

GMCA AROUND THE REGION UPDATES AUG-NOV 2021	
ALPINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Action Plan was adopted on 8th of September. Committing Councils to net zero emissions by July 2023 for its corporate GHG emissions. • Recently Council; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Recognised that the world is in a state of emergency that requires urgent and sustained action by all levels of government; including local government – Noted the indicative roadmap for community climate action and allocates resources to determine and prioritise Community Climate Action Initiatives as soon as possible but no later than the 22/23 budget. • Engage Ironbark to complete the audit and project management services for the installation of 1,319 streetlights to LED's.
BENALLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part time Environment Sustainability Coordinator appointed (Bronwyn Chapman) while recruiting for ongoing officer • Benalla Council considered a climate emergency petition and resolved to consider it with a review of the Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan, and affirmed that all Council policies and procedures must account for climate change. • IN the last stage of grant funded weed and pest works for 2021.
CAMPASPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaspe Shire Council's Council Plan 2021-2025 and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan have been endorsed by Council. Great to see 'resilient protected and healthy natural environment' as one of four priorities of the Plan. • Both EV chargers are up and running after repairs due to a power surge during a storm. The <i>Charging the Regions 2</i> project is officially complete with thirteen local councils installing 23 chargers across the North and North West of the state. • An article about the success of Echuca's Basketball Stadium solar and battery installation was published in the <i>Climate Change & Renewable Energy Newsletter October 2021</i> from DELWP and ADAPT Loddon Mallee, the newsletter is available online. • Treatment for weeds continues under the Roadside Weeds and Pests Program. This spring, all rural roads have been surveyed and treated at least once. • The Goulburn Murray Valley Fruit Fly Area Wide Management Program was announced as a Winner of the 2021 Australian Biosecurity Awards – Community. This program operates across the local governments of Campaspe, Shepparton, Moira and Strathbogie. Queensland Fruit Fly is one of many pests that can increase their area of survival due to the warmer climate.
INDIGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing - Sam Niedra is Coordinator Environment & Sustainability (appointed FT in mid-August), Flo Meredith is Sustainability Projects Officer (0.4 FTE), and Helen Jones is on long-service leave until Jan 2022. Council will be advertising in late November for a Climate Change & Environment Officer, an ongoing 0.5-0.6 FTE position. • Our recent focus has been to maximise the return from our Trellis carbon accounting platform. This has involved Flo interrogating the system and addressing anomalies and vastly improved the accuracy of the asset information, alignment of invoicing with the appropriate facilities and NMI's, asset naming and groupings, plus a bunch of other stuff. Ultimately the accuracy / reliability and presentation of the information is now much better. • We are also now in the process (with Ndevr Environmental and Trellis) of automating our Scope 3 emissions – we previously only had Scope 1 and 2 emissions on Trellis, and Scope 3 emissions represent 75% of our emissions profile. That is happening now and by the end of 2021 we are aiming to have our 2019/20 and 2020/21 emissions data on Trellis. • Our 2020/21 community sustainability grants are currently being implemented, and we are nearing advertising for the 2021/22 program which will commit \$20,000 to supporting community organisations undertake energy efficiency and other sustainability initiatives. • Council submitted two applications to Sustainability Victoria's Community Climate Change & Energy Action Program (Stream 1) - we are yet to find out the outcome, hopefully soon.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's Procurement Policy has been updated to improve environmental sustainability considerations – e.g. GHG emissions and the role of contracted goods and services in reducing council's emissions. The document is on public exhibition via council's website until 19th November. • In October, Council (particularly Darryn Arnold, Building Maintenance Officer) supported Totally Renewable Indigo North (TRIN) to install a 13.5kWh Tesla solar battery to the Rutherglen Senior Citizens clubrooms. TRIN secured a Stronger Communities grant via the office of Helen Haines MP to purchase and install the battery.
MANSFIELD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's Climate Action Plan draft has been received and will go on public exhibition in the new year. • New environment officer appointment to be resolved very soon • Council is looking changing over all contracts to renewable energy via VECO or Procurement Australia • Have been successful in receiving a grant to undertake energy audits at both the Jamieson Hall and the Cubby.
