

Our Vision and Plan for the future

DISCUSSION GUIDE



Hepburn Together: Update!



Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to take part in the Hepburn Together project. Your voice is critical to the development of Hepburn Shire Council’s vision and plans for the next 10 years.

Acknowledgement of Country

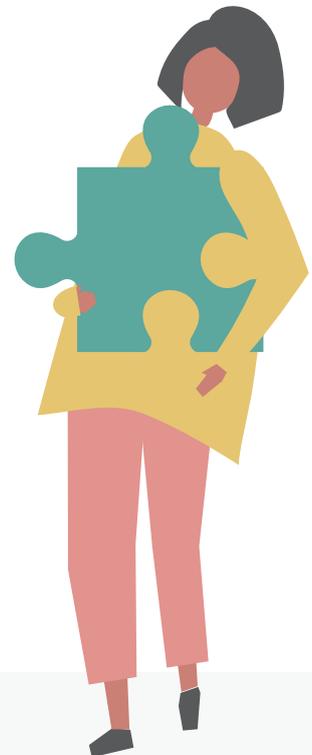
Hepburn Shire acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work, the Dja Dja Wurrung People, and recognise their ongoing connection to the land and waterways. We also recognise the many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members across the Shire who make up the vibrant communities to which our organisation provides services. Hepburn Shire pays respect to the wisdom of Elders, past, present, and emerging and shares a commitment to engaging communities with a spirit of reconciliation and respect.

Hepburn Together

During 2021 Hepburn Shire Council is embarking on the Hepburn Together project. The project will shape the vision and direction for Hepburn Shire over the next 10 years. We want to hear about your goals, aspirations, and suggestions for the places where you have chosen to live, work or visit. Your input about what you value and what you want to change can guide Council’s planning and give priority to future projects.

The project includes the development of:

- Our Community Engagement Policy. The policy guides how Council will engage with the community, and lets the community know what they can expect. It outlines the roles of Council employees and highlights how we use community insights in our decision making.
- Our 10-year Community Vision will be an aspirational description of what our community wants for the long-term future of the Hepburn Shire.
- Our 4-year Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) will identify the strategic directions and priorities that Hepburn Shire Council will pursue over the course of the next 4 years to meet the community’s diverse needs.
- Financial Plan and Asset Plan will outline the prioritised allocation of resources in order to maintain financial sustainability, meet community needs and protect Council’s assets.

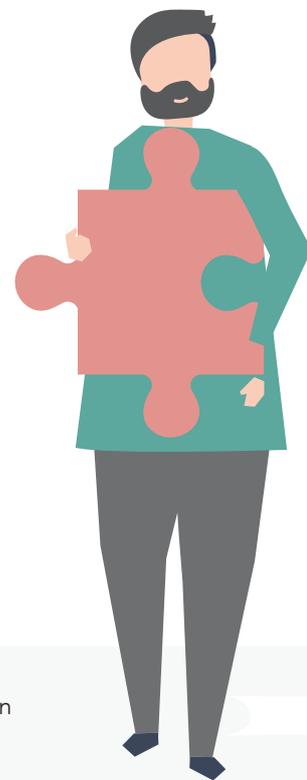


Community Engagement Policy

From the 25 January to the 7 February 2021 over 300 Hepburn Shire citizens contributed to the development of Council's draft Community Engagement Policy. Your input has shaped a policy that will guide Council's community engagement practice and facilitate your participation in the development of important projects, plans and strategies.

One of the important elements of the Community Engagement Policy is Council's commitment to community engagement. Council's commitment includes promises to:

- Ensure community access to engagement processes is as broad as possible.
- Use simple and clear language when we communicate.
- Actively listen without judgement to what people say.
- Respect diverse views and request mutual respect between all parties.
- Value the creativity and expertise of the community in our decision making and problem solving.
- Ensure all contributions are recorded.
- Report back to the community on what we have heard.
- Base the engagement framework on community recommendations to the greatest extent possible.
- Provide feedback on where input has not been incorporated into the outcome and explain the reasons for our decision.
- Measure and assess the effectiveness of our community engagement practices and commit to ongoing continuous improvement and innovation.



Our Community Engagement Policy was adopted at a special Council meeting on 23 February 2021.

