



MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL COUNCIL PLAN 2017–2021

Year 3 Action Plan 2019/20



MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL



OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

ADVOCACY

- > To relentlessly advocate for funding to benefit our community.



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

- > To actively explore all opportunities for community involvement and participation in Council decisions.



RESPONSIBLE PLANNING

- > To demand best practice outcomes when planning for future growth.



STRONG COMMUNITIES

- > To build and nurture strong and vibrant communities where people are proud to live.



SUPPORTING LOCAL JOBS, BUSINESS AND QUALITY INVESTMENT

- > To identify, encourage and actively promote investment, business and tourism.



SOUND FINANCIAL AND ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- > To be leaders in financial and organisational management.



CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

- > To be responsible custodians, by managing and enhancing our environment and minimising the impacts of waste, natural disasters and climate change.



ADVOCACY

To relentlessly advocate for funding to benefit our community.

Strategy 1.1: Establish an Advocacy Strategy that includes key priorities, and clear roles and responsibilities

Develop Advocacy Framework 4-year action plan

Business Cases for key advocacy priorities are developed: Greenhill recreation and leisure precinct site investigation and masterplan

Strategy 1.2: Establish and maintain local and regional partnerships to secure funding and policy commitments

Advocate for stronger recycling sector and transition to a circular economy

Strategy 1.3: Support and collaborate with local groups and organisations to access potential funding and identify joint advocacy priorities

Undertake forward design of Recreation and Open Space Advocacy projects

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

To actively explore all opportunities for community involvement and participation in Council decisions.

Strategy 2.1: Review and improve our community engagement framework

Evaluate the 'Engaging Mitchell' digital platform and implement agreed improvements

Implement the Community Engagement Framework

Strategy 2.2: Provide opportunities for inclusive participation across the Shire

Evaluate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Maternal and Child Health (MCH) programs and present report to Council

Implement Beveridge Library Services

Undertake "1000 Books Before School" Project

Explore expansion of Cultural Playgroups Program

Increase Outdoor Pool visitation rates

Implement the Life Stages Plan

Evaluate the place-based community planning pilot program

Consult and conceptualise an approach regarding further off-lead dog parks across the municipality

Strategy 2.3: Simplify ways the community can engage with Council and access information

Implement the Communication Strategy year 1 action plan

Undertake a Brand Audit

Improve social media archiving to meet records management requirements

Train Staff and Councillors in Community Engagement methods

Deliver greater community access to the progress of the annual Capital Works Program

RESPONSIBLE PLANNING

To demand best practice outcomes when planning for future growth.

Strategy 3.1: Plan for growth and change through best practice design of services, infrastructure, open space and recreation facilities

Develop the Seymour Revitalisation Plan

Develop the Chittick Park Masterplan

Prepare the Kilmore (town centre) Infrastructure delivery plan

Undertake the Kilmore Creek Precinct Plan

Commence a service review of Council's rural linkage roads

Develop a Hudson Park Masterplan

Develop a JJ Clancy Masterplan

Implement priority actions from the Sports Lighting Audit

Develop clear processes and expectations in relation to the ongoing review, management and implementation of Developer Contributions.

Strategy 3.2: Plan for a diversity of housing and households

Prepare the Social and Affordable housing policy and strategy

Strategy 3.3: Prioritise environmental and sustainability outcomes in planning decisions

Further actions relating to this Strategy are encompassed in the Planning Scheme Review, the Rural Areas and Activities Review and the Environment Policy

Strategy 3.4: Review heritage values and support the community in protecting and enhancing local natural and built heritage

Progress the Mitchell Shire Planning Scheme Review

Strategy 3.5: Improve planning processes to ensure user-friendly and timely planning process and high-quality decisions.

Implement the eServices Project solution for statutory planning and building

Undertake planning assessment process review and improvements

Reduce the dependency of development approvals on paper processes

Strategy 3.6: Employ best practice planning tools to achieve desired outcomes

Complete the Planning Policy Review

Strategy 3.7: Improve the liveability of Mitchell Shire

This now forms “Business as Usual”

Strategy 3.8: Support safe communities through best practice design and planning standards

Develop ‘Landscape and Open Space Design Standards for New Developments’

Strategy 3.9: Improve the accessibility and connectivity of pedestrian and cycle paths within and between towns

This now forms “Business as Usual”

Strategy 3.10: Protect and enhance local ambience, amenity and character

Continue to develop the Rural Land and Activities Review

STRONG COMMUNITIES

To build and nurture strong and vibrant communities where people are proud to live.

Strategy 4.1: Promote a safe and secure environment throughout the Shire

Prepare the Fire Management Strategy

Implement the *Emergency Management Act 2018*

“Greening the North” - develop a collaboration between Northern Councils

Develop a Gambling Impacts policy

Progress the Seymour Levee project (consultation)

Complete the Kilmore Flood Study

Complete the Sunday Creek Flood Study

Strategy 4.2: Empower our volunteer community

Expand home library services to include use of volunteers

Strategy 4.3: Establish and maintain high quality roads, footpaths, parks, recreation facilities, streetscapes, bike paths and public open spaces

Implement a paperless Road Management Plan (RMP) management system

Commence a review of the ‘Missing Link’ footpath program

Develop service plans for open space and recreation across the Shire including masterplans completed for key sites (Harley Hammond, JJ Clancy and Chittick Park)

Undertake a street tree inventory and gap analysis

Develop service levels and an implementation plan for standards regarding open space management (maintenance)

Strategy 4.4: Work with government and local partners to facilitate improved community wellbeing

Present the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan (MHWBP) year 3 action plan to Council for consideration, and implement (as recommended)

Present the Life Stages Strategy and year 1 action plan to Council for consideration, and implement (as recommended)

Develop partnerships and early delivery of services to create Resilient Communities in growth areas, including the Beveridge North West Partnership, the Northern Region and Metro Regional Partnerships, and the National Growth Area Alliance

Strategy 4.5: Provide opportunities to build strong and resilient citizens for our current and future generations

Work with VCE students on training opportunities to open pathways for future employment.

