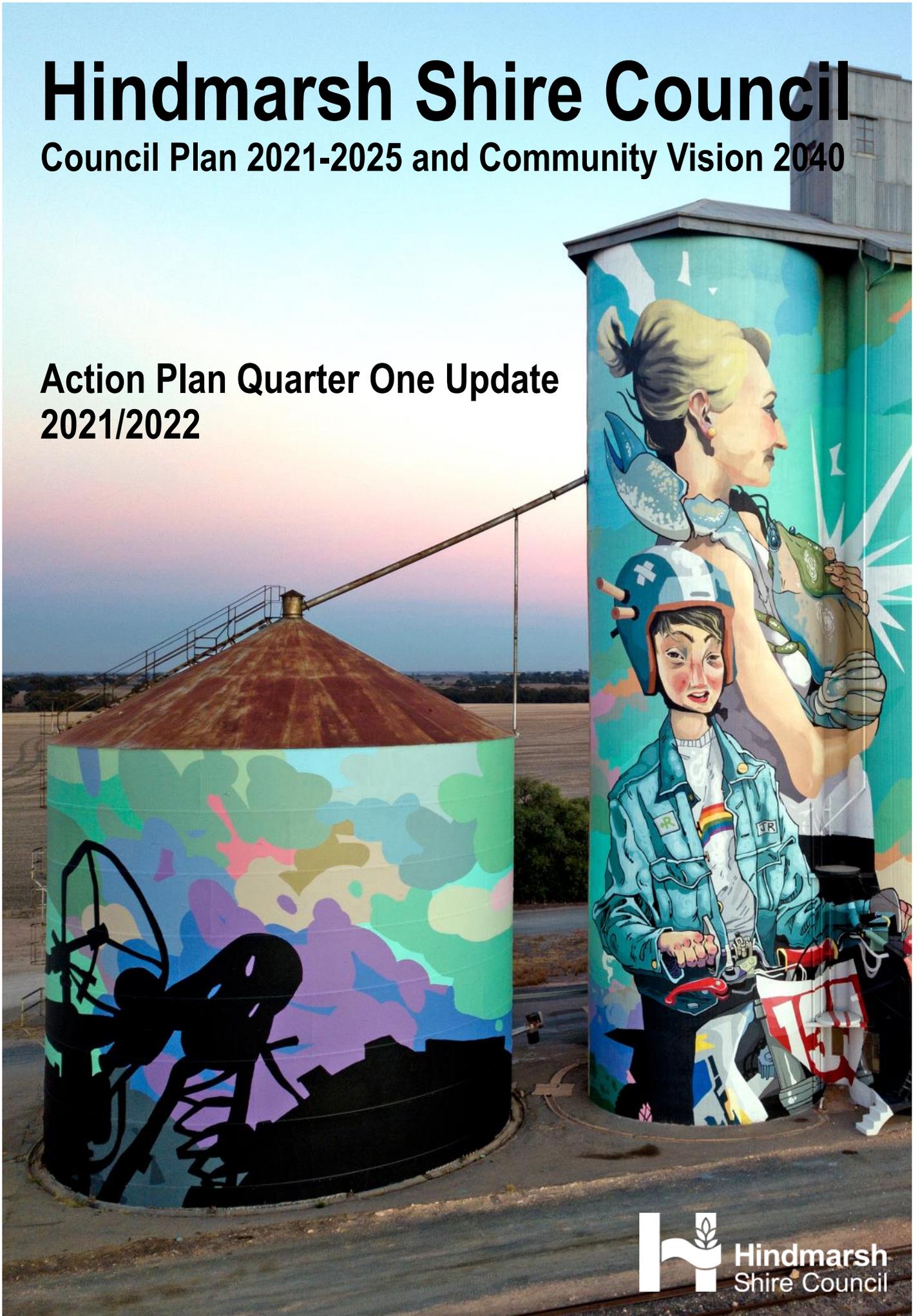


# Hindmarsh Shire Council

Council Plan 2021-2025 and Community Vision 2040

Action Plan Quarter One Update  
2021/2022



Hindmarsh  
Shire Council

# 2021/2022 Annual Plan to achieve our objectives

## Theme One – Our Community

Action Item	
Monthly and fortnightly e-newsletters distributed through emails and available on Council's website	Council continues to distribute monthly and fortnightly e-newsletters. Hard copies of the monthly newsletters are placed at various businesses throughout Hindmarsh and also Council's Customer Service Centres.
Redevelopment of Council's website making it easier for our community to navigate	Council staff are working through the development of pages on Council's new website
Councillors and Council Officers attend advisory committees including Town Committees, Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum and Yurunga Homestead meetings	On-line meetings have taken place in lieu of meeting in person due to COVID-19 restrictions on gathering numbers. Officers and Councillors have been attending these meetings.
Partner with Wimmera Pride to ensure LGBTIQ+ barriers and views are considered	On-line workshop conducted with Elite Counselling and attended by Senior Staff
Develop the Hindmarsh Shire Youth Strategy	Youth Strategy 2021-2025 draft complete and will be presented to Council in October. Karen translation commissioned by the Migration Translators
Upgrades to the Nhill Library to encourage use by our multicultural community, children and youth	In progress, at permit stage for minor structural changes. Electrical upgrades (excluding lighting) have been completed. Currently reviewing fixture upgrades.
Continue to support early years services in Hindmarsh Shire	Facility upgrades recently completed at Dimboola & Nhill Early Years Centres
Partner with Nhill Learning Centre to ensure barriers and views of the Karen and other multicultural communities are considered	Meeting occurred between Coordinator Libraries, Youth and Community Development Officer and NNHLC Director Annette Creek. Discussion included potential collaboration; and training sessions
Ensure the Municipal Emergency Management Committee includes membership from key stakeholders	The MEMC committee includes membership from external stakeholders including a community representative. Hindmarsh meetings are held 3 times per year, along with 1 combined meeting including Hindmarsh, Horsham, Yarriambiack and West Wimmera Shire