Stage 3: Broad Engagement

We want to embrace the knowledge, expertise and creativity of the community to shape our future. From the 23 February to the 19 of March 2021, we will explore the community's goals, aspirations and priorities for Hepburn Shire's future. These goals, aspirations and priorities will help us frame our Community Vision, Council Plan incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan. These findings will be explored in more detail in our deliberative engagement sessions to be held in April 2021.

This discussion guide is broken into two main parts:

- **Part 1** considers the Community Vision and asks for your input into identifying our goals, aspirations, and priorities for the next ten years (2021-2031).
- **Part 2** then asks for your input into the development of the Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) by asking for your input into what projects, services or initiatives can help us achieve the goals, aspirations and priorities set out in the Community Vision for the next 4 years.

Have your say

This guide provides an opportunity for individual Hepburn Shire citizens, community groups, school classes and organisations to have input into the future direction and plans of the Hepburn Shire. We have provided some information on the Participate Hepburn website about our community profile, Council's services and finances to help you consider some of these questions.

The discussion guide will take you through a series of questions that will ask you to reflect on what you value and love about our community and what you want it to look like in the future. When considering the questions in the discussion paper you might like to consider our **liveability, diversity, creativity, economy, environment and social outcomes**.



When can I have my say?

This engagement will be open from **23 February to 19 of March 2021**. You can access this discussion guide from the Participate Hepburn website or from one of Council's libraries or customer services centres.

How can I submit my feedback?

You can submit your feedback before the **19 March 2021** by:

- Completing the survey online (which has the same questions as this guide) at **<https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/hepburn-together/community-vision>**
- Emailing your completed guide to **hepburntogether@hepburn.vic.gov.au**
- Dropping your completed guide off at a Council library or customer service centre.

More information?

More information about Council and the Hepburn Together project will be available on the Participate Hepburn site **www.participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email us at **hepburntogether@hepburn.vic.gov.au** or call our Community Partnerships Coordinator Michelle Whyte on **03 5348 2306**. Or contact your ward Councillor.

Our Community

Data is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census community profiles and Hepburn Know Your Council: Area Based Statistics , REMPLAN. Victoria in the Future 2019.

This data provides an overview of the key statistics for the Hepburn Shire are but does not represent all data or sectors

POPULATION 2018

15,180

PROJECTED POPULATION 2036

17,700

AREA

1,470km²

If Hepburn Shire consisted of 100 people there would be:

MALES

48

FEMALES

52

AVERAGE AGE

50

19: 0 – 19 years

15: 20 – 39 years

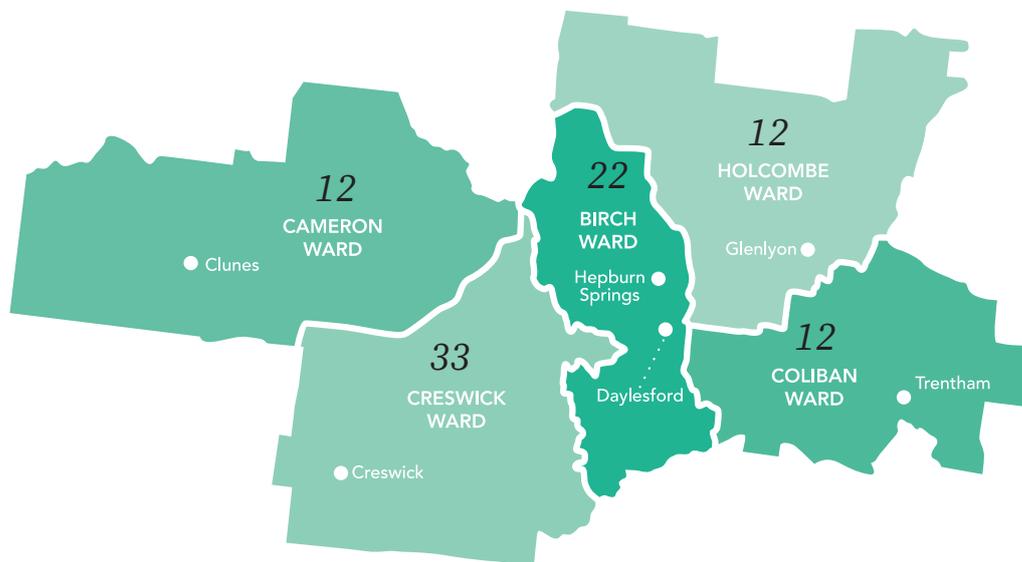
31: 40 – 59 years

27: 60 – 79 years

8: 85+ years

WHERE WE LIVE

- 22: Birch Ward
- 12: Cameron Ward
- 12: Colibarn Ward
- 33: Creswick Ward
- 12: Holcombe Ward



