

SED



Dimboola Community Precinct Plan

Hindmarsh Shire Council

Final Report
September 2016



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Report statement

The Dimboola Community Precinct Plan has been prepared for Hindmarsh Shire Council as the client. The Plan represents information correct and complete at the time of writing.

The information contained in this document has been gained from desktop evidence, targeted stakeholder engagement and research and has been prepared in good faith.

Neither SED, nor its servants, consultants, agents or staff shall be responsible in any way whatsoever to any person or organisation or entity in respect to the Plan, including errors or omissions therein, however caused.

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Executive summary

The Dimboola Community Precinct Plan presents a plan for the sustainable development of the township. The Plan responds to the aspirations of the community and the economic, social, cultural and environmental features and opportunities.

The plan uses the key principles of linking and leveraging of assets to develop a framework for Dimboola to continue to grow and reach its potential, with enhanced linkages, greater use of the proximity of its commercial centre to its wonderful natural assets and further development of its outstanding community facilities.

New residential areas and industrial development are catered for to support the potential of the town to grow and act as commuter town for residents working in the nearby regional city of Horsham.

The plan caters for all age groups of residents and recognises the role Dimboola plays as a service centre for many residents of the Wimmera.

The rural town of Dimboola located on the Wimmera River will build upon its natural environment, heritage and community spirit to be a great place to live, work and visit.

The Plan will guide and inform the land use planning, funding and development priorities of the community and help ensure that the services and amenity for residents and visitors will continue to flourish over the coming years. It recognises and acknowledges community planning work that has already occurred and supports and informs current and proposed initiatives and projects.

A primary focus of the Plan is the use where possible and practical, of existing facilities and assets, clustering of activity precincts within the main township centre and improved linkages between this centre and the river. An extensive development plan for the recreational reserve is also included as part of this plan.

Linkages to other community assets such as the river, the Recreation Reserve and highly valued open space are also features of the Plan.

Structured under four themes, the Plan addresses the liveability, economic and social opportunities that make Dimboola an attractive place to live, work, visit and invest, and provides an implementation framework that supports staged and integrated progression of project and initiatives.

Community services and social infrastructure

- ▶ Support the development of a new library and civic hub that will foster the learning and social interaction of residents and deliver much needed municipal and agency information and local services within the community.
- ▶ Ensure that critical emergency services that are vital to the safety and well-being of residents and the wider region are supported through the development of new facilities for the CFA and SES.
- ▶ Within the Community Activity Precinct, this plan provides for social and recreational opportunities for local residents through several initiatives. The development of a Men's Shed, Women's Shed, youth activities and community garden that will be inclusive of and open to residents of all ages, backgrounds and interests are just some of the opportunities that may be developed further should there be sufficient community support.
- ▶ Further developing the connectivity and linkages between the commercial centre and river frontage are key pillars in both the economic and social development of Dimboola.

Economy and tourism

- ▶ Enhance and promote the commercial and industry opportunities through the facilitation of business activities within the township's commercial precinct and key industry locations.
- ▶ Supporting the development of Dimboola as a place where families can live and commute to work in Horsham will underpin resident attraction and associated economic development. Ensure that community services and social activities are located within close proximity to the commercial precinct to help provide for

greater foot traffic and patronage of existing businesses and encourage new business investment.

- ▶ Promote the important cultural, social and environmental heritage of the community and region to residents and visitors through the development of an Indigenous Keeping Place and the provision of a range of accommodation options for visitors.
- ▶ Support the visitor experience and awareness of the region's attractions and destinations through improved Visitor Information Centre services in the heart of the town that enjoys excellent parking and pedestrian access to town services.
- ▶ Foster new enterprises through the provision of incubator and small business spaces within an existing facility or as part of the library or community facility development.
- ▶ Support residential investment and housing diversity for all residents, enabling older residents to remain in the community and enjoy a good quality of life and attracting new residents and families.
- ▶ Ensure that residential development occurs in areas that have good access to existing services and does not expand beyond township boundaries or constrain or impact upon important commercial and industry activity.

Sport and recreation

- ▶ The Dimboola Recreation Reserve is a significant community and regional asset that forms part of a wider recreation precinct including the Wimmera River and the caravan park.
- ▶ This plan provides a comprehensive framework for the development of the precinct's varied and numerous uses through the creation of conservation, mixed use, tourism and sports zones within the precinct.
- ▶ Ensure future works and projects include sufficient detail to support further development of this significant community asset. In addition, ensure connections to other major assets within the township are maintained and enhanced.

Open space and public realm

- ▶ The open space, environmental, cultural and built features of Dimboola lend themselves to the development of public art and more social meeting spaces for residents and visitors.
- ▶ Physical connections between different precincts, attractions and destinations with the township and environs provide for opportunities to link and build the 'story' of Dimboola and to support participation in a range of recreation pursuits.
- ▶ Community projects such as a community garden located in an area that would allow for community events, markets and other activities would provide for further opportunities for social interaction and add to the environment and cultural product Dimboola already provides for visitors.

Summary

The Dimboola Community Precinct Plan will require the continued partnership of government, business, community and regional organisations. Any investment or development opportunities for the township will need to be strategically planned with support from the community.

The Plan provides opportunities for Dimboola, its residents and Hindmarsh Shire Council (HSC) to realise the township's potential as a great rural community that has much to offer residents, businesses and visitors. Retention and protection of environmental and heritage assets and the continued provision and enhancement of economic and community services are fundamental to the Plan.

1. Introduction

The rural community of Dimboola, located half an hour west of Horsham, is an attractive town and home to an estimated 1,400 residents.

Located on the banks of the Wimmera River the community is proud of the natural and built features of the town. The river is an important part of community life and attracts many visitors for water activities, walking and local flora and fauna.

Like many rural communities, Dimboola has experienced economic and social transition as the nature and structure of farming and rural life has changed over the years.

The population has declined and the community has an increasing number of older residents. This has affected services, investment and how residents and visitors use assets and buildings in the community.

This process of change is well understood by residents who are committed to seeing their community flourish and to look at refreshed economic and social opportunities.

The Dimboola Community Precinct Plan provides an assets and land-based view for the future prosperity and well-being of residents. It identifies where and how investment and community activities can be sustained whilst planning for future growth and the attraction of new residents, business and visitors.

1.1 Purpose of the Precinct Plan

The Dimboola Community Precinct Plan sets the development and land use planning framework for the community over the next 10-20 years.

It takes a broad look at the community, its assets, facilities, open space, services and key features and through community consultation identifies opportunities for improved use and sustainable development that align to community values.

In addition, the Plan considers environmental and connectivity networks within the township and the wider regional context that influences the town's function and role.

The Plan will guide future land use and development decisions and supports the process of prioritising projects and investments. It integrates thinking around community change and development so that existing assets and facilities can provide maximum benefit and new facilities and development be supported in an ordered way.

Residents, investors, businesses and service providers will have greater surety on how Dimboola will change and develop over time, ensuring that township features and assets that are valued by the community are appropriately enhanced and provide opportunities for all to participate in community life.

1.1.1 How will it be used?

The Plan will provide guidance and direction to Council, community and other stakeholders on future opportunities for community development and investment. It provides the framework to support community planning and the implementation of projects.

The Plan is an important supporting document for future funding and investment opportunities for community projects and should be used to inform Council and other local and regional stakeholders of community priorities. It should have concise and clear principles and objectives and be responsive to changes in circumstances and new or altered opportunities that will unlock potential for growth and change.

1.2 Methodology

The Precinct Plan has been developed through a program of background research and analysis, community conversations, interviews with agencies, community members and associations.

Further evidence and information has been taken from reviews of relevant policy and strategy, the local land use planning scheme and economic and social data and statistics.

1.2.1 Community engagement

Community engagement included distribution of online and hard copy surveys, Council newsletter updates, workshops and enquiry activities with the community and forthcoming submissions to the draft Plan. Regular briefings were held with Hindmarsh Shire Council personnel and Councillors. A number of site visits provided observations and assessments of community assets, features and functions.

Figure 1 - Dimboola community conversations

More information on background survey and consultation outcomes is provided in Appendix 1: Community consultation summary outcomes.



2. Context

Before the arrival of white settlers, the local Aboriginal population called the area Watchegatcheca, meaning 'Wattle Tree and White Cockatoos'.

The first survey of Dimboola was conducted in late 1862 and the town was originally called Nine Creeks. The origin of the name Dimboola is thought to have been instigated by the District Surveyor who had lived in Sri Lanka. "Dimbulah" is listed as being the Sinhalese word for land of figs or the name of a location in Sri Lanka. Abundant fruit including figs are thought to have grown at Upper Regions Station, one of the first settled properties in the region on the banks of the Wimmera River near Dimboola.

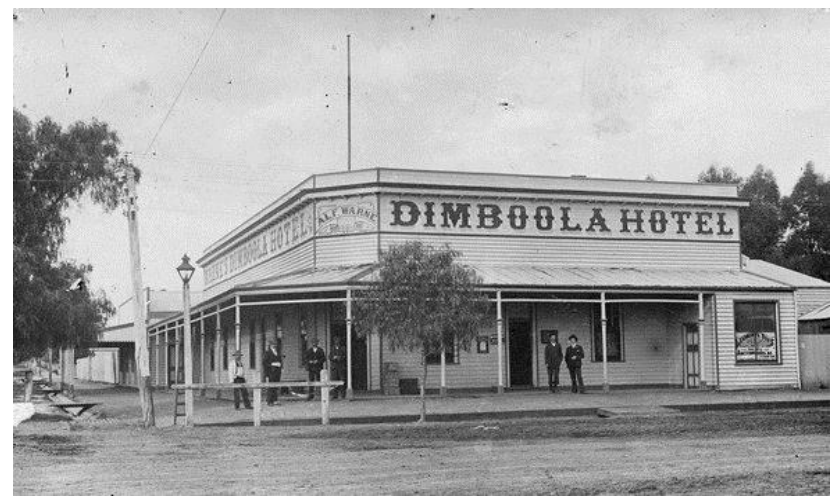
The town grew and prospered over the coming decades based primarily upon the wheat and broad acre farming and milling industries. A general store was opened in 1859, the Post Office in 1863 and a flourmill in 1876. In 1879, Dimboola is recorded as having three hotels, a bakery, several stores and a blacksmith/wheelwrights serving a population of about 100 residents.

The railway was extended from Horsham in 1882 with branch lines running to Serviceton and Jeparit by 1894. Access to rail intensified agricultural activity in the region with large areas of the Mallee country being cleared of native vegetation for agricultural purposes.

The 1920s saw the opening of The Star picture theatre and the high school. During the Second World War, the town was a major source of grain and wheat supplies.

The last 30 years or so have seen continued change including the opening of the township bypass, drought, floods and the provision of a sustainable water supply as a result of the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline.

Today Dimboola retains its rural heart and a resilient community spirit.



1.3 Dimboola today

The community of Dimboola is located on the Wimmera River just under a half hour west of Horsham in western Victoria. The town has many attractive natural and built features and characteristics and provides a range of services to residents and its catchment.



Figure 5 - Commercial precinct Lloyd Street

With pride in the aboriginal heritage and history of the region and community, Dimboola is an attractive town to live in and visit.

Agricultural activity is economically and socially important to the community, which is home to major employer and agri-sector business Blue Lake Milling. The importance of the railway is still evident with major sidings and for the provision of employment for residents within the rail industry.

Community and visitor facilities include a large recreation and sporting precinct adjacent to the river and the town's caravan and camping park (RV Friendly), a hospital, two primary and a secondary school, library, retail and general local services.

An industrial sub-division planned for the town could provide for new employment opportunities and support the expansion of existing businesses.

The Wimmera River which passes through the heart of Dimboola is a major recreation and tourism drawcard for both water activities and events and for wildlife.



Figure 6 – The Wimmera River

The Dimboola weir and the allocation of environmental flows for the river have reduced the risk of low or minimal water levels prevalent during earlier periods of drought and now provide greater surety of water supply to the river.

The environmental and heritage features of the town make it an attractive proposition as a lifestyle suburb for Horsham and for developing food, heritage and natural environment based tourism opportunities.

