



Pyrenees
Shire Council

Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029

Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

Pyrenees Shire acknowledge the Traditional Owners past and present of the Wadawurung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Eastern Maar, and Wotjobaluk nations as traditional custodians of the land which forms the Pyrenees Shire. We recognise that sovereignty over the land has never been ceded, and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We are committed to honouring the customs, traditions and stewardship of the land by the elders and people of these nations and acknowledge their continuous connection and contribution to our land, water and community.

Pyrenees Shire Council commitment to child safety

Pyrenees Shire Council is committed to being a Child Safe Organisation and has a zero-tolerance position to abuse or harm to children, young people, or any other person.

Council is committed to creating a culturally safe environment where children feel safe, are empowered, valued, and protected – where all children have a voice and are listened to, their views respected, and provided with opportunities to contribute to the planning, design, and development of our services and activities that might impact them.

Intersectionality and Gender Equality

Council is committed to working within an intersectional approach, particularly through understanding characteristics that may result in a form of discrimination. We acknowledge that individuals often experience multiple forms of discrimination simultaneously, for example due to their gender, sexual orientation, age, disability status or ethnicity.

Council will continuously be focussed on how people experience any form of discrimination, through listening to communities that may be facing marginalisation.

We will deliver our programs and activities to be inclusive, which address discriminatory practices. This includes embedding not only gender equity, but other intersectionality impacts into our strategies and planning processes.

CoRE Alliance

Pyrenees Shire Council is a member of the CoRE (Communities of Respect and Equality) Alliance and supports a framework to prevent violence against women and their children.

CoRE asserts that our communities can be better places to live if we act together to promote positive change, where gender inequality and violence against women becomes an issue of the past.

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Our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029

Welcome to Pyrenees Shire Council's Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029, which outlines our priorities and objectives to improve community health and wellbeing.

It focuses on six key goals:

1. Increasing Healthier Eating
2. Increasing Active Living
3. Creating a Safer Community
4. Connecting our Community & Supporting Mental Wellbeing
5. Supporting our Population Through All Stages of Life
6. Being a Climate Resilient Community

Aligned with the World Health Organization's definition of health as "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being," this plan recognizes that health is shaped by our daily environments: where we live, learn, work, and play.

Council plays a crucial role in creating healthy environments through:

- Service and facility provision
- Public open space management
- Local law and policy development
- Leadership and advocacy

Under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (Act), councils are required to prepare a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MHWP) every four years, within twelve months after each general election of Council.

This four-year plan aligns with both Council's strategic objectives and the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023–2027 (see Figure One and Table One). It adopts a 'health in every policy' approach, influencing other Council plans and strategies.

Figure One –Strategic Policy Framework

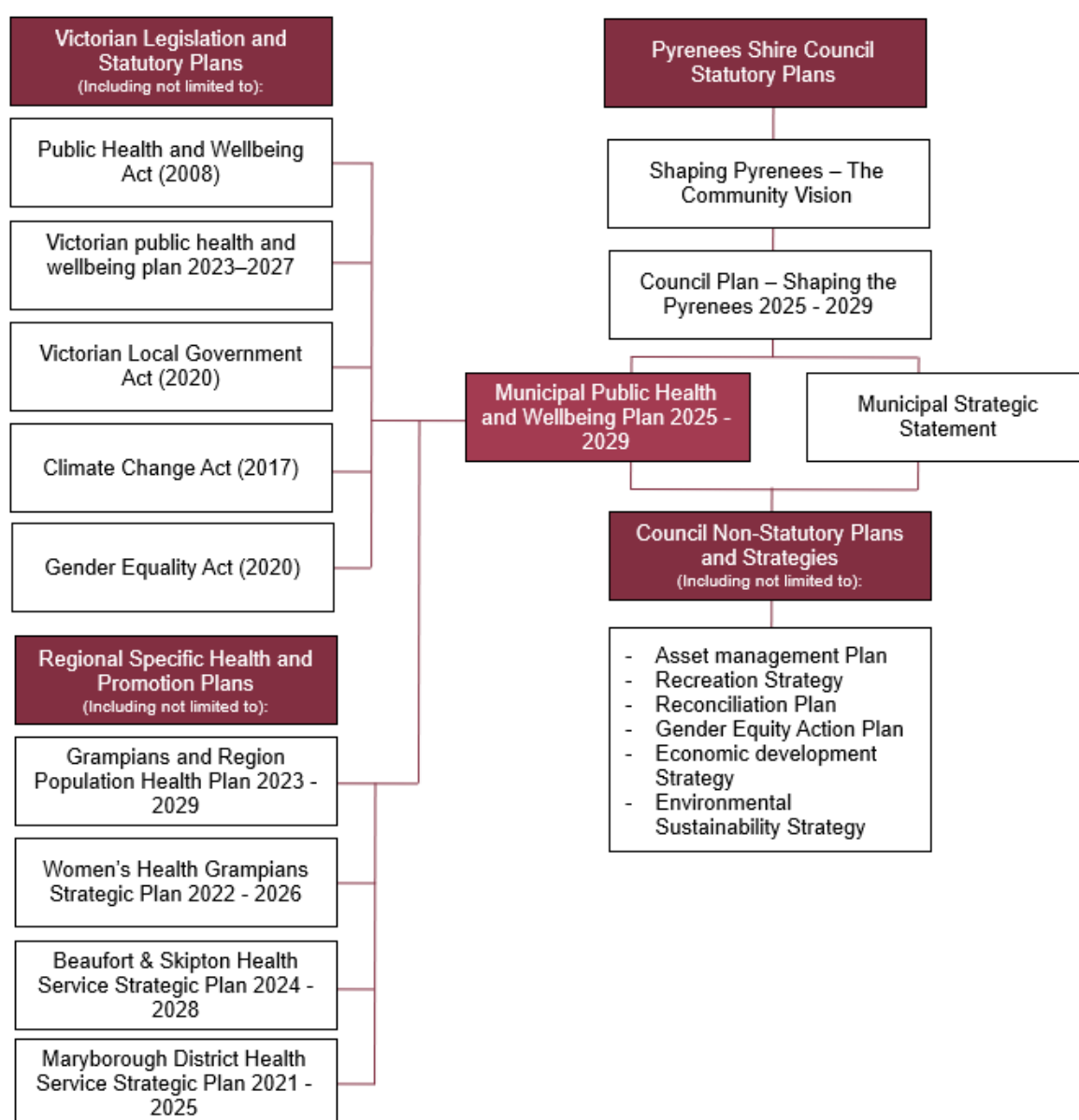


Table One: Top 10 Health and Wellbeing priorities – 2023 – 2027 Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

		Pyrenees Shire Council Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Priorities					
		Increasing Healthier Eating	Increasing Active Living	Creating a Safer Community	Connecting our Community & Supporting Mental Wellbeing	Supporting our Population Through All Stages of Life	Being a Climate Resilient Community
Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023 - 2027	Tackling climate change and its impact on health						✓
	Reducing injury			✓		✓	
	Preventing all forms of violence			✓	✓		
	Increasing healthy eating	✓					
	Decreasing antimicrobial resistance across human and animal health						
	Increasing active living		✓		✓	✓	
	Improving wellbeing		✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Improving sexual and reproductive health			✓		✓	
	Reducing harm from tobacco and e-cigarette use				✓	✓	
	Reducing harm from alcohol and drug use			✓	✓		

Our Places

Pyrenees Shire is located in the Central West of Victoria, approximately 130 kilometres Northwest of Melbourne. There are over 50 unique localities across the 3,435 square kms of the municipality.

