Zone – Category 1	Farming Zone	
1838 Boundary Bend-Kooloonong Rd, Kooloonong	Transport Zone – Category 1	Public Use Zone 7 (Other public use)	
Heywood Lake Rd, Narrung	Part Farming Zone and Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Public Conservation & Resource Zone	
27 & 37 Murray Valley Hwy, Boundary Bend	Public Park & Recreation Zone	Township Zone	

Hattah-Robinvale Rd, Bannerton (Allot. 20, Parish of Tol Tol)	Part Farming Zone and Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
Murray Valley Hwy, Tol Tol	Part Farming Zone and Public Conservation & Resource Zone	Farming Zone	
11 Monash Drive, Swan Hill (Allot. E Township of Swan Hill)	Public Conservation & Resource Zone and Public Use Zone	Corrected boundary alignment within State of Victoria and PCRZ (square)	

REF:

22 October 2026

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

The Hon. Sonya Kilkenny
Minister for Planning
GPO Box 4356
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Minister

SWAN HILL PLANNING SCHEME REVIEW
SECTION 12B – PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987

I am pleased to write to you and provide you with a copy of the Swan Hill Planning Scheme Review Report 2026 in accordance with section 12B of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act).

Section 12B of the Act requires Council to regularly review the planning scheme and more specifically requires that the review should be no later than one year after the Council Plan is prepared under Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The current Swan Hill Rural City Council Plan 2025-29 was adopted in October 2025.

The review has been undertaken in accordance with advisory note issued by the Department of Transport and Planning.

Some of the key recommendations from this review include the following;

1. Suggested changes to update the Municipal Planning Strategy and local policies within the PPF.
2. New strategic work necessary to support future policy development or changes to the provisions of the planning scheme (e.g. Township strategy to update the strategic framework plans and support rezoning to LDRZ and RLZ and Industrial Land Use Strategy).
3. Undertake a review of the Rural Land Use Strategy.
4. Prepare an anomalies amendment to fix mapping errors and ensure compliance with the Ministerial Direction Form and Content.
5. Investigate further review of overlay maps, specifically the Environmental Significance Overlay and Vegetation Protection Overlay.

In accordance with section 12B(5) of the Act we now submit the report to you for your information and review.

45 Splatt St (PO Box 488) SWAN HILL VIC 3585
Ph: 03 5036 2333 | council@swanhill.vic.gov.au
swanhill.vic.gov.au | ABN 97435620016

If you require further information about the contents of the report, please contact Mr Scott Barber, Chief Executive Officer.

Yours sincerely

Cr Stuart King
Mayor

2.4 Governance Report - Council Policy Review and Instrument of Delegations Update

Directorate: Corporate Services

File Number: S16.09.03
Purpose: For Decision

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

6. Transparency and Effectiveness – Ensuring Council is open, accountable and responsive, with services and decision-making that reflect community expectations.
Objective 6.2: Strengthen Council's internal capability, resources, systems and financial sustainability.
6.2.3 Strengthen planning and data to support long-term decision-making.

Current Strategic Documents

No strategic documents applicable.

Declarations of Interest

Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

This Governance Report to Council includes:

- Instruments of Delegation Update - includes new, changed and deleted provisions for legislative changes made or assented to from 1 January 2026 – 30 June 2026.
- Council Policy Review – includes recommended changes to existing Council policies, as part of Councils regularly scheduled review program.

Discussion

Council Policy Review

- Council conducts regular reviews of all Council Policies
- Council officers have reviewed the policies and outlined recommended changes for Council consideration and approval.

The following Council approved policies have been reviewed and updated with the following recommended changes.

Document	Directorate Responsible	Recommended Changes
Council Loan Support POLICY CPOL/CORP202	Corporate Services	Title change to Loans to Not-for-Profit Organisations Policy. Inclusion of requirements for budget consideration and Council resolution for approval.
Debt Collection Policy CPOL/CORP204	Corporate Services	Review. Minor changes to include debt types.

Instruments of Delegations Update
On 29 July 2026, Maddock Lawyers provided the six-monthly update to the Delegations and Authorisations Service that Council subscribes to, for legislative changes made or assented to from 1 January 2026 – 30 June 2026.

The S6 – Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff – includes the following legislative changes:

Planning and Environment Act 1987 – Ongoing amendments as the amending legislation -*Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Act 2025* - provisions commence.

- *Food Act 1984* – Amendments to establish Safe Food Victoria as the regulatory agency for the Victorian Food Industry. The amending legislation also abolished Dairy Food Safety Victoria and PrimeSafe..
- Road Management ((Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2016, and Road Management (General) Regulations 2016 revoked and replaced with 2026 versions of the regulations.

Consultation

Executive Leadership Team and Responsible Officers were consulted.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Social Implications

Nil.

Economic Implications

Nil.

Environmental Implications

Nil.

Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments:

1. Loans to Not for Profit Organisations Policy CORP202 [**2.4.1** - 2 pages]
2. Debt Collection Policy CORP204 [**2.4.2** - 2 pages]
3. S6 - Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Council Staff 201026 [**2.4.3** - 126 pages]

Options

1. Approve the recommended changes to the Council policies
2. Approve the Council policies, once additional changes have been completed.
3. Approve the changes to the S6 Instrument of Delegation – Council to Members of Council Staff.
4. Approve the S6 Instrument of Delegation – Council to Members of Council Staff, once additional changes have been completed.

Recommendation/s

That Council:

1. Approve the recommended changes to the Council policies.

2. Approve the changes to the S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Council Staff.

LOANS TO NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS POLICY

NO.: CPOL/CORP202

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services

Adopted:	March 2001	**Reviewed:**	September 2026
Next Review:	September 2030	**Type:**	Council Policy

1. PURPOSE

To provide a basis for Council to provide financial support by way of loans to Not-for-Profit organisations incorporated in and operating within the Council area

2. SCOPE

The Policy applies to all Staff and Councillors of Council.

3. DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
ACNC	Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission
Act	Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)
Council or SHRCC	Swan Hill Rural City Council
Not-for-Profit Organisation	An organisation that: • is incorporated and maintains a valid registration with the ACNC, • incorporation in and/or has its registered address within the boundaries of Council, • Is engaged in providing free or subsidised community services for residents of the Council area and has been so engaged for a minimum of five years, • has a minimum of fifty active members in its membership register. • is currently technically solvent and is capable of meeting its financial obligations as and when they fall due, and • does not carry any other loans or other payable, that is due over a period of more than one year.
Policy	This Loans to Not-for-Profit Organisations Policy
Staff	All employees of Council including contracted individuals.

Terms defined in the above table will appear with a Capital first letter when used in the body of the document.

4. POLICY

Council may consider providing financial assistance by way of a loan to Not-for-Profit organisations where clear economic, social or environmental benefits will accrue to a broad range of Council residents.

The associated Loans to Not-for-Profit Organisations Procedure will specify the following:

- Criteria for a Not-for-Profit Organisation to be eligible for a loan.
- Projects and or infrastructure that is eligible for loan funding.

- Application and evaluation process for a loan under this Policy.
- Documentation and approval process related to the granting of the loan.
- Terms and conditions under which the loan would be provided.

Loans may only be granted under this Policy where the annual budgeting process of Council has made an allocation for the granting of such loans. Total loans granted in that financial year shall not exceed the approved budget allocation.

The granting of a loan under this Policy must be subject to an adoption of a Council resolution, made at a Council meeting that is open to the public. The report related to the granting of the loan shall contain a statement by the relevant officer, that all requirements specified in the Loans to Not-for-Profit Organisations Procedure (PRO/CORP202P) has been satisfied.

Only projects which add to the infrastructure available to residents and ratepayers of Council are eligible for loan funding under this Policy

All loans granted must be entered in a register containing the below information, that is available for public inspection on Council's website, and on request from Council.

- Name of Not-for-Profit Organisation receiving the loan
- Registered address of the Not-for-Profit Organisation
- Amount of loan
- Purpose of loan
- Repayment period
- Interest rate

5. RELEVANT POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTS

Loans to Not-for-Profit Organisations Procedure (PRO/CORP202)

6. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)

7. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Ver. No.	Issue Date	Description of Change
1.0	March 2001	Initial release
1.1	March 2013	Review
1.2	June 2016	Review
2.0	September 2020	Review
3.0	September 2026	Review

Signed: _____ **MAYOR** **Date:** _____

DEBT COLLECTION POLICY
NO.: CPOL/CORP204

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services

Adopted:	February 2001	**Reviewed:**	September 2026
Next Review:	September 2029	**Type:**	Council Policy

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a clear and concise framework in which to pursue overdue Rates and Service Charges Debts, Community Debts and Commercial Debts owed to Council to ensuring reliability and fairness in revenue collection.

2. SCOPE

This Policy applies to all Council employees with responsibility to ensure collection of monies on behalf of Council.

3. DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Act	Local Government Act 2020 (Vic), including applicable provisions from the Local Government Act 1989 (Vic).
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
Commercial Debts	Amounts overdue for payment to Council stemming from the provision of good and services on a commercial basis.
Community Debts	Debts owed by community organisations. Debts owed by individual ratepayers arising from the provision of social services such as community care, maternal & childcare, and library services.
Council or SHRCC	Swan Hill Rural City Council
Policy	This Debt Collection Policy
Procedure	Debt Collection Procedure PRO/CORP204
Rates and Service Charges Debts	Amounts overdue for payment to Council stemming from the issuance of Rates Notices in keeping with the Act. Will include General Rates, any Special Levies, Waste Charges and any levies collected on behalf of the state government. Will also include any charges made against the property in keeping with the provisions of the Act.
Regulations	Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 (Vic)

Terms defined in the above table will appear with a Capital first letter when used in the body of the document.

4. POLICY

Council will collect overdue monies owed to it, using available legal means but where appropriate having due regard to genuine applications for financial hardship.

Council will pursue Rates & Charges Debts in keeping with the provisions of the Act and Regulations and any Ministerial directives issued under the provisions of the Act or Regulations. Concessions based on applications for financial hardship will only be available for Rates & Charges Debts.

Council will pursue Community Debts in keeping with the contractual arrangements, while cognizant of any social implications arising from the debt collection process. Council will take a balanced approach between the need to collect the debt and the need to minimise social implications of such action.

Council will pursue Commercial Debts in keeping with general commercial law and any other special privileges available as a local government entity. Concessions based on applications for financial hardship will not be applicable to Commercial Debts.

Council will undertake legal action only after reasonable administrative efforts have been made and once other collection avenues have been exhausted.

Outstanding debts owed to Council shall be followed up in accordance with the Procedure.

The Debt Collection Procedure will:

a) identify the debt collection methods to be utilised for each type of debt,
b) establish and confirm timeframes and associated actions, and
c) provide defined protocols when negotiating with debtors.

Council, at the discretion of the CEO, may use external service providers, including legal advisors to support its debt collection endeavours.

Council may write-off amounts due to it as prescribed in the Procedure.

5. RELEVANT POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTS

Financial Hardship Policy (POL/CORP227)

Debt Collection Procedure (PRO/CORP204)

Ministerial Guidelines Relating to Payment of Rates & Charges

6. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1989 (Vic) & 2020 (Vic)

Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 (Vic)

General Commercial Law

7. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Ver. No.	Issue Date	Description of Change
1.0	February 2001	Initial release
1.1	November 2014	Review
1.2	December 2017	Review
1.3	September 2026	Review

Signed: _____ **MAYOR** **Date:** _____

SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL

INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION

S6 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION - MEMBERS OF STAFF

20 OCTOBER 2026

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Instrument of Delegation

In exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached Schedule, the Council:

1. delegates each duty and/or function and/or power described in column 1 of the Schedule (and summarised in column 2 of the Schedule) to the member of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the office or position described opposite each such duty and/or function and/or power in column 3 of the Schedule;

2. record that references in the Schedule are as follows:

FM	Finance Manager
MBS	Municipal Building Surveyor
MERO	Municipal Emergency Resource Officer
MFPO	Municipal Fire Prevention Officer
ND	Not Delegated
OM	Operations Manager
PHRSC	Public Health & Regulatory Services Co-ordinator
PM	Project Manager
PO	Planning Officer
PTL	Planning Team Leader
SEHO	Senior Environmental Health Officer
SP	Strategic Planner
SRO	Senior Revenue Officer

3. declares that:

3.1 this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council passed on 20 October 2026; and

3.2 the delegation:

3.2.1 comes into force immediately upon the Instrument of Delegation being signed by the Mayor and witnessed by the Chief Executive Officer;

3.2.2 remains in force until varied or revoked;

3.2.3 is subject to any conditions and limitations set out in sub-paragraph 3.3, and the Schedule; and

3.2.4 must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and

3.3 the delegate must not determine the issue, take the action or do the act or thing:

3.3.1 if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action or thing which Council has previously designated as an issue, action, act or thing which must be the subject of a Resolution of Council;

3.3.2 if the determining of the issue, taking of the action or doing of the act or thing would or would be likely to involve a decision which is inconsistent with a policy; or strategy adopted by Council;

3.3.3 if the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing cannot be the subject of a lawful delegation; or

3.3.4 the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing is already the subject of an exclusive delegation to another member of Council staff or delegated committee.

.....

Signed by Stuart King

Mayor

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Date……

in the presence of:

.....

Scott Barber

Chief Executive Officer of Council

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Date: ……

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Delegation Sources

- Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Movable Dwellings Registration and Standards) Regulations 2024
- Domestic Animals Act 1994
- Food Act 1984
- Heritage Act 2017
- Local Government Act 1989
- Planning and Environment Act 1987
- Residential Tenancies Act 1997
- Road Management Act 2004
- Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2025
- Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026
- Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016
- Road Management (General) Regulations 2026
- Road Management (General) Regulations 2016
- Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2026

Positions

Abbreviation	Position	Name
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	
CSRO	Customer Service & Revenue Officer	
DCS	Director Corporate Services	
DDP	Director Development & Planning	
DI	Director Infrastructure	
DM	Development Manager	
EAM	Enterprise Asset Manager	
EHO	Environmental Health Officer	
ESPM	Engineering and Strategic Projects Manager	

Abbreviation	Position	Name
FM	Finance Manager	
MBS	Municipal Building Surveyor	
MERO	Municipal Emergency Resource Officer	
MFPO	Municipal Fire Prevention Officer	
ND	Not Delegated	Not Delegated
OM	Operations Manager	
PHRSC	Public Health & Regulatory Services Co-ordinator	
PM	Project Manager	
PO	Planning Officer	
PTL	Planning Team Leader	
SEHO	Senior Environmental Health Officer	
SP	Strategic Planner	
SRO	Senior Revenue Officer	

Swan Hill Rural City Council

S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Staff

Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Movable Dwellings Registration and Standards) Regulations 2024			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 7	Power to enter into a written agreement with a caravan park owner	CEO, DDP, PHRSC	
r 10	Function of receiving application for registration	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 11	Function of receiving application for renewal of registration	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	
r 12(1)	Duty to grant the registration if satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	
r 12(1)	Power to refuse to grant the registration if not satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	
r 12(2)	Duty to renew the registration if satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	DDP, PHRSC,	

Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Movable Dwellings Registration and Standards) Regulations 2024			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
		SEHO	
r 12(2)	Power to refuse to renew the registration if not satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	
r 12(3)	Duty to have regard to matters in determining an application for registration or an application for renewal of registration	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	
r 12(4) & (5)	Duty to issue certificate of registration	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	
r 14(1)	Function of receiving notice of transfer of ownership.	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 14(3)	Power to determine where notice of transfer is displayed	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 15(1)	Duty to transfer registration to new caravan park owner	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 15(2)	Duty to issue a certificate of transfer of registration	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	

Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Movable Dwellings Registration and Standards) Regulations 2024			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 15(3)	Power to determine where certificate of transfer of registration is displayed	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 16(1)	Power to determine the fee to accompany applications for registration or applications for renewal of registration	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	
r 17	Duty to keep register of caravan parks	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 21(1)	Duty to notify a caravan park owner of the relevant emergency services agencies for the caravan park, on the request of the caravan park owner	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 21(2)	Duty to consult with relevant emergency services agencies	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 22	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display a copy of emergency procedures	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 23	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display copy of public emergency warnings	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 24(2)	Power to consult with relevant floodplain management authority	PHRSC, SEHO	

Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Movable Dwellings Registration and Standards) Regulations 2024			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 26(b)(i)	Power to approve system for the discharge of sewage and wastewater from a movable dwelling	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 38	Function of receiving notice of proposed installation of unregistrable movable dwelling or rigid annexe	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 38(b)	Power to require notice of proposal to install unregistrable movable dwelling or rigid annexe	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 39(3)	Function of receiving installation certificate	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 45(3)	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display name and telephone number of an emergency contact person	PHRSC, SEHO	
r 45(5)	Power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display the certificate of registration or certificate of renewal of registration, the plan of the caravan park and a copy of the caravan park rules	PHRSC, SEHO	

Domestic Animals Act 1994			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 41A(1)	Power to declare a dog to be a menacing dog	DDP, PHRSC	Council may delegate this power to a Council authorised officer

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 19(2)(a)	Power to direct by written order that the particular food premises be put into a clean and sanitary condition	CEO, DDP, EHO, PHRSC	If s 19(1) applies Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
s 19(2)(b)	Power to direct by written order that specified steps be taken to ensure that food prepared, sold or handled is safe and suitable	CEO, DDP, EHO, PHRSC	If s 19(1) applies Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
s 19(2)(c)	Power to direct by written order that any applicable requirement of the Food	CEO, DDP,	If s 19(1) applies

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	Safety Standards referred to in s 19(1)(d) is complied with	EHO	Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
s 19(3)	Power to direct by written order that the food premises not be kept or used for the sale, or handling for sale, of any food, or for the preparation of any food, or for any other specified purpose, or for the use of any specified equipment or a specified process	DDP	If s 19(1) applies Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
s 19(4)(a)	Power to direct that an order made under s 19(3)(a) or (b), (i) be affixed to a conspicuous part of the premises, (ia) displayed at any point of sale, (ib) be published on the food business's Internet site and (ii) inform the public by notice in a published newspaper, on the Internet site or otherwise	CEO, DDP, EHO, PHRSC	If s 19(1) applies Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
s 19(6)(a)	Duty to revoke any order under section 19 if satisfied that an order has been complied with	CEO, EHO, PHRSC	If s 19(1) applies

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
			Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
s 19(6)(b)	Duty to give written notice of revocation under section 19(6)(a) if satisfied that an order has been complied with	CEO, EHO, PHRSC	If s 19(1) applies Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises
s 19AA(2)	Power to direct, by written order, that a person must take any of the actions described in (a)-(c).	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19AA(4)(c)	Power to direct, in an order made under s 19AA(2) or a subsequent written order, that a person must ensure that any food or class of food is not removed from the premises	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Note: the power to direct the matters under s 19AA(4)(a) and (b) not capable of delegation and so such directions must be made by a Council resolution Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 19AA(7)	Duty to revoke order issued under s 19AA and give written notice of revocation, if satisfied that that order has been complied with	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19CB(4)(b)	Power to request copy of records	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19E(1)(d)	Power to request a copy of the food safety program	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19EA(3)	Function of receiving copy of revised food safety program	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19FA(1)	Power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to revise the food safety program for the premises or comply with any requirements specified in the food safety program	PHRSC, SEHO	Where Council is the registration authority Subject to s 19FA(2), which requires a time limit for compliance to be specified
s 19FA(3)(a)	Power to refuse to approve an application for registration or renewal of the premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction	DDP, PHRSC,	Where Council is the registration authority Refusal to grant or renew the registration of a food

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	given under s 19FA(1)	SEHO	premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))
s 19FA(3)(b)	Power to revoke a registration granted in respect of premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction given under s 19FA(1)	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19FA(3)(c)	Power to suspend the registration of the premises, where a proprietor of a food premises fails to comply with a direction given under s 19FA(1)	DDP, PHRSC, SEHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19GB	Power to request proprietor to provide written details of the name, qualification or experience of the current food safety supervisor	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s19IA(1)	Power to form opinion that the food safety requirements or program are non-compliant.	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19IA(2)	Duty to give written notice to the proprietor of the premises	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority Note: Not required if Council has taken other appropriate action in relation to deficiencies (see s

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
			19IA(3))
s 19M(4)(a) & (5)	Power to conduct a food safety audit and take actions where deficiencies are identified	DDP, EHO	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19N(2)	Function of receiving notice from the auditor	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19NA(1)	Power to request food safety audit reports	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19U(3)	Power to waive and vary the costs of a food safety audit if there are special circumstances	EHO, PHRSC	
s 19UA	Power to charge fees for conducting a food safety assessment or inspection	EHO, PHRSC	Except for an assessment required by a declaration under s 19C or an inspection under ss 38B(1)(c) or 39.

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 19W	Power to direct a proprietor of a particular food premises to comply with any requirement under Part IIIB	CEO, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19W(3)(a)	Power to direct a proprietor of a particular food premises to have staff at the premises undertake training or instruction	CEO, DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 19W(3)(b)	Power to direct a proprietor of a particular food premises to have details of any staff training incorporated into the minimum records required to be kept or food safety program of the premises	CEO, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
--	Power to register or renew the registration of a food premises	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority Refusal to grant or renew the registration of a food premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 36A	Power to accept an application for registration or notification using online portal	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 36B	Duty to pay the charge for use of online portal	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38AA(5)	Power to (a) request further information; or (b) advise the proprietor that the premises must be registered if the premises are not exempt	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38AB(4)	Power to fix a fee for the receipt of a notification under s 38AA in accordance with a declaration under s 38AB(1)	ND	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38A(4)	Power to request a copy of a completed food safety program template	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 38B(1)(a)	Duty to assess the application and determine which class of food premises under s 19C the food premises belongs	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38B(1)(b)	Duty to ensure proprietor has complied with requirements of s 38A	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38B(2)	Duty to be satisfied of the matters in s 38B(2)(a)-(b)	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38D(1)	Duty to ensure compliance with the applicable provisions of s 38C and inspect the premises if required by s 39	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38D(2)	Duty to be satisfied of the matters in s 38D(2)(a)-(d)	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38D(3)	Power to request copies of any audit reports	EHO,	Where Council is the registration authority

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
		PHRSC	
s 38E(2)	Power to register the food premises on a conditional basis	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority not exceeding the prescribed time limit defined under s 38E(5)
s 38E(4)	Duty to register the food premises when conditions are satisfied	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38F(3)(b)	Power to require proprietor to comply with requirements of this Act	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38G(1)	Power to require notification of change of the food safety program type used for the food premises	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 38G(2)	Function of receiving notice from proprietor if there is a change of the food safety program type used for the food premises	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 38G(4)	Power to require the proprietor of the food premises to comply with any requirement of the Act	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 39(2)	Duty to carry out an inspection of the premises during the period of registration before the registration of the food premises is renewed	EHO, PHRSC	
s 39A	Power to register, or renew the registration of a food premises despite minor defects	DDP, EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority Only if satisfied of matters in s 39A(2)(a)-(c)
s 39A(6)	Duty to comply with a direction of Safe Food Victoria under s 39A(4)	CEO, EHO, PHRSC	
s 40(1)	Duty to give the person in whose name the premises is to be registered a certificate of registration	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 40(2)	Power to incorporate the certificate of registration in one document with any certificate of registration under Part 6 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act	EHO,	

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	2008	PHRSC	
s 40C(2)	Power to grant or renew the registration of food premises for a period of less than 1 year	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 40D(1)	Power to suspend or revoke the registration of food premises	ND	Where Council is the registration authority
s 40E(4)	Duty to comply with direction of Safe Food Victoria under s 40E(1)	CEO, EHO, PHRSC	
s 40F	Power to cancel registration of food premises	DDP, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 43	Duty to maintain records of registration	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority

Food Act 1984			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 43F(6)	Duty to be satisfied that registration requirements under Division 3 have been met prior to registering or renewing registration of a component of a food business	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority
s 43F(7)	Power to register the components of the food business that meet requirements in Division 3 and power to refuse to register the components that do not meet the requirements	DDP, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority Refusal to grant or renew the registration of a food premises must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see s 58A(2))
s 45AC	Power to bring proceedings	EHO, PHRSC	
s 46(5)	Power to institute proceedings against another person where the offence was due to an act or default by that other person and where the first person charged could successfully defend a prosecution, without proceedings first being instituted against the person first charged	EHO, PHRSC	Where Council is the registration authority

Heritage Act 2017			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 116	Power to sub-delegate Executive Director's functions, duties or powers	DDP, DM	Must first obtain Executive Director's written consent Council can only sub-delegate if the Instrument of Delegation from the Executive Director authorises sub-delegation

Local Government Act 1989			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 185L(4)	Power to declare and levy a cladding rectification charge	ND	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 4B	Power to prepare an amendment to the Victorian Planning Provisions	ND	If authorised by the Minister
s 4G	Function of receiving prescribed documents and a copy of the Victorian Planning Provisions from the Minister	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 4H	Duty to make amendment to Victoria Planning Provisions available in accordance with public availability requirements	DDP, DM	
s 4I(2)	Duty to make and copy of the Victorian Planning Provisions and other documents available in accordance with public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 8A(2)	Power to prepare amendment to the planning scheme where the Minister has given consent under s 8A	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 12(3)	Power to carry out studies and do things to ensure proper use of land and consult with other persons to ensure co-ordination of planning scheme with these persons	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 8A(3)	Power to apply to Minister to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme	ND	
s 12B(1)	Duty to review planning scheme	ND	
s 8A(5)	Function of receiving notice of the Minister's decision	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 12B(2)	Duty to review planning scheme at direction of Minister	ND	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 8A(7)	Power to prepare the amendment specified in the application without the Minister's authorisation if no response received after 10 business days	DDP, DM	
s.12B(5)	duty to report findings of review of planning scheme to Minister without delay	ND	
s 8B(2)	Power to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme of an adjoining municipal district	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 14	Duties of a Responsible Authority as set out in s 14(a) to (d)	ND	
s 16B	Duty (upon receiving a request to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme) to decide: - to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare the amendment,	ND	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	with or without changes, under section 16F, or - to refuse the request. Note: see also sections 16A, 16D, 16E and 16K.		
s 16C(1)	Duty to give written notice of its decision under section 16B to the person who made the request within 10 business days of making the decision. Note: The notice must contain prescribed information, and reasons if it is a refusal.	CEO, DDP, DM	
s 16C(4)	Duty to give a copy of the request and the notice under subsection 16C(1) to the Minister.	CEO, DDP, DM	
s 16F	Power to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare an amendment to the State standard provisions or the local provisions of a planning scheme in force in the municipal district. Note: see also sections 16G and 16K.	CEO, DDP, DM	After Council decision.
s 16F	Power to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme where the	CEO,	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	Minister has authorised Council to do so under section 16F	DDP, DM, SP	
s 16H	Power to prepare an amendment specified in an application without the Minister's authorisation if no response received after 10 business days Note: see also section 16K.	CEO, DDP, DM	Does not apply in relation to an application for the preparation of an amendment that will apply to land to which a Suburban Rail Loop planning area declaration applies.
s 16I	Power to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare an amendment to any part of the State standard provisions and local provisions of a planning scheme applying to an area adjoining its municipal district.	ND	
s 16I	Power to prepare amendment to the planning scheme applying to an area adjoining Council's municipal district where the Minister has authorised Council to do so under section 16I. Note: see also sections 16D, 16G and 16J.	CEO, DDP, DM	Based on Council decision
s 17(1)	Duty of giving copy amendment to the planning scheme	DDP, DM,	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
		PO, PTL	
s 17(2)	Duty of giving copy s 173 agreement	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 17(3)	Duty of giving copy amendment, explanatory report and relevant documents to the Minister within 10 business days	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 18	Duty to make amendment etc. available in accordance with public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	Until the proposed amendment is approved or lapsed
s 19	Power to give notice, to decide not to give notice, to publish notice of amendment to a planning scheme and to exercise any other power under s 19 to a planning scheme	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 19	Function of receiving notice of preparation of an amendment to a	DDP, DM,	Where Council is not the planning authority and the

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	planning scheme	PTL	amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority.
s 20(1)	Power to apply to Minister for exemption from the requirements of s 19	DDP	Where Council is a planning authority
s 21(2)	Duty to make submissions available in accordance with public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	Until the end of 2 months after the amendment comes into operation or lapses
s 21A(4)	Duty to publish notice	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 22(1)	Duty to consider all submissions received before the date specified in	DDP, DM	Except submissions which request a change to the items in s

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	the notice		22(5)(a) and (b)
s 22(2)	Power to consider a late submission Duty to consider a late submission, if directed by the Minister	DDP, DM	
s 23(1)(b)	Duty to refer submissions which request a change to the amendment to a panel	DDP, DM	
s 23(2)	Power to refer to a panel submissions which do not require a change to the amendment	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 23A(2)	Power to: - change the amendment in the manner requested; - not change the amendment in the manner requested; or - abandon the amendment or part of the amendment.	CEO, DDP, DM, SP	Where Council is the planning authority. After considering a submission which requests a change to a 'low-impact' amendment (as described in section 16N).

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 24	Function to represent Council and present a submission at a panel hearing (including a hearing referred to in s 96D)	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 26(1)	Power to make report available for inspection in accordance with the requirements set out in s 197B of the Act	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 26(2)	Duty to keep report of panel available in accordance with public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	During the inspection period
s 27(2)	Power to apply for exemption if panel's report not received	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 28(1)	Duty to notify the Minister if abandoning an amendment, with a copy of any submission considered, and a statement of reasons for the	CEO, DDP, DM,	Note: the power to make a decision to abandon an amendment cannot be delegated

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	decision	SP	
s 28(2)	Duty to publish notice of the decision on Internet site	DM, PO, PTL	
s 28(4)	Duty to make notice of the decision available on Council's Internet site for a period of at least 2 months	DM, PO, PTL	
s 28C	Duty to comply with directions of the Minister after abandoning the amendment with respect to: - providing relevant documentation; and - providing assistance with steps to be taken for the amendment.	CEO, DDP, DM	
s 30(4)(a)	Duty to say if amendment has lapsed	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 30(4)(b)	Duty to provide information in writing upon request	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 32(2)	Duty to give more notice if required	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 33(1)	Duty to give more notice of changes to an amendment	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 36(2)	Duty to give notice of approval of amendment	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 38(5)	Duty to give notice of revocation of an amendment	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 39	Function of being a party to a proceeding commenced under s 39 and duty to comply with determination by VCAT	ND	
s 40(1)	Function of lodging copy of approved amendment	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 41(1)	Duty to make a copy of an approved amendment available in accordance with the public availability requirements during inspection period	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 41(2)	Duty to make a copy of an approved amendment and any documents lodged with it available in person in accordance with the requirements set out in s 197B of the Act after the inspection period ends	DM, PO, PTL	
s 42(2)	Duty to make copy of planning scheme available in accordance with the public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PM, PO	
s 46AAA	Duty to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme that relates to Yarra River land that is not inconsistent with anything in a Yarra Strategic Plan which is expressed to be binding on the responsible public entity	ND	Where Council is a responsible public entity and is a planning authority

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46AW	Function of being consulted by the Minister	DDP	Where Council is a responsible public entity
s 46AX	Function of receiving a draft Statement of Planning Policy and written direction in relation to the endorsement of the draft Statement of Planning Policy Power to endorse the draft Statement of Planning Policy	DDP, DM	Where Council is a responsible public entity
s 46AZC(2)	Duty not to prepare an amendment to a declared area planning scheme that is inconsistent with a Statement of Planning Policy for the declared area that is expressed to be binding on the responsible public entity	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	Where Council is a responsible public entity
s 46AZK	Duty not to act inconsistently with any provision of the Statement of Planning Policy that is expressed to be binding on the public entity when performing a function or duty or exercising a power in relation to the declared area	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	Where Council is a responsible public entity

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46GI(2)(b)(i)	Power to agree to a lower rate of standard levy for a class of development of a particular type of land than the rate specified in a Minister's direction	DDP, DM	Where Council is the planning authority, the municipal Council of the municipal district in which the land is located and/or the development agency
s 46GG(1)(d)	Power to incorporate into a planning scheme an infrastructure contributions plan that provides for the imposition of infrastructure contributions to fund the reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the planning authority, the collecting agency and a development agency in carrying out their respective functions under this Part in relation to the infrastructure contributions plan and the related precinct structure plan or strategic plan, capped at an annual percentage of the standard levy	CEO, DDP, DM	
s 46GG(1A)	Power to incorporate into a planning scheme an infrastructure contributions plan that provides for the monetary component to fund any acquisition of land (other than public purpose land) necessary for the provision of works, services and facilities referred to in s 46GG(1), where the plan does not include a land component	CEO, DDP, DM	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46GJ(1)	Function of receiving written directions from the Minister in relation to the preparation, content and administration of infrastructure contributions plans	CEO, DDP, DM	
s 46GJ(2A)(a)	Power to specify an infrastructure contributions plan the priority categories of works, services or facilities and relevant land acquisitions to be founded through a standard levy	CEO, DDP, DM	Where Council is the planning authority and Minister makes a direction under s 46GJ(2A)
s 46GJ(2A)(b)	Power to determine from time to time the specific works, services or facilities and relevant land acquisitions to be funded	CEO, DDP, DM	Where Council is the development agency specified in the infrastructure contributions plan and Minister makes a direction under s 46GJ(2A)
s 46GJ(2C)	Duty to make available in accordance with the public availability requirements any document relied on for the determination of specific works, services or facilities or relevant land acquisitions to be funded, and written notice of any such determination	CEO, DDP, DM	Where Council is the development agency specified in the infrastructure contributions plan and Minister makes a direction under s 46GJ(2A)
s 46GK	Duty to comply with a Minister's direction that applies to Council as the planning authority	DDP, DM	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46GN(1)	Duty to arrange for estimates of values of inner public purpose land	DDP, DM	
s 46GO(1)	Duty to give notice to owners of certain inner public purpose land	DDP, DM	
s 46GP	Function of receiving a notice under s 46GO	DDP, DM	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GQ	Function of receiving a submission from an affected owner who objects to the estimated value per hectare (or other appropriate unit of measurement) of the inner public purpose land	DDP, DM	
s 46GR(1)	Duty to consider every submission that is made by the closing date for submissions included in the notice under s 46GO	DDP, DM	
s 46GR(2)	Power to consider a late submission Duty to consider a late submission if directed to do so by the Minister	DDP, DM	
s 46GS(1)	Power to accept or reject the estimate of the value of the inner public	ND	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	purpose land in a submission made under s 46GQ		
s 46GS(2)	Duty, if Council rejects the estimate of the value of the inner public purpose land in the submission, to refer the matter to the valuer-general, and notify the affected owner of the rejection and that the matter has been referred to the valuer-general	DDP	
s 46GT(2)	Duty to pay half of the fee fixed by the valuer-general for arranging and attending the conference	DDP	
s 46GT(4)	Function of receiving, from the valuer-general, written confirmation of the agreement between the planning authority's valuer and the affected owner's valuer as to the estimated value of the inner public purpose land	DDP, PM	
s 46GT(6)	Function of receiving, from the valuer-general, written notice of a determination under s 46GT(5)	DDP, PM	
s 46GU	Duty not to adopt an amendment under s.29 to an infrastructure contributions plan that specifies a land credit amount or a land equalisation amount that relates to a parcel of land in the ICP plan	DDP, PM	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	area of the plan unless the criteria in s 46GU(1)(a) and (b) are met		
s 46GV(3)	Function of receiving the monetary component and any land equalisation amount of the infrastructure contribution Power to specify the manner in which the payment is to be made	DDP, PM	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GV(3)(b)	Power to enter into an agreement with the applicant	DDP, PM	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GV(4)(a)	Function of receiving the inner public purpose land in accordance with s 46GV(5) and (6)	DDP, PM	Where Council is the development agency
s 46GV(4)(b)	Function of receiving the inner public purpose land in accordance with s 46GV(5) and (6)	DDP, PM	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GV(7)	Duty to impose the requirements set out in s 46GV(3) and (4) as conditions on the permit applied for by the applicant to develop the land in the ICP plan area	DDP, DM	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46GV(9)	Power to require the payment of a monetary component or the provision of the land component of an infrastructure contribution to be secured to Council's satisfaction	DDP, DM	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GX(1)	Power to accept works, services or facilities in part or full satisfaction of the monetary component of an infrastructure contribution payable	DDP, DM	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GX(2)	Duty, before accepting the provision of works, services or facilities by an applicant under s 46GX(1), to obtain the agreement of the development agency or agencies specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan	DDP, DM	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GY(1)	Duty to keep proper and separate accounts and records	DDP, DCS	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GY(2)	Duty to keep the accounts and records in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020	DDP, DCS	Where Council is the collecting agency
s 46GZ(2)(a)	Duty to forward any part of the monetary component that is imposed	CEO,	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	for plan preparation costs or plan administration costs to the planning authority that incurred those costs The forwarding duty does not apply to any monetary component that is imposed for plan administration costs incurred by the collecting agency	DDP, DCS	infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is that planning authority
s 46GZ(2)(a)	Function of receiving the monetary component imposed for plan preparation costs or plan administration costs The monetary component does not include plan administration costs incurred by the collecting agency	CEO, DDP, DCS	Where the Council is the planning authority This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZ(2)(b)	Duty to forward any part of the monetary component that is imposed for the provision of works, services or facilities to the development agency that is specified in the plan,as responsible for those works, services or facilities	DDP, DM	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the relevant development agency

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46GZ(2)(b)	Function of receiving the monetary component	DDP, DM	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZ(4)	Duty to use any land equalisation amounts to pay land credit amounts under s 46GZ(7), except any part of those amounts that are to be forwarded to a development agency under s 46GZ(5)	DDP	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZ(5)	Duty to forward any part of a land equalisation amount required for the acquisition of outer public purpose land by a development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan to that development agency	DI, DDP, FM	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
			relevant development agency
s 46GZ(5)	Function of receiving any part of a land equalisation amount required for the acquisition of outer public purpose land	DI, DDP, FM	Where Council is the development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZ(7)	Duty to pay to each person who must provide an infrastructure contribution under the approved infrastructure contributions plan any land credit amount to which the person is entitled under s 46GW	DI, DDP, FM	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZ(9)	Duty to transfer the estate in fee simple in the land to the development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan as responsible for the use and development of that	DDP	If any inner public purpose land is vested in Council under the Subdivision Act 1988 or acquired by Council before the time it is required to be provided to Council under s 46GV(4)

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	land		Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the development agency
s 46GZ(9)	Function of receiving the fee simple in the land	DDP	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZA(1)	Duty to keep proper and separate accounts and records	DDP	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46GZA(2)	Duty to keep the accounts and records in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020	DDP	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZB(3)	Duty to follow the steps set out in s 46GZB(3)(a) – (c)	DDP	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZB(4)	Duty, in accordance with requirements of the VPA, to report on the use of the infrastructure contribution in the development agency's annual report and provide reports on the use of the infrastructure contribution to the VPA	DDP	If the VPA is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZD(2)	Duty, within 6 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to follow the steps set out in s 46GZD(2)(a) and (b), including expenditure of remaining monetary component for the provision of other works, services or facilities or relevant land acquisitions in the ICP plan area	CEO, DDP	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46GZD(3)	Duty to follow the steps set out in s 46GZD(3)(a) and (b)	DDP	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZD(5)	Duty to make payments under s 46GZD(3) in accordance with ss 46GZD(5)(a) and 46GZD(5)(b)	DDP	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZE(2)	Duty to forward the land equalisation amount back to the collecting agency within 6 months after the expiry date if any part of a land equalisation amount paid or forwarded to a development agency for acquiring outer public purpose land has not been expended by the development agency to acquire that land at the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires	DDP	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s 46GZE(2)	Function of receiving the unexpended land equalisation amount	DDP, DM	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
			development agency
s 46GZE(3)	Duty, within 12 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to follow the steps set out in s 46GZE(3)(a) and (b)	DDP, DM	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZF(2)	Duty, within 12 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to use the public purpose land for a public purpose approved by the Minister or sell the public purpose land	DDP, DM	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZF(3)	Duty, if land is sold under s.46GZF(2)(b), to follow the steps in s.46GZF(3)(a) and (b)	DDP, DM	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZF(3)	Function of receiving proceeds of sale	DDP, DM	Where Council is the collection agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
			development agency
s 46GZF(4)	Duty to divide the proceeds of the public purpose land among the current owners of each parcel of land in the ICP plan area and pay each current owner a portion of the proceeds in accordance with s 46GZF(5)	DDP, DCS	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZF(6)	Duty to make the payments under s 46GZF(4) in accordance with s 46GZF(6)(a) and (b)	DDP, DCS	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZH	Power to recover the monetary component, or any land equalisation amount of the land component, payable under Part 3AB as a debt in any court of competent jurisdiction	DDP, DCS	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 46GZI	Duty to prepare and give a report to the Minister at the times required by the Minister	DDP	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46GZK	Power to deal with public purpose land which has vested in, been acquired by, or transferred to, Council	DDP	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency
s 46LB(3)	Duty to publish, on Council's Internet site, the payable dwelling amount for a financial year on or before 1 July of each financial year for which the amount is adjusted under s 46LB (2)	DDP, DCS	
s 46N(1)	Duty to include condition in permit regarding payment of development infrastructure levy	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 46N(2)(c)	Function of determining time and manner for receipt of development contributions levy	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 46N(2)(d)	Power to enter into an agreement with the applicant regarding payment of development infrastructure levy	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 46O(1)(a)	Power to ensure that community infrastructure levy is paid, or	DDP, DM,	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
& (2)(a)	agreement is in place, prior to issuing building permit	PTL	
s 46O(1)(d) & (2)(d)	Power to enter into agreement with the applicant regarding payment of community infrastructure levy	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 46P(1)	Power to require payment of amount of levy under s 46N or s 46O to be satisfactorily secured	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 46P(2)	Power to accept provision of land, works, services or facilities in part or full payment of levy payable	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 46Q(1)	Duty to keep proper accounts of levies paid	DM, PO, SRO, PTL, DCS	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46Q(1A)	Duty to forward to development agency part of levy imposed for carrying out works, services, or facilities on behalf of development agency or plan preparation costs incurred by a development agency	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 46Q(2)	Duty to apply levy only for a purpose relating to the provision of plan preparation costs or the works, services and facilities in respect of which the levy was paid etc	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 46Q(3)	Power to refund any amount of levy paid if it is satisfied the development is not to proceed	DDP, DM, PTL	Only applies when levy is paid to Council as a 'development agency'
s 46Q(4)(c)	Duty to pay amount to current owners of land in the area if an amount of levy has been paid to a municipal council as a development agency for plan preparation costs incurred by the Council or for the provision by the Council of works, services or facilities in an area under s 46Q(4)(a)	DDP, DM, PTL	Must be done within six months of the end of the period required by the development contributions plan and with the consent of, and in the manner approved by, the Minister

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 46Q(4)(d)	Duty to submit to the Minister an amendment to the approved development contributions plan	DDP, DM, PTL	Must be done in accordance with Part 3
s46Q(4)(e)	Duty to expend that amount on other works etc.	DDP, DM, PTL	With the consent of, and in the manner approved by, the Minister
s 46QC	Power to recover any amount of levy payable under Part 3B	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 46QD	Duty to prepare report and give a report to the Minister	DDP	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency
s 46Y	Duty to carry out works in conformity with the approved strategy plan	ND	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 47	Power to decide that an application for a planning permit does not comply with that Act	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 48A	Power to notify an applicant that the application is incomplete Note: The notice must set out any required fees or information, the date for payment or production, and the effect of non-compliance set out in section 48B(1).	CEO, DDP, DM, SP	Where Council is the responsible authority
s 48C	Power to refund a fee paid for an application which is void and of no effect under section 48B(1)	CEO, DDP, DM	Where Council is the responsible authority
s 49(1)	Duty to keep a register of all applications for permits and determinations relating to permits	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 49(2)	Duty to make register available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 50(4)	Duty to amend application	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 50(5)	Power to refuse to amend application	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 50(6)	Duty to make note of amendment to application in register	DM, PO, PTL	
s 50A(1)	Power to make amendment to application	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 50A(3)	Power to require applicant to notify owner and make a declaration that notice has been given	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 50A(4)	Duty to note amendment to application in register	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 51	Duty to make copy of application available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 52(1)(a)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners/occupiers of adjoining allotments unless satisfied that the grant of permit would not cause material detriment to any person	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 52(1)(b)	Duty to give notice of the application to other municipal council where appropriate	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 52(1)(c)	Duty to give notice of the application to all persons required by the planning scheme	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 52(1)(ca)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners and occupiers of land benefited by a registered restrictive covenant if may result in breach	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	of covenant		
s 52(1)(cb)	Duty to give notice of the application to owners and occupiers of land benefited by a registered restrictive covenant if application is to remove or vary the covenant	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 52(1)(d)	Duty to give notice of the application to other persons who may be detrimentally effected	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s.52(1AA)	Duty to give notice of an application to remove or vary a registered restrictive covenant	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 52(3)	Power to give any further notice of an application where appropriate	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 53(1)	Power to require the applicant to give notice under s 52(1) to persons specified by it	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 53(1A)	Power to require the applicant to give the notice under s 52(1AA)	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 54(1)	Power to require the applicant to provide more information	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 54(1A)	Duty to give notice in writing of information required under s 54(1)	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 54(1B)	Duty to specify the lapse date for an application	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 54A(3)	Power to decide to extend time or refuse to extend time to give required information	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 54A(4)	Duty to give written notice of decision to extend or refuse to extend time under s 54A(3)	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 55(1)	Duty to give copy application, together with the prescribed information, to every referral authority specified in the planning scheme	DDP, DM, PM, PO	
s 57(2A)	Power to reject objections considered made primarily for commercial advantage for the objector	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 57(3)	Function of receiving name and address of persons to whom notice of decision is to go	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 57(5)	Duty to make a copy of all objections available in accordance with the public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 57A(4)	Duty to amend application in accordance with applicant's request, subject to s 57A(5)	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 57A(5)	Power to refuse to amend application	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 57A(6)	Duty to note amendments to application in register	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 57B(1)	Duty to determine whether and to whom notice should be given	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 57B(2)	Duty to consider certain matters in determining whether notice should be given	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 57C(1)	Duty to give copy of amended application to referral authority	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 58	Duty to consider every application for a permit	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 58A	Power to request advice from the Planning Application Committee	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 60	Duty to consider certain matters	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 60(1A)	Duty to consider certain matters	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 60(1B)	Duty to consider number of objectors in considering whether use or development may have significant social effect	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 61(1)	Power to determine permit application, either to decide to grant a permit, to decide to grant a permit with conditions or to refuse a permit application	DDP, DM, PTL	The permit must not be inconsistent with a cultural heritage management plan under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 This Notice of Refusal would follow Councils resolution to refuse the application.
s 61(2)	Duty to decide to refuse to grant a permit if a relevant determining referral authority objects to grant of permit	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 61(2A)	Power to decide to refuse to grant a permit if a relevant recommending referral authority objects to the grant of permit	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 61(3)(a)	Duty not to decide to grant a permit to use coastal Crown land without Minister's consent	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 61(3)(b)	Duty to refuse to grant the permit without the Minister's consent	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 61(4)	Duty to refuse to grant the permit if grant would authorise a breach of	DDP, DM,	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	a registered restrictive covenant	PTL	
s 62(1)	Duty to include certain conditions in deciding to grant a permit	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 62(2)	Power to include other conditions	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 62(4)	Duty to ensure conditions are consistent with paragraphs (a),(b) and (c)	DDP, DM, PM, PO	
s 62(5)(a)	Power to include a permit condition to implement an approved development contributions plan or an approved infrastructure contributions plan	CEO, DDP, DM, PO, PTL	Note: The scope of approved infrastructure contributions plans has been expanded by the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Act 2026 (No. 3 of 2026) to include works outside the ICP plan area, plan administration costs, and relevant land acquisitions.