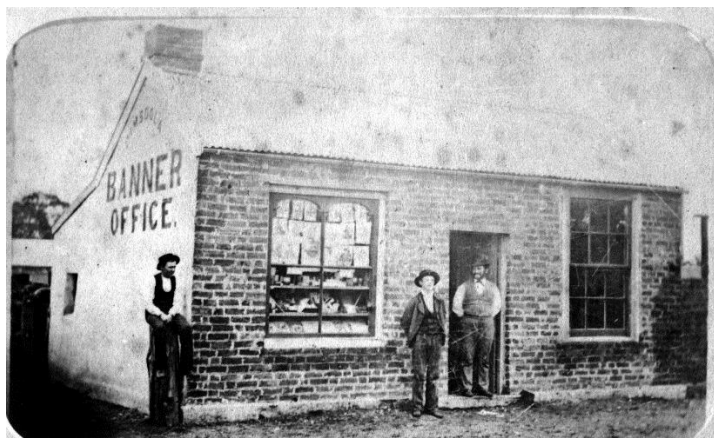


Figure 2 - Old Banner Office (Source Culture Victoria - <http://www.cv.vic.gov.au>)

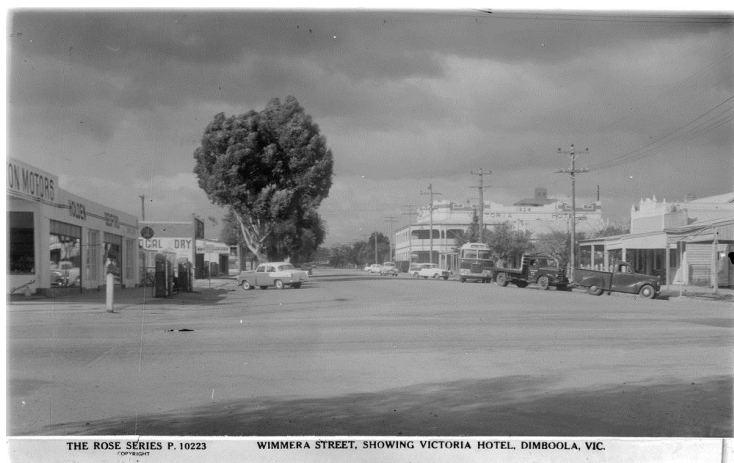


Figure 3 - Old photo of Wimmera Street (Source State Library of Victoria - <http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/>)

Figure 4 - Old Dimboola Hotel (Source –Dimboola and District Historical Society)

Like many rural communities across Australia, Dimboola is experiencing changes in population and the demographic profile of its residents. ABS Census data shows the following population trends. There has been a decline in numbers of nearly 100 residents 2006 to 2011.

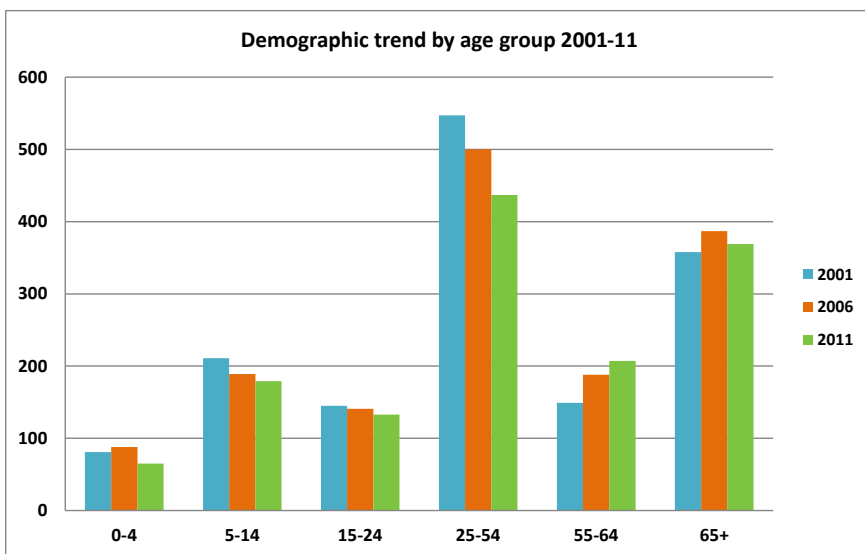
Table 1 – Dimboola population trend (Source: ABS Census)

Dimboola population trends 1996-11					
Year	1996	2001	2006	2011	% change
Total	1,585	1,491	1,493	1,390	↓12.3%

The community is also showing an ageing profile with trends showing an increase in the number of residents aged over 55 years.

Figure 7 - Dimboola demographic trend by age group (Source: ABS Census)

Although this kind of population trend can present sustainability challenges for rural communities they by no means define a community nor should they restrict the pursuit of opportunities that can mitigate decline. Communities should be encouraged to understand change and foster a broadly collective view of the future for themselves.



Dimboola presents as a rural community with some potential to be a lifestyle alternative for Horsham residents. Within easy commuting distance to Horsham, the township has attractive natural and built features and could present as a lifestyle alternative for residents of neighbouring centres seeking a more rural location. A constraint for Dimboola is the possible lack of housing choice for new residents.

The declining population and ageing profile has had some impact on service delivery, sustainability and choice for residents and this may continue over the short to medium term. In 2011, 41% of residents were aged over 55 years compared to 34% in 2001. The importance, therefore, of attracting new residents needs to be considered as part of local planning and township development.

The Wimmera River is an important feature of the township for local recreation purposes and for attracting visitors for events and tourism. However, variances in the river's water levels have a direct impact on socio-economic activity in the township. The continued sustainable management of the river, and its flora and fauna is important to many residents and river users.

Although home to some primary local services, many residents of Dimboola will seek a significant proportion of their services in Horsham and to a lesser extent in Nhill. Although this is to be expected in small communities, particularly when many residents travel regularly to Horsham for work, Dimboola can still foster an active commercial and community services role.

The Western Highway bypass would have improved the overall amenity and liveability of the town; however, discussions indicate that it is felt to have affected the range and sustainability of some small businesses in town, evidenced in part by the number of vacant commercial premises. Increasing the number of new residents and visitors to Dimboola will therefore be important for the longer term sustainability of the community.

1.4 The policy and strategy context

Victoria has adopted a regional approach to social and economic development. This process recognises that communities and economies do not operate in isolation and that regions and settlements can have distinct functions and relative opportunities. These can be

strategic in nature and thinking. The approach has also ensured that appropriate land use and community development planning has been rolled into regional planning and development policy. There are two primary policy documents that set this regional context, the 2012 Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Strategic Plan and the 2014 Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Growth Plan.

1.4.1 Regional Strategic Plan

In 2012, the region adopted the *Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Strategic Plan* (the Regional Plan) which provides a framework for a coordinated approach to achieving economic, social and environmental outcomes for the region over the next 10 – 15 years. The regional plan identifies a number of strategic directions for socio-economic growth for the region including:

- ▶ Building on comparative advantages in sustainable primary production and related value adding and service industries;
- ▶ Development of nature-based and outback tourism experiences including capture of regional markets and developing sympathetic tourism product;
- ▶ Fostering growth in industry networks and clusters including manufacturing associated with food processing, agriculture and transport and the expansion of start-up and small business. Access to a secure water supply via the Wimmera Mallee pipeline will also form a significant part of business development activities for the region;
- ▶ Providing essential infrastructure including information technology and telecommunications to support new and existing business;
- ▶ Improving transport infrastructure that supports regional business and communities, and ensuring future planning addresses forecast growth in freight movements within and across the region;
- ▶ Improving education and training outcomes, and attracting and retaining skills in the region by reducing barriers to participation, provision of workforce development programs and attracting workers through migration;
- ▶ Strengthening local communities and community services through local solutions to community development needs in the areas of health, leadership and settlement development, and planning that enhances the connections, function and liveability of communities.

The Regional Plan identifies that strategic drivers need to be approached at regional scale and address regional challenges but apply equally to local communities like Dimboola. These include sustaining and increasing agricultural productivity, climate change adaptation, developing market opportunity from increased global food demand and support population growth through the liveability of communities and the wellbeing of residents.

1.4.2 Regional Growth Plan

The Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Growth Plan 2014 (RGP) details the land use planning agenda for the region over the next 20 to 30 years. The RGP is generally regarded as the primary guiding policy and planning document for the region, describing the key economic and social directions and initiatives and taking strategic regional and land use development planning as its foundation for sustainable and robust socio-economic development.

It provides a holistic approach to regional development based upon the key economic and social characteristics of the region which can be leveraged for future growth and economic opportunities.

There are three pillars to the RGP that aim to support prosperity, economic opportunity, sustainable communities and the health of the regional environment. These pillars are:

- ▶ A competitive and innovative economy;
- ▶ A healthy and resilient environment; and
- ▶ Community wellbeing.

The findings and recommendations from the WSM Regional Growth Plan have been considered as part of the development of the Precinct Plan, the specific policy and strategic directions areas for Dimboola are as follows.



Table 2 – Hindmarsh Shire Council - Council Plan objectives.

Regional Growth Plan - Dimboola

Future directions

- ▶ Recognise Dimboola as a key local service centre;
- ▶ Encourage the provision of a range of services appropriate for the local community;
- ▶ Residential development will primarily occur within the existing urban area; and
- ▶ Allow for urban expansion to support future industrial growth.

Land use policies, strategies and actions

- ▶ Retain and enhance services and facilities appropriate to local residents and surrounding communities;
- ▶ Provide for residential growth primarily within the current town boundaries; and
- ▶ Monitor the need for additional industrial land and undertake investigation of land to the north or east of the town near the Western Highway to determine its suitability for development.

1.5 Local policy

1.5.1 Council Plan

The Hindmarsh Shire Council Plan is a statutory requirement of the Local Government Act, outlining the objectives of Council, the strategies for achieving the objectives over a minimum of four years and including a range of actions and indicators for monitoring the implementation of objectives.

The current plan, covering the period 2013 – 2017, identifies four objectives or key result areas that directly inform local strategy, policy and allocation of resources as shown in Table 2.

Objective	Which means
Community liveability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ An actively engaged community. ▶ A range of effective and accessible services to support community health and wellbeing. ▶ A community that is physically active with access to a wide range of leisure, sporting and recreation facilities.
Built and natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Well-maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs. ▶ A community that reduces its reliance on water and manages this resource wisely. ▶ A healthy natural environment. ▶ A community living more sustainably.
Competitive and innovative economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A strong rural economy and thriving towns. ▶ A thriving tourism industry. ▶ Modern and affordable information and communication technology throughout the municipality. ▶ Transport solutions that support the needs of our communities and businesses.
Our people, our processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Long-term financial sustainability. ▶ Quality customer services. ▶ An engaged, skilled Council and workforce capable of meeting community needs. ▶ Support for the community in the areas of emergency, preparedness, response and recovery. ▶ An organisation that takes its risk management responsibilities seriously and embeds a culture of risk management throughout the organisation.

1.5.2 2015 Economic Development Strategy

The 2015 Economic Development Strategy (EDS) set the economic agenda for Hindmarsh over the next decade. It builds on the advantages and strengths of the region and its communities to support economic opportunity and the attraction of investment.

The EDS has a number of strategies for Dimboola and community, economic and social development that include:

- ▶ Build upon lifestyle and the built and natural assets, including the river precinct and township centre streetscapes; proximity to Horsham; and tourism and visitor features including history, environment, food, recreation and events.
- ▶ Support encouragement of food and niche businesses, provision of interpreted cycle, walking and heritage trails, indigenous heritage and culture, bicycle and kayak hire from the caravan park and development of the caravan park as a family-oriented, short stay destination.
- ▶ Support the progression of new industrial land development.
- ▶ Identify future growth and development for integrated health and community care services and facilities.
- ▶ Identify future residential land that enhances the liveability attributes of the community, and that provides for a diversity of development.
- ▶ Identify premises and facilities that can support the Creative and Small Business Incubator initiatives for start-up businesses and enterprises.
- ▶ Work with local and regional businesses, look to promote food and beverage business opportunities that link to the strengths of current product within the region and would provide a product 'point of difference' for visitors.
- ▶ In addition to the proposed self-drive Hindmarsh Heritage Trail, continue with the development of the Wimmera River Discovery Trail project and the interpretation and understanding of indigenous history and culture through the proposed Indigenous Keeping Place in Dimboola.
- ▶ Continued implementation of the network of walking and cycling infrastructure to improve connectivity and bring enhanced visitation and the visitor experience to settlements and attractions.

