



Mount Alexander Shire Council

Environment Strategy 2011 – 2014 Action Plan

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INTRODUCTION

Council is strongly committed to environmental sustainability, and prides itself on its leadership on a range of environmental issues.

Mount Alexander is increasingly recognised as a place known for sustainability – of restored bushland, healthy and productive landscapes, environmentally conscious citizens and towns and villages where people have the opportunity to interact with nature.

Council's commitment is to provide leadership in its own activities and strengthen its support to the community to transition to a sustainable Shire.

In keeping with this commitment, Council has prepared a new Environment Strategy to guide future Council action on the environment. The Strategy is a key Council document that sits immediately below the Council Plan and with the Municipal Strategic Statement.

The Strategy is in three parts:

1. A State of the Environment (SoE) report that assesses the current state of the Mount Alexander environment
2. A Strategic Framework that provides long-term direction to our plans and decision-making; and
3. A four-year Action Plan that sets out the activities that will be done to implement the Strategic Framework.

The Strategy considers and links relevant responsibilities and actions from existing Council strategies and plans around the broad environmental and sustainability themes identified in Council's Local Environmental Sustainability Priority Statement, namely:

- Climate Change, Greenhouse and Energy

- Land and Biodiversity
- Urban Development, Planning and Sustainable Transport
- Waste and Resource Efficiency
- Water

The four-year Action Plan determines the actions and indicative timeframes for implementation of the Environment Strategic Framework.

The structure and types of actions reflect the role and directions of Council to:

- Demonstrate what can be achieved in environmental sustainability through Council's leadership by example.
- Use its planning scheme & other powers and local laws to deliver or influence environmental outcomes
- Engage, support and enable households, businesses and community organisations to become sustainable
- Advocate and partner where necessary to improve the policy, regulatory or funding environment that will support sustainability in Mount Alexander Shire.

It is important to note that while listed separately, many of the objectives and actions are linked. For example measures to improve native vegetation cover have benefits for greenhouse gas reductions, water conservation and biodiversity. Similarly improving building standards reduces greenhouse gases and water consumption.

The Action Plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

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1 LAND & BIODIVERSITY

Direction	Objectives	2014 Target	Indicator	Actions	I/E*	Est. Cost	Responsibility	Timeframe
Council leading by example	1.1 Optimise biodiversity and landscape quality of all Council owned and managed land and minimise weeds	Maintain current condition (no net loss)	Area of high conservation significance native vegetation in the shire Populations of key threatened species in the shire	1.1.1 Review Open Space Strategy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Maintain and enhance roadside and other remnant vegetation areas of high & medium conservation significance in cooperation with Parks Victoria and DSE o Maximise opportunities to improve biodiversity outcomes within urban areas including the plantings of appropriate indigenous street trees and garden areas where possible 	I	Subject to future internal funding considerations	Infrastructure	2012
				1.1.2 Review Road Side Management Plan to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Improve conservation values and connectedness of roadsides to bush lands and adjacent farms o Reduce fuel for fire and increase bushfire preparedness consistent with recommendations of Royal Commission into the Black Saturday fires o Reduce feral animals and control the spread of existing weeds and avoid outbreak of new weed species on Council land and roadsides o Improve conservation values in conjunction with adjacent private and public land 	E	Subject to future internal budget considerations (\$30,000)	Infrastructure/ Healthy Environments	2012
Using planning scheme & other powers	1.2 Ensure new development maintain or enhance biodiversity values and do not threaten areas of high conservation significance	Maintain current condition (no net loss)	Area of high conservation significance native vegetation in the shire Populations of key threatened species in the shire	1.2.1 Continue to ensure threatened species and significant biodiversity are protected in the Shire Planning Scheme	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	2013
				1.2.2 Update the planning scheme and Council plans to improve habitat connectivity and biolinks for biodiversity outcomes under climate change and work with DSE on ensuring this is consistent with the State's Biodiversity Strategy	I/E	Subject to securing external funding (\$25,000)	Sustainable Development	Ongoing