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 62(5)(b)	Power to include a permit condition that specified works be provided on or to the land or paid for in accordance with s 173 agreement	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 62(5)(c)	Power to include a permit condition that specified works be provided or paid for by the applicant	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 62(6)(a)	Duty not to include a permit condition requiring a person to pay an amount for or provide works except in accordance with ss 46N(1), 46GV(7) or 62(5)	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 62(6)(b)	Duty not to include a permit condition requiring a person to pay an amount for or provide works except a condition that a planning scheme requires to be included as referred to in s 62(1)(a)	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 63	Duty to issue the permit where made a decision in favour of the application (if no one has objected)	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 64(1)	Duty to give notice of decision to grant a permit to applicant and objectors	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit - see s 75
s 64(3)	Duty not to issue a permit until after the specified period	DDP, DM, PM, PO	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit - see s 75
s 64(5)	Duty to give each objector a copy of an exempt decision	DDP, DM, PM, PO	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit - see s 75
s 64A	Duty not to issue permit until the end of a period when an application for review may be lodged with VCAT or until VCAT has determined the application, if a relevant recommending referral authority has objected to the grant of a permit	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit - see s 75A

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 65(1)	Duty to give notice of refusal to grant permit to applicant and person who objected under s 57	DDP, DM, PM, PO	This Notice of Refusal would follow Councils resolution to refuse the application.
s 66(1)	Duty to give notice under s 64 or s 65 and copy permit to relevant determining referral authorities	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 66(2)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to grant a permit	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	If the recommending referral authority objected to the grant of the permit or the responsible authority decided not to include a condition on the permit recommended by the recommending referral authority
s 66(4)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to refuse a permit	DDP, DM, PM, PO	If the recommending referral authority objected to the grant of the permit or the recommending referral authority recommended that a permit condition be included on the permit
s 66(6)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority a copy of any permit	DDP, DM,	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	which Council decides to grant and a copy of any notice given under s 64 or 65	PO, PTL	grant of the permit or the recommending referral authority did not recommend a condition be included on the permit
s 69(1)	Function of receiving application for extension of time of permit	DDP, DM, PM, PO	
s 69(1A)	Function of receiving application for extension of time to complete development	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 69(2)	Power to extend time	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 70	Duty to make copy permit available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 71(1)	Power to correct certain mistakes	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 71(2)	Duty to note corrections in register	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 73	Power to decide to grant amendment subject to conditions	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 74	Duty to issue amended permit to applicant if no objectors	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 76	Duty to give applicant and objectors notice of decision to refuse to grant amendment to permit	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 76A(1)	Duty to give relevant determining referral authorities copy of amended permit and copy of notice	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 76A(2)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to grant an amendment to a permit	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	If the recommending referral authority objected to the amendment of the permit or the responsible authority decided not to include a condition on the amended permit recommended by the recommending referral authority
s 76A(4)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to refuse a permit	DDP, DM, PM, PO	If the recommending referral authority objected to the amendment of the permit or the recommending referral authority recommended that a permit condition be included on the amended permit
s 76A(6)	Duty to give a recommending referral authority a copy of any amended permit which Council decides to grant and a copy of any notice given under s 64 or 76	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the amendment of the permit or the recommending referral authority did not recommend a condition be included on the amended permit
s 76D	Duty to comply with direction of Minister to issue amended permit	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 83	Function of being respondent to an appeal	DDP, DM,	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
		PTL	
s 83B	Duty to give or publish notice of application for review	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 84(1)	Power to decide on an application at any time after an appeal is lodged against failure to grant a permit	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 84(2)	Duty not to issue a permit or notice of decision or refusal after an application is made for review of a failure to grant a permit	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 84(3)	Duty to tell principal registrar if decide to grant a permit after an application is made for review of its failure to grant a permit	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 84(6)	Duty to issue permit on receipt of advice within 3 business days	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 84AB	Power to agree to confining a review by the Tribunal	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 86	Duty to issue a permit at order of Tribunal within 3 business days	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 87(3)	Power to apply to VCAT for the cancellation or amendment of a permit	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 90(1)	Function of being heard at hearing of request for cancellation or amendment of a permit	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 91(2)	Duty to comply with the directions of VCAT	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 91(2A)	Duty to issue amended permit to owner if Tribunal so directs	DDP, DM,	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
		PTL	
s 92	Duty to give notice of cancellation/amendment of permit by VCAT to persons entitled to be heard under s 90	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 93(2)	Duty to give notice of VCAT order to stop development	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 95(3)	Function of referring certain applications to the Minister	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 95(4)	Duty to comply with an order or direction	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 96(1)	Duty to obtain a permit from the Minister to use and develop its land	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 96(2)	Function of giving consent to other persons to apply to the Minister for a permit to use and develop Council land	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 96A(2)	Power to agree to consider an application for permit concurrently with preparation of proposed amendment	CEO, DDP, DM, SP	The request to prepare the amendment must be made under section 16A. Delegate must not agree to consider the application for the permit concurrently with the preparation of the proposed amendment unless it has made a decision under section 16B(a) to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare the amendment, with or without changes, under section 16F.
s 96C	Power to give notice, to decide not to give notice, to publish notice and to exercise any other power under s 96C	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 96F	Duty to consider the panel's report under s 96E	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 96G(1)	Power to determine to recommend that a permit be granted or to refuse to recommend that a permit be granted and power to notify applicant of the determination (including power to give notice under s 23 of the Planning and Environment (Planning Schemes) Act 1996	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 96H(3)	Power to give notice in compliance with Minister's direction	DDP	
s 96J	Duty to issue permit as directed by the Minister	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 96K	Duty to comply with direction of the Minister to give notice of refusal	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 96Z	Duty to keep levy certificates and levy exemption certificates given to it under ss 47 or 96A for no less than 5 years from receipt of the certificate	CEO, DDP, DM, PO, SP	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 97C	Power to request Minister to decide the application	ND	
s 97D(1)	Duty to comply with directions of Minister to supply any document or assistance relating to application	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97G(3)	Function of receiving from Minister copy of notice of refusal to grant permit or copy of any permit granted by the Minister	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97G(6)	Duty to make a copy of permits issued under s 97F available in accordance with the public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97L	Duty to include Ministerial decisions in a register kept under s 49	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97MH	Duty to provide information or assistance to the Planning Application Committee	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97MI	Duty to contribute to the costs of the Planning Application Committee or subcommittee	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 97O	Duty to consider application and issue or refuse to issue certificate of compliance	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97P(3)	Duty to comply with directions of VCAT following an application for review of a failure or refusal to issue a certificate	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97Q(2)	Function of being heard by VCAT at hearing of request for amendment or cancellation of certificate	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97Q(4)	Duty to comply with directions of VCAT	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 97R	Duty to keep register of all applications for certificate of compliance and related decisions	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 98(1)&(2)	Function of receiving claim for compensation in certain circumstances	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 98(4)	Duty to inform any person of the name of the person from whom	DDP, DM,	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	compensation can be claimed	PTL	
s 101	Function of receiving claim for expenses in conjunction with claim	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 103	Power to reject a claim for compensation in certain circumstances	DDP, DM, PTL	
s.107(1)	Function of receiving claim for compensation	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 107(3)	Power to agree to extend time for making claim	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 113(2)	Power to request a declaration for land to be proposed to be reserved for public purposes	ND	
s 114(1)	Power to apply to the VCAT for an enforcement order	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 117(1)(a)	Function of making a submission to the VCAT where objections are received	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 120(1)	Power to apply for an interim enforcement order where s 114 application has been made	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 123(1)	Power to carry out work required by enforcement order and recover costs	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 123(2)	Power to sell buildings, materials, etc salvaged in carrying out work under s 123(1)	DDP, DM, PTL	Except Crown Land
s 125(1)	Power to apply to any court of competent jurisdiction or to the tribunal for an injunction restraining any person from contravening an enforcement order or an interim enforcement order.	ND	Section 123 of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998 applies on an application to the Tribunal.
s 126B	Power to commence criminal proceedings	CEO, DDP	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 129	Function of recovering penalties	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 130(5)	Power to allow person served with an infringement notice further time	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 132B	Power to make application for specific orders	CEO, DDP, DM	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.
s 132C	Power to make application for adverse publicity orders	CEO, DDP, DM	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.
s 132D	Power to apply for commercial benefits orders	CEO, DDP, DM	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.
s 132E	Power to apply for supervisory intervention orders	CEO, DDP, DM	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 132G	Power to apply for industry exclusion orders	CEO, DDP, DM	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.
s 132J	Power to apply for contravention orders	CEO, DDP	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.
s 133A	Power for an authorised person to be assisted by a relevant expert	CEO, DDP	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.
s 134A	Power for immediate entry of land	CEO, DDP	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.
s 147A	Power to issue an identity card to each authorised officer	CEO, DDP, DM	Note: This provision commences on 3 August 2026 as proclaimed by proclamation order dated 2 June 2026.
s 149A(1)	Power to refer a matter to the VCAT for determination	DDP	
s 149A(1A)	Power to apply to VCAT for the determination of a matter relating to the interpretation of a s.173 agreement	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 149B	Power to apply to the Tribunal for a declaration.	ND	
s 156	Duty to pay fees and allowances (including a payment to the Crown under s 156(2A)), and payment or reimbursement for reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the panel in carrying out its functions unless the Minister directs otherwise under s 156(2B)power to ask for contribution under s 156(3) and power to abandon amendment or part of it under s 156(4)	DDP, DM, PTL	Where Council is the relevant planning authority
s 158F	Power to make submissions in response to a directions panel	CEO, DDP, DM, SP	
s 171(2)(f)	Power to carry out studies and commission reports	DDP	
s 171(2)(g)	Power to grant and reserve easements	DDP	
s 172C	Power to compulsorily acquire any outer public purpose land that is specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan	DDP	Where Council is a development agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 172D(1)	Power to compulsorily acquire any inner public purpose land that is specified in the plan before the time that the land is required to be provided to Council under s 46GV(4)	DDP	Where Council is a collecting agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 172D(2)	Power to compulsorily acquire any inner public purpose land, the use and development of which is to be the responsibility of Council under the plan, before the time that the land is required to be provided under s 46GV(4)	DDP	Where Council is the development agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s 173(1)	Power to enter into agreement covering matters set out in s 174	ESPM, DI, DDP, DM, PTL	
s 173(1A)	Power to enter into an agreement with an owner of land for the development or provision of land in relation to affordable housing	ND	Where Council is the relevant responsible authority
	Power to decide whether something is to the satisfaction of Council,	ESPM, DI,	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	where an agreement made under s 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 requires something to be to the satisfaction of Council or Responsible Authority	DDP, DM, PTL	
	Power to give consent on behalf of Council, where an agreement made under s 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 requires that something may not be done without the consent of Council or Responsible Authority	DDP, DM	
s 177(2)	Power to end a s 173 agreement with the agreement of all those bound by any covenant in the agreement or otherwise in accordance with Division 2 of Part 9	DDP, DM	
s 178	power to amend a s 173 agreement with the agreement of all those bound by any covenant in the agreement or otherwise in accordance with Division 2 of Part 9	DDP, DM	
s 178A(1)	Function of receiving application to amend or end an agreement	DDP	
s 178A(3)	Function of notifying the owner as to whether it agrees in principle to	DDP	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	the proposal under s 178A(1)		
s 178A(4)	Function of notifying the applicant and the owner as to whether it agrees in principle to the proposal	DDP	
s 178A(5)	Power to propose to amend or end an agreement	DDP	
s 178B(1)	Duty to consider certain matters when considering proposal to amend an agreement	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 178B(2)	Duty to consider certain matters when considering proposal to end an agreement	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 178C(2)	Duty to give notice of the proposal to all parties to the agreement and other persons who may be detrimentally affected by decision to amend or end	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 178C(4)	Function of determining how to give notice under s 178C(2)	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 178E(1)	Duty not to make decision until after 14 days after notice has been given	CEO, DDP	
s.178E(2)(a)	Power to amend or end the agreement in accordance with the proposal	CEO, DDP	If no objections are made under s 178D Must consider matters in s 178B
s 178E(2)(b)	Power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is not	CEO, DDP	If no objections are made under s 178D

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	substantively different from the proposal		Must consider matters in s 178B
s 178E(2)(c)	Power to refuse to amend or end the agreement	CEO, DDP	If no objections are made under s 178D Must consider matters in s 178B
s 178E(3)(a)	Power to amend or end the agreement in accordance with the proposal	CEO, DDP	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
s 178E(3)(b)	Power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is not substantively different from the proposal	CEO, DDP	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
s.178E(3)(c)	power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is substantively different from the proposal	CEO, DDP	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s.178B

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 178E(3)(d)	Power to refuse to amend or end the agreement	CEO	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s 178B
s 178F(1)	Duty to give notice of its decision under s 178E(3)(a) or (b)	CEO, DDP	
s 178F(2)	Duty to give notice of its decision under s 178E(2)(c) or (3)(d)	CEO, DDP	
s 178F(4)	Duty not to proceed to amend or end an agreement under s 178E until at least 21 days after notice has been given or until an application for review to the Tribunal has been determined or withdrawn	CEO, DDP	
s 178G	Duty to sign amended agreement and give copy to each other party to the agreement	CEO	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 178H	Power to require a person who applies to amend or end an agreement to pay the costs of giving notices and preparing the amended agreement	CEO, DDP	
s 178I(3)	Duty to notify, in writing, each party to the agreement of the ending of the agreement relating to Crown land	CEO, DDP	
s 179(2)	Duty to make copy of each agreement available in accordance with the public availability requirements	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 181	Duty to apply to the Registrar of Titles to record the agreement	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 181(1A)(a)	Power to apply to the Registrar of Titles to record the agreement	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 181(1A)(b)	Duty to apply to the Registrar of Titles, without delay, to record the agreement	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 182	Power to enforce an agreement	CEO, DDP, DM, PTL	
s 183	Duty to tell Registrar of Titles of ending/amendment of agreement	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 184F(1)	Power to decide to amend or end an agreement at any time after an application for review of the failure of Council to make a decision	CEO, DDP	
s 184F(2)	Duty not to amend or end the agreement or give notice of the decision after an application is made to VCAT for review of a failure to amend or end an agreement	CEO, DDP	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 184F(3)	Duty to inform the principal registrar if the responsible authority decides to amend or end an agreement after an application is made for the review of its failure to end or amend the agreement	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 184F(5)	Function of receiving advice from the principal registrar that the agreement may be amended or ended in accordance with Council's decision	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 184G(2)	Duty to comply with a direction of the Tribunal	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 184G(3)	Duty to give notice as directed by the Tribunal	DDP, DM, PTL	
s 185B(1)	Duty to comply with a request from the Minister to provide the name, address, email address or telephone number of any person to whom the Minister is required to give notice	DDP, DM, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 198(1)	Function to receive application for planning certificate	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 199(1)	Duty to give planning certificate to applicant	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 201(1)	Function of receiving application for declaration of underlying zoning	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 201(3)	Duty to make declaration	DDP, DM, PTL	
-	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing has or has not been done to the satisfaction of Council	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
-	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing may be altered or modified with Council's consent	ND	No specific provisions - recommended by Maddock Lawyers

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
			July 2025
-	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing may be done subject to Council's prior consent or must not be done without Council's prior consent	ND	No specific provisions - recommended by Maddock Lawyers July 2025
-	Power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing is required to be approved and or endorsed by Council	ND	No specific provisions - recommended by Maddock Lawyers July 2025
-	Power, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, to consent or refuse to consent to any matter which requires the consent or approval of Council	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
-	Power to approve and or endorse any plan or any amendment to a plan or other document in accordance with a provision of a planning scheme or condition in a permit	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	

Planning and Environment Act 1987			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
-	Power to give written authorisation in accordance with a provision of a planning scheme	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 201UAB(1)	Function of providing the Victoria Planning Authority with information relating to any land within municipal district	DDP, DM, PO, PTL	
s 201UAB(2)	Duty to provide the Victoria Planning Authority with information requested under s 201UAB(1) as soon as possible	DDP, DM	

Residential Tenancies Act 1997			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 518F	Power to issue notice to caravan park regarding emergency management plan if determined that the	DDP, MBS,	

Residential Tenancies Act 1997			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	plan does not comply with the requirements	PHRSC	
s 522(1)	Power to give a compliance notice to a person	EHO, MBS, PHRSC	
s 525(2)	Power to authorise an officer to exercise powers in s 526 (either generally or in a particular case)	CEO	
s 525(4)	Duty to issue identity card to authorised officers	CEO	
s 526(5)	Duty to keep record of entry by authorised officer under s 526	CEO	
s 526A(3)	Function of receiving report of inspection	EHO, MBS, PHRSC	
s 527	Power to authorise a person to institute proceedings (either generally or in a particular case)	EHO, MBS,	

Residential Tenancies Act 1997			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
		PHRSC	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 11(1)	Power to declare a road by publishing a notice in the Government Gazette	ND	Obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 11(2)
s 11(8)	Power to name a road or change the name of a road by publishing notice in Government Gazette	ND	
s 11(9)(b)	Duty to advise Registrar	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 11(10)	Duty to inform Secretary to Department of Environment, Land, Water and	ESPM, DI,	Subject to s 11(10A)

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	Planning of declaration etc.	EAM	
s 11(10A)	Duty to inform Secretary to Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning or nominated person	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 12(2)(b)	Function of providing consent to the Head, Transport for Victoria for the discontinuance of a road or part of a road	DI	
s 12(10)	Duty to notify of decision made	ESPM, DI, EAM	Duty of coordinating road authority where it is the discontinuing body Does not apply where an exemption is specified by the regulations or given by the Minister
s 13(1)	Power to fix a boundary of a road by publishing notice in Government Gazette	ESPM, DI, EAM	Power of coordinating road authority and obtain consent under s 13(3) and s 13(4) as appropriate

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 14(4)	Function of receiving notice from the Head, Transport for Victoria	CEO, DI	
s 14(7)	Power to appeal against decision of the Head, Transport for Victoria	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 15(1)	Power to enter into arrangement with another road authority, utility or a provider of public transport to transfer a road management function of the road authority to the other road authority, utility or provider of public transport	ESPM, CEO, DI	
s 15(1A)	Power to enter into arrangement with a utility to transfer a road management function of the utility to the road authority	ESPM, CEO, DI	
s 15(2)	Duty to include details of arrangement in public roads register	ESPM, DI, EAM	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 16(7)	Power to enter into an arrangement under s 15	ESPM, CEO, DI	
s 16(8)	Duty to enter details of determination in public roads register	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 17(2)	Duty to register public road in public roads register	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 17(3)	Power to decide that a road is reasonably required for general public use	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 17(3)	Duty to register a road reasonably required for general public use in public roads register	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 17(4)	Power to decide that a road is no longer reasonably required for general public use	ND	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 17(4)	Duty to remove road no longer reasonably required for general public use from public roads register	ESPM, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 18(1)	Power to designate ancillary area	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority, and obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 18(2)
s 18(3)	Duty to record designation in public roads register	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 19(1)	Duty to keep register of public roads in respect of which it is the coordinating road authority	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 19(4)	Duty to specify details of discontinuance in public roads register	ESPM, DI, EAM	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 19(5)	Duty to ensure public roads register is available for public inspection	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 21	Function of replying to request for information or advice	ESPM, DI, EAM	Obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 11(2)
s 22(2)	Function of commenting on proposed direction	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 22(4)	Duty to publish a copy or summary of any direction made under s 22 by the Minister in its annual report.	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 22(5)	Duty to give effect to a direction under s 22	ESPM, DI	
s 40(1)	Duty to inspect, maintain and repair a public road.	ESPM, DI, OM	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 40(5)	Power to inspect, maintain and repair a road which is not a public road	ESPM, DI, OM	
s 41(1)	Power to determine the standard of construction, inspection, maintenance and repair	ESPM, EAM	
s 42(1)	Power to declare a public road as a controlled access road	ESPM, DI	Power of coordinating road authority and sch 2 also applies
s 42(2)	Power to amend or revoke declaration by notice published in Government Gazette	ESPM, DI	Power of coordinating road authority and sch 2 also applies
s 42A(3)	Duty to consult with Head, Transport for Victoria and Minister for Local Government before road is specified	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority If road is a municipal road or part thereof

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 42A(4)	Power to approve Minister's decision to specify a road as a specified freight road	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority If road is a municipal road or part thereof and where road is to be specified a freight road
s 48EA	Duty to notify the owner or occupier of land and provider of public transport on which rail infrastructure or rolling stock is located (and any relevant provider of public transport)	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the responsible road authority, infrastructure manager or works manager
s 48M(3)	Function of consulting with the relevant authority for purposes of developing guidelines under s 48M	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 49	Power to develop and publish a road management plan	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 51	Power to determine standards by incorporating the standards in a road management plan	ESPM, DI, EAM	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 53(2)	Power to cause notice to be published in Government Gazette of amendment etc of document in road management plan	ND	
s 54(2)	Duty to give notice of proposal to make a road management plan	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 54(5)	Duty to conduct a review of road management plan at prescribed intervals	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 54(6)	Power to amend road management plan	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 54(7)	Duty to incorporate the amendments into the road management plan	ESPM, DI, EAM	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 55(1)	Duty to cause notice of road management plan to be published in Government Gazette and newspaper	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 63(1)	Power to consent to conduct of works on road	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 63(2)(e)	Power to conduct or to authorise the conduct of works in, on, under or over a road in an emergency	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the infrastructure manager
s 64(1)	Duty to comply with cl 13 of sch 7	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
s 66(1)	Power to consent to structure etc	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 67(2)	Function of receiving the name & address of the person responsible for	ESPM, DI,	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	distributing the sign or bill	EAM	
s 67(3)	Power to request information	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 68(2)	Power to request information	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
s 71(3)	Power to appoint an authorised officer	ESPM, DI	
s 72	Duty to issue an identity card to each authorised officer	ND	
s 85	Function of receiving report from authorised officer	ESPM, DI	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 86	Duty to keep register re s 85 matters	ESPM, DI	
s 87(1)	Function of receiving complaints	ESPM, DI	
s 87(2)	Duty to investigate complaint and provide report	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 96	Power to authorise a person for the purpose of instituting legal proceedings	DDP	
s 112(2)	Power to recover damages in court	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 116	Power to cause or carry out inspection	ESPM, DI, EAM	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
s 119(2)	Function of consulting with the Head, Transport for Victoria	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 120(1)	Power to exercise road management functions on an arterial road (with the consent of the Head, Transport for Victoria)	ESPM, DI	
s 120(2)	Duty to seek consent of the Head, Transport for Victoria to exercise road management functions before exercising power in s 120(1)	ESPM, DI, EAM	
s 121(1)	Power to enter into an agreement in respect of works	ESPM, DI	
s 122(1)	Power to charge and recover fees	ESPM, DI	
s 123(1)	Power to charge for any service	ESPM, DI	

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
sch 2 cl 2(1)	Power to make a decision in respect of controlled access roads	ND	
sch 2 cl 3(1)	Duty to make policy about controlled access roads	ND	
sch 2 cl 3(2)	Power to amend, revoke or substitute policy about controlled access roads	ND	
sch 2 cl 4	Function of receiving details of proposal from the Head, Transport for Victoria	ESPM, DI	
sch 2 cl 5	Duty to publish notice of declaration	ESPM, DI, EAM	
sch 7 cl 7(1)	Duty to give notice to relevant coordinating road authority of proposed installation of non-road infrastructure or related works on a road reserve	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
sch 7 cl 8(1)	Duty to give notice to any other infrastructure manager or works manager responsible for any non-road infrastructure in the area, that could be affected by any proposed installation of infrastructure or related works on a road or road reserve of any road	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
sch 7 cla 9(1)	Duty to comply with request for information from a coordinating road authority, an infrastructure manager or a works manager responsible for existing or proposed infrastructure in relation to the location of any non-road infrastructure and technical advice or assistance in conduct of works	ESPM, DI, EAM, OM	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager responsible for non-road infrastructure
sch 7 cl 9(2)	Duty to give information to another infrastructure manager or works manager where becomes aware any infrastructure or works are not in the location shown on records, appear to be in an unsafe condition or appear to need maintenance	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager
sch 7 cl 10(2)	Where Sch 7 cl 10(1) applies, duty to, where possible, conduct appropriate consultation with persons likely to be significantly affected	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
sch 7 cl 12(2)	Power to direct infrastructure manager or works manager to conduct reinstatement works	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 12(3)	Power to take measures to ensure reinstatement works are completed	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 12(4)	Duty to ensure that works are conducted by an appropriately qualified person	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 12(5)	Power to recover costs	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 13(1)	Duty to notify relevant coordinating road authority within 7 days that works have been completed, subject to sch 7 cl 13(2)	ESPM, DI, EAM, OM	Where Council is the works manager

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
sch 7 cl 13(2)	Power to vary notice period	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 13(3)	Duty to ensure works manager has complied with obligation to give notice under sch 7 cl 13(1)	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the infrastructure manager
sch 7 cl 16(1)	Power to consent to proposed works	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 16(2B)	Power to refuse to consider an application made under sch 7 cl 16(1) if the application does not comply with sch 7 cl 16(2A)	CEO, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 16(2C)	Power to request further information in relation to an application made under sch 7 cl 16(1)	CEO, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 16(4)	Duty to consult	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority, responsible authority or infrastructure manager

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
sch 7 cl 16(5)	Power to consent to proposed works	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 16(6)	Power to set reasonable conditions on consent	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 16(8)	Power to include consents and conditions	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 17(2)	Power to refuse to give consent and duty to give reasons for refusal	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl18(1)	Power to enter into an agreement	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch7 cl 19(1)	Power to give notice requiring rectification of works	ESPM, DI, EAM, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
sch 7 cl 19(2) & (3)	Power to conduct the rectification works or engage a person to conduct the rectification works and power to recover costs incurred	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7 cl 20(1)	Power to require removal, relocation, replacement or upgrade of existing non-road infrastructure	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
sch 7A cl 2	Power to cause street lights to be installed on roads	ESPM, DI	Power of responsible road authority where it is the coordinating road authority or responsible road authority in respect of the road
sch 7 cl 3(1)(d)	Duty to pay installation and operation costs of street lighting - where road is not an arterial road	ESPM, DI	Where Council is the responsible road authority
sch 7A cl 3(1)(e)	Duty to pay installation and operation costs of street lighting - where road is a service road on an arterial road and adjacent areas	ESPM, DI, EAM	Where Council is the responsible road authority

Road Management Act 2004			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
sch 7A cl (3)(1)(f)	Duty to pay installation and percentage of operation costs of street lighting - for arterial roads in accordance with cls 3(2) and 4	ESPM, DI	Duty of Council as responsible road authority that installed the light (re: installation costs) and where Council is relevant municipal council (re: operating costs)

Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2025			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 36	Duty to ensure that cemetery complies with depth of burial requirements	ND	
r 37	Duty to ensure that the cemetery complies with the requirements for interment in concrete-lined graves	ND	
r 38	Duty to ensure a mausoleum is constructed in accordance with paragraphs (a)-(d)	ND	

Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2025			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 39(1)	Duty to ensure that remains are interred in a coffin, container or receptacle in accordance with paragraphs (a)-(c)	ND	
r 39(2)	Duty to ensure that coffin, container or receptacle is labelled.	ND	
r 39(3)	Duty to ensure that remains are interred in accordance with paragraphs (a)-(b)	ND	
r 40	Duty to ensure that a crypt space in a mausoleum is sealed in accordance with paragraphs (a)-(b)	ND	
r 43(2)	Power to inspect any coffin, container or other receptacle if satisfied of the matters in paragraphs (a) and (b)	ND	
r 44(2)	Power to remove any fittings on any coffin, container or other receptacle if the fittings may impede the cremation process or damage the cremator	ND	
r 44(3)	Duty to ensure any fittings removed of are disposed in an appropriate manner	ND	

Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2025			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 45	Power to dispose of any metal substance or non-human substance recovered from a cremator	ND	
r 46(2)	Power to release cremated human remains to certain persons	ND	Subject to any order of a court
r 47(1)	Duty to make cremated human remains available for collection within 2 working days after the cremation	ND	
r 47(2)	Duty to hold cremated human remains for at least 12 months from the date of cremation	ND	
r 47(3)	Power to dispose of cremated human remains if no person gives a direction within 12 months of the date of cremation	ND	
r 47(4)	Duty to take reasonable steps to notify persons specified in r 46(2) of intention to intern or dispose of remains at expiry of 12 month period	ND	
r 48	Power to approve certain activities under the r 57 or 58(2) if satisfied of regulation (1)(a)-(c)	ND	

Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2025			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 50	Duty to provide statement that alternative vendors or supplier of memorials exist	ND	
r 51	Power to inspect any work that is being carried out on memorials, places or internments and buildings for ceremonies	ND	
r 52	Power to approval the arrangement or conduct of a funeral	ND	
r 53(1)	Power to give written direction regarding the manner in which a funeral is to be conducted	ND	
r 56(1)	Power to give directions regarding the objects, things or items affixed to, or placed on or around, the places of internment and memorials	ND	
r 56(3)	Power to remove objects, things or items specified in (a)-(d) from a place of interment or memorial	ND	
r 56(4)	Duty to dispute items under r 56(3) in a manner considered appropriate	ND	
r 57(1)	Power to approve the use of fire in a public cemetery	ND	

Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2025			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 58(2)	Power to approve a person to drive, ride or use a vehicle on any surface other than a road, track or parking area	ND	
r 59	Duty to display the hours during which the public can access the cemetery	ND	
	Note: sch 2 contains Model Rules – only applicable if the cemetery trust has not made its own cemetery trust rules	ND	
sch 2 cl 4	Power to approve the carrying out of an activity referred to in rules 5, 7 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 of sch 2	ND	See note above regarding model rules

Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 6	Function of receiving notice, under section 19(1)(c) of the Act, from a planning authority of its preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme	CEO, DDP, DM	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or

Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
			Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority. Note: the Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026 will be revoked on 8 May 2027, it is anticipated that new regulations will commence prior to this date.
r 21	Power of responsible authority to require a permit applicant to verify information (by statutory declaration or other written confirmation satisfactory to the responsible authority) in an application for a permit or to amend a permit or any information provided under section 54 of the Act	CEO, DDP, DM, PTL	Note: the Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026 will be revoked on 8 May 2027, it is anticipated that new regulations will commence prior to this date.
r 25(a)	Duty to make copy of matter considered under section 60(1A)(g) in accordance with the public availability requirements	CEO, DDP	Where Council is the responsible authority Note: the Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026 will be revoked on 8 May 2027, it is anticipated that new regulations will commence prior to this date.

Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 25(b)	Function of receiving a copy of any document considered under section 60(1A)(g) by the responsible authority and duty to make the document available in accordance with the public availability requirements	CEO, DDP	Where Council is not the responsible authority but the relevant land is within Council's municipal district Note: the Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026 will be revoked on 8 May 2027, it is anticipated that new regulations will commence prior to this date.
r 42	Function of receiving notice under section 96C(1)(c) of the Act from a planning authority of its preparation of a combined application for an amendment to a planning scheme and notice of a permit application	CEO, DDP, DM	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority. Note: the Planning and Environment Interim Regulations 2026 will be revoked on 8 May 2027, it is anticipated that new regulations will commence prior to this date.

Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 19	Power to waive or rebate a fee relating to an amendment of a planning scheme	DDP	
r 20	Power to waive or rebate a fee other than a fee relating to an amendment to a planning scheme	DDP	
r 21	Duty to record matters taken into account and which formed the basis of a decision to waive or rebate a fee under r 19 or 20	DM	

Road Management (General) Regulations 2026			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 8(3)	Duty to conduct reviews of road management plan within the period specified in s 90(3) of the Local Government Act 2020.	ESPM, CEO, DI, EAM	Where Council is the road authority
r 9(2)	Duty to produce written report of review of road management plan and make report	ESPM, CEO, DI,	Where Council is the road authority

Road Management (General) Regulations 2026			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
	available	EAM	
r 9(3)	Duty to give notice where road management review is completed and no amendments will be made (or no amendments for which notice is required)	ESPM, CEO, DI, EAM	Where Council is the road authority
r 10	Duty to give notice of amendment which relates to standard of construction, inspection, maintenance or repair under s 41 of the Road Management Act 2024	ESPM, CEO, DI, EAM	Where Council is the road authority
r 13(1)	Duty to publish notice of amendments to road management plan	ESPM, CEO, DI, EAM	where Council is the road authority
r 13(3)	Duty to record on road management plan the substance and date of effect of amendment	ESPM, CEO, DI, EAM	Where Council is the road authority
r 16(6)	Power to issue permit	ESPM, CEO, DI, EAM, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

Road Management (General) Regulations 2026			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 18(1)	Power to give written consent re damage to road	ESPM, CEO, DI, EAM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r 20(2)	Function of being consulted with by the Head, Transport for Victoria prior to it granting authorisation under r 20(1)	CEO, DI	Where Council is the road authority
r 23(1)	Function of receiving application for written consent for the purpose of s 66(1) of the Road Management Act 2004	CEO, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority Must consider the matters in r 23(4)
r 23(3)	Power to charge a fee for application made under r 23(1)	ESPM, CEO, DI, EAM, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r 25(1)	Power to remove objects, refuse, rubbish, substance or other material deposited or left on road or part of a road	ESPM, CEO, DI, OM	Where Council is the appropriate road authority

Road Management (General) Regulations 2026			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 25(2)	Power to sell or dispose of things removed from road under r 25 (after first complying with regulation 25(3))	ESPM, CEO, DI, OM	Where Council is the appropriate road authority
r 25(5)	Power to recover in the Magistrates' Court, expenses from person responsible	CEO, DI, DDP	Where Council is the appropriate road authority

Road Management (General) Regulations 2016			
Provision	**Power and Functions Delegated**	**Delegate**	**Conditions and Limitations**
r 23(2)	Power to make submission to Tribunal	ESPM, DI, OM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2026

Provision	Power and Functions Delegated	Delegate	Conditions and Limitations
r 16	Power to exempt a person from requirement under cl 13(1) of sch 7 of the Act to give notice as to the completion of those works	CEO, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority and where consent given under clause16(5) of Schedule 7 to the Road Management Act 2004
r 24(2)	Power to waive whole or part of fee in certain circumstances	CEO, DI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority

2.5 Draft Annual Report 2025-26

Directorate: Corporate Services

File Number: S16.28.21
Purpose: For Decision

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

6. Transparency and Effectiveness – Ensuring Council is open, accountable and responsive, with services and decision-making that reflect community expectations.
Objective 6.1: Deliver accessible, responsive and inclusive customer and community engagement.
6.1.1 Make Council information and services easier to access and navigate.

Current Strategic Documents

Council Plan
Annual Report
Budget

Declarations of Interest

Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

In accordance with section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council has prepared an Annual Report for the financial year to 30 June 2026.

The Annual Report consists of three sections - the Report of Operations, the Performance Statement and the Financial Report.

In accordance with section 100 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, we invite the Mayor, Cr Stuart King, to present the Swan Hill Rural City Council Annual Report 2025/26 to the community.

Discussion

Our Annual Report showcases our achievements over the financial year to 30 June 2026 in delivering the Council Plan 2025-2029.

- **Growth and Development** - Supported economic and housing growth through new housing in Robinvale, continued development at Tower Hill, support for major investment opportunities, a 13 per cent increase in

visitation, business development initiatives and more than $4 million in grant funding.

- **Community and Liveability** - Strengthened community connection and participation through arts, culture and events, including growing performing arts audiences and Harmony Day celebrations. Council welcomed 83 new Australian citizens from 19 countries and recorded more than 14,600 views and 1,250 contributions through the Let's Talk engagement platform.
- **Community support** - Provided more than $70,000 to 21 community groups and organisations through the Community Development Fund and $109,400 to support 29 events through the Event Support Fund.
- **Health and Wellbeing** - Continued advocacy for completion of the Swan Hill Hospital redevelopment, delivered essential Maternal and Child Health services and supported initiatives promoting community safety, inclusion and the prevention of family violence.
- **Environmental Sustainability** - Continued regional leadership on Murray–Darling Basin and water issues, completed the annual Tree Planting Program and supported initiatives to improve recycling, reduce waste and encourage greater environmental responsibility.
- **Infrastructure** - Delivered an extensive road maintenance program across the municipality, including 165,098m² of bitumen resealing, 3,544m² of asphalt patching, 81,070m³ of gravel re-sheeting and 1,629km of unsealed road grading, along with pothole repairs, line marking and signage.
- **Regional advocacy** - Continued strong advocacy for major priorities including a new Swan Hill Bridge, safer state roads and intersections, improved V/Line passenger rail services and stronger rail freight connections.
- **Transparency and Effectiveness** - Improved access to community engagement through translation functionality on the Let's Talk platform, strengthened relationships with First Nations communities and continued to improve Council services through innovation, technology and streamlined processes.

Together, these achievements demonstrate Council's commitment to delivering positive outcomes across the six Council Plan pillars.

The Annual Report 2025/26 features a selection of vibrant photographs showcasing the beauty of our municipality. The front cover features Alison O'Reily's stunning photograph, *River Road Sunrise*, which was selected as the winning image in Council's 'Our Municipality Through Your Lens' photography competition.

Consultation

Council officers were consulted and contributed to the development of the Annual Report. The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed the Draft Performance Statement and the Draft Financial Statements on 2 September 2026.

Council approved in principle the draft Performance Statement and Financial Statements at its meeting on 15 September 2026. The Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) audited both statements and confirmed that they fairly represent Council's financial position and performance and comply with all relevant regulatory requirements.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Social Implications

Nil.

Economic Implications

Nil.

Environmental Implications

Nil.

Risk Management Implications

The Annual Report must be presented at a council meeting open to the public by 31 October 2026.

Attachments: 1. FINAL Annual Report 2025-26 with Annual Financial Statements a [**2.5.1** - 195 pages]

Options

1. That Council endorse and approve the release of the Swan Hill Rural City Council Annual Report 2025/26 to the community.
2. That Council does not approve the release of the Swan Hill Rural City Council Annual Report 2025/26 to the community until requested edits have been completed.

Recommendation/s

That Council endorse and approve the release of the Swan Hill Rural City Council Annual Report 2025/26 to the community.



Swan Hill Rural City Council

Annual Report

2025-26

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Our Municipality Through Your Lens 2026

Thank you to everyone who shared their photographs in Council's *Our Municipality Through Your Lens 2026* competition, celebrating the places, people and landscapes that make our municipality special.

Congratulations to our winner, Alison O'Reily, whose stunning *River Road Sunrise* is featured on the front cover of Council's 2026 Annual Report.

And to our runner-up, Shaylee Algie, whose beautiful *Wood Wood River* features on the back cover.



Acknowledgement of Country

Swan Hill Rural City Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays its respects to their elders, past and present.

About our Annual Report

Swan Hill Rural City Council is pleased to present it's 2025/26 Annual Report, which provides a detailed account of our performance from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

Documenting Council's performance against the 2025/26 Budget and the Council Plan, the Annual Report highlights achievements and challenges faced within key service areas and programs.

Council seeks to achieve community engagement and an understanding of Council's operations by conducting its activites openly and with integrity.

Transparency in our decision-making and accountability are core values of Council, reflecting high levels of good governance.

This report provides information to a variety of audiences including community groups, businesses, ratepayers, visitors, investors, government agencies and other interested stakeholders.

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Welcome to the Report of Operations

We are committed to transparent reporting and accountability to our community. The Annual Report is our primary means of advising residents within the municipality about our operations and performance during the 2025/26 financial year. The Annual Report consists of three sections, the Report of Operations, the Performance Statement and the Financial Report.

Introduction

Provides a snapshot of our region and highlights what we have accomplished.

Year in Review

Messages from our Mayor and CEO, a financial summary and major project highlights.

Our Council

Our region's history and profile, and information on our Councillors.

Our People

Information on Council's employees, including our organisational structure, occupational health and safety, equal opportunity, and appreciating our staff.

Our Performance

Results against our Council Plan key strategic initiatives, local government performance reporting indicators, and major initiatives and services identified in the 2025/26 Budget.

Corporate Governance

Governance, management and statutory information including elected members, Councillor expenses, audit and risk committee, risk management and accountability.



Part One

Introduction

Snapshot of Council 2025/26

Swan Hill Rural City Council encompasses approximately 6,116 square kilometres in north-west Victoria and services a population of around 20,962* residents. The municipality includes the townships of Boundary Bend, Manangatang, Ultima, Woorinen South, Beverford, Piangil, Nyah West, Nyah, Lake Boga, Robinvale and Swan Hill.

The municipality continues to demonstrate steady and resilient growth, underpinned by a strong and diverse economy led by agriculture, supported by manufacturing, transport and logistics, and an emerging renewable energy sector.

Agriculture remains the cornerstone of the local economy, with Swan Hill recognised as one of Australia's most productive horticultural regions. The municipality has seen continued expansion in irrigated agriculture and high-value permanent plantings, particularly almonds and table grapes.

The region is also a major producer of wine grapes, carrots, potatoes, olives and stone fruit, alongside broadacre crops including wheat, barley, lentils, chickpeas, oats and canola.

The total value of agricultural output is estimated to exceed $1billion^ annually, reflecting sustained growth in both production and commodity value over recent years. Agriculture and agriculture-related industries account for more than one in five local jobs, with significant flow-on benefits to processing, packaging, transport and export sectors.

Land use across the municipality is dominated by primary production, with approximately two-thirds dedicated to cropping, grazing and associated rural activities.

Situated along the iconic Murray River, the municipality also benefits from a strong and growing visitor economy. Tourism continues to play an important role, attracting over 450,000^^ visitors annually, with growth in day visitation and nature-based experiences supported by the region's climate, waterways, cultural heritage and major events calendar.

