

**Ordinary meeting of the GOULBURN BROKEN GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE
on Thursday 21st May 2020, 10 am - 1 pm
Meeting held via Zoom**

Minutes

Attendees (Councillor and officer representatives)

Mayor Cr Marg Attley (Chair GBGA), Damien Gerrans, Cr Sarah Nicholas, Nathalie Cooke, Larissa Montgomery, Cr Leigh Wilson, Allison McCallum, Cr. Diane Shephard, Helen Jones, Cr David Atkinson, (deputy Chair GBGA), Elyse Kelly, Brendan Garrett, Cr Marie Martin, James Steinfort, Cr Rebecca Bowles, Amanda Priest, Mayor Cr Amanda McClaren, Molly Odgers, Greg McKenzie, Evelina Dudzinski, Robyn Nicholas, Bec Caldwell, Fiona Roberts, Kristy Roche, James Bramwell, Bronwyn Chapman

1. **Welcome by Chairperson, GBGA, Mayor Cr Marg Attley** **10 am**

2. **Apologies** Mayor Cr Danny Claridge, Brian Holmes, Cr Sophie Price, Cr Shelley Sutton, Mike McIntosh, Helen Wilson, Lachlan Campbell, Chelsea Cherry, Sharon Terry, Cr Aaron Scales, Cr Peter Tolsher, Andrew O'Connell, Rachael Gadd, Cr Dave Fuller, Kate Brunt, Cr Kat Bennett, Mark Verbaken, Scott Draper, Laura Campbell, Monique Tinoco,

3. **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

No conflict of interest was declared

4. **Endorsement of minutes from previous meeting (Thursday 19 February 2019)**

The minutes were distributed via email.

Also available on members section of GBGA website. (password Climateaction#7)

MOTION: That the Minutes for the Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance Ordinary meeting of 19 February 2019, as distributed, be confirmed.

That the Chairperson of the ordinary meeting of 19 February 2020 sign the minutes and certify that they have been confirmed.

Larissa Montgomery/Allison McCallum CARRIED

5. **Business Arising**

Refer to EO report on page 5.

The EO reported on two items

- Possible forestry opportunity – the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions informed the EO that significant funding has been allocated to the Gippsland area associated with closure of logging in State native forests to supply the Australian Paper mill. There may be a future opportunity for GBGA councils south east of the Hume highway with state forests also affected by the cessation of logging. However logging activities do not currently count as sequestration, but guidelines and rules to allow this are being developed.
- Communications Plan – the EO is drafting this and will circulate for assistance to a subcommittee including Cr Marg Attley, Cr Amanda McClaren, Larissa Montgomery and Robyn Nicholas.

6. Additional agenda items – call for additional items

CONSIDERATION OF AN EGM

Alpine Shire has completed its one year as Associate Member and has recently applied to become a full member. This is a welcome development. The GBGA Rules of Operation require that this be considered at an EGM, with three weeks' notice.

MOTION :

That members at this meeting, representing at least 30% of the voting members, call for an EGM to consider the application of Alpine Shire to be admitted as a full member of the Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance.

This EGM to be called for Thursday 11th June (time 3pm)

Cr Sarah Nicholas/ Damien Gerrans

CARRIED

7. Business Plan 2019-20 Quarterly Report (See attached) EO

Several items marked ** are included in further detail in this meeting.

8. Advocacy EO to report and discussion

The EO has worked with other Victorian Alliances and with Environment Victoria and the associated Healthy Affordable Homes campaign. This is a continuation of the advocacy support the GBGA adopted in the August 2019 ordinary meeting. The advocacy concerns:

- Housing standards and integrating sustainability initiatives
- Fire and COVID recovery programs

The key items and aspects of advocacy were presented and discussed at the meeting (see attachment).

a) **HEALTHY AFFORDABLE HOMES national advocacy**

There has been detailed work by multiple partners with advocacy due shortly. At this stage alterations in detail are not possible

Discussion by meeting participants

Members supported advocacy for the COVID recovery advocacy by the Healthy Affordable Homes (HAH) coalition. (indicated by the summary in column 2 in the attached table)

Members supported advocacy based on the actions in the HAH workgroups shown related to COAG work (indicated by the summary in column 1 in the attached table)

In future advocacy, members would support advocacy for a higher housing standard – 8 star

B) **BY VICTORIAN ALLIANCES RELATED TO COVID AND FIRE RECOVERY**

The purpose of this advocacy is to support integration of sustainability initiatives and features in projects and programs funded by State and Federal governments during recovery.

See attached table

Discussion by meeting participants

Members discussed and reviewed the type and scope of areas for advocacy. The table 'Advocacy Item 2' shows these comments. Key points were being clear about the target for this advocacy, needing extra council resources to manage programs, better to provide information to businesses and households, not council programs

ACTION EO to circulate a revised document of advocacy items

MOTION

That the GBGA support advocacy programs by One Million Homes and the Healthy Affordable Homes coalition in both COVID related advocacy and ongoing advocacy to inform & influence COAG work ‘Trajectory for Low Energy Buildings’ and associated work.

Cr Sarah Nicholas/Cr Di Shephard

CARRIED

MOTION

That the GBGA will join with Victorian Alliances in advocacy to integrate sustainability measures in programs and projects in fire and COVID recovery, and also for other disruption events.

