

21.04

10/11/2016
C105

ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

This clause provides local content to support Clause 13 (Environmental Risks) of the State Planning Policy Framework.

This clause implements the following core theme of the Council Plan:

- *Plan for and manage risks and opportunities arising from climate change. (p. 17)*

Specific references to individual towns are also included in Clause 21.09 (Local Areas).

21.04-1

10/11/2016
C105

Climate change

Specific issues relating to climate change and environmental sustainability include:

- Adapting to climate change, in particular future planning for settlements and rural areas that may be affected by increased flooding, drought or other threats.
- Sustainable and sensitive management of storm water.
- Environmentally sustainable design and higher standards for sustainable housing and development.

Council recognises the importance of promoting land use and development that is resilient to climate change impacts by, for example, encouraging design solutions that minimise the impact of fire and flooding and manage the likelihood of increased storm events.

Residential development should minimise environmental risks and maximise the opportunities for environmentally sustainable design. It will be important to improve the environmental performance of residential subdivisions and developments to ensure they are more comfortable for future occupants and reduce long term energy requirements and cost. The design of new housing and residential estates should take into account likely future climatic conditions.

For farming communities, climate change has impacts on water and land usage. People who are most vulnerable to climate change are those who live in rural or isolated areas, those whose livelihoods rely on the land, very old and young people, those with low incomes, and those with existing health issues that can be made worse by extreme weather conditions. In some cases tourists can also be at risk, which is significant for the important tourism destination at Echuca and the growing tourism industry in Campaspe.

Objective 1

To adapt to the effects of climate change.

Strategies

- Strategy 1.1 Evaluate use and development proposals with regard to climate change implications.
- Strategy 1.2 Evaluate applications with a view to limiting potential greenhouse effects.

Objective 2

To reduce pollution from local domestic, transport and industry sources.

Strategies

- Strategy 2.1 Support the development and implementation of new technology designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Strategy 2.2 Encourage the reduction of pollution from council activities as well as local domestic, transport and business sources.

Objective 3

To promote the use of water sensitive urban design, including stormwater re-use.

Strategies

- Strategy 3.1 Promote greater use of water harvesting and water reuse within urban areas.
- Strategy 3.2 Ensure all commercial, industrial and residential developments incorporate water sensitive urban design techniques, particularly in their landscaped areas.

21.04-2

10/11/2016
C105

Flooding

Floods are naturally occurring events, and the inherent functions of floodplains to convey and store floodwater should be recognised and preserved to minimise the deterioration of environmental values, mitigate downstream flooding and maintain floodplain production, assets and communities.

Sound floodplain management is the critical means by which the economic, social and environmental risks associated with floodplain use and development can be managed. This level of management is provided by seven “local floodplain development plans” which have been prepared by the relevant catchment management authority to provide a performance-based approach for decision making that reflects local best practice in floodplain management.

Objective 4

To protect life, health, safety and community wellbeing from flood hazard.

Strategies

- Strategy 4.1 Preserve the natural flood carrying capacity of rivers, streams and floodways.
- Strategy 4.2 Implement local floodplain development plans.
- Strategy 4.3 Protect property and community infrastructure from flood damage.

Objective 5

To minimise the impact of flooding on the community.

Strategies

- Strategy 5.1 Discourage urban or rural residential development in areas subject to flooding.
- Strategy 5.2 Ensure the floodway is maintained, and that the free passage and temporary storage of flood waters is not compromised.
- Strategy 5.3 Discourage subdivision, other than realignment or consolidation, in a floodway.
- Strategy 5.4 Discourage dwellings, other than replacement dwellings, in a floodway.
- Strategy 5.5 Ensure dwellings are located above the 1 per cent annual exceedance probability flood event.
- Strategy 5.6 Encourage building envelopes for dwellings to provide adequate effluent disposal areas which are free from flooding.
- Strategy 5.7 Discourage uses such as sewerage treatment and pumping works, intensive animal industries and sanitary landfill depots on flood prone land.
- Strategy 5.8 Preserve the natural function of the floodplain to convey and store flood waters.

21.04-3

10/11/2016
C105

Bushfire

Extensive areas of the municipality are prone to bushfires, especially in the south of the shire in the vicinity of Rushworth and Toolleen. Safety and access issues are evident within bushfire prone areas along the Murray River. New Bushfire Management Overlay mapping reflects bushfire management arising from the findings of the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission. The assessment of issues such as defensible space is now reflected in the requirements of the Bushfire Management Overlay.