Swan Hill Rural City Council remains committed to supporting sustainable growth, strengthening key industries, and enhancing liveability for residents and visitors alike.

*The official ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for Swan Hill Rural City Council was 20,962 at 30 June 2025, including an estimated 3,749 residents in Robinvale. However, due to ongoing concerns that the ABS underestimates Robinvale's population, Council commissioned Geografia to undertake a population determination study. Geografia's research has reliably demonstrated that the true Robinvale population is approximately 7,900, suggesting the total residential population of Swan Hill Rural City Council is approximately 25,122 residents.

^Source: City Compass
^^Source: Tourism Research Australia



Our Community Vision

We have a great place to live, work and grow, shared by our diverse culture and connected community.
Our vision is underpinned by what our community values most: Belonging and Inclusivity, Cultural Diveristy, Community Connection, Liveability and Lifestyle, Opportunity and Aspiration and Pride of Place.

Our Mission

We will lead, advocate, partner and provide efficient services and opportunities for the growth and wellbeing of our community, environment, and economy.

Our Values

Community Engagement

We ensure that our communities are consulted, listened to, and informed.

Leadership

We play a central role in our community - actively engaging to shape a shared vision on strategic issues, while providing strong advocacy and decisive action.

Trust

We act with integrity and earn the community's trust by being a reliable partner providing services, projects and facilities.

Accountability

We are transparent and efficient in our activities, and we consistently value and welcome feedback.

Fairness

We value and embrace the diversity of our community and ensure that all people are treated equally.


EAT
BEACH
SLEEP
REPEAT

Highlights of the Year

Growth and Development

- Strengthened the visitor economy, with a 13% increase in visitation across the municipality supporting local accommodation providers, hospitality venues, retailers, tourism operators and major events, reinforcing the region's reputation as a leading regional destination.
- Delivered the inaugural May Means Business campaign, providing targeted support to local businesses through promotional initiatives, networking opportunities, capability-building activities and business engagement programs designed to encourage growth and resilience.
- Continued to provide Council support for emerging renewable energy and mining projects, working collaboratively with industry and government stakeholders to facilitate opportunities that will drive future investment, employment and regional economic development.
- Advanced strategic advocacy efforts to attract investment in critical infrastructure, stimulate industry growth, strengthen economic development and progress priority projects that underpin the municipality's long-term prosperity.
- Council has made significant strides in addressing the region's housing challenges, with the release of Stage 15 titles at Tower Hill, the construction of 10 new homes in McCartney Court, Robinvale – delivered under budget - with the remaining funds being reinvested to deliver more houses in Robinvale. In addition, Council established an Investment Model Working Group and allocated two Tower Hill blocks to help attract private investment and build strategic partnerships that accelerate new home construction in Swan Hill.
- Council has secured over $4.4 million in grants, since July 2025, from a variety of State and Federal Government funding programs, to enable the delivery of new or improved infrastructure and facilities.

Community and Liveability

- Performing arts performance audience numbers have continued to grow. This growth reflects the community's strong support for arts and culture and Council's continued investment in accessible, high-quality creative experiences.
- Another highly successful Harmony Day celebration at Riverside Park in Swan Hill, brought together residents from diverse cultural backgrounds to celebrate inclusion, belonging and community connection. The event highlights the municipality's cultural diversity and strengthens opportunities for shared community pride.
- Enhanced accessibility and inclusion across Council's digital engagement platforms through the implementation of a multilingual add-on to the Let's Talk page, providing community members with improved access to information and consultation opportunities in their preferred language. This initiative represents another important step in ensuring broader participation and more inclusive engagement with our diverse community.
- 83 Australian citizens were officially welcomed into our municipality this year, with individuals from 19 different countries adding to the vibrant multicultural fabric of our community.
- This financial year has seen a strong rise in community engagement, with over 14,609 views on the Let's Talk platform. We also received more than 1,250 community contributions, marking another significant uplift in participation.
- The Community Development Fund supported 21 community groups/organisations that shared in just over $70,000 worth of funding to support various projects throughout the municipality.
- Our Event Support Fund allocated $109,400 in funding, supporting 29 events.

Health and Wellbeing

- Continued strong advocacy for the delivery of a complete new Swan Hill Hospital, with Council actively championing the project as a critical regional priority, ahead of the State Election, to ensure residents have access to modern, high-quality healthcare services close to home. Advocacy efforts remained focused on securing government commitment to the remaining stages of the hospital redevelopment to meet the current and future needs of the community.
- Council's ongoing commitment to community safety and social wellbeing is demonstrated by our support for the 16 Days of Activism campaign and the Walk Against Family Violence. These initiatives help raise awareness, promote respectful relationships and unite the community in taking a visible stand against family violence.
- Continued delivery of essential Maternal and Child Health services, with service statistics reflecting strong utilisation and ongoing support for local families during the critical early years. Through regular health checks, developmental monitoring, parenting support and early intervention services, Council remained committed to supporting the health and wellbeing of children and their caregivers.

Environmental Sustainability

- Demonstrated regional leadership in environmental advocacy through Council's role as Chair of the Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC), helping to guide a coordinated response to the Murray–Darling Basin Plan Review. This work ensured the municipality's voice, along with broader regional priorities, was strongly represented in discussions around water security, environmental outcomes, agricultural sustainability and the long-term social and economic wellbeing of river communities.
- The completion of the 2025/26 Tree Planting Program included hundreds of trees being planted across the municipality.
- Supported the Let's Be Clear glass campaign, advocating for a more cost-effective and sustainable alternative to introducing a fourth household bin. The campaign highlighted the benefits of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) as a practical solution for improving glass recycling, reducing waste system costs for residents, and strengthening resource recovery outcomes, while promoting environmental responsibility across the community.



Infrastructure

- Delivered an extensive municipal road maintenance program, improving safety, connectivity and road conditions across the region's transport network. Works completed during the reporting period included 165,098m² of bitumen resealing, 3,544m² of asphalt patching, 81,070m² of gravel re-sheeting, 1,629km of unsealed road grading maintenance and 164km of road shoulder grading. In addition, Council completed 4,818 pothole and edge break repairs, along with 551 line marking and signage jobs, ensuring the continued reliability and safety of local road infrastructure.
- Continued strong advocacy for a new Swan Hill Bridge and safer state roads and intersections, positioning these projects as critical priorities for community safety, freight efficiency, tourism access and long-term regional growth. Council remained focused on securing investment to address these vital transport needs.
- Advanced advocacy for improved V/Line passenger rail services, highlighting the importance of reliable, accessible and efficient public transport connections to support residents, workforce mobility, education access and visitation to the region.
- Maintained a strong focus on rail freight advocacy, promoting the strategic importance of freight connectivity to support agriculture, industry and regional supply chains, while reinforcing the municipality's role as a key transport and logistics hub.
- Adopted Council's Drainage Strategy, establishing a clear long-term framework to guide future stormwater management, flood mitigation planning and infrastructure investment, helping improve resilience and support sustainable urban growth.

Transparency and Effectiveness

- Our overall Community Satisfaction Survey performance score increased to 57, representing a 6 per cent improvement on the previous year, with positive gains also recorded in community perceptions of Council's direction and management of public funds.
- Council has improved accessibility to community engagement by introducing translation functionality to the Let's Talk platform, making it easier for community members to access information, navigate projects and provide feedback.
- We have strengthened relationships with the local Registered Aboriginal Party and First Nations communities, supporting greater collaboration, meaningful engagement and participation.
- Council has continued to improve service delivery through innovation and technology, streamlining processes across the organisation, making it easier for the community to access Council services.





Challenges for 2025/26

Maintaining Financial Sustainability

Council continues to face the challenge of maintaining financial sustainability in an increasingly constrained funding environment. State and federal policy settings continue to impact Council's financial capacity, placing growing pressure on the delivery of essential services and infrastructure. Over time, Federal Financial Assistance Grants have declined from around 1 per cent to approximately 0.5 per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue - representing an estimated reduction of almost $10 million per annum in funding available to Council. Despite ongoing advocacy across the local government sector, this decline has not been restored. At the same time, increasing cost shifting from other levels of government continues to place additional pressure on Council, with responsibilities and service expectations transferred without equivalent funding support.

Victoria's rate capping framework also limits Council's ability to respond to rising costs, with annual increases consistently set below inflation. Over the past five years, Council costs have increased by approximately 28 per cent, while rates have increased by around 16 per cent. In balancing these pressures, Council remains committed to carefully managing finances and minimising additional burden on ratepayers, while continuing to deliver essential services, maintain infrastructure and invest in the long-term needs of the community.

Additional Challenges:

- Housing supply and affordability will remain one of the municipality's most significant strategic challenges, with a continued shortage of diverse and affordable housing impacting population growth, workforce attraction and broader economic development outcomes.
- Workforce attraction and retention continue to place pressure on the region's ability to sustain service delivery and economic growth, particularly across key sectors including health, education, trades and Council operations. The ongoing housing shortage further compounds this issue, limiting the municipality's capacity to attract new residents and meet emerging community and industry needs.
- The introduction of the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund (ESVF) has created additional financial impacts for Council and the wider community, with flow-on implications for ratepayers, landholders and local industries already managing cost-of-living and business pressures.
- Unseasonal rainfall in March 2026 created challenges across local roads, drainage networks, public spaces and agricultural areas, increasing demand for responsive maintenance works and highlighting the importance of resilient infrastructure planning in the face of changing climate conditions.
- Fuel price volatility continues to impact operational costs across Council services, plant, transport and maintenance activities, contributing to broader budget pressures and affecting the delivery cost of essential infrastructure and community services.



Major changes for 2025/26

Relocation of Visitor Services

A key service transformation during the year was the successful relocation of visitor services to our brand-new Swan Hill Tourism and Cultural Experience Centre. This move has created a more integrated and contemporary visitor experience, bringing tourism information, cultural storytelling and regional promotion together in a central, purpose-designed location. The co-location of services has improved accessibility for visitors and strengthened the presentation of our tourism offerings.

Introduction of 24-Hour Cat Containment Enforcement

The implementation and enforcement of 24-hour cat containment represented a significant policy and community education milestone for the municipality. This initiative was introduced to support responsible pet ownership, protect local wildlife and reduce nuisance-related concerns within residential areas. Throughout the year, Council focused on community awareness, resident education and compliance activities to support a smooth transition to the new requirements, reinforcing Council's commitment to environmental stewardship and community amenity.

Planning and Engineering Teams Powering Ahead

Following a challenging period characterised by limited resources and staffing shortages, Council's Planning and Engineering teams demonstrated a strong and positive resurgence throughout 2025/26. With improved workforce stability, renewed capability and a clear focus on service outcomes, both teams made substantial progress in addressing backlogs, progressing priority projects and strengthening operational performance. This turnaround has been instrumental in restoring momentum across development assessment, infrastructure planning and project delivery functions, ensuring Council is well placed to meet growing community and development expectations.

Regional Leadership Through the Murray River Group of Councils

Council's appointment to the role of Chair of the Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC) has been a significant regional leadership responsibility during 2025/26, providing strategic oversight and advocacy support across seven member councils along the Murray River corridor. Through this role, Council has played a pivotal part in championing shared regional priorities, strengthening cross-border collaboration and influencing strategic policy discussions on matters impacting Murray communities. A key focus during the year included advocacy in relation to the Murray–Darling Basin Plan review, ensuring the voices of regional communities were strongly represented in discussions relating to water security, economic sustainability, environmental outcomes and the long-term prosperity of river communities.

Fast Facts

911
Sealed Local Roads (km)

54,115
Swan Hill and Robinvale Library Visits and Outreach Services

8,892
Kerbside Garbage Bins

185,421
Visits
Aquatic Facilities

2481
Animal Management Requests

125
Planning Applications Received

243
Birth Notifications

504
Registered Food Premises

165,098
Local Roads Resealed (SQM)

83
New Australian Citizens

14,609
Views of Let's Talk Platform

29
Event Support Fund Grants

21
Community Group Grants

13%
Increase in Visitation

6%
Increase in Community Satisfaction

Year at a Glance

JULY

Fifteen local students departed for Yamagata, Japan as part of the Yamagata Student Exchange Program.



New competition-standard starter blocks were installed at the outdoor pool, delivering a major upgrade for local swimmers.

Ninety people gathered at Swan Hill Library to celebrate the launch of local author Andrew Kelly's second picture book, Laugh Hard Chucky.

Ornamental flag poles were installed at the Swan Hill Town Hall PACC, complementing the building's historic façade.



River Lights was a huge success, welcoming over 6,800 visitors through the gates, surpassing last year's attendance of 6,600 visitors, marking another fantastic year for this popular attraction.



Invested more than $107,000 through the 2025/26 Event Support Fund to support community events across the region.







AUGUST

Swan Hill was recognised as a finalist at the 2025 Victorian Top Tourism Town Awards

We secured $450,000 from the Victorian Government's Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund to upgrade the former WJ Rose Pavilion at Nyah Recreation Reserve.

The widening and rehabilitation of Hayesdale–Kooloonong Road was completed.

Road works on Glover Road, Woorinen North were completed.

Mayor Cr Stuart King, Deputy Mayor Cr Les McPhee, and The Hon Peter Walsh joined Woolies and Are-able staff to celebrate the opening of Mini Woolies in Swan Hill. The interactive learning space helped students build literacy, numeracy, and communication skills, boosting.

Provided more than $72,000 through the Community Development Fund, supporting a range of local projects that deliver social, recreational and infrastructure to benefit communities.

SEPTEMBER

The kitchen and toilet facilities at the Swan Hill Senior Citizens Centre were upgraded, addressing white ant damage and safely removing asbestos.



The Pioneer Settlement celebrated the 100th birthday of its Dodge Tourer.



The Robinvale community came together for the annual Lantern Festival, celebrating culture, diversity, and local community spirit.



The works to refurbish the toilets, showers, and change rooms at the Nyah Community Centre were complete.

Senator Jana Stewart visited to discuss the priorities that mattered most to our community.

Councillors, the CEO, and staff joined the Robinvale community to celebrate the opening of the new Robinvale Adventure Playground.

Celebrated local arts and creativity with Collide, a collaborative exhibition featuring artists, young people and community connections.







OCTOBER

The annual Free Green Waste Weekend was held, giving residents the opportunity to tidy their gardens and dispose of green waste at no cost.

Ahead of the October Basketball Tournament, two courts at Swan Hill Stadium were freshly sanded and sealed.

The historic PS Melbourne made a grand arrival along the Murray River, gliding under the Swan Hill Bridge.

The 390 meter long Latje Road Footpath project in Robinvale was completed.

Cr King and Cr Jennings joined the Manangatang College Op Shop Ball, presenting an award for best dance moves.

The Manangatang Footpath project was completed, connecting Lowan Park Playground in the CBD to the Manangatang P-12 College.

NOVEMBER

Council handed over the keys to the Ambulance Victoria Swan Hill Crew for the newly completed patient Transfer facility at the Swan Hill Aerodrome.



The band rotunda at Riverside Park was lit up and ready for Christmas, forming a highlight along this year's Christmas trail.



The Woorinen South playground was open to the public, following the completion of exciting upgrades.



We hosted the Swan Hill CBD Tree Lighting Event in partnership with Swan Hill Inc, with a well-attended night of festive fun including entertainment, activities, Santa, and the Christmas tree lighting, filling the CBD with Christmas cheer.

Re-elected Cr Stuart King as Mayor for his third consecutive term and elected Cr Terry Jennings as Deputy Mayor.

The newly redeveloped Art Gallery of Swan Hill opened its doors with its inaugural exhibition, A Place to Gather, showcasing Australian art from the Gallery's collection and national lenders, exploring the Swan Hill region, the Murray River, landscape and our connection to nature.







DECEMBER

The Swan Hill McCallum Street toilets were officially opened.

Christmas Wonderland arrived at the Swan Hill Town Hall and Performing Arts Centre.

The long-anticipated Swan Hill Tourism and Cultural Experience Centre was officially opened.

Progressed advocacy for the Swan Hill Bridge replacement, supporting the preferred alignment and continuing to advocate for Victorian Government funding.

Advanced the Swan Hill Regional Community Sports Hub as part of the Showgrounds, Sport and Recreation Precinct Masterplan, with approved designs moving the project into the detailed design phase.

JANUARY

Completed upgrades through the Tiny Towns Project, with new dining pods installed in Manangatang and Piangil.

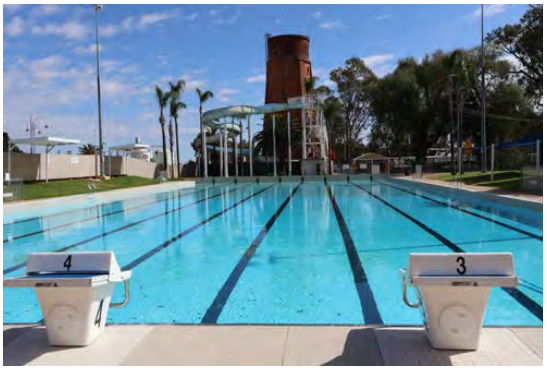
Expanded access to essential health and wellbeing resources through Library Services, including free sanitary products at Swan Hill and Robinvale libraries and free condoms through the Cruisin' for Condoms initiative.

Celebrated our community champions at the Community Celebrations and Awards Ceremony, recognising 2026 Citizen of the Year Paula Williams (Starrs), 2026 Young Citizen of the Year Eva Wong and 2025 Community Event of the Year recipient, Inner Wheel Club of Swan Hill.

Pavement upgrades on Tyntynder Road commenced. The projects form part of Council's ongoing commitment to improving the municipality's road network, safety and accessibility.

Provided support during severe heat conditions by opening local public swimming pools for free, helping the community stay safe, cool and comfortable.











FEBRUARY

Delivered the annual Big Summer Read program, engaging a record number of young readers, with 140 children aged 5–16 taking part and more than 4,000 books read.

Completed upgrades to Tyntynder Road, delivering a new 478-metre sealed section with improved safety, drainage, access and reliability for local landowners, freight vehicles and emergency services.

Hosted a successful Art Auction and Gala Dinner at the new Art Gallery of Swan Hill, welcoming a sold-out crowd.

Reached a key milestone in the potential redevelopment of the former GrainCorp site at 42 Monash Drive, Swan Hill, with formal Notice of Intention to Sell issued for the strategically located riverfront site.

Endorsed Council's key advocacy priorities ahead of the Victorian State Election, highlighting critical projects and investments to support the region's future growth, safety and liveability.

MARCH

Supported the annual Swan Hill Food and Wine Festival at the Pioneer Settlement, attracting more than 2,400 visitors and creating a vibrant celebration of local food, wine and entertainment.



Completed the Ten Steps replacement project at Riverside Park, delivering a new iconic staircase and a three-tiered retaining wall to stabilise and protect the riverbank while enhancing the riverside precinct.



Celebrated cultural diversity and community connection through another successful Swan Hill Harmony Day event, attended by an estimated 2,000 people.

Celebrated Robinvale's rich cultural diversity through the successful Ramadan Bazaar, creating opportunities for community connection in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

Delivered the first round of the 2025/26 Façade Improvement Program, contributing $43,795 towards upgrades for 12 local businesses, leveraging a combined investment of more than $113,000.







APRIL

The Art Gallery of Swan Hill was shortlisted for the 2026 Victorian Museums and Galleries Awards in the Large Project of the Year category for its redevelopment.

Engaged 750 children and adults through 30 school holiday library activities delivered across the municipality.

Hosted two performances of Spot at the Swan Hill Town Hall, delighting audiences, with the midday show selling out and the evening performance attracting a near-capacity crowd.

Completed the installation of new guardrails on Cumnock Road, Tresco, improving safety along a section with steep embankments.

Progressed construction of 10 worker accommodation dwellings at McCartney Court, Robinvale, with the $5 million project tracking under budget and savings to support additional housing opportunities.

MAY

More than 15 events formed part of May Means Business, a month-long initiative bringing together local businesses through workshops, networking and practical learning opportunities.

Hosted the May Chat with a Councillor session at the Swan Hill Market, providing an opportunity for the community to connect with Councillors in a relaxed and informal setting.

Joined 40 representatives from 14 organisations at the Census Robinvale Community Workshop to explore practical ways to support Census participation across the community.

Secured Victorian Government funding through the Flexible Local Transport Solutions Program 2025–26 to deliver new footpath connections throughout Piangil.

A new BBQ shelter was completed and ready for use at Nyah Recreation Reserve.

New footpath along Palmer Street, Woorinen was completed.

Commenced our Tree Planting Program for 2026 with around 160 trees delivered including a wide variety of Eucalyptus Trees and Crepe Myrtles.











JUNE

Completed asphalt heavy patching works to improve road safety, restore pavement condition and extend the life of the road network.

Celebrated the significant milestone of our beloved PS GEM turning 150.

Recognised as one of Victoria's top-performing councils at the LGPro Awards of Excellence, winning two awards and receiving two commendations from six finalist nominations.

Secured a major loan of First Nations artworks through the Australian Government's Sharing the National Collection program, enriching the Art Gallery of Swan Hill's exhibition offering.

Advocated for the Swan Hill region at the National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, strengthening relationships and advancing local priorities at the national level.

Partnered with the National Desexing Network to make cat desexing more affordable, supporting responsible pet ownership and improved animal welfare.



Part Two

Year in Review



Mayor and CEO Message

The 2025/26 financial year has been one of strong progress, collaboration and advocacy for our municipality. Throughout the year, Council remained focused on delivering practical outcomes that strengthen our economy, enhance community liveability and position our region for long-term growth, while continuing to navigate the financial and operational challenges facing local government.

This year has been marked by encouraging growth across the municipality. Our visitor economy continued to perform strongly, with a 13 per cent increase in visitation providing significant benefits for local accommodation providers, hospitality venues, retailers, tourism operators and major events. Complementing this success was the delivery of Council's inaugural May Means Business campaign, which provided valuable opportunities for local businesses through networking, capability-building initiatives and targeted support designed to foster resilience, innovation and growth.

Addressing the municipality's housing shortage remains one of our highest priorities. During the year, Stage 15 titles at Tower Hill were released, 10 new homes were completed in Robinvale under budget, with the savings reinvested into additional housing, and new partnerships were established to encourage private investment in residential development. Together, these initiatives represent important steps towards addressing one of the region's most significant barriers to attracting new residents, supporting workforce growth and strengthening the local economy.

Advocacy also continued to deliver meaningful outcomes. Since July 2025, Council has secured more than $4 million in State and Federal Government grant funding to support the delivery of new and upgraded community infrastructure and facilities. At the same time, we continued to champion the projects that are critical to our region's future, including a new Swan Hill Bridge, safer state roads and intersections, completion of the Swan Hill Hospital development and continued investment in transport and community infrastructure.

Alongside these advocacy efforts, Council continued to invest in maintaining and improving the infrastructure our community relies on every day. A comprehensive road maintenance program enhanced safety, connectivity and network reliability across both sealed and unsealed roads, while the adoption of Council's long-term Drainage Strategy provides a clear roadmap for future stormwater management, flood resilience and sustainable urban growth.

The year also delivered several significant organisational milestones. We proudly celebrated the opening of two landmark community assets - the Art Gallery of Swan Hill and the Swan Hill Tourism and Cultural Experience Centre. The relocation of Visitor Services into the new centre has created a contemporary, integrated destination that enhances the visitor experience while showcasing the region's rich tourism, arts and cultural offerings.

Council also successfully introduced 24-hour cat containment, reinforcing our commitment to responsible pet ownership, biodiversity protection and community amenity. At the same time, improved workforce stability enabled our Planning and Engineering teams to significantly reduce backlogs, accelerate priority projects and strengthen service delivery, positioning Council well to meet future community and development needs.

While we celebrate these achievements, we also recognise the challenges that lie ahead. Financial sustainability continues to be impacted by declining government funding, ongoing cost shifting and the constraints of rate capping, all while community expectations and service demands continue to grow. Housing affordability, workforce attraction and retention, climate-related impacts, increasing operational costs and the introduction of the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund will continue to require careful financial management, strong advocacy and innovative solutions.

Despite these challenges, we remain optimistic about the future. The achievements highlighted throughout this report reflect the dedication of our Councillors, staff, volunteers, community groups, businesses and partner organisations, whose collective efforts continue to strengthen our municipality and make it an outstanding place to live, work, visit and invest.

We thank everyone who has contributed throughout the year. By working together, we will continue to build a resilient, connected and prosperous future for our community.

Councillor Stuart King
Mayor

Scott Barber
Chief Executive Officer



Financial Summary

Operating Position

On a full accrual basis, the surplus for the year was $15.7 million. It is important to note that this is an accounting profit after recognising non-cash items such as depreciation and amortisation of $16.2 million and the receipt of infrastructure assets created by developers.
Major revenue and expenditure items included in the operating result can be identified from the following graphs.
For more information on the comprehensive income statement, balance sheet and cash flows for the year, please refer to the audited Financial Report in this Annual Report.

Revenue

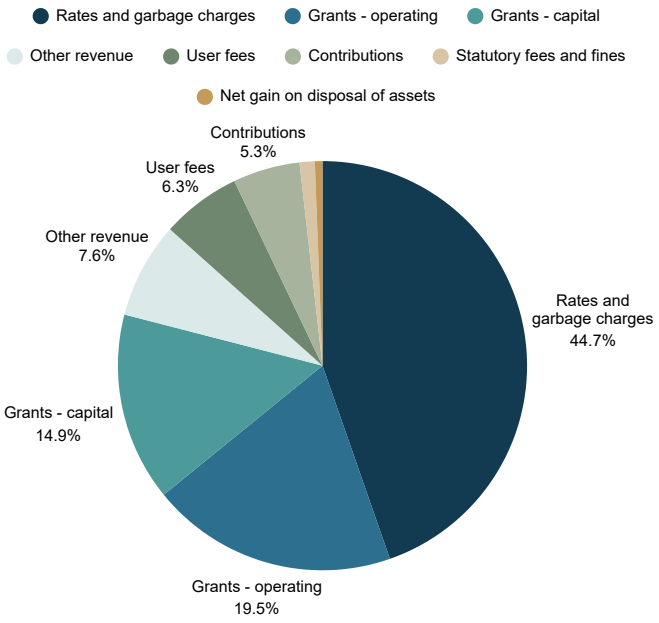
Council's total revenue for 2025/26 was $78.7 million as per the Comprehensive Income Statement.
A breakdown of Council's revenue sources highlights that 79.1 per cent of Council's income comes from three income categories.

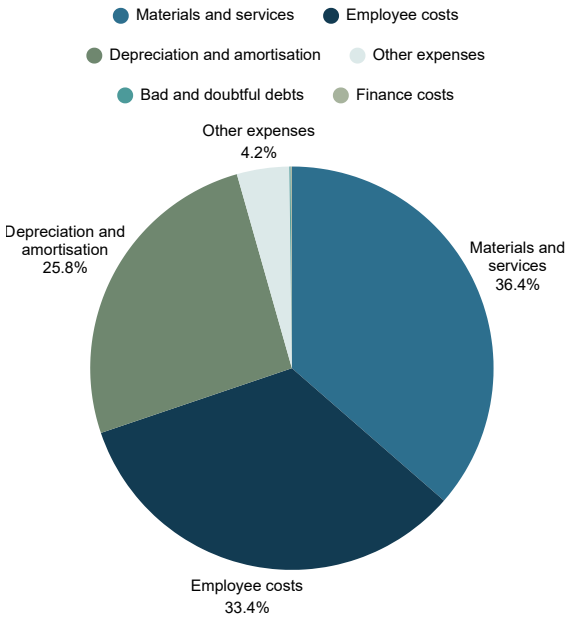
- Rates and garbage charges 44.7%
- Grants - operating 19.5%
- Grants - capital 14.9%

Expenditure

Council's total expenses for the 2025/26 year were $62.9 million as per the Comprehensive Income Statement.
A breakdown of Council's expenses highlights that 95.6 per cent relates to three expenditure categories.

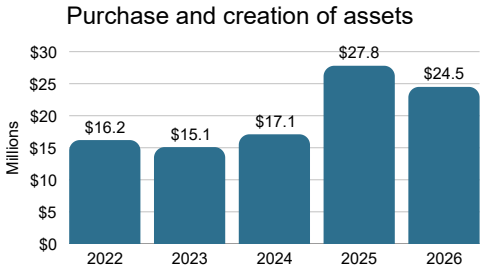
- Materials and Services 36.4%
- Employee costs 33.4%
- Depreciation 25.8%





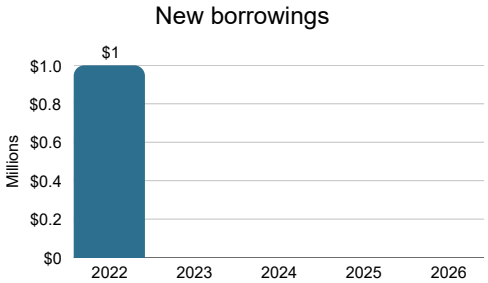
Capital Expenditure

During the financial year, Council spent $24.5 million on capital works and asset purchases, bringing the five- year total of expenditure on fixed assets to $100.7 million.
The graph on the left shows the level of expenditure spent on new and redeveloped assets over the past five years.
Major capital expenditure items were road networks, construction works at the Pioneer Settlement and Art Gallery, parks and open spaces and significant road reconstructions.

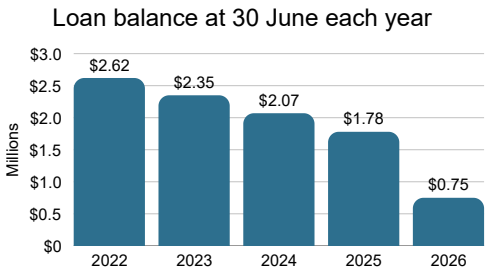


Borrowings

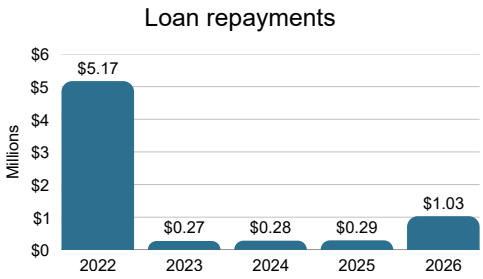
Loans are used to fund major capital projects and asset purchases. Borrowing allows the community to pay for the asset (such as a leisure centre) over some of the time that it is being used. Council has not entered into any new borrowings over the last five years.



At 30 June 2026, Council had a loan liability of $0.75 million. This is a planned and quite low level of debt, achieved in accordance with Council's borrowing strategy.

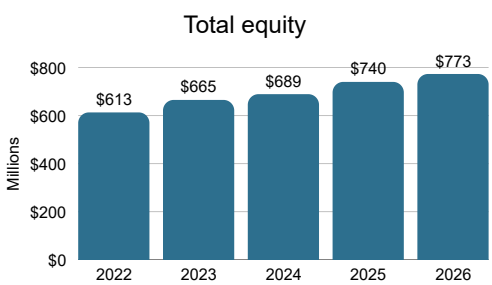


During 2021/22 Council repaid an interest only loan of $4.8 million. This loan was for a term of seven years, and each year Council had put aside funds in a reserve for the loan to be repaid in full at maturity.
Council repaid a further interest only loan of $0.5 million during 2025/26.
Loan repayments for the upcoming year are forecast to be $0.29 million.



Equity

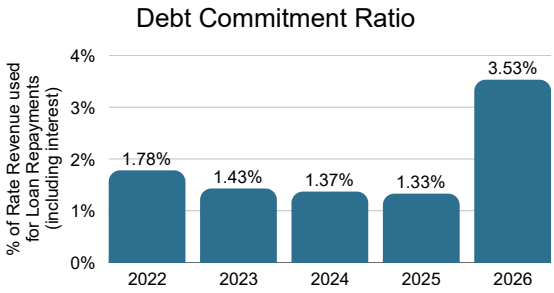
The Balance Sheet shows total community equity of $773 million, represented by accumulated surplus and asset revaluation reserve.
The increase in equity is due to the revaluation of Council's land, buildings, road and infrastructure assets and a $15.7 million surplus in 2026.
This graph shows the movement in equity over the past five years.



Financial Ratios

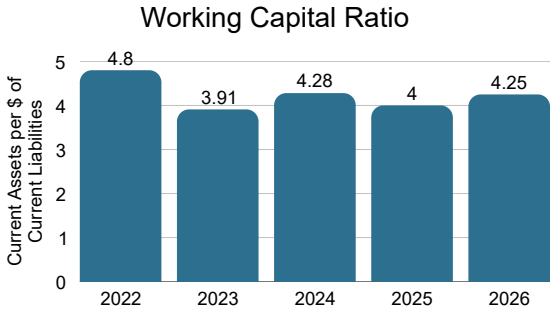
Debt Commitment

The debt commitment ratio identifies the percentage of rate revenue required to pay interest and principal on Council's loans. Closely tied to the Borrowing Strategy, the ratio shows that Council is in a healthy position and the debt commitment ratio remains very low.



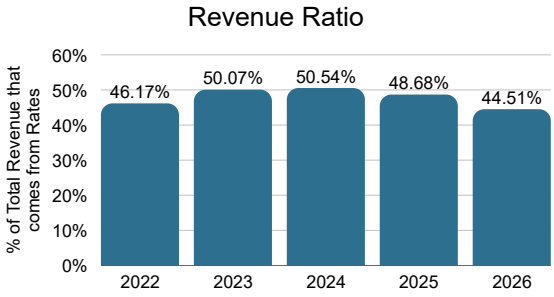
Working Capital

Working capital ratio shows the level of current assets Council has available to meet its current liabilities. The graph shows that the ratio is healthy and has remained constant over the past five years.
The ratio is expected to decrease marginally in future years.



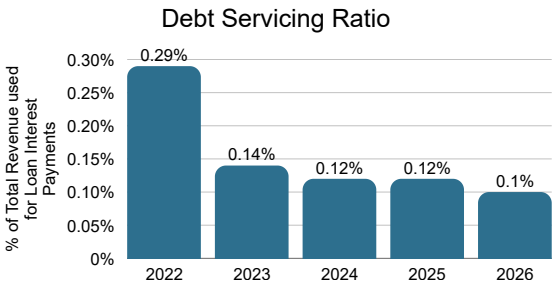
Revenue

The revenue ratio shows rate revenue as a proportion of total revenue and seeks to measure Council's reliance on property rates. It is influenced by other revenue sources such as government grants, contributions, user fees and charges. This ratio decreased marginally in 2026 due to the increased level of grants received.



Debt Servicing

The debt servicing ratio shows the amount of rates required to pay the interest on Council's loan liability. This ratio documents that loan interest does not place a burden on finances.



Description of Operations

Swan Hill Rural City Council plays a vital role in shaping the future prosperity, health and wellbeing of our municipality. Council aims to be progressive, dynamic and committed as we work towards this.
Swan Hill Rural City Council delivers more than 70 essential services to our community.
These range from waste and road management, to managing and improving open space and community buildings.
We delivered services and facilities for children, young people, and families. We offer business development, town and strategic planning and community health initiatives.
Council's vision, strategic objectives and strategies to improve services and facilities are described in our Council Plan 2025-29 and the associated Budget.
The progress of these strategies and their delivery against the Budget is reported in this Annual Report.
Refer to the section on Our Performance for more information about delivery of Council services.
The delivery of core services and facilities are measured by a set of Service Performance Indicators, as you will see in this report. We also track progress on the initiatives set out in our Council Plan.
Council has a wide range of responsibilities under both Victorian and Commonwealth legislation.

Economic Factors

Council delivered its annual ninth budget under the 'Fair Go' rates system. Council's rates increase was aligned with the rate cap set at 3%.



Services Provided

Council receives funding from a number of sources and had a budgeted income of almost $77.4 million in 2025/26. Below is a breakdown of the services Council delivered and what these cost, for every $100 of expenditure.

$24 **Transport services**
Maintaining local roads, as well as footpaths, signs, street cleaning, and aerodromes.

$16 **Recreation and community facilities**
Leisure Centres, halls, parks, reserves, playgrounds, pools, sporting facilities and street beautification.

$10 **Governance and Administration**
Municipal offices in Swan Hill and Robinvale, Council depots, Councillor support, media and community engagement, information technology, human resources management and procurement and contracts management.

$10 **Public health and regulatory compliance**
Animal control and registrations, parking, emergency management, lighting, building, planning, drainage, community health and immunisations.

$10 **Other**
Livestock exchange, residential land and housing development.

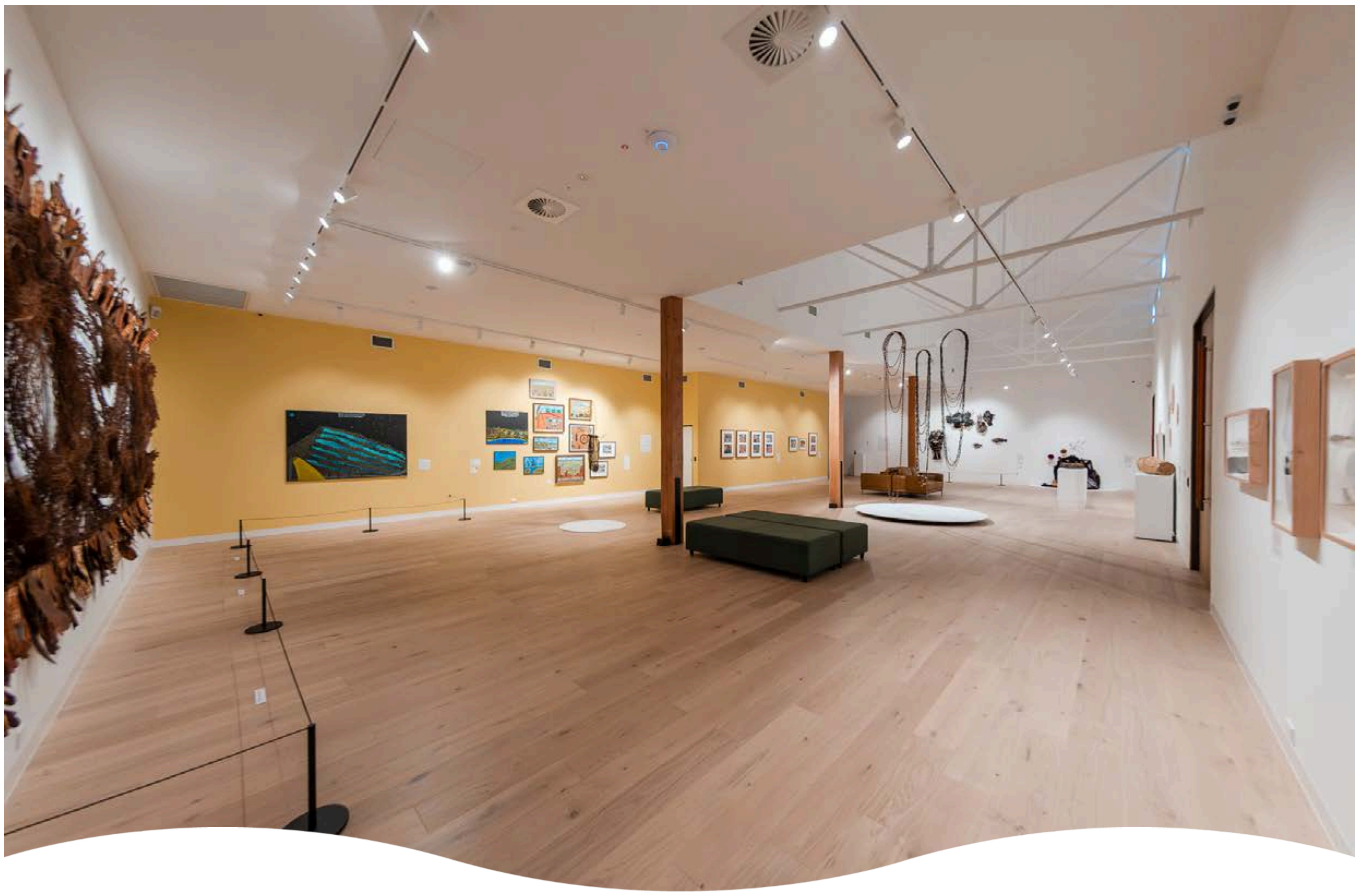
$ 9 **Environmental and waste management**
Recycling services, garbage collection, landfills, drainage and environmental management.

$ 7 **Economic development and marketing services**
Business development and investment, regional marketing and caravan park leasing.

$ 6 **Cultural services**
Performing Arts, Libraries, Art Gallery and Indigenous Affairs.

$ 5 **Pioneer Settlement**
Managing, marketing, maintaining and developing this premium tourist attraction.

$ 3 **Family, youth and children's services**
Services and support for families, children and youth.



Major Capital Works

Sealed and Unsealed Roads

Including Roads to Recovery Program
Actual spend 2025/26: $9.53M

Robinvale Workers Accomodation

McCartney Court
Actual spend 2025/26: $3.64M
Total Project Spend: $4.03M

Art Gallery Redevelopment

Pictured above
Actual spend 2025/26: $2.43M
Total Project Spend: $7.8M

Karinie Street

Reconstruction
Actual spend 2025/26: $2.16M
Total Project Spend: $2.22M

Visitor Experience Centre

Completion of new building - *pictured top right*
Actual spend 2025/26: $1.4M
Total Project Spend: $4.52M

Ten Steps Renewal

Riverside Park
Actual spend 2025/26: $947K
Total Project Spend: $985K

Footpaths

Municipality wide
Actual spend 2025/26: $623K

Public Toilet Renewals

Public Conveniences and Rest Centres
Actual spend 2025/26: $595K

Playground Renewals

Recreation Playground Renewals
Actual spend 2025/26: $240K

Libraries Materials

Municipality wide
Actual spend 2025/26: $177K

Gem Restoration

Caulking and Protective Coating
Pictured below
Actual spend 2025/26: $109K







Advocacy Campaigns

Council continues to advocate for investment that strengthens liveability, supports economic growth and builds long-term regional resilience. During the financial year, Council identified five key advocacy priorities to focus its efforts on securing investment, strengthening partnerships and achieving outcomes that support the future needs of our communities.

These priorities reflect projects and initiatives that will deliver significant economic, social and community benefits, including improved infrastructure, enhanced liveability, stronger regional resilience and support for essential services.

While Council will continue to actively advocate for these priority projects, it will also remain responsive to emerging opportunities and continue to pursue funding and investment opportunities for other important community projects as they arise.

This year Council prepared a targeted advocacy campaign to support these priorities, including the preparation of a short advocacy video highlighting the region's needs, opportunities and priority projects. The video was distributed to relevant Members of Parliament, Ministers and key decision-makers, supported by ongoing online advocacy efforts to raise awareness and build community support.



Top 5 Key Priorities

A New Swan Hill Bridge

Council continued to advocate for a new Swan Hill Bridge as a critical regional infrastructure priority. A new bridge would enhance cross-border connectivity, improve freight efficiency, support tourism and strengthen economic opportunities across the region. Council has consistently advocated for a further $100 million funding commitment from Victorian Government to progress this transformational project, working collaboratively with neighbouring councils, industry partners and regional stakeholders to demonstrate the project's importance and readiness.

Safer State Roads and Intersections

Improving road safety and supporting efficient movement of people and freight remained a key advocacy focus. Council continued to seek investment in priority State-managed roads and intersections, including traffic lights at the Gray and Campbell Streets intersection and a roundabout at Murlong and McCallum Streets in Swan Hill. Through evidence-based advocacy and engagement with decision-makers, Council continues to highlight the need for upgrades that improve safety and support regional economic activity.

Delivery of Riverfront and Recreation Reserve Masterplans

We are seeking investment to deliver projects identified through its Riverfront and Recreation Reserve Masterplans. These projects will create accessible, vibrant and inclusive community spaces that support health and wellbeing, tourism, recreation and regional liveability. Advocacy focused on securing funding for priority projects, including:

- Swan Hill Sporting Hub
- Robinvale and Swan Hill Riverfront improvements
- Swan Hill Youth, Families and Children's Hub
- Ken Harrison Recreation Reserve Masterplan
- Nyah Riverfront projects

Addressing Housing Challenges

We have continued to advocate for increased investment and policy support to address regional housing challenges, including improving housing supply, delivering key worker accommodation and supporting infrastructure required for future growth. Council highlighted the critical role housing availability plays in attracting and retaining workers across key regional industries, including agriculture, horticulture, manufacturing and healthcare. Through our advocacy efforts, we showcased local initiatives and successful housing projects, while continuing to advocate for collaborative solutions that support sustainable growth, strengthen local communities and enable people to live and work in the region.