Cr Leigh Wilson/Elyse Kelly

CARRIED

ACTION Further Advocacy : Member for Indi Helen Haines has released a discussion paper for submissions about a Renewable Energy plan for Regional Australia. The EO will investigate opportunity to advocate in terms of the principles supported in the advocacy discussion of this meeting.

9. Project Presentations Energy Theme

Victorian Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Network Business Case (EO)

Outcomes and Next Steps (see briefing notes)

In a survey conducted for the Business Case, councils around Victoria held different views about the involvement of their council in the provision of charge stations. The options for implementation reflect this with a range of options. Among GBGA councils, this could also be a barrier to participation in the implementation stage.

Discussion – the network needs to include appropriate charge stations in smaller towns

- economic development and tourism sections of councils need to be consulted
- implementation needs to encourage and allow business investment

ACTION – for EO

- forward a checklist and information to officers to assist identification of possible public and private sites for EV charge stations
- contact economic development units to encourage involvement
- prepare information for a policy discussion

BREAK

10. Project and Funding Opportunities

Project in development – Growing Cooler Urban Spaces

The EO outlined the project with a logic diagram. The elements and progress of the project were supported. (summary paper attached)

11. Governance

11.1 Alliance Committee Report

Larisa Montgomery (Chair)

The Alliance Committee met on Thursday 30 April and welcomed Cr Rebecca Bowles and Evelina Dudzinski to their first meeting. The main topic of the meeting was development of the GBGA Risk Assessment and Management Plan and compile actions for the Alliance Committee to manage risks.

Risk Assessment and Management Plan – discussion

The meeting considered that the criteria used to assess the risk rating for financial risks is not proportionate to the financial resources of the Alliance (ie a budget around \$100k, while the range of impact included in the risk table (ranging to a maximum of \$10 million).

ACTION: That the Risk Assessment and Management Plan be developed further by the Alliance Committee to examine the risk rating associated with financial risk and report to the Ordinary Meeting of the alliance in August 2020.

MOTION: That the Alliance Committee report be accepted

Larissa Montgomery/Cr Di Shephard CARRIED

11.2 Preparing for the next auspice Greg McKenzie

The Alliance Committee has mapped out a timeline of actions. The process has commenced, with all member organisations sent an invitation to express interest to auspice the next term of the GBGA from 2021-25.

12. Financial Report and Forward Budget

The financial report for 2019-20 indicates that there will be a surplus of about \$10,000. This accrues from a payment for project related work relating to the Main Road Streetlights study and savings in meeting and travel costs. The surplus will be transferred to the GBGA reserve. The 2020/21 draft budget was also presented. See page 13

The Alliance endorsed the forward four year rolling Strategic Financial Plan the AGM of 21 August 2019. This was based on an indexation rate of 2.5%. Councils have since been informed that the rate for 2020/21 is 2%. The Strategic Financial Plan has been updated to reflect this change.

MOTION That the Financial report be accepted

Greg McKenzie/Cr David Atkinson CARRIED

MOTION

That the GBGA four year rolling Strategic Financial Plan be endorsed

Greg McKenzie/Damien Gerrans CARRIED

13. Around The GBGA Region - Round table reports from each member
Refer to summary report attached

MEETING CLOSED 1.00 pm

- ACTION TABLE UPDATE

** for discussion – see agenda

Agenda Item	ACTION  Complete  in progress  not commenced	WHO	WHEN	
2019				
4 - AC may	Commence GBGA risk assessment And risk mgt plan – to be presented at November Ordinary meeting -revised to go to OM May 2020	LM, BC	**	
4 - AC may	Liaise with Falls Creek Alpine Resort to explore collaboration with GBGA. And potential for other alpine reports. (NB EO not able to make effective contact)	BC	ongoing	
8 AC may	Proactively plan the next MOU and auspice Draft a process and timeline to prepare for the next auspice Present to HRLGN meeting 28/11/2019	GM, BC	With AC ctee done	
8 AC may	Develop a criteria list to evaluate the relevance and suitability of any proposal for GBGA action	EO	TBD	
10 AC may	EO to organise Officer Working Group meetings of the Alliance Committee for 2019 as workshops developing discrete topics.	EO	WG July & Nov	
AC may	From discussion 20/5/2019 – Induction procedure/checklist for AC	EO	TBD	
8 AC oct	Draft logo guidelines to be presented to Ordinary November meeting for adoption	EO	21/11	
5 OM aug 8 AC oct	Modify evaluation of alliance committee and alliance to clearly relate to role and responsibility in the Rules of Operation.	EO	TBD	
7 AC aug & oct	Need to draft list for the next potential auspice organisation from the GSCC experience eg what problems or risks occurred and what processes put in place to respond – include in approach to members	EO, GM	Sent 15/5/20	
9 AGM Also 8 AC oct	ACTION The issue is referred to the Alliance Committee to resolve and approve amendment to the Rules of Operation to be considered at an EGM before the next meeting on 21 November	AC, GM	21/11	
8 - OM Aug	EO to produce an advocacy paper for the GBGA.	EO	TBD	
9 - OM Aug 5 AC oct	That the EO plan a lobbying campaign with a goal of State government budget provision of the RRV cost contribution for shared lights in an upgrade. Advocacy to State inquiry 13/2/2020–further advocacy with Vic Alliances	EO	As required	
OM 5 AC oct	Cool Streets and tree planting opportunity - EO to work with CVGA to scope project by November meeting Carole Hamond, Bronwyn Chapman and Robyn Nicholas to scope workshop and project about urban forests (delayed by COVID)	EO	** May 2020	
10 AC nov	Presentations about climate emergency for Ordinary meeting 21/11 EO to organise – Indigo, Shepparton, Wodonga speakers	EO	21/11	
OM Nov 2019	Make Communication Plan a priority, form small group linked to AC to assist EO, including Cr Marg Attley and Cr Amanda McClaren		**EO	