DIVERSITY

Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander

1

Born overseas

24

Speak languages other than english at home

14

Have a disability

6

EMPLOYMENT

Work full time

49

Work part time

39

Are unemployed

5

Volunteer

30

Work in health care and social assistance

16

Work in accommodation and food services

16

Work in retail trade

10

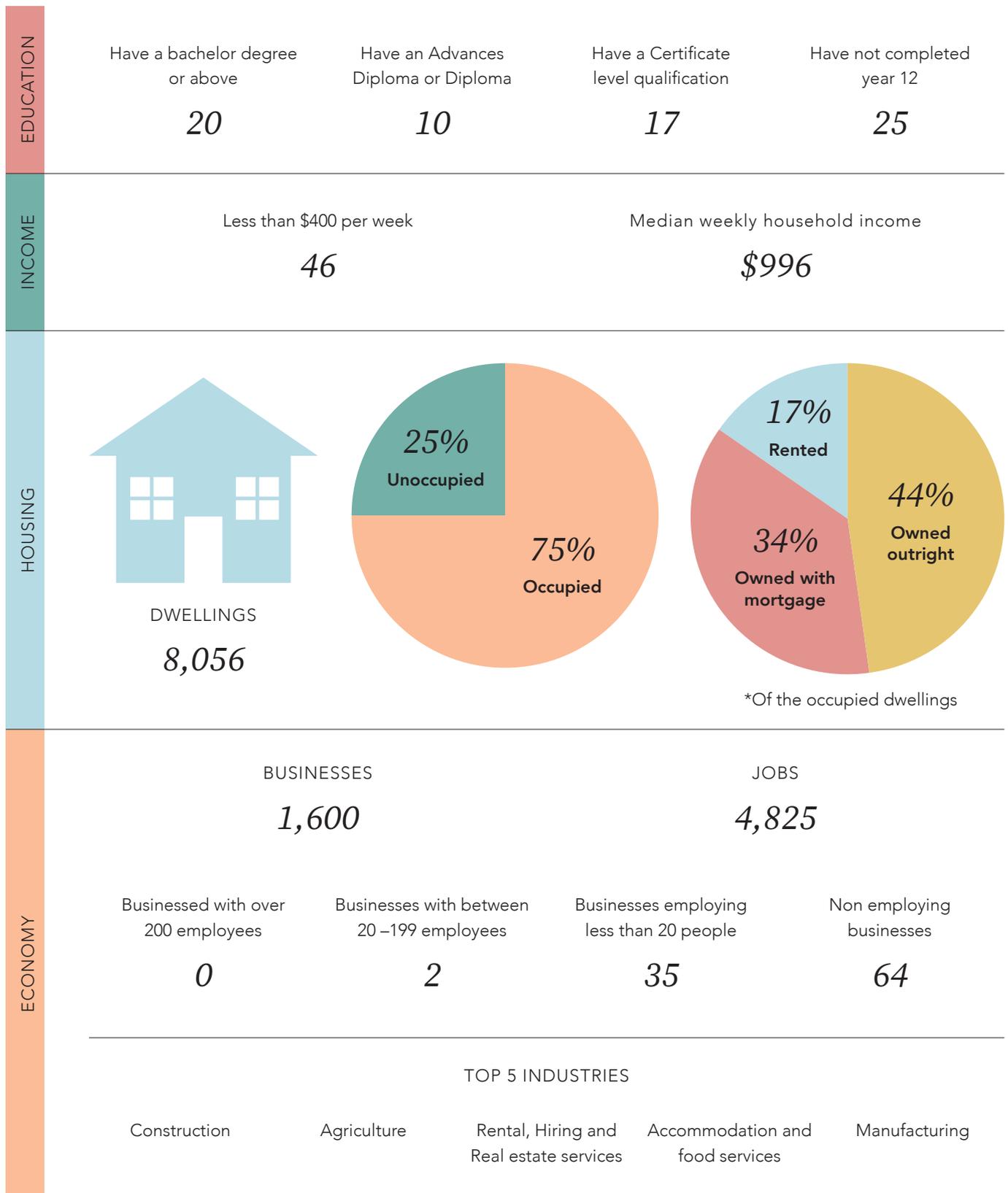
Work in agriculture, forestry or fishing

10

Work in construction

8

Our Community



About you!