The Pyrenees Shire is situated across traditional custodian areas of the Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Eastern Maar, and the Wotjobaluk Aboriginal peoples. Our municipality is spanned between the regional centres of Ballarat and Ararat.

Pyrenees towns and settlements are diverse and distinct, abundant with unique sense of place. Just over 50% of our population live within one of our 9 main towns or localities, with the remainder of the population living in rural locations.

Our geographically dispersed population means that smaller townships and settlements are important hubs for community activities, economic development and social interaction.

The landscape of the Pyrenees Shire varies from the very steep hill areas of the Mt. Cole, Mt. Buangor, and Pyrenees Ranges to the undulating flat open terrain around the Natte Yallock, Stoneleigh and Streatham areas.

The climate varies between the north and the south of the region. North of the Pyrenees Ranges there is a warmer, drier climate, with rainfall of about 650mm a year. South of the Pyrenees Ranges is a cooler, wetter climate with rainfall more than 750mm per year.

Our rustic rural landscapes support grazing, timber and forestry, wineries and an abundance of natural resources, windfarms, and renewable energy.

While we have a small population, Pyrenees Shire is custodian of an extensive range of community assets that it provides to facilitate delivery of services to the community.

(Insert Shire Map)

Our Community

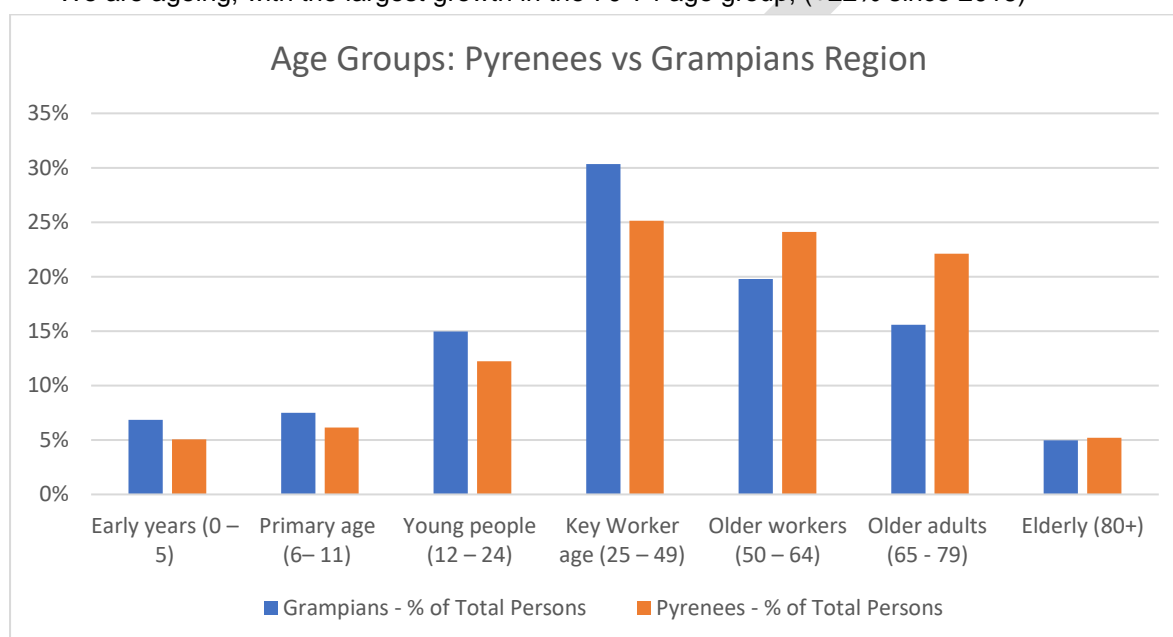
(To be presented as an infographic in final version – as at 2021 Census).

Our Population

- Total Population 7,671 - Male 52.1% / Female 47.9% ¹
- Population Change (2016 to 2021) - Increase 6% (431 persons) ¹
- On average 56 babies are born in Pyrenees each year (previous 5 years) ¹

Our people

- Our Median Age is 50 years, higher than Victoria at 38 years ¹
- Youngest locality - Carnham (44 yrs) | Oldest locality - Moonambel (63 yrs) ¹
- Babies, children, and young people make up nearly a quarter of our population ¹
- We are ageing, with the largest growth in the 70-74 age group, (+22% since 2016) ¹



Our diverse community

- 82% of residents were born in Australia. ¹
- 1.9% (or 144) of the population identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. ¹
- 3.8% (291) of adults identify as being LGBTIQ+. ¹
- 28.6% of residents are living with a disability ⁵ (Vic ave. 17%).
- 14% of the population, provide unpaid assistance to someone with a disability, health condition or due to limitations with ageing. ⁵

Our Learning community

- At the time of the census there were over 1,000 residents actively participating in learning. ¹
- 34.8% have completed year 12 or equivalent level of education. ¹
- 55% of the population have completed further education.
- 89% of young people (15 - 24) were engaged in full time education or employment. ⁴

Our Households

- 66% (1,964) of households contain families.
- Single lone households make up 32% (938) of all households.
- More than half of homes are owned outright (51%) and 12% of our population rent.
- With our rural outlook, 69% of households have 2 or more registered vehicles (Vic is 66% & Grampians Region is 70%). ¹

Our Wellbeing

- 36% of the population reported having one or more long-term health conditions.
- The most common long-term health conditions reported are Arthritis (13.5%), Asthma (9.9%) and Cancer (4.3% - including remission).
- 11.7% of the population reported having a long-term mental health condition (including depression or anxiety).
- 16.3% of our population participated in organised sport.⁵
- Leading causes of death 2016 – 2020:

Male	%	Female	%
Coronary heart disease	12%	Dementia	12.5%
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	8%	Coronary heart disease	7.7%
Colorectal cancer	5%	Cerebrovascular disease	6%
Prostate Cancer	4.5%	Lung Cancer	5.4%
Land transport accidents	4.5%	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	4.8%

- 2020 Pyrenees had 34 premature deaths, 21 (61%) of which were potentially avoidable with individualised care (preventative health checks) or through access to existing primary care or hospitalisation.
- Pyrenees residents are more likely to report a 'high' or 'very high' satisfaction with life than the Victorian average.
- Pyrenees has a socio-economic advantage and disadvantage index score (or SEIFA) of 959, which is ranked 63rd most disadvantaged local government area out of 79 in Victoria.

Our local economy

- Number of Businesses: 896¹
- Number of Jobs: 5,373¹
- 20% of the population had undertaken a volunteer role in the 12 months.
- 48.2% (Vic 62.4%) of the population is engaged in the Labour Force.