2. Current function, role and land use

Located in the heart of the Wimmera region (Figure 8) Dimboola is a relatively small town in a rural setting comprising of a range of residential blocks, a compact retail and commercial centre, multi-purpose sport and recreation precincts, education and community centres, health facilities and important rail and industry assets. The Wimmera River meanders along the south western edge of the town and creates a natural boundary between the primary areas of urban development and surrounding farm land. There are three main road access points into the town from the Western Highway with the town being bypassed by the Highway in the late 1980s.

2.1 Township role and function

Dimboola has a variety of roles and functions. These include being a place to live, a rural commercial and industry centre and a developing visitor destination particularly associated with the river, the Little Desert National Park and other attractions in the region. The bypass has created a quiet rural atmosphere that is valued by residents and visitors and assists in presenting the township as an idyllic lifestyle location.

Agriculture and logistics are still major features of the town's economy supported by manufacturing businesses, retail, health, education and community services.

2.2 Proximity to Horsham

Dimboola's proximity to Horsham (36kms and around 25 minutes travel time), together with its range of lifestyle choices and housing options make it ideally suited to its development as a commuter town. Encouraging people and families to relocate to Dimboola who work in Horsham is a development opportunity for the town and is catered for in this precinct plan.

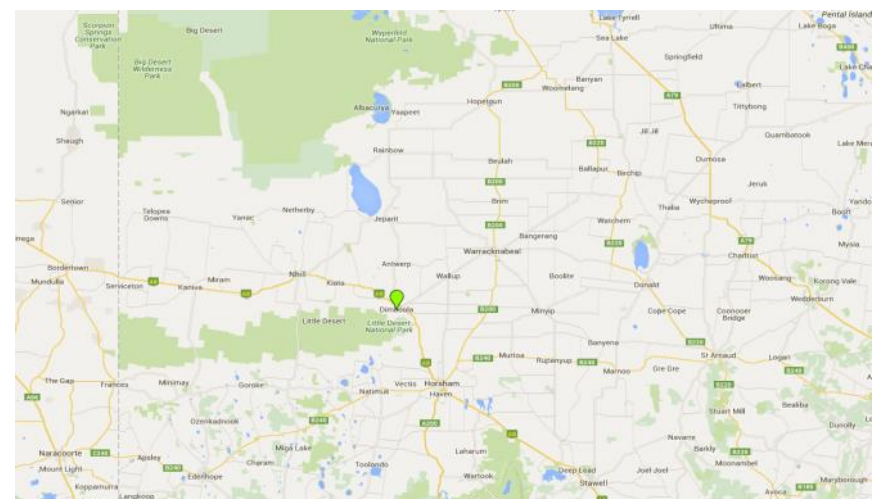


Figure 8 - Dimboola and the Wimmera region

2.3 Land use characteristics and conditions

The town of Dimboola contains a mix of land uses under a range of land use zones including residential, commercial, industrial, recreation, open space, public use and farming as shown in Figure 9.

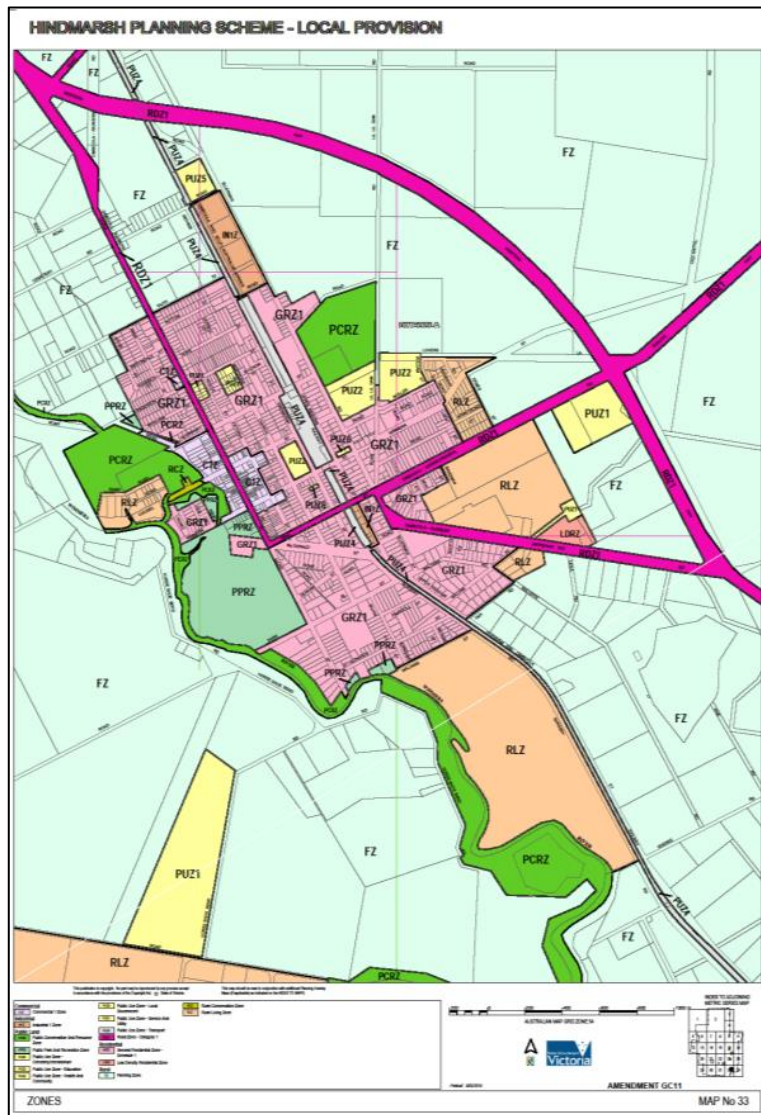


Figure 9 - Dimboola land use zoning (Source: Hindmarsh Shire Planning Scheme)

2.4 Key features

Primary activity centres and community assets and facilities are shown in Figure 12. These include:

- ▶ Residential and housing on a mix of township and rural living allotments;
- ▶ Commercial and retail activity primarily centred in the heart of the township;
- ▶ Industrial and logistics assets;
- ▶ Education, health and other community services and facilities including a primary school, secondary college, hospital and aged care facilities;
- ▶ Sport and recreation primarily located at the Recreation Reserve and Dimboola Secondary College grounds; and
- ▶ Open space and natural environments including reserves, parks and the Wimmera River.

2.5 Design characteristics

The prevailing design characteristics of the town reflect the major period of growth and prosperity in the Wimmera during the early to mid-20th century. Built on a traditional grid pattern of commercial and residential blocks and wide streets, the town to some extent has not fully maximised its proximity to the river, although this may be in part due to possible flooding and soil conditions.

This precinct plan seeks to improve the connection between the river and the commercial centre and in doing so integrate the river as a more significant feature in Dimboola’s development.

It is noticeable that the traditional commercial heart of the town would have covered several blocks of main centre around Lloyd Street and connecting and secondary streets. Lloyd Street, the main commercial strip, runs broadly parallel with the river to the southwest and the railway line to the northeast and in most part, represents the southwestern urban boundary.

The development of the railway and the station to the northeast would have encouraged much of the development of commercial and residential activity between Lloyd Street and the railway reserve over the years.

The river and the surrounds including the large recreation reserve are distinct features of the town and are central to community, visitor and event activities. Given its high environmental, cultural and amenity values, any development or activity associated with the river needs to be carefully considered and managed to ensure that these values and the unique features and cultural importance are protected. In addition, planning and design of developments need to consider the impacts of potential flood events.



Figure 10 – Wimmera River at the Wimmera Street Bridge

Residential and community centres of activity are primarily located within the main core of the township within reasonably defined boundaries (the river and the railway line). Blocks vary in size and housing stock represent the full range of small to medium to large private and public housing.

The presentation, style and condition of existing housing stock varies widely and there are a number of vacant blocks within the existing residential areas. Although located within a rural setting, there is a lack of vegetation within many of the main thoroughfares and streets of the town. This is in contrast to the vegetated environment around the river and where street planting has occurred within the main commercial and retail precinct. This plan aims to redress this imbalance through a range of strategies including streetscape works, linkages to natural fauna and vegetation reserves and greening of the township.



Figure 11 – Lloyd Street streetscape from current library location

Dimboola has very much a rural ambiance and with the natural environment, wide streets and heritage buildings has immense capacity to sympathetically develop and be an appealing proposition for attracting new residents, visitors and small business and be a thriving community with all the features of a small town.

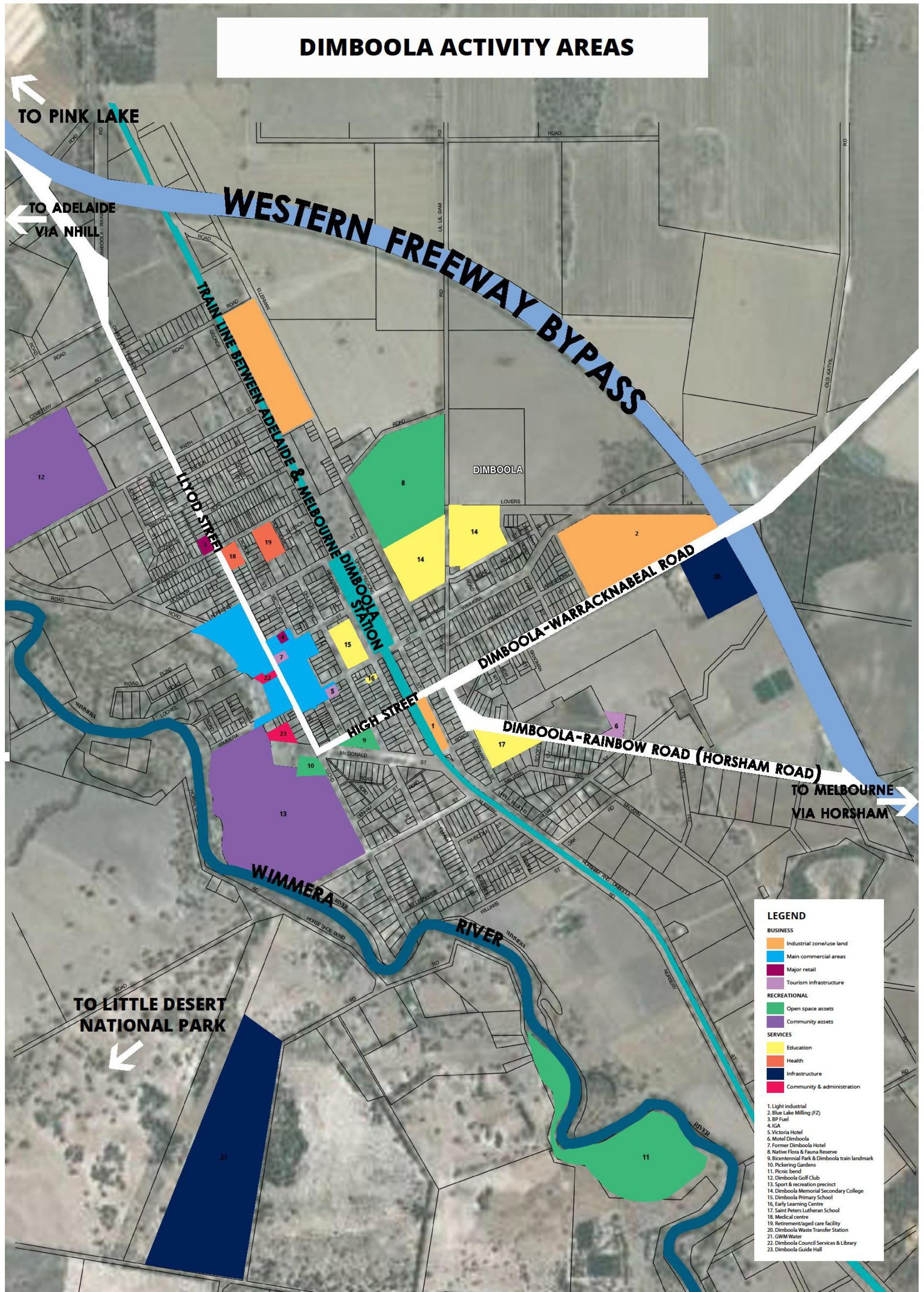


Figure 12 – Dimboola current activity centres and assets

DIMBOOLA COMMUNITY PRECINCT PLAN

3. Context

The following provides the context for the development and future implementation of the Plan.