# Theme One – Our Community Cont

Action Item	
Support our ageing community through hosting seniors concert, social connection activities including movie matinees and morning teas, and delivery of community care services	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the 2021 Seniors Concert was postponed and will be held in early 2022, senior's week activities moved online for 2021. Movie Matinees are held when possible which included morning tea prior to the movie. Council continues to deliver community care services to our community and also continue with the social outreach service for vulnerable and isolated community members
Support local community events including the Rainbow Desert Enduro, Great Victorian Bike Ride, Dimboola inaugural Steampunk Festival, Nhill Friday Fiestas in February, Peter Taylor Barefoot Tournament etc.	Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic many events have been cancelled (Rainbow Desert Enduro, Great Victorian Bike Ride, Dimboola Steam Punk Festival etc) and or postponed. Support for these and other community events will continue in the future
Celebrate volunteers week	
Construction of Rainbow Library	In progress. Framing and roof beams erected. Landscape design prepared.
Provide community action grants to support Hindmarsh community groups and organisations	Round 1 of the Community Action Grants is currently open. Youth Grants have also been established using FReeZA funding to support Youth outcomes
Continue to support the Rural Outreach Program	Council continues to support the Rural Outreach Program. Outreach officers have attended movie mornings.
Provide school holiday activities throughout Hindmarsh	Due to the Covid-19 pandemic September school holiday activities were unable to be held. Take home packs were prepared with over 140 packs distributed. Activities are being planned for the remainder of the year once restrictions have eased
Support and coordinate the volunteer taxi service in Nhill	Council continues to support and coordinate the volunteer taxi service in Nhill.
Establish and maintain relationships with Barengi Gadjin Land Council (BGLC) and local indigenous groups	Council staff are working closely with BGLC on projects such as the Wimmera River Discovery trail and will continue to maintain and build on the relationships already established through these and future projects
Provide public computers and free Wi-Fi at Hindmarsh Shire Libraries	Public computers and free Wi-Fi are available at Dimboola, Jeparit & Nhill Libraries.