I am an individual citizen

If you are part of a community group, class or organisation, please continue to the next page

Age:

- Under 15 years
- 15 – 19 years
- 20 – 24 years
- 25 – 29 years
- 30 – 34 years
- 35 – 39 years
- 40 – 44 years
- 45 – 49 years
- 50 – 54 years
- 55 – 59 years
- 60 – 64 years
- 65 – 69 years
- 70 – 74 years
- 75 – 79 years
- 80 – 84 years
- 85 years and over

Gender:

- Male
- Female
- Non binary
- Intersex
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Location:

- Birch Ward**, including Daylesford, Hepburn, Basalt, Dry Diggings, Kooroocheang, Leonards Hill, Musk Vale, Sailors Flat, Shepherds Flat, and Yandoit.
- Cameron Ward**, including Clunes, Campbelltown, Evansford, Glengower, Lawrence, Mount Beckworth, Smeaton, Ullina, and Werona.
- Coliban Ward**, including Trentham, Bullarto, Fern Hill, Little Hampton, Lyonville, Musk, Newbury, North Blackwood, Spring Hill, Trentham East, and Tylden.
- Creswick Ward**, including Creswick, Allendale, Blampied, Broomfield, Cabbage Tree, Creswick North, Dean, Eganstown, Kingston, Langsdon Hill, Mollongchip, Mount Prospect, Newlyn, Smokey Town, Springmount, Sulky, and Rocklyn.
- Holcombe Ward**, including Glenlyon, Coomoora, Clydesdale, Denver, Drummond, Drummond North, Guildford, Mount Franklin, Porcupine Ridge, Strangways, and Wheatsheaf.
- I am a Hepburn Shire Council **ratepayer but live outside the shire.**
- I work or participate in Hepburn Shire but live outside the shire.**
- None of the above.

Would you like to be added to our mailing list to learn about what’s happening in Hepburn Shire and contribute to future engagement?

- Yes
- No

Name: _____

Email: _____

For more information on Council’s Privacy Policy

<https://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Policy-30-C-Hepburn-Shire-rivacy-Policy-25-August-2020.pdf>

About you!

We are a community group, class or organisation

What is the name of your group, class or organisation? _____

Contact name: _____

Contact number: _____

Contact email: _____

Location:

- Birch Ward**, including Daylesford, Hepburn, Basalt, Dry Diggings, Kooroocheang, Leonards Hill, Musk Vale, Sailors Flat, Shepherds Flat, and Yandoit.
- Cameron Ward**, including Clunes, Campbelltown, Evansford, Glengower, Lawrence, Mount Beckworth, Smeaton, Ullina, and Werona.
- Coliban Ward**, including Trentham, Bullarto, Fern Hill, Little Hampton, Lyonville, Musk, Newbury, North Blackwood, Spring Hill, Trentham East, and Tylden.
- Creswick Ward**, including Creswick, Allendale, Blampied, Broomfield, Cabbage Tree, Creswick North, Dean, Eganstown, Kingston, Langsdon Hill, Mollongchip, Mount Prospect, Newlyn, Smokey Town, Springmount, Sulky, and Rocklyn.
- Holcombe Ward**, including Glenlyon, Coomoora, Clydesdale, Denver, Drummond, Drummond North, Guildford, Mount Franklin, Porcupine Ridge, Strangways, and Wheatsheaf.
- Our group, class or organisation has members from **across the Hepburn Shire area**.

What is the purpose of your group, class or organisation? _____

Where is your group, class of organisation located? _____

Which region/ town are most of your group members from? _____

How many people contributed to this feedback? _____

Would you like to be added to our mailing list to learn about what's happening in Hepburn Shire and contribute to future engagement?

- Yes No

For more information on Council's Privacy Policy

<https://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Policy-30-C-Hepburn-Shire-rivacy-Policy-25-August-2020.pdf>

1a) Where are we now?

The first step in developing our Community Vision is understanding what we value about living in the Hepburn Shire and want to retain.