3.1 Principles

1. The rural town of Dimboola located on the Wimmera River will build upon and utilise its natural environment, heritage and community spirit to be a great place to live, work and visit.
2. Connectivity between different areas of town will be improved, with particular focus on linking the commercial centre and the Wimmera River.
3. Community and township planning will provide opportunities for all residents of all ages to be part of community life.
4. The natural environment will be protected and enhanced and provide for a range of recreation options for residents and visitors.
5. The young people of Dimboola will be encouraged and supported in putting forward ideas and being part of decision-making for the future.
6. Development will recognise and respect the importance of the environment, heritage and culture of the community and support economic and social strengths.



3.2 Objectives of the Plan

- ▶ Effective longer-term delivery, management of community, commercial, sport and recreation assets, and services.
- ▶ Robust and informed planning for services and facilities.
- ▶ Respond to the current and future needs of communities, stakeholders and partner organisations.
- ▶ Provide a framework for the coherent development of the recreation reserve.
- ▶ Identify investment priorities and supporting funding strategies.
- ▶ Update our understanding of what we have and what we need.

3.3 Key themes of the Plan

The Precinct Plan establishes key themes to provide a structure to assessment and recommendations. Themes will interlink in many cases in terms of physical, functional and/or infrastructure elements and lend support to the implementation of regional and local policy and strategy. These include the Wimmera South Mallee Regional Growth

Plan and Strategic Plan, the 2015 Hindmarsh Shire Economic Development Strategy, 2015 Hindmarsh Shire Sport and Recreation Strategy, Council Plan and further the application of the Hindmarsh Shire Planning Scheme.



Community services and social infrastructure



Economy and tourism



Sport and recreation



Open space and public realm

3.4 Community values

Dimboola residents are passionate about their town and community. They place significant value upon the natural environment and in particular the river and environs. Cultural history and heritage is also a large part of community values. There are strong local economic and cultural links with the land both historically and in terms of more recent economic and social activities.

Sporting and recreational assets and features are very important to residents as are the health, education and businesses services. Residents want to see their town remain vibrant, an attractive place to live and to welcome new residents and visitors that can bring important economic, social and cultural benefits.

"Dimboola is a great community, very 'real'. It has faced many ups and downs over the years and continues to do so, but always seems to find a way through. It's far from perfect but it has enormous potential, with still quite a few committed people who are working hard to maximise opportunities. We've lost a lot of the people with the skills to do big projects and therefore need a bit of help with these things. If the Council can continue making the kinds of improvements that it's been making over the last three years, then in about four or five years things will be looking very good."

"The natural environment and proximity to the Wimmera River and Little Desert are the values that brought me to Dimboola and that I treasure most greatly. I like to support local community and businesses so these are also very important to me. Heritage values are also important and I was very disappointed when the old hotel was demolished. The Caravan Park is great for visiting family, the recreation park, school and other services are also important to support a living community."

The involvement of younger people in community life and bringing their ideas forward about their town, is a feature of this plan. Importantly, it allows for a blend of projects and opportunities that will address the needs and aspirations of all residents. Resilient but not resistant to change, the community recognises that they are willing and active partners with Council and other agencies in the future opportunities for their town.



4. Community services and social infrastructure

Access to a range of community services and infrastructure is of significant importance to the residents of Dimboola. Ensuring that all age groups have the opportunity to participate in community life, both now and into the future, needs to be planned around what the community values, as well as community trends and needs.

4.1 Policy direction

- ▶ Utilise existing assets and facilities where possible and practicable to do so, and create township centre areas of activity for community social, commercial and recreational functions.
- ▶ Limit expansion or development of facilities and activity areas beyond the primary boundaries of the township centre in order to provide for greater accessibility and connection to services and facilities for residents and to create a vibrant centre.
- ▶ Co-locate complementary services or activities to support sustainable maintenance and management of facilities, assets and resources and to provide opportunities for broad social and cultural interaction.

4.2 Responses

4.2.1 New library and civic hub – Corner of Lochiel and Lloyd Streets

- ▶ Progress negotiations and opportunities for the development of a *new library and civic hub* in the heart of the town, preferably at the corner of Lochiel and Lloyd Streets (Figure 13 and circled in green on **Error! Reference source not found.**).
- ▶ *Incorporate Visitor Information Centre* in the library and civic hub.
- ▶ The *new library and civic hub* to include areas of public open space and public art and to provide pedestrian linkages between Victoria, Lochiel and Lloyd Streets and to other activity centres in the main township.



Figure 13 – Proposed library and civic hub site - Lochiel and Lloyd Streets



Figure 14 – Rear of current SES building in from library car park

4.2.2 Community activity precinct – Corner of Lochiel and Lloyd Streets

- ▶ Development of a vibrant, *multi-user community activity precinct* can be pursued adjacent to the current library facility and where SES and CFA operations are currently housed. Investigations are currently underway by these organisations to identify new sites for a combined facility, which at some stage may make their current premises available for other uses.



Figure 15 Star Theatre and Arbor Lloyd & Lochiel Streets

- ▶ *Integrate the indigenous keeping place* into this precinct
- ▶ For example, the SES building fronting Lochiel Street from the current library precinct has been identified as a potential future location for the *Dimboola Men's Shed*. With excellent front and rear road and parking access, consideration would have to be given to noise and amenity issues for the adjoining residences in Lochiel Street.



Figure 16 - Current SES building from Lochiel Street



Figure 17 – Forest Men’s Shed
(Source <http://www.forestmensshed.org.au/>)

- ▶ Should the CFA relocate from their current facility adjacent to the library building in Lloyd Street, this may provide opportunities to use the CFA building for other community uses such as a Women’s Shed or youth space. This would require refurbishment of the building depending on the nature of use.



Figure 18 – Rear of current CFA building from library car park

- ▶ Combining a number of community uses within the current library precinct would: create a more vibrant hub within the township centre; put existing assets to good use; and provide for social interaction and participation in community life for a wide range of residents for all ages.
- ▶ An opportunity to develop a small *community garden* to the rear of the current SES building adjacent to the library car park could also provide an excellent start-up opportunity for the community to establish this project. This would add further to the use and amenity of this proposed community activity precinct and could in future form the backdrop to community markets or other activities. As suggested by its name, a Community Garden would require strong community support from the community in order for it to be established.



Figure 19 – Open space at rear of current SES building



Figure 20 – Open space looking towards the rear of the library



Figure 21 Community Garden Project
(Source: www.ediblegarden.com.au)

4.2.3 Emergency services

- ▶ Identification of potential sites for the development of *new CFA and SES facilities* has been underway for some time. With a *combined* land use area requirement of approximately 3,000m² to allow for buildings, hard standing and turning areas options are still being considered.
- ▶ Retaining emergency services facilities within the township centre would provide for further community activity and vibrancy and create opportunities for more community wide participation in community life.



Figure 22 – Frontage of CFA building on Lloyd Street



Figure 23 – Central township locality

- ▶ It is noted that should there be progression of discussions on potential land and sites that are owned and/or managed by Hindmarsh Shire Council, appropriate ‘trade off’ arrangements (financial and/or in-kind) should be an integral part of discussions to ensure equity and fairness for all parties including users of existing facilities and land.

4.2.4 Primary school future use

- ▶ Investigate options for alternative uses for the Dimboola Primary School, should a colocation with the secondary school progress.

4.3 Land use policy considerations

Proposed activity / land use	Current zone	Policy consideration
New library and civic hub	Commercial 1 zone	Fits under the zone. Will require a permit as per Clause 34.01
Multi-user community activity precinct	Commercial 1 zone	Fits under the zone Will require a permit as per Clause 34.01 Impacts of use on neighbouring residential to be assessed and considered
New CFA/SES facilities	Commercial 1 zone	Will require a permit as per Clause 34.01
	Public Use Zone 2 - Education	Rezoning advised from PUZ to more appropriate zone for locality. This may be a Special Use Zone. Impacts on neighbouring uses to be assessed and considered
Community garden	Commercial 1 Zone	Not applicable – no zone change or permit required



5. Economy and tourism

Support will be given to private and public sector investment in housing, business and industry within appropriate locations that provide for the needs of residents and visitors and which promote Dimboola as a liveable community. The role of Dimboola as a local services locality will be supported along with opportunities for sustainable tourism development that fit with Dimboola's rural character and natural and cultural features. Population growth will also provide a natural source of economic growth for the township.

5.1 Policy direction

- ▶ Economic and commercial activity will be focussed within the current commercial heart of the township to create an active and varied activity hub for the town. Businesses and investors will be particularly encouraged to invest in and /or develop existing commercial and retail buildings and sites.
- ▶ Larger industrial uses will be supported where there is good access to supporting infrastructure, where use does not impact on existing residential areas or would be constrained by future residential development.
- ▶ Tourism development will be supported and complement existing businesses and services and build upon the natural, cultural, heritage and agricultural features of the community and surrounds.
- ▶ Residential development will be encouraged within existing zoned land parcels. Subdivision and multi-unit lots for retirement living will also be supported to retain older residents within the community with preference given to locations with easy pedestrian access to primary community services.

5.2 Responses

5.2.1 Commercial and retail activity

- ▶ Continue to enhance the role and presentation of the primary commercial and retail activity precinct along Lloyd Street and adjoining commercial localities through encouragement of uptake of existing premises and buildings for both commercial, community and appropriate mixed uses.



Figure 24 – Western side of Lloyd Street



Figure 25 – Wimmera and Victoria Streets

5.2.2 Tourism opportunities

- ▶ Support the development of sympathetic tourism businesses that complement and promote the cultural, environmental, heritage and agricultural features of the community and the region. This can include the establishment of the proposed Indigenous Keeping Place in a prominent Lloyd Street position to drive visitation, activity and events within the commercial precinct.
- ▶ Support sympathetic development and activities, such as pop up markets and food stalls that encourage the use of areas, pedestrian traffic and general recreation and leisure use that link the commercial centre to the river frontage, particularly along Wimmera Street.
- ▶ Develop a visitor car park to further encourage use and activation.
- ▶ Create a tourism zone within the recreation reserve that develops tourism facilities and visitor attractions within the reserve.



Figure 26 – North-west section of Lloyd Street



Figure 27 – Corner of Lloyd and Lochiel Streets



Figure 28 - Armidale Aboriginal Cultural Centre and Keeping Place
(Source: <https://www.facebook.com/ArmACKP>)

- ▶ Alternatively, options for development of *a new Keeping Place facility within the environs of Nine Creeks and the river* can be explored. A facility that has significant environmental and sustainability features and design and which are sympathetic to the environs and cultural values of users and uses will be important considerations for a development in these locations.



Figure 29 – Nine Creeks Reserve

- ▶ In partnership with the key stakeholder groups, investigate opportunities for *inclusion of backpacker accommodation associated with the Indigenous Keeping Place*. This would provide not only for a destination of interest for visitors but which could also provide a source of revenue for the Keeping Place beyond entry, sales and other revenues that the Place could achieve.



Figure 30 - Backpackers (Source: <http://uinnberlinhostel.com/>)

- ▶ Further tourism *development associated with the food and agri-produce of the region* will be encouraged in central township locations including retail outlets, markets and value-add to existing businesses that promote local produce.



Figure 31 – Dimboola Fishing Classic – held annually each November

- ▶ Should current library services relocate to new premises, development of the *vacated library building for community and/or commercial uses* should be considered. The central location, good street front profile, excellent parking (particularly at the rear of the building), toilets amenities and adjacent bus drop off and collection points would lend this building to a number of uses. This would further support the consolidation of activity within the heart of the town.



Figure 32 – Current library building



Figure 33 – Rear access and parking area of current library

5.2.3 Business and industry

- ▶ In line with recommendations in the 2015 Economic Development Strategy, identify locations within the commercial precinct for the establishment of a *Creative and Small Business Incubator* to support start-up businesses and encourage home-based businesses into a main street setting.