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Direction	Objectives	2014 Target	Indicator	Actions	I/E*	Est. Cost	Responsibility	Timing
	1.3 Support existing and prospective land owners to understand and appreciate their obligations and responsibilities for land and biodiversity	All new residents kits updated		1.3.1 Review and update new land owner/residents information kit on land owner obligations and responsibilities in land management	I	Subject to future internal funding considerations (\$5,000)	Healthy Environments	2012
				1.3.2 Use relevant parts of the kit to inform renters and real estate agents	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	2012
				1.3.3 Regularly promote through Council publications and website	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
				1.3.4 Conduct regular information sessions and workshops to increase developer and landholder knowledge of biodiversity, threatened species, waterways, erosion etc	I/E	Subject to future internal funding considerations (\$8,000)	External agencies	Ongoing
				1.3.5 Enforce local laws on the control of pest weeds and animals, particularly weed infestations	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Local Laws	
	1.4 Encourage the protection of biodiversity assets within township areas		Amount & quality of native vegetation in township areas	1.4.1 Continue to inform developers and the community of biodiversity values that need protection	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	2012
	Supporting & enabling community action	1.5 Increase vegetation cover on public and private land	Trend in hectares re-vegetated or rehabilitated Trend in number of people participating in Landcare	Area re-vegetated or rehabilitated per year Number of people participating in Landcare and other land restoration groups	1.5.1 Seek funding and develop partnerships to increase Landcare and other land restoration activities within the Shire	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments
1.5.2 Continue support to volunteer groups such as Landcare, MASG, and other community organisations programs					I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	2011
1.5.3 Promote community grants for Landcare and environment support activities and provide assistance with applying					I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	2011
1.5.4 Review Land Management and Conservation Program					I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments/ Finance	2011

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Direction	Objectives	2014 Target	Indicator	Actions	I/E*	Est. Cost	Responsibility	Timing	
Advocating & partnering	1.6 Partner to ensure effective protection of areas of biodiversity significance and landscape amenity	Targets to be developed	Area of land managed for conservation	1.6.1 Partner with organisations such as Connecting Country, Landcare, NCCMA, Trust for Nature, Castlemaine Field Naturalists, WILMA, Parks Vic, Vic Track, Vic Roads and DSE to develop a strategic, landscape scale and coordinated approach to achieving biodiversity objectives, weed management, feral animal control and improve habitat connectivity, waterway management (including urban creeks) and biolinks for biodiversity outcomes under climate change	E	Subject to securing external funding (\$25,000)	Healthy Environments	2013	
			Area of native vegetation in the shire	1.6.2 Establish and/or participate in regular forums with these organisations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ensure effective leadership, co-ordination and implementation of integrated approaches o Improve information sharing and learning o Identify resource opportunities o Communicate and advocate Council and community objectives and concerns o Raise profile of protected land and land and biodiversity issues within Council and the community 	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	2012	
			Population count of key local threatened species		1.6.3 Work with and/or partner and advocate with CMA, DSE, VFF and others for restrictions on small property dams	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	2013
			Stream condition		1.6.4 Advocate with NCCMA/DSE for improved environmental flows in major waterways	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	2013
			Weed species and weed area coverage						

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2 CLIMATE CHANGE, GREENHOUSE & ENERGY