- 1. **What do you love about living in the Hepburn Shire? This could include what the strengths and aspects of the Hepburn Shire you value and want to retain?**

- 2. **How would you describe the identity of Hepburn Shire? This could include identifying what people think of most when they think of the Hepburn Shire or what is unique and authentic about the Hepburn Shire (cultural, natural, historical etc).**

- 3. **What currently makes the Hepburn Shire a happy and healthy area to live in? This could include identifying what supports your wellbeing or connections in the Hepburn Shire?**

1b) Where do we want to be?

This section will ask us to consider the change we want to see in the Hepburn Shire community from 2021 – 2031.

4. If you or your group had to choose your top three priority areas for the Hepburn Shire to address over the next 10 years, what would they be?

- Liveability
- Diversity
- Creativity
- Social outcomes
- Quality Infrastructure
- Environmental sustainability and climate change
- Engaged and connected communities
- Development and planning
- Heritage and culture
- Other

5. Please list each of your three priority areas and expand on why they are important to you or your group. Please provide a detailed response for each.

- 1. _____

- 2. _____

- 3. _____

6. What changes do you or your group want to see in the Hepburn Shire community by 2031?

7. What words would you use to describe the identity of Hepburn Shire in 2031?

8. The Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan outlines 10 focus areas to improve public health and wellbeing. What areas do you think the Hepburn Shire should focus on over the next 10 years 2021-2031?

(please rank your top 3)

- Tackling climate change and its impact on health
- Reducing injury
- Preventing all forms of violence
- Increasing healthy eating
- Decreasing the risk of drug-resistant infections in the community
- Increasing active living
- Improving mental wellbeing
- Improving sexual and reproductive health
- Reducing harmful alcohol and drug use
- Other

1c) How do we get there?

This section will ask you to consider what initiatives, projects and services will help us achieve our vision. It will also ask you to consider how Council prioritises funding and delivery of services into the future.

9. What projects, initiatives or services would help us achieve our Community Vision priorities over the next 10 years?
(please outline up to 3)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

10. What resources does the Hepburn Shire already have to address the goals, aspirations, and priorities you have identified (eg community creativity and expertise, groups and organisations, business or industry)?

11. Council has a finite amount of money to deliver projects, initiatives and services. With rate capping, Council's income is not able to easily expand to accommodate new projects, initiatives or services. If new projects, initiatives or services were commissioned by Council – what is your view on how they should be funded? *(Please circle)*

- a. I already pay enough rates and would not be prepared to pay any more for the introduction of new Council projects, initiatives or services.
- b. I want Council to pay for new projects, initiatives or services by using its current funding pool and deciding what services could be reduced or prioritised to pay for them.
- c. I want Council partner with other levels of government, philanthropic bodies and private industry to obtain grant monies to fund the start up and continued running of new projects, initiatives and services
- d. I am happy to pay more rates for the introduction of new projects, initiatives or services that would benefit the community.

12. Council delivers a broad range of services and projects to the community. When considering the overview of Council services and finances on the Participate Hepburn website what areas should Council spend MORE on?

13. Council delivers a broad range of services and projects to the community. When considering the overview of Council services and finances on the Participate Hepburn website what areas should Council spend LESS on?

2a) Our 4-year focus

This section asks you to consider what programs, services and projects Council should concentrate during the course of its 4-year Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan). There is an information sheet outline Council services and finances available at www.participatehepburn.vic.gov.au.

1. What Council services do you most value?

2. Name up to five services, projects or initiatives Council should focus on over the next 4 years to improve the following areas:

3. What local social and community services or issues should we focus on over the next 4 years? (please choose up to 5)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> COVID 19 recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Early years (Maternal Child Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Early years (Early Childhood Education) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Access and inclusion | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Positive ageing | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health and wellbeing | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to quality education | <input type="checkbox"/> Prevention of family violence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to healthy, affordable food | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing social inequalities and discrimination (related to disability, age, gender, race, identification as LGBTIQ+ etc) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | | |

4. Is there anything else you would like us to consider when developing our Council Plan?

Thank you for taking the time to work through this discussion guide which will help us shape the vision for Hepburn Shire's future.

You can submit this guide by emailing hepburntogether@hepburn.vic.gov.au or dropping off the completed guide at a Council library or customer service centre before the **19th of March 2021**.