Data Source :

¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics, (2021), Region Summary: Pyrenees, <https://dbr.abs.gov.au/region.html?lyr=lga&rqn=25990>

² Victorian Population health survey, (2017), [Victorian Population Health Survey | health.vic.gov.au](https://health.vic.gov.au/victorian-population-health-survey)

³ Department of Health and Human Services 2018a, The contribution of risk factors to disease burden in Victoria, 2011: findings from the 2011 Australian Burden of Disease Study, State Government of Victoria, Melbourne, (2018), [Tobacco-free living | health.vic.gov.au](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/tobacco-free-living)

⁴ Social health Atlas of Australia: Victoria- local government areas of residence, published 2024(2024), Torrens University, <https://phidu.torrens.edu.au/current/maps/sha-aust/lga-single-map/vic/atlas.html>

⁵ <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/disability/disability-ageing-and-carers-australia-summary-findings/2018#:~:text=In%202018%20there%20were%204.4,years%20and%20over%20had%20disability.>

A Plan to support Community Health and Wellbeing

Our Health Plan is structured around six priorities:

- **PRIORITY 1 - Encouraging Healthier Eating:**
Our communities consume healthier diets with access to sufficient nutritious food and drink.
- **PRIORITY 2 - Increasing Active Living:**
A shire where people are leading healthy and physically active lifestyles.
- **PRIORITY 3 – Creating a Safer Community:**
A place where all residents feel safe, respected, proud and feel like they belong.
- **PRIORITY 4 – Connecting our Community and Supporting Mental Wellbeing:**
People throughout the shire are happy, fulfilled and engaged with their communities.
- **PRIORITY 5 - Supporting our Population through all stages of life:**
A place where everyone is supported to be confident in contributing to community life.
- **PRIORITY 6 – Being a Climate Resilient Community:**
A resilient community that supports each other, and the natural environment through climate challenges.

This is a key strategic plan that guides Council planning, establishing visible goals, and focused prevention and intervention strategies for health and wellbeing.

The Plan is presented within priority thematic areas that guide through the following:

Priority	The important themes that connect issues and opportunities to positively impact community health and wellbeing.
Outcome Statements	Expresses the future state on achievement of the priority's committed individual goals and strategies.
Wellbeing Statistics	Provision of current available data to provide an indication of the state of Pyrenees Shire wellbeing against nominated priority areas. They are structured within a strength-based approach to highlight 'where we are doing well' and 'where there is opportunity for improvement'.
Plan partners	No sole function of Council, community or other level of government can achieve the outcomes of this Plan for Pyrenees community. It requires a whole of community approach delivered in collaboration with community, community services, organisations, and health providers. This value is further articulated at Table Three.
Council Plan alignment identification	The Plan functions within a larger prevention system that both complements and strengthens health and wellbeing objectives in the Council Plan & Community Vision – Shaping Pyrenees.
Other relevant plan alignment	Strategic documents, produced by council and other important stakeholders that inform, or are closely linked to the priority actions and goals.
Priority Goals	Statements that set directions to address underlying issues or take advantage of presenting opportunities.
Strategies	Approaches that describe how Council and partners will implement Goals. The strategies connect to other ongoing services and priority projects, initiatives, and programs.
Outcome indicators	The data that is evaluated to monitor how well the Plan is progressing towards achieving its objectives.

PRIORITY 1 – Encouraging Healthier Eating

Outcome: Our communities consume healthier diets with access to sufficient nutritious food and drink

Good nutrition is essential for health and wellbeing because it helps achieve and maintain a healthy weight, protects against chronic disease (including cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, dementia, and certain cancers), and supports a healthy immune system.

Diets that are consistent with Australian Dietary Guidelines are beneficial for health and have a lower carbon footprint which supports our environment. This includes diets high in vegetables and fruit, and wholegrains, and low in highly processed discretionary foods. Nutritious diets also have clear benefits for good mental wellbeing across all ages and stages of life.

Food insecurity is a continuing issue that has been worsened by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the rising cost of living.

(Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027).

What the Health Statistics indicate:

Where we do well:

- Council is a part of the Grampians Pyrenees Goldfields Food Alliance Network Group that collaborates to reduce food insecurity, supported locally by the Avoca Community Food Pantry and the Pyrenees Beaufort Food Pantry.

Where there is opportunity for improvement:

- Pyrenees is one of the largest consumers in Victoria of sugar-sweetened beverages, with 25.4% of adults consuming sugar-sweetened drinks daily (Victorian Average - 10.1%).¹
- 17.9% of adults consumed snack foods or takeaways more than once per week (Vic 15.3%).²
- Of adults, only 5% met recommended vegetable and 36% fruit consumption guidelines. While this is in line with state averages, there is room to improve.³
- It is estimated that 35% of households were moderately or severely food insecure in 2023. On average 77% these households experienced this insecurity for the first time in 2023.⁴
- High rates of preventable chronic disease such as Type 2 diabetes, with 7.5% of males and 6.2% of females being National Diabetes Services Scheme Registrants (2019).⁵

Data Source:

1 - 3 Victorian Population Health Survey 2017 and 2020, Department of Health, Victorian Public Health & Wellbeing Outcomes Framework Dashboard

4 Ipsos | Foodbank Hunger Report Research 2023: National Key Findings Report

5 Grampians - Pyrenees PCP Community Health and Wellbeing profile 2020

GOALS	STRATEGIES	OUTCOME INDICATORS
1.1 Supporting healthy diets with access to nutritious food and drink	<p>1.1.1 Promote the use of the Healthy Choices Food and Drinks Classification Guide in both Council and community facilities, events, and catering contracts – with a preference to food and drinks within the green classification.</p> <p>1.1.2 Support suitable training and education around healthy eating, including growing fruit and vegetables and cooking programs.</p> <p>1.1.3 Work with partner organisations to promote water consumption messages and investigate the installation of drinking water refill stations in key public spaces.</p> <p>1.1.4 Work with community groups and asset committees in reducing promotion of sugar-sweetened beverages and layout of drink fridges, with preference to water.</p> <p>1.1.5 Support the regional Prevention and Population Health team working with local primary schools to increase healthy food options available.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of adults who meet fruit consumption guidelines. - Proportion of adults who meet vegetable consumption guidelines. - Prevalence rate of type 2 diabetes in adults. - Proportion of population who consume sugar-sweetened beverages daily. <p>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey.</p>
1.2 Increase rates of food security across the shire	<p>1.2.1 Provide support to the Beaufort and Avoca Food Pantries, and the Grampians Pyrenees Food Alliance Network to strengthen food relief supply channels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of adults who ran out of food in the past 12 months and could not afford to buy more. - Proportion of adults who worried that they would run out of food. <p>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey.</p> <p>Estimated number of Pyrenees residents provided with food relief through the Food Alliance Network.</p> <p>Source: Food Alliance Network annual baseline data.</p>

Key Partners:

- Avoca Community Food Pantry
- Ballarat Community Health
- Beaufort & Skipton Health Service
- Beaufort Food Pantry
- Belgravia Leisure
- Community Groups and Sporting clubs
- Department of Health
- Foodbank
- Grampians Health
- Grampians Pyrenees Food Alliance Network
- First Nations Corporations and Cooperatives
- Maryborough & District Health Service
- Neighbouring Councils
- Primary Schools
- Sport Central
- VicHealth

Council Plan Alignment

- Pillar 1: Supporting and growing Liveable Places, Connected Communities
 - B - Improve community wellbeing through accessible health services, active lifestyles, mental health support, and effective local laws that ensure safety and amenity.
 - D - Strengthen community outcomes by fostering partnerships, supporting volunteers, and encouraging civic engagement to build capacity and deliver improved services.