Direction	Objectives	2014 Target	Indicator	Actions	I/E	Est. Cost	Responsibility	Timing
Council leading by example	2.1. Minimise the carbon footprint of Council operations	Substantial reduction in greenhouse emissions under Council's operational control as per Council Greenhouse Action Plan	Council greenhouse gas emissions	2.1.1 Develop and implement a new Greenhouse Action Plan, with actions to reduce Council greenhouse emissions	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	Jun 2011
	2.2. Improve the knowledge of staff and Councillors around the potential impact of climate change on the delivery of council services and programs	80% of Council Business Units have an understanding of the potential impacts of Climate Change Adaptation issues on their work practices.	Number of business Units that have participated	2.2.1 In partnership with other Councils in the Loddon Mallee Region, participate in a series of facilitated workshops to explore the implications of climate change on the delivery of council services and programs	I/E	Grant funded through Sustainability Accord (\$30,000)	Healthy Environments	Dec 2011
Using planning scheme & other powers	2.3. Increase energy efficiency of existing and new residential and commercial buildings	100% of new residential and commercial buildings achieve 5 star NABERS rating or higher	Average rating of new residential and commercial buildings	2.3.1 Review planning scheme on scheduled basis to look at opportunities to promote and introduce best practice	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	2014
Supporting & enabling community action	2.4. Reduce residential & commercial and not-for-profit organisations greenhouse emissions	30% cut in community greenhouse emissions on 2000 levels by 2014	Community greenhouse levels	2.4.1 Facilitate the development of a community climate mitigation plan that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Reliable system for measuring community greenhouse emissions o Working with community groups to communicate and educate the community on availability of rebate schemes for renewable 	E	Subject to securing external funding (\$20,000)	Healthy Environments	2014

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				energy and energy efficiency o Support, information and education on sustainable (energy-efficient and climate-resilient) house design for new builders and renovators				
	2.5. Ensure the community is prepared for future climate risk	Community awareness of climate change adaptation	To be developed	2.5.1 Facilitate the development of a community climate change adaptation strategy	E	Subject to securing external funding (\$20,000)	Healthy Environments/ Community Development	2014
				2.5.2 Review Council heat wave strategy to ensure it adequately prepares community for future heat wave scenarios	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Community Development	2013
				2.5.3 Improve bushfire preparedness of community through local laws enforcement, planning scheme and emergency preparation plans for vulnerable community members	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	2011
Advocating & partnering	2.6. Partner to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions	30% cut in community greenhouse emissions on 2000 levels by 2014	Partnership programs delivered to successfully reduce emissions	2.6.1 Continue to support Solar City, CVGA, MASG and other partners to increase renewable energy use in the shire	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
				2.6.2 Work with partners to facilitate development of commercial scale renewable energy	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Economic Development	Ongoing
				2.6.3 Facilitate options for retro fitting residential, commercial and industrial properties through government grants and subsidies and facilitate the uptake through education and information delivery	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	All Units	Ongoing
				2.6.4 Explore opportunities to have the planning scheme improved to: o Achieve 5 star NABERS rating for new Council commercial buildings and private developments (residential/commercial) o Improve building controls for new building orientation and sustainable design	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development Healthy Environments	Ongoing

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allow as-of-right installation of solar PV on dwellings, schools, commercial buildings ○ Fast-track opportunities for environmentally appropriate development ○ Develop incentives for developers to achieve best practice in sustainability ○ Encourage 6 star+ retrofits of residential and commercial buildings through partnerships and demonstration projects ○ Support development of new renewable energy systems 				
			2.6.5	Promote the benefits of high star rating for new homes and commercial buildings	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development/ Healthy Environments	Ongoing
			2.6.6	Identify potential sites to land bank and support the establishment of community energy systems	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	Ongoing
			2.6.7	Support staff to stay well informed on best practice leadership on green buildings and infrastructure	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Human Resources	Ongoing
			2.6.8	Promote use of shade planting to reduce residential & commercial energy consumption	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	Ongoing