Figure 34 – Candy Factory Business Incubator (Source - <http://blog.pennlive.com/central-pa/2012/09/co-working-unique-business-inc.html>)



Figure 35 - WeWork Incubator (Source - <https://www.wework.com>)

- ▶ The recently approved rezoning and amendment (C015) for the provision of approximately 13 hectares of industrial land (IZ1) abutting Wimmera Street, High Street and the Western Highway provides *sufficient industrial land for the foreseeable future*. Industrial uses at this location should be protected from further encroachment by residential and other uses that may constrain industry activity on the site given the importance of retaining and attracting employment to the area.

5.2.4 Residential development

- ▶ Residential infill should continue to be encouraged in established residential zones. A *range of housing and land size options should be provided within township boundaries* with support given to sub-divisions and multi-unit lots for retirement living and aged care accommodation in locations that have easy access to township services.
- ▶ Rural living lots should be located in areas where they act as an interface between the township, farming land and open space but do not create ribbon effect development along key arterials and outside of primary town boundaries.
- ▶ Two residential investigation areas have been identified which support a range of residential uses and zoning types.
- ▶ Infill housing areas have also been identified to support housing diversity, affordable housing and residential growth.
- ▶ Continuation of the RLZ east of the Health and Fitness Centre (Armstrong Street area) as the preferred zone given possible uptake of nearby industrial land between Wimmera Street and High Street (Investigation Area 1). Retaining RLZ will act as a land use buffer between industrial and residential. Some opportunity to consider partial rezoning to General Residential on the western fringe of this RLZ location in the Williams Street area.
- ▶ Consider review of current areas of Rural Living Zone between High Street and Horsham Road (Residential investigation area 1) with land in the vicinity of New Street to be considered for General Residential. Land within closer proximity to the industrial estate to be retained as RLZ as a buffer area.
- ▶ Further investigation areas of Rural Living for additional General Residential can be investigated south of Nursery Road east of Williams Street (Investigation Area 2) which would be attractive to new investment given good proximity to the river. Provides some opportunities for GRZ adjacent to the current GRZ abutting Williams Street.

5.3 Land use policy considerations

Proposed activity / land use	Current zone	Policy consideration
Commercial and retail activity precinct	Commercial 1 Zone	Fits under current zone. No permit required as per Clause 34.01
Tourism and food related businesses	Commercial 1 Zone	Fits under current zone. No permit required as per Clause 34.01
Indigenous Keeping Place and Backpack accommodation	Commercial 1 Zone	Fits under current zone. No permit required as per Clause 34.01
Visitor Information Centre	Commercial 1 Zone	No permit required as per Clause 34.01
Creative and Small Business incubator	Commercial 1 Zone	Fits under current zone. No permit required as per Clause 34.01
Industrial development	Industrial 1 Zone	Fits under current zone. No permit required as per Clause 33.01
Residential development	General Residential Zone 1	No change or permits required for in-fill development and aged care facilities as per Clause 32.08. Permit required for sub-divisions as per conditions in Clause 32.08.
	Rural Living Zone	No permit required single dwellings on lot sizes that must be >2 hectares as per Clause 35.03. Rezoning to General Residential Zone 1 for smaller, higher density residential development



6. Sport and recreation

Dimboola will continue to provide a range of sport and recreation facilities and opportunities for all residents to participate in recreation and active leisure pursuits. Continued focus on existing assets and facilities at the Recreation Reserve and river environs which incorporates sustainable planning and management of facilities, user organisations’ and the community’s needs and aspirations.

6.1 Policy direction

- ▶ The recreation reserve has been the subject of a master planning exercise which details the long term development for the reserve.
- ▶ The Precinct Plan will support the key findings of the 2015 Hindmarsh Shire Sport and Recreation Strategy have been supported in this precinct plan.
- ▶ Council resources should focus on improvements at the recreation reserve in order to reinforce its role as a hub for community recreation, events, community gathering and tourism.
- ▶ The Precinct Plan supports the development of active leisure and recreation for all residents of Dimboola and for visitors and tourists to enjoy.

6.2 Responses

6.2.1 Recreation Reserve

- ▶ The recreation reserve is one of the town’s major social and community assets. A large number of community and sporting clubs use the facilities, as do tourists and passive recreational and leisure users.
- ▶ An extensive consultation and master planning process has been completed for the recreation reserve. The plan is shown in Figure 3.
- ▶ The masterplan creates four ‘use zones’ which have been applied to guide the development of the precinct:
 1. Conservation zone;
 2. Mixed use zone;
 3. Tourism development zone; and
 4. Sports facility and use zone.
- ▶ The masterplan includes the following development types:
 - ▶ New pedestrian / bike path;
 - ▶ Building upgrades; and

- ▶ New buildings / structures.

The key features of the masterplan include:

- ▶ Extension of wifi services to the recreation reserve and environs would be highly valued by all users and visitors;
- ▶ Preservation of key natural features of the reserve along the riverfront and in existing vegetation areas;
- ▶ Development of sporting infrastructure including netball courts, seating, improvements and upgrades to the stadium and storage facilities, tennis courts, croquet court and redevelopment of the Les Howland oval;
- ▶ Improvements to tourism infrastructures including a splash pool, fishing and boat launches;
- ▶ Improvements to storage and sheds including for rowing and dragon boat storage, agricultural society facilities;
- ▶ Creation of new assets including the skate park, BMX track, RV parking and free camping and a garden/ market space area;
- ▶ General upgrades such as improved lighting, toilet facilities, bubble taps and power; and
- ▶ Recommended governance models and the creation of a committee of management.

6.3 Land use policy considerations

Proposed activity / land use	Current zone	Policy consideration
Recreation Reserve Master Plan	Public Park and Recreation Zone	Current and proposed activities fit under current zone as per Clause 36.02.



Figure 36 - Dimboola Recreation Reserve Master Pan



7. Open space and public realm

Open space and areas of public amenity will be protected and enhanced to ensure that the natural environment continues to be enjoyed by residents and visitors. Open space and public realm include the natural and built environment and the opportunity to provide points of interest in the heart of the town and in surrounding open environments.

7.1 Policy direction

- ▶ The open space and public realm of Dimboola will be appropriately protected and enhanced to ensure that the features valued by residents and visitors are retained.
- ▶ Open space within the heart of the township will link with primary centres of community activity and provide a range of options for community social interaction, mobility and participation in community projects and initiatives.
- ▶ The history, heritage and culture of the township and its communities will be celebrated through sustainable projects that create interesting and engaging places and open spaces that are safe and welcoming.

7.2 Responses

7.2.1 Public art and streetscapes

- ▶ Development of existing and new *community services and civic precincts should include areas of public amenity* including open space, public art, bike racks and seating to provide for a range of destination and interesting and welcoming social connection points across the township.

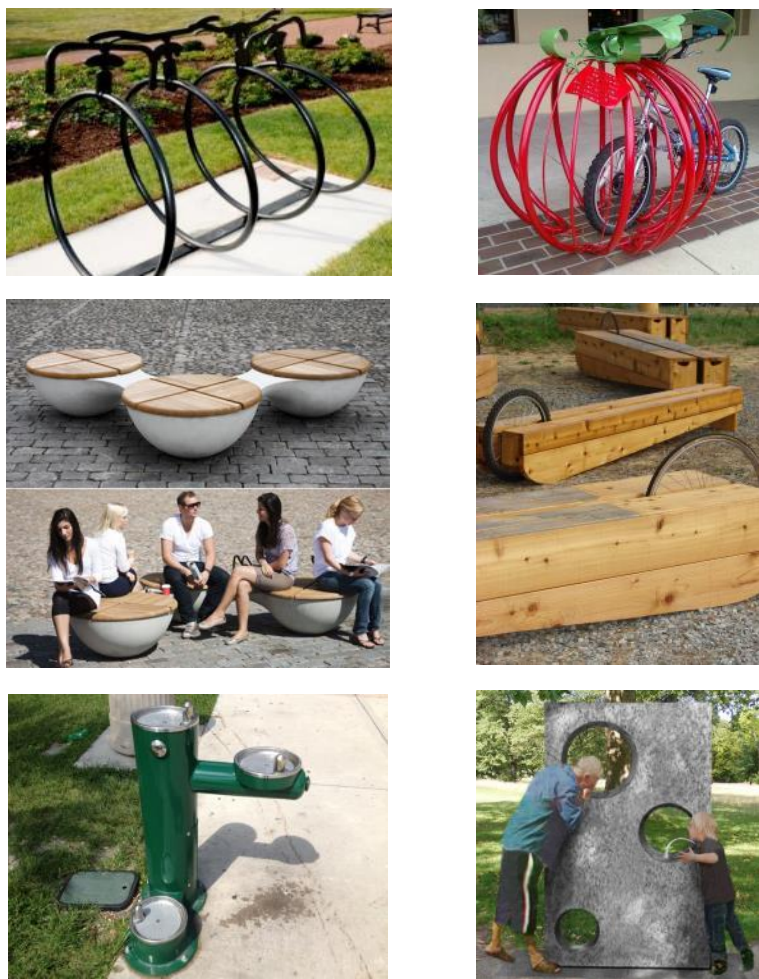


Figure 37 - Examples of street furniture and public assets

- ▶ A youth led project to create *community murals* has been well supported and would provide further points of interest and enliven focal areas of the main township commercial area.

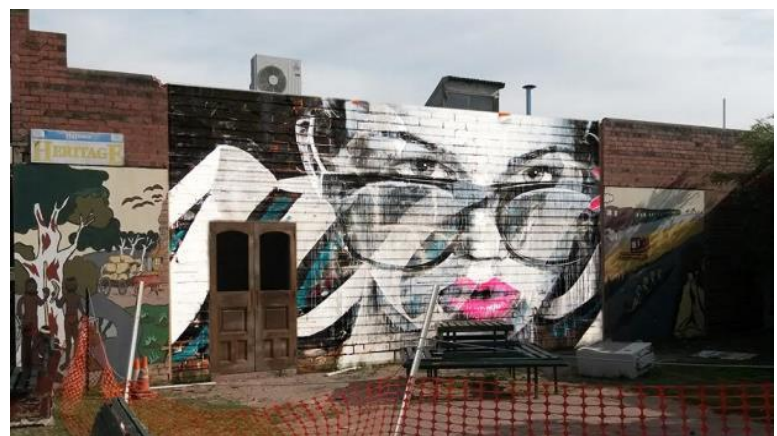


Figure 38 – Example concepts for community mural projects

7.2.2 Tracks and trails

- ▶ The highly valued river environment and the recent redevelopment of the Dimboola Caravan Park present opportunities to *continue to create a wider network of walking and cycling tracks and trails* that link the key activity centres and attractions of the township that then provide opportunities for greater use of the Recreation Reserve for a range of social activities and pursuits.
- ▶ With work currently underway on the Wimmera River Discovery Trail that will link important cultural, heritage and environmental features between Dimboola and Jeparit along the Wimmera River, the local network of trails should connect to the potential route in Dimboola.
- ▶ Improved amenity to open space and social amenity associated with the river including tracks and trails but also seating and other walking and cycling assets are seen as important by the community. These projects should build on the river and open

space works already underway or planned by the community and Council.

7.2.3 Information signposts

► Sharing of community information through noticeboards was a feature of discussions. Ideas for an installation near the current library were put forward. Appropriate design and placement will need to be considered so that the presentation of the library building and the adjoining open space fronting Lloyd Street is not adversely impacted.



Figure 39 - Various examples of community notice boards

7.2.4 Community garden

► The development of a community and market garden project is favoured by community members. A community driven project, this will be developed in the mixed use zone on the perimeter of the recreation reserve and link closely with the commercial centre and encourage pedestrian traffic along Lloyd street between the garden, the recreational reserve and the commercial centre.



Figure 40 - Forster Community Garden (Source - <http://www.fnc.org.au/forster-community-garden/>)

► The Garden could also from the 'back drop' to community events such as markets, learning activities and have a cultural link to local indigenous foods and the early Chinese and settler market gardens.



Figure 41 - Fern Avenue Community Garden (Source - <https://www.facebook.com/FernAvenueCommunityGarden/>)

7.3 Land use policy considerations

Activity/development	Policy consideration
Public art	Permission from property owner and no permit required if art work is carried out on behalf of public land manager Clause 62.02-2
Community garden project	Not applicable in most preferred locations. No permit required for temporary events on public land.