Other linked documents

- Beaufort and Skipton Health Service Health Promotion Action Plan
- Maryborough and District Health Service Health Promotion Action Plan
- Economic Development Strategy
- Environmental Sustainability Strategy
- Grampians Region Population Health Plan 2023 - 2029

PRIORITY 2 – Increasing Active Living

Outcome: A shire where people are leading healthy and physically active lifestyles

Regular physical activity is a well-known protective factor for preventing and managing chronic disease including cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and certain cancers. Physical activity also plays an important role in improving the quality of life, managing, and decreasing pain, and promoting mental wellbeing.

The benefits of active living extend beyond physical health. Regular physical activity (including active transport) improves mental health, helps to mitigate climate change, can reduce risk of injury, and improve reproductive health.

(Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027)

Council is aware that some groups may experience inequitable barriers to physical activity, such as women and girls, older adults, people with a disability and those experiencing social and economic disadvantage. We will continue to partner with our community to support opportunities for all to be sufficiently physically active.

What the Health Statistics indicate:

Where we do well:

- 16.3% of our population participated in organised sport in 2021, which is a marked recovery post the pandemic affected rate of 9.05% in 2020. ¹
- 20.6% of adults identified as sitting for 7 or more hours on an average weekday, this is less than the Victorian average of 26.5%. ²

Where there is opportunity for improvement:

- Less than half our population (40.2% of adults) were identified as being sufficiently physically active. ³
- There is a large portion of adult residents reporting overweight or obese (66.8%). ⁴
- 2.2% of Pyrenees adults were classified as sedentary. ⁵

Data Source :

¹ VicHealth – Sport Participation in Victoria 2021 Research Summary

²⁻⁵ Victorian Population Health Survey 2017 and 2020, Department of Health, Victorian Public Health & Wellbeing Outcomes Framework Dashboard

GOALS	STRATEGIES	OUTCOME INDICATORS
2.1 Increase levels of physical activity undertaken by Pyrenees Shire residents.	<p>2.1.1 Encourage and promote community participation in local assets, programs and events that encourage physical activity.</p> <p>2.1.2 Support our community to organise their own active participation programs, groups, and activities.</p> <p>2.1.3 Work with partner organisations to promote active living messages.</p> <p>2.1.4 Undertake review of Council's Recreation Strategy with a focus on active participation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of adults sitting for 8+ hours on an average weekday - Proportion of people who are physically active. - Proportion of people participating in organised sport. <p>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey</p>
2.2 Increase levels of physical activity undertaken by marginalised populations.	<p>2.2.1 Increase involvement in local sport through supporting clubs to provide an all age friendly, gender equitable, all abilities accessible and welcoming, inclusive, and healthy environments.</p> <p>2.2.2 Implement Council's Fair Access policy & action plan to encourage female and gender diverse participation in sport and recreation.</p> <p>2.2.3 Support the local Prevention and Population Health team and Regional Sporting Assembly to improve inclusivity in sports clubs.</p>	<p>Proportion of women and gender diverse people participating in sport.</p> <p>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey</p>
2.3 Provide public spaces and infrastructure that encourages active living, which is safe and accessible by all.	<p>2.3.1 Practice a 'place based' activation approach to the planning, design, marketing, operation and maintenance of parks, reserves, and community hubs.</p> <p>2.3.2 Plan and deliver upgrades and maintenance of council owned recreational facilities including swimming pools, ovals, parks, and open spaces.</p> <p>2.3.3 Provide and promote active transport networks to encourage walking and cycling and use of public transport.</p> <p>2.3.4 Influence increased use of local parks, trails and destinations through community and visitor promotions, tree planting and support amenity such as outdoor seating.</p>	<p>Proportion of people accessing local sporting facilities and participating in sporting clubs.</p> <p>Source: Council Sport Survey Data</p>

Key Partners:

- Beaufort & Skipton Health Service
- Belgravia Leisure
- Community Asset Committees
- Community Event Managers
- Community Sporting Clubs.
- Reserve / Hall Management Groups
- Department of Education
- Department of Health
- Department of Transport & Planning
- Land Care and Environment Groups
- Langi Kal Kal – Department of Justice
- Maryborough & District Health Service
- Neighbouring Councils
- Parks Victoria
- Pyrenees Arts Council
- Schools Cluster Networks
- Sport & Recreation Victoria
- Sport Central
- VicHealth
- Women's Health Grampians

Council Plan Alignment

- Pillar 1: Supporting and growing Liveable Places, Connected Communities
B - Improve community wellbeing through accessible health services, active lifestyles, mental health support, and effective local laws that ensure safety and amenity.
D - Strengthen community outcomes by fostering partnerships, supporting volunteers, and encouraging civic engagement to build capacity and deliver improved services.
- Pillar 2: Promoting a Diversified, Thriving Economy
C - Promote and support community events and the visitor economy to celebrate local culture, boost tourism, and stimulate economic activity.
- Pillar 4: Planning and Building Infrastructure for current and future needs
A - Plan, build, and maintain essential infrastructure – including water, waste, sewerage, roads, bridges, and community assets – to support liveability, resilience, and growth.

Other linked documents

- Beaufort and Skipton Health Service Health Promotion Action Plan
- Maryborough and District Health Service Health Promotion Action Plan
- Recreation Strategy 2017 - 2027
- Fair Access Policy & Action Plan
- 2023 -2032 Asset Management Plan

PRIORITY 3 – Creating a Safer Community

Outcome: A place where all residents feel safe, respected, proud, and feel like they belong.

People who experience violence are affected in all areas of their health and wellbeing, including poorer physical, sexual and reproductive health outcomes, reduced mental wellbeing and sometimes loss of life.

Violence takes many forms including physical, emotional, psychological, financial and sexual violence. It also includes coercive control, intimate partner violence, elder abuse or actions that limit someone's freedom and independence.

Our local context sees that environmental events such as bushfires, droughts and floods are common. Family violence and violence against women increases during and after natural disasters. (Victorian Public and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027)

Council recognises a safe and respectful community is one where all people feel welcome, valued and proud. We strive to be a community where all residents feel safe and empowered. Council will seek to support community awareness and practices that contribute to safer communities and roads.

What the Health Statistics indicate:

Where we do well:

- Crime incidences (offences recorded and victim report) are less than the state average per capita. ¹
- 74% residents feel safe walking alone at night (Regional Vic 64%, Vic 56%) 2017. ²
- There is a low number of reported people experiencing homelessness (<10) ³

Where there is opportunity for improvement:

- The number of family violence incidents has increased by 44.2% for the period December 2023 - December 2024. ⁴
- The rate of family incidents per capita in the Shire is higher than the Victorian average. ⁵
- 76.2% of the adult population consumed alcohol at a frequency and quantities that do not meet guidelines to reduce risk of lifetime alcohol related harm – 2017 (VIC 59.5%) ⁷
- There were 22 reported road incidents, with 44 number of people injured in Pyrenees in 2018. Of this number, 1 was a fatality, 9 experienced serious injury, 21 experienced other injuries, 13 not injured. ⁸
- Of the 24 social housing dwellings in the shire, 18 are one bedroom accommodation, with most tenanted by elderly single occupants. ⁹

Data Source:

- 1, 4 Crime Statistics Agency, Explore crime by location [available at <https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/> accessed 6 Jan 2025].
- 2, 7 Victorian Population Health Survey 2017 and 2020, Department of Health, Victorian Public Health & Wellbeing Outcomes Framework Dashboard
- 3 Housing Security Indicators, by Local Government Area – ABS 2023
- 8 Vic Roads 2019, Crash Statistics [available at <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/> accessed 17 August 2023].
- 9 Homes Victoria - Housing Data as at 30/6/2023.