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3 WATER

Direction	Objectives	2014 Target	Indicator	Actions	I/E	Est. Cost	Responsibility	Timing
Council leading by example	3.1 Minimise water consumption of Council operations & maximise water reuse	35% reduction in water use on 2000/01 levels by 2012 (consistent with SWUP)	Council water consumption Use of recycled water	3.1.1 Implement Sustainable Waster Use Plan 3.1.2 Investigate Capture and reuse storm water for use in Council operations	I I	Developed Internally through existing budget Developed Internally through existing budget	Infrastructure	2012
	3.2 Minimise pollution from septic systems in Council owned & managed buildings	100% of septic tanks to be compliant	% of septic systems which are compliant with Council standard	3.2.1 Develop a program for the phase out or upgrade of septic systems in all Council owned and managed buildings	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Infrastructure/ Environmental Health	Ongoing
Using planning scheme & other powers	3.3 Increase water efficiency in all new developments	Trend reduction in residential water use of new buildings	Residential water use of new buildings	3.3.1 Investigate how the planning scheme can include stronger water efficiency standards for all new developments, including a water sensitive urban design policy and guidelines for developers and Council staff	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	Ongoing
	3.4 Improve water quality	As per plans	Water quality and others as per plan	3.4.1 Develop a Storm Water Action Plan 3.4.2 Review Domestic Waste Water Management Plan	I/E I	Grant funded through Community Basins Program (\$100,000) Subject to future internal funding considerations	Infrastructure/ Healthy Environments	2012
Supporting & enabling community action	3.5 Maintain water security		Aquifer recharge rates	3.5.1 Continue to promote wise water use in Council promotional material	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	All Units	Ongoing
				3.5.2 Participate or partner in water education programs such as Waterwise gardens program	E	Subject to securing external funding (\$10,000)	Healthy Environments	Ongoing

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Advocating & partnering	3.6 Advocate & partner to ensure water security & efficient use of water in the Shire	Cuts in water consumption	Water consumption in the shire	3.6.1 Explore opportunities to harvest storm water for alternative use.	E	Grant funded through Community Basins Program (\$100,000)	Infrastructure	2012
				3.6.2 Continue to provide feedback to Coliban Water on water policy and pricing issues	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	EMT	Ongoing
				3.6.3 Work with Coliban Water and other relevant agencies to better understand aquifer recharge rates and their management requirements	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Infrastructure	Ongoing

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4 URBAN DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Direction	Objectives	2014 Target	Indicator	Actions	I/E	Est. Cost	Responsibility	Timing
Council Leading by example	4.1 Encourage transport with the lowest environmental impacts for Council operations and events	100% increase in public transport and staff riding to work	Reimbursements on public transport tickets Number of staff riding to work	4.1.1 Develop a Transport Workplace Action plan to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gather and monitor data on Council fleet energy use, size, type of vehicles etc Improve fleet efficiency (car pooling, use of alternative fuels, etc) Promote non-car-based transport options including teleconferencing Encourage work trips to Melbourne and Bendigo by train 	I	Grant funded through Sustainability Accord (\$10,000)	SCC	2011
	4.2 Achieve best practice building for new Council buildings and facilities	As per policy	To be developed	4.2.1 Develop and implement a sustainable building policy for all Council buildings 4.2.2 Retrofit and promote the Town Hall as a demonstrate best practice as an environmentally sustainable building	I I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Infrastructure Healthy Environments	2011 2012
Using planning scheme & other powers	4.3 Promote more resource efficient settlement nodes and forms to facilitate sustainable resource use and minimise the land footprint of development	90% of new development to be within 5km of a major settlement (village or town) 50% of new developments are recognized as industry leaders	Distance from a major settlement of new developments State and national recognition	4.3.1 Investigate use of the planning scheme and related tools to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a regional pilot for adaption of SDS or STEPS in a regional context Focus new housing into urban hubs with public transport connections Encourage residential development where there is public transport Consider infill housing over development of new areas Fast-track opportunities for environmentally appropriate development Utilise pre-application meetings to achieve sustainability outcome. 	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	2012
				4.3.2 Provide more frequent information on forward planning, especially for the small rural communities 4.3.3 Provide support, information and education on good house design for new builders and renovators	I I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development/ Economic Development	Ongoing
	4.4 Incorporate integrated transport planning into	Trend in residents with good access to public	Access to public transport, and cycle/walking	4.4.1 Investigate use of the planning scheme to require more support and infrastructure for walking, cycling and public transport	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development/ Community Development	Ongoing