AGENDA 21/05/2020 Ordinary meeting – via Zoom

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT of Action Items from various GBGA meetings

MTG	ITEM	PROGRESS 2020	PROPOSED ACTION	Who	item
BUSINESS ARISING FROM ORDINARY GBGA MEETINGS					
Aug 21 201	That the EO conduct lobbying with a goal of State government budget provision of the RRV cost contribution for shared lights in an upgrade	Lobbied at Parliamentary Inquiry session in Wangaratta on 13/2/2020	Alliance Committee to consider further action	AC	
Aug 21 2019	EO to work with CVGA to scope project possibilities for urban tree planting project in 2019	EO has drafted a green assets project	Continue development	EO, officers	11
Feb 19 2020	Presentations and the transcript to the Vic Inquiry into Climate Change Action gives an opportunity to identify common themes and risks for council members as a resource. Another resource will be the DELWP roles and responsibilities work, which is intended for release after the new Local Government Act passes parliament in March. EO to organise report when this information available.	DELWP Roles and Responsibilities work due to be released in June 2020. Transcripts of inquiry hearings in Shepparton and Wangaratta are available. No further update from the inquiry.	Analyse and Include in planned advocacy document	EO	
Feb 19 2020	The EO is to investigate the forestry opportunity and its application to sequestration (including liaison with GBCMA, NECMA, and VicForests, and others). Item to be included in May ordinary meeting.	EO has pursued, first with Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions	Update at May meeting	EO	5
Feb 19 2020	The Alliance Committee has mapped out a timeline of actions and has prepared a Risk Assessment of the Alliance to be reported to the May 2020 meeting.	Completed by Alliance Committee (AC)	Report to May meeting	AC	12
Feb 19 2020	EO to prioritise development of the Communications and Engagement Plan in the action plan,.	Draft prepared for subcommittee of Cr Marg Atley, Cr Amanda McClaren, Robyn Nicholas and Larissa Montgomery	Refine and send to alliance committee for approval	EO	5

Meeting Schedule 2020

Officer meeting 12-3 with lunch	Alliance committee Benalla 10.30-12	Ordinary meeting 10-3 with lunch	School holidays
Mon 20/7 Benalla			27/6 – 12/7
	Tues 28/7	Wed 19/8 Wangaratta	
Mon 12/10 Shepparton			19/9 - 4/10
	Tues 20/10	Thurs 26/11 Benalla	
		Also AGM	
All officer representatives	Greg McKenzie Larissa Montgomery Robyn Nicholas Evelina Dudzinski Cr Rebecca Bowles	Councillors + officer representatives	

ATTACHMENT – ITEM 8 Part (a)

HEALTHY AFFORDABLE HOMES national advocacy (under umbrella of One Million Homes)

HAH is working (ongoing) to inform & influence COAG work ‘Trajectory for Low Energy Buildings’

The group is also advocating to federal and state ministers for measures in a COVID recovery

Working Group topic for COAG (also highlighted is current advocacy area - COVID recovery) Summary	COVID recovery advocacy Summary
<u>Mandatory Rental Standards</u> - This working group will develop a draft strategy to support the implementation of mandatory rental standards. COAG is developing a proposal over next 2-3 years. Propose interim action of grants to landlords to support efficiency upgrades .	Free energy audits+\$5000 energy upgrade (to landlord) \$460m over 2 years
<u>EE as Economic stimulus</u> - This working group will look at developing energy efficiency measures that could be rolled out as part of a jobs and economic stimulus package post COVID-19 crisis. Potential measures include; not limited to: upgrade energy efficiency in low-income homeowners (1.1 million low income households) Eg energy efficiency audits and upgrades, solar PV ~\$4k/hh	Advocacy to fund local councils and/or social organisations to coordinate EE audits, EE upgrades, PV? \$836m in 20-21; \$1254m in 21-22
<u>EE as economic stimulus</u> - As above for upgrade energy efficiency in public, community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing, (440,000 households) Fed and state responsibility	EE audits, EE upgrades, PV? \$336m in 20-21; \$502m in 21-22
<u>Other</u> - inform supply chain materials, GEMS appliances,(subsidies for energy efficient appliances), practical guide for household consumers	Low income efficient appliance offer (some states run this) Extend to all states
<u>Energy Efficiency standards for new Builds</u> – aims to develop a draft strategy to support implementation of more ambitious energy efficiency standards of at least 7 star rating.	- would support at least 7 STAR
<u>Measures for Vulnerable Households</u> - will develop a draft <u>strategy</u> to support the implementation of measures to improve the energy efficiency of vulnerable households that aren’t dealt with through mandatory rental standards in private sector. Vulnerable groups include, public, community, Aboriginal ,Torres Strait Islander housing,low-income home owners.	-
<u>Tiny homes</u> - Clarification around how these can be made more affordable and safe for disadvantaged	
<u>Retrofitting older style houses</u> to make them same and energy efficient	

ATTACHMENT ITEM 8 part (b) Recovery from Fire and COVID – how to include climate change progress

The Victorian Alliances have been discussing the co-benefits that can arise from the recovery investment and how to include climate related benefits. The EO has compiled this list, based in part on regional studies and GBGA projects.