MITCHELL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission made to DCAV funding opportunity for 2 x 25kWDC charging stations at the Broadford Civic Centre carpark as well as support for Evie's proposal. • ESD Policy for Council Buildings adopted by Council and associated standards endorsed • Council acknowledged we are facing a Climate Emergency at September Council meeting, allocating \$110,000 for the development of a Climate Emergency Action Plan. • RFQ out for rooftop solar at Broadford Leisure Centre • Joined the Cities Power Partnership in October • Planning a 'Sustainable Homes' day event for early next year in collaboration with Mitchell Community Energy. • Have set standards to increase our purchase of 100% recycled paper. • Have updated our website to include information on sustainable living • Part of CASBE 'Elevating ESD in the planning scheme' project • Community cycling consultative forum first meeting held • Developing Home Energy and Water efficiency auditing kits – to be loaned out at libraries • RFQs out for ESD assessment of SSAC/Kilmore Leisure Centres. Includes electricity, gas, and water • Investigating potential to join VECO • Held webinar on Platypus and planning next webinar on understanding household solar – engaging AEF • Special meeting of Council on Monday night a new Cr rep. on the GMCA - Cr Eldridge
MOIRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of financial year reporting completed together with completion of four-year strategy reporting (Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan 2018-2021) • Completed review of the 'Sports lighting' at Councils recreation reserves. Lux readings at each site have been examined to determine the existing safety conditions. Infrastructure upgrade recommendations and estimated costings also included • Investigating alternative water supply from Lake Mulwala for Yarrowonga Showgrounds Victoria Park complex • Developing project plan for LED light upgrade and solar system installation on the Numurkah Town Hall
MURRINDINDI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As new Auspice of the GMCA, finalising transfer of the Alliance and budget etc to Murrindindi ; and happy to welcome Carole who started as new EO in September. • Completed climate change risk analysis for Council • Continuing with initial stages of climate change action plan, including developing a community engagement strategy. • Currently installing solar panels on Yea Community / Pottery Shed in partnership with community group 2030Yea • Installation of EV chargers are currently underway at Kinglake – with 2 x 22kw AC chargers (each with 2 plugs) being installed, one at the Kinglake Library and one in the main street, as part of a streetscape upgrade project. AC chargers were deemed the most suitable for this location and project. • Murrindindi Shire Council has just joined the Cities Power Partnership

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<p>SHEPPARTON</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2030 Zero Emissions Plan – undertaken significant internal consultation and now developing action plan, aiming for adoption by end of 2021 • Climate Emergency Action Plan – undertaken targeted consultation, and draft plan currently in development for adoption in 2022 • Shepparton and Mooroopna DC chargers now operational, with multiple charge sessions to date • Submission to Victorian Zero Emission Vehicle Expert Panel • Submission to Market Facilitation Platform • Awaiting Minister approval for Climate Change and Energy audit grants • One Tree Per Child – preparation of major launch of program with John Dee • Tender awarded for Solar PV installations on 5 council buildings • Joined Cities Power Partnership • Sustainable Subdivisions Framework – re-engaging with project • Youth Climate Change Leadership Program grant, DELWP, through Council’s youth committee • Climate Change Officer advertised through end of November
<p>STRATHBOGIE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently undertaking community engagement for our Climate Change Action Plan online • Council plan has been adopted. • 4 Applications under the Climate Change and Energy Action Grants (3 for stream 1 and 1 for stream 2) Have heard back about stream 1 but not stream 2. • Naturally Cooler Towns has kicked off, some interviews already completed • Greening Euroa has a preliminary design. Lobbying plan has been adopted by Council and we are in the process of finalising the design.
<p>TOWONG</p>	<p>No update</p>
<p>WANGARATT A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on securing consultant for energy audits as part of the emissions reduction plan. • Renewable Energy Working Group is currently looking at options of sourcing council’s electricity from renewable sources. • Council has signed up to Plastic Oceans for 12 months (to start May next year) to help deliver workshops and behaviour change within council regarding single use plastic usage. • Awaiting response from DVAC grant. • Waterwatch training provided to volunteers & NECMA staff. • Communities Combating Pests & Weeds Program - Weed identification booklet in development & Contractors continue to deliver weed control works.