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	new subdivisions	transport, and cycle/walking paths	paths	4.4.2 Work with transport providers to ensure better connection of buses services to trains	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development/Community Development	Ongoing
	4.5 Protect productive agricultural land for ongoing food and fibre production	Area of agricultural land to remain stable	Area of agricultural land in shire	4.5.1 Review application of the Farming Zone to ensure adequate protection of agricultural lands from development	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	Ongoing
Supporting & enabling community action	4.6 Increase community uptake of low carbon transport	As per Walking & Cycling Strategy	As per Walking & Cycling Strategy	4.6.1 Implement Mount Alexander Shire Council Walking & Cycling Strategy	E	Subject to future internal funding considerations	Infrastructure	Ongoing
				4.6.2 Research and support improved community transport options including funding assistance for improved services	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Community Development	Ongoing
	4.7 Increase community food production		Number of people growing their own food	4.7.1 Continue to support Community House and others to implement home and community garden programs	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
			4.7.2 Continue to operate Council's internal food swap program	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	SCC	Ongoing	
			4.7.3 Investigate opportunities to increase community gardens in the Shire	E	Subject to future internal funding considerations (\$10,000)	Healthy Environment	Ongoing	

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Advocating & partnering	4.8 Ensure future settlement development is sustainable and resilient to future climate change		Best practice residential and commercial developments achieved through partnerships with developers	4.8.1 Review housing policy to encourage infill development rather than expansion	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	2014
				4.8.2 Encourage innovative housing/development styles that minimise land, infrastructure and energy use and servicing costs	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
				4.8.3 Seek memoranda of understanding with major players (State Gov Agencies (DSE, DHS, Vic Urban, Vic Roads, Regional Development, Regional Waste Management Groups, Sustainability Vic etc), land developers, financial institutions, power companies, water authorities, major businesses, etc) to promote shared understanding and common goals in relevant areas – including identifying and attracting resources to pilot innovative /pilot programs over the next 5 years	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	EMT	Ongoing
				4.8.4 Advocate for higher building standards to ensure new developments are bushfire-ready, energy and water efficient, well insulated, engineered to withstand wind, storms etc	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	Ongoing
	4.9 Manage the environmental impact of transport			4.9.1 With regional partners, investigate the effects of freight on shire infrastructure and the environment and identify options to reduce environmental impacts, increase logistics efficiency, lower the impacts on local roads and improve community safety	E	Subject to future internal funding considerations (\$30,000)	Infrastructure	Ongoing
				4.9.2 Where appropriate Council road and bridge maintenance to support V-double trucks	I	Subject to future internal funding considerations	Infrastructure	Ongoing

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5 WASTE & RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

Direction	Objectives	2014 Target	Indicator	Actions	I/E	Est. Cost	Responsibility	Timing
Council leading by example	5.1 Minimise waste to landfill and maximise diversion from Council own operations	20% reduction in Council waste to landfill	Council waste generation – volume of waste and recycling	5.1.1 Recycle Council food waste in worm farms at Council facilities or off-site	I	Grant funded through Sustainability Accord (\$5,000)	Healthy Environment	Ongoing
				5.1.2 Implement Waste Strategy	I	Subject to future internal funding considerations	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
				5.1.3 Maximise recovery and re-use of construction & demolition waste from Shire operations (including road-building waste)	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Infrastructure	Ongoing
				5.1.4 Maximise recovery of electronic waste	E	Subject to future internal funding considerations	Healthy Environments	2014
	5.2 Minimise green waste to landfill from parks & gardens, roadsides works	100% of green waste diverted from landfill	Volume of green waste to landfill from Council operations	5.2.1 Benchmark the volume of Council green waste going to landfill	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
				5.2.2 Continue mulching or composting process for appropriate organics-grass cuttings, leaves etc	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments/ Infrastructure	Ongoing
	5.3 Minimise Council resource consumption	25% reduction paper use 100% of paper waste to recycling recovery stream	Council's operational paper consumption % of Council paper waste recycled	5.3.1 Audit current paper use across the organisation and implement paper-saving measures	I	Grant funded through Sustainability Accord (\$5,000)	Healthy Environments Purchasing	Ongoing