Completing Swan Hill Hospital Upgrade

Council continues to support Swan Hill District Health's advocacy to secure investment for the completion of the remaining stages of the Swan Hill Hospital redevelopment. Recognising the hospital's critical role in providing high-quality healthcare services to a 35,000-person cross-border catchment, Council advocates for the delivery of modern, fit-for-purpose health infrastructure that supports the region's growing population and meets community needs into the future.

Through collaboration with health partners and key stakeholders, Council continues to champion investment in essential services that strengthen regional healthcare outcomes and improve accessibility for communities across the region.

Through strong partnerships, evidence-based advocacy and collaboration with regional stakeholders, Council continues to pursue investment that delivers lasting benefits for the community and strengthens the future of the region.



Australia Day Awards
Local Government
Citizen of the Year - Paula Willams (Starrs)



Paula Williams (Starrs) was awarded the Australia Day Citizen of the Year for 2026 in recognition of her dedication to community service and an unwavering commitment to the betterment of the municipality.

Born and raised in Swan Hill, Paula has nurtured her love of painting from childhood. Now an accomplished artist, her work beautifully captures the spirit of the region, reflecting both its landscapes and her love for her hometown.

In September 2024 Paula made a meaningful impact on our community by launching an appeal to raise $1.2 million dollars to support the fit-out of the new MRI at Swan Hill District Hospital. The appeal quickly gained support, drawing over 700 social media followers and securing pledges from sporting clubs, community groups, workplaces, and individuals. To further support the cause, Paula donated several pieces of her own artwork for auction, helping to boost both awareness and fundraising efforts.

Paula became a leading advocate for the hospital, rallying support and partnering with the local Guardian to amplify the message. Her slogan, "Give Where You Live", struck a chord and united the community behind the cause.

Thanks to Paula's dedication and the generosity of countless supporters, donations of all sizes poured in. By June 2025, the fundraising goal had not only been met but exceeded, with over $1.2 million raised in less than a year.

This remarkable achievement reflects Paula's tireless behind-the-scenes work and quiet determination, which sparked a wave of community generosity. Her impact will be felt for years to come.

Beyond this, early last year Paula also raised $42,000 for the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia at an Australian Wagyu Association gala dinner and charity auction. She has loaned her artworks to the Swan Hill District Health maternity ward, helping transform the space into a warm, welcoming, and joyful environment.

Other notable achievements include: Holding her own exhibition at the Swan Hill Art Gallery, exhibiting art in Melbourne at the Royal Exhibition Building, being nominated for the Doyles Award, and participating in the Bluethumb Exhibition – Under The Tree.

Through her unwavering dedication, community spirit, and leadership, Paula has made a profound difference in her community and is a most deserving winner of the 2026 Swan Hill Rural City Council Australia Day Citizen of the Year.

Student Achievement Award Winners

Steffany Singleton - **Beverford Primary School**

Caleb Mitchell - **St Mary's Primary School**

Yeale Yazew - **Swan Hill Christian School**

Rachel Taylor - **Swan Hill North Primary School**

Kaitlyn Steve - **Swan Hill Primary School**

Khayla Zulkarnain - **Woorinen District Primary School**

Bella Henderson - **St Mary MacKillop College**

Dekoda Barber - **Swan Hill College**

Salah Halah - **Swan Hill Specialist School**

James Davis - **Lake Boga Primary School**

Emma Rogers - **Nyah District Primary School**

Cooper Plant - **Manangatang P-12 College**

Grace Smith - **St Mary's School Robinvale**

Cooper Jenner - **Robinvale P-12 College**

Young Citizen of the Year - Eva Wong



Eva Wong is recognised for her outstanding dedication, leadership and passion for strengthening her community.

Originally from Swan Hill and now studying Social Work in Bendigo, Eva is a positive and caring young leader committed to supporting others. In 2025, she founded Move Swim, a welcoming, community-based social swim group for people of all ages and abilities, focused on physical wellbeing, mental health and social connection.

Through regular sessions and local collaboration, Move Swim has brought community members together to stay active, build friendships and feel a sense of belonging. The initiative has received strong support from participants and local businesses alike.

Eva's commitment to community, combined with her passion for helping others thrive, continues to make a meaningful impact. She is an inspiring role model and a deserving recipient of this honour.

Congratulations Eva on this well-deserved recognition.

2025 Community Event of the Year – Up the Garden Path



The Inner Wheel Club of Swan Hill is recognised for delivering Up the Garden Path, a standout community event that brought people together while supporting an important cause.

Held at the Grain Shed in June, the event attracted around 300 attendees and featured a Devonshire Tea alongside a vibrant mix of garden-themed stalls hosted by local businesses and not-for-profit groups.

It provided an enjoyable and affordable winter outing while fostering connection in a welcoming, community-focused setting.

The event successfully raised $4,000 for Cord Blood Research, demonstrating the generosity of the Swan Hill community and contributing to life-changing medical research. It also supported local organisations by providing opportunities to showcase their work and connect with the public.

Delivered entirely by dedicated volunteers, the event reflects the ongoing commitment of Inner Wheel Swan Hill to supporting local initiatives and broader community wellbeing.

Up the Garden Path embodies the spirit of Community Event of the Year, creating meaningful impact through connection, generosity and service.

Congratulations to the Inner Wheel Club of Swan Hill on this well-deserved recognition.



Part Three

Our Council

Our Municipality

The Swan Hill municipality covers 6,116 square kilometers that over 40 nationalities call home, creating a community that is diverse, welcoming and resilient. Our region has experienced significant economic growth over the past decade, led by the expansion of horticultural/agricultural practices and supported by an innovative manufacturing sector. With more than 40 commercially grown products including almonds, olives, stone fruit, grapes, vegetables, cereals, legumes, lucerne, sheep, beef and dairy – it is easy to see why our municipality is an important part of Victoria's food bowl.

The beautiful Murray River winds its way through much of the municipality, offering a major draw card for visitors and those who call the region home.



20,962*
Total Population



$3.17b
Annual economic output

2688
Number of local businesses

11,038
Local jobs

574,905
Total visitors

$1.28b
Agriculture, forestry and fishing

$196M
Health care and social assistance

$297M
Manufacturing

$237M
Construction

Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2024. ©2023. Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id (informed decisions). Data is based on a 2023/24 price base for all years. NIEIR-ID data are inflation adjusted each year to allow direct comparison, and annual data releases adjust previous years' figures to a new base year.

*The official ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for Swan Hill Rural City Council was 20,962 at 30 June 2025, including an estimated 3,749 residents in Robinvale. However, due to ongoing concerns that the ABS underestimates Robinvale's population, Council commissioned Geografia to undertake a population determination study. Geografia's research has reliably demonstrated that the true Robinvale population is approximately 7,900, suggesting the total residential population of Swan Hill Rural City Council is approximately 25,122 residents.



Our History

For thousands of years, the traditional owners of the lands that now form the Swan Hill Rural City Council lived in the region, with the land providing abundant food sources and a permanent water supply.

In 1836, led by explorer Major Thomas Mitchell, the first Europeans arrived. Settlers started to arrive soon after, establishing large sheep stations next to the Murray River.

In 1871, the Shire of Swan Hill was proclaimed and was located in Kerang (which now forms part of the Gannawarra Shire).

In 1890, part of the Shire of Swan Hill was severed and formed the Mildura Shire, now called the Mildura Rural City Council.

In 1893, the Shire of Castle Donnington was created and centred around the town of Swan Hill. By 1904 it had assumed the name Shire of Swan Hill.

Returned servicemen settled in the Tol Tol and Robinvale areas circa 1923 and established farms, persevering through the Depression and providing a solid foundation for the prosperous farming community centred there today.

The Borough of Swan Hill was formed in 1939 and in March 1965 became the City of Swan Hill.

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, the City of Swan Hill was considered one of the largest wheat-producing municipalities in Victoria. Whilst broadacre farms are still found in abundance in our region, many farmers have since transitioned away from dryland farming to grow grapes, citrus, olives, carrots, asparagus, stonefruit and a wide range of other crops.

In January 1995, the Shire and the City were amalgamated to form Swan Hill Rural City Council.

Councillors

The Council is elected to provide leadership and good governance for the municipal district and the local community.
Swan Hill Rural City Council is not divided into Wards, with seven Councillors elected as representatives for all residents and ratepayers across the municipality.
They have responsibility for setting the strategic direction for the municipality, policy development, identifying service standards and monitoring performance across the organisation.



Mayor Cr Stuart King | Elected 2020

Cr Stuart King was elected to Swan Hill Rural City Council in 2020 and is currently serving his third term as Mayor. Born and raised in the municipality, Cr King brings a diverse background to his role on Council, with experience as a former farmer, qualified engineer, project manager, and current commercial business owner. He is also an active community member, including serving as a local football umpire and on various local committees and boards.
Together with his wife Angela, they have a blended family of nine children and five grandchildren. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his growing family and travelling.
Cr King is passionate about the region and committed to serving its residents. His motivation to join Council was driven by a strong sense of responsibility to deliver core services to ratepayers, as well as foster economic growth. He is focused on creating supporting existing businesses, attracting new investment, and delivering improved infrastructure and services.



Deputy Mayor Cr Terry Jennings | Elected 2024

A lifelong resident of Swan Hill, Cr Terry Jennings has spent his entire life living and working in the region he proudly calls home. With more than 50 years of experience - spanning his role as Managing Director of his family's third-generation business to his recent position as a Senior Manager at SuniTAFE - Cr Jennings brings a wealth of knowledge and a deep understanding of the unique opportunities and challenges faced by rural communities.
Cr Jennings is a passionate advocate for the region and an active contributor to community life. He is committed to helping Swan Hill thrive, by making it a destination of choice for living, working, and investing and continues to draw on his experience to support growth, prosperity, and long-term sustainability across the municipality.



Cr Peta Thorton | Elected 2024

Cr Peta Thornton has deep roots in the region - raised in Nyah and now co-managing her family's farm in Woorinen. She brings a valuable perspective shaped by her roles as a mother, Natural Resource Manager, environmental volunteer, and primary producer.
Cr Thornton is a consultative and committed leader, focused on evidence-based decision-making and fostering respectful, open communication. She is passionate about strengthening community collaboration within Council to help ensure the delivery of high-quality services, infrastructure, and equitable funding for rural areas.
Determined to make a meaningful difference across the municipality, Cr Thornton is driven by a genuine desire to listen, engage, and represent what matters most to the community.



Cr Hugh Broad | Elected 2024

Cr Hugh Broad is an active and engaged member of the local community, with a strong passion for supporting the region's growth and wellbeing. He is involved in a range of local activities, including his role as a Year Level Coordinator at a local secondary school, coaching junior basketball teams, and playing senior sport - roles that help maintain strong connections with local families, schools, and youth.

Cr Broad is currently studying to become a teacher and has a strong interest in education and community development. He is committed to ensuring community voices are heard and values community engagement as a key component of Council decision-making.

Cr Broad is focused on encouraging local investment, supporting emerging opportunities, and helping shape a positive future for the region.



Cr Philip Englefield | Elected 2024

Cr Philip Englefield is a lifelong resident of Robinvale with deep ties to the local community and agricultural sector. With over 30 years of experience advocating for wine grape growers in the Murray Darling and Swan Hill wine regions, he has worked to represent growers' interests at both state and federal levels, contributing to policy discussions and industry development initiatives.

His strong understanding of the region's horticultural and irrigation sectors informs his approach to decision-making on Council. Cr Englefield is passionate about ensuring the long-term sustainability of farming in the region and is a strong advocate for initiatives that support local producers and strengthen rural economies.

Cr Englefield believes it is essential that Robinvale has a strong and consistent voice on Council. He is committed to working collaboratively to improve infrastructure, housing, and services in the region, while also ensuring that the unique needs and perspectives of Robinvale residents are well represented in Council decisions.



Cr Les McPhee | Elected 2008

Cr Les McPhee has proudly served on Swan Hill Rural City Council since 2008. With a long-standing commitment to fairness and equity, he has extensive experience and a strong track record in effective community representation. Prior to retiring in 2022, Cr McPhee dedicated 37 years to Victoria Police, serving in a variety of roles, including as Sergeant in Charge of the Swan Hill Highway Patrol.

A passionate and active member of the community, Les has contributed to numerous local organisations over the years and currently volunteers with Meals on Wheels. Cr McPhee remains focused on making the municipality a great place to live, work, and visit. He continues to advocate for critical infrastructure and services, including a new bridge, hospital upgrades, and increased housing. He is also committed to strengthening transparency, accountability, and communication within Council.



Cr Lindsay Rogers | Elected 2024

Cr Lindsay Rogers brings a wealth of experience and a long-standing commitment to serving the Swan Hill Rural City community, having previously held office from 2003 to 2009. Cr Rogers is a strong advocate for improved infrastructure, enhanced community services, and better health and wellbeing outcomes. He is focused on advancing access, connectivity, and safety for all residents, while working to improve rate management, streamline waste services, and reduce energy costs for households and businesses. With a firm commitment to delivering positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes, Cr Rogers champions fair and equitable funding for the region. Cr Rogers is particularly passionate about revitalising our region's river towns. He supports key projects such as the Swan Hill bridge replacement, new boat moorings and the creation of vibrant riverfront precincts.



Community Satisfaction Survey

Each year, Local Government Victoria coordinates a state-wide local government community satisfaction survey. The survey measures the community's perceptions of their local council's performance in key areas. Between February and March 2026, a total of 399 residents from across the municipality were randomly selected and contacted to provide their feedback via a telephone survey.

Overall performance

The overall performance index score of 57 out of 100 for Council represents a significant increase on the 2025 result. This result is higher than the average for Large Shires (53).

Top performing areas

Council's three highest performing services are:

- Waste Management
- Appearance of Public Areas
- Community events and cultural activities

Areas for improvement

Council's three lowest performing services are:

- Maintenance of unsealed roads
- Condition of sealed local roads
- Planning and building permits



for overall performance

State Average - 58

Large Shire Average - 53

The full survey results are available on Councils website - www.swanhill.vic.gov.au



Part Four

Our People

Our Executive Leadership Team

Council is the governing body that appoints a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO is responsible for the day-to-day management of operations, in accordance with the strategic directions of the Council Plan. Four Directors and the CEO form the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and lead the organisation.



Chief Executive Officer - Scott Barber

Scott is leading the organisation's strategic direction, governance, financial sustainability, service delivery, innovation and community outcomes.
With more than 20 years executive leadership experience across local government and the public sector, Scott works closely with Councillors, community, government agencies and regional partners to deliver practical outcomes that strengthen liveability, support economic growth and create new opportunities across the region.
He is focused on strong partnerships, high-performing services and ensuring Council is responsive to community needs while positioning the region for future growth.
This year, he has led the delivery of major outcomes including the Swan Hill Art Gallery, the Tourism and Cultural Experience Centre, strong planning and customer satisfaction results, new key worker housing in Robinvale, and regional advocacy through the Murray River Group of Councils.



Director Community and Cultural Services - Bruce Myers

Bruce has served the community for more than 30 years, beginning his career with the Swan Hill Regional Library in 1994. He was appointed Library Manager in 1998 and progressed to Director Community and Cultural Services in 2007.
Bruce leads a diverse portfolio across libraries, family, youth and children's services, the Art Gallery, performing arts, and a broad range of community programs, while also supporting service delivery in Swan Hill and Robinvale. He is committed to strong customer service outcomes and empowering his large team of frontline staff to deliver responsive, community-focused services.
Throughout his career, Bruce has played an active leadership role in community engagement, particularly in Robinvale, and represents Swan Hill Rural City Council on regional human services partnerships. He keeps Council informed on emerging trends and complex social issues to support strategic decision-making. His key achievements include overseeing the library fit-out and relocation, redevelopment of the Art Gallery, implementation of Youth Support Services, development of the Robinvale Library, and managing the successful transition of aged care programs while ensuring continuity of service and strong staff satisfaction. Bruce holds a Bachelor of Librarianship and a Certificate IV in Frontline Management, complemented by training in change management and senior leadership.



Director Development and Planning - Michelle Grainger

Michelle commenced as Director Development and Planning in January 2024.
A qualified town planner, Michelle has worked for a number of rural Councils in Victoria, managing statutory and strategic planning, economic development, regulatory services and environment teams.
Balancing sustainable land use outcomes with growing rural and regional economies has led to Michelle having a variety of experience in agriculture, renewable energy, industry and business development proposals. She enjoys working in local government as it provides a range of opportunities to work with and for the community. Michelle worked in this role until June 2026.



Director Infrastructure - Leah Johnston

Leah commenced her role as Director Infrastructure with Council in April 2023. She is a qualified engineer with an Honours degree in Engineering and is recognised on the National Engineering Register. Leah also holds an Advanced Diploma in Project Management and a Diploma in Emergency Management.
Leah has built a long-standing career across engineering and works departments at various councils throughout Melbourne and South West Victoria before relocating to Swan Hill. She brings extensive technical expertise, a strong customer service focus, and a proactive approach to delivering the best outcomes for the community.
Leah has successfully secured significant grant funding and has led improvements in the delivery of capital works to high quality standards, along with strengthening maintenance practices across Council's infrastructure assets. While addressing assets, Leah ensures that the focus remains firmly on achieving the best value for the community.



Director Corporate Services - Stephen Fernando

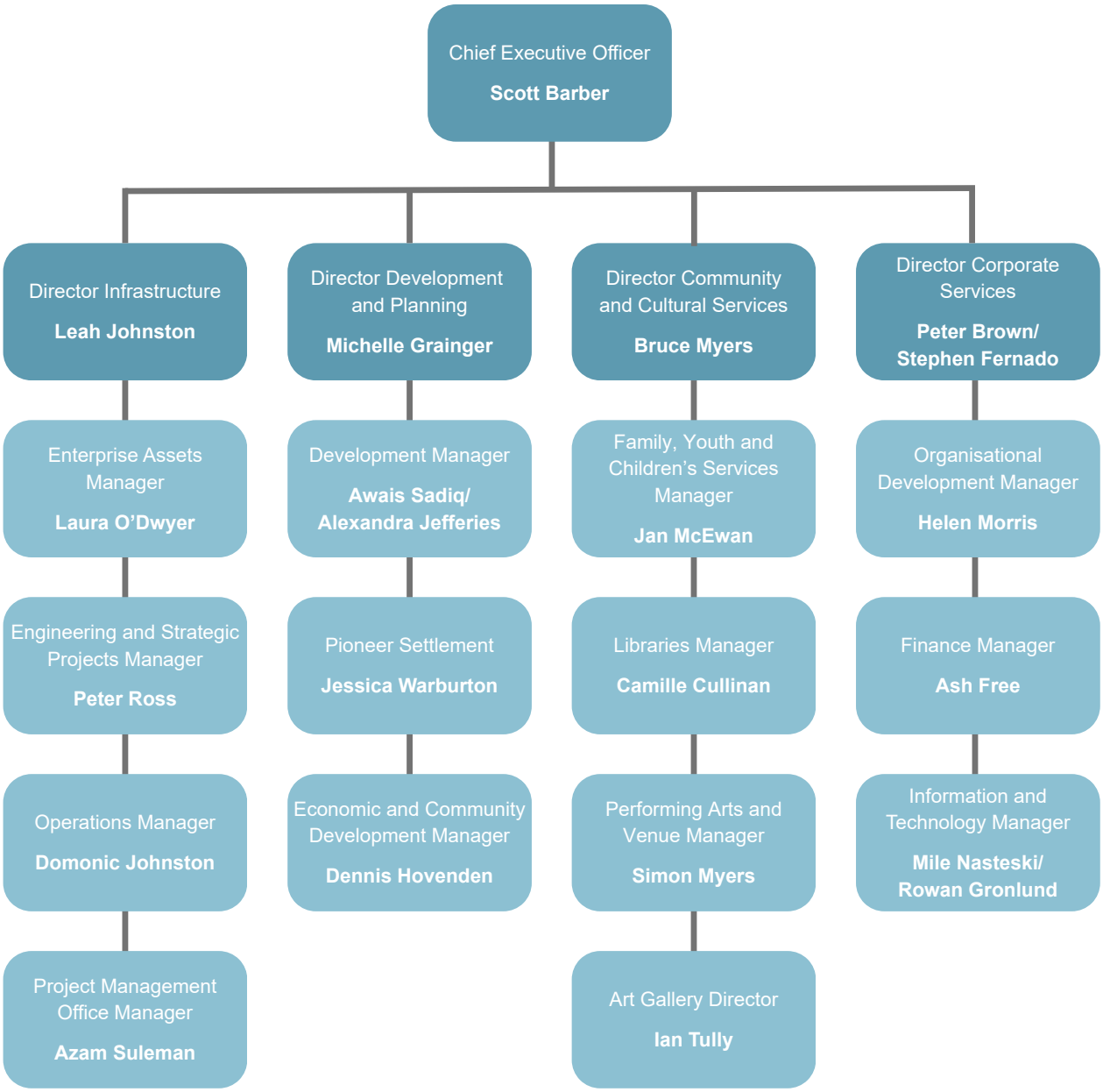
Stephen commenced his role as Director Corporate Services with Council in November 2025. Stephen is a strategy and finance professional with extensive experience in strategy formulation, business transformation, technology-enabled system improvements, and data analytics. He helped deliver Australia's first fleet-wide rollout of smart water meters in Queensland, and developed the country's leading Meter Data Management system for water utilities.
A strong advocate for collaboration, Stephen has led several cultural change programs and is committed to creating inclusive, safe team environments. In addition to his experience within the local government sector, Stephen has also held senior positions in the commercial sector, including roles with multinational corporations in Asia and the Middle East. He holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the USA, is a CPA, and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD). Stephen currently serves on the Board of MADEC Ltd., a disability services NFP organisation.



Interim Director Corporate Services - Peter Brown

Peter is a longstanding resident of Country Victoria. Peter has been Chief Executive at Horsham Rural City and Colac Otway Shire. He has previously worked at Warrnambool City and as Chief Executive at Wimmera Uniting Care and has a strong background in finance and corporate governance. Over the last few years Peter has been working as a Locum Executive and has filled in at Southern Grampians and Moyne. Peter has qualifications in economics, accounting and management and has a keen interest in the economic and social development of Regional Victoria. Peter worked as Interim Director from June to November 2025.

Our Organisational Structure

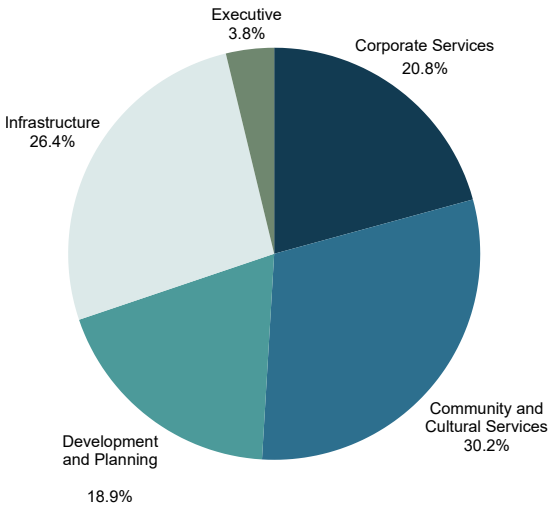


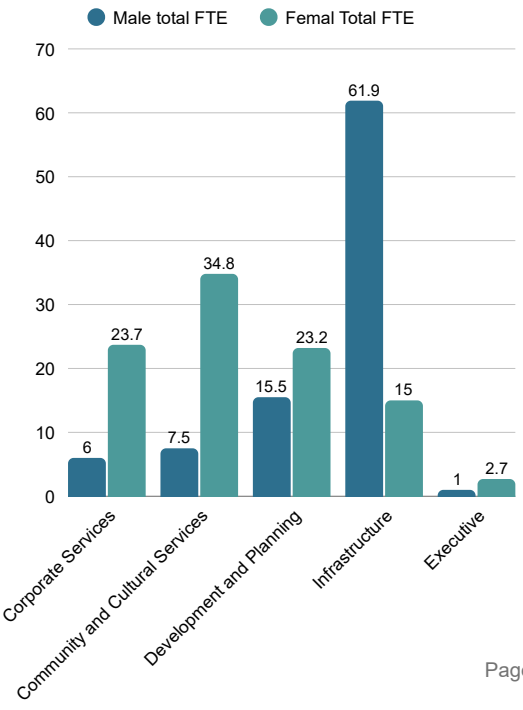
Council Staff

The table below shows the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff by directorate, employment type and gender as at 30 June 2026.

Directorate	Male full-time	Female full- time	Male part- time	Female part-time	Casual	Total Staff	Male total FTE	Female total FTE	FTE total
Corporate Services	6	11	-	14	5	36	6	23.7	29.7
Community and Cultural Services	6	16	2	32	32	88	7.5	34.8	42.3
Development and Planning	13	10	4	27	27	81	15.5	23.2	38.7
Infrastructure	60	14	1	-	2	77	61.9	15	76.9
Executive	1	2	-	1	-	4	1	2.7	3.7
Total	86	53	7	74	66	286	91.9	99.4	191.3

The pie chart below shows the percentage of Council staff (head count) by directorate, and the bar chart shows the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff by gender on 30 June 2026.



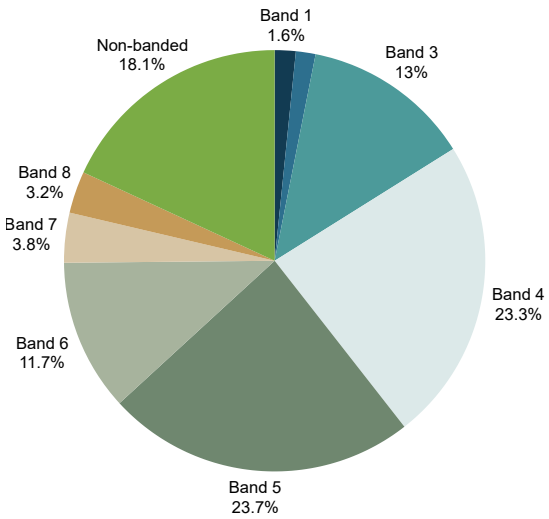


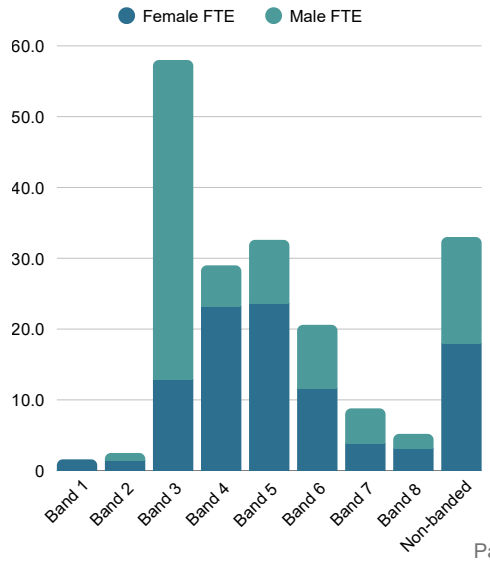
Staff (FTE) by Employment Classification

The table below shows the number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff categorised by employment (wage) band classification and gender as at 30 June 2026.

Employment Classification	Male FTE	Female FTE	Persons of self-described gender FTE	Total FTE
Band 1	0	1.6	0	1.6
Band 2	1	1.5	0	2.5
Band 3	45.1	12.9	0	58
Band 4	5.8	23.2	0	29
Band 5	9	23.6	0	32.6
Band 6	9	11.6	0	20.6
Band 7	5	3.8	0	8.8
Band 8	2	3.2	0	5.2
Non-banded	15	18	0	33
Total	91.9	98.4	0	191.3

The pie chart below shows the percentage of Council staff (FTE) by band type, and the bar chart shows the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff by band type on 30 June 2026.



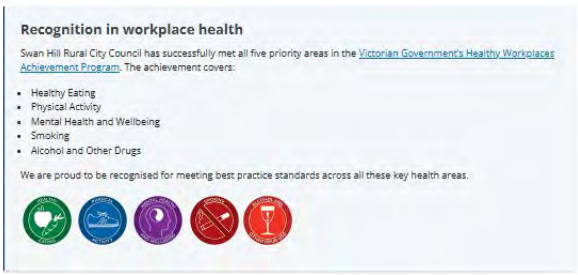


Supporting Our People

Council supports, develops and values its people. Council promotes health and wellbeing initiatives, provides professional development and training opportunities, and acknowledges and recognises staff efforts, achievements and ongoing commitment to Council and the community.

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Council continues its commitment to staff health, safety and wellbeing by continuing several programs to encourage a healthy lifestyle and improved work/ life balance.
The Health and Wellbeing Committee is designed to support a healthier, balanced lifestyle while promoting wellness, productivity and efficiency in the workplace. The committee continues to promote awareness on the following five health priority areas (HPA's) that formed parted of the Victorian Government's Healthy Workplaces Achievement Program: Healthy Eating, Physical Activity, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Smoking and Alcohol & Other Drugs.



The Achievement Program closed on 30 September 2025; Council achieved all five HPA's. This recognition can also be viewed on Council's website Careers | Swan Hill Rural City Council.
Council also provides employees with access to an online program called 'My Everyday Wellbeing'. This program is an online Health and Wellbeing Provider that Council have utilised for the last couple of years to provide staff with another health and wellbeing resource.
The platform is available to employees and up to two family members and can be accessed from work or home.

Volunteers

Council is fortunate to have many dedicated local volunteers who generously give their time, skills and expertise to support our community and deliver valuable services.

Psychological Health

Council's Psychosocial Action Plan was developed and includes actions to deliver a cross-section of training courses.
Following the completion of a Self-assessment tool for Managers, Supervisors and Coordinators, Psychosocial Hazards in the Workplace was set up to be covered over two-full days. Day 1 held in April 2026 and Day 2 will be held in August 2026.

Psychosocial Hazards Training

The new Occupational Health and Safety (Psychological Health) Regulations commenced on 1 December 2025 and on this same day, Council commenced using a new Incident / Hazard / Near Miss Reporting software program called ReliansSys.
In 2025/26 there were 17 near misses and 20 injuries reported up from 11 injuries reported in 2024/25) including:

- 4 External Abusive and Threatening Behaviour
- 3 External Bullying and Harassment.

Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) Committee

Council's OH&S Committee is made up of 12 committed and competent staff who have been elected by their designated work group and are accompanied by management representation. Together they work towards compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 and Regulations and assist with the delivery of Councils OH&S Management Plan.

Scholarship Program

Council's Scholarship Program provides support for up to seven local students undertaking undergraduate or TAFE studies each academic year. The program helps reduce the financial barriers associated with further education while providing students with valuable opportunities to gain practical experience in a local government setting.

The program supports students by providing:

- financial assistance to help offset tertiary education costs
- paid work experience during semester breaks, allowing students to apply their learning in a practical workplace environment
- stronger connections between local students, Council and the broader community
- early career development opportunities and potential future employment pathways with Council.

Through placements across Council departments during academic breaks, students gain real-world experience, develop a broader understanding of local government services and explore career opportunities within the sector.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Council is committed to providing a safe and supportive work environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, victimisation and bullying, and where all individuals treat each other with respect. This includes ensuring fair, equitable and non-discriminatory consideration being given to all job applicants, regardless of age, sex, disability, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, race, religious beliefs or other irrelevant factors.

All staff undertake mandatory equal opportunity training and our Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and Procedure supports our organisation in fulfilling its obligations under the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010.*

Preventing Violence Against Women

Council continues to support the prevention of violence against women by promoting gender equity, respectful relationships and safe, inclusive communities. This prevention focus aligns with Council's health and wellbeing planning approach, which is reflected in the Council Plan and in the Gender Equality Action Plan 2026–2030.

Council's partnership with Women's Health Loddon Mallee through the Collective Action for Respect and Equality Initiative continues to provide access to training and support actions within the Gender Equality Action Plan.

Council also participates in an active Gender Equality Network with agencies across the local government area, supporting initiatives such as the 16 Days of Activism.



Developing Our People

Council is committed to providing learning and development opportunities to support the continued professional development of our staff.
This year staff have accessed a range of learning and development opportunities including on-the-job training and coaching, attendance at courses, workshops, seminars, conferences, webinars, meetings, and participation in professional networks. More than 6700 hours of organisational training was provided to staff during the year. During 2025-26, three staff members were provided study assistance to complete courses in Procurement and Supply, Public Safety (Leadership) and Work Health and Safety.

Staff Induction Workshops and ongoing training

As part of the Induction process for new employees, they must attend a compulsory Staff Induction Workshop. Four Staff Induction Workshops were held during 2025/26, and a total of 51 new employees attended a workshop.
Staff are required to complete a number of compulsory training courses on a regular basis for compliance.

Every three years staff complete:

- Cultural Competence Program
- Online Corporate Induction / Policy & Procedure Training
- Victorian Child Safe Standards
- Bullying and Harassment
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Fraud and Corruption Awareness and Prevention

Every two years staff complete:

- Appropriate Workplace Behaviours
- Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

Online training

Council continued to offer an expanded suite of compliance courses through online training providers.
All internal courses are developed with industry experts and the courses are delivered in an engaging and easy to use format.
Courses are designed in line with relevant legislation, are fully customisable and are suitable for Council.
The system also allows for only the administrators to record attendance and completion of in person training (accredited and non-accredited) upon receipt of successful completion certificate.

Traffic Management Training

The combined TC1 and TMI course was delivered over three days in September with the Final Assessment held on Wednesday, 11 February 2026. Six employees successfully completed this course.

Cyber Security Training

Regular compulsory cyber security training was provided to all staff during 2025-26, through the Huntress Security Training platform. A total of 78,275 cyber security training hours were completed in 2025-26.

Valuing Our People

Council recognises that our people are central to achieving our goals and delivering high-quality services for the community. We are committed to providing a workplace where employees feel supported, valued and equipped to contribute their skills, experience and ideas.

Attracting, developing and retaining a skilled workforce continues to be a priority in a challenging employment market. Council continues to respond to workforce pressures, including skills shortages, changing employee expectations, an ageing workforce and staff turnover, by implementing initiatives that strengthen workforce capability and promote Council as an employer of choice.

Key workforce strategies include:

- building employee capability through targeted training and development opportunities
- continuing implementation of Council's Workforce Plan, including succession planning, recruitment and retention initiatives, and support for apprenticeships, traineeships and education assistance programs.
- supporting flexible and phased retirement options to retain knowledge and experience
- improving systems and processes to support productivity and service delivery
- offering flexible work arrangements that support different career and life stages.

Through its diverse workforce, Council delivers a broad range of community, social, health, regulatory, infrastructure and environmental services. Our people also play an important role in supporting local economic activity and employment across the municipality.

Staff Recognition Awards

Our staff are at the heart of everything we do. The Staff Awards recognise the dedication, professionalism and passion shown across our organisation, celebrating individuals and teams who go above and beyond in their roles. These awards highlight the values we strive to uphold and the meaningful impact our people make in serving our community every day.



ELT Customer Service Award and overall winner
Aurelien Jean-Louis

Staff recognition awards



ELT Partnership Award
Natalie Thomson



Infrastructure
Strategic Pillar Winner
Domonic Johnston



Growth and Development
Strategic Pillar Winner
Dione Heppell



Community and Liveability
Strategic Pillar Winner
Library Team



Environmental Sustainability
Strategic Pillar Winner
Parks and Gardens (Nyah Storm)



Innovation/Customer Service Winner
Lauren Bowen and Adam Hunter



Transparency and Effectiveness
Strategic Pillar Winner
Michael Cook



Health and Wellbeing
Strategic Pillar Winner
Darren Rovere

Staff service awards



10 years of Service
Stuart McMillan



10 years of Service
Darayle Wilkinson



10 years of Service
Vicki Taylor



20 years of Service
Catherine Schulz



20 years of Service
Ash Free



25 years of Service
Rebecca Carmichael



25 years of Service
Karen Delmenico



35 years of Service
Gillian Williams



Part Five

Our Performance

Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting

Strategic planning is the process of defining an organisation's direction and priorities and deciding how to allocate resources to pursue these.
Section 89 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to prepare its Council Plan and other strategic plans in accordance with the strategic planning principles. These are:

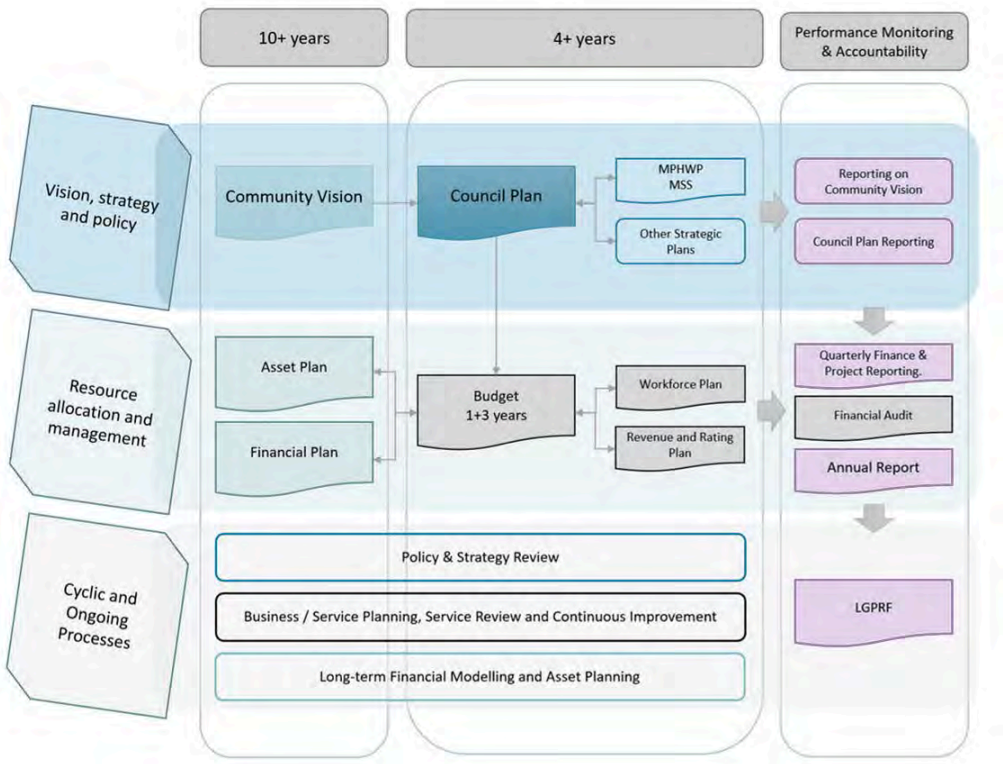
- an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted;
- strategic planning must address the Community Vision
- strategic planning must take into account the resources needed for effective implementation;
- strategic planning must identify and address the risks to effective implementation;
- strategic planning must provide for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular reviews to identify and address changing circumstances.

Council has developed an integrated long term and transparent approach to planning organised around our ten-year community vision.

We have a great place to live, work and grow, shared by our diverse culture and connected community.

The four-year Council Plan is the key planning document of Council and includes strategies for achieving council's objectives, and indicators for monitoring the achievement of those objectives.

Councils integrated strategic framework, including the key strategic plans, is illustrated below.



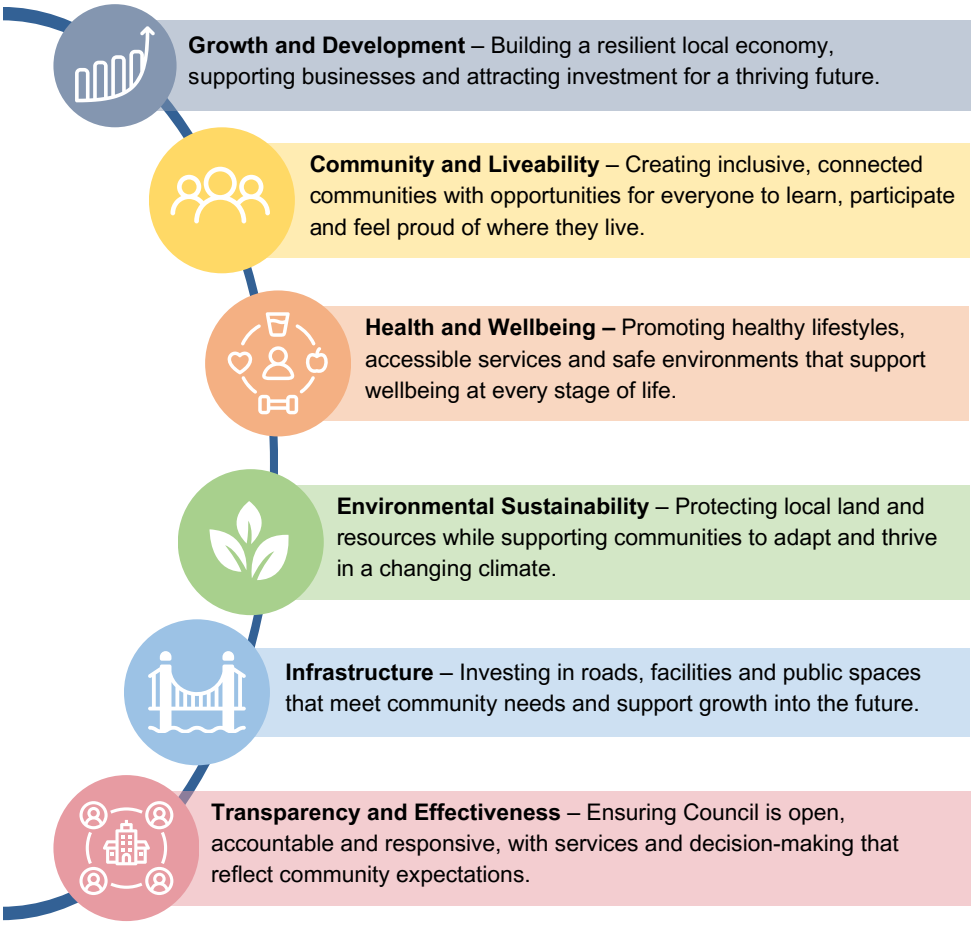
In this part of the Annual Report, we report on our performance in achieving our strategic objectives.

Community Vision and Council Plan

The Swan Hill Rural City Council Plan 2025–2029 is a medium-term strategic plan, developed for both the community and the organisation. It sets out the priorities, strategies, and actions that will guide how Council delivers services, allocates resources, and responds to local needs over the next four years.

Pillars

The six pillars in our Council Plan represent the key areas of focus for Swan Hill Rural City Council over the next four years. They bring together shared aspirations, local priorities and the work needed to support a thriving, connected community.



Each pillar includes goals, strategies and actions that guide decision-making and investment. Together, they provide a clear pathway for delivering services, strengthening liveability and supporting growth across our municipality.

In delivering this Council Plan, Council plays a variety of roles determined by the action each strategy leads to. These include:

- **Advocate** – representing community needs to other levels of government and external partners.
- **Facilitator** – enabling collaboration and supporting community-led initiatives.
- **Provider** – delivering Council-run services, programs or infrastructure.
- **Collaborator** – working with others to achieve shared outcomes.



Service Performance

This part reviews the performance of council against each pillar of the council plan including results achieved in relation to the strategic indicators included in the council plan, and the services and major initiatives funded in the 2025/26 budget.

Pillar 1- Growth and Development

Building a resilient local economy supporting businesses and attracting investment for a thriving futue.

Objectives	Achievements
Support housing that meets community needs and enables future population growth	• Supporting diverse housing to meet community needs by completing a 10-unit complex at McCartney Court in Robinvale for essential health and education sector workers. • Strengthening Councils planning and coordination capacity to enable housing growth by mainitaining strong statutory planning permit application timeframes.
Strengthen the visitor economy by showcasing the municipality's unique places, culture and experiences	Supported a range of accommodation options to attract and retain overnight visitors by: • Releasing expressions of interest for 42 Monash Drive and 64-66 McCrae Street • Promoting the location of dump pointed in Lake Boga and Swan Hill. Completed the conceptual design for the Pental Island Cultural Precinct Interactive Experience Centre
Grow local businesses and attract investment into the municipality.	Became a business-friendly destination by: • Completing an audit to determine the business composition and gaps within the marketplace • Supporting 12 applicants of the Business Facade Program • Drafting the Swan Hill Central precinct Masterplan • Working towards a December 2026 finalisation of the Industrial Land Use Strategy Strengthened advocacy through regional and cross border partnerships, including meetings in April with the Cross Border Commissioner. Leveraged the municipality's agricultural strengths to support industry growth by: • Planning the Growing Export Forum • Conducting a strategic review of the Livestock Exchange. • Writing a brief for the Rural Land Use Strategy which will be progressed later in 2026 Supported businesses to build a strong local workforce by supporting May Means Business workshops.