What will gbga support? ** Add comment or expand after each items. ** Add extra items at the end

1. **Climate resilient projects for public buildings**, especially community halls and sporting facilities in smaller communities. This will produce efficiency savings in efficient lighting and heating/aircon systems, and use of solar hot water and 3kW solar panel systems. Community groups have small budgets and operational savings would improve their sustainability and their ability to assist the community. The projects would need capital assistance for purchase and installation. Such projects would help electrical and solar businesses get through the COVID period and help community morale.

1. Is this advocacy about funding for these projects, large scale programs would require resourcing. Larger upgrades may be required, solar hot water and 3KW solar is not enough. Insulation, batteries? Need an energy efficiency audit or advice.

Councils well placed to project manage such projects need resources

2. **Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging network.** Tourism in the region will take some years to recover from the double shock of severe fires and COVID shutdown. The statewide feasibility study 'Charging the regions' shows that EV access in the regions could generate \$25 million in tourism spend over 10 years as EV use increases. \$1.7M would make the Goulburn and North East regions of Victoria EV ready, with 1 x 50kw DC fast charger per municipality, and 4 x 22kw AC chargers per municipality. This would create jobs and capability in the installation process, as well as boost regional economies and tourism in future years.

3. **Climate resilient infrastructure.** In fire affected areas, councils and agencies will be rebuilding and repairing infrastructure. It is essential this infrastructure includes measures to make communities more connected and resilient during future extreme events. This includes incorporating local renewable energy/battery installations and improved communications. Infrastructure also needs to be designed for increased storm and runoff events. There could be opportunities to reuse stormwater to save precious potable water for community use during drought and periods of disruption.

AI replacement and new I/S needs to be FFP for future conditions

4, **Home energy efficiency.** Low income households often live in substandard thermal housing that makes households trade-off between hot/freezing conditions and paying energy bills. Low income households would be assisted by expansion of free Victorian energy efficiency scorecard home assessments in regional areas and provision of retrofit funding to improve thermal comfort and reduce energy bills. Could also include jobs for community workers to assist people with energy hardship. Many improvements will be installed by local businesses which will expand capacity of this sector in the region. Savings by householders would likely be spent in the local communities.

How well can these projects be delivered in rural communities - can be difficult to identify the opportunity

5. **Commercial energy efficiency.** Commercial recovery can be assisted through decreased operational costs using energy efficiency and solar/batteries . This will produce energy cost savings through actions such as efficient lighting and heating/aircon systems, refrigeration and cooking systems, and use of solar hot water and solar/battery systems. Sustainability Victoria has offered business information services in the past and these services can be expanded to assist business knowledge. Possible capital investment will assist businesses, which can utilise the increased tax write offs in 2019/20. Councils can assist through diverse contacts in the business community as a conduit for information.

Very hard to get business community along, don't get the uptake

Wodonga not keen on EUF, Moira has similar thoughts (often more difficult and not worth it for smaller projects), Benalla and Alpine same

Councils could provide technical assistance or in distributing info

6. **Victorian Energy Upgrades (VEU).** Household and businesses in rural areas do not have practical access to savings in the VEU program due to lack of access to accredited installers and local awareness; Victorian government can take steps to recruit and train local installers to increase uptake and give rural householders equity with urban areas.

Agree with statement above, local installers -administrative burden is too high for the smaller businesses. Using metro installers - can cause issues with follow up etc

7. **Capitalise the Community Capacity to Support Distributed Renewable Energy.** Particularly in north east Victoria, a community energy network is active with 15 community energy groups showing the strength of community backing for local renewable energy. A number of these groups are developing microgrid/battery renewable energy projects, some in association with Mondo Power. The development of Indigo Power and the recent fulfilment of a local share offering during the COVID shutdown demonstrates the strength of community support. This is a mature community energy network that can realise local energy projects. Structures such as extension of Community Power Hubs, more direct engagement through Solar Vic, and grant opportunities, could transform local energy provision to allow affordable and secure local energy, particularly focus on community hubs & social housing. This document link https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PnOR_uN6Myy-BOnBjCv3X1uhc8QnoyL9IWIZQqlsZyE/edit?usp=sharing

OTHER

Greening project ? Agriculture ?

Issues with flooding of areas in town with shorter extreme short events. Can the alliance work on advocacy on resilience / adaptation planning.

Better connected passive recreation.