# Theme Two – Built & Natural Environment

Action Item	
Review and update Council's asset management plan	
Implement recycling bins in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow main business districts	
Review Council's road management plan	
Construction of Albacutya bridge and associated road works	
Hold free green waste month in September and encourage residents to tidy their properties prior to the fire season	Free Green waste month was held from 10 September to 10 October
Consider for adoption of Nhill streetscape plan	
Installation of solar heating on Rainbow swimming pool	Quotations have been obtained for installation of solar heating on Rainbow Swimming Pool
Advocate for improved water quality in the regional lakes and rivers	
Construction of new clubrooms at Nhill Tennis Club	Due to two unsuccessful tender advertising rounds works is currently underway for design and approval of permits prior to re-advertising
Review and update waste management strategy	
Installation of pedestrian safety fencing at Nhill Early Years Centre	Pedestrian fencing has been installed at Nhill Early Years Centre
Installation of seating and electric barbeques at Rainbow lake	Awaiting change of use application (planning permit will be included in October Council meeting). Following approval works will be able to commence
Consider opportunities and seek funding for lighting in public areas	
Ensure Council representation on Western Highway Action Committee, Wimmera Regional Transport Group and Grampians Central West Waste, Resource Recovery Group and Hindmarsh Landcare Network	
Continue to advocate for funding for Davis Park improvements	Council continues to advocate both state and federal government for funding to improve Davis Park

# Theme Three – Competitive and Innovative Economy

Action Item	
Upgrades to ensuites at Dimboola Caravan Park	
Provide the business assistance grants program	Round 1 applications for the Business Assistance Grants Program will be presented to Council in October.
Promote Hindmarsh as a tourism destination to stop, stay and play	New and updated Visit Hindmarsh webpage is under development as part of the Hindmarsh Shire website development. Regional marketing campaigns being development by WMT through external grant funding. New brochures have been designed and printed
Host business networking session to encourage Hindmarsh businesses to come together and network	This has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Construction of a camp kitchen at Jeparit riverbank precinct	Currently delayed due to slow land owner consent via Parks Victoria
Installation of cabin accommodation (including all abilities) at caravan parks within Hindmarsh Shire (subject to funding)	
Commence review on Council's economic development strategy	
Participate in Wimmera Development Association housing strategy meetings	Council continues to participate in the WDA housing strategy meetings
Enhance Council's Procurement Policy to support Council purchasing locally	Council adopted the updated Procurement Policy on 4 August 2021. The policy includes local and regional weighting to support our local and neighbouring businesses
Commence Silo Art at Llew Schilling Silo in Rainbow and Arkona Silo	A Silo Art Project Coordinator has been appointed. Arkona Silo Art art curator/artist management has been appointed.
Provide a calendar of events to assist community groups and event organisers to promote their events	As part of the development of the new Hindmarsh Shire website a calendar of events will be established making it easy for community groups to register their events
Provide business concierge services to assist business understand COVID-19 restrictions	Under the funding received Council has employed a business concierge and hospitality officer until 30 November to assist businesses and community groups understand the COVID-19 restrictions and roadmap.

# Theme Four – Good Governance & Financial Sustainability

Action Item	
Develop a workforce plan	Work has commenced on the development of a workforce plan.
Online streaming of Council meetings through Council's Facebook page	Council continues to stream Council meetings through Council's Facebook page
Consideration for employing a trainee, or apprentice when vacancies arise throughout the year	
Community conversation sessions held annually in our four main towns	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have not allowed for community meetings to be held in person
Drop in sessions held allowing for community input to Council on key documents or projects	Drop in sessions were scheduled to be held for the Council Plan but due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have not allowed for community meetings and therefore sessions were required to be cancelled
Develop a ten (10) year long term financial plan	The Long Term Financial Plan has been prepared and was adopted by Council on 20 October 2021
Quarterly finance reporting to Council	Council's first quarter finance report will be presented to the October Council meeting
Review Council's complaints policy	
Ensure Council representation on Wimmera Development Association, Rural Council's Victoria, and Municipal Association of Victoria	Council continues to have representation on WDA, RCV and MAV.
Quarterly Council plan reporting to Council	The first quarterly report to Council will be presented to Council in November 2021
Develop a gender equality action plan	The first quarterly report to Council will be presented to Council in November 2021
Collaborate with Horsham Rural City Council, West Wimmera Shire Council and Loddon Shire Council to implement the Rural Council Transformation Project	RCTP is progressing with evaluation of potential software completed and a recommendation prepared for the board
Audit & Risk Committee meetings review and consider Council risks at each meeting	Risk management is a standing item on Audit & Risk Committee meetings