Services funded in the 2025/26 Budget

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2025/26 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

Service Area	Description	Budget Actual Variance $'000
Building and planning statutory services	Provide statutory planning services including processing all planning applications, providing advice and making decisions about development proposals that require a planning permit. Represent Council at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal where necessary. Monitor Council's Planning Scheme and prepare major policy documents shaping the future of the municipality. Provide statutory building services to the community, including processing building permits, emergency management responsibilities, fire safety inspections, swimming pool barrier audits and complaints, and illegal building works investigations.	887 556 (331)
Caravan parks	Provide and maintain caravan park facilities to a standard that promotes local tourism and supports a high quality of life.	(29) (130) (101)
Economic development	Assist the organisation with economic development to facilitate an environment that is conducive to a sustainable and growing local business sector and provide opportunities for local residents to improve their skill levels and access employment.	4,975 (1,978) (6,953)
Livestock exchange	Provide a livestock selling facility and associated services to primary producers, purchasers and stock agents	183 (311) (494)
Pioneer Settlement and Visitor Information Services	Marketing and promotion of the Swan Hill municipality and Pioneer Settlement as a tourist destination, providing quality visitor programs, education and information for all visitors to our region. The ongoing care and conservation of the Pioneer Settlement and its collection, and the daily activation of the museum site are important responsibilities of this service area.	1,451 1,350 (101)
Residential development	Facilitating the efficient development of Council owned land and the maximisation of economic returns to rate payers from its realisation.	(2,281) (671) 1,610

Major Initiatives

The following statement reviews the progress of council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2025/26 budget for the year.

Major Initiative	Progress
Tower Hill stage 16 residential estate development (Budget: $2,790,000 Actual: $0)	Incomplete
Pioneer Settlement transitional experience/ virtual reality interaction (Budget: $500,000 Actual: $0)	Incomplete
Pental Island native seedbank nursery (Budget: $50,000 Actual: $0)	Incomplete
Swan Hill caravan park assets renewal (Budget: $120,000 Actual: $0)	Incomplete
Lake Boga caravan park assets renewal (Budget: $29,000 Actual: $28,579)	Complete
Robinvale caravan park assets renewal (Budget: $20,000 Actual: $22,850)	Complete
Art Gallery redevelopment (Budget: $1,991,000 Actual: $2,425,398)	Complete
Cultural and Tourism Hub redevelopment (Budget: $1,861,000 Actual: $1,418,840)	Complete

Pillar 2 - Community and Liveability

Creating inclusive, connected communities with opportunitieds for everyone top learn, particpate and feel proud of where they live.

Objectives	Outcomes Achieved
Support learning and development opportunities for people of all ages and abilities	Strengthened access to early childhood and care services by: • Investigating the potential for a Children's and Youth Hub • Providing data to providers in Robinvale and Swan Hill on areas of unmet demand • Preparing advocacy papers to reinforce position on critical early childhood shortages in the region. Enabled informal learning opportunities by: • Holding a very successful Youth Leadership Camp in January 2026, as part of the Youth Strategy. • Entering into agreements with three Senior Citizen Clubs for access to buildings and activities • Securing funding for Seniors Week activities.
Celebrate and grow diverse arts, culture, and creative events	Strengthened the Performing Arts to expand regional reach and grow local particpation by: • Forming the North West Arts Network • Partnering with a local yoga instructor to present workshops on meditation and music • Working with Robinvale Secondary College to present regular workshops to drama students • Making performance art more accessible though Mallee Arts Lab • Presenting childrens shows, local ballet and school concerts at the Robinvale Community Arts Centre.
Foster a welcoming, inclusive, and connected community.	Strengthened community participation and connection by: • Reviewing the Event Policy and Procedure • Attending to temporary traffic management • Sharing Bendigo Councils Loddon Mallee volunteering initiatives. Embedded inclusive practices across Council's operations, events and community partnerships by administering the Event Support Grant Program. Reduced barriers to involvement by underrepresented groups by: • delivering deliberative community engagement training to three staff and achieving IAP2 Certification through the International Association of Public Participation. Strengthened community participation and connection by: • enhancing event and venue processes through the provision of temporary traffic management for Council events, including events at Riverside Park and the Robinvale Mallee Almond Blossom Festival. Reduced barriers to involvement for under-represented groups by providing Cultural Safety Training to Council staff.

Services funded in the 2025/26 Budget

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2025/26 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

Service Area	Description of Service Area	Budget Actual Variance $'000
Community centres	Community centres located across the municipality that provide residents a place to gather for social, educational, recreational or cultural activities.	443 573 130
Community development	Effective and ongoing liaison with, and support to, community and recreation groups.	741 666 (75)
Cultural services	Performing arts, art gallery and library services. A customer-focused service that caters for the cultural, educational and recreational needs of residents, while offering a place for the community to meet, relax and enjoy the facilities and services. Includes the operation and maintenance of the Swan Hill Town Hall and Performing Arts Centre.	2,422 2,516 94
Family, youth and childrens services	Family oriented support services including pre-schools, youth services, out of school hours, and vacation care programs.	490 183 (307)

Major Initiatives

The following statement reviews the progress of council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2025/26 budget for the year.

Major Initiative	Status
Australian Creative Rural Economy (ACRE) project (Budget: $24,405 Actual: $636)	Incomplete
FREEZA Activities (Budget: $26,735 Actual: $13,578)	Incomplete
Youth Support Engage program (Budget: $111,940 Actual: $89,023)	Incomplete



Pillar 3 - Health and Wellbeing

Promoting healthy lifestyles, accessible services and safe environments that support wellbeing at every stage of life

Objectives	Outcomes Achieved
Improve access to health and wellbeing services	• Advocated for access to general and mental health services by providing ongoing support to the Euston Suicide prevention network • Advocated for upgrades to the Swan Hill District Health Service in Councils Advocacy Plan, and through its April 2026 meeting with the Cross Border Commissioner. • Improved access to Maternal and Child Health services by developing a succession plan for graduate nurses, enabling them to consolidate their theoretical knowledge and gain valuable clinical experience.
Promote healthy, inclusive, and safe communities	Encouraged healthy and active living through local partnerships by: • Providing ongoing support for the Food for All food security program, and Swan Hill District Health's Condom Access Program. • Supporting the delivery of Stage 2 Centenary Park Robinvale. Created safer public spaces by: • Delivering lighting and safety upgrades in priority public areas, including planning for ithe installation of lighting along the footpath between the Pioneer settlement and the Swan Hill Riverside Park Caravan Park. • Being a partner in the Mallee Family Violence Initiative and securing grant funding for 16 Days of Activism. Reduced the impacts of climate change by: • Enhancing collaboration with emergency management networks, with a significant amount of work being done to improve emergency preparedness and capability, particularly in facilities operated by Council.

Services funded in the 2025/26 Budget

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2025/26 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

Service Area	Description of Service Area	Budget Actual Variance $'000
Community planning	Support for the development and implementation of Community Plans and liaison with our Indigenous community.	227 155 (72)
Emergency management	Provides emergency management planning and support ensuring the municipality is prepared in the event of an emergency.	291 762 471
Maternal & Child Health	Providing information, advice and support to those caring for babies and young children.	752 629 (123)
Public health & regulatory services	Co-ordinate food safety, immunisations and management of public health concerns to ensure an acceptable state of physical, mental and social wellbeing is maintained within the community. This service also provides staff at school crossings throughout the municipality, animal management services, parking control and enforcement and provides education, regulation and enforcement of the general Local Law and relevant state legislation.	1,172 893 (279)



Pillar 4 - Environmental Sustainability

Protecting local land and resources while supporting communities to adapt and thrive in a changing environment.

Objectives	Outcomes Achieved
Protect and enhance local land, biodiversity, and natural assets for future generations	• Implemented streetscape and tree planting projects aligned with Councils Urban Tree Management Plan, including the planting of 190 additional trees. • Continued delivering Councils Riverfront Management Plans by securing funding under the Growing Regions Fund Program to; renew the Ten Steps at Swan Hill Riverside Park, construct a Boat Mooring Platform, Robinvale Riverfront Terraces, and Pental Island Pedestrian Bridge. • Enhanced biodiversity across the municipality by integrating these considerations into infrastructure projects and capital works, including minimising ther amount of vegetation impacted or removed, and if removed making sure non native vegetation is replanted, and for native vegetation, the appropriate offsets purchased under the Vegetation Offset Scheme.
Reduce waste and support a circular economy	Improved waste and resource recovery systems to support a circular economy by: • Progressing the Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) service • Advertising and supporting the community on the Container Deposit Scheme • Promoting correct recycling and waste reduction • Requiring the FOGO operator to provide a business plan for the end market for the final bagged product. • Investigating circular economy options for the operation of the plastic bailer to dupport the diversion of waste from landfill.

Services funded in the 2025/26 Budget

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2025/26 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

Service Area	Description of Service Area	Budget Actual Variance $'000
Environmental management	Advocate for and assist to deliver environmental projects and tree maintenance as part of Council's aim to become more sustainable in both built and natural environments.	1,267 1,017 (250)
Waste management	Provide waste collection services, including kerbside collection of garbage, hard waste and green waste from households and some commercial properties. This service area aims to operate at a surplus in order to make provision for future waste management service and compliance costs, including the construction of new cells and compliance with environmental protection guidelines.	493 (1,365) (1,858)



Pillar 5 - Infrastructure

Investing in roads, facilities and poublic spaces that meet community needs and support growth into the future.

Objectives	Outcomes Achieved
Maintain and upgrade road infrastructure to support safe, efficient and accessible transport	Ensured road upgrades and maintenance are based on condition, usage and community needs by delivering renewal works to ensure roads are appropriately maintained by • Delivering the Gravel Re-Sheeting Program on time and budget and covering 81,000 m2. A budget surplus was used to offset the increased diesal costs during the fuel crisis and the the effects of the Road Transport Contractuial Chain Order. • Delivering the Re-Sealing Program and assessing the roads most in need, which resulted in over 165,000sqm being resealed. Advocated for improved transport services through regular calls and meetings with the Department of Transport and as a member of the Regional Freight Alliance.
Make the best use of Council assets to meet local needs and support long-term sustainability	• Adopted the Strategic Asset Management Plan in September 2025, which includes modelling for all assets. • Achieved an Asset Renewal and Upgrade to Depreciation Ratio of 142.36% demonstrating Councils strong investment in renewal and upgrade of infrastructure assets. • Delivered significant capital works including rehabilitation of Quambatook Road and Karinie Street. • Maintained overall condition and standard of Council's road network as evidenced by the Community Satisfaction Rating of 48 (above the average for large shires) for sealed local roads, and 41 (equivalent to state and large shires) for unsealed local roads. • Improved the quality of building asset data through regular condition and defect inspections and implementation of the building componentisation program (AAS). • Implemented a fit for purpose asset management system in collaboration with neighbouring Councils. During 2025/26, data migration, establishment of consistent data structures, inspection methodologies, defect classification and task types were implemented.

Objectives	Outcomes Achieved
Improve connectivity between key precincts and cross-border infrastructure for regional growth	Advocated for a new Swan Hill Bridge as the number one priority by: • Meeting with Community for NSW Community Session (March 2026) and the joint meeting with Transport NSW, Department of Transport and Planning (Vic) and Murray River Group of Councils (May 2026). • Advocating to the State Government for funding to support key initiatives for both Swan Hill and Robinvale Riverfronts • Reviewing and drafting a report on the Integrated Transport Land Use Strategy
Reduce urban flood risk and support future development by improving drainage infrastructure	Advocated and collaborated on urban water management by introducing and supporting key partners at regional events and forums.
Enhance community facilities and open spaces to support recreation, inclusion and wellbeing	Delivered playground and open space upgrades at Nyah Recreation Reserve and Woorinen. Planning is underway for playground renewals in 2026/27 at Ultima Lions and Memorial Park and the installation of a shade sail at Riverside Park's toddler play area. Delivered public spaces that support physical activity and inclusion by : • implementing the Missing Links Footpath Strategy, including the completion of the Missing Links Footpath Projects in Manangatang and Woorinen and by securing funding through the Flexible Local Transport Solutions Program to address missing link footpaths in Robinvale, Nyah and Piangil. • Continuing the delivery of our Public Convenience Strategy by renewing the McCallum Street toilets, relocating the Gurnett Oval toilets and building new facilities at Centenary Park. • Completing the Lake Boga Netball Court Redevelopment Project and the Nyah Cricket Hub Facility.

Services funded in the 2025/26 Budget

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2025/26 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

Service Area	Description of Service Area	Net Cost Actual Budget Variance $'000
Amenity and safety	Provide the community with well-maintained public areas with a focus on community access and safety. Maintain urban streets and public areas, including footpaths, in a clean and litter-free state and provide access to public conveniences and lighting of public areas. Provide and maintain efficient and effective open and underground drainage systems.	4,859 3,659 (1,200)
Community buildings	Maintain and renew community buildings and facilities, including community centres, public halls and pre-schools.	765 325 (440)
Infrastructure planning and management	Provide for the planning, design and project management of Council's capital works program. Management of Council's plant and fleet assets and depot operations.	1,447 2,218 771
Leisure centres	A wide range of programs and services giving the community a chance to participate in cultural, health, education, and leisure activities that contribute to the community's general wellbeing.	996 856 (140)
Recreation	Maintain Council's parks, reserves, playgrounds and streetscapes in a functional and visually pleasing landscape.	5,499 2,721 (2,778)
Swiming pools	Provide quality, accessible aquatic facilities that support a high quality of life for residents and visitors.	527 489 (38)
Traffic & transportation services	Manage Council's roads and associated infrastructure assets. Ongoing maintenance and renewal work to municipal infrastructure assets including sealed roads, unsealed roads, footpaths and aerodromes.	7,294 5,828 (1,466)

Major Initiatives

The following statement reviews the progress of council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2025/26 budget for the year.

Major Initiative	Status
Re-seal sealed roads (Budget: $1,400,000 Actual: $1,545,533)	Complete
Re-sheet unsealed gravel roads (Budget: $810,000 Actual: $618,856)	Complete
Complete road works funded by the Federal Roads to Recovery Program (Budget: $2,524,000 Actual: $2,765,614)	Complete
Replacement of irrigation pump at Robinvale (Budget $78,000 Actual: $0)	Incomplete
Playground equipment renewal and upgrades (Budget: $115,830 Actual: $153,655)	Complete
Robinvale Community Arts Centre Renewal (Budget: $170,000 Actual: $73,340)	Complete
Stormwater condition assessments (Budget: $60,000 Actual: $73,000)	Complete



Pillar 6 - Transparency and Effectiveness

Ensuring Council is open, accountable and responsive, with services and decision-making that reflect community expectations.

Objective	Outcomes Achieved
Deliver accessible, responsive and inclusive customer and community engagement	Improved community engagement and participation in Council decisions by: • promoting engagement opportunities through a range of channels, including social media, print publications, radio interviews, media releases and face to face consultations. • Planning for the development of a Creative Straegy in 2026-27. Made it easier for local businesses to engage amd partner with Council by providing plain language tender guides and supports to clarify and questions during the tender process. • Delivered consistent culturally safe and inclusive customer service by extending the Let's Talk Platform (on Councils website) to include access to 14 languages other than english.
Strengthen Council's internal capability, resources, systems and financial sustainability.	• Built internal capability and partnerships to meet evolving community needs by conducting business reviews to identify areas for prioritisation and further review; and, exploring shared service models with neighbouring Councils, including the provisions of Municipal Building Surveyor services, IT Services and joint tenders to market. • Maintained long term financial sustainability by annually reviewing capital expenditure in line with the long-term Financial Plan; and, by advocating for fairer funding through the Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Fiscal Sustainability, and supporting the MAV submission on the Road Transport Contractual Chain Order. • Improved service delivery through innovation and technology by commencing the development of a roadmap IT Strategy. • Strengthened local workforce pathways and succession planning by investing in structured entry level employment, supporting trainees, apprentices, students and work experience participants across a range of service areas; approved the Workforce Plan for the next 4 years; targeted recruitment and training through workforce analysis, and developed a sustainable talent pipeline to meet future service delivery needs through workforce planning, professional development and progression opportunities.

Services funded in the 2025/26 Budget

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2025/26 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

Service Area	Description of Service Area	Budget Actual Variance $'000
Councillors and corporate management	Governance includes the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, Executive Leadership Team and associated support, which cannot easily be attributed to the direct service provision areas.	2,530 2,576 46
Community relationships	Proactively communicate Council decisions, programs and events to the community using a range of methods and assist the organisation to respond to community issues as they arise.	325 320 (5)
Council properties	Management of Council properties to enable the achievement of Council strategic objectives.	4,581 225 (4,356)
Management of resources	Manage Council's offices along with human and financial resources to effectively and efficiently fulfil Council objectives. This includes rate raising and collection, customer service, human resource management, office site management, Council finances, information technology and records management.	(31,182) (34,221) (3,039)

Major Initiatives

The following statement reviews the progress of council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2025/26 budget for the year.

Major Initiative	Progress
IT Software and equipment replacement (Budget: $140,000 Actual: $151,851.09)	Complete



Serving Our Community

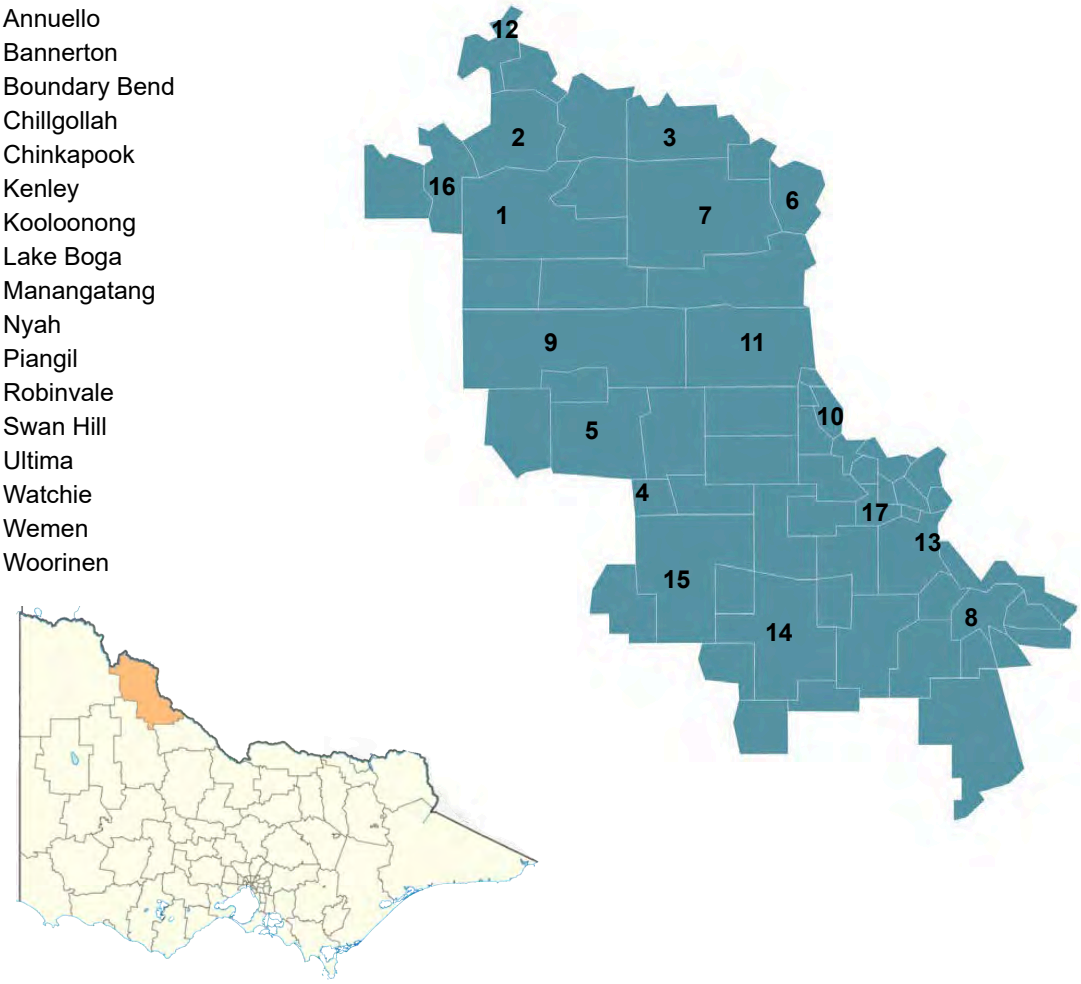
Service Performance Principles

Section 106 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, requires Council to plan and deliver services to the community in accordance with the service performance principles. The principles are:

- Services should be provided in an equitable manner and be responsive to the diverse needs of the municipal community.
- Services should be accessible to the members of the municipal community for whom the services are intended.
- Quality and costs standards for services set by the Council should provide good value to the municipal community.
- Council should seek to continuously improve service delivery to the municipal community in response to performance monitoring.
- Service delivery must include a fair and effective process for considering and responding to complaints about service provision.

Council provides services to all communities across our municipality, from Robinvale and Boundary Bend in the north to Ultima and Lake Boga in the south.

1. Annuello
2. Bannerton
3. Boundary Bend
4. Chillgollah
5. Chinkapook
6. Kenley
7. Kooloonong
8. Lake Boga
9. Manangatang
10. Nyah
11. Piangil
12. Robinvale
13. Swan Hill
14. Ultima
15. Watchie
16. Wemen
17. Woorinen



Local Government Performance Reporting Framework

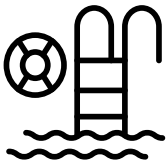
The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework is a mandatory system of performance reporting for all Victorian councils. It ensures that councils are measuring and reporting on their performance in a consistent way to promote transparency and accountability in the local government sector. There are nine service areas included in the framework, and the results are presented below. All Victorian Council results are available to view and compare on the 'Know Your Council' website.



Animal Management

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Time taken to action animal management requests The average number of days it has taken for Council to action animal management related requests.	1.31	1.29	1.08	1.12	The time taken to Acton animal management requests has remained consistent with previous years and evidences a timely response by authorised officers.
Animals reclaimed The percentage of collected registrable animals under the Domestic Animal Act 1994 reclaimed.	29.56%	22.77%	21.20%	24.60%	The number of collected animals reclaimed by their owners has increased since 2024-25. However, the results also show that, on average, one animal per day is unclaimed.
Animals rehomed The percentage of unclaimed collected registrable animals under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 that are rehomed.	60.95%	86.94%	86.71%	87.72%	The number of collected animals that have been rehomed is consistent with 2024-25 results, and remains consistently high.
Cost of animal management service The direct cost of the animal manaement service per head of population.	$14.02	$23.83	$22.21	$20.53	The cost of delivering the animal management service decreased in 2025-26.
Animal management prosecutions The percentage of animal management prosecutions which are successful.	0%	0%	0%	0%	No animal management prosecutions in 2025-26.



Aquatic Facilities

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Health inspections of aquatic facilities The number of inspections by an authorised officer within the meaning of the Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008 carried out per Council aquatic facility.	0.6	1	1	1.2	In 2025-26, a number of aquatic facilities received multiple water quality inspections.
Utilisation of aquatic facilities The number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population	6.17	8.68	9.63	8.85	Community use of aquatic facilities has increased significantly since 2023 but saw a decline in use, particularly across the larger facilities during 2025-26.
Cost of aquatic facilities The direct cost less any income received of providing aquatic facilities per visit	$12.39	$8.69	$7.54	$7.10	The cost of aquatic facilities in the municipality remains low based on the number of people who use the facilities.



Food Safety

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

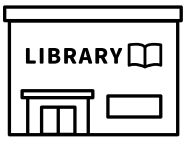
Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Time taken to action food complaints The average number of days it has taken for Council to action food complaints received from members of the public about the safety or handling of food for sale.	3.17	2.22	2.06	1.72	Despite there being a significant increase in the number of food complaints received in 2025-26, the timeliness to action food complaints has improved since 2024/25, evidencing increased responsiveness.
Food safety assessments The percentage of registered class 1 food premises and class 2 food premises that receive an annual food safety assessment.	84.76%	83.87%	97.04%	97.39%	The number of annual food safety inspections were consistent with previous years.
Cost of food safety service The direct cost of the food safety service per food premises regoisterewd by Council, or for which Council has received notification, during the financial year.	$690.59	$572.54	$723.70	$669.80	Council continues to deliver its food safety service in a cost efficient manner.
Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications The percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council.	100%	100%	100%	100%	A follow up inspection was conducted on all food premises that were assessed as either critical or major non-compliant.
Food safety samples The percentage of food samples obtained per required number of food samples.	NA (New in 2024)	121.28%	100%	104.44%	Council submitted more than the required number of food safety samples. Of those, around 96 per cent of samples were found to be satisfactory.



Governance

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Council resolutions made at meetings closed to the public The percentage of Council resolutions made at a meeting of Council, or at a meeting of a delegated committee consisting only oif Councillors, closed to the public under section 66(1) of the Act.	5.56%	11.40%	14.07%	15.78%	There has been an increase in the number of Council decisions being made in meetings closed to the public. The result sits within the expected range.
Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement The community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of the Council. This includes consulting and engaging directly with the community on key local issues requiring decisions by Councils.	50	46	53	55	Community satisfaction with 'the opportunity to give feedback on key local issues', continues to be rated in the low to mid 50s. The result is above the target set by Council for 2025-26 and is within the expected range.
Councillor attendence at Council meetings The percentage of attendance at Council meetings by Councillors.	89.52%	84.82%	93.33%	89.01%	The number of Councillors absent from a Council meeting in 2025-26 was consistent with previous years.
Cost of elected representation The direct cost of delivering Council's governance service per Councillor.	$53,992.70	$52,767.49	$55,869.57	$62,527.55	Increased investment in elected representation in 2025-26 due to the mandatory requirement for ongoing councillor professional development.
Satisfaction with Council decisions The community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed in making decision in the best interests of the community.	45	43	51	51	Community satisfaction with 'Council decisions made in the interest of the community' is unchanged from the result achieved in 2024-25.



Libraries

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Recently purchased library collection The percentage of the library collection that has been purchased int he last 5 years.	37.07%	46.92%	44.33%	60.93%	Council continues its strong investment in library resources for the community. The library service significantly increased its online magazine and newspaper collection in 2025-2026 through a shared purchase as part of a library consortium.
Cost of library service The cost of the library service per head of population.	$51.98	$66.53	$67.24	$64.58	The cost of delivering the library service to the community continues to be relatively cost effective based on the size of the municipal community.
Library loans per population The number of library collectioon item loans per head of population.	NA (New in 2024)	4.48	5.12	5.11	The community continues to value Councils investment in library resources, with the range of resources available in the library collections well utilised in 2025-26.
Library membership The percentage of resident municipal population who are registered library members.	NA (New in 2024)	27.24%	28.61%	22.84%	Library membership remains consistent with previous years. 2025 result should have been 22.46% indicating a difference in 2026 of only 0.02%.
Library visits per population The number of library visits per head of population.	NA (New in 2024)	2.6	2.64	2.58	Visits to the library remain consistent with previous years results, at around 2.5 visits on average per head of population.



Maternal and Child Health

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Infant enrolments in the MCH service The percentage of infants enrolled in the MCH service.	100.69%	100.33%	99.29%	99.59%	99.59% enrolment in 2025-26, due in part to some extended neonatal inpatient stays as newborns.
Cost of the MCH service The cost of the MCH service per hour of service delivered.	$110.69	$110.38	$114.76	$132.20	Increased costs in 2025-26 due to increases in a number of expenses, including staffing and utilities.
Participation in MCH service The percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service.	89.19%	86.79%	85.96%	86.56%	Council continues to promote healthy outcomes for children and families, and the result shows that families continue to regularly engage with our Maternal and Child Health services.
Participation in MCH service by Aboriginal children The percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service.	83.57%	91.49%	85.90%	84.72%	Council continues to promote healthy outcomes for children and families. Participation during 2025-26 remained strong despite some movement of families between providers within the municipality.
Participation in 4-week Key Age and Stage visit The percentage of infants enrolled in the MCH service who participated in 4-week Key Age and Stage visit.	92.44%	94.00%	92.55%	91.77%	Almost 92 per cent of families with newborns participated in the free 4 week ages and stages visit during 2025-26. During this visit, safe sleeping, hearing and feeding your baby is discussed in partnership with families, to help provide newborns with the best start to life.



Roads

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Sealed local road requests The number of sealed local road requests per 100 kilometres of sealed local roads.	14.64	10.55	12.00	13.06	There has been an increase in community requests for maintenance of Councils sealed local roads.
Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards The percentage of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level set by Council and not requiring renewal.	99.27%	98.95%	96.79%	98.68%	The number of kilometres (km) of sealed local roads that require intervention by Council to meet the required standard, remains consistent at around 1.5 per cent of the total km of sealed local roads.
Cost of sealed local road reconstruction The direct reconstruction cost per square metre of sealed roads reconstructed.	$30.97	$76.08	$96.41	$130.55	Road reconstruction program needed designs with considerable drainage infrastructure that inflated the sq/meterage cost.
Cost of sealed local road resealing The direct resealing cost per square metre of sealed local roads resealed.	$6.79	$6.18	$6.20	$9.65	Increased material and contractor rates in the past 12 months, an additional fuel levy from the Road Transport Contractual Chain of Responsibility has added pressure on the Sealed Roads - Reseal Program budget.
Satisfaction with sealed local roads The commuinity satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads.	44	35	45	48	Community satisfaction with sealed local roads has increased significantly (37%) since 2023-24.



Statutory Planning

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Time taken to decide planning applications The median number of days taken between receipt of a planning application and a decision on the application.	96	51	62	59	The number of days it takes to decide planning applications continues to decline.
Planning applications decided within required time frames The percentage of regular and VicSmart planning application decisions made within legislated time frames.	59.85%	75.73%	86.07%	89.58%	Almost 90 per cent of planning applications are decided within the required time frames. This is slightly better than the result achieved in 2024/25 and above the target set by Council.
Cost of statutory planning service The direct cost of the statutory planning service per planning application received.	$3,967.19	$5,483.89	$7,769.35	$6.323.70	Statutory Planning costs remained high in 2025-26 due to the use of consultants and legal costs.
Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT The percentage of planning application decisions subject to review by VCAT that were not set aside.	75%	100%	25%	0%	There was only one Council planning decision appealed to VCAT in 2025-26, and that Council decision was set aside by VCAT.



Waste Management

The following statement provides the results for 2025/26 against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures for the relevant service area, including any commentary on the results.

Indicator | Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Actual	Comment
Kerbside collection bins missed The number of kerbside collection bins missed per 10,000 scheduled kewrbside collection bin lifts.	5.19	2.29	3.92	1.27	There has been a significant reduction in the number of kerbside collection bins missed in 2025-26 compared to 2024-25, evidencing the effectiveness of our waste collection service.
Cost of kerbside garbage bin collection service The direct cost of the kerbside garbage bin collection service per kerbside garbage collection bin.	$106.77	$109.58	$112.47	$124.87	The cost of kerbside garbage bin collection has increased due to an increased number of properties, higher waste levy, and other expenses.
Cost of kerbside recyclables bin collection service The direct cost of the kerbside recyclables collection service (including the contract cost of collection) per kerbside recyclables collection bin.	$88.77	$86.49	$89.38	$92.28	The cost of kerbside recyclables collection service has remained consistent with previous year's results.
Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill The percentage of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted form landfill.	29.28%	28.38%	28.40%	28.57%	The percentage of kerbside waste diverted from landfill is consistent with previous years but remains low compared to other Councils, who have introduced a mandatory organics waste collection to help reduce kerbside garbage waste. There has also been a steady decline in the amount of kerbside recyclable waste collected over the last few years, which may be a consequence of the state governments Container Deposit Scheme to encourage a circular economy.



Part Six

Corporate Governance



Governance and Management

Council Leadership

Swan Hill Rural City Council is constituted under the *Local Government Act 2020* to provide leadership for the good governance of the municipality and the local community. Council has a number of roles including:

- Taking into account the diverse needs of the local community in decision-making.
- Providing leadership by establishing strategic objectives and monitoring achievements.
- Ensuring that resources are managed in a responsible and accountable manner.
- Advocating the interests of the local community to other communities and governments.
- Fostering community cohesion and encouraging active participation in civic life.

Council is committed to effective and sustainable forms of democratic and corporate governance as the key to ensuring that Council and its administration meet the community's priorities. The community has many opportunities to provide input into Council's decision-making processes including community consultation, public forums such as Council meetings and the ability to make submissions to Council. Council's formal decision-making processes are conducted through Council meetings and Delegated Committees of Council. Council delegates the majority of its decision-making to Council staff. These delegations are exercised in accordance with adopted Council policies.

Meetings of Council

Council conducts open public meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. For the 2025/26 year, Council held 11 Scheduled Council Meetings and 2 Unscheduled Council Meetings.

No Delegated Committees have been established under section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020.*

Date	Location	Date	Location
Jul 15, 2025	Swan Hill	Mar 17, 2026	Robinvale
Aug 19, 2025	Swan Hill	Apr 21, 2026	Swan Hill
Sep 16, 2025	Swan Hill	Apr 28, 2026	Swan Hill
Oct 21, 2025	Swan Hill	May 19, 2026	Swan Hill
Nov 18, 2025	Swan Hill	Jun 2, 2026	Swan Hill
Dec 16, 2025	Swan Hill	Jun 16, 2026	Swan Hill
Feb 17, 2026	Swan Hill		

Councillor attendance at Council meetings

The following table provides a summary of Councillor attendance at Scheduled Council Meetings and Unscheduled Council Meetings for the 20225/26 financial year.

Councillor	Scheduled Council Meetings - Eligible to attend	Scheduled Council Meetings - attended	Unscheduled Council Meetings - Eligible to attend	Unscheudled Council Meetings - Attended	Total Council Meetings Attended
Cr Stuart King	11	11	2	2	13
Cr Les McPhee	10	9	2	1	10
Cr Hugh Broad	11	10	2	2	12
Cr Peta Thorton	11	11	2	2	13
Cr Lindsay Rogers	11	9	2	0	9
Cr Phillip Englefield	11	11	2	2	13
Cr Terry Jennings	11	9	2	2	11

Conflict of Interest

Councillors and staff are required by legislation to act in the best interests of the community. During the course of dealing with matters that come before Council for decision, individual Councillors and members of staff might find that they or their immediate family, have a financial or some other advantage that could be interpreted as having undue influence on the outcome. A conflict of interest occurs when personal or private interests might compromise the ability to act in the public interest.
To ensure transparency in the decision-making processes of Council, both Councillors and staff are required to declare and document their interest in a matter. Where Councillors have declared an interest, they take no part in the decision-making process.
During 2025/26, 8 conflicts of interest were declared at Council meetings.

Councillor Allowances

In accordance with Section 39 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councillors are entitled to receive an allowance while performing their duty as a Councillor. The Deputy Mayor and Mayor are also entitled to receive a higher allowance. The base allowance is determined under the *Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019.*
The Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal determines the allowances paid to Councillors, Deputy Mayors and Mayors. Councils are divided into categories based on the income and population of each council. Swan Hill Rural City Council is a category two council.

For the period 1 July 2025 to 17 December 2025, the Councillor annual allowance for a category 2 council (as defined by the Act) was up to $35,049 per annum, Deputy Mayor was up to $57,673 per annum and Mayor was up to $115,347 per annum. For the period 18 December 2025 to 30 June 2026, the Councillor annual allowance for a category 2 council remained at $35,049 per annum, Deputy Mayor increased to $59,152 and the allowance for the Mayor increased to $118,303 per annum. The value of the allowance payable to Council members is inclusive of any Superannuation Guarantee Contribution amount, that is payable under Commonwealth law to the Council member.

The following table contains details of allowances paid to Councillors during the year.

Councillor	Total Allowances Paid 2025/26
Cr Stuart King (Mayor)	$116,936.23
Cr Terry Jennings	$49,732.76
Cr Les McPhee	$36,062.17
Cr Hugh Broad	$35,049.00
Cr Peta Thornton	$35,049.00
Cr Lindsay Rogers	$35,049.00
Cr Philip Englefield	$35,049.00
TOTAL	**$342,927.16**

Councillor Expenses

In accordance with Section 40 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to reimburse a Councillor for expenses incurred whilst performing his or her duties as a Councillor.

Council is also required to adopt and maintains a policy in relation to the reimbursement of expenses for Councillors. The policy provides guidance for the payment of reimbursements of expenses and the provision of resources, facilities and other support to the Mayor and Councillors to enable them to discharge their duties.
The details of the expenses, including reimbursements for each Councillor paid by Council for the 2025/26 year, are set out in the following table.

Councillor	Travel & Accom	Car mileage	Information & Communication	Conference & Training	Catering & Meals	Total
Cr Stuart King (Mayor)	$6,361.96	$4,308.28	$465.45	$4,705.19	$375.76	$16,216.64
Cr Terry Jennings	$3,612.65	$0.00	$648.00	$2,670.53	$241.08	$7,172.26
Cr Les McPhee	$262.72	$0.00	$661.63	$1,071.44	$0.00	$1,995.79
Cr Hugh Broad	$0.00	$0.00	$648.00	$1,071.42	$0.00	$1,719.42
Cr Peta Thorton	$136.30	$0.00	$648.00	$1,071.43	$0.00	$1,855.73
Cr Lindsay Rogers	$507.24	$0.00	$420.00	$1,071.42	$0.00	$1,998.66
Cr Phillip Englefield	$9,072.96	$1,393.92	$648.00	$1,071.43	$39.09	$12,225.40
TOTAL	**$19,953.83**	**$5,702.20**	**$4,139.08**	**$12,732.86**	**$655.93**	**$43,183.90**

Note: No expenses were paid by Council, including reimbursements, to members of Council Committees during the 2025/26 year.

Model Councillor Code of Conduct

On 26 October 2024, the Victorian Government introduced a new mandatory Model Councillor Code of Conduct in the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020.

Internal Resolution Procedure

Section 140 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires council to implement and adopt procedures that may be followed by Councillors to deal with alleged breaches of the Model Councillor Code of Conduct. Council adopted the Internal Resolution Procedure at the Council Meeting held on 17 June 2025.

Councillor Appointments to Committees

The following is the list of the annual appointments of Councillors to internal and external organisations and community groups for 2026, as decided at Council Meeting 18 November 2025, and includes amendments made on 3 June 2025.

Cr Stuart King

- Rail Freight Alliance
- Swan Hill Showgrounds Sport and Recreation Precinct Advisory Committee
- Nyah District Action Group
- Chisholm Reserve Complex Inc
- Murray River Group of Councils
- Rural Councils Victoria Inc.
- Community Development Fund
- Business Facade Improvement Fund
- Event Support Fund
- CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee
- Joint Bridge Committee—Murray River Council and Swan Hill Rural City Council

Cr Les McPhee

- Municipal Association of Victoria
- Pental Island Levees Management Project Steering Committee
- Ultima Progress Association
- Swan Hill Residents and Rate Payers Association
- Central Murray Regional Transport Forum
- Audit and Risk Committee

Cr Peta Thornton

- Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery Advisory Committee
- Woorinen and District Progress Association Inc.
- Agribusiness Advisory Committee
- Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance—Board and General Committee

Cr Philip Englefield

- Boundary Bend Progress Association
- Robinvale Euston Business Association
- Community Development Fund
- CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee
- Business Facade Improvement Fund

Cr Terry Jennings

- Manangatang Improvement Group
- Swan Hill Leisure Centre Committee of Management

Cr Lindsay Rogers

- CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee
- Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water Customer and Stakeholder
- Audit and Risk Committee
- Swan Hill Regional Livestock Exchange
- Joint Bridge Committee - Murray River Council and Swan Hill Rural City Council
- Lake Boga and District Association Inc

Cr Hugh Broad

- Event Support Fund
- Lake Boga and District Association Inc
- Swan Hill Incorporated Board
- Ken Harrison Advisory Committee
- Piangil Community Group & Memorial Park Committee of Management
- Audit and Risk Committee

See Appendix 1 for a list of the organisations of which Council is a financial member.

Management

Council has implemented a number of statutory and better practice items to strengthen its management framework.
Having strong governance and management frameworks enhances oversight and monitoring and leads to better decision making by Council.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee is an independent Advisory Committee to Council and is formed under Section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020.*

The functions and responsibilities of the Audit and Risk Committee include the following:

- monitor the compliance of Council policies and procedures with the overarching good governance principles and legislative requirements
- monitor Council financial and performance reporting
- monitor and provide advice on risk management and fraud prevention systems and controls
- oversee internal and external audit functions.

Audit and Risk Committee Members

The Audit and Risk Committee consists of five members, three of whom are independent experts in a range of areas including financial management, business, and project management.

The members of the committee during the 2025/26 financial year were:

Rosanne Kava (chairperson) – second term appointment expires 30 September 2028.

Greg Kuchel – second term appointment expires 25 November 2027.

Bradley Hutchinson – second term appointment expires 5 April 2028.

Cr Les McPhee - appointed for 1 year term at Council meeting in November 2025, term expires December 2026.

Cr Lindsay Rogers – appointed for a second term at Council Meeting November 2025, term expires December 2026.

Cr Hugh Broad - appointed at unscheduled meeting on 3 June 2025, term expired 31 December 2025.

The following table contains details of attendance at Audit and Risk Committee meetings during 2025/26.

Member	Eligible to attend	Attended
Ms Rosanne Kava	4	4
Mr Greg Kuchel	4	4
Mr Bradley Hutchinson	4	4
Cr Lindsay Rogers	4	2
Cr Hugh Broad	1	1
Cr Les McPhee	3	2

Internal Audit

Council's internal audit function is externally resourced to provide independent and objective assurance that appropriate processes and controls are in place across Council.
A three-year risk-based Strategic Internal Audit Plan (SIAP) is revised annually to ensure the audit resources remain focused on the nominated areas.
The review process considers Council's risk framework, the Council Plan, the impact of any change on our operations, systems or the business environment, prior audit coverage and outcomes, and relies heavily on management directional input. The SIAP is revised and approved by the Audit Committee annually.
The Internal Auditor attends Audit Committee meetings to report on the status of the SIAP and to present findings of completed reviews.
The responsible Director and Manager for each area reviewed is required to attend the Audit Committee meeting to respond to questions in relation to the review. All audit issues identified are risk rated.
Recommendations are assigned to responsible managers and tracked through the Audit Committee agenda until all recommendations have been completed.
Quality assurance is measured through completion of the review recommendations and completion of the nominated annual SIAP reviews.

The SIAP for 2025/26 was completed with the following reviews conducted:

- ICT and Cybersecurity Strategy
- Annual review of Internal Audit Program
- Payroll Accuracy including leave Management
- Grant Funding Management
- Closed Audit Recommendations Review (Triennial)

External Audit

Council is externally audited by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO). For the 2025/26 financial year, the audit of Council's Financial Statements and Performance Statement was conducted on behalf of VAGO by Crowe Australasia (Albury).
The external auditors attend Audit and Risk Committee meetings to present the annual audit strategy and independent audit reports.
The external audit management letters and responses are also provided and discussed with the Audit and Risk Committee.

Risk Management

Council's Risk Management Committee consists of members from all levels of the organisations. The Committee meets on a quarterly basis to review operational and strategic risks and provide information to the Audit and Risk Committee.
Council's Risk Management Policy and Framework provides an integrated and consistent approach to risk management to ensure that risks are identified and addressed during planning, decision-making and everyday operations. Each department has a risk profile with strategies to minimise and mange identified risks.
This year, Council has continued to strengthen its Risk Management Framework, processes and systems, enhancing our ability to address existing risks and adapt to new ones arising from an increasingly complex external environment. Our focus has been on the key areas outlined below:

- **Cybersecurity** - Council continued to invest in our cyber security risk management program to ensure we are prepared to respond to the increasing sophistication and frequency of external cyberattacks
- **Integrity, ethics and culture** - Council continues to make improvements to Council's fraud and corruption control framework
- **Insurance** - Council continues to monitor its increasing insurance renewals which is a result of the industry being impacted by events both national and international.


SWAN HILL TOURISM &
CULTURAL EXPERIENCE CENTRE

Governance and Management Checklist

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) requires Council to undertake an assessment against the prescribed governance and management checklist and include this in the report of operations. Council's Governance and Management Checklist results are set out in this section. The following items have been prescribed as important components of an effective governance and management framework.