Resources for resilience planning in strategic planning, and strategic town planning for all events

Build current and future opportunities for local trades and installers

Available options : VEU's and solar homes with energy efficiency measures, solar hot water, solar PV, Rebates that can increase purchase of appliances through local businesses

ATTACHMENT FOR IEM 10

- **Growing Cooler Urban Spaces (working title)**
- **Project Purposes/Objectives**

The project will plan and implementation, responding to the expected hotter, dryer climate future in the GBGA region. In urban areas, green infrastructure is a means to adapt public spaces and buildings for this climate:

1. Increase shade and cooling from trees and vegetation along streets to build attractive walking and active spaces in summer
2. Provide a high cooling amenity around key buildings and recreation areas, especially areas that can provide refuge on very hot days
3. Identify and plant climate adapted species that will suit future climate conditions, while also allowing winter warming and meeting the maintenance requirements of street trees, including watering
4. Build biodiversity opportunity of plantings, identifying corridor opportunities across the urban are (eg along linear features like creeks and connected parkways). This needs to be complimentary to the other stated objectives as street trees cannot always use ideal habitat species.
5. Develop mapping and a 10 year planting plan, giving priority in early years to vulnerable neighbourhoods (eg around facilities used by aged and children, high SEIFA, and areas identified in 2)

NOTES

Item 1 may be achieved using a target canopy area in urban streets and parks

Multi criteria analysis and mapping will need to include geographic location of key public buildings and parks recommended multi criteria analysis for use in heatwave, SEIFA information, age related facilities like care homes, health and education facilities, and opportunities for habitat corridors. Initial concept mapping will be shown in a framework plan.

Partner Organisations

GBGA is a formal alliance of the thirteen councils and two Catchment Management Authorities across the Goulburn Broken and North East regions of Victoria, committed to delivering actions to achieve climate change mitigation and adaptation and sharing initiatives that support sustainable, low carbon communities.

The member councils are Alpine, Benalla, Campaspe, Indigo, Mansfield, Mitchell, Moira, Murrindindi, Shepparton, Strathbogie, Towong, Wangaratta, and Wodonga, partnering with the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and the North East Catchment Management Authority.

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The member councils range from small rural to largely urban and fringe metropolitan councils with population ranges from 8,300 to 63,300. This brings a variety of council and community issues, but the GBGA links the partners to achieve a coordinated approach that enables a planned response to climate change impacts.

The partners bring the key knowledge needed to plan and implement this multi-faceted project that merges social, infrastructure and environmental factors.

REGIONAL PROJECT GROWING COOLER URBAN SPACES – LOGIC DIAGRAM

Objective

In future, streets and public spaces are cooler and attractive to use in the expected hotter climate

Purpose:

Each council plants trees and vegetation to cool urban areas, taking account of multiple outcomes of generally cooler street areas, cooler refuge areas for very hot days, tree suitability, neighbourhoods and places of high need and biodiversity opportunities

NOTES :
 Case studies
 Strathbogie shire
 Shepp council – urban greening strategy
 Other council planting programs
 Landscaping guide

Outputs/results:

1 Suitable trees selected
 – climate adapted
 - Maintenance
 - Other street tree factors

2. framework mapping developed for factors of location, social issues, heat refuge areas & biodiverse corridors

3. overall targets and planting plans developed

4. Demonstrate ongoing planting achievement and involve community

Activities:

Research of climate factors & suitable species

Define maintenance required for future climate eg watering

Design innovative watering systems

ID vulnerable neighbourhoods, locations & heat refuges

Analyse overall canopy suited to achieve general cooling

Mapping of street plantings for N-S and E-W streets, including summer cooling and winter warming

Establish measures of plating success
 tree canopy overall
 - no of target places
 - km corridor planted
 - water used

Monitor annual plans and reports to council and community

Promotion of planting to community to demonstrate practical outcomes

Overall framework plan for each township

10 year planting plan, with priority for key locations/neighbourhoods (by each council, not GBGA)

Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance Budget for 2019-20 & 2020-21 Financial year					
	proposed income budget from members			proposed income budget from members	
Current members					
Financial Year	2019-20*			2020-21*	
Alpine Shire Council	\$414			\$ 5,070.42	
Benalla Rural City Council	\$5,657			\$ 5,770.14	
Campaspe Shire Council	\$15,405			\$ 15,713.10	
Greater Shepparton City Council	\$26,563			\$ 27,094.26	
Indigo Shire Council	\$6,469			\$ 6,598.38	
Mansfield Shire Council	\$3,479			\$ 3,548.58	
Mitchell Shire Council	\$16,409			\$ 16,737.18	
Moira Shire Council	\$12,082			\$ 12,323.64	
Murrindindi Shire Council	\$5,740			\$ 5,854.80	
Strathbogie Shire Council	\$4,119			\$ 4,201.38	
Towong Shire Council	\$2,012			\$ 2,463.30	
Wangaratta Shire Council	\$11,346			\$ 11,572.92	
Wodonga Shire Council	\$16,164			\$ 16,487.28	
GBCMA**	\$0			\$ 5,227.50	
Hume DELWP**	\$5,125			\$ 5,227.50	
NECMA**	\$5,125			\$ 5,227.50	
Government Grant	\$3,180			\$ -	
Total		\$139,289			\$ 149,117.88
* +2.0% on previous year, ** CMA's + Hume fixed contribution with 2.0% indexation					
Expenditure	proposed expenditure			proposed expenditure	
Salaries & Oncost (EO 0.95 EFT)	\$106,800			108703	
Training	\$2,000			2500	
Contractors services	\$500			400	
Memberships	\$1,000			1000	
Periodicals, publications & Subscriptions	\$600			600	
Advertising & Marketing	\$1,000			1000	
Contributions	\$15,800			22158	
Streetlight Essential Services Commission submission	\$3,180			0	
Telephone & internet	\$600			382	
External Hire	\$800			820	
General Materials	\$800			600	
Software upgrades	\$400			500	
Catering	\$2,200			2255	
Travel	\$8,000			8200	
Total		\$143,680			\$ 149,118.00
subject to council agreement to join GBGA					