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				5.3.2 Increase opportunities for on-line transactions and on-line availability of public documents	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	All Units	Ongoing
				5.3.3 Audit types and volumes of Council waste and identify targets and measures to reduce key waste streams (e.g. e-waste)	E	Subject to future internal funding considerations (\$10,000)	Healthy Environments	2012
	5.4 Maximise the environmental benefits from Council's purchasing activities	Fully implemented	Develop indicators for Recycled content; toxic contents; chemical emissions; etc	5.4.1 Conduct a review of supplier/purchasing policies and procedures, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental standards for contracts with suppliers • Sustainable purchasing guidelines • Preferred supplier policies • Re-launch Eco-Buy program across organisation • Review Motor Vehicle Policy re sustainable fleet 	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Purchasing	2012
Supporting & enabling community action	5.5 Increase amount of municipal waste diverted from landfill for recycling or reuse	65% municipal waste diversion rate by 2014	Municipal waste to landfill (as per SV Towards Zero Waste Strategy)	5.5.1 Implement Waste Management Strategy adopted by Council in 2010	I	Subject to future internal funding considerations	Healthy Environments	2014
				5.5.2 Implement community education and communication to reach waste targets	I	Subject to future internal funding considerations	Healthy Environments	2014
	5.6 Reduce litter on roadsides and public land			5.6.1 Continue to work with the EPA and the community to engage and educate about the importance of litter reduction	E	Subject to future internal funding considerations	Healthy Environment/ Infrastructure	Ongoing
Advocating & partnering	5.7 Create strong procurement policies to improve resource efficiency and waste management	Fulfilling requirements of Eco-buy membership	Eco-buy indicators	5.7.1 Embed waste and resource efficiency objectives in procurement and supply policy and contracts	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environment Purchasing	Ongoing
				5.7.2 Work with partners regional procurement strategies where they enable more		Developed Internally through	Purchasing/Finance	Ongoing

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				sustainable purchasing options		existing budget		
				5.7.3 Increase activity as a member of Eco-buy		Developed Internally through existing budget	Purchasing/Finance	2014

6 COUNCIL OPERATIONS

Direction	Objectives	2014 Target	Indicator	Actions	I/E	Est. Cost	Responsibility	Timing
Governance & Administration								
Council leading by example	6.1 Provide open and transparent reporting on environmental performance	Fully implemented	Council environmental performance reporting	6.1.1 Provide a State of the Environment Report every three years	I	Subject to future internal funding considerations (\$30,000)	Healthy Environments	2014
				6.1.2 Provide regular updates to the community on Council and community environmental actions and achievements	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Communications Officer	Ongoing
				6.1.3 Integrate reporting of environmental, social and economic and financial dimensions in all Council decision-making	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	EMT	2014
	6.2 Integrate environmental determinants into all planning and decision-making	Fully implemented	Environmental costs and benefits in Council business plans and approval processes	6.2.1 Develop procedures to factor environmental costs and opportunities into all Council plans and approval processes	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainable Development	Ongoing
				6.2.2 Incorporate/integrate environmental sustainability objectives into Council's other key strategies and plans – Municipal Strategic Statement, Health and Well-Being Strategy, Tourism Master Plan and Economic Development Strategy	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	EMT	Ongoing