<p>WODONGA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewriting the Sustainability strategy for early 2022 • Working with consultants to develop evidence-based targets and action plan for rewrite of CCAAP by mid 2022 • Undertaking single use plastics audit at council owned and managed facilities 15 – 18 November • Albury Wodonga Sustainable Living Festival was successful despite the events being modified for current COVID numbers locally during week of 6-14 November many topics still available on line https://www.alburywodonga.gov.au/slf • Working for Vic. Sustainability projects officer has completed contract. • <u>Reusable Menstrual Products – Halve Waste</u> Menstrual products rebate link • <u>Cloth Nappies Vs Disposable Nappies – Halve Waste</u>

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<p>GB CMA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy has been approved by the GB CMA Board at their October 2021 meeting. The blue tabs on the strategy website (https://goulburnbroken.rcs.vic.gov.au/) have now been submitted to the Victorian Water Minister for endorsement. The project team will now start planning for the implementation of the strategy, including communication, engagement, and monitoring. A joint presentation with NE CMA on the Regional Catchment Strategies was given to Regional Development Australia – Hume on 5 November. There is a continued effort to build the number of individuals and organisations pledging to support the RCS. At last check, we have 40 individuals and 21 organisations. Letters were sent to partners, including Councils seeking pledges of support. The Goulburn Broken Catchment Biodiversity Strategy is being reviewed as part of renewal of Regional Catchment Strategy. A 'Biodiversity' theme paper is being written as part of DELWP requirements for RCS renewal. We are working with DELWP to deliver on Climate Ready Hume through the Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture – Goulburn Broken project. The project will deliver communication materials highlighting how local farmers are adapting to and mitigating climate change. The project is due for completion 30 May 2022, however additional services will continue to be delivered by partners into 2022-23. Five community projects and one university project have been funded through the project, identified through the Sustainable Agriculture Small Grants EOI round run in 2020-21. The projects are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milking regeneratively in the Goulburn Broken Catchment, Goulburn Murray Landcare Network Trial to measure the benefits of soil moisture and pasture growth from deep cultivation at Strathbogie, Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group Towards the future land management, Warby Ranges Landcare Group Soils ain't soils II, Delatite Landcare Group Engaging farmers to begin the carbon journey, Molyullah Tatong Tree and Land Protection Group Effect of shelterbelts on soil health and pasture production, University of Melbourne We will also be creating five short videos to share farmer actions, progress, and learnings in addressing climate change on their farms.
<p>NECMA</p>	<p>Activities that have been undertaken in the last period include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 workshops with wine industry participants about the effects of climate change on the future of the wine industry for each of the 5 regions in the North East. Workshops have been booked out with presenters Paul Ryan, Snow Barlow and Ben Rose all providing a broad range of commentary around the theme. A joint project with GBCMA on our water futures exploring the effects of climate change on water yield and how that will be communicated with the broader community. This is planned to be a 4-workshop series over the next 5 months. Presentations on the NECMA climate tool have been provided to the Walnut growers AGM and a couple of Landcare groups. The Alpine Valleys Dairy climate adaptation strategy has been completed and work is underway to access funding to support its role out.
<p>DELWP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intro – Climate Ready Hume team now consists of Daniel Cocking, Leah Cornell-Morrissey, and Chelsea Cherry as of 29 Nov A reminder that our Climate Ready Hume Community Mini Grants are open! Up to \$10,000 available to successful applicants! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team have been working with Greater Shepparton City Council and have begun the process of creating a Goulburn Youth Climate Change Leadership project. The program will run a four phase project beginning with youth consultation before running facilitation training. The Localising climate resilience in Hume workshops also began in the last week of October, working with ARUP and Enviroplan to explore the Business and Insurance Risks of Climate Change. Upcoming events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YDP funding - ARUP + ENVIROPLAN Scenario Planning workshop series <u>Link here for flyer</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop 1: November 24th 09:30am – 11.30am <i>Develop four plausible scenarios for the future of Hume</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop 2: December 8th 1:30pm – 4.30pm

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenario testing workshop • To register complete the form here: Registration Form • Please share information about this exciting workshop series amongst your networks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The NE Youth Climate Summit (Day 1-3) Indigo Shire Youth for Climate Action (ISYCA) is working with OzGREEN and a number of local councils in north east Victoria including the Indigo, Alpine and Wangaratta Councils and US (DELWP) to run a North East Youth Climate Summit for three days in December. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participants: Fully vaccinated participants aged between 12 and 30 from around NE Victoria are welcome ▪ Registration: https://forms.gle/ikHUKBZGCmEzdDXt9 ▪ Date: Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th December 2021 - 9.30am to 3pm each day ▪ Venue: Beechworth, specific venue TBD. • New CRH newsletter format
<p style="text-align: center;">SV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Business Energy Saver Program active across all of Victoria – bonuses worth on average \$1000 per eligible small business to upgrade equipment like hot water, cooling, heating, refrigeration. SV have engaged GV Community Energy and Indigo Power as ‘intermediaries’ to assist small businesses in the Hume region • Hume Community Power Hub, being delivered by Indigo Power in partnership with GV Community Energy. Active with various working groups and projects to help the community develop and install renewable energy and energy efficiency. • Premier’s sustainability awards – finalists announced - Premier's Sustainability Awards – 2021... Sustainability Victoria - register to attend the awards on the 23 November. Albury Wodonga Multicultural Community Events and Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board are nominated • Detox your home events are back on - Detox Your Home - Shepparton Registration, Sat 27/11/2021 at 9:00 am Eventbrite - please promote • Thanks to everyone who contributed to the SV2030 strategy via the engage.vic site. • James Bramwell will be back as Hume Regional Engagement Lead from 30th November – contact me about anything james.bramwell@sustainability.vic.gov.au