The Rushworth State Forest is susceptible to bushfire. The forests of the Murray River (such as the Kanyapella Swamp) are highly valued, especially for habitat and recreation purposes. Development adjoining the Murray River reserve can result in higher frequency and severity of fire.

Objective 6

To minimise the risk to life, property and the environment from bushfire.

Strategies

- Strategy 6.1 Direct development to locations of lower bushfire risk.
- Strategy 6.2 Avoid development in locations of extreme bushfire risk.
- Strategy 6.3 Avoid development in areas where planned bushfire protection measures may be incompatible with other environmental objectives.

Objective 7

To ensure that new land use and development does not increase the level of bushfire risk.

Strategies

- Strategy 7.1 Ensure that the design, siting and layout of subdivision increase protection from bushfire.
- Strategy 7.2 Ensure that use and development includes adequate bushfire protection measures.
- Strategy 7.3 Require adequate bushfire protection measures as conditions of planning permission.
- Strategy 7.4 Support the implementation of fuel reduction and ecological burning programs in rural residential interface areas.

21.04-4

10/11/2016
C105

Salinity and erosion

Irrigated agriculture and tree clearing in the shire has caused water tables to rise in some areas, bringing waterlogging and high salt concentrations. Where the water table is close to the surface, agricultural productivity can be severely affected. Salinity is likely to increase significantly over the next fifty years, threatening agricultural and horticultural activities.

In the dryland parts of the shire, some traditional agricultural practices have been responsible for serious soil related problems which have reduced productivity. Common problems include soil compaction, waterlogging, soil erosion and salinity. Areas around Rushworth and the Mt. Camel Range are particularly prone to soil erosion. Land and water management plans have been prepared for the dryland and irrigated parts of the shire.

Objective 8

To minimise the impact of salinity, erosion and rising water tables on the environment.

Strategies

- Strategy 8.1 Ensure salinity protection measures are included in new buildings and infrastructure where appropriate.
- Strategy 8.2 Encourage the revegetation of areas which contribute to salinity.
- Strategy 8.3 Protect areas prone to erosion by minimising land disturbance and inappropriate development.
- Strategy 8.4 Minimise the drainage of saline and nutrient rich water from irrigated and urban areas.

21.04-5

10/11/2016
C105

Implementation

The strategies in relation to environmental risks will be implemented through the planning scheme by:

Application of zones and overlays

- Applying the Public Use Zone to council owned land.
- Applying the Urban Floodway Zone to land identified by the relevant catchment management authority as waterways and major flood paths within urban areas.
- Applying the Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 2 to land surrounding Echuca Saleyards to protect the site from non-compatible uses.
- Applying the Bushfire Management Overlay to areas of high fire risk.

CAMPASPE PLANNING SCHEME

- Applying the Floodway Overlay to land affected by waterways and major flood paths.
- Applying the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay to areas within the 1 per cent annual exceedance probability flood event.
- Applying the Salinity Management Overlay to areas of the Mt. Camel Range.
- Applying the Environmental Audit Overlay to land potentially subject to site contamination.

Further strategic work

- Investigating the use of the Special Building Overlay in areas of poor drainage at Kyabram.
- Investigating the inclusion of a setback for development from waterways in all zones in order to adequately protect and enhance waterways.
- Investigating the application of the Rural Conservation Zone, Vegetation Protection Overlay or the Environmental Significance Overlay to native grassland with biodiversity risk of high.
- Investigating flooding and drainage issues experienced in the South-East Industrial and Commercial Corridor of Echuca.
- Investigating appropriate buffer treatment around intensive agriculture at Patho Plains, including an Environmental Significance Overlay or Design and Development Overlay.
- Investigating noise and odour issues at the Echuca Saleyards.
- Considering the use of the Rural Conservation Zone (RCZ) to protect wetlands and waterways of national significance from inappropriate use and development.

Reference documents

Guidelines for the Protection of Water Quality, North East Planning Referrals Committee, 2000

Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, 2013-2019

Municipal Fire Prevention Strategy, Shire of Campaspe, (as amended)

Shire of Campaspe Roadside Conservation Strategy, Shire of Campaspe, 2010

Earthworks Controls in the Shire of Campaspe, City of Greater Shepparton and Moira Shire, 2010

Campaspe Stormwater Management Plan, Shire of Campaspe, 2001

Council Plan 2013-2017