GOALS	STRATEGIES	OUTCOME INDICATORS
3.1 All residents feel safe, included and are treated equally with respect and dignity, and are free from family violence.	<p>3.1.1 Partner with stakeholder organisations to provide support and promote programs that focus on respect, equality, and prevention of violence.</p> <p>3.1.2 Continue to support an organisational culture that promotes respect and violence prevention, and embraces Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.</p> <p>3.1.3 Engage in organisation-wide initiatives aimed at developing positive attitudes towards women, children, and any vulnerable community members, especially addressing the prevalence of family violence.</p>	<p>Number of programs conducted in the Shire. Source: Council Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of people who experienced discrimination. - Proportion of adults who did not believe that multiculturalism made life in their area better. - Proportion of adults who felt valued by society. <p>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey</p>
3.2 Provide social and physical environments that improve perceptions of safety and enable road and community safety.	<p>3.2.1 Collaborate to improve actual and perceptions of community safety through strengthening partnerships with Victoria Police, Department of Justice, Neighbourhood Watch and other local community organisations.</p> <p>3.2.2 Promote and develop initiatives that address road safety, including the 'L2P' learner driver mentor program.</p> <p>3.2.3 Provide safety inspections, Gender Impact Assessments and infrastructure upgrades that strengthen the safety of residents including roads and lighting of public areas.</p> <p>3.2.4 Continued to recommit to our membership and support to the Communities of Respect and Equality (CoRE) Alliance and Charter.</p> <p>3.2.5 Continue to support the safety, amenity, and health of the community through the education, administration and enforcement of environmental health, local laws and relevant legislation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of ongoing infrastructure upgrades in public areas. - Number of ongoing safety programs and initiatives delivered. - Annual outcomes reported. <p>Source: Council Data</p> <p>Enforcement of local laws - Importance and Performance. Source: Community Satisfaction Survey</p> <p>Monitor safety statistics within the shire. Source: Crime Statistics Agency, Explore crime by location [Online].</p>
3.3 Support minimisation of alcohol harm within the community.	<p>3.3.1 Seek opportunity to support drug and alcohol-free events for young people.</p> <p>3.3.2 Distribute information to young people and sporting clubs on safe drinking and encouraging alcohol free cultures.</p>	<p>Number of ongoing safety programs and initiatives delivered. Source: Council Data</p> <p>Proportion of adults at increased risk of alcohol related harm Source: Victorian Population Health Survey</p>

Key Partners:

- Alcohol and Drug Foundation
- Ballarat Community Health
- Ballarat Health Settlement Service
- Beaufort & Skipton Health Service
- Belgravia Leisure
- Central Grampians LLEN (L2P)
- Central Highlands Homelessness Alliance
- Community Groups and Sporting clubs
- Department of Health
- Department of Justice
- First Nations Corporation and Cooperatives
- Grampians Community Health
- Grampians Disability Advocacy
- Housing Victoria
- Maryborough & District Health Service
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Neighbouring Councils
- Regional Roads Victoria
- Relationships Australia (Ballarat)
- Rural Pride Australia
- The Orange Door (Central Highlands)
- Transport Accident Commission
- Victoria Police
- Women's Health Grampians
- Women's Resource Information & Support Centre

Council Plan Alignment

- Pillar 1: Supporting and growing Liveable Places, Connected Communities
B - Improve community wellbeing through accessible health services, active lifestyles, mental health support, and effective local laws that ensure safety and amenity.
D - Strengthen community outcomes by fostering partnerships, supporting volunteers, and encouraging civic engagement to build capacity and deliver improved services.
- Pillar 5: Community-Centric Leadership and Proactive Service Delivery
B - Work constructively and in partnership with individuals and communities to anticipate needs, solve issues early, and deliver outcomes that build trust and resilience.

Other linked documents

- Women's Health Grampians Strategic Plan 2022 - 2026
- Communities of Respect and Equality (CoRE) Alliance Charter
- Relief & Recovery Plan
- Gender Equity Action Plan
- Diversity & Inclusion Statement
- Pyrenees Projects Adverse Events Plan
- Fair Access Policy & Action Plan
- Relief Centre Operations Plan

PRIORITY 4 – Connecting our Community and Supporting Mental Wellbeing

Outcome: People throughout the shire are happy, fulfilled and engaged with their communities.

Growth in personal isolation and disengagement in some population cohorts has led to an increase in 'chronic loneliness'. Given the disparate geographic nature of the Pyrenees population, it is reliant on strong local communities and neighbourhoods, with means to access to social networks, services and facilities from a broader district and regional context. This is strongly correlated to mental wellbeing and links all other community priorities within this plan.

By prioritising good mental health and wellbeing, we reduce stigma, increase social connection, improve physical health, promote productivity and create safer environments. Our mental health and our physical health are linked. People experiencing poor mental health may be at increased risk of poor physical health and developing chronic health conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease.

(Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027).

What the Health Statistics indicate:

Where we do well:

- Pyrenees Residents report high levels of life satisfaction:

	Low/Medium		High		Very High	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Pyrenees	10.8%	8.3%	46.7%	60.3%	42.3%	30.9%
Victoria	20.1%	20.8%	50.8%	51.2%	27.4%	26.6%

- There is a high level of family support, with 93.1% of adults identifying they had someone outside of their household that they can rely on for care of their children in times of an emergency. ¹
- Over half of our population is connected outside of their household, with 58% having been involved in an organised group. ²

Where there is opportunity for improvement:

- 51.5% of our adult population feel valued by society and 31.6% of adults feel most adults can be trusted. ⁴
- 50.9% of our adult population report that they thought multiculturalism made life better in their area (2020). ⁵
- 22% of adults reported high or very high psychological distress in 2020, an increase from 9.8% in 2017. ⁶
- 19.7% of people aged 15 years and over did voluntary work for an organisation or group in 2021. ⁷

Data Source:

1, 2, 4, 5 Victorian Population Health Survey 2017 and 2020, Department of Health, Victorian Public Health & Wellbeing Outcomes Framework Dashboard

6, 7 2021 Census – Pyrenees All persons, Australian Bureau of Statistics.