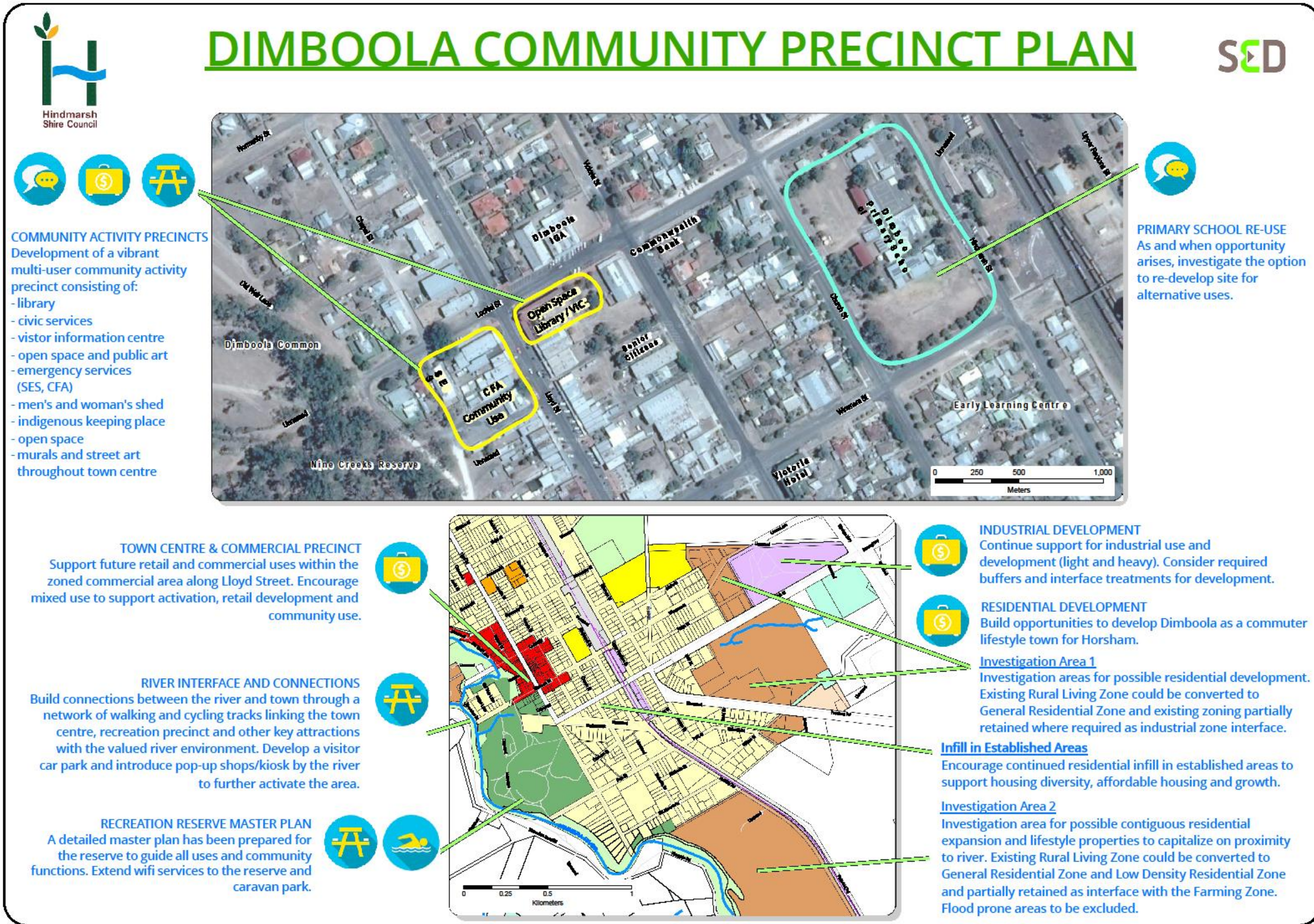


Figure 42 - Dimboola Community Precinct Plan

8. Implementation

The following framework outlines the key projects, priorities, project partners and timeframes to support the implementation of the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan. The reference numbers against each project or initiative refer to the section headings in the report and are in addition to the land use planning policy considerations previously listed with each theme.

Each strategic priority is supported by an action plan that outlines the primary actions, roles, partners and the primary role of HSC. The action plan also lists the priority and timeframes for actions as follows:

- ▶ Priority: H (High). M (Medium). L (Low).
- ▶ Timing: S (Short 1-2 years). M (Medium 2-5 years). L (Long 5+ years)

8.1 Roles and responsibilities

A key success factor for the management and implementation of the Precinct Plan is understanding the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders. It is not envisaged that this responsibility sits solely with HSC, although it will have a significant part to play.

Rather, the document recognises that the resources, skills and expertise of governments, businesses, communities and agencies all have an opportunity under the Plan to support economic and social change and be part of a collaborative and flexible effort.

Leadership

HSC has the primary function of providing strategic leadership as the local governing authority. This includes ensuring that there is broad awareness and understanding of the Plan, its objectives and actions, as well as having open dialogue with partner stakeholders and communities on mutual and 'individual' responsibilities.

There will be strategic areas of the Plan where other agencies or communities of interest will have a leadership role; in these cases, HSC or other parties can provide advocacy or support.

Advocacy

Advocacy is where an organisation or collective work together under a common cause or purpose that is of importance to individuals or communities. This may be around local or regional policy, government strategy, funding or promotion of the region within key markets. It is built on partnerships, collaboration and bipartisanship.

Support

This is where organisations and communities support the actions and direction of a project or agency that is not directly their responsibility and which may be undertaken by other entities or groups. The nature and level of support will vary depending on the initiative in place and the contribution it makes to the Plan and overall community good.

Facilitation

Facilitation is where groups and individuals have a major part in the overall planning, establishment and management of activity or action. It implies a level of responsibility and provision of resources but should still build collaboration and support with other partners.

Implementation

Implementation is applied when an organisation or group has a clear and direct role in delivering actions and resources. This can include planning, management and delivery of projects, developing policy and making decisions for and on behalf of (but in partnership with) stakeholders and communities.

Table 3 - Implementation framework

Initiative	Proposed action	Priority and timing	Partners	Lead	Council role
4: Community services and social infrastructure					
4.2.1: New library, VIC and civic hub	Pursue funding sources to support the planning, design and construction of the new facility. Facilitate discussions with land owners should the new building be located on land not held by HSC. Include community members in discussions on library and open space function and design.	H S	Wimmera Regional Library Corporation HSC Land owners	Wimmera Regional Library Corporation	Advocacy Facilitation
4.2.2: Community activity precinct	Work with the community on the development of a strategic plan for the proposed Men's Shed and the establishment of a community management association for the project. Liaise with relevant property owners on opportunities for securing facilities for a future Shed development.	M M	Dimboola community HSC Property/building owners	Dimboola community	Advocacy Support
	Undertake similar consultations with regard to a proposed Women's Shed and/or youth space. In partnership with the community, consider options for use of the vacated library building for community and/or commercial purposed.	H M	Dimboola community HSC	HSC	Advocacy Facilitation

Initiative	Proposed action	Priority and timing	Partners	Lead	Council role
4: Community services and social infrastructure					
4.2.3: Emergency services	Continue to liaise with the CFA and SES on the proposed development of new facilities in Dimboola. If appropriate or relevant to discussion, identify where HSC and these agencies can work together on identifying appropriate land or locations for these new facilities and opportunities for the community to take-up vacated properties and facilities. Facilitate timely land use planning processes to assist the lead organisations with development, management and planning. Ensure that the community is kept informed of development actions to foster community support.	H S	CFA SES HSC Land and property owners/managers Community	CFA SES	Advocacy Support
4.2.4: Current Primary School site	Maintain liaison with the Department of Education on possible future uses of the current primary school site, should there be consideration of relocation of the school.	Ongoing	Department of Education HSC Community	Department of Education	Advocacy Support
5: Economic and tourism					
5.2.1: Commercial and retail activity	Partner with the town committee and property owners on the promotion of Dimboola as a place to work and invest. Processes could include regional marketing programs, local and regional media and through Council marketing channels. Encourage property owners to maintain existing properties to provide for a tidy presentation of the main commercial and retail precinct. Facilitate timely planning processes to assist business owners and investors with business development opportunities.	Ongoing	Business owners and operators HSC Local media	Business owners and operators	Advocacy Support
5.2.2: Tourism opportunities	In close partnership with local communities, support the development of the proposed Indigenous Keeping Place. Develop a business case and supporting strategic plan to help ensure the longer-term sustainability of the project and to support funding applications for the project. Include consideration of backpacker accommodation in project discussions and other sources of income for the project over the longer term.	M M	Local communities of interest HSC Community	Local communities of interest	Advocacy Support Facilitation
	Promote Dimboola as a strategic location for niche food outlets and producers.	Ongoing	HSC Local and regional businesses Community	HSC	Leadership Facilitation
	Develop a local policy to advise and support the implementation of pop-up markets and food stalls, ensure inclusion of existing business operators, and minimise adverse economic and patronage impacts on existing business activity.	H S	HSC Local and regional businesses.	HSC	Leadership Facilitation Implementation
	Utilise the Recreation Reserve Master Plan to implement and manage the integration of new tourism activity within the Reserve. Continue engagement with Reserve stakeholders on project planning and implementation	M M	HSC Recreation Reserve stakeholders Community	HSC	Leadership Facilitation Implementation
5.2.3: Business and industry	In partnership with the community, undertake a feasibility study for the establishment of a Dimboola Creative and Small Business Incubator. Identify potential locations for the facility including options for integrating with other community initiatives such as the library and civic hub (4.2.1), vacant main street properties or within the community activity precinct (4.2.2).	M M	HSC Community Property owners	HSC	Leadership Advocacy
	Promote opportunities for uptake of the new industrial land and advocate for support infrastructure funding.	Ongoing	HSC Business owners/operators	HSC	Advocacy Facilitation
5.2.4: Residential development	Assess the future housing needs of Dimboola residents giving particular regard to the ageing of the population, the aspiration to retain older residents in the community and the promotion of 'ageing in place'. Review the planning scheme to reflect the key findings of the Precinct Plan particularly in relation to current land zoned as Rural Living within the main township and its appropriateness for this zoning.	M M - L	HSC Primary service providers Land owners Community	HSC	Leadership Facilitation Implementation

Initiative	Proposed action	Priority and timing	Partners	Lead	Council role
6: Sport and recreation					
6.2.1: Recreation Reserve	Progress design and funding for the new skate park and actively include younger residents in project planning. Incorporate where feasible and appropriate features and assets for the skate park that young people have placed high value on such wifi access, seating, drinking water and shade.	H S	HSC Recreation Reserve users Community	HSC	Leadership Facilitation Implementation
	Progress implementation of the Recreation Reserve detailed Master Plan (as detailed section 6.2.1) for the Recreation Reserve to help secure its longer-term sustainability, use and management. Convene a broad-based community oversight committee for the Master Plan with representation from all user groups.	H Ongoing	HSC Recreation Reserve users Community Wimmera Catchment Management Authority	HSC	Leadership Support Facilitation
7: Open space and public realm					
7.2.1: Public art and streetscapes	Work with property owners and the local community on opportunities for implementing a program of public art and streetscaping. Actively include young people in project planning and ideas gathering. Identify local artists, designers and makers for installations of art, street furniture and other installations to provide for economic outcomes and to generate and retain local interest in projects.	Ongoing	HSC Community Local artists and businesses	Community	Support Facilitation
7.2.2: Tracks and trails	Continue to plan and implement tracks, trails and footpaths that link local destination and points of interest and ensure linkages to the future Wimmera River Discovery Trail initiative.	Ongoing	HSC Community Land and property owners/managers	HSC	Leadership Advocacy Implementation
7.2.3: Information signpost	Consider the installation of a community noticeboard near the current library building to support promotion and sharing of community news and events and encourage local groups and residents to use the noticeboard for announcements and ideas sharing. Ensure the installation does not detract from the overall presentation of the library building and precinct.	H H	HSC Community	HSC	Facilitation Implementation
7.2.4: Community garden	Support the community should they wish to progress a community garden initiative in Dimboola. Investigate options for sites including the community activity precinct (4.2.2), Bi-centennial Community Park or within the Recreation Reserve as part of the Master Plan process. Ensure access to sustainable water supplies, accessibility and good waste management. Identify opportunities to create community event and social interactions as part of community garden initiatives such as markets, food swaps and growing and cooking produce.	M M	Community HSC Reserve committees of management	Community	Advocacy Support

9. Funding streams

The implementation of the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan will have a reliance on sourcing support funding and investment, primarily for government and agency sources. It is recognised that both HSC and the community will have constrained financial resources to put towards many of the projects but will be able to contribute time and a range of in-kind support to initiatives in addition to some funding.