May 21 2020	REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2020 TO MAY 2020
ALPINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Action Plan development has been included in the 2020/21 draft budget • Waste Wise Events guide was approved by Council at the April OCM, plus draft Budget 2020/21 includes funding for infrastructure purchasing to allow support to be provided to our community groups to meet the requirements of the guide. • FOGO investigations are moving to a market test with these next steps approved by Council at the March OCM • Electric Vehicle Charging Project, we are moving to site selection processes, to enable us to participate in the market test when it progresses to this stage • Alpine has purchased its first hybrid car and is trialling it in our pool car fleet • Alpine confirms participation in the groups LED streetlight design project • Can this guide go to all councils?
BENALLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Energy Savers Stream 3 – 60kW solar system now operational on Library. Previous building upgrades demonstrating savings, especially solar on Senior Citizens centre. • Benalla Sustainable Future Group have postponed lodging petition with Council to make a climate emergency declaration • Renewable Energy Benalla continue to work towards a community renewable energy revolving fund • Winton Solar Farm now under construction, hoping to be operational early 2021, community benefits/grants should start this year. Community benefits (maybe grants) will be delivered in conjunction with Renewable Energy Benalla) • Clean Up Australia Day event held, around 30 volunteers, 2 wheelie bins of rubbish in and around Lake • Roadside Weeds and Pest program almost complete, 1-2 days work left • Successful in Communities Combating Weeds and Pests During Drought Round 2, agreements yet to be signed - success in this grant linked to drought indicators
CAMPASPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Echuca Stadium Solar Project is near completion. The roof holds 150 solar panels and the shed is under construction to house the batteries and inverters. The completion date is 30 May which will include a screen monitor in the stadium for the public to access the live monitoring and solar analytics. • The voluntary food and garden organics program has initiated a new advertising program which has increased the uptake of green bins to 69% of eligible residents to have a green bin. This has diverted 2,660 tonnes of waste going to landfill. The average contamination rate remains low at 0.25% (20/05/20). Messaging used were postcards to non-participants, billboards, social media; the campaign assisted by a grant from SV; there has been a 200% increase in uptake in 2019-20) • Roadside Weeds and Pests Program is almost complete. Woka Walla crew is currently undertaking rabbit control works on a roadside on a sandhill at Gunbower. • Business and School Clean Up Days were all successful and many of the last public events that groups hosted (prior to COVID-19)
INDIGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome back Jill Croome part time from maternity leave, and Sam Neidra part time to assist with Enviro & Sust project delivery

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISC Community Facility Energy Upgrade Grant CFEUG awarded for 2019/2020. \$20K in total towards building emissions reduction activities for community facilities – outcome 3 x solar, 1 x LED lighting upgrade. • Community Emergency (Action Plan) consultant has had to modify engagement approach due to Covid. Currently have an online survey out for staff and target stakeholder feedback. • Cap works energy efficiency program being delivered for financial year. Stand alone battery and solar completed for Beechworth Transfer station. Other project being delivered 15kW solar Rutherglen Library, Heater timers/lighting upgrades Beechworth. <p>Zoom with particular interest groups made submissions to climate action plan (about 30) – initial stage of consultation</p>
MANSFIELD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadside weed control works complete. • \$30K for Climate Action Plan and \$30K for Council building solar panels have been included in the Draft 2020/21 Council Budget. These fulfil relevant actions from the Environment Sustainability Strategy • No increase in 0.6FTE Environment Officer resource proposed. • Organisational restructure occurring.
MITCHELL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitchell Shire Environment Policy adopted at Mondays Council meeting!!! ** • Have sought quotes for solar system upgrade and ESD works on Greater Beveridge Community Centre • Updating website to better assist the community in accessing environment and sustainability information. This has included promoting citizen science opportunities than can be undertaken during Covid-19 restrictions • Exploring the possibility of implementing a Revolving Sustainability Fund • Investigating potential to increase uptake of recycled water • Continuing working relationship with Mondo towards DER projects • Visited Cherry Tree Wind Farm • Continuing working relationship with Mitchell Community Energy and BEAM Environment Group • Presented research on small-scale solar electricity adoption in Mitchell Shire, including which towns have the highest concentration of small-scale solar relative to their populations. Solar hot-water-heaters have evidently seen a significant uptake in the Southern part of the shire due to the growth in this region subsequent building requirement to meet 6-star standards (that mandates either a solar HWH or rainwater tank). Bulk-buy opportunities and potential grants were presented to Councillors as a follow-up request from this initial research. The Environment Team will use this research as the basis for a 'Mitchell Shire Sustainability Incentives' factsheet to share with the community and other teams. • Continuing work with Azility program. Quarterly Report presented to ELT and will be presented to Councillors • 2040 screening re-scheduled and will now be run online by DELWP, date TBD • Input reporting data into GBGA portal • Completion of the Roadside Weed and Pest program. • Mitchell adopted inaugural environment policy last Monday – involved all internal units – link https://cdn.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/general-downloads/Governance/MS-Environment-Policy.pdf
MOIRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy efficiency & solar projects – implementation of Corporate Emissions Reduction Budget (CERB)