GOALS	STRATEGIES	OUTCOME INDICATORS
4.1 All residents are respected and supported to be confident in contributing to community life.	<p>4.1.1 Design and implement a Community Planning Framework that supports community led responses to local engagement that explores solutions to longer term opportunities and aspirations.</p> <p>4.1.2 Scope a Diversity and Inclusion Framework that includes advocacy, education and promotes inclusive environments that embrace intersectionality.</p> <p>4.1.3 Work in partnership with the Indigenous community and local service providers to understand and develop solutions to priority health and wellbeing issues through Council's Reconciliation Plan.</p> <p>4.1.4 Deliver and support programs that promote volunteerism, local leadership, carers, better practice in community groups.</p> <p>4.1.5 Promote social inclusion and support the needs of the emerging LGBTQIA+ community.</p> <p>4.1.6 Support community leadership initiatives that build community capacity, pride of place and initiate local action.</p>	<p>Community Satisfaction Survey – Community Engagement Rating Source: Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey</p> <p>Voluntary work for an organisation or group. Source: Victorian Population Health Survey</p>
4.2 A socially and emotionally well community	<p>4.2.1 Deliver and support activities aimed at increasing community connections and reducing social isolation.</p> <p>4.2.2 Support accessibility of mental health support networks and services.</p> <p>4.2.3 Support approaches that facilitate mental health early intervention and postvention.</p> <p>4.2.4 Undertake a strategic process that reviews and advocates for transport solutions to improve access to social opportunities, service access, employment and education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percentage of population experiencing psychological distress. - Percentage of adults seeking help for mental health concerns. <p>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey</p>
4.3 Support environments that foster a creative expression in arts and cultural experiences and lifelong learning opportunities that build social connections and self-development.	<p>4.3.1 Encourage awareness of the diversity and value of local arts, learning and culture experiences.</p> <p>4.3.2 Support groups and initiatives that increase community knowledge and appreciation of our collective heritage.</p> <p>4.3.3 Foster community development and social connection through support of local service agencies alike Pyrenees Community House.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percentage of eligible population who are active library members. - Annual attendances in Resource Centres <p>Source: Council Data</p>
4.4 Council provides welcoming and accessible places and spaces.	<p>4.4.1 Improve accessibility of services, programs, assets and events (physical and digital) to people of all abilities, providing opportunities to participate equally alongside all community members.</p> <p>4.4.2 Support local Prevention and Population Health team to implement public intervention campaign</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of improvements - Number of Disability impact Assessments (or equivalent). <p>Source: Council Data</p> <p>Proportion of adults who smoke tobacco or vape</p>

	<p>promoting smoke and vape free areas and events.</p> <p>4.4.3 Identify ways to support the community's capability and capacity to sustainably manage local halls, recreation assets and community centres.</p> <p>4.4.4 Advocate for improvements to telecommunications and internet connectivity infrastructure that facilitates reduced social isolation and improved service access (particularly in times of emergency).</p>	<p>daily or less than daily (any current smokers and vapers)</p> <p>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey</p>
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Key Partners:

- Ballarat Community Health
- Ballarat Health Settlement Service
- Beaufort & Skipton Health Service
- Pyrenees Community House
- Belgravia Leisure
- Central Highlands Homelessness Alliance
- Community Asset Committees
- Community Event Managers
- Community Groups and Sporting clubs
- Reserve / Hall Management Committees
- Department of Education
- Department of Families, Fairness & Housing
- Department of Health
- Department of Justice
- Disability service providers
- Eureka Community Kindergarten Association
- First Nations Corporations and Cooperatives
- Grampians Community Health
- Grampians Disability Advocacy
- Headspace (Ballarat)
- Housing Victoria
- Maryborough & District Health Service
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Neighbouring Councils
- Historical Societies & Cemetery Trusts
- Reconciliation Advisory Committee
- Regional Roads Victoria
- Relationships Australia (Ballarat)
- The Orange Door (Centrals Highlands)
- Township Committees,
- Transport Accident Commission
- Uniting Care Ballarat
- Victoria Police
- Volunteering Ballarat
- Women's Resource Information & Support Centre
- Women's Health Grampians

Council Plan Alignment

- Pillar 1: Supporting and growing Liveable Places, Connected Communities
 - A - Promote inclusivity and accessibility for all life stages by creating welcoming spaces and supporting diverse social, cultural, recreational, and economic activities.
 - B - Improve community wellbeing through accessible health services, active lifestyles, mental health support, and effective local laws that ensure safety and amenity.
 - D - Strengthen community outcomes by fostering partnerships, supporting volunteers, and encouraging civic engagement to build capacity and deliver improved services.
- Pillar 2: Promoting a Diversified, Thriving Economy
 - D - Advocate for improved transport infrastructure, support job creation, and invest in workforce development to enhance connectivity and economic opportunity
- Pillar 4: Planning and Building Infrastructure for current and future needs
 - B - Eliminate communication blackspots and ensure all communities have reliable access to mobile, internet, and emergency services through strong advocacy and investment.
- Pillar 5: Community-Centric Leadership and Proactive Service Delivery
 - B - Work constructively and in partnership with individuals and communities to anticipate needs, solve issues early, and deliver outcomes that build trust and resilience.

Other linked documents

- Recreation Strategy 2017 - 2027
- Women's Health Grampians Strategic Plan 2022 – 2026
- Community Engagement Policy
- Victorian Mental Health & Wellbeing Plan

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PRIORITY 5 – Supporting our Population through all stages of life

Outcome: A place where everyone is supported to be able and confident to contribute to community life.

The health needs of individuals change as they progress through life, it is important to consider this as we foster an environment that promotes and prioritises health.

Council aims to consider and provide for these complexities, whether this is investing in the positive development of children and their carers and families, advocating for youth mental health and encouraging the connection of young people to their peers, or supporting our older population to maintain healthy and independent lifestyles.

What the Statistics indicate:

Where we do well:

- There is a high level of family support, with 93.1% of adults identifying they had someone outside of their household that they can rely on for care of their children in an emergency. ¹
- Only 2.9% of babies born were identified at a low birth weight 2020 – Vic 4.8%. ²
- 97.6% of children are fully immunised at 5 years old. ³
- Low rates of hospitalisation due to falls in older people. ⁴

Where there is opportunity for improvement:

- 14.7% of Pyrenees mothers smoked tobacco in the first 20 weeks of pregnancy compared against the state average of 7.7%. ⁵
- 22.8% of people aged 15 – 24 are not engaged in full time employment or education, almost twice the state average of 11.7% ⁶
- Pyrenees children have been benchmarked in alignment with State averages in the 2021 Australian Early Development Census. The one domain negatively increasing over time is in Language and Cognitive skills (literacy, numeracy, and memory). Additionally, there is some concern within the Social Competence and Emotional Maturity domain. ⁷

Data Source:

- 1,2, 5 Victorian Population Health Survey 2017 and 2020, Department of Health, Victorian Public Health & Wellbeing Outcomes Framework Dashboard
- 3 PHIDU, 2023
- 4 Department of Health 2023
- 6 2021 Census – Pyrenees All persons, Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- 7 Australian Early Development Census – 2021, percentage of children developmentally vulnerable.

