



Rural City of
Wangaratta

Our region. Our future.

What we heard from the community:
let's dive deeper!



What's inside this Conversation Kit?

We are preparing a new Council Plan, Community Vision, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and 10 Year Financial Plan, and we need your input on the key priorities for our future.

Share your thoughts and dive deeper into the things that matter most to our community.



Glenrowan

Eldorado

Springhurst

Moyhu

Milawa

King Valley

Wangaratta

How to use this Kit

This Kit is designed to facilitate community conversations about the future of our region. Read and complete this Kit by yourself or use it to spark conversations with your family, friends, neighbours, community groups, or co-workers. To get the most out of this Kit, we recommend:



Reflect: we've provided some useful information here to help you consider the questions we're asking.



Write: complete the questions in this Kit. Refer to the back page to find out how to share your completed Kit with us.



Think broadly: we encourage you to consider your own views as well as perspectives of others in your community.



Your voice matters: we are a diverse community, and we want to hear from everyone. There are no right or wrong answers.



Let's start from the beginning

Every four years, all Councils across Victoria are required to create a new Council Plan based on a Community Vision. These important documents help us decide how to allocate resources to services, infrastructure and programming through our annual budget and long-term financial plan.



A Community Vision describes our community's long-term aspirations for the future. It's a big-picture statement that guides all of Council's decisions and actions, including the Council Plan.



A Council Plan outlines our goals and priorities for the next four years. It explains how our newly elected Councillors will work to meet the community's needs and expectations.



A Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan is a requirement of all Councils, and ours is incorporated into our Council Plan. It outlines goals and actions to improve the health and wellbeing of our community, and should align with the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing priorities.



The 10 Year Financial Plan is a long-term plan to finance projects, initiatives and programs that our community thinks are most important. It will allocate funding based on priorities identified in the Community Vision and Council Plan and ensures ongoing funds are in place for the essential services that Council provides on a daily basis.

Why are we planning for the future?

We are a vibrant community home to over 30,000 people and in the next 25 years, we will grow by more than 4,000 people.

As we grow, needs and priorities will change. To be prepared for this change, we must continue to plan and make decisions about what's important to ensure that everyone in our community feels safe, supported and healthy.

Developing the Council Plan is an opportunity to check in with our community to understand your top priorities today and ensure we're heading in the right direction in the future.

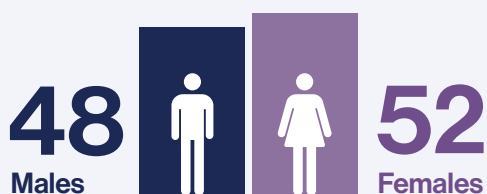
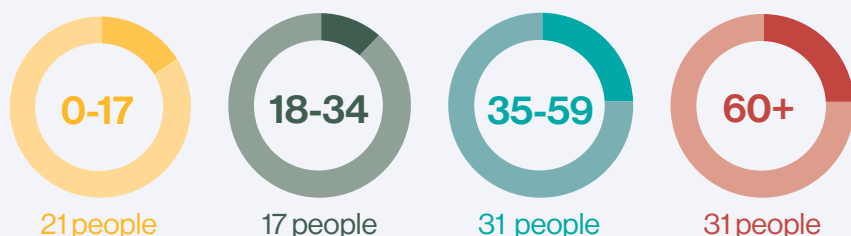
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Planning is a process that anticipates needs, creates a shared vision for the future and then works out the best pathway to get there

”

If the Rural City of Wangaratta was made up of 100 people, this is what we would look like today:

Age Group



Where People Live

Wangaratta	67
Oxley/Milawa & Ovens Valley	11
Glenrowan & District	10
Springhurst/Eldorado & District	6
Moyhu & King Valley	6