Governance and Management Items	Assessment
1. Community Engagement Policy Policy outlining Council's commitment to engaging with the community on matters of public interest.	Adopted in accordance with section 55 of the Act. Date of adoption: 11/01/2008. Current version 19 May 2026.
2. Community Engagement Guidelines Guidelines to assist staff to determine when and how to engage with the community.	Current guidelines in operation. Date of commencement of current guidelines: 15 March 2022.
3. Financial Plan Plan under section 91 of the Act outlining the financial and non-financial resources required for at least the next 10 financial years.	Adopted in accordance with section 91 of the Act. Date of adoption 16 September 2025.
4. Asset Plan Plan under section 92 of the Act setting out the asset maintenance and renewal needs for key infrastructure asset classes for at least the next 10 years.	Adopted in accordance with section 92 of the Act. Date of adoption: 16 September 2025.
5. Revenue and Rating Plan Plan under section 93 of the Act setting out the rating structure of Council to levy rates and charges.	Adopted in accordance with section 93 of the Act. Date of adoption: 3 June 2025
6. Annual Budget Plan under section 94 of the Act setting out the services to be provided and initiatives to be undertaken over the next 12 months and the funding and other resources required.	Adopted in accordance with section 94 of the Act. Date of adoption: 17 June 2025. (2024-25 Annual Budget); 16 June 2026 (2026-27 Annual Budget)
7. Risk Policy Policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risks to Council's operations.	Current policy in operation. Date of commencement: 18 February 2025.
8. Fraud Policy Policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risk of fraud.	Current policy in operation. Date of commencement: 18 Feb 2025.

Governance and Management Items	Assessment
9. Municipal Emergency Management Planning Councils participation in meetings of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC).	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) meetings attended by one or more representatives of Council (other than the chairperson of the MEMPC) during the financial year. Dates of MEMPC meetings attended: • 14 August 2025 • 20 November 2025
10. Procurement Policy Policy under section 108 the Act outlining the principles, processes and procedures that will apply to the purchase of goods and services by the Council.	Adopted in accordance with section 101 of the Act. Date of commencement: 18 November 2025.
11. Business Continuity Plan Plan setting out the actions that will be undertaken to ensure that key services continue to operate in the event of a disaster.	Current plan in operation. Date of commencement: 8 July 2024.
12. Disaster Recovery Plan Plan setting out the actions that will be undertaken to recover and restore business capability in the event of a disaster.	Current plan in operation. Date of commencement: 1 July 2025.
13. Complaint Policy Policy under section 107 of the Act outlining Council's commitment and approach to managing complaints.	Policy developed in accordance with section 107 of the Act. Date of commencement: 5 January 2022.
14. Workforce Plan Plan outlining Council's commitment and approach to planning the current and future workforce requirements of the organisation.	Plan developed in accordance with section 46 of the Act. Date of commencement: 1 February 2026.
15. Payment of rates and charges hardship policy Policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to assisting ratepayers experiencing financial hardship or difficulty paying rates.	Current policy in operation. Date of commencement: 26 April 2023.
16. Risk Management Framework Framework outlining Council's approach to managing risks to the Council's operations.	Current framework in operation. Date of commencement: 11 May 2026.

Governance and Management Items	Assessment
17. Audit and Risk Committee Advisory committee of Council under section 53 and section 54 of the Act, whose role is to monitor the compliance of council policies and procedures, monitor Councils financial reporting, monitor and provide advice on risk management, and provide oversight on internal and external audit functions.	Established in accordance with section 53 of the Act. Date of commencement: 18 August 2020.
18. Internal Audit Independent accounting professionals engaged by the Council to provide analyses and recommendations aimed at improving Council's governance, risk and management controls.	Internal auditor engaged. Date of engagement: 1 August 2023.
19. Performance Reporting Framework A set of indicators measuring financial and non-financial performance, including the performance indicators referred to in section 98 of the Act.	Current framework in operation. Date of adoption: 2008.
20. Council Plan Reporting Report reviewing the performance of the Council against the Council Plan, including the results in relation to the strategic indicators, for the first six months of the reporting year.	Current Council Plan: 2025-2029 Council Plan Quarterly Reports to Council: • 17 March 2026 (Dec 2025 Progress Report)
21. Quarterly budget reports Quarterly reports presented to Council under section 97 of the Act 2020, comparing actual and budgeted results and an explanation of any material variations.	Quarterly reports presented to Council in accordance with section 97(1) of the Act. Budget Quarterly Reports to Council: • 21 October 2025 • 16 November 2025 • 17 March 2026 • 16 June 2026.
22. Risk Reports Six-monthly reports of strategic risks to Council's operations, their likelihood and consequences of occurring and risk minimisation strategies.	Risk reports prepared and presented. Date of reports: • 3 December 2025 • 3 June 2026

Governance and Management Items	Assessment
23. Performance Reports Six-monthly reports of indicators measuring the results against financial and non-financial performance, including performance indicators referred to in section 98 of the Act 2020.	Performance Report prepared: • 17 March 2026· • 16 June 2026.
24. Annual Report Annual report under sections 98, 99 and 100 of the Act 2020 the community containing a report of operations and audited financial and performance statements.	Annual report presented at a meeting of Council in accordance with section 100 of the Act. Date of presentation: · 21 October 2025.
25. Councillor Code of Conduct Code under section 139 of the Act setting out the standards of conduct to be followed by Councillors and other matters	Code of conduct reviewed and adopted in accordance with section 139 of the Act. Date reviewed and adopted: 26 November 2024. Model Councillor Code of Conduct released 26 October 2024 in the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020. Councillors took Oath of Office to MCCC Nov 2024.
26. Delegations Documents setting out the powers, duties and functions of Council and the Chief Executive Officer that have been delegated to members of staff, in accordance with sections 11 and 47 of the Act.	Delegations reviewed in accordance with section 11(7) of the Act, and a register kept in accordance with section 11(8) and 47(7) of the Act. Date of review under section 11(7): 21 October 2025.
27. Meeting procedures Governance Rules under section 60 of the Act governing the conduct of meetings of Council and delegated committees.	Governance Rules adopted in accordance with section 60 of the Act. Date rules adopted: 18 April 2023 Model Governance Rules being developed by State Government—Due in 2026.

I certify that this information presents fairly the status of Council's governance and management arrangements.

Mr Scott Barber
Chief Executive Officer

Dated:

Cr. Stuart King
Mayor

Dated:

Statutory Information

The following information is provided in accordance with legislative and other requirements applying to council.

Contracts

Section 109 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to comply with its Procurement Policy before entering into a contract for the purchase of goods or services or the carrying out of works.
During the period 1 July 2025 - 15 December 2025, Council did not enter into any contracts for works valued at $200,000 or more without first conducting a competitive process.
During the period 16 December 2025 - 30 June 2026 the tender threshold was increased to $250,000. Council did not enter into any contracts for goods or services or the carrying out of works valued at $250,000 or more without first conducting a competitive process.
The following contracts were awarded during 2025-26. These contracts met the applicable tender threshold in place at the time and required a tender invitation in accordance with its Procurement Policy.

Contract Type	Description
Supply of Goods	Supply of Workwear & PPE & Corporate Clothing - Panel
Supply of Services	Supply of Hire Plant & Equipment (Wet & Dry Hire) – Panel Refresh
Supply of Goods	Supply of Bulk Petrol Products, Oils & Lubricant - Panel
Supply of Goods	Supply and Delivery of Road Maintenance Truck
Construction Works	Robinvale Riverfront Terraces
Construction Works	Pental Island Pedestrian Bridge Replacement
Construction Works	Karinie St Upgrade
Construction Works	Construction of the Riverside Mooring Platform

Contract Type	Description
Software as a Service	Records Management System
Construction Works	Tyntynder Road Widening and Rehabilitation Project
Construction Works	Beveridge St Rehabilitation
Construction Works	Quambatook Road Widening & Reconstruction
Construction Works	Robinvale Community Arts Centre - Electrical Switchboard
Construction Works	Quambatook Road Widening and Rehabilitation Project - Stage 3
Supply of Services	Cyber Security Managed Detection and Response Services

Other Statutory Information

Documents available for public inspection

In accordance with sections 57 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to adopt and maintain a Public Transparency Policy.
The following table details the information which is publicly available and where to access it.

Document	Access
• Meeting Agendas and Reports to Council and Delegated Committees • Minutes of Council meetings and meetings of Delegated Committees • Audit and Risk Committee Charter • Terms of Reference for Delegated Committees and Advisory Committees • Submissions received under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 • Gift Registers for Councillors • Travel Registers for Councillors and Council Staff • Registers of Conflicts of Interest disclosed in open session by Councillors • Registers of Leases entered into by Council • Register of Delegations • Register of Donations and Grants • Register of Election Campaign Donations • Summary of Personal Interest Returns • Any other Public Registers or Records required by the Local Government Act 2020 or any other Act	Website
• Plans and Reports adopted by Council • Council Policies • Project and Service Plans • Service Agreements, Contracts, Leases and Licences • Relevant technical reports and/or research that informs Council's decision making. • Practice notes and operating procedures • Application processes for approvals, permits, grants, access to Council services • Decision-making Processes • Guidelines and Manuals • Community Engagement Processes • Complaints Handling Processes	On Request
• Register of Authorised Officers	Inspect at Council Offices

Freedom of Information Act 1982

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) provides the opportunity for public access to Council documents.

The FOI Act establishes a legally enforceable right for the community to request information, in document form, held by Council.

The FOI Act has four principles:

1. the public has a right of access to documents subject to certain exceptions or exemptions.
2. Local Governments are required to publish information on the documents they hold.
3. individuals may request that inaccurate, incomplete, out-of-date or misleading information about themselves be amended.
4. individuals may appeal against a decision not to give access to the document (s) or not to amend personal information.

Written requests must be made to Councils Freedom of Information Officer, be accompanied by an application fee, and specify the documents required, or provide sufficient detail to enable documents to be located.

Council received four valid Freedom of Information (FOI) requests in 2025/26 and one request was carried over from 2024/25. Two requests were released in full, and two requests were released in-part. One request has been carried over to the 2026/27 financial year.

Year	Number of valid FOI requests	Fees and Charges Collected	Fees and Charges Waived	Costs
25/26	4	$170	$0.00	$2,079
24/25	7	$230	$65.40	$11,617
23/24	5	$234	$0	$11,361
22/23	8	$208	$0	$4,525

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Council is not a collecting or development agency under sections 46GM and 46QD of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987.*

Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014

Council respects the privacy of its citizens, ratepayers and clients. Council is committed to the privacy principles prescribed by the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and the *Health Records Act 2001.*

Council has adopted a Privacy Policy that addresses the requirements of both Acts, and is available on Council's website .

Council received two privacy complaints in the 2025/26 financial year.

Public Interest Disclosure Act 2012

Public Interest Disclosures enable people to disclose improper conduct within the public sector and provide protection for people who make disclosures. In accordance with section 70 of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012*, a copy of Council's Public Interest Disclosures Procedure is available to access on Councils website.

No reportable matters were received in the 2025/26 financial year.

Road Management Act 2004

Section 22 of the *Road Management Act 2004*, requires Council to publish a summary of any ministerial direction received in its Annual Report.

No Ministerial Directions were received in 2025/26.

Local Laws

Council has the following local laws in operation.

Local Law	Date adopted	Date operational
Community Local Law No. 2	May 16, 2017	Jun 2, 2017
Regional Livestock Exchange Local Law No. 3	Nov 16, 2021	Nov 16, 2021

Domestic Animals Act 1994

Section 68A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994,* requires Council to prepare Domestic Animal Management Plan every 4 years, and evaluate its implementation in the Annual Report.

Council formally adopted the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-2029 at the Ordinary Council Meeting in Swan Hill on Tuesday, 18 November 2025.

Food Act 1984

Section 7E of the *Food Act 1984*, requires Council to publish a summary of any ministerial directions received in its Annual Report.
No Ministerial Directions were received in 2025/26.

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

Section 26 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* requires Council to prepare a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
The Plan must:

- include an examination of data about health status and health determinants in the municipal district
- identify goals and strategies based on available evidence for creating a local community in which people can achieve maximum health and wellbeing
- specify measures to prevent family violence and respond to the needs of victims of family violence in the local community
- provide for the involvement of people in the local community in the development, implementation and evaluation of the public health and wellbeing plan
- specify how the Council will work in partnership with the Department and other agencies undertaking public health initiatives, projects and programs to accomplish the goals and strategies identified in the public health and wellbeing plan.

Council has integrated this requirement in its Council Plan 2025-29.

Carers Recognition Act 2012

Council is not a reporting agency for the purposes of the Carers Recognition Act 2012.

Disability Act 2006

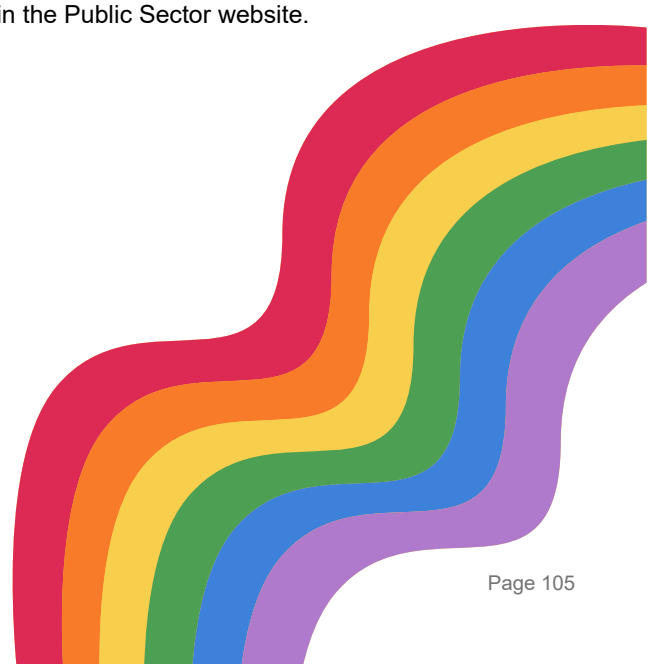
Section 38 of the *Disability Act 2006*, requires Council to prepare a Disability Action Plan to:

- reduce barriers to persons with a disability accessinggoods, services and facilities,
- reduce barriers to persons with a disability obtaining and maintaining employment,
- promote inclusion and participation in the community of persons with a disability; and
- achieve tangible changes in attitudes and practices which discriminate against persons with a disability.

The Council Plan 2025-29 has integrated the requirements for a Disability Action Plan, as strategic actions within the Council Plan.

Gender Equality Act 2020

The *Gender Equality Act 2020* requires Victorian public sector organisations, including local government, to take positive action to improve workplace gender equality and to consider gender equality in the development of policies, programs and services.
Council's Gender Equality Committee supports the implementation of the Act by guiding actions under Council's Gender Equality Action Plan and assisting Council to meet its ongoing reporting and compliance obligations.
Council's progress is reported through its Gender Equality Action Plan progress reports, which are available on the Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector website.



Community Funding

Swan Hill Rural City Council recognises, respects and values the contribution that community, sporting and not-for-profit organisations make within our community. One of the ways Council does this is through the annual Community Grants program. Recipients of the 2025/26 Community Grants are detailed in the tables that follow.

Community Development Fund

The Community Development Fund provides grants of up to $5,000 to eligible community groups and organisations. Funding may be given for projects including minor repairs or upgrades to community facilities; purchase of new or upgraded equipment; new programs or activities; local sustainability initiatives or environmental innovations; increasing club capacity; OHS or risk management issues and more.

For the 2025/26 financial year, Council allocated $70,626 worth of funding to support the projects listed below and on the following page.

Organisation	Approved Amount	Project Description
Nyah & District Community Pool Committee Incorporated	$5,000	Purchase two thermal blankets for Nyah pool
Swan Hill Badminton Association	$1,100	Purchase of shuttlecock launcher
Swan Hill Archery Club	$5,000	Purchase of various archery targets
RSL Cricket Club	$5,000	Works to extend the cricket net run up at Gurnett Oval
Woorinen District Progress Association	$3,660	Installation of 6 murals to locations around Woorinen South
Swan Hill Theatre Group	$5,000	Install new split system in Memorial Hall
Swan Hill Woodworkers Club Inc.	$1,180	Purchase new laptop for CNC machine
Manangatang and District Bowling Club Incorporated	$4,180	Install new split system to club rooms
Tyntynder South Hall Dance Committee Inc.	$4,380	Install rainwater tank at Tyntynder South Hall
Nyah West Golf Club Inc.	$3,500	Purchase new electric stove
Ultima Progress Association Inc	$1,500	Purchase stand to hold gas cylinders
The Lake Boga Lions Club T/A The Flying Boat Museum	$931	New footpath signage for opening hours

Community Development Fund

Organisation	Approved Amount	Project Description
Lake Boga Bowling Club Inc.	$4,290	Concreting various pathways within the facility and gravel to carpark area
1st Lake Boga Sea Scouts	$5,000	Purchase of storage cupboards for scout hall
Lake Boga Inc.	$3,500	Purchase road-base material to resurface community garden pathways
Nyah District Bowls Club	$2,000	Purchase new oven for club rooms
M8's SMC – Auspiced by Lions Club of Nyah Inc.	$4,400	Upgrades to existing BBQ trailer
Swan Hill District A & P Society	$1,000	New signage
Swan Hill Dart Club	$2,500	Purchase of dart board, lighting board and other equipment
Annuello Hall Committee – Auspiced Manangatang Improvement Group Inc.	$5,000	Replacement of guttering on Annuello Hall
Italian Social Club	$2,505	Replacement of cool room condenser

Event Support Fund

The Event Support Fund provides grants and logistical support to community groups and event organisers to develop new events, or existing events that provide significant economic and/or social benefit to the region.
For the 2025/26 financial year, Council allocated $109,400 worth of funding (cash and/or logistical support). This allowed Council to support events, listed below and on the following page.

Organisation | Event	Sponsorship Awarded	Logistical Support Awarded	Total Value Funded
Swan Hill NAIDOC Committee – Community Christmas Party	$1,300	$700	$2,000
Robinvale & Euston Music Club - Band Rehearsals	$0	$500	$500
Lake Boga Bank 2 Bank	$3,500	$1,000	$4,500
Swan Hill Bowls Club Inc - Swan Hill Bowls 60th May Carnival	$3,000	$0	$3,000
Lake Boga & District Association Inc. - New Years Eve Fireworks	$5,000	$0	$5,000
Swan Hill Incorporated - Christmas Tree Lighting Event	$5,000	$1,000	$6,000
Swan Hill Incorporated - Food & Wine Festival	$5,000	$6,000	$11,000
Swan Hill Incorporated - Twilight Event	$500	$1,000	$1,500
Swan Hill Incorporated - Easter Family Fun Day	$0	$2,000	$2,000
Swan Hill Incorporated - October Market Day	$0	$2,000	$2,000
Nyah District Action Group - Nyah District Christmas Carnival	$2,500	$1,000	$3,500
Boundary Bend Progress Association - Beats at the Bend	$4,000	$0	$4,000
Lake Boga Yacht Club Inc - Lake Boga Yacht Club Easter Regatta 2026	$1,000	$0	$1,000

Event Support Fund

Organisation | Event	Sponsorship Awarded	Logistical Support Awarded	Total Value Funded
Swan Hill Badminton Association - SHBA Veterans Tournament	$1,000	$0	$1,000
Mallee Sports Assembly Wycheproof - Sports for all Abilities	$0	$1,500	$1,500
Speewa Heritage Collectors Club Inc - The Speewa Swap Meet	$500	$0	$500
Lake Boga Bowling Club - Catalina Classic Tournament	$500	$0	$500
The Lake Boga Flying Boat Museum	$500	$0	$500
Speewa Heritage Collectors Club Inc - Speewa Heritage Collectors Club Annual Rally	$500	$0	$500
Rotary Club of Robinvale Euston - 2025 Robinvale Euston Christmas Carnival	$5,000	$1,500	$6,500
Rotary Club of Robinvale Euston - Robinvale Euston Lantern Festival	$2,500	$2,500	$5,000
Rotary Club of Robinvale Euston - Robinvale Easter Festival 2026	$3,000	$1,000	$4,000
Wemen Progress Association - Wemen Christmas Tree 2025	$1,000	$0	$1,000
Swan Hill Little Athletics Centre - Swan Hill Little Athletics Open Day	$3,000	$0	$3,000
Robinvale Lawn Tennis Club Inc - Robinvale Lawn Tennis Club 2026 Easter Tournament	$3,000	$0	$3,000
Swan Hill Archery Club - SHAC Inaugural ABA 3 day Event	$3,000	$0	$3,000
Swan Hill Community Toy Library - SHCTL 40th Anniversary Celebrations	$1,000	$0	$1,000
Mallee Almond Blossom Festival Committee - Mallee Almond Blossom Festival 2026	$1,000	$3,000	$4,000
Swan Hill Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club- Various events	$30,000	$0	$30,000

Appendix 1: Organisations of which Council is a financial member

Organisation	Amount
Arts Hub Australia Pty Ltd	$350.00
Australian Museums and Galleries Association Inc	$243.64
Australian Performing Arts Centres Limited	$1,563.64
Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance	$13,796.00
Customers of Sirsidynix Australasia-Cosa Inc	$90.00
Dial Before You Dig Vic/Tas	$200.00
Local Government Professionals (LG Pro)	$2,960.91
Maritime Museum of Victoria Inc	$350.00
Municipal Association of Victoria	$35,161.00
Murray River Group of Councils	$8,322.22
Murray River Regional Tourism Ltd	$33,291.00
Music Victoria	$300.00
National Saleyards Quality Assurance Inc	$645.00
Public Galleries Association Of Victoria	$945.45
Public Libraries Victoria Network Inc	$2,157.00
Rail Frieght Alliance	$6,010.00
Rural Councils Victoria Inc	$5,750.00
School Crossings Victoria Inc	$100.00
The Victorian Association of Performing Arts Centres	$1,766.78
Victorian Maternal Child & Health	$75.00
Victorian Tourism Industry Limited	$3,070.00



Part Seven

Performance Statement

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Certification of Performance Statement

In my opinion, the accompanying performance statement has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.

Stephen Fernando, CPA
Principal Accounting Officer
Dated: 15 September 2026

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Swan Hill Rural City Council for the year ended 30 June 2026 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.
The performance statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures and results in relation to service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity.
At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the performance statement to be misleading or inaccurate.
We have been authorised by the council and by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 to certify this performance statement in its final form.

Stuart King (Mayor)
Councillor
Dated: 15 September 2026

Terry Jennings (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor
Dated: 15 September 2026

Scott Barber
Chief Executive Officer
Dated: 15 September 2026

Independent Auditor's Report

Victorian Auditor-General's Office

Tothe Councillorsof Swan HillRuralCityCouncil

Opinion	I have audited the accompanying performance statement of Swan Hill Rural City Council (the council) which comprises the: • description of municipality for the year ended 30 June 2026 • service performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2026 • financial performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2026 • sustainable capacity indicators for the year ended 30 June 2026 • notes to the accounts • certification of the performance statement. In my opinion, the performance statement of Swan Hill Rural City Council in respect of the year ended 30 June 2026 presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.
Basis for Opinion	I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the performance statement* section of my report. My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the performance statement in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.
Councillors' responsibilities for the performance statement	The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 and for such internal control as the Councillors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a performance statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Level 31 / 35 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000
T 03 8601 7000 enquiries@audit.vic.gov.au www.audit.vic.gov.au

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance statement	As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the performance statement based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance statement. As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also: • identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. • obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control • evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance statement, including the disclosures, and whether performance statement represents the underlying events and results in a manner that achieves fair presentation. I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



MELBOURNE
29 September 2026

Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

Description of Municipality

Swan Hill Rural City Council covers 6,116 square kilometres and is home to 20,962* people.
It includes the townships of Swan Hill, Robinvale, Lake Boga, Nyah, Nyah West, Piangil, Beverford, Woorinen, Ultima, Manangatang and Boundary Bend.
The Swan Hill municipality has experienced sustainable growth over the past decade, led by the expansion of horticultural/agricultural practices and supported by an innovative manufacturing sector. This success is depicted by the fact that irrigated areas have been increasing with a higher proportion of mature, high value crops such as almonds and table grapes. The region is one of Australia's largest producers of almond and table grape plantings, vegetables including potatoes and carrots, stone fruit, olives, avocados and field crops.
The region also boasts an impressive 69% of its municipality dedicated to cropping and associated dryland infrastructure, including wheat, barley, lentils, cereal/hay, pulses (including chickpeas and lupins), grazing, oats, and canola.

*The official ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for Swan Hill Rural City Council was 20,962 at 30 June 2025, including an estimated 3,749 residents in Robinvale. However, due to ongoing concerns that the ABS underestimates Robinvale's population, Council commissioned Geografia to undertake a population determination study. Geografia's research has reliably demonstrated that the true Robinvale population is approximately 7,900, suggesting the total residential population of Swan Hill Rural City Council is approximately 25,122 residents.

2. Service Performance Indicators

Service/indicator/ measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	Material variations
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	
Aquatic Facilities ***Utilisation*** *Utilisation of aquatic facilities* [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population.]	6.17	8.68	9.63	N/A	8.85	Community use of aquatic facilities has increased significantly since 2023 but saw a decline in use, particularly across the larger facilities during 2025-26.
Animal management ***Health and safety*** *Animal management prosecutions* [Number of successful animal management prosecutions/ Number of animal management prosecutions] x 100.	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	0.00%	No animal management prosecutions in 2025-2026.
Food and safety ***Health and safety*** *Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications* [Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises] x 100.	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	N/A	100%	Favourable A follow-up inspection was conducted on all food premises that were assessed as either critical or major non-compliant.
Governance ***Satisfaction*** *Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement* [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement.]	50	48	53	51	55	Favourable: Community satisfaction with 'the opportunity to give feedback on key local issues' continues to be rated in the low to mid 50s. The result is above the target set by Council for 2025-26 and is within the expected range.

Service/indicator/measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	Material variations
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	
Libraries ***Participation*** *Library membership* [Number of registered library members/ Population] x100.	-	27.24%	28.61%	N/A	22.84%	Library membership remains consistent with previous years. 2024-25 result should have been 22.46% indicating a difference in 2025-26 of only 0.02%.
Maternal and Child Health ***Participation*** *Participation in the MCH service* [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x 100	89.19%	86.79%	85.96%	N/A	86.56%	Favourable: Council continues to promote healthy outcomes for children and families, and the result shows that families continue to regularly engage with our Maternal and Child Health services.
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x 100	83.57%	91.49%	85.90%	N/A	84.72%	Council continues to promote healthy outcomes for children and families. Participation during 2025-26 remained strong despite some movement of families between providers within the municipality.
Roads ***Condition*** *Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards* [Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council /Kilometres of sealed local roads] x 100.	99.27%	98.95%	98.79%	99.00%	98.68%	Favourable: The number of kilometres (km) of sealed local roads that require intervention by Council to meet the required standard, remains consistent at around 1.5% of the total km of sealed local roads.

Service/indicator/ measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	Material variations
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	
Statutory Planning ***Service standard*** *Planning applications decided within the relevant required time* [(Number of regular planning application decisions decided within 60 days) + (Number of VicSmart planning application decisions made within 10 days) / Number of planning application decisions made] x 100.	59.85%	75.73%	86.07%	77%	89.58%	Favourable: Almost 90 per cent of planning applications are decided within the required time frames. This is slightly better than the result achieved in 2024-25 and above the target set by Council.
Waste Management ***Waste diversion*** *Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill* [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x 100	29.28%	28.38%	28.40%	30%	28.57%	The percentage of kerbside waste diverted from landfill is consistent with previous years but remains low compared to other Councils, who have introduced a mandatory organics waste collection to help reduce kerbside garbage waste. There has also been a steady decline in the amount of kerbside recyclable waste collected over the last few years, which may be a consequence of the state governments Container Deposit Scheme to encourage a circular economy.

3. Financial Performance Indicators

Dimension/ indicator/measure		2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Comments
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	
Efficiency Expenditure level Expenses per property assessment [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]		$4,486.07	$4,964.10	$4,957.54	$5,005.00	$5,051.77	$5,180.66	$5,467.90	$5,588.68	$5,766.14	Council forecasts an average of 57 additional rated properties over the forecast period. Costs to council are rising more than 3% each year (CPI & wage inflation forecasts), however rated properties are increasing 0.5%.
Revenue level Average rate per property assessment [General rates and Municipal charges / Number of property assessments]		$2,173.93	$2,310.33	$2,332.85	N/A	$2,420.79	$2,463.88	$2,560.37	$2,627.39	$2,688.03	Forecasts allow for an annual rate cap increase of just below 3% for each of the forecast years.

Dimension/ indicator/measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Comments
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	
Liquidity **Working capital** **Current assets compared to current liabilities** [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	391.16%	428.23%	400.39%	256.00%	425.22%	306.44%	395.57%	365.47%	359.64%	The 2026 result is high due to the significant value of cash held for projects incomplete at the end of the year. These projects are forecast to be completed in the following years and then this result is forecast to remain stable.
Unrestricted cash **Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities** [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x100	344.09%	80.74%	306.39%	N/A	313.92%	212.85%	311.03%	284.69%	281.38%	Ratio is forecast to decrease as carry over projects are completed and cash held to fund these projects utilised.

Dimension/ indicator/measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Material variations
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	
Obligations Loans and borrowings Loans and borrowings compared to rates [[Interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	7.71%	6.42%	5.38%	N/A	2.17%	1.98%	1.06%	0.36%	0.10%	Council had two loans maturing during 2025-26 that were paid in full. One loan was an interest only loan maturity, and the second was due to renegotiation however the loan was paid out at this time.
Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	1.12%	1.06%	1.05%	NA	3.13%	0.92%	0.86%	0.69%	0.25%	An interest only loan of $500k became due and was paid in full. A further loan became due for renegotiation and was paid in full also ($254k).

Dimension/ indicator/measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Comments
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	
Indebtedness **Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue** [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100	8.47%	11.14%	9.53%	N/A	8.48%	7.23%	6.00%	5.57%	5.38%	An increase in the own source revenue primarily due to $1.5M increase in rates and charges has reduced this ratio for 2025-26.
Asset renewal and upgrade **Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation** [Asset renewal and upgrade expense / Asset depreciation] x100	81.44%	84.31%	142.96%	170.00%	142.36%	173.62%	93.68%	81.99%	68.04%	The result demonstrates Council's strong investment in renewing and upgrading its infrastructure assets. The result is influenced by several major road projects, including Karinie Street and Quambatook Roads, which increased renewal expenditure well above the annual depreciation charge for sealed roads of approximately $5.93 million.

Dimension/ indicator/measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Material variations
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	
Operating position **Adjusted underlying result** **Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)** [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/ Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	8.05%	-16.14%	2.25%	N/A	2.55%	-2.34%	-1.04%	-1.50%	-2.66%	0.30% change in surplus result is minor, and can be attributed to the additional rates and charges raised.
Stability **Rates concentration** **Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue** [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	51.12%	61.88%	52.80%	55.00%	53.59%	56.02%	55.29%	55.77%	55.94%	

Dimension/ indicator/measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Material variations
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	
Rates effort **Rates compared to property values** [Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x100	0.55%	0.51%	0.48%	N/A	0.48%	0.45%	0.48%	0.49%	0.50%	

4. Sustainable Capacity Indicators

Indicator/measure [Formula]	2023	2024	2025	2026	Comments
Population *Expenses per head of municipal population* [Total expenses/Municipal population]	$2,580.75	$2,855.08	$2,906.28	$3,002.81	
Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure/Municipal population]	$22,278.30	$25,927.16	$28,397.98	$29,904.97	
Population density per length of road [Municipal population/Kilometres of local roads]	6.16	5.94	6.9	6.86	Favourable: Council continues to have a relatively low level of traffic congestion on its local roads.
Own-source revenue *Own-source revenue per head of municipal population* [Own-source revenue/Municipal population]	$1,909.61	$2,087.73	$2,122.45	$2,253.36	

Service/indicator/ measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	Comments
Recurrent grants *Recurrent grants per head of municipal population* [Recurrent grants/Municipal population]	$722.03	$273.81	$819.47	$785.90	Ratio varies dependent on the timing of the Victora Grants Commission Financial Assistance Grants. In 2026 Council received 50% of the 2026 allocation and prepaid 80% of the 2027 allocation. The prior year, 50% of the 2026 amount was prepaid in addition to 100% of the 2025 allocation. 2024 was significantly low as 95% of the allocation was received in 2023.
Disadvantage *Relative socio-economic disadvantage* [Index of Relative Socio-economic disadvantage by decile]	1	1	1	1	Less Favourable: The municipality remains one of the most disadvantaged in Victoria. This means the provision of Council services to the community is acutely necessary and relies on significant funding and support. Increased costs imposed by other tiers of government on our rural community will have an adverse impact on the overall health and wellbeing of our community.
Workforce turnover *Percentage of staff turnover* [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x 100	22.10%	25.32%	11.00%	14.05%	Favourable: Council continues to invest in more resources, including staff, to deliver services to the community.

Notes to the Accounts

5.1. Basis of preparation

Council is required to prepare and include a performance statement within its annual report. The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed, service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district, an explanation of material variations in the results and notes to the accounts. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.

Where applicable the results in the performance statement have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those reported in the Financial Statements. The other results are based on information drawn from council information systems or from third parties (e.g., Australian Bureau of Statistics or the Council's satisfaction survey provider).

The performance statement presents the actual results for the current year and the previous three years, along with the current year's target, if mandated by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. Additionally, for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the performance statement includes the target budget for the current year and the results forecast for the period 2026-27 to 2029-30 by the council's financial plan.

The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the performance statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

5.2 Definitions

Aboriginal children	means a child who is an Aboriginal person
Aboriginal person	has the same meaning as in the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006
adjusted underlying revenue	means total income other than: non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and non-monetary asset contributions; and contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above
adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	means adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure
annual report	means an annual report prepared by a council under section 98 of the Act
asset renewal expenditure	means expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability
asset upgrade expenditure	means expenditure that— (a) enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service; or (b) extends the life of the asset beyond its original life
critical non-compliance outcome notification	means a notification received by council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the Food Act 1984 , or advice given to council by an authorised officer under that Act, of a deficiency that poses an immediate serious threat to public health
current assets	has the same meaning as in the Australian Accounting Standards
current liabilities	has the same meaning as in the Australian Accounting Standards
food premises	has the same meaning as in the Food Act 1984
intervention level	means the level set for the condition of a road beyond which a council will not allow the road to deteriorate and will need to intervene

local road	means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the Road Management Act 2004
major non-compliance outcome notification	means a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the Food Act 1984, or advice given to council by an authorised officer under that Act, of a deficiency that does not pose an immediate serious threat to public health but may do so if no remedial action is taken
MCH	means the Maternal and Child Health Service provided by a council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age
non-current liabilities	means all liabilities other than current liabilities
own-source revenue	means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants)
population	means the resident population estimated by council
rate revenue	means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges
relative socio-economic disadvantage	in relation to a municipal district, means the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in which the municipal district is located according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage of SEIFA
restricted cash	means cash, cash equivalents and financial assets, within the meaning of the Australian Accounting Standards, not available for use other than for a purpose for which it is restricted, and includes cash to be used to fund capital works expenditure from the previous financial year
SEIFA	means the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its Internet site
unrestricted cash	means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash

5.3 Other Matters

Operational Summary 2025-26

The Comprehensive Income Statement reports a Surplus of $15.7 million (m) and an Underlying Result Surplus of $1.6 m.
The Surplus includes Capital Grants and other non-monetary contributions (revenue), as well as depreciation (expenses) but excludes capital payments of $24.5m and loan repayments of $1.0m.
This year's performance results have been affected by the prepayment of the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission Financial Assistance Grant. In June 2026, Council received 80% of its 2026/27 allocation. The reported Recurrent Grants result is therefore $7.8m greater than forecast. This funding is intended, and will be used, for 2026/27 operations.

Revenue

Council's Rates Concentration (revenue within Council's direct control) was at 54%. While this is below the benchmark of 75%, it is not unusual for regional councils. Council continues to see notable constraints on revenue, primarily the rate cap set by the Victorian state government being consistently below general inflation (3.0% rate cap for the year compared to a consumer price index increase of 3.8%) and the lack of any movement in restoring the Federal Assistance Grants (FAGs) to 1% of tax revenue, which has been a consistent ask of the local government sector (ALGA) over several years. These revenue constraints, coupled together with cost side factors such as cost shifting and additional regulatory compliance burdens, continue to erode the long-term financial sustainability of rural and regional councils in general and specifically of Swan Hill Rural City Council.

Operating Expenses

Overall operating expenses saw a year-on-year increase of 2.7% with Materials & Services and Depreciation being the largest contributors to the increase. Material & Services increased by 7.7% (see Disruptions section below) and Depreciation rose by 11.4% due to new assets coming on board (see section of Capital Works) and revaluations increasing the value of the sealed and unsealed road networks.

Disruptions

The global fuel crisis and the resulting supply chain disruptions impacted our operations, influencing both direct operating costs (fuel and fuel related inputs) and the cost of delivering essential infrastructure and community projects. Council has monitored market conditions, reviewed procurement strategies, and assessed contingency allowances into project planning and budget forecasting. While fuel prices have shown periods of stabilisation, the broader effects on construction, transport, and supply chain costs continue to influence the cost of delivering infrastructure and services across Council operations.

Capital Works

Council continued to complete a significant capital works programme, delivering $24.5m in capital works. The establishment of a dedicated Project Management Office (PMO) has resulted in improved project performance and expediated project completion. Completion of the Swan Hill Art Gallery and the Tourism & Cultural Hub at the Pioneer Settlement were major milestones for the project management team. Over $9.8m of road and footpath works were undertaken, with Stage 2 of the Quambatook Road widening and reconstruction of Karinie Street Swan Hill being significant projects undertaken during the year. The reconstruction of the 'Ten Steps' Canoe Launching Platform at the Swan Hill Riverside Park was completed and has reinvigorated this area for the users of our riverfront.
As a result of these extensive capital works, Council recorded an Asset renewal Ratio of 1.42, well above the benchmark of 1.

Debtors

Rates debtors remain relatively high, with over $6m overdue at the end of the year and two incorporated entities collectively owing over $1m. Council has initiated follow-up and recovery action which will continue throughout the next year. Due to legislative constraints, recovery action has a long lead time.

Borrowings

Council's level of borrowings continues to decrease, with the indebtedness indicators in the very low range. Council had a loan fall due for renegotiation during the year, and at that time made the decision to repay the balance of $0.25m in full. Subject to any future Council decisions on additional borrowings, forecasts for borrowings is an ongoing decline with Council expected to be debt free by 2031.

Housing Development Support

Council remains active in supporting residential land development, with continued sales of existing lots at the Tower Hill estate. The development continues to be cash-flow positive and provided a return on investment to reserves of $350k for 2025/26. Council also completed the construction of 10 units in McCartney Court Robinvale that will provide much needed accommodation to essential workers within the township.



Financial Report

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Understanding the Financial Report

Introduction

The annual financial report is a key report by the Swan Hill Rural City Council. It shows how Council performed financially during the 2025/26 financial year and the overall position at the end of the financial year (30 June 2026).
Council presents its annual financial report in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.
Particular terms required by the standards might not be familiar to some readers. Council is committed to accountability, and it is in this context that the following explanations have been developed to assist readers understand and analyse the financial report.

What is contained in the Financial Report?

Council's financial report has two main sections, namely the financial statements and the notes. There are five statements and 10 notes. These are prepared by Council staff, examined by the Audit and Risk Committee and Council, and are audited by the Victorian Auditor-General.
The five statements included in the first few pages of the report are the Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Capital Works.
The notes detail Council's accounting policies and the make-up of values contained in the statements.

1. Comprehensive Income Statement

The Comprehensive Income Statement measures Council's performance over the year and shows if a surplus or a deficit has been made in delivering services.
The statement includes all sources of income, less all operating expenses incurred in delivering Council services. This includes depreciation, or the writing down, of the value of buildings, roads, footpaths, drains and all other infrastructure assets that are used to deliver Council services.
These assets are depreciated over the life of the asset or as they are consumed. Capital costs or new assets purchased or created during the year are excluded from the statement but, as indicated above, are depreciated as they are used.
The statement is prepared on an accrual basis. This means that generally all income and costs for the year are recognised even though the income may not yet be received (such as interest on bank deposits) or expenses not yet paid (invoices not yet received for goods and services already used).

2. Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet is an important financial statement. This one-page summary is a snapshot of the financial position as at 30 June 2026. It shows what the Council owns as assets and what it owes as liabilities.
The bottom line of this statement is net assets. This is the net worth of Council that has been built up over many years.
The assets and liabilities are separated into current and non-current. Current means those assets or liabilities that will fall due or be consumed in the next 12 months. The components of the Balance Sheet are described on the following page.

Current and non-current assets

- Cash includes cash and cash equivalents
- i.e. cash held in the bank, petty cash and term deposits.
- Receivables are monies owed to Council by ratepayers and other debtors.
- Other assets include income earned but not yet received and accounts which have been prepaid.
- Property, plant and equipment, infrastructure is the largest component of Council's worth and represents the value of all land, buildings, roads, vehicles, equipment, and other items which have been invested in by Council over many years.

Current and non-current liabilities

- Payables are those to whom Council owes money as at 30 June 2026.
- Provisions include employee benefits, which is the accounting term for accrued long service and annual leave. Landfill restoration works are also grouped under provisions.
- Interest bearing loans and borrowings, which are repaid over a set period of time, finance leases that are leases of assets where ownership of the asset is transferred to the Council.

Net assets

This term is used to describe the difference between the value of total assets and the value of total liabilities. It represents the net worth of Council as at 30 June 2025. The net value of the Council is also synonymous with total equity.

Total equity

- Asset revaluation reserve is the difference between the previously recorded value of property and infrastructure assets and their current valuations.

Accumulated surplus is the value of all net assets accumulated over time, including other reserve allocations for specific projects.

3. Statement of Changes in Equity

During the course of the year, the value of total ratepayers equity as set out in the Balance Sheet changes. This statement shows the values of such changes and how these changes arose.
The main reason for a change in equity stem from:

- The surplus/(deficit) for the year from operations, described in the Comprehensive Income Statement as the surplus/(deficit) for the year.
- Revaluation of assets; takes on a regular schedule basis on average every three years. It also occurs when existing assets are taken up in the books for the first time.

4. Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows summarises Council's cash payments and cash receipts for the year. This statement is presented according to a very specific accounting standard and needs some care in analysis.
The values may differ from those shown in the Comprehensive Income Statement because the Comprehensive Income Statement is prepared on an accrual accounting basis.
Cash in this statement refers to bank deposits and other forms of highly liquid investments that can readily be converted to cash.
Council's cash arises from, and is used in, three main areas:

Cash flow operating activities

- Receipts – all cash received into Council's bank account from ratepayers and others that owed money to Council. Receipts also include the interest earned from Council's cash investments. It does not include the costs associated with the sale of assets.
- Payments – all cash paid by Council from its bank account to staff, creditors and other persons. It does not include the costs associated with the creation of assets.

Cash flow from investing activities

The accounting term investing activities relate to payments for the acquisition and creation of assets, such as new plant, roads and other long-term revenue producing assets, and the proceeds from the sale of assets such as plant and land.

Cash flow from investing activities

This is where the receipt and repayment of borrowed funds are recorded. The bottom line of the Cash Flow Statement is the cash at end of financial year. This shows the capacity of Council to meet its debts and other liabilities.

5. Statement of Capital Works

Each year a significant portion of Council budget gets allocated to Capital Works projects. This Statement aims to give readers an understanding of what capital works assets have been built, upgraded or renewed throughout the financial year. This Statement is broken down by asset category to provide further information as to what asset category these funds have been spent.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes are a very important and informative section of the report. The Australian Accounting Standards are not prescriptive in a lot of issues. Therefore, to enable the reader to understand the basis on which the values shown in the statements are established, it is necessary to provide details of Council's accounting policies within the notes. The notes give details behind many of the summary figures contained in the statements. The note numbers are shown beside the relevant items in the Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Capital Works. Where Council wishes to disclose other information that cannot be incorporated onto the face of the Statements, this is shown in the notes.

The notes also include a comparison to budget (note 2). This note reports on the actual performance of Council to its adopted budget, and provides commentary to all material variances. The notes should be read at the same time as, and together with, the other parts of the financial statements to get a clear picture of the accounts.

Certification of the financial statements

The Certification of the Principal Accounting Officer is made by the person responsible for the financial management of Council that, in his opinion, the financial statements have met all the statutory and professional reporting requirements. The Certification of Councillors is made by two Councillors on behalf of Council that, in their opinion, the financial statements are fair and not misleading. The Chief Executive Officer also endorses and signs the certification.

Independent Auditor's Report

The Independent Audit Report is the external and independent opinion of the Victorian Auditor-General on the financial statements. It provides the reader with a totally independent opinion on the financial statements. The opinion covers both the statutory and professional requirements and also the fairness aspects of the financial statements.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Annual Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2026

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Swan Hill Rural City Council

Annual Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2026

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Certification of the Financial Statements

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020, the Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Stephen Fernando CPA
Principal Accounting Officer
Dated: 15 September 2026

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of the Swan Hill Rural City Council for the year ended 30 June 2026 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the council and by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 to certify the financial statements in their final form.