GOALS	STRATEGIES	OUTCOME INDICATORS
5.1 Community has appropriate access to a range of services.	5.1.1 Advocate for increased access to medical, allied, social, and mental health services by mapping existing service networks and identifying service gaps.	Proportion of adults who were unable to access GP due to appointment availability Source: Victorian Population Health Survey
5.2 Families have access to quality and affordable Early Years services that provide children and young people the best start in life.	5.2.1 Provide accessible information for parents, carers and services through an annual Children's and Families Communications Plan incl. an online Early Years Guide. 5.2.2 Continue to investigate opportunities for integrated community hubs incl. childcare facilities / regular specialist and community services. 5.2.3 Promote existing Early Years spaces, such as Community Resource Centre's, that can accommodate a range of services and programs that connect families and children. 5.2.4 Work with Playgroups Victoria, to enhance provision of Community Playgroups and Supported Playgroups. 5.2.5 Monitor capacity and seek ways to close identified service gaps for families needing to access affordable childcare options, including long day childcare places, Family Day Care options. 5.2.6 Continue to deliver program opportunities for primary school aged children through Council's Resource Centres and other outreach programs to remote communities. 5.2.7 Work with local Health services and Family Child Health services to increase awareness in pregnant mothers on the harmful impact of smoking.	- Birthweight of babies. - Breast Feeding rates. Source: Victorian Population Health Survey - Participation rates in Key Ages & Stages visits. - Participation in Parent Groups and programs. Source: Council Data
5.3 Children, young people and families are supported to thrive through transitions between programs and organisations, including early learning and schools.	5.3.1 Continuously review planning approaches, funding options and advocacy for children's and youth services, including access to quality childcare, kindergartens, and schools. 5.3.2 Support transition between programs and organisations, including early learning and school, for all children and families. 5.3.3 Partner to investigate options and coordinate prevention and intervention strategies that focus on improving children's: 5.3.3.1 Physical health incl. play groups supporting access to information on the importance of healthy eating, physical activity, oral health and sun protection. 5.3.3.2 Social competence and emotional maturity incl. Council delivered and supported play groups that provide confidence through play experiences	- Australian Early Development Census domain results incl. proportion of children ready for school. - Kindergarten participation rate (in 3- and 4-year-old kinder) Source: Australian Early Development Index Number of disengaged young people Source: Census Data

	<p>and enhance early learning and development.</p> <p>5.3.3.4 Communication skills incl. programming at Council's Resource Centres such as Children's Week, National Simultaneous Story-time, School Holiday Programs.</p> <p>5.3.4 Develop a Youth Engagement Framework to involve young people in decision making in the issues that matter to them.</p> <p>5.3.5 Provide programming that promotes opportunities and events for young people to engage with their peers and the wider community within the shire.</p>	
5.4 Fostering an inclusive and respectful ageing community that benefits from sharing knowledge, experience and contributions.	<p>5.4.1 Implement initiatives that recognise and celebrate Pyrenees as an aged friendly and inclusive community.</p> <p>5.4.2 Foster community attitudes that welcome the participation of people with a disability and older residents, which respects and values their needs, experiences and contributions.</p> <p>5.4.3 Advocate to service organisations and community, to promote and advance the inclusion of older adults, people with a disability and families/carers.</p> <p>5.4.4 Engage, support and empower older adults to identify and lead community driven action that promotes connection and independence.</p>	<p>Participation rates in community events, groups, programs, and activities.</p> <p>Source: Council Data</p>
5.5 A positive and socially inclusive community where the population actively ages through social connections.	<p>5.5.1 Provide guidance to new and existing groups and activities that support positive ageing, particularly those residents most vulnerable to inactivity and isolation.</p> <p>5.5.2 Encourage inclusion, community involvement and connections through opportunities for older people to meet and socialise in their neighbourhoods.</p> <p>5.5.3 Support and promote opportunities for older adults and those with a disability to access meaningful volunteering and or paid employment.</p>	<p>Proportion of adults experiencing loneliness</p> <p>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey</p>
5.6 A positive ageing community that can easily access information and find supports to stay safe, connected and informed.	<p>5.6.1 Design community engagement plans and practises, that recognise the diverse needs of older adults, and people with a disability, specifically addressing hard to reach residents.</p> <p>5.6.2 Continuously improve communication channels that grows awareness of local support services and connection to social engagement groups and opportunities.</p> <p>5.6.3 Ensure older adults can access emergency planning information to empower them to make safe decisions regarding their individual circumstance.</p> <p>5.6.4 Support older adults to access and to embrace the use of digital technology, including digital literacy through mobile devices.</p>	<p>Number of programs and initiatives conducted in the Shire.</p> <p>Source: Council Data</p>

<p>5.7 Community places and spaces can be accessed, are safe, inclusive, which enable use by all people of all ages and abilities.</p>	<p>5.7.1 Consider diverse needs and all abilities access in delivery of inclusive, safe and accessible services, facilities, and community planning.</p> <p>5.7.2 Partner to improve the health and emotional wellbeing needs of older adults, those with a disability and carers, especially connecting remote residents to health and medical services, employment, entertainment and retail opportunities.</p> <p>5.7.3 Strengthen relationships with partners and service providers to identify opportunities and priorities in the coordination of aged care and other services.</p>	<p>Accessibility audit completed Source: Council Data</p>
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Key Partners:

- Ballarat Community Health
- Ballarat Health Settlement Service
- Ballarat YMCA
- Beaufort & Skipton Health Service
- Pyrenees Community House
- Belgravia Leisure
- Central Grampians Local Learning and Employment Network
- Central Highlands Homelessness Alliance
- Community Asset Committees
- Community Event Managers
- Community Groups and Sporting clubs
- Reserve / Hall Management Committees
- Department of Education
- Department of Families, Fairness & Housing
- Department of Health
- Department of Justice
- Disability service providers
- First Nations Corporations and Cooperatives
- Grampians Community Health
- Grampians Disability Advocacy
- Headspace (Ballarat)
- Historical Societies & Cemetery Trusts
- Maryborough & District Health Service
- Neighbouring Council's
- Playgroup Victoria and community Playgroups
- Reconciliation Advisory Committee
- Relationships Australia (Ballarat)
- School Focussed Youth Services
- Service Clubs and Progress Associations
- Township Committees
- U3A
- Volunteering Ballarat
- Women's Resource Information & Support Centre
- Women's Health Grampians

Council Plan Alignment

- Pillar 1: Supporting and growing Liveable Places, Connected Communities
 - A - Promote inclusivity and accessibility for all life stages by creating welcoming spaces and supporting diverse social, cultural, recreational, and economic activities.
 - B - Improve community wellbeing through accessible health services, active lifestyles, mental health support, and effective local laws that ensure safety and amenity.
 - D - Strengthen community outcomes by fostering partnerships, supporting volunteers, and encouraging civic engagement to build capacity and deliver improved services.
- Pillar 4: Planning and Building Infrastructure for current and future needs

A - Plan, build, and maintain essential infrastructure – including water, waste, sewerage, roads, bridges, and community assets – to support liveability, resilience, and growth.

- Pillar 5: Community-Centric Leadership and Proactive Service Delivery

B - Work constructively and in partnership with individuals and communities to anticipate needs, solve issues early, and deliver outcomes that build trust and resilience.

Other linked documents

- Recreation Strategy 2017 - 2027
- Beaufort and Skipton Health Service Health Promotion Action Plan
- Maryborough and District Health Service Health Promotion Action Plan
- Ageing well in Victoria Action plan 2022–2026

PRIORITY 6 – Being a Climate Resilient Community

Outcome: A resilient community that supports each other, and the natural environment through climate challenges.

Climate change affects health in many ways – both directly and indirectly. Direct impacts include morbidity and mortality associated with extreme events such as heatwaves, floods, drought and bushfires. Indirect impacts are associated with ecological and land-use change (including changes in the spread of infectious diseases), along with worsening air, food and water quality.

Climate change widens existing inequalities and disproportionately impacts the health and wellbeing of those more vulnerable. People who are financially disadvantaged can be more likely to live in areas prone to extreme weather events, more likely to live in poor quality or insecure housing, and less likely to be able to afford cooling, heating and to insure their homes.

(Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027)

What the Statistics indicate:

Our region is experiencing 10-15 more high fire danger days each year than we did in the period between 1950 and 1986.