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Promotion & Education								
Supporting & enabling community action	6.3 Well informed community about environmental activities of the Council and community	High community satisfaction rating	Community satisfaction rating	6.3.1 Improve the function of Council's web site to provide information and educational material to the community on environment, health and wellbeing and sustainability activities, programs and opportunities	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments/ Communications Officer/ Community Development	Ongoing
				6.3.2 Provide regular updates of Council and community environmental activities, achievements and opportunities, in particular progress on implementation of the Environment Strategy	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments/ Communications Officer	Ongoing
				6.3.3 Plan and conduct an annual Shire Environment Day with the community	E	Subject to future internal funding considerations (\$2,500)	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
				6.3.4 Establish and support a MAS Sustainability News email list	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
	6.4 MAS is promoted as a leader and destination in sustainability	Fully implemented	Environmental objectives reflected in all major Council Plans	6.4.1 Promote Mount Alexander Shire as a leader in environmental sustainability in terms of landscape protection, economic development, tourism and community health and well being	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	All Units	Ongoing
6.5 MAS Council and community are promoted as a sustainability innovation hub	All major sustainability projects are promoted publicly outside the Shire		6.5.1 Promote major Shire sustainability projects publicly outside the Shire (in media, at conferences etc)	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	EMT Tourism/ Communications Officer/ Tourism	Ongoing	
			6.5.2 Promote the Shire generally as a showcase /pilot for sustainability innovation				Ongoing	
Advocating & partnering	6.6 Stakeholders are informed and engaged in Council's Environment Strategy		Stakeholder support	6.6.1 Communicate the objectives and directions of the environmental strategy to community, business and all agencies associated with the Shire	I/E	Developed Internally through existing budget	All Units	Ongoing

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Skills & Capacity Building								
Council leading by example	6.7 Ensure that Council has the resources, culture, people, skills and tools to deliver its sustainability objectives	100% staff participation in an environmental awareness or training program All Environment Strategy Action Plans targets achieved	Number of staff participating in environmental awareness, training or professional development % of environmental targets achieved	6.7.1 Establish an "Eco-Leaders" program for staff to learn, experiment and develop innovative actions that will reduce Council's footprint	I	Grant funded through Sustainability Accord (\$25,000)	Healthy Environments Human Resources	2011
				6.7.2 Review Council's Sustainability Co-ordinating Committee (SCC) as the key internal body to integrate the Environment Strategy across all Council operations, build cross organisational commitment and drive the Strategy's implementation	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainability Co-ordinating Committee	2011
				6.7.3 Review performance management system to incorporate measures linked to implementation of the Environment Strategy	I	Developed Internally through existing budget	Sustainability Co-ordinating Committee	2012
	6.8 Improve quality of environmental data for decision making	Fully implemented	Quality of annual SoE reporting	6.8.1 Work with other government agencies (through the establishment of MOU's) to ensure quality (reliable, relevant, robust and usable) data is regularly provided for Council's State of the Environment reporting.	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	Healthy Environments	Ongoing
	6.9 Ensure Council has capacity and skills to partner and attract external funding		Number of joint programs Funding achieved from external sources	6.9.1 Continue to seek Council representation on external Boards, organisations, conferences etc	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	All Units	Ongoing
				6.9.2 Continue to seek external funding to support implementation of the strategy	E		All Units	Ongoing
Supporting & enabling community action	6.10 Increase sustainability knowledge and capability among community			6.10.1 Partner with community organisations to plan, access funding and support the delivery of environmental awareness, leadership development, capacity building and sustainable living programs and activities	E	Developed Internally through existing budget	All Units	Ongoing
				6.10.2 Establish an awards program for local individuals, community organisations, institutions, businesses and developers that recognises local achievements in environmental sustainability and innovation	E		Subject to future internal funding considerations (\$2,500)	Healthy Environments/ Community Development/ Economic Development/ Tourism

* I = Internal; E= external