Stuart King (Mayor)
Councillor
Dated: 15 September 2026

Terry Jennings (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor
Dated: 15 September 2026

Scott Barber
Chief Executive Officer
Dated: 15 September 2026

VAGO
Victorian Auditor-General's Office

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Swan Hill Rural City Council

Opinion	I have audited the financial report of Swan Hill Rural City Council (the council) which comprises the: • balance sheet as at 30 June 2026 • comprehensive income statement for the year then ended • statement of changes in equity for the year then ended • statement of cash flows for the year then ended • statement of capital works for the year then ended • notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information • certification of the financial statements. In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the council as at 30 June 2026 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.
Basis for Opinion	I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.
Councillors' responsibilities for the financial report	The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.

Level 31 / 35 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000
T 03 8601 7000 enquiries@audit.vic.gov.au www.audit.vic.gov.au

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Councillors
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Councillors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



MELBOURNE
29 September 2026

Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Annual Financial Report
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Understanding Council's Financial Statements

Introduction

Each year, individual Local Governments across Victoria are required to present a set of audited financial statements to their council and community.

What you will find in the Report

The financial report set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

The format of the financial report is standard across all Victorian Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and requirements as set down by Local Government Victoria.

About the Certification of the Financial Statements

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff and Councillors as "presenting fairly" the Council's financial results for the year as well as Council's financial position, and are required to be adopted by Council - ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the Primary Financial Statements

The financial statements incorporate 5 "primary" financial statements:

1. Comprehensive Income Statement
Summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income & expenses.

Includes other comprehensive income which primarily records changes in the fair values of Council's property, infrastructure, plant and equipment.

2. Balance Sheet
A 30 June snapshot of Council's financial position indicating its assets, liabilities and "net wealth".

3. Statement of Changes in Equity
The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's "net wealth".

4. Statement of Cash Flows
Indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent.

5. Statement of Capital Works
This statement details all amounts expended by Council on capital works.

About the Notes to the Financial Report

The Notes to the financial statements provide greater detail and additional information on the 5 primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's financial statements are required to be audited by the Victorian Auditor General's office.

The auditor provides an audit report which gives an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position.

Who uses the Financial Report?

The financial report is a publicly available document and is used by (but not limited to) Councillors, residents and ratepayers, employees, suppliers, contractors, customers, Local Government Victoria, state and federal governments, and financiers including banks and other financial institutions.

The financial statements must be presented at a Council meeting no later than 1 month after submitting the annual report to the Minister.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Comprehensive Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Income / Revenue			
Rates and charges	3.1	35,013	33,508
Statutory fees and fines		944	983
User fees	3.2	4,906	4,574
Grants - operating	3.3	15,258	15,921
Grants - capital	3.3	11,648	7,027
Contributions - monetary		355	337
Contributions - non monetary	3.4	4,160	777
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		438	231
Other income	3.5	5,934	5,475
Total income / revenue		78,656	68,833
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	21,052	20,522
Materials and services	4.2	22,939	21,301
Depreciation	4.3	16,116	14,467
Depreciation - Right of use assets		128	141
Allowance for impairment losses		18	41
Borrowing costs		54	57
Finance Costs - Leases		23	25
Other expenses	4.4	2,615	4,751
Total expenses		62,945	61,305
Surplus		15,711	7,528
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation gain	9.1	17,518	43,499
Total other comprehensive income		17,518	43,499
Total comprehensive result		33,229	51,027

The above comprehensive income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	5,079	7,871
Other financial assets	5.1	51,311	43,999
Trade and other receivables	5.1	9,276	8,788
Inventories		260	242
Contract assets		889	1,001
Other assets		769	552
Total current assets		67,584	62,453
Non-current assets			
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	721,183	693,342
Right-of-use assets		348	450
Intangible assets	5.2	3,981	3,584
Other assets		50	50
Total non-current assets		725,562	697,426
Total assets		793,146	759,879
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3	5,095	6,611
Trust funds and deposits		386	489
Contract and other liabilities	5.3	4,851	2,562
Provisions	5.5	5,198	5,028
Interest-bearing liabilities	5.4	244	785
Lease liabilities		120	123
Total current liabilities		15,894	15,598
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.5	3,254	2,930
Interest-bearing liabilities	5.4	508	995
Lease liabilities		245	340
Total non-current liabilities		4,007	4,265
Total liabilities		19,901	19,863
Net assets		773,245	740,016
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		364,488	348,777
Reserves	9.1	408,757	391,239
Total Equity		773,245	740,016

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	Total $ '000	Accumulated Surplus $ '000	Revaluation Reserves $ '000
2026				
Balance at beginning of the financial year		740,016	348,777	391,239
Surplus		15,711	15,711	–
Other comprehensive income				
Net asset revaluation gain	9.1	17,518	–	17,518
Other comprehensive income		17,518	–	17,518
Total comprehensive income		33,229	15,711	17,518
Balance at end of the financial year		773,245	364,488	408,757
2025				
Balance at beginning of the financial year		688,989	341,249	347,740
Surplus		7,528	7,528	–
Other comprehensive income				
Net asset revaluation gain	9.1	43,499	–	43,499
Other comprehensive income		43,499	–	43,499
Total comprehensive income		51,027	7,528	43,499
Balance at end of the financial year		740,016	348,777	391,239

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 Inflows/ (Outflows) $ '000	2025 Inflows/ (Outflows) $ '000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and charges		34,120	32,437
Statutory fees and fines		882	891
User fees		4,908	4,577
Grants - operating		15,352	15,973
Grants - capital		13,841	6,787
Contributions - monetary		355	337
Interest received		2,700	3,062
Trust funds and deposits taken/(repaid)		(103)	75
Other receipts		5,293	9,814
Net GST refund		3,146	3,489
Employee costs		(20,916)	(20,497)
Materials and services		(22,593)	(20,836)
Other payments		(7,414)	(5,762)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	9.2	29,571	30,347
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(24,366)	(27,684)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		544	2,255
Payments for investments		(7,312)	(606)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(31,134)	(26,035)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Finance costs		(54)	(57)
Repayment of borrowings		(1,028)	(290)
Interest paid - lease liability		(23)	(25)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(124)	(136)
Net cash flow provided by/(used in) financing activities		(1,229)	(508)
Net Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(2,792)	3,804
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		7,871	4,067
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		5,079	7,871
Financing arrangements	5.6	952	1,980

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Statement of Capital Works

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Property			
Land		–	1,226
Total land		–	1,226
Buildings		8,667	11,378
Total buildings		8,667	11,378
Total property		8,667	12,604
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment		2,417	1,953
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		73	–
Computers and telecommunications		111	195
Library books		105	166
Total plant and equipment		2,706	2,314
Infrastructure			
Sealed roads		8,500	7,787
Unsealed roads		637	131
Footpaths and cycleways		706	791
Drainage		274	217
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		164	267
Waste management		–	17
Parks, open space and streetscapes		583	1,757
Other infrastructure		2,226	1,865
Total infrastructure		13,090	12,832
Total capital works expenditure		24,463	27,750
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		1,521	7,068
Asset renewal expenditure		20,637	15,545
Asset upgrade expenditure		2,305	5,137
Total capital works expenditure		24,463	27,750

The above statement of capital works should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 1. Overview

Introduction

The Swan Hill Rural City Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 20 January 1995 and is a body corporate.

The Council's main office is located at 45 Splatt St Swan Hill.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 2020*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.*

The Council is a not-for-profit entity and therefore applies the additional AUS paragraphs applicable to a not-for-profit entity under the Australian Accounting Standards.

Accounting policy information

1.1 Basis of accounting

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. Specific accounting policies applied are disclosed in sections where the related balance or financial statement matter is disclosed.

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, except for the cash flow information, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements are in Australian dollars. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified. Minor discrepancies in tables between totals and the sum of components are due to rounding.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1.)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1.).
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.5.).
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to Note 5.5.)
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers or AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (refer to Note 3.3)
- whether or not AASB 1059 *Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors* is applicable
- other areas requiring judgements

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 1. Overview (continued)

Goods and Services Tax (GST)
Income and expenses are recognised net of the amount of associated GST. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

1.2 Impacts of other external events

Council has considered ongoing external events that have contributed to volatility in international markets, disrupted global supply chains and increased inflationary pressure, including the risk that they may cause significant changes in the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next financial year, and has concluded that there is no material impact on the 2025-26 financial report that requires additional disclosure.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2. Analysis of our results

Note 2.1 Performance against budget

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government* (*Planning and Reporting*) *Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of the lower of 10 percent or $1,000,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.*

2.1.1 Income / Revenue and expenditure

	Budget 2026 $ '000	Actual 2026 $ '000	Variance $ '000	Variance %	Ref
Income / Revenue					
Rates and charges	34,740	35,013	273	0.79%	
Statutory fees and fines	1,140	944	(196)	(17.19)%	1
User fees	4,668	4,906	238	5.10%	
Grants - operating	11,099	15,258	4,159	37.47%	2
Grants - capital	15,740	11,648	(4,092)	(26.00)%	3
Contributions - monetary	263	355	92	34.98%	4
Contributions - non monetary	–	4,160	4,160	∞	5
Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	99	438	339	342.42%	6
Other income	9,248	5,934	(3,314)	(35.83)%	7
Total income / revenue	76,997	78,656	1,659	2.15%	
Expenses					
Employee costs	22,660	21,052	1,608	7.10%	
Materials and services	19,085	22,939	(3,854)	(20.19)%	8
Depreciation	15,995	16,116	(121)	(0.76)%	
Depreciation - right of use assets	126	128	(2)	(1.59)%	
Allowance for impairment losses	1	18	(17)	(1,700.00)%	9
Borrowing costs	57	54	3	5.26%	
Finance costs - leases	23	23	–	0.00%	
Other expenses	3,724	2,615	1,109	29.78%	10
Total expenses	61,671	62,945	(1,274)	(2.07)%	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	15,326	15,711	385	2.51%	

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2.1 Performance against budget (continued)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Explanation
1.	Building Department income was below budget due to the inability to recruit suitably qualified building surveyor staff.
2.	Timing of Grants Commission funding. June 2025 Council received 50% ($4.8m) of its 2025-26 allocation and therefore reported as income in the 2024-25 year. June 2026 Council received 80% ($7.8m) of its 2026-27 allocation and reported within the 2025-26 result.
3.	Funding forecast for the Swan Hill Showgrounds - Regional Hub $4m is awaiting funding outcome.
4.	Resort and Recreation contributions from developments was greater than budget.
5.	Following the completion of external land developments various sealed roads, drainage, footpaths and parks and open space assets were contributed to Council. The value of these assets has now been recognised as contributions, which were previously not budgeted for.
6.	Plant and equipment turnover was higher than forecast due to delivery delays experienced in the previous financial year. As a result, the assets were received and associated trade-ins processed during the 2025/26 financial year.
7.	Tower Hill land sales were $4.0m below forecast due to the delay of Stage 16 development. Interest income was $651,000 better than budget.
8.	Most of the materials and services variance is the result of works budgeted as capital expenditure but deemed not to meet capitalisation thresholds and requirements and was therefore expensed ($2.04m). The variance also includes expenditure items that exceed budget for sealed road maintenance ($340k), debt collection expenses ($108k), contractors engaged to fill staff vacancies ($428k) and costs for IT software and security ($352k). Under AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, local governments must recognise the fair value of volunteer services received as both an income and expense ($291k). This amount was not forecast.
9.	The provision allowance increased due to higher provisions for parking infringements ($32k) and other debtors ($17k). This was partially offset by a reduction in rates debtors ($31k). No budget had been allocated for this movement.
10.	Major operational projects at the Swan Hill Landfill have been delayed and awaiting further site reviews.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2.1 Performance against budget (continued)

2.1.2 Capital works

	Budget 2026 $ '000	Actual 2026 $ '000	Variance $ '000	Variance %	Ref
Property					
Land	2,790	–	(2,790)	(100.00)%	1
Total land	2,790	–	(2,790)	(100.00)%	
Buildings	15,155	8,667	(6,488)	(42.81)%	2
Total buildings	15,155	8,667	(6,488)	(42.81)%	
Total property	17,945	8,667	(9,278)	(51.70)%	
Plant and equipment & culture and heritage					
Heritage plant and equipment	300	–	(300)	(100.00)%	3
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,724	2,417	693	40.20%	4
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	429	73	(356)	(82.98)%	5
Computers and telecommunications	640	111	(529)	(82.66)%	6
Library books	160	105	(55)	(34.38)%	7
Total plant and equipment & culture and heritage	3,253	2,706	(547)	(16.82)%	
Infrastructure					
Sealed roads	11,781	8,500	(3,281)	(27.85)%	8
Unsealed roads	1,310	637	(673)	(51.37)%	9
Footpaths and cycleways	269	706	437	162.45%	10
Drainage	1,801	274	(1,527)	(84.79)%	11
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,033	164	(869)	(84.12)%	12
Parks, open space and streetscapes	1,105	583	(522)	(47.24)%	13
Other infrastructure	3,572	2,226	(1,346)	(37.68)%	14
Total infrastructure	20,871	13,090	(7,781)	(37.28)%	
Total capital works expenditure	42,069	24,463	(17,606)	(41.85)%	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	14,892	1,521	(13,371)	(89.79)%	
Asset renewal expenditure	21,004	20,637	(367)	(1.75)%	
Asset upgrade expenditure	6,173	2,305	(3,868)	(62.66)%	
Total capital works expenditure	42,069	24,463	(17,606)	(41.85)%	

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2.1 Performance against budget (continued)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Explanation
1.	The budget allowed $2.8m for the Tower Hill stage 16 development, works are yet to commence.
2.	Budgeted projects include the Swan Hill Showgrounds Regional Hub ($5.1m), Robinvale workers accommodation ($5m), Art Gallery redevelopment ($2m) and construction of the Tourism & Cultural Hub ($1.9m). The Art Gallery redevelopment and Tourism & Cultural Hub works are complete, Robinvale workers accommodation is scheduled for completion in August 2026, and design works for the Swan Hill Showgrounds Regional Hub are in progress.
3.	The budget included Gem caulking and protective works ($150k), D3 Locomotive restoration ($100k) and Pental Island Native Seedbank Nursery ($50k). Gem caulking and protective coating works are in progress, while the D3 Locomotive restoration and Seedbank Nursery works are yet to commence.
4.	Plant and equipment renewal expenditure exceeded budget due to the delivery of plant items ordered in the prior financial year.
5.	The budgeted Neighbourhood Battery Program ($396k) funding application was unsuccessful and did not proceed. Actual expenditure related to Council Chambers upgrades.
6.	The budgeted Pioneer Settlement transitional experience ($500k) funding application was unsuccessful and did not proceed. Actual expenditure includes IT equipment replacement.
7.	Budget and actual expenditure includes Library collection purchases.
8.	The budget allowed $6.7m for Karinie street reconstruction, $1.4m for resealing works and $1.1m for sealed road reconstructions. Actual expenditure includes work currently underway at Karinie Street, together with resealing and reconstruction works.
9.	The budget included gravel roads resheeting ($810k) and Roads to Recovery gravel resheeting program ($500k). Actual expenditure includes gravel resheeting works.
10.	Footpaths and cycleways budget included Manangatang (CBD to school $68k) works, footpath replacement programs ($70k) and disabled kerb crossing works ($37k). These works are complete, along with additional footpath works in Robinvale and Woorinen South due to additional funding received.
11.	The budget allowed for Robinvale drainage stage 2 ($1.3m) and Swan Hill stormwater upgrades ($501k). The majority of actual expenditure relates to drainage works undertaken in connection with road works.
12.	Recreation facilities budget included Robinvale Recreation Reserve change room redevelopment ($505k), Swan Hill Sporting Precinct implementation ($438k) and Alan Garden Reserve irrigation works ($70k). Alan Garden irrigation works are complete, Swan Hill Sporting Precinct works are underway and Robinvale Recreation Reserve change rooms are awaiting funding outcomes.
13.	Parks, open space and streetscapes budget included the Nyah Riverfront masterplan implementation ($60k), Robinvale Off Leash Dog Park ($250k), renewal irrigation systems ($392k), playground equipment renewal ($116k) and Swan Hill CBD street beautification works ($200k). Actual expenditure includes the Nyah Riverfront masterplan implementation, playground equipment renewal and Tower Hill works originally budgeted for under land.
14.	The Other Infrastructure budget included Pental Island pedestrian bridge upgrade ($1m), Ten Steps renewal ($575k), Riverside Park mooring platform ($575k), Recreation Reserve lighting ($400k) and Pental Island cultural tourism development ($291k). The Ten Steps renewal was completed during the year, works are underway on the Riverside Park mooring platform and Pental Island pedestrian bridge, and the Recreation Reserve lighting is yet to commence.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2.2 Analysis of Council results by program

2.2.1 Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

Economic growth
Economic growth will encourage new business development, provide support for business expansion and will continuously seek to help our existing businesses to prosper. This function provides, building and planning statutory services, management of caravan parks, economic development programs, regulatory services and parking control, management of the Pioneer Settlement and regional visitor information centre.

Community enrichment
Community enrichment function will provide a range of services to individuals and to the broader community that assist all in our community to live healthy, fulfilling lives. We will embrace our role as a regional centre by providing a range of cultural opportunities. The community enrichment function includes maternal and child health, after school and vacation programs, libraries, art gallery and performing arts.

Infrastructure
Infrastructure will provide and maintain publicly accessible infrastructure that is appropriate for the community's needs in the most effective and efficient manner possible. The infrastructure function is responsible for constructing new infrastructure and maintaining existing infrastructure across the municipality.

Governance and leadership
Governance and leadership provides efficient, effective and proactive support services across Council to enable the delivery of policy commitments, Council vision and mission. The function will plan for our municipality's long term growth and development by committing to a robust program of strategic planning while representing our community's interests and conducting our affairs openly and with integrity, reflecting the high levels of governance our community expects.

2.2.2 Summary of income / revenue, expenses, assets and expenses by program

Functions/activities	Income / Revenue $ '000	Expenses $ '000	Surplus / (Deficit) $ '000	Grants included in income / revenue $ '000	Total assets $ '000
2026					
Economic growth	9,855	17,634	(7,779)	5,672	11,498
Community enrichment	2,726	7,206	(4,480)	1,761	2,806
Infrastructure	17,917	20,920	(3,003)	9,863	710,405
Governance and leadership	48,158	17,185	30,973	9,610	68,437
Total functions and activities	78,656	62,945	15,711	26,906	793,146
2025					
Economic growth	6,907	21,954	(15,047)	2,478	11,668
Community enrichment	2,579	9,224	(6,645)	1,512	2,959
Infrastructure	16,240	17,555	(1,315)	8,510	681,665
Governance and leadership	43,107	12,572	30,535	10,448	63,587
Total functions and activities	68,833	61,305	7,528	22,948	759,879

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

3.1 Rates and charges

Council uses Capital Improved Value as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The Capital Improved Value of a property is the value of its land, buildings and improvements.

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2025/26 was $7,220 million (2024/25 $6,822 million).

Residential & Recreational	13,171	12,487
Commercial	2,205	1,890
Farm/rural	13,315	13,068
Industrial	769	920
Recreational	–	17
Garbage charge	4,449	4,267
Special marketing rates	401	393
Rate agreements - Electricity Industry Act	331	322
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	283	163
Other	107	–
Abandonments	(18)	(19)
Total rates and charges	35,013	33,508

The date of the general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2025 and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2025.

Annual rates and charges are recognised as income when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

3.2 User fees

Administration fees	152	140
Child care/children's programs	202	179
Waste management services	597	442
Parking	187	208
Sales - admissions	1,297	1,414
Sales - merchandising, catering, other sales	677	689
Hire & leasing fees	810	819
Livestock exchange	772	479
Other fees and charges	212	204
Total user fees	4,906	4,574
User fees by timing of revenue recognition		
User fees recognised over time	810	819
User fees recognised at a point in time	4,096	3,755
Total user fees	4,906	4,574

User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, or over time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied. Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
3.3 Funding from other levels of government		
Grants were received in respect of the following:		
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	18,016	18,598
State funded grants	8,890	4,350
Total grants received	26,906	22,948
(a) Operating Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Financial Assistance Grants - general purpose *	8,606	9,483
Financial Assistance Grants - local roads *	3,975	4,386
Out of school hours care	327	317
Recurrent - State Government		
Art Gallery and performing arts	150	150
Community Projects	240	–
Libraries	217	217
Maternal and child health	695	660
Public health	42	53
School crossing supervisors	65	63
Other	213	93
Total recurrent operating grants	14,530	15,422
Non-recurrent - State Government		
Community projects	123	113
Economic development	270	–
Environmental protection	85	170
Family and children	140	99
Libraries	26	28
Waste management	5	60
Other	79	29
Total non-recurrent operating grants	728	499
Total operating grants	15,258	15,921

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(b) Capital Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Roads to recovery	1,944	1,864
Total recurrent capital grants	1,944	1,864
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Aerodrome	274	252
Local roads and community infrastructure program	2,890	2,296
Non-recurrent - State Government		
Buildings	3,639	389
Art and heritage	41	12
Drainage	172	–
Footpaths	147	–
Livestock exchange	–	24
Parks playgrounds and street beautification	113	945
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	417	108
Roads	2,006	–
Waste management	5	1,137
Total non-recurrent capital grants	9,704	5,163
Total capital grants	11,648	7,027

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

(c) Recognition of grant income

Before recognising funding from government grants as revenue the Council assesses whether there is a contract that is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. When both these conditions are satisfied, the Council:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to revenue under the contract/agreement
- determines the transaction price
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations, at the point in time or over time when services are rendered.

Where the contract is not enforceable and/or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Council applies *AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities.*

Grant revenue with sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised over time as the performance obligations specified in the underlying agreement are met. Where performance obligations are not sufficiently specific, grants are recognised on the earlier of receipt or when an unconditional right to receipt has been established. Grants relating to capital projects are generally recognised progressively as the capital project is completed. The following table provides a summary of unspent grants.

Income recognised under AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities		
General purpose	8,606	9,483
Other specific purpose grants	6,270	6,149
Specific purpose grants to acquire non-financial assets	11,647	7,027
Revenue recognised under AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers		
Specific purpose grants	383	289
	26,906	22,948

(d) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner

Operating		
Balance at start of year	289	237
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	120	132
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(26)	(80)
Balance at year end	383	289
Capital		
Balance at start of year	2,257	2,497
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	1,158	1,305
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	1,035	(1,545)
Balance at year end	4,450	2,257

Unspent grants are determined and disclosed on a cash basis.

(*) 2026, 50% of the 2025/26 allocation was received prior to 30 June 2025, 80% of the 2026/27 allocation was received in June 2026.

(*) 2025, 100% of the 2024/25 allocation was received prior to 30 June 2025, 50% of the 2025/26 allocation was received in June 2025.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
3.4 Contributions		
Non-monetary contributions		
Non-monetary	4,160	777
Total non-monetary contributions	4,160	777
Artworks	13	89
Drainage	1,349	–
Footpaths	834	–
Library books	1	1
Other infrastructure	23	112
Sealed roads	1,854	–
Parks, open spaces and streetscapes	39	307
Plant and equipment	47	–
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	–	268
Total non-monetary contributions	4,160	777

Monetary and non monetary contributions are recognised as income at their fair value when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
3.5 Other income		
Interest	2,700	3,062
Reimbursements	1,519	1,314
Tower Hill land sales	1,319	746
Less - Tower Hill costs of goods sold	(25)	(12)
Revenue from volunteer services	291	299
Other	130	66
Total other income	5,934	5,475

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 4. The cost of delivering services

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
4.1 Employee costs		
(a) Employee costs		
Wages and salaries	16,317	16,028
WorkCover	585	319
Superannuation	2,526	2,388
Fringe benefits tax	68	80
Agency staff	623	780
Long service leave	521	487
Staff training	209	291
Other	203	149
Total employee costs	21,052	20,522
(b) Superannuation		
Council made contributions to the following funds:		
Defined benefit fund		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	125	74
	125	74
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	2,510	2,293
	2,510	2,293
Total superannuation costs	2,635	2,367

Contributions made exclude amounts accrued at balance date.

Most employees in the group are members of various accumulation funds including Vision Super, and other industry and retail funds. As of 30 June 2026, there were 6 employees in the defined benefit funds.

For 30 June 2026 the Vested Benefits Index (VBI) for the defined benefits fund is 116.9% and in a good financial position, and therefore it is expected that there will be no change to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

In the unlikely event that the Fund Actuary determines there is a shortfall, the Fund's participating employers would be required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall. It is anticipated any shortfall in subsequent years would be immaterial to the Council.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 4. The cost of delivering services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
4.2 Materials and services		
Contract payments	10,425	9,200
Building maintenance	1,176	958
General maintenance	3,228	2,840
Utilities	1,772	1,666
Office administration	679	724
Information technology	1,816	1,543
Insurance	959	1,203
Consultants	1,037	1,131
Community grants sponsorship and contributions	777	790
Volunteer services - cost of service	291	299
Other	779	947
Total materials and services	22,939	21,301

Expenses are recognised as they are incurred and reported in the financial year to which they relate.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 4. The cost of delivering services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
4.3 Depreciation		
Property		
Buildings - specialised	2,381	2,349
Buildings - non specialised	364	83
Total depreciation - property	2,745	2,432
Plant and equipment		
Plant machinery and equipment	1,292	1,210
Fixtures fittings and furniture	237	343
Computers and telecomms	206	226
Artworks	18	17
Library collection	129	130
Pioneer Settlement vehicles & vessels	66	66
Pioneer Settlement site exhibits	29	29
Pioneer Settlement buildings	200	1
Total depreciation - plant and equipment	2,177	2,022
Infrastructure		
Footpaths and cycleways	715	469
Drainage	858	674
Recreational, leisure and community	452	455
Waste management	25	25
Parks open spaces and streetscapes	606	548
Sealed roads	5,930	5,380
Unsealed roads	2,240	2,116
Other infrastructure	368	346
Total depreciation - infrastructure	11,194	10,013
Total depreciation	16,116	14,467

Refer to note 6.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation charges and accounting policy.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
4.4 Other expenses		
Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	57	73
Auditors' remuneration - Internal Audit	59	105
Councillors' allowances	354	298
Assets written-off / impaired	1,584	3,848
Operating lease rentals	93	27
Vehicle registrations	94	95
Bank charges	70	59
Legal costs	93	50
Emergency services and volunteers fund levy	108	88
Others	103	108
Total other expenses	2,615	4,751

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
5.1 Financial assets		
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
Current		
Cash on hand	12	13
Cash at bank	5,067	7,858
Total current cash and cash equivalents	5,079	7,871
(b) Other financial assets		
Current		
Term deposits	51,311	43,999
Total current other financial assets	51,311	43,999
Total current financial assets	56,390	51,870
Total cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets	56,390	51,870

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Other financial assets are valued at fair value, at balance date. Term deposits are measured at original cost. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

Other financial assets include term deposits and those with original maturity dates of three to 12 months are classified as current, whilst term deposits with maturity dates greater than 12 months are classified as non-current.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(c) Trade & Other Receivables		
Current		
Statutory receivables		
Rates debtors	6,963	6,070
Infringement debtors	533	478
Private scheme debtors	4	4
Net GST receivable	820	520
Non-statutory receivables		
Other debtors	1,397	2,163
Provision for doubtful debts - rates debtors	(32)	(57)
Allowance for expected credit loss - infringements	(397)	(372)
Allowance for expected credit loss - other debtors	(12)	(18)
Total current trade and other receivables	9,276	8,788
Total trade and other receivables	9,276	8,788

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount. An allowance for expected credit losses is recognised based on past experience and other objective evidence of expected losses. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(d) Ageing of receivables		

The ageing of the Council's trade & other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) that are not impaired was:

Current (not yet due)	506	364
Past due between 31 and 180 days	576	1,333
Past due between 181 and 365 days	69	177
Past due by more than 1 year	234	271
Total trade and other receivables	1,385	2,145

(e) Ageing of individually impaired receivables

At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of $12,130 (2025: $17,960) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was $12,130 (2025: $17,960). They individually have been impaired as a result of their doubtful collection. Many of the long outstanding past due amounts have been lodged with Council's debt collectors or are on payment arrangements.

The ageing of receivables that have been individually determined as impaired at reporting date was:

Past due by more than 1 year	12	18
Total trade and other receivables	12	18

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
5.2 Non-financial assets		
(a) Intangible assets		
Water rights	3,981	3,584
Total intangible assets	3,981	3,584

	Water Rights $ '000
Gross Carrying Amount	
Balance at 1 July 2025	3,584
Asset revaluations	397
Balance at 30 June 2026	3,981
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	
Net book value at 30 June 2025	3,584
Net book value at 30 June 2026	3,981

Water rights are valued at current market rates. The valuation is based on market transactions being the trading of water shares within the relevant water trading region. Prices are sourced from the Victorian Water Register for water traded within trading zone 7 VIC Murray - Barmah to SA.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

5.3 Payables, contract and other liabilities

(a) Trade and other payables

Current

Non-statutory payables

Trade payables	2,387	1,806
Salaries and wages	498	411
Accrued expenses	1,211	3,460
Overpaid rate debtors	999	934
Total current trade and other payables	5,095	6,611

(b) Contract and other liabilities

Contract liabilities
Current

Grants received in advance - operating	383	289
Grants received in advance - capital	4,450	2,257
Other	18	16
	18	16
Total current contract and other liabilities	4,851	2,562

Contract liabilities
Contract liabilities reflect consideration received in advance from customers in respect of grants received of which council has an outstanding obligation. Contract liabilities are derecognised and recorded as revenue when promised goods and services are transferred to the customer or council obligation completed. Refer to Note 3.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
5.4 Interest-bearing liabilities		
Current		
Other borrowings - secured	244	785
Total current interest-bearing liabilities	244	785
Non-current		
Other borrowings - secured	508	995
Total non-current interest-bearing liabilities	508	995
Total interest-bearing liabilities	752	1,780

Borrowings are secured by Swan Hill Rural City Council General Rates.

a) The maturity profile for Council's borrowings is:		
Not later than one year	244	785
Later than one year and not later than five years	508	995
Total	752	1,780

Borrowings are initially measured at fair value, being the cost of the interest bearing liabilities, net of transaction costs. The measurement basis subsequent to initial recognition depends on whether the Council has categorised its interest-bearing liabilities as either financial liabilities designated at fair value through the profit and loss, or financial liabilities at amortised cost. Any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value is recognised in net result over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest method.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the interest bearing liabilities. The Council determines the classification of its interest bearing liabilities at initial recognition.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	Employee provisions $ '000	Landfill restoration $ '000	Total $ '000
5.5 Provisions			
2026			
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	4,878	3,080	7,958
Additional provisions	2,154	50	2,204
Amounts used	(1,695)	–	(1,695)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	(323)	308	(15)
Balance at the end of the financial year	5,014	3,438	8,452
Provisions			
Provisions - current	4,805	393	5,198
Provisions - non-current	209	3,045	3,254
Total Provisions	5,014	3,438	8,452
2025			
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	4,853	3,118	7,971
Additional provisions	1,894	84	1,978
Amounts used	(1,596)	–	(1,596)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	(273)	(122)	(395)
Balance at the end of the financial year	4,878	3,080	7,958
Provisions			
Provisions - current	4,706	322	5,028
Provisions - non-current	172	2,758	2,930
Total Provisions	4,878	3,080	7,958

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(a) Employee provisions		
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	1,333	1,372
Long service leave	250	259
	1,583	1,631
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Annual leave	379	330
Long service leave	2,843	2,745
	3,222	3,075
Total current employee provisions	4,805	4,706
Non-Current		
Long service leave	209	172
Total Non-Current Employee Provisions	209	172
Aggregate Carrying Amount of Employee Provisions:		
Current	4,805	4,706
Non-current	209	172
Total Aggregate Carrying Amount of Employee Provisions	5,014	4,878

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

Annual leave
A liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability because the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability. Liabilities for annual leave are measured at:
- nominal value if the Council expects to wholly settle the liability within 12 months
- present value if the Council does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at the present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Long service leave
Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability as the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement. Unconditional LSL is measured at nominal value if expected to be settled within 12 months or at present value if not expected to be settled within 12 months. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability and measured at present value.

Key assumptions:		
- discount rate	4.48%	3.73%
- index rate	4.15%	4.25%

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(b) Landfill restoration		
Current		
Current	393	322
Total current	393	322
Non-current		
Non-current	3,045	2,758
Total non-current	3,045	2,758
Total	3,438	3,080

Council is obligated to restore Swan Hill and Robinvale landfill sites to a particular standard. The forecast life of the site is based on current estimates of remaining capacity and the forecast rate of infill. The provision for landfill restoration has been calculated based on the present value of the expected cost of works to be undertaken. The expected cost of works has been estimated based on current understanding of work required to reinstate the site to a suitable standard. Accordingly, the estimation of the provision required is dependent on the accuracy of the forecast timing of the work, work required and related costs. Council reviews the landfill restoration provision on an annual basis, including the key assumptions listed below.

Key assumptions:		
- discount rate	4.41%	3.47%
- index rate	4.10%	2.40%

Total provisions		
Current		
Employee provisions	4,805	4,706
Landfill restoration	393	322
Total current provisions	5,198	5,028
Non-current		
Employee provisions	209	172
Landfill restoration	3,045	2,758
Total non-current provisions	3,254	2,930
Total	8,452	7,958

5.6 Financing arrangements

The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2026.

Credit card facilities	200	200
Loans and borrowings	752	1,780
Total Facilities	952	1,980
Used facilities	795	1,823
Used facilities	795	1,823
Unused facilities	157	157

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

5.7 Commitments

The Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

(a) Commitments for expenditure

	Not later than 1 year $ '000	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years $ '000	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years $ '000	Later than 5 years $ '000	Total $ '000
2026					
Operating					
Building and property maintenance	288	–	–	–	288
Cleaning - council buildings, public toilets, barbeques	1,093	881	470	–	2,444
Cultural and heritage	25	–	–	–	25
Licenses	132	50	80	–	262
Management & operations of the PS Pyap	352	182	–	–	534
Materials and supplies	99	–	–	–	99
Office equipment and supplies	54	–	–	–	54
Other Infrastructure	38	–	–	–	38
Professional services	1,416	236	145	–	1,797
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	737	714	731	–	2,182
Uniforms	2	–	–	–	2
Waste management operation and kerbside collection	1,800	2,574	4,129	–	8,503
Total	6,036	4,637	5,555	–	16,228
Capital					
Buildings	656	–	–	–	656
Cultural and heritage	–	–	–	–	–
Drainage	49	–	–	–	49
Footpaths	117	–	–	–	117
Land	646	–	–	–	646
Other infrastructure	2,640	–	–	–	2,640
Parks and open spaces	–	–	–	–	–
Plant & equipment	501	–	–	–	501
Professional services	23	–	–	–	23
Recreation and leisure assets	778	–	–	–	778
Sealed Roads	5,600	–	–	–	5,600
Total	11,010	–	–	–	11,010

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	Not later than 1 year $ '000	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years $ '000	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years $ '000	Later than 5 years $ '000	Total $ '000
2025					
Operating					
Building and property maintenance	239	–	–	–	239
Cleaning - council buildings, public toilets, barbeques	989	122	–	–	1,111
Cultural and heritage	19	–	–	–	19
Licenses	140	81	37	–	258
Management & operations of the PS Pyap	227	165	–	–	392
Materials and supplies	125	–	–	–	125
Office equipment and supplies	73	–	–	–	73
Other Infrastructure	127	–	–	–	127
Professional services	975	192	–	–	1,167
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	694	1,274	40	–	2,008
Uniforms	1	–	–	–	1
Waste management operation and kerbside collection	2,095	2,744	686	–	5,525
Total	5,704	4,578	763	–	11,045
Capital					
Buildings	3,158	–	–	–	3,158
Cultural and heritage	13	–	–	–	13
Drainage	153	–	–	–	153
Footpaths	24	–	–	–	24
Land	4,456	–	–	–	4,456
Other infrastructure	2,373	–	–	–	2,373
Parks and open spaces	60	–	–	–	60
Plant & equipment	1,062	–	–	–	1,062
Professional services	34	–	–	–	34
Recreation and leisure assets	306	–	–	–	306
Sealed Roads	3,126	–	–	–	3,126
Unsealed Roads	71	–	–	–	71
Total	14,836	–	–	–	14,836

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	Carrying amount 30 June 2025 $ '000	Additions $ '000	Contributions $ '000	Revaluation $ '000	Disposal $ '000	Depreciation $ '000	Write-off $ '000	Transfers $ '000	Carrying amount 30 June 2026 $ '000
Property	154,759	4,763	–	2,088	–	(2,745)	(1,178)	10,162	167,849
Plant and equipment/Culture and heritage assets	21,798	2,567	61	73	(186)	(2,177)	(3)	–	22,133
Infrastructure	503,105	6,972	4,099	14,960	–	(11,194)	(20)	1,487	519,409
Work in progress	13,680	10,161	–	–	–	–	(400)	(11,649)	11,792
Total	693,342	24,463	4,160	17,121	(186)	(16,116)	(1,601)	–	721,183

Summary of Work in Progress	Opening WIP $ '000	Additions $ '000	Write-off $ '000	Transfers $ '000	Closing WIP $ '000
Property	10,113	3,904	(172)	(10,162)	3,683
Plant and equipment	85	139	–	–	224
Infrastructure	3,482	6,118	(228)	(1,487)	7,885
Total	13,680	10,161	(400)	(11,649)	11,792

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

(a) Property

	Land specialised $ '000	Land non specialised $ '000	Total land and land improve-ments $ '000	Buildings specialised $ '000	Buildings non specialised $ '000	Total buildings $ '000	Work in progress $ '000	Total property $ '000
At fair value 1 July 2025	76,820	17,495	94,315	138,955	8,781	147,736	10,113	252,164
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	–	–	–	(81,670)	(5,622)	(87,292)	–	(87,292)
	76,820	17,495	**94,315**	57,285	3,159	**60,444**	10,113	**164,872**
Movements in fair value								
Additions	–	–	–	4,595	168	4,763	3,904	8,667
Contributions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Revaluation	–	–	–	4,758	351	5,109	–	5,109
Disposal	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Write-off	–	–	–	(3,007)	–	(3,007)	(172)	(3,179)
Transfers	723	(723)	–	10,162	–	10,162	(10,162)	–
	723	(723)	**–**	16,508	519	**17,027**	(6,430)	**10,597**
Movements in accumulated depreciation								
Depreciation and amortisation	–	–	–	(2,561)	(184)	(2,745)	–	(2,745)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Revaluation movement	–	–	–	(2,796)	(225)	(3,021)	–	(3,021)
Accumulated depreciation of write offs	–	–	–	1,829	–	1,829	–	1,829
Transfers	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	–	–	**–**	(3,528)	(409)	**(3,937)**	–	**(3,937)**
At fair value 30 June 2026	77,543	16,772	94,315	155,463	9,300	164,763	3,683	262,761
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	–	–	–	(85,198)	(6,031)	(91,229)	–	(91,229)
Carrying amount	77,543	16,772	**94,315**	70,265	3,269	**73,534**	3,683	**171,532**

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

(b) Plant and Equipment & Culture and heritage assets

	Plant machinery and equipment * $ '000	Fixtures fittings and furniture * $ '000	Computers and telecomms * $ '000	Artworks $ '000	Library Collection * $ '000	Pioneer Settlement vehicles & vessels $ '000	Pioneer Settlement site exhibits $ '000	Pioneer Settlement buildings $ '000	Total $ '000	Work in progress $ '000	Total plant and equipment/culture and heritage assets $ '000
At cost 1 July 2025	14,711	5,019	2,043	1,818	2,559	6,566	2,866	11,663	47,245	85	47,330
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	(8,544)	(4,016)	(1,345)	(17)	(1,868)	(66)	(29)	(9,562)	(25,447)	–	(25,447)
	6,167	1,003	698	1,801	691	6,500	2,837	2,101	**21,798**	85	**21,883**
Movements in carrying value											
Additions	2,278	73	111	–	105	–	–	–	2,567	139	2,706
Contributions	47	–	–	13	1	–	–	–	61	–	61
Revaluation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	408	408	–	408
Disposal	(1,233)	–	–	–	(30)	–	–	–	(1,263)	–	(1,263)
Write-off	–	–	(36)	–	–	–	–	–	(36)	–	(36)
Transfers	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	1,092	73	75	13	76	–	–	408	**1,737**	139	**1,876**
Movements in accumulated depreciation											
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,292)	(237)	(206)	(18)	(129)	(66)	(29)	(200)	(2,177)	–	(2,177)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	1,047	–	–	–	30	–	–	–	1,077	–	1,077
Accumulated depreciation on revaluation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	(335)	(335)	–	(335)
Accumulated depreciation of write offs	–	–	33	–	–	–	–	–	33	–	33
	(245)	(237)	(173)	(18)	(99)	(66)	(29)	(535)	**(1,402)**	–	**(1,402)**
At cost 30 June 2026	15,803	5,092	2,118	1,831	2,635	6,566	2,866	12,071	48,982	224	49,206
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	(8,789)	(4,253)	(1,518)	(35)	(1,967)	(132)	(58)	(10,097)	(26,849)	–	(26,849)
Carrying amount	7,014	839	600	1,796	668	6,434	2,808	1,974	**22,133**	224	**22,357**

* Categories are carried at historical cost.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

	Sealed roads $ '000	Unsealed roads $ '000	Footpaths and cycleways $ '000	Drainage $ '000	Recreational, leisure and community $ '000	Waste management $ '000	Parks open spaces and streetscapes $ '000	Other infrastructure $ '000	Total $ '000	Work in progress $ '000	Total infrastructure $ '000
(c) Infrastructure											
At fair value 1 July 2025	382,801	109,558	45,257	92,738	26,412	7,841	19,000	23,688	707,295	3,482	710,777
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	(102,381)	(14,439)	(19,429)	(32,459)	(12,072)	(7,765)	(8,271)	(7,374)	(204,190)	–	(204,190)
	280,420	95,119	25,828	60,279	14,340	76	10,729	16,314	**503,105**	3,482	**506,587**
Movements in fair value											
Additions	3,862	284	682	267	92	–	570	1,215	6,972	6,118	13,090
Contributions	1,854	–	834	1,349	–	–	39	23	4,099	–	4,099
Revaluation	15,312	2,301	1,810	649	185	–	132	160	20,549	–	20,549
Disposal	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	(896)	(896)	–	(896)
Write-off	–	–	–	–	–	–	(87)	–	(87)	(228)	(315)
Transfers	425	84	13	–	22	–	9	934	1,487	(1,487)	–
	21,453	2,669	3,339	2,265	299	–	663	1,436	**32,124**	4,403	**36,527**
Movements in accumulated depreciation											
Depreciation and amortisation	(5,930)	(2,240)	(715)	(858)	(452)	(25)	(606)	(368)	(11,194)	–	(11,194)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	896	896	–	896
Revaluation movement	(4,095)	(303)	(777)	(227)	(85)	–	(57)	(45)	(5,589)	–	(5,589)
Accumulated depreciation of contributions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Accumulated depreciation of write offs	–	–	–	–	–	–	67	–	67	–	67
Transfers	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	(10,025)	(2,543)	(1,492)	(1,085)	(537)	(25)	(596)	483	**(15,820)**	–	**(15,820)**
At fair value 30 June 2026	404,254	112,227	48,596	95,003	26,710	7,842	19,663	25,124	739,419	7,885	747,304
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	(112,406)	(16,982)	(20,921)	(33,544)	(12,608)	(7,791)	(8,867)	(6,891)	(220,010)	–	(220,010)
Carrying amount	291,848	95,245	27,675	61,459	14,102	51	10,796	18,233	**519,409**	7,885	**527,294**

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

Acquisition
Initial measurement
Council initially measures its property, infrastructure, plant and equipment assets at cost. The cost of an acquired asset is the fair value of the consideration that Council has provided at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition.
Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Refer to Note 8.4 for more information on how Council measures fair value.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

	Depreciation Period years	Threshold Limit $ ´000
Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods		
Land and land improvements		
Buildings		
buildings	30 to 100 years	10
Building improvements	30 to 100 years	10
Leasehold improvements	5 to 15 years	10
Plant and Equipment		
Plant machinery and equipment		
Large plant	10 years	3
Small plant	2 years	3
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	5 years	3
Computers and telecommunications	3 to 5 years	2
Cultural and heritage		
Artworks	100 years	–
Library Collection	5 to 100 years	–
Pioneer Settlement vehicles & vessels	100 years	5
Pioneer Settlement site exhibits	100 years	5
Pioneer Settlement buildings	100 years	10
Infrastructure		
Sealed road formation	-	10
Sealed road pavements	60 to 100 years	10
Sealed road seals	15 to 80 years	10
Road ancillary assets	20 to 25 years	10
Unsealed road natural surface	-	10
Unsealed road gravel surface	30 years	10
Kerb and channel	25 to 50 years	10
Footpaths and cycleways	20 to 100 years	10
Drainage	20 to 100 years	10
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	10 to 90 years	10
Waste management	10 years	10
Parks, open space and streetscapes	10 to 60 years	10
Other infrastructure	10 to 150 years	10

Land under roads
Council recognises land under roads it controls at fair value.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

Depreciation and amortisation
Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Road earthworks are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are listed above and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

Repairs and maintenance
Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

Leasehold improvements
Leasehold improvements are recognised at cost and are amortised over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the improvement, whichever is the shorter. At balance date, leasehold improvements are amortised over a 5 to 15 year period.