(CSIRO climate projections for Central Highlands 2024.)

Climate Data	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Days 35° +	6	13	2	0	0	1
Days 25mm rainfall + (Avoca)	1	4	0	5	10	3
Days 25mm rainfall + (Raglan)	0	3	4	7	6	2

Bureau of Meteorology – Daily Rainfall (Avoca and Raglan) and Daily maximum temperature - Pyrenees (Ben Nevis).

- Council has committed to addressing climate change at a local level, as one of 46 Victorian Councils to sign on to the Victorian Energy Collaboration.
- Council has an adopted Climate Adaptation Strategy and Climate Action Plan.

GOALS	STRATEGIES	OUTCOME INDICATORS
6.1 Strengthening a resilient and connected community that supports each other through challenges experienced in our natural environments.	<p>6.1.1 Collaborate with the community to increase awareness of climate change impacts on health, and actions that support wellbeing in a changing climate.</p> <p>6.1.2 Support the implementation of mitigation and adaptation initiatives through Council's Climate Change Mitigation Action Plan.</p> <p>6.1.3 Build community capacity to lead and deliver climate action and other community resilience initiatives through implementation of extreme events plans including the Municipal Heatwave Plan and the Safe and Resilient Pyrenees Plan.</p> <p>6.1.4 Support community-led biodiversity projects.</p> <p>6.1.5 Maintain the Vulnerable Persons Register and review other place-based support networks as part of the Pyrenees Emergency Management Plan.</p> <p>6.1.6 Explore options to increase flow of communication during times of municipal emergency events.</p> <p>6.1.7 Continue to explore options and methodologies for waste management.</p> <p>6.1.8 Support coordination of Landcare strategies and groups.</p> <p>6.1.9 Explore prevalence of climate anxiety and potential trauma healing disaster recovery actions including landscaping, replanting, and community education initiatives.</p> <p>6.1.10 Support initiatives to assist individuals, communities and businesses to live and work more sustainably to help reduce impacts on the environment.</p>	<p>Number of annual heat alerts issued. Source: Council Data</p> <p>Percentage kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill. Source: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework</p>

Key Partners :

- Agriculture Victoria
- Ambulance Victoria
- Central Highlands Water
- CFA
- Department of Families, Fairness & Housing
- Emergency Recovery Victoria
- First Nations Corporations and Cooperatives
- Grampians Central West Waste Recovery Resource Group
- Landcare Groups
- Local Business and Traders Associations
- Municipal Emergency Management & Planning Committee
- Pyrenees Community House
- Red Cross
- Regional Roads Victoria
- Salvation Army
- State Emergency Service
- Vic Roads
- Victoria Police

Council Plan Alignment

- Pillar 1: Supporting and growing Liveable Places, Connected Communities
 - B - Improve community wellbeing through accessible health services, active lifestyles, mental health support, and effective local laws that ensure safety and amenity.
 - D - Strengthen community outcomes by fostering partnerships, supporting volunteers, and encouraging civic engagement to build capacity and deliver improved services.
- Pillar 3: Preserving, promoting and enjoying the natural environment
 - A - Preserve and manage biodiversity and natural assets for long-term community benefit and environmental sustainability.
 - B - Mitigate risks, build community resilience, and enhance responsiveness to natural disasters through proactive planning and collaboration.
 - C - Support local industries and communities in adapting to climate change through sustainable practices and strategic adaptation efforts.
 - Promote responsible waste practices by reducing landfill, improving resource recovery, and advocating for accessible, efficient, and rural-appropriate waste services.
- Pillar 4: Planning and Building Infrastructure for current and future needs
 - D - Advocate for fair renewable energy development, access to critical water supplies, and effective maintenance of natural and built assets to reduce impacts on communities and the environment.

Other linked documents

- Environmental Sustainability Strategy
- Biodiversity Action Plan
- Climate Mitigation Action Plan
- Tree Management Plan
- Road Management Plan
- Safe & Resilient Pyrenees Plan
- Grampians Region Climate Adaptation Strategy
- Bushfire Recovery Plans

Review and Evaluation

An evaluation program is an important component in the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Plan. Review and evaluation enable:

- Assessing plan effectiveness, including response to new and emerging issues,
- Adjustments to be made that are based on evidence-based research of changes in population health status and or indicators of health, and
- Monitoring progress and analysing trends of the Plan and any subordinate area-based strategy (i.e., Recreation Strategy, Environmental Sustainability Strategy etc).

The Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 requires Council to annually review this Plan and if appropriate, amend the Plan and Action Plan. Where possible, this will be undertaken in collaboration with active partners in absence of municipal health and wellbeing network.

The Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan, through its annual action plans, will be subject to a bi-annual reporting cycle, with progress reports prepared as indicated below. This will provide structure and transparency through a reporting process.

Table Two: Evaluation Program

Evaluation Type	Methodology
1. Outcome evaluation	Outcome Indicators documented / tracking impacts over time
2. Progress evaluation	Annual reports tracking progress against commitments using : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieved• Ongoing / In progress / Scheduled• Not scheduled to commence
3. Collaboration evaluation	Annual evaluation of governance structures and associated partnership benefits leveraged for community.

Governance and Partnership

It is appreciated that no single function of Council, community or other level of government can achieve the outcomes of this Plan. It requires a whole of community approach delivered in collaboration with key community services, organisations, and health providers.

Coordination of the MPHWP's implementation will be administered by Council, supported by an internal monitoring and evaluation group, with external support via a community advisory group.

The reciprocal value and process is summarised at Table Three.

Table Three: Partner and Stakeholder relationship

	Community Groups, organisations, local agencies, and volunteers	Other levels of Government, peer councils and Health related peak bodies
They are essential in health planning and delivery as they...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform us of what's happening in our community. • Collaborate with us to advocate, plan, and deliver programs and services. • Engage, connect, and enable community participation in healthy lifestyles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide connections, resources, advise and some frameworks/ systems to operate within. • Enable service delivery through provision of grants and program funding. • Collaborate and partner to deliver services and programs of need.
Council is valuable to them because we...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information, advice, support, assets, and resources locally. • Facilitate and connect ideas, groups, and action through networks, to support community capability and capacity to deliver community health. • Listen, involve, promote, and advocate on local needs, issues, and opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create pathways and access to the voice of local communities. • Promote and deliver information on their position, services and advise. • Provide local information and data on community health and wellbeing.
We engage with them through...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy and asset management committees. • Community meetings, workshops, and forums. • Individual relationship meetings. • Council and community promotion channels including social media, print media and noticeboards. • Community engagement sessions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal reporting and correspondence. • Advocacy agendas. • Networking events, forums, and information briefings.

Key Documents

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027 – Victorian State Government	https://www.health.vic.gov.au/victorian-public-health-and-wellbeing-plan-2023-27
Pyrenees Shire Council Strategic Plans	https://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/About-Pyrenees-Shire-Council/Council-Policies-and-Publications/Strategic-Plan
Victorian Local Government Women's Charter	http://www.vlga.org.au/What-were-doing/Women-in-local-government/Victorian-Local-Government-Womens-Charter
Climate Change Act 2017	https://www.climatechange.vic.gov.au/legislation/climate-change-act-2017
Women's Health Grampians CoRE Program- Communities of Respect and Equity	http://whg.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/CoRE-Plan-Document.pdf