	<p>CERB and its budget is a subset of the corporate emission action plan. Works setback by COVID as onsite assessments and audits restricted; moving to smaller scale projects LED upgrades for smaller buildings to complete works for 2019-20</p>
<p>MURRINDINDI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dindi Sustainable Living Expo was postponed due to the restriction on mass gatherings due to Covid-19. • The office staff have been relocated to work from home during the Covid-19 restrictions. • LGESP stream 3A has allowed for additional energy upgrades to be added to the Kinglake Office and Library, the installation of electronic shutters on the outside of the buildings high roofline windows. • A number of Clean Up Australia Day event held throughout the shire. • Completion of the Roadside Weed and Pest program. • Adoption of a new organisational Environment Policy** and Biodiversity protection in road works policy. • Unsuccessful in our bid for funding under the Communities combatting pests and weeds grant funding. <p>**Council’s role in environmental management as a land manager, regulator, strategic planner, advocate, facilitator and service provider, involves a range of services that impact in different ways on the environment. This Policy outlines the commitment of the organisation to protect, minimise impact to and where appropriate, enhance the natural environment in delivering these services.</p> <p>A full copy can be found on our website: https://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/Your-Council/Publications/Policies?BestBetMatch=policy d13b95b2-5146-4b00-9e3e-a80c73739a64 4f05f368-ecaa-4a93--7ad6c4867c1f en-AUb749</p> <p>The Biodiversity Protection in road works is more of a divisional policy that puts the onus on managers and staff in capital works and road works to actively consider and budget for environmental impacts, this also ties into our rural roadside code of practice.</p> <p>EPB is divisional policy in infrastructure and works teams to include planning at early stage of project with internal process, links to Roadside Code of Practice</p>
<p>SHEPPARTON</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Emergency Declaration and adoption of a 2030 Zero Emissions Target at March Council meeting. Now working on tender documents and advisory group creation planning for July 1 tender release dates; preparing briefs for assess GH emissions, and path to zero emission target 2030, brief for communications plan with community for Climate Emergency • Climate Change resource officer Darren Tinker 3 days a week to assist.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar PV installed at Aquamoves and Shepparton Saleyards • Currently obtaining quotes for future solar feasibility work – a further 12 sites will be considered. • Charging the Regions report delivered, and discussions commenced with Parking, Risk, Economic Development and Community Strengthening arounds potential issues and procedures. Preparing report for Exec to update them • Budget request for 2 new EVs and truck for next FY – awaiting approval. Charge Together program hosted by the Electric Vehicle Council of Australia has been very useful, with a number of webinars on fleet transitions and policies • Divestment of Council funds has been raised as a topic by Zero Waste Shepparton community group. Finance are reviewing their Investment and Cash Management Policy at the moment so great timing and also related to Zero Emissions Target. Content from Divestment session at 2017 Greenhouse Alliance conference including EAGA report very useful. • A number of very useful webinars from AgVic on climate and agriculture, ClimateWorks decarbonisation report • Stimulus Summit held by Smart Energy Council and Renew Economy • 2040 Screening at Kidstown • One tree per child planting is being undertaken by a contractor and will be supported by Work for Victoria if council is successful, due to covid-19: 8,000 planted so far, another 14,000 to go. Available land is becoming an issue. • Roadside management strategy to go out for community consultation later in the year • The Riverconnect program have been supplying some great content on Facebook – definitely worth a look! • Report going to exec meeting 20 May regarding joining Climate Emergency Australia – national group of over 70 councils and ACT government filling in networking gaps to share resources and knowledge for messaging and advocacy to Federal Government for rapid action on climate change. This a network that came out of the National Climate Emergency Summit LGA breakout session. The Network Development Group that formed from the summit to develop the group had their final meeting 20 May having finalised the governance documents and arrangements for 12 months. • Darren Tinker commenced in Climate Change Resource Officer role 13 May – 3 days per week for 2 years – extension of the Shepparton Statement platform and assist with external communication/engagement for climate emergency. • Step closer to developing own offset site with Greencap undertaking an asbestos audit on site and finding only a small amount.
STRATHBOGIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finished roadside conservation mapping • Formation of the Greening Euroa Project Steering Committee (recycling water pipeline for local schools and sporting fields) The GEP is a community led project. This is a 3 stage project – stage 1 involves water balance calcs and procedures for using recycled water. Include GBwater, schools GBCMA, the final goal is council implementation in the order of \$3.5m (stage 3). Dependent on grant opportunities. • Finalisation of RWPP for 19/20. • Continued involvement in the Vic local government PPA