Valuation of land and buildings
Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by a qualified independent valuer Ben Sawyer AAPI Reg. 63163 as at 30 June 2025. The valuation of land and buildings is at fair value, being market value based on highest and best use permitted by relevant land planning provisions. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement. Where land use is not restricted, highest and best use is assumed to be current use, except where the land is held for sale, or highly likely to be used for an alternative purpose within 12 months of the reporting date.

Specialised land is valued at fair value using site values adjusted for englobo (undeveloped and/or unserviced) characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Any significant movements in the unobservable inputs for land and land under roads will have a significant impact on the fair value of these assets.

The fair value assessed may change significantly and unexpectedly over a relatively short period of time (including as a result of factors that the valuer could not reasonably have been aware of as at the date of valuation). Refer to Significant accounting policies under Overview section and Note 8.4 for further information on fair value measurement.

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. An indexed based revaluation was conducted in the current year, this valuation was based on the June 2026 Valuer-General Victoria vacant land and building indexation factors, a full revaluation of these assets will be conducted in 2026/27. The most recent previous full revaluation of these classes of land and building assets were undertaken by a qualified independent valuer Ben Sawyer AAPI Reg. 63163 as at 30 June 2025.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2026 are as follows:

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of valuation	Type of Valuation
Land	–	16,772	–	30/06/2026	Index based
Specialised land	–	–	77,543	30/06/2026	Index based
Buildings	–	3,269	–	30/06/2026	Index based
Building - specialised	–	–	70,265	30/06/2026	Index based
Total	–	20,041	147,808		

Valuation of infrastructure
Infrastructure valuations were performed by Council's Enterprise Assets Manager who holds a Bachelor of Geomatics (BGeom) and brings two decades of local government experience in asset management. Valuation of infrastructure assets has been determined in accordance by applying the most recent unit rates as calculated from a sample of internal and external projects.

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table.
The valuation is at fair value based on current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation.
Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2026 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of valuation	Type of Valuation
Sealed roads	–	–	291,848	30/06/2026	Index based
Unsealed roads	–	–	95,245	30/06/2026	Index based
Footpaths and cycleways	–	–	27,675	30/06/2026	Index based
Drainage	–	–	61,459	30/06/2026	Index based
Recreational, leisure & community facilities	–	–	14,102	30/06/2026	Index based
Waste management	–	–	51	30/06/2024	Index based
Parks, open space & streetscapes	–	–	10,796	30/06/2026	Index based
Other Infrastructure	–	–	18,233	30/06/2026	Index based

Cultural and heritage assets
Details of the Council's cultural and heritage assets and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2026 are as follows:

Artworks	–	–	1,796	30/06/2024	Full revaluation
Pioneer Settlement vehicles and vessels	–	–	6,434	30/06/2024	Full revaluation
Pioneer Settlement site exhibits	–	–	2,808	30/06/2024	Full revaluation
Pioneer Settlement buildings	–	–	1,974	30/06/2026	Index based
Total	–	–	532,421		

Valuation of cultural and heritage assets
Artworks
Valuation of artwork assets has been conducted by qualified independent valuer Mr David Freeman, member of Auctioneers and Valuers Association of Australia, and Chief Executive Officer of Amanda Adams Auctions, Bulleen, Victoria. The effective date of the valuation was 30 June 2024. Valuation of the assets was determined by analysing comparable sales of an artist's work, knowledge of the collections history and condition of the collection.

Pioneer Settlement
Valuation of Pioneer Settlement vehicles and vessels and site exhibit assets was conducted by qualified independent valuer Mr David Freeman, member of Auctioneers and Valuers Association of Australia, and Chief Executive Officer of Amanda Adams Auctions, Bulleen, Victoria. The valuation is based on average market realisation prices that should be obtained if the items were sold via private treaty or auction sales. The effective date of the valuation is 30 June 2024.

Valuation of Pioneer Settlement buildings were undertaken by qualified independent valuer, Ben Sawyer AAPI Reg. 63163 as at 30 June 2025.

The valuation is at fair value based on replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Specialised land and land under roads is valued using a market based direct comparison technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the extent and impact of restriction of use and the market cost of land per square metre. The extent and impact of restrictions on use varies and results in a reduction to surrounding land values between 25% and 75% for specialised land and between 85% and 95% for land under roads. The market value of land varies significantly depending on the location of the land and the current market conditions. Currently land values range between $1.15 and $268.73 per square metre.

Specialised buildings are valued using a current replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs are calculated on a square metre basis. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 1 year to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the current replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 0 years to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

Artwork assets are valued based on the market based direct comparison approach. Significant unobservable inputs include the rarity of the item, historical significance and the history of the artist. If there are events that determine certain pieces of the collection to be of historical significance, if the artist has works that have increased in popularity or the item is considered to be rare and in demand, this would result in a higher fair value.

Pioneer Settlement vehicles and vessels and site exhibit assets are valued based on the market based direct comparison approach. Significant unobservable inputs include the rarity of the item and historical significance. If there are events that determine certain pieces of the collection to be of historical significance or the item is considered to be rare and in demand, this would result in a higher fair value.

Pioneer Settlement buildings are valued using a current replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement cost is calculated on a square metre basis. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 5 years to 84 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend their useful lives.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Reconciliation of specialised land		
Land under roads	61,253	61,253
Parks and reserves	11,214	11,214
Crown Land	5,076	5,076
Total specialised land	77,543	77,543

(c) Community Asset Committee

All entities controlled by Council that have material income, expenses, assets or liabilities, such as community asset committees, have been included in this financial report. Any transactions between these entities and Council have been eliminated in full.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 7. People and relationships

7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related Parties

Parent entity
Swan Hill Rural City Council is a single entity.

Subsidiaries and Associates
Council has no interests in subsidiaries and associates.

(b) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) are those people with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Swan Hill Rural City Council. The Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Directors are deemed KMP.

Details of KMP at any time during the year are:

Councillors

Mayor Stuart King	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026
Cr Les McPhee	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026
Cr Hugh Broad	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026
Cr Lindsay Rogers	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026
Cr Peta Thornton	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026
Cr Phillip Englefield	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026
Cr Terry Jennings	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026

Chief Executive Officer

Mr Scott Barber	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026

Directors

Mr Bruce Myers (Community and Cultural Services)	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026
Ms Michelle Grainger (Planning and Development)	01/07/2025 to 26/06/2026
Ms Leah Johnston (Infrastructure)	01/07/2025 to 30/06/2026
Mr Stephen Fernando (Corporate Services)	10/11/2025 to 30/06/2026
Mr Peter Brown (Acting Corporate Services)	01/07/2025 to 14/11/2025

	2026 No.	2025 No.
Total Number of Councillors	7	12
Total of Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel	6	6
Total Number of Key Management Personnel	13	18

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 7. People and relationships (continued)

(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

Remuneration comprises employee benefits including all forms of consideration paid, payable or provided by Council, or on behalf of the Council, in exchange for services rendered. Remuneration of Key Management Personnel and Other senior staff is disclosed in the following categories.

Short-term employee benefits include amounts such as wages, salaries, annual leave or sick leave that are usually paid or payable on a regular basis, as well as non-monetary benefits such as allowances and free or subsidised goods or services.

Other long-term employee benefits include long service leave, other long service benefits or deferred compensation.

Post-employment benefits include pensions, and other retirement benefits paid or payable on a discrete basis when employment has ceased.

Termination benefits include termination of employment payments, such as severance packages.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term employee benefits	1,599	1,410
Other long-term employee benefits	23	22
Post-employment benefits	136	135
Total	1,758	1,567

	2026 No.	2025 No.
The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:		
$1 - $9,999	–	1
$10,000 - $19,999	–	5
$20,000 - $29,999	–	5
$30,000 - $39,999	5	1
$40,000 - $49,999	1	–
$70,000 - $79,999	1	–
$100,000 - $109,999	–	1
$110,000 - $119,999	1	–
$130,000 - $139,999	1	–
$190,000 - $199,999	–	1
$230,000 - $239,999	–	1
$240,000 - $249,999	–	1
$250,000 - $259,999	–	1
$260,000 - $269,999	1	–
$270,000 - $279,999	2	–
$330,000 - $339,999	–	1
$360,000 - $369,999	1	–
Total	13	18

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 7. People and relationships (continued)

(d) Remuneration of other senior staff

Other senior staff are officers of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, whose total remuneration exceeds $170,000 and who report directly to a member of the KMP.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Total remuneration of other senior staff was as follows:		
Short-term employee benefits	1,803	935
Other long-term employee benefits	40	107
Post-employment benefits	236	281
Total	2,079	1,323

	2026 No.	2025 No.
The number of other senior staff are shown below in their relevant income bands:		
Income Range:		
$170,000 - $179,999	5	3
$180,000 - $189,999	2	2
$190,000 - $199,999	1	1
$200,000 - $209,999	1	1
$210,000 - $219,999	2	–
Total	11	7

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Total remuneration for the reporting year for other senior staff included above, amounted to:	2,079	1,323

7.2 Related party disclosure

(a) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council entered into the following transactions with related parties:

Cr Stuart King	Swan Hill Hire - $52,740 Plant and equipment hire. Cr King has a controlling interest in Swan Hill Hire.

At the end of the reporting period, $669 was outstanding in relation to transactions with related parties (2025: $445). There were no loans to/from or commitments to/from related parties (2025: Nil).

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 8. Managing uncertainties

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed and if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable, respectively.

(a) Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. At balance date the Council are not aware of any contingent assets.

(b) Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are:
- possible obligations that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council; or
- present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognised because:
- it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; or
- the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Superannuation

Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme, matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined below. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists.

Future superannuation contributions

In addition to the disclosed contributions, Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling $0 (2024/25 $0). There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2025. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2026 are $79,758

Landfill

Council operates a landfill. Council will have to carry out site rehabilitation works in the future. At balance date Council has a provision in place for these remediation works.

Liability Mutual Insurance

Council is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) Scheme. The LMI scheme provides public liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

MAV Workcare

Council was a participant of the MAV WorkCare Scheme. The MAV WorkCare Scheme provided workers compensation insurance. MAV WorkCare commenced business on 1 November 2017 and the last day the Scheme operated as a self-insurer was 30 June 2021. In accordance with the Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013 , there is a six-year liability period following the cessation of the Scheme (to 30 June 2027). During the liability period, adjustment payments may be required (or received). The determination of any adjustment payment is dependent upon revised actuarial assessments of the Scheme's tail claims liabilities as undertaken by Work Safe Victoria. Any adjustments, which are expected to occur at the 3-year and 6-year periods during the liability period will affect participating members. The assessment from WorkSafe Victoria at the 3-year period was a deficiency of $5.776 million payable to WorkSafe Victoria. This was due to evidence of higher-than-expected payments and higher claim lodgements during the first three years of the runoff period.

(c) Guarantees for loans to other entities

Council is not the guarantor for any loans.

Financial guarantee contracts are not recognised as a liability in the balance sheet unless the lender has exercised their right to call on the guarantee or Council has other reasons to believe that it is probable that the right will be exercised.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 8. Managing uncertainties (continued)

8.2 Australian Accounting Standards issued but not yet effective

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2026 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards.

The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) has issued *AASB 18 Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements.* When applicable AASB 18 supersedes AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements.* AASB 18 aims to improve how entities communicate in their financial statements, with a focus on information about financial performance in the statement of profit or loss. It is expected to result in presentation and disclosure changes, primarily to Council's Comprehensive Income Statement. AASB 18 is expected to first apply to Council for the 2028-29 financial year.

8.3 Financial instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables), payables (excluding statutory payables) and bank borrowings. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in the notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

(b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of Council financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council's exposure to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes Council to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the Local Government Act 2020.
Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- diversification of investment product;
- monitoring of return on investment; and
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate increases have significantly affected the return expected on invested funds during the year. This impacted the surplus by $651k.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council has exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. To help manage this risk:

- Council has a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities Council deals with;
- Council may require collateral where appropriate; and

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 8. Managing uncertainties (continued)

- Council only invests surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in Council's investment policy.

Receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the ratepayer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Council's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is secured by a charge over the rateable property.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when Council provides a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in Note 8.1(b).

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any allowance for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. Council does not hold any collateral.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of Council's operational liquidity requirements it will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required or will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks Council:

- have a liquidity policy which targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet and the amounts related to financial guarantees disclosed in Note 8.1(c), and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

With the exception of borrowings, all financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade. Details of the maturity profile for borrowings are disclosed at Note 5.4.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months:

- A parallel shift of + 0.50% and - 0.50% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 4.35%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Council's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Council's operations.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 8. Managing uncertainties (continued)

8.4 Fair value measurement

Fair Value Hierarchy
Council's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Council measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards. For assets where Council adopts a current replacement cost approach to determine fair value, Council considers the inclusion of site preparation costs, disruption costs and costs to restore another entity's assets in the underlying valuation.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and
Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

Revaluation
Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, fixtures, fittings and furniture, computers and telecommunications equipment, and the library collection, are measured at their fair value, being the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. (For plant and equipment carrying amount is considered to approximate fair value given short useful lives). At balance date, the Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date, the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use of an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 2 to 5 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts. The following table sets out the frequency of revaluations by asset class.

Asset Class	**Revaluation frequency**
Land	2 years
Buildings	2 years
Roads	3 years
Unsealed roads	5 years
Bridges	3 years
Footpaths and cycleways	3 years
Drainage	5 years
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	5 years
Waste management	5 years
Parks, open space and streetscapes	5 years
Other infrastructure	5 years

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 8. Managing uncertainties (continued)

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increases are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increase reverses a prior year decrease for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increase is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decreases are recognised as an expense except where prior increases are included in the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset in which case the decrease is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increases. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increases and decreases within the year are offset.

Impairment of assets
At each reporting date, the Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset. The impairment policy above does not apply to Council's property, infrastructure, specialised buildings and other non-current physical assets subsequently measured at fair value. These are primarily non-cash generating assets of not-for-profit entities, which are typically specialised in nature and held for continuing use of their service capacity. Their recoverable amount is expected to be materially the same as fair value determined under AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement,* with the consequence that AASB 136 *Impairment of Assets* does not apply to such assets that are regularly revalued.

8.5 Events occurring after balance date

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9. Other matters

	Balance at beginning of reporting period $ '000	Increase (decrease) $ '000	Balance at end of reporting period $ '000
9.1 Reserves			
(a) Asset revaluation reserves			
2026			
Property			
Land and land improvements	47,680	–	47,680
Buildings	38,949	1,962	40,911
Buildings - non specialised	498	126	624
	87,127	2,088	89,215
Culture and heritage assets			
Pioneer Settlement vehicles & vessels	2,682	–	2,682
Pioneer Settlement site exhibits	1,727	–	1,727
Artworks	1,576	–	1,576
Pioneer Settlement buildings	5,483	73	5,556
	11,468	73	11,541
Infrastructure			
Footpaths and cycleways	19,921	1,033	20,954
Drainage	41,372	422	41,794
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	9,482	100	9,582
Waste management	131	–	131
Parks, open space and streetscapes	3,593	75	3,668
Sealed roads	185,996	11,217	197,213
Unsealed roads	21,284	1,998	23,282
Other infrastructure	7,925	115	8,040
	289,704	14,960	304,664
Intangible assets			
Water rights	2,940	397	3,337
Total Other	2,940	397	3,337
Total asset revaluation reserves	391,239	17,518	408,757

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9. Other matters (continued)

	Balance at beginning of reporting period $ '000	Increase (decrease) $ '000	Balance at end of reporting period $ '000
2025			
Property			
Land and land improvements	46,041	1,639	47,680
Buildings	34,347	4,602	38,949
Buildings - non specialised	161	337	498
	80,549	6,578	87,127
Culture and heritage assets			
Pioneer Settlement vehicles & vessels	2,682	–	2,682
Pioneer Settlement site exhibits	1,727	–	1,727
Artworks	1,576	–	1,576
Pioneer Settlement buildings	3,441	2,042	5,483
	9,426	2,042	11,468
Infrastructure			
Footpaths and cycleways	13,124	6,797	19,921
Drainage	25,213	16,159	41,372
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	9,750	(268)	9,482
Waste management	131	–	131
Parks, open space and streetscapes	4,277	(684)	3,593
Sealed roads	164,263	21,733	185,996
Unsealed roads	33,095	(11,811)	21,284
Other infrastructure	5,126	2,799	7,925
	254,979	34,725	289,704
Intangible assets			
Water rights	2,786	154	2,940
Total Other	2,786	154	2,940
Total asset revaluation reserves	347,740	43,499	391,239

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record the increased (net) value of Council's assets over time.

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9. Other matters (continued)

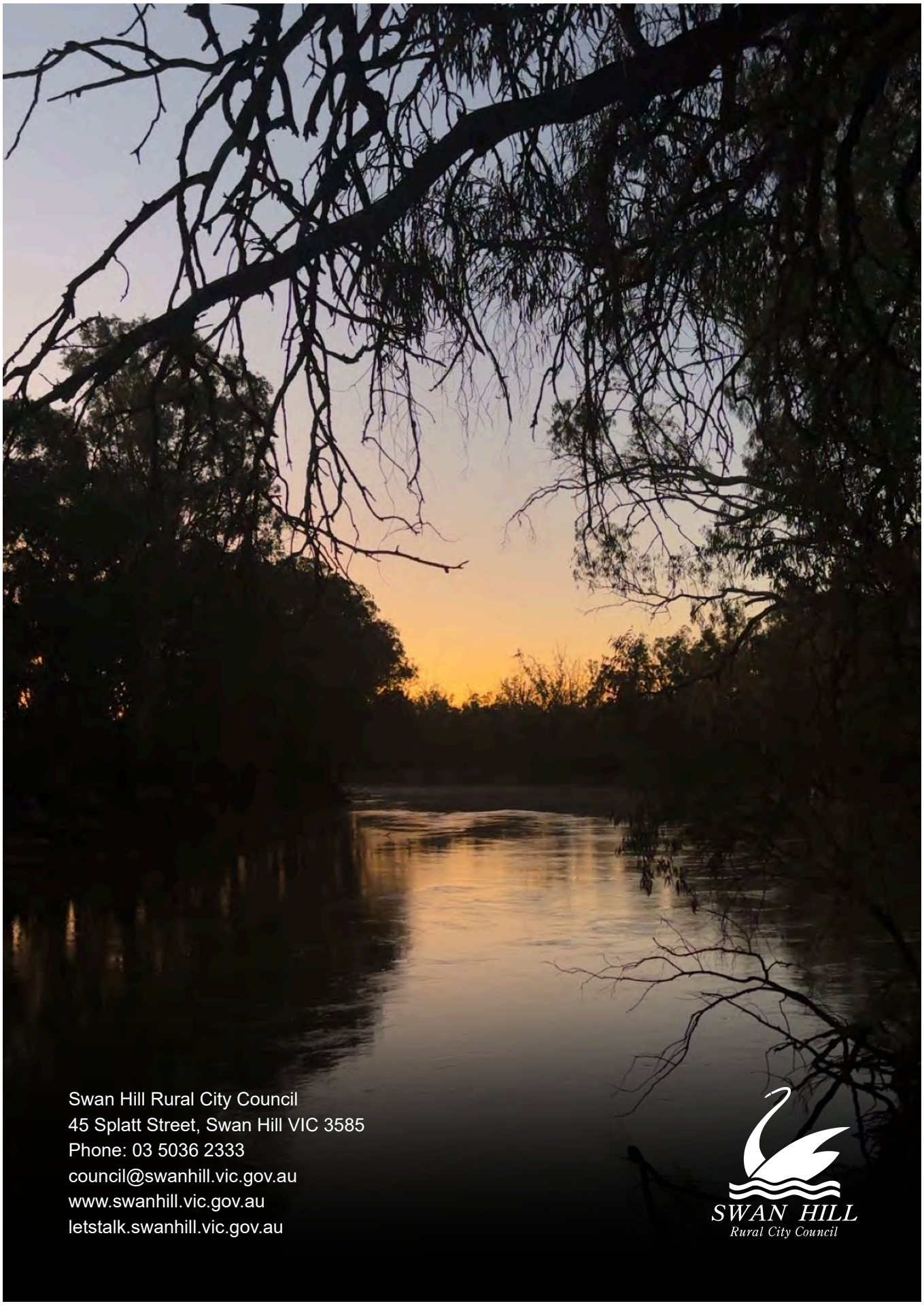
	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	15,711	7,528
Non-cash adjustments:		
Depreciation/amortisation	16,244	14,608
Impairment losses	1,584	3,848
Profit/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(438)	(231)
Contributions - non monetary assets	(4,160)	(777)
Amounts disclosed in financing activities	77	82
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(488)	(585)
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(18)	(86)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(217)	125
Increase/(decrease) in contract assets	112	5,791
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(1,516)	167
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	494	(13)
(Decrease)/increase in other liabilities	(103)	75
Increase/(decrease) in unearned income/revenue	2,289	(185)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	29,571	30,347

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 10. Change in accounting policy

There have been no changes to accounting policies in the 2025-26 year.



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SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

2.6 Outcome of Community Engagement Process - Proposed sale of Part of Lot 2 Sea Lake - Swan Hill Road

Directorate: Development and Planning

File Number: AST-PR-38231-02
Purpose: For Decision

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

6. Transparency and Effectiveness – Ensuring Council is open, accountable, and responsive, with services and decision-making that reflect community expectations.
Objective 6.2: Strengthen Council's internal capability, resources, systems, and financial sustainability.
6.2.4 Maintain long-term financial sustainability.

Current Strategic Documents

Council Plan

Declarations of Interest

Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the outcomes of the community engagement process undertaken in relation to the proposed sale of part of Council-owned land located at Lot 2 Sea Lake - Swan Hill Road, Swan Hill VIC 3585 (Volume 11656 / Folio 400).

Discussion

At its August 2026 meeting, Council resolved (CM2026/126) to commence the statutory process under Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 for the proposed sale of part of (9ha) the Council-owned land and located at Lot 2 Sea Lake - Swan Hill Road, Swan Hill VIC 3585 (Volume 11656 / Folio 400). This included public notification, community engagement in accordance with Council policy, and consideration of any submissions received before Council makes a final decision on the sale.

This report follows a community engagement process undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy and Section 114 of the *Local Government*

Act 2020, which invited submissions on the proposed sale of the Council owned land. The engagement period commenced on the 28 August 2026 and concluded on 25 September 2026.

Council received one submission summarised below.

Submission 1:
Hello, who is this land currently occupied by, & what is its zoning/use allowance? Will council use the sale funds for meaningful upgrades of roads/intersections etc, for the benefit of all?

Officers' response:
The property is zoned FZ – Farming Zone. The land is currently not occupied. A community group currently occupies a separate portion of the broader landholding; however, this area is not included in the land proposed for sale.

Should Council resolve to proceed with the sale, a financial return will be realised and allocated to Council's Land Acquisition and Development Reserve in accordance with Council policy. The purpose of this reserve is to support Council's future land acquisition and development activities.

Decisions regarding the allocation and expenditure of these funds are considered by Council through its budgeting and long-term financial planning processes.

Officers note that the submission seeks clarification regarding the current occupation of the land, its zoning, and the potential use of sale proceeds. The submission does not raise any objections to the proposed sale or identify any reasons why Council should not proceed with the Expression of Interest process or the proposed disposal of the land.

Consultation

In accordance with Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Community Engagement Policy, public notice of Council's intention to sell the land at Lot 2 Sea Lake - Swan Hill Road, Swan Hill VIC was provided for a period of four weeks. The notice was published on Council's website, Let's Talk page and in the *Swan Hill Guardian*, inviting written submissions from the community.

The engagement period concluded on 25 September 2026, with one submission received.

Financial Implications

Should Council resolve to proceed with the sale, a financial return will be realised and allocated to Council's Land Acquisition and Development Reserve in accordance with Council policy. Conversely, if Council decides to retain the land, ongoing maintenance and liability costs will remain, and any future development proposals would require separate budget consideration.

Social Implications

The land is currently vacant and not occupied by the public. As a result, the sale is not expected to result in any loss of community facilities, public open space, or public access.

Economic Implications

The proposed sale is expected to have a positive economic impact for both Council and the broader community through the productive use of an underutilised land asset.

If developed by a future owner, the land has the potential to support economic activity within the municipality through investment, construction expenditure, employment opportunities and increased demand for local goods and services.

Environmental Implications

Any future development of the site would be subject to the relevant planning, environmental and regulatory approval processes.

Risk Management Implications

The proposed sale would transfer ownership and responsibility for the land to a third party, reducing Council's exposure to ongoing asset management, maintenance and liability risks associated with retaining the property. Any future development of the site would remain subject to the relevant statutory approvals and regulatory requirements.

Attachments: Nil

Options

1. Proceed with the sale of part of Lot 2 Sea Lake – Swan Hill Rd - Council resolves to sell the land in accordance with Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council policy.

2. Retain the land for future community use - Council resolves not to sell the land and retains ownership for potential future development.
3. Defer decision pending further investigation - Council resolves to defer the decision to allow further feasibility studies or community consultation on alternative uses.

Recommendation/s

That Council:

1. Proceed with the sale of part of Lot 2 Sea Lake-Swan Hill Road, Swan Hill VIC 3585 (Volume 11656 Folio 400) by way of an Expression of Interest process, in accordance with Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 and Council policy.

2. Receive a report on the outcome of the Expression of Interest process prior to entering a contract of sale for the land.

2.7 Notice of Intention to Sell Council Land - 56 - 76 Herbert St Robinvale

Directorate: Corporate Services
File Number: AST-PR-38091-02
Purpose: For Decision

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

1. Growth and Development – Building a resilient local economy, supporting businesses and attracting investment for a thriving future. Objective 1.1: Support housing that meets community needs and enables future population growth
1.1.1 Support diverse housing to meet community needs.
1.1.2 Strengthen Council's planning and coordination capacity to enable housing growth.
1.1.3 Proactive strategic planning for future land use.

Current Strategic Documents

Council Plan

Declarations of Interest

Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

Council owns a section of land commonly known as 56 - 76 Herbert Street, Robinvale, which is ideal for addressing the identified shortage in worker accommodation. Interest has been expressed by local developers to place worker accommodation on the site, of which Council only utilises a small portion for its Resource Centre and the community-run Network House.
This report seeks a decision from Council to commence the statutory process required to dispose of the land in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

Discussion

Council owns the land and all associated improvements located at PC366988, Lot 1 TP193658, Lots 182, 183 and 184 LP11065, and Lots 182 and 183 LP11065, commonly known as 56 - 76 Herbert Street, Robinvale. The site comprises approximately 3,334 square metres and occupies a prominent location within Robinvale. The land is improved with one building currently accommodating Network House and Council office facilities and presents a strategic redevelopment opportunity within the Robinvale township. The property is shown in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: 56 – 76 Herbert St, Robinvale



At its meeting on 20 September 2022 (CM 118/22), Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to sell the land located at 56–76 Herbert Street, Robinvale. Following completion of the statutory process, Council undertook an expression of interest process to seek proposals for the development of the site.

Expressions of interest were received during 2023 and early 2024 from prospective purchasers; however, none progressed due to the proposals not being considered suitable by Council at that time.

Council considers the site continues to present a significant opportunity to support the provision of additional worker accommodation and facilitate economic development within Robinvale. Council is of the view that disposal of the site provides the greatest opportunity to enable redevelopment while transferring development and ongoing management responsibilities to the private sector. The

proposed sale would allow Council to realise the value of the asset while supporting broader housing and economic objectives for the district.

As no transaction resulted from the previous process and given the time that has elapsed since Council completed the statutory requirements in 2022, it is considered appropriate to recommence the public notice and engagement process prior to considering a future sale of the land.

Subject to the completion of the statutory notice and community engagement process, it is proposed that the land be offered for sale by private treaty. The use of a private treaty process would enable Council to assess proposals against broader strategic outcomes, including the delivery of worker accommodation, rather than solely considering price.

While the site presents a strategic redevelopment opportunity, the existing building currently accommodates Network House and Council office facilities. Accordingly, any sale of the land would be dependent on Council securing suitable alternative accommodation for these services to ensure their continued operation. The availability of suitable premises, together with the costs, timing and operational impacts associated with relocation, will form an important part of Council's consideration of any future sale. Further investigations into relocation options and associated costs will be undertaken before Council determines whether to proceed with the disposal of the land.

Consultation

The sale of Council land is subject to the requirements of Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020, which requires Council, before selling or exchanging the land, to give 4 weeks public notice of its intention to sell land on Council’s website and undertake a community engagement process in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy.

Financial Implications

Prior to any sale proceeding, Council would obtain an updated independent valuation of the property and ensure any sale is conducted in accordance with Council's obligations under the Local Government Act 2020 and Council policy.

Funds received for a successful sale will be allocated to Land Sales Reserve to be utilised as Council determines.

Council will also be required to fund the relocation of the Resource Centre operations and identify alternative premises for the community-based Network House.

Social Implications

The redevelopment of the site has the potential to deliver significant social and economic benefits through the provision of additional housing for workers in Robinvale. Increased worker accommodation capacity may assist local businesses to attract and retain employees while supporting broader economic activity, including demand for retail, real estate, education and other local services.

Economic Implications

The redevelopment of the site has the potential to support economic growth within Robinvale and the surrounding district through increased investment and population retention, which may in turn contribute to demand for local businesses, housing, community services and other economic activity. Access to suitable accommodation for local workers remains a significant challenge for Robinvale, and the development of quality accommodation on the site could assist in increasing the supply of housing available to support the local workforce.

Environmental Implications

Any future development of the site would be required to comply with all relevant building and construction standards. Redevelopment of the land would also provide an opportunity to incorporate sustainable design features, such as solar energy systems, water-efficient infrastructure and rainwater harvesting, contributing to improved environmental performance and reduced operating costs.

Risk Management Implications

Council carries ongoing financial, operational, and asset management risks associated with the ownership and maintenance of the property. The proposed sale would remove these ongoing liabilities; however, any decision to proceed with a sale will need to consider market conditions, community feedback and the successful relocation of existing services currently operating from the site.
There is also a risk that suitable alternative accommodation for existing services delivered through the use of the current building on site, cannot be secured on acceptable terms. Any potential sale of the land will consider these requirements, with appropriate terms incorporated into the sale process if additional time is required to make arrangements for relocation.

Future planning, commercial or market considerations result in the sale not proceeding following completion of the statutory process.

Attachments: Nil

Options

Council may choose to:

1. Not proceed with the statutory process. In this instance, the land would remain in Council's ownership, and alternative future use or leasing opportunities could be explored.

2. Proceed with the statutory process in accordance with Section 114 of the Local Government Act which requires Council to give public notice of its intention to sell the land, undertake a community engagement process in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy and consider any submissions received prior to making a final decision.

Recommendation/s

That Council:

1. **Commence the statutory process under section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 for the proposed sale by private treaty of the land known as 56-76 Herbert Street, Robinvale;**
2. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake public notice and community engagement requirements in accordance with section 114 of the Act and Council's Community Engagement Policy; and**
3. **Receive a further report following completion of the statutory process to consider any submissions and determine whether to proceed with the sale.**

3 Officer Report for Noting

3.1 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes 2 September 2026

Directorate: Corporate Services
File Number: S15-28-01
Purpose: Information Only

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

4. Leadership - We will ensure accountable leadership, advocacy and transparent decision making.
4.1 Excellent management and administration
4.1.2 Provide robust governance and effective leadership

Current Strategic Documents

Council Plan

Declarations of Interest

Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

Council's Audit and Risk Committee met on 2 September 2026, and this report summarises the items that were discussed at the meeting.

Discussion

The Audit and Risk Committee met on 2 September 2026. In addition to the usual procedural items, the agenda included:

- Internal audit updates – Procurement
- Internal audit updates – Depot Operations
- Internal audit updates – Long Term Financial Planning
- Internal audit updates – Information Security Assessment
- Internal Audit Reviews (AFS)
- Quarterly Risk Report – September
- Annual Financial Report and Performance Statement FY2025-26
- VAGO Closing Report to Audit Committee
- VAGO Draft Final Management Letter
- Strategic Review of the Swan Hill Regional Livestock Exchange Update – Verbal Report
- Drag Strip Update
- EOFY Asset Revaluations – Fair Value Report (September)

- Councillor Expenses for the period 1 April to 30 June 2026
- Review of Audit Committee Performance
- *General Business* –
    - Set meeting dates for 2027

Consultation

Not applicable

Financial Implications

Nil

Social Implications

Nil

Economic Implications

Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

The Audit and Risk Committee helps oversee Council's risk management practices. Internal and other audits are routinely done to reduce the risk to Council.

Attachments: 1. Audit Risk Attachment Placeholder [**3.1.1** - 1 page]

Options

1. Not applicable

Recommendation/s
That Council notes the contents of this report.

Confidential attachment

- Audit and Risk Committee - Confidential Confirmed Minutes 2 September 2026 (attachment will be included into the in-camera agenda)

4 Decisions Which Need Action / Ratification

4.1 Sign and Seal

Directorate: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: S16-05-01
Purpose: For Noting

Declarations of Interest:

Council officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the subject of this report.

Summary

The following documents and agreements have been signed and sealed by the Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer on the respective dates. Those actions require the ratification of the Council.

Discussion

During any month Council is required to sign and seal a range of documents arising from decisions made on a previous occasion(s). Examples include sale of land, entering into funding arrangements for Council programs etc.

As the decision to enter into these agreements has already been made, these documents are signed and sealed when received, with Council ratifying the signing and sealing at the next Council meeting.

The following documents were signed and sealed since the last Council meeting:

No.	Document Type	Document Description	Date signed/ sealed
1221	Section 173 Agreement for protection of interest in land (167 Moar Road, Swan Hill)	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and W.L.Moar and C.G.Smith and C.E.Billing	22/09/26

Note: A Section 173 Agreement is typically a contract between the Council and a landowner that places use or development restrictions on the land.

They are intended to ensure compliance with conditions contained in permits granted by the Council and are often used in subdivision matters. These agreements refer to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Consultation

Council authorise the signing and sealing of the above documents.

Recommendation/s
That Council notes the actions of signing and sealing the documents under delegation as scheduled.

4.2 Councillor Briefings - Record of Attendance and Agenda Items

Directorate: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: S15-05-06
Purpose: For Noting

Declarations of Interest:

Council officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the matter of this report.

Summary

The following report provides attendance details of Councillor Briefings on a monthly basis.

Discussion

Whilst Minutes have not been recorded, Agenda items and those in attendance are reported and presented to Council.

A briefing of Councillors is defined as a meeting that is planned or scheduled and where the matters being considered that are intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision.

No formal decisions can be made at a briefing but rather direction can be given that is likely to lead to a formal decision of Council.

Details of the most recent briefings of Council are attached.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

6. Transparency and Effectiveness – Ensuring Council is open, accountable and responsive, with services and decision-making that reflect community expectations.
Objective 6.1: Deliver accessible, responsive and inclusive customer and community engagement.
6.1.3 Improve community engagement and participation in Council decisions.

Current Strategic documents

No strategic documents applicable.

Key Legislation

There is no key legislation applicable

Attachments: 1. COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA October 2026 [**4.2.1** - 4 pages]

Options

Council Briefings are reported to ensure good governance and transparency.

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of the report.

COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
15 September 2026 at 3.00pm, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers

AGENDA ITEMS

- Chisholm Reserve
- Robinvale Hotel
- MyLot
- Swan Hill Regional Livestock Exchange
- Petal Island project
- Mooring Platform
- Curlewis Street Silo
- Monash Drive
- The Victorian Government is investing an initial $5.74 million to build a new three-room kindergarten at St Mary's Primary School in Swan Hill
- Lake Boga and other caravan park leases

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Stuart King
- Cr Hugh Board
- Cr Terry Jennings
- Cr Philip Englefield
- Cr Lindsay Rogers
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Peta Thornton

Apologies / Leave of Absence

- Nil

OFFICERS

- Scott Barber, Chief Executive Officer
- Leah Johnston, Director Infrastructure
- Stephen Fernando, Director Corporate Services
- Bruce Myers, Director Community and Cultural Services
- Dennis Hovenden, Director Development and Planning

Other

- Nil

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
22 September 2026 at 10.00am, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers

AGENDA ITEMS
- Robinvale Resource Centre – Sale to proceed update
- Community Plans
- Insurance Renewals
- Garner Smith – Election candidate
- Strategic Planning up-date
- Township Strategies up-date

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED
- Robinvale dog park
- Rural land use strategy
- Chisholm Reserve review
- Boarding houses
- Regional surveying consultant
- Karinie Street
- Wood Wood – speed zone
- 8 Saleyards Road VCAT hearing
- Manangatang Water (overflow from CBD)

ATTENDANCE
Councillors
- Cr Hugh Board
- Cr Terry Jennings
- Cr Philip Englefield
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Peta Thornton

Apologies / Leave of Absence
- Cr Stuart King
- Cr Lindsay Rogers

OFFICERS
- Scott Barber, Chief Executive Officer
- Leah Johnston, Director Infrastructure
- Stephen Fernando, Director Corporate Services
- Dennis Hovenden, Director Development and Planning
- Bill Scott, Engineering and Technical Services Manager
- Nathan Keighran, Economic Development Coordinator
- Sam Steel, Development Officer Community
- Helen Morris, Organisational Development Manager
- Alexandra Jefferies, Development Manager

Other
- Garner Smith – election candidate
- Laura Gaffey and Owen Beavis-Harvey – MAV Insurance

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
- Nil

COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
6 October 2026 at 10.00am, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers

AGENDA ITEMS
- Annual Report 2025-26
- Strategic Planning
- Road Safey Strategy
- Governance Report: Policy Review and Instruments of Delegations Update
- Lease Renewal Swan Hill Caravan Park
- Legal Status of 99 Murray Valley Highway
- Robinvale (removal of cats) – Local Laws
- Werril Street Traffic Calming
- Draft Planning Scheme Review
- Riverfront - Rail Overpass Update

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED
- Robinvale Hotel

ATTENDANCE
Councillors
- Cr Stuart King
- Cr Hugh Board
- Cr Terry Jennings
- Cr Philip Englefield
- Cr Lindsay Rogers
- Cr Les McPhee

Apologies / Leave of Absence
- Cr Peta Thornton

OFFICERS
- Scott Barber, Chief Executive Officer
- Leah Johnston, Director Infrastructure
- Stephen Fernando, Director Corporate Services
- Bruce Myers, Director Community and Cultural Services
- Dennis Hovenden, Director Development and Planning
- Azam Suleman, Manager – Project Management Officer
- Helen Morris, Organisational Development Manager
- Jess Chislett, Procurement and Properties Coordinator
- Darren Rovere, Senior Authorised Officer
- Nakita Furniss, Authorised Officer
- Andrea Bence, Authorised Officer
- Alexandra Jefferies, Development Manager
- David Bergin, Planning Officer
- Nathan Keighran, Economic Development Coordinator
- Raju Mazumdar, Principal Strategic Planner

Other
- Nil

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
- Nil

COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
13 Octoer 2026 at 8am-5pm, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers

AGENDA ITEMS
- Councillor Professional Development Day - Facilitator Tony Raunic from Hunt and Hunt Lawyers

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED
- Nil

ATTENDANCE
Councillors
- Cr Stuart King
- Cr Terry Jennings
- Cr Philip Englefield
- Cr Lindsay Rogers
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Peta Thornton

Apologies / Leave of Absence
- Cr Hugh Board

OFFICERS
- Scott Barber, Chief Executive Officer
- Leah Johnston, Director Infrastructure
- Stephen Fernando, Director Corporate Services
- Bruce Myers, Director Community and Cultural Services
- Helen Morris, Organisational Development Manager
- Brooke O'Connor, Governance and Compliance Officer
- Melinda O'Dowd, Community Engagement and Communications Coordinator

Other
- Tony Raunic from Hunt and Hunt Lawyers

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
- Nil

5 Notices of Motion

5.1 Recreational Vehicle (RV) Friendly Municipality - Swan Hill, Lake Boga and Robinvale

Having given due notice, **Councillor Lindsay Rogers MOVED**

That Council:

Refers the following matters for consideration, as part of a review of the Recreational Vehicle (RV) Friendly Municipality Policy and Local Law No. 2, with a report to be presented to Council before the policy and local law are adopted at a future Council Meeting, including:

1. Council-owned land that may be suitable for RV
2. Opportunities, costs and implications of obtaining RV Friendly Town accreditation and recognition for Swan Hill, Lake Boga and Robinvale, including:
    a. suitable short-term, low-cost RV parking and rest areas for self-contained vehicles;
    b. appropriate locations for designated RV areas within or near each township;
    c. access to potable water, waste disposal and other appropriate facilities;
    d. reasonable stay periods and operating conditions;
    e. signage and promotion;
    f. consultation with local traders, tourism operators, caravan-park operators and RV users;
    g. opportunities to work with private operators rather than unnecessarily competing with them; and
    h. prioritise potential economic benefits to the entire municipality.
    i. potential costs for Council and loss of income; and
    j. timing of any changes to the current situation.
3. Council's existing ownership and/or leasing interests in caravan parks and identify practical measures to manage any actual or perceived impacts between Council's commercial interests and its wider responsibility to facilitate tourism, economic development and reasonable access for RV visitors.
4. A municipality-wide approach whereby RV visitors are encouraged to use existing caravan parks where appropriate, while also recognising that a range of legitimate RV accommodation, overnight-stay and rest opportunities can increase overall visitor numbers and economic expenditure across the municipality.
5. Locations that Council might establish or facilitate designated short-term RV areas in Swan Hill, Lake Boga and Robinvale including Council land, partnerships with private landowners and existing public facilities.

Preamble

The municipality is operating in a changing tourism environment. Recreational Vehicle (RV) travellers increasingly seek flexibility, affordable, access to town centers and the ability to stay for short periods while spending money locally.

Council's responsibility extends beyond benefits for individual accommodation businesses. It supports the broader economic prosperity of Swan Hill, Lake Boga and Robinvale.

Council can recognise the legitimate commercial interests of caravan-park owners and operators while also recognising that an RV visitor, who cannot find an appropriate place to stop, may simply continue through the municipality and spend nothing locally.

A balanced RV policy should therefore seek to grow the overall visitor market, rather than divide existing visitors between competing accommodation providers.

Achieving RV Friendly Town recognition across Swan Hill, Lake Boga and Robinvale would provide a coordinated municipality-wide approach and send a clear message that RV travellers are welcome, while maintaining appropriate standards for amenity, waste management, safety, traffic management and environmental protection.

This approach also provides an opportunity for Council to work constructively with existing caravan parks, private businesses, tourism organisations and the local community to ensure that the growing RV market becomes an economic opportunity for the entire municipality.

The objective should be simple: attract more RV visitors, encourage them to stay longer, optimise and maximise the economic benefit flowing to local businesses and the wider community.

The Council's Recreational Vehicle (RV) Friendly Policy is due for review as is Council's Local Law No. 2 which in part addresses issues relating to caravanning and camping.

This provides Council with an opportunity to consider the matters raised in this Notice of Motion and to allow Council to undertake community consultation including key stakeholders to determine what changes may be needed.

Attachments: Nil

6 Foreshadowed Items

7 Urgent Items Not Included In Agenda

8 To Consider and Order on Councillor Reports

9 In-Camera Items

RECOMMENDATION

That, in accordance with sections 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the meeting be closed to members of the public for the consideration of the following confidential items:

9.1 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes 2 September 2026

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM *This item is to be considered at an In Camera meeting in accordance with Section 3(1) (a) of the Local Government Act 2020,* this item is to be considered in an incamera meeting on the grounds that the item concerns Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

9.2 Swan Hill Riverside Caravan Park - Renewal of Lease

Directorate: Development and Planning

File Number: AST-PR-36295-03
Purpose: For Decision

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM *This item is to be considered at an In Camera meeting in accordance with Section 3(1) (a) of the Local Government Act 2020,* this item is to be considered in an incamera meeting on the grounds that the item concerns Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

10 Close of Meeting