Strategy 4.6: Provide adaptable community infrastructure and participation opportunities for all ages, cultures and abilities.

Define infrastructure capacity and improvement opportunities to accommodate funded 3-year old kindergarten

Undertake Southern Mitchell Aquatic Facility concept planning

SUPPORTING LOCAL JOBS, BUSINESS AND QUALITY INVESTMENT

To identify, encourage and actively promote investment, business and tourism.

Strategy 5.1: Facilitate a high level of civic pride in the presentation of public and private land in our towns and communities

Commence the Seymour Revitalisation and Kilmore Business District Projects

Strategy 5.2: Foster economic growth through supporting new and existing businesses, industry, public sector investment and events

Develop an Investment Attraction Strategy and Prospectus

Strategy 5.3: Provide support for existing businesses to connect and access opportunities to improve and grow their businesses

This now forms part of “Business as Usual”

Strategy 5.4: Encourage local networks which support economic growth

Explore opportunities to allow better information sharing between businesses

Strategy 5.5: Support the development and enhancement of local tourist attractions

Present the Tourism and Visitor Economy Plan to Council for consideration, and implement (as recommended)

Identify potential projects and examine feasibility for connectivity and recreation along the Goulburn River

Plan for opportunities to integrate walking trails within the Seymour Levee project

Strategy 5.6: Promote our region and towns as a destination for tourists and visitors

Secure commitments from State Government for Seymour's Revitalisation

Actively engage with the State Government Regional Tourism Review, advocating for outcomes that most strongly support high quality growth and investment in the tourism and visitor economy of Mitchell Shire

SOUND FINANCIAL AND ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT

To be leaders in financial and organisational management.

Strategy 6.1: Ensure Councillors and Council staff work together to deliver the best for the community

Measure Councillor satisfaction with levels of support

Develop a program to help inform candidates on the role and responsibilities of Council, in anticipation of the next Council election

Strategy 6.2: Deliver high quality projects that benefit our community

Expand the Project Management Framework to encompass non-capital projects

Strategy 6.3: Ensure a customer-first approach for responsive service delivery and communication.

Evaluate the Customer Service Charter

Implement phase 2 of the complaints handling process

Strategy 6.4: Develop and adopt policies and procedures that reflect responsible, transparent and accountable management of Council finances and risks.

Implement the Good Governance Framework recommendations

Strategy 6.5: Ensure appropriate and prioritised budgeting which meets the needs of our present and future communities.

Implement Service Planning for the organisation

Strategy 6.6: Support and retain high quality Council staff.

Develop succession/workforce plans

Expand the library of staff online learning

Undertake the culture survey

Commence EBA Negotiations

Strategy 6.7: Monitor, scrutinise and regularly report on the operation of Mitchell Shire Council.

This now forms part of “Business as Usual”.

Strategy 6.8: Use technology to support and enhance communications and service delivery.

Review the Information Technology (IT) Strategy

Progress OneTouch Payroll (supporting new reports to the Australian Tax Office - processes and training)

Continue to implement the oMail project (inward correspondence scanning)

Continue to implement the Avepoint project (record management)

Establish a process to incorporate the Council report risks into the Risk Register

Upgrade the intranet

CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

To be responsible custodians, by managing and enhancing our environment, minimising the impacts of development, waste, natural disasters and climate change.

Strategy 7.1: Protect and enhance Mitchell Shire’s rural landscape and natural assets.

Develop a Street Tree policy

Progress the Pound (cat) refurbishment and implement related new services

Initiate a New Pound feasibility study

Strategy 7.2: Empower the community through partnerships and education.

This now forms part of “Business as Usual”

Strategy 7.3: Investigate and initiate practices in key aspects of environmental management.

Implement the Cat Curfew and increase education around responsible cat ownership

Plan for future Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) services for Kilmore and Broadford

Develop a Southern Region Waste Resource Recovery Education Strategy for Mitchell, Strathbogie and Murrindindi

Strategy 7.4: Be prepared and proactive in responding to the effects of climate change on the community.

Develop an Environmental Sustainability Policy addressing a range of subjects/issues including:

- > climate change adaptation/mitigation/resilience
- > built environment and environmentally sustainable design (ESD)
- > biodiversity management
- > energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions reductions
- > water sensitive management
- > waste management
- > urban ecology

Commence Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre (SSAC) Solar Feasibility study

Strategy 7.5: Provide opportunities for the community to experience nature in their everyday lives.

Develop a feasibility study into establishing a Southern Regional Park based on the Old Herne's Swamp, and accompanying advocacy material

Strategy 7.6: Improve compliance with fire hazard removal, weed management and appropriate waste.

Campaign to reduce illegal dumping (media, monitoring, enforcement)

Design and construct the new Seymour Resource Recovery Centre at Hilldene

Upgrade the Wallan Resource Recovery Centre