TOWONG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .finished energy upgrades under the local government energy saver scheme
WANGARATTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual 'Spotlight Walk & Talk' event that involves educating community about nocturnal animals was held as a 'virtual' one this year and received good feedback, https://www.facebook.com/WangarattaCouncil/videos/3084079511638898/ • Part of the non-binding commitment to the Procurement Australia PPA to develop business case, due end of this month. • Community firewood depots opened on April 6th. Demand for firewood has been high. • Month long Instagram campaign was held to encourage people to get out into their backyard & learn about enviro/sustainability matters during COVID. • Scott Draper resigned as Sustainability Coordinator, to become Manager at Moira. • Application for \$696,000 for weed and pest animal control was successful under Federal Governments 'Communities Combating Pest and Weed Impacts During Drought' program • Work beginning on draft update to Roadside Conservation Management Plan • Environmental Sustainability Strategy draft completed, Councillor workshop to be held next week and further internal consultation.
WODONGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single use plastics policy was adopted on the 20th April 2020. Working with Albury City Council to achieve a Two Cities One Community approach to implementing the policies and actions plans (Albury Adopted theirs on the 27th April). Plastic Oceans have been engaged to assist with the delivery of their plastic free program. • Writing review on Sustainability Strategy this has been very time consuming due to the number of people to approach for actions and measures across council and with COVID-19 restrictions. Key learnings for the review is any strategy needs to include actual measures of success of action and quantitative targets • Assisting Gateway health with Wodonga Local Food Network and the production of the Food access Guide • Assisting the Early Years team with a building blocks grant • Working through Azility program to remove unnecessary accounts and I am fortunate to have a redeployed staff member gathering emissions data to gather additional baseline data, hopefully to 2013. • Investigating solar and batteries for the Wodonga Cube facility this is now with the projects team to project manage. • Prepared a Wodonga Council submission to the development of new guidance to support tackling climate change and its impact on health in municipal public health and wellbeing plans (MPHWPs). This submission showed very clearly that this is a comprehensive all of council plan and needs many operational areas to include their expertise. One of the suggestions from those that contributed to council submission was that there was an internal working group to ensure greater collaboration. It also pointed out that the wide range of impacts of climate change aren't well understood within several operational areas. • Preparing final stages and report with financials for the fruit fly grant.

<p>GBCMA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Cumming has been appointed the new Chief Executive Officer of the GB CMA, commencing 1st June 2020. In recent years Chris has been working in the Central Tablelands region of NSW as General Manager, Central Tablelands Local Land Services. • Stakeholder engagement continues, albeit remotely, on the renewal of the GB Regional Catchment Strategy. Over 150 people attended an on-line resilience session in May. There have been three sessions to date with a further two planned in the upcoming weeks. (See GB CMA website for details) The GB CMA has been very pleased with the number of people attending the sessions • The Drought Employment Program is well underway, employing over 30 farm and farm workers on a range of natural resource management projects across the Agricultural Floodplains of the Catchment. • The Regional Irrigated Land and Water Use Mapping Project for 2018/19 has been completed, with final Ministerial approval very close. Mapping of land and water use change in the GMID builds our understanding of how irrigation regions are adapting to reduced water availability. This information will be used to inform strategic and targeted land use planning, regional economic development planning and structural adjustment. The mapping will also inform strategic planning by Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) for infrastructure rationalisation and renewal, fit-for-purpose water services and financial sustainability. Continuation of the regional irrigated land and water use mapping program in the GMID will enable ongoing assessment and reporting of change. • The GB CMA has partnered with NE CMA to undertake a socio-economic analysis of the Catchment. This work is aimed at informing the renewal of the RCS, with a focus on how the catchment has changed and developing / refining the social-ecological systems to be incorporated in Catchment planning. • The GB CMA will be releasing an Insights paper in July outlining what has been learnt to date through RCS renewal engagement and provide a document for further consultation and engagement. • New CEO commences first of June – Chris Cumming • Add link to Paul Ryan workshops on resilience thinking !! relates to Catchment Strategy for whole catchment and partners/community
<p>NECMA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate work continues with the community of North East Victoria even with the self distancing rules reducing face to face contact. • A wine industry resilience plan is being commissioned as a result of the 2019 / 2020 bush fires reduced the quality and quantity of the crop with some growers losing their entire crop to bush fire smoke. Work has commenced on an adaptation plan that will support the Industry adapt to the ongoing risk of bushfires as a result of climate change and drought. • The water yield adaptation planning process a partnership with Goulburn Broken CMA has been delayed due to the current rules. Water agencies from across North East Victoria are planning to work through developing a scope for the development of a collective adaptation plan for the sector under a reduced water availability scenario. This has been delayed until 20/21, • An application has been made to the Bushfire recovery Victoria to support a leadership program concentrating on the effects of climate change and the capacity of communities to respond to natural disasters. The 6-session program is a partnership between the Australian Government, Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program and the Central Primary care partnership.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NECMA is presently developing its Regional Catchment Strategy using risk and resilience thinking to work through the current issues effecting NRM in the region. A socio-economic study is being undertaken in partnership with GBCMA. • Work is very much still underway to support fire effected communities respond to the recent fires and map a way forward. • Work is ramping up on the Ec5 funding round with some adaptation planning planned for the irrigation sector around resilience and change under a reduced water availability scenario. • Finally consultants have submitted responses to the brief for work with the regional dairy industry to look at adaptation to the effects of climate change. This work is funded through the 3CA DELWP grants and some additional funds from the Australian Government.
DELWP	<p>Climate Ready Hume activities are being rescheduled to online forms for RAS engagement through youth, community and partners engagement.</p> <p>‘What we heard’ Local Government Survey results have been distributed to participants and networks – Thanks to everyone who contributed.</p> <p>DELWP is continuing to support bushfire recovery, with shared links to Climate Ready Hume and renewable energy opportunities.</p> <p>(from BC – a summary of how consultation is going? Any patters in outcomes?)</p>
SV	<p>Link to new energy jobs fund \$1 million community renewables etc Round 5 https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/new-energy-technologies</p> <p>Webinar 29th May about revolving energy funds</p>