The attraction of funding can be highly competitive particularly for small towns and for renewal projects that may not always have significant economic or employment outcomes, but which are still vital to small communities to retain and improve their liveability and services and to attract residents and visitors. This attraction of residents and visitors in itself can be economically and socially significant for rural towns and therefore renewal projects can attract funding support.

The Federal and State Governments have a range of funding programs to support planning, design, feasibility and implementation of projects including large central funds and departmental and project specific initiatives. Although these can be subject to political and budgetary cycles, it is envisaged that governments will remain committed to support local government and communities with funding for key projects and works.

There are also a range of philanthropic trusts and funds that can support community initiatives that align to fund objectives and guidelines, as well as opportunities to attract corporate and organisational sponsorship and funding support. Community groups as well as councils can be eligible to apply for funding with detailed application information provided within individual program guidelines. There are occasionally opportunities to advocate for community projects to other organisations and link to their strategic plans.

The following table provides an overview of key government funding streams, noting that they may be subject to funding rounds, contribution variances and budget/project allocations. It is therefore provided as a guide only.

Fund	Objectives	Criteria	Contribution
Visitor Economy (Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund – State)	Create new, or redevelop existing tourism and cultural assets that demonstrate a significant impact on the visitor economy. Projects must attract increased visitors to the region and deliver an improved experience for those who visit and reside in regional Victoria. Fund website http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/programs-and-grants/visitor-economy	Visitor Economy Stream: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects that showcase nature-based experiences Multi-use and single use trails New adventure of experiential tourism Enhance existing tourism experiences or remove barriers to growth Support regional Victoria as a year-round destination Cultural Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionally significant performing arts centres Regionally significant museums that manage extensive collections/archives Projects that enhance cultural experiences or remove barriers to growth of existing cultural sectors 	No direct contribution required although higher levels of co-contribution by the applicant will be more favoured.
Rural Development Program (Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund – State)	Assisting rural Victoria’s businesses and communities by investing in local infrastructure, creating opportunities for economic growth and enhancing the appeal and liveability of rural towns and surrounding areas. Supports projects that have the potential to stimulate economic activity in rural towns. Projects can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-purpose infrastructure such as business hubs, co-working spaces, community and event facilities Infrastructure links that promote recreation activity such as trails and tracks Heritage and cultural initiatives such renewal of historic buildings and sites, arts and cultural or resource centres Civic renewal to enhance liveability and improve business opportunities such as township entrances, streetscaping, signage and upgrading of open space Fund website http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/programs-and-grants/rural-development/guidelines	Will need to demonstrate how projects will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve economic performance Harness key regional strengths Improve the liveability and attractiveness of rural towns Enhance the resilience and competitiveness of the location 	Infrastructure fund capped at \$500,000 and project planning at \$50,000. Fund to applicant ratio: <\$300,000 total cost \$3:\$1 \$300,000 – \$500,000 total cost \$2:\$1 \$2:\$1 up to \$50,000 for project and strategic planning.
Stronger Regional Communities Plan (Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund – State)	Invest in community led initiatives and partnerships that create or enhance the conditions for economic growth and build resilient, diversified and sustainable communities. Will support initiatives under two program streams: Community Capacity Building and Population Attraction. Fund website: http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/regional-jobs-and-infrastructure-fund/stronger-regional-communities/srcp-guidelines	Community Capacity Building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage and provide opportunities for local community participation in the design and delivery of projects, processes and planning Address economic development challenges through locally-led partnerships Build the skills of people to participate in projects, processes and planning. Population Attraction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events designed to promote the benefits and abilities of the local area and industries Engaging communities groups to welcome new and potential families Develop marketing and promotion strategies for towns undergoing significant change Use existing networks to identify and promote employment opportunities 	Up to \$50,000 available \$3:\$1 Fund to applicant ratio
OurStreet Program (Business Victoria – State)	Available only to local councils to improve and upgrade capital infrastructure in local shopping precincts to make these areas more attractive and welcoming for residents and visitors, stimulating the local economy with greater shopping activity. Projects can include lighting systems, public art, gardens and planter boxes, seating, water fountains, visitor information or other signage. Fund website: http://www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business/grants-and-assistance/ourstreet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the physical amenity of local shopping precincts Encourage patronage of precincts through the creation of attractive, user-friendly spaces Support increased commercial and community activity Help deliver economic benefits through investment, jobs and thriving local communities. 	Matched \$to\$ grants of up to \$50,000 per Council over the life of the program. Can also include other contributions for project totals over \$100,000
National Stronger Regions Fund – (Federal. Rounds 1 and 2 closed. Round 3 not yet announced)	The desired outcomes of the programme are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved level of economic activity in regions; Increased productivity in the regions; Increased employment and a more skilled workforce in regions; Increased capacity and improved capability of regions to deliver major projects, and to secure and manage investment funding; Improved partnerships between local, state and territory governments, the private sector and community groups; and More stable and viable communities, where people choose to live. Fund website: http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/NSRF/	Provided for capital projects which involve the construction of new infrastructure, or the upgrade or an extension of existing infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment Criterion 1: The extent to which the project contributes to economic growth in the region; Assessment Criterion 2: The extent to which the project supports or addresses disadvantage in the region; Assessment Criterion 3: The extent to which the project increases investment and builds partnerships in the region; and Assessment Criterion 4: The extent to which the project and proponent are viable and sustainable. 	Matched cash funding \$4\$
2016-17	Helps to provide high-quality, accessible community sport and recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase or maintain participation 	Major Facilities – up to

Fund	Objectives	Criteria	Contribution
Community Sports Infrastructure Fund (Dept Health and Human Services – State).	facilities by encouraging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Increased sport and recreation participation including female and junior participation ▶ Increased accessed to sport and recreation opportunities ▶ Better planning of sport and recreation facilities ▶ Innovative, environmentally and universally designed facilities Fund website: http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/community-sports-infrastructure-fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Improve community health and wellbeing ▶ Encourage the development of multi-use, shared and co-located facilities ▶ Collaborates with schools and community groups ▶ Collaborates with state sporting associations or relevant peak bodies Priority will be given to communities in areas of need such as bushfires, flood or drought or communities experiencing strong population growth.	\$650,000 to develop or upgrade major district and regional sport and recreation facilities (total project cost >\$500,000). Funding ratio \$1:\$1. Small Aquatic Projects – up to \$200,000 to improve or upgrade aquatic facilities, seasonal pools and new water play spaces. Funding ratio \$2:\$1. Minor Facilities, Cricket Facilities and Femal Friendly Facilities – up to \$100,000 x 3 (project total <\$1m) available for community sport and recreation groups working with local council on development and upgrades to community sport and recreation facilities. Funding ratio \$2:\$1. Planning - up to \$30,000 for projects focussing on recreation planning or facility feasibility in one municipality. Funding ratio \$2:\$1.
Country Football and Netball Program - State	Provides funding to assist grassroots country football and netball clubs, associations and umpiring organisations to develop facilities in rural, regional and outer metropolitan locations. Fund website http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/country-football-netball-program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Modifying existing football and netball facilities ▶ Development or upgrading football and netball playing surfaces and/or lighting 	Up to \$100,000 per financial year. Funding ratio \$2:\$1.
Living Libraries Infrastructure Program 2015 – 2015 round now closed – State.	Will assist regional libraries and local governments to provide high-quality and accessible library infrastructure that meets the changing needs of communities. Fund website http://delwp.vic.gov.au/local-government/council-funding/living-libraries-infrastructure-program-2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Construction works and permanent fixtures and fittings ▶ Construction of new library facilities/buildings or conversion and upgrades of existing ▶ Funding where libraries form part of a broader community facility 	Up to \$750,000. No co-contribution required from small rural councils.
VicArts Grant	Invests in the creative endeavours and professional practice of artists and smaller arts companies. Provides one-off support for discrete proejcts and rprograms that will develop and bring dynamism to Victoria’s art sector. Fund website http://creative.vic.gov.au/Funding/Arts_Programs/VicArts_Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Creative Development ▶ Presentation ▶ Collaborations between Victoria Communities and professional artists ▶ National and international residencies 	Funding of between \$5,000 and \$75,000. Requests of >\$10,000 must contribute a minimum of 20% of total cost in dollars.
Arts Projects for Individuals and Groups – Australia Council for the Arts - Federal	Funds a range of activities that deliver benefits to the arts sector and wider public. 2016 funding rounds close 2 February, 7 June and 4 October. Fund website: http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/funding/new-grants-model/	Projects must demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Artistic merit ▶ Viability ▶ One of either Creation, Audiences, Access and Participation and International. 	Funding of between \$10,000 and \$50,00 available.
Mens Shed – 2015 funding closed – State.	Priority will be given to grant applications that demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ High level of need for the men’s shed in the community due to social and economic disadvantage or lack of community infrastructure ▶ Plan to attract community participants, create a positive environment and address issues of social isolation and disadvantage ▶ Significant partnerships and/or support from relevant community groups such as the local council, neighbourhood house or adult-learning providers ▶ Involvement of participants in the men’s shed development and delivery phases ▶ Strategic plan to sustain the ongoing operation of the shed. Fund website: http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-business-and-community/community-involvement/men-in-the-community/mens-sheds	Funds can be used to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Construct a new men’s shed ▶ Redevelop an existing building into a men’s shed or ▶ Co-locate a men’s shed into a multifunction community hub. Each grant application must demonstrate proof of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Land availability ▶ Community consultation including local men and a need for the men’s shed in their community ▶ Detailed design plans and an understanding of building permit and planning requirements ▶ Support from key community partners. 	Up to \$60,000 available in 2015 round. Fund to applicant ratio \$2:\$1.