Religion 🙏

52	Christian
45	No Religion
3	Other Religion

Employment 💼

47	People are employed
25	People receive Government Pensions and Allowances

Education 🎓

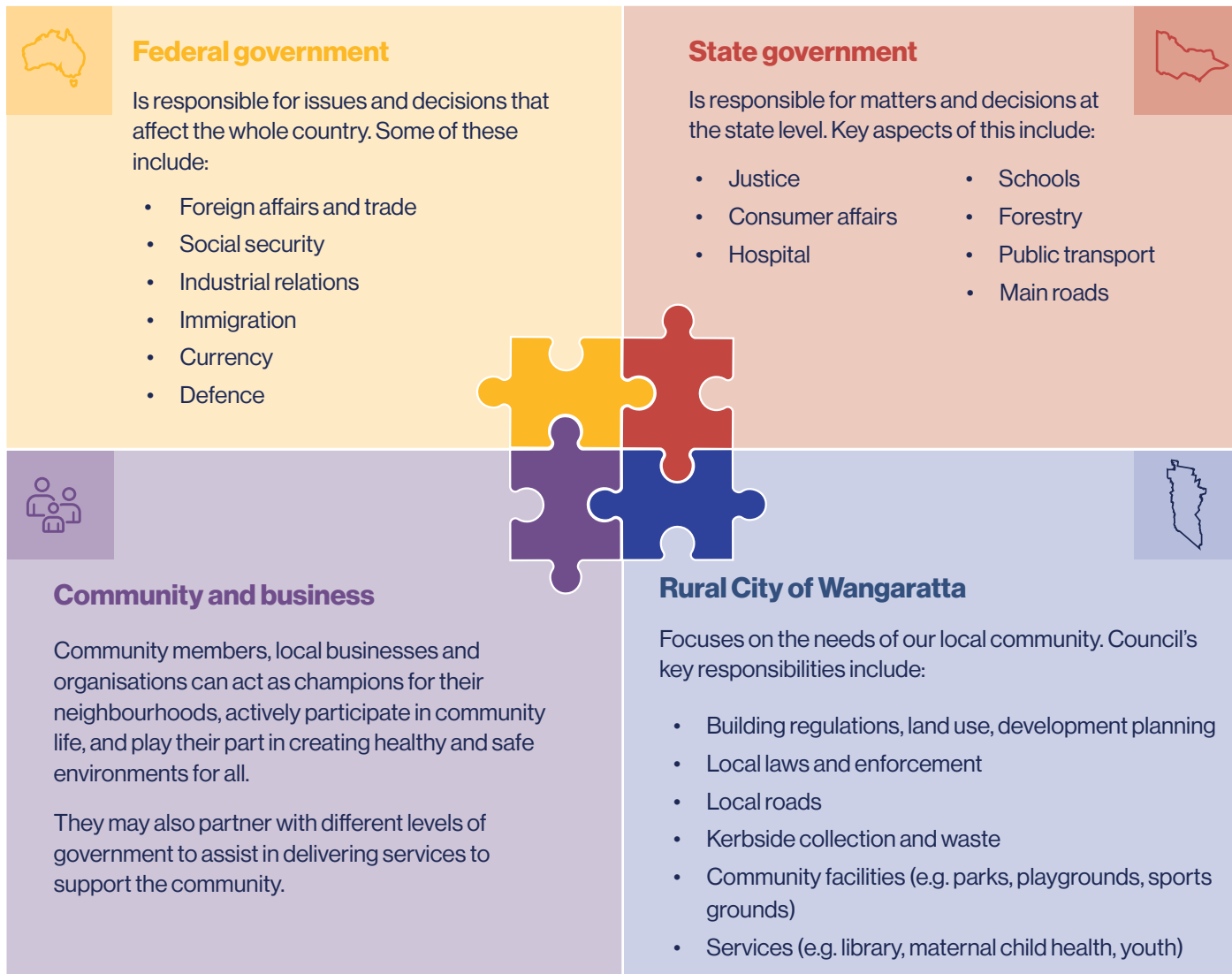
42	People have graduated with Certificate I - IV or higher
35	People have completed year 12 or equivalent

Health ❤️

35	People have one or more long term health conditions
7	People have need for assistance in their day-to-day lives for core activities

Who plans?

Creating plans is a collaborative process and everyone has a role to play. Council's role is in supporting our community's daily needs by providing a wide range of services. Council works in partnership with different levels of government, private and not-for-profit sectors and with our community to achieve common goals.



Our journey so far:

We've been engaging with our community to find out what you think is important for the new Council Plan, Community Vision, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and 10 Year Financial Plan.



What we've been hearing

Since December 2024, we've been engaging with people all over our community. To date, we have had:

1,800+	500+	440+	100
Visits to the Connect Wangaratta project webpage	People engaged at our pop-up events	Survey responses received to date	Children's worksheets and drawings

Based on what you've told us so far, when thinking about developing our new Council Plan, Community Vision, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and 10 Year Financial Plan, your top priorities are:

	Ensuring there is the right infrastructure to support our future
	Promoting positive health and wellbeing
	Maintaining our parks and gardens and public open spaces
	Ensuring quality and accessible recreation and community facilities
	Reducing the impacts of cost of living and housing affordability
	Making sure everyone in our community feels safe
	Managing and investing in our roads, paths and bridges
	Supporting our vulnerable populations, such as elderly, homeless and people with a disability

 **Let's start our conversation**

 **First of all, tell us a bit about you or your group**

 Hello, I'm from _____

I am a

- ☐ Local resident
- ☐ Someone who works locally
- ☐ Business owner
- ☐ Member of a local community organisation
- ☐ Someone else _____

Planning for our future – health and wellbeing

What do you need to live a healthy life and feel supported in your community?



- Wellbeing encompasses both mental and physical health and underpins the strength and connection of our community.
- Council works in partnership with community organisations to deliver programming, events and services that help promote health and wellbeing.
- When people feel safe and included, everyone in our community can live healthy and fulfilling lives.



Let's dive deeper

The community has told us their health and wellbeing priorities include:

- Cost of living and housing affordability
- Prevention of family violence
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Active living
- Community safety
- Food security and healthy eating

Choose one of the above priorities that is most important to you and let us know what actions we could take to address it.

I choose the priority of:



To address this priority, we could:

Planning for our region

The places where we live, work and visit play an important role in creating vibrant and inclusive communities. When thinking about the future of our region, our community has told us that the provision of services and infrastructure is one of the most important considerations.

Top priorities for the community include:

- Roads, bridges, footpaths, cycling tracks, and trails
- Environment, conservation and sustainability
- Parks, gardens, and open spaces
- Community services (Aged care, family and children's services)
- Recreation, sport and community facilities
- Kerbside collection, transfer stations, waste services and landfill

Do you agree with the priorities on the left? Is there anything else missing?



Let's dive deeper

Everyone has a role to play in planning for our future. Choose one of the priorities identified above, and in a few words, tell us what role you think each group below could play in helping to achieve this.

I choose the priority of:



I think the role of each group is as follows:

Council could...

Local businesses could...

Community groups could...

I could...

Ideas wall

Now that you've shared your priorities, is there anything else we need to consider in developing the Council Plan, Community Vision, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and 10 Year Financial Plan?

Feel free to draw, write or describe your thoughts below.



Sharing your completed Kits

- Drop your completed Conversation Kits at our Customer Service Counter at Rural City of Wangaratta Council Offices or Library
- Snap a photo and upload your Kit to Connect Wangaratta via the QR Code.
- Scan a copy and email it to connect@wangaratta.vic.gov.au

Do you have more ideas to share?

Your feedback is essential in planning for the future of our community.

To find out more about the project and other ways to get involved, scan the QR code or visit connect.wangaratta.vic.gov.au/council-plan