Appendix 1: Community consultation summary outcomes

Community survey

- ▶ The demographic of respondents to the survey reflects the older profile of the community, which in turn is reflected in some of answers, the sport and leisure activities of residents and community priorities.
- ▶ There is a good level of uptake of services by residents in Dimboola, supplemented with accessing in services primarily in Horsham.
- ▶ The river and natural environment are of particular importance to Dimboola residents and visitors. There are strong divergent sentiments expressed, however, about the use of the river for water skiing.
- ▶ Development and enhancement of tourism appears well supported and the beautification of the main street to attract business is also of importance to the community.
- ▶ Provision of infrastructure and assets for older residents was a common theme – access, seating, wellness programs included. This was linked to many comments in relation to the state of footpaths, pavements and roads.
- ▶ Opportunities to promote Dimboola as a lifestyle suburb featured highly, including planning for new housing particularly around the river area.
- ▶ The primary listed sport and recreation pursuits are reflective of the profile of survey respondents (not listed in priority order):
 - ▶ Gardening;
 - ▶ Walking/hiking;
 - ▶ Non-purification – mainly age or fitness related;
 - ▶ Fishing;
 - ▶ Swimming;
 - ▶ Photography;
 - ▶ Local history;
 - ▶ Lawn bowls;
 - ▶ Cycling; and
 - ▶ Music/singing.
- ▶ **Primary community projects include:**
 - ▶ Community hub, cultural and function centre;
 - ▶ New or improved library facilities;
 - ▶ Development of assets associated with the river;
 - ▶ Roads and footpaths;
 - ▶ Planning for housing;
 - ▶ Main street improvements;
 - ▶ Recreational water supplies;
 - ▶ Development and enhancement of the Caravan Park;
 - ▶ Improvements to streetscapes, open space, signage and tourism promotion; and
 - ▶ Improvements to pavements particularly around safety of older residents and accessibility for people with disabilities.
- ▶ 112 people accessed and/or participated in the online and hard copy survey. 50 to 69 year olds accounted for 46% of respondents of which over 50% were female.
- ▶ Majority of respondents tends to stay in town for most services. But Horsham is their preferred choice for retail, business services, health and social/entertainment services.
- ▶ Community planning/ development top priorities:
 - ▶ New community centre;
 - ▶ Library;
 - ▶ Ski Club;
 - ▶ Tourism;
 - ▶ Roads.
- ▶ Improvement to community, and recreation & sport top priorities
 - ▶ Update facilities at football ground;
 - ▶ New community centre;
 - ▶ Enhance Nine Creeks walking tracks;
 - ▶ Ski Club;
 - ▶ Updated basketball stadium/courts;
 - ▶ Heated swimming pool.
- ▶ Most important community assets:
 - ▶ Hospital;
 - ▶ Emergency services;
 - ▶ Business and employment;
 - ▶ Shops and retail;
 - ▶ Schools.
- ▶ Main challenges facing Dimboola:
 - ▶ Lack of industry;
 - ▶ Lack of employment;
 - ▶ Aging population;
 - ▶ Decline in population;
 - ▶ Retaining youth;
 - ▶ Tourism.
- ▶ The majority of sport and rec activities are only participated 'very rarely'. The most popular activities are:
 - ▶ Gardening;
 - ▶ Wellness activities;
 - ▶ Walking.
- ▶ Over 65% of respondents are members of a club/group; Challenges facing their club/group:
 - ▶ Age of participants;
 - ▶ Lack of volunteers;
 - ▶ Declining membership;
 - ▶ Run down facilities.
- ▶ Reasons for not participating in sport and rec activities:
 - ▶ Lack of time;
 - ▶ Distance (too far to travel);
 - ▶ Health constraints;
 - ▶ Lack of facilities;
 - ▶ Age.
- ▶ Over 60% volunteer. Mostly at the Basketball Association, Football Netball Club and Bowls Club.
- ▶ Focus on improvement of existing community assets and community services, on budget to invest in a combination of recreational pursuits, and on investments to develop new assets for non-organised recreation.

► **Sport, recreation and leisure projects include:**

- Refurbishment of the Recreation Reserve facilities, including football grandstand, basketball facilities and general amenities;
- Skate park and children’s playground area;
- Development of walking and cycling trails particularly associated with the river;
- Heated pool facilities for recreation and health related activities;
- Wellness and fitness programs facilities;
- Sustainable management of the river including erosion, vegetation and compatibility of uses.
- Succession planning and attraction of volunteers and members are key issues for local committees and associations, as well as raising funds and finances for upgrades and maintenance of assets. There appears to be community support for integration of committees and co-ordination of recreation management.
- General community preference for maintaining and updating existing community assets and services, and an even split for investment in new assets between non-organised and organised recreation activities with a leaning towards development of facilities that allow for both type of activities.

Community conversations

- Primary focus of the community is on maintaining and upgrading existing assets and open space rather than investing in new.
- The key opportunities and land use themes from table-based discussion and mapping exercises included:
 - Development of the town as a tourism destination;
 - Planning for new residential sub-division land – relocation of Primary School to Sec School may open new land for residential or other uses;
 - Encourage new business;
 - Upgrades to sporting facilities including Footy Club room, pool and provision of a permanent skate park/BMX facility;
 - Backpacker accommodation;
 - Communal hub, Neighbourhood House, Men’s, Women’s and Youth Shed;
 - More opportunities to maximise the river;
 - New SES/CFA facility;
 - Community art in main street;
 - Footpaths for the High School;
 - Community garden.

Table 4 – Dimboola community projects sorted by priority ranking score 1

Project/idea	Ranking					Total Score	% of total score	Comments
	1	2	3	4	5			
Community projects								
Community hub / multi-use cultural and function centre	45	20	3	4		72	19.1%	Farming, cooking, woodwork, garden Youth centre Youth centre Including restaurant At Recreation Reserve incorporating sporting clubs Relocate football oval and amalgamate function centre with Rowing Club , Footy Club, A&P Soc.
Identify land for new housing development	15	16	3		2	36	9.5%	
Community garden	15		3	2		20	5.3%	Veggie patch
River side infrastructure – boat ramp, camp kitchen	10	8	6	2	1	27	7.2%	
Improvements to existing open space	5	12				17	4.5%	
Improvement to roads	5	8	12			25	6.6%	Gutters and bitumen. Lines. High School High School hill
Improvements to the Caravan Park	5	8	3			16	4.2%	
Main street improvements	5	4	6	8	1	24	6.4%	Businesses and upgrades - looks old Youth friendly
Industrial land development	5	4		4		13	3.4%	
Platform viewing tower	5		6		3	14	3.7%	Good idea - tourism
Activities and facilities for young people outside of sport	5		3	4	1	13	3.4%	Very important
Improvement to walking tracks and paths	5			6	1	12	3.2%	BMX track
Better signage and wayfinding		12			1	13	3.4%	
Sound Shell and music events		8		4	2	14	3.7%	
New business attraction to main street		4	3	4		11	2.9%	
Childcare facilities		4		2		6	1.6%	
Community events/festivals			12	4	2	18	4.8%	
Aged-care facilities / retirement housing			9		2	11	2.9%	Extension to Picketing Gardens
Walking/pedestrian bridge over the River			3		3	6	1.6%	
Restore and use railway building for community activities			3			3	0.8%	
New/improved library facilities				4	2	6	1.6%	Don't really use the Library
Men's Shed improvements						0	0.0%	
A Women's Shed						0	0.0%	Over 16 years old
Improved disability and aged access and assets						0	0.0%	
Health facilities						0	0.0%	
Total points	125	108	75	48	21	377		
Single vote count	25	27	25	24	21			

Table 5 – Dimboola community projects sorted by % of project on total points

Project/idea	Ranking					Total Score	% of total score	Comments
	1	2	3	4	5			
Community projects								
Community hub / multi-use cultural and function centre	45	20	3	4		72	19.1%	Farming, cooking, woodwork, garden Youth centre Youth centre Including restaurant At Recreation Reserve incorporating sporting clubs Relocate football oval and amalgamate function centre with Rowing Club , Footy Club, A&P Soc.
Identify land for new housing development	15	16	3		2	36	9.5%	
River side infrastructure – boat ramp, camp kitchen	10	8	6	2	1	27	7.2%	
Improvement to roads	5	8	12			25	6.6%	Gutters and bitumen. Lines. High School High School hill
Main street improvements	5	4	6	8	1	24	6.4%	Businesses and upgrades - looks old Youth friendly
Community garden	15		3	2		20	5.3%	Veggie patch
Community events/festivals			12	4	2	18	4.8%	
Improvements to existing open space	5	12				17	4.5%	
Improvements to the Caravan Park	5	8	3			16	4.2%	
Platform viewing tower	5		6		3	14	3.7%	Good idea - tourism
Sound Shell and music events		8		4	2	14	3.7%	
Industrial land development	5	4		4		13	3.4%	
Activities and facilities for young people outside of sport	5		3	4	1	13	3.4%	Very important
Better signage and wayfinding		12			1	13	3.4%	
Improvement to walking tracks and paths	5			6	1	12	3.2%	BMX track
New business attraction to main street		4	3	4		11	2.9%	
Aged-care facilities / retirement housing			9		2	11	2.9%	Extension to Picketing Gardens
Childcare facilities		4		2		6	1.6%	
Walking/pedestrian bridge over the River			3		3	6	1.6%	
New/improved library facilities				4	2	6	1.6%	Don't really use the Library
Restore and use railway building for community activities			3			3	0.8%	
Men's Shed improvements						0	0.0%	
A Women's Shed						0	0.0%	Over 16 years old
Improved disability and aged access and assets						0	0.0%	
Health facilities						0	0.0%	
Total points	125	108	75	48	21	377		
Single vote count	25	27	25	24	21			

Summary of Dimboola community priority projects

Community hub / multi-use cultural and function centre
Identify land for new housing development
River side infrastructure – boat ramp, camp kitchen
Improvement to roads
Main street improvements
Community garden

Table 6 – Dimboola sport and recreation projects sorted by priority ranking score 1

Project/idea	Ranking					Total Score	% of total score	Comments
	1	2	3	4	5			
Sport and Recreation Projects								
Skate Park	50	12	12	4	1	79	24.2	Open up the back of shed and blow and half pipe Please Please Please - near Stadium
Grandstand at football oval	15		3	2	1	21	6.4	A joint facility with the rowing sheds and netball courts
Sustainable management of the River	10	4	6	6	1	27	8.3	
Sporting facilities/activities for women	10	4		2		16	4.9	
Improvement to walking tracks and paths	10		6		1	17	5.2	
River side infrastructure – boat ramp, camp kitchen, bbqs/canteen, seating	5	16	3	6		30	9.2	Upgrade BBQ and boat ramp
Improvements to existing open space	5	4	3	2	1	15	4.6	
Integration of key sporting club committees	5			6		11	3.4	
Heated swimming pool		20	12	2		34	10.4	
Seating at netball courts		12	3	2	2	19	5.8	
Change rooms and other amenities at football ground		8	3	6	3	20	6.1	Netball and upgrade Incorporating change rooms for females _urgent
Improved facilities at swimming pool		4	3	2	4	13	4.0	Heating and monster for nights swims - radio.
Upgrades and improvements to basketball facilities		4	3			7	2.1	
Sporting facilities/activities for older residents			6			6	1.8	
Fitness, health and wellbeing activities including out of hours			3	2	1	6	1.8	
Combine bowls/croquet/tennis into one location			3			3	0.9	
Improved lighting at Recreation Reserve					2	2	0.6	
Improved lighting at recreation reserve(sq					1	1	0.3	
Indoor croquet facilities						0	0.0	
Total	110	88	69	42	18	327		
Count	22	22	23	21	18			

Table 7 – Dimboola sport and recreation projects sorted by % of project on total points

Project/idea	Ranking					Total Score	% of total score	Comments
	1	2	3	4	5			
Sport and Recreation Projects								
Skate Park	50	12	12	4	1	<u>79</u>	<u>24.2</u>	Open up the back of shed and blow and half pipe Please Please Please - near Stadium
Heated swimming pool		20	12	2		<u>34</u>	<u>10.4</u>	
River side infrastructure – boat ramp, camp kitchen, bbqs/canteen, seating	5	16	3	6		<u>30</u>	<u>9.2</u>	Upgrade BBQ and boat ramp
Sustainable management of the River	10	4	6	6	1	<u>27</u>	<u>8.3</u>	
Grandstand at football oval	15		3	2	1	<u>21</u>	<u>6.4</u>	A joint facility with the rowing sheds and netball courts
Change rooms and other amenities at football ground		8	3	6	3	<u>20</u>	<u>6.1</u>	Netball and upgrade Incorporating change rooms for females-urgent
Seating at netball courts		12	3	2	2	<u>19</u>	<u>5.8</u>	
Improvement to walking tracks and paths	10		6		1	<u>17</u>	<u>5.2</u>	
Sporting facilities/activities for women	10	4		2		16	4.9	
Improvements to existing open space	5	4	3	2	1	15	4.6	
Improved facilities at swimming pool		4	3	2	4	13	4.0	Heating and monster for nights swims - radio.
Integration of key sporting club committees	5			6		11	3.4	
Upgrades and improvements to basketball facilities		4	3			7	2.1	
Sporting facilities/activities for older residents			6			6	1.8	
Fitness, health and wellbeing activities including out of hours			3	2	1	6	1.8	
Combine bowls/croquet/tennis into one location			3			3	0.9	
Improved lighting at Recreation Reserve					2	2	0.6	
Improved lighting at recreation reserve(s)q					1	1	0.3	
Indoor croquet facilities						0	0.0	
Total	110	88	69	42	18	327		
Count	22	22	23	21	18			

Summary of Dimboola sport and recreation priority projects

Skate Park
Grandstand at football oval
Sustainable management of the river
Sporting facilities/activities for women
Improvement to walking tracks and paths
Heated swimming pool
River side infrastructure – boat ramp, camp kitchen, bbqs/canteen, seating
Change rooms and other amenities at football ground
Seating at netball courts



SED

SED