

# Finance and Planning Committee

## Agenda

Date: Wednesday 4 December 2024

Time: 6pm

Venue: Civic Centre (Council Meeting Room)

13 Mair Street, Benalla

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#### **Governance Matters**

This Committee Meeting is conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Benalla Rural City Council *Governance Rules 2020*.

#### **Recording of Council Meetings**

In accordance with Rule 6.4 of the *Governance Rules 2020* the Committee Meeting will be livestreamed via the Council's website. An audio recording will be made of the proceedings and made available for public access, with the exception of matters identified as confidential items in the agenda.

Members of the public can watch the live broadcast of the meeting at www.benalla.vic.gov.au

#### **Public Submissions**

Any person wishing to participate in Public Submissions in accordance with 7.3 of the *Governance Rules 2020* should contact the Council by emailing council@benalla.vic.gov.au or telephoning the Governance Coordinator Jess Pendergast on (03) 5760 2600.

#### Behaviour at Meetings

Members of the public present at a meeting must remain silent during the proceedings other than when specifically invited to address the Committee.

The Chair may remove a person from a meeting for interjecting or gesticulating offensively after being asked to desist, and the chair may cause the removal of any object or material that is deemed by the Chair to be objectionable or disrespectful.

The Chair may call a break in a meeting for either a short time, or to resume another day if the behaviour at the Council table or in the gallery is significantly disrupting the Meeting.

## Agenda

Chair Councillor Peter DavisCouncillors Councillor David Blore

Councillor Bernie Hearn (Mayor)
Councillor Puna Hewa Gunaratne

Councillor Justin King
Councillor Jillian Merkel
Councillor Nathan Tolliday

In attendance Dom Testoni Chief Executive Officer

Robert Barber General Manager Corporate

Adrian Gasperoni Manager Assets and Infrastructure

Nilesh Singh Manager Development

Tom Arnold Community Development and Recreation Coordinator

Joel Ingham Planning Coordinator

Jess Pendergast Governance Coordinator

#### Opening and Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair will open the meeting and recite the following Acknowledgement of Country.

We, the Benalla Rural City Council, acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and to Elders from other communities who may be here today.

#### **Apologies**

It is noted that Councillor Bernie Hearn is on an approved leave of absence.

#### Recommendation:

That apology/ies be accepted.

#### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, a Councillor must declare any Conflict of Interest pursuant to Section 130 of the Act in any items on this Agenda.

At the time indicated in the agenda, a Councillor with a conflict of interest in an item on that agenda must indicate they have a conflict of interest by clearly stating:

- the item for which they have a conflict of interest;
- whether their conflict of interest is general or material; and
- the circumstances that give rise to the conflict of interest.

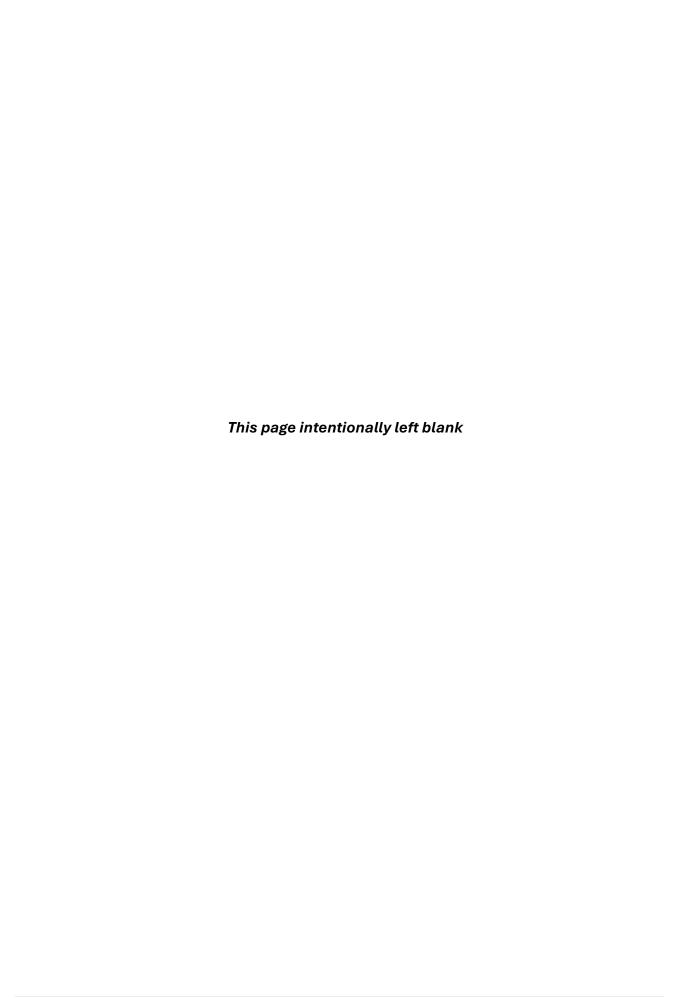
Immediately prior to the consideration of the item in which they have a conflict of interest, a Councillor must indicate to the Meeting the existence of the conflict of interest and leave the Meeting.

#### Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes have been circulated to Councillors and posted on the Council website **www.benalla.vic.gov.au** pending confirmation at this meeting.

#### Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Finance and Planning Committee meeting held on 11 September 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.



#### **Business**

#### 1. Planning Permit Application – Cattle Feedlot At 492 Irvine Road, Thoona

DA2325/9 Joel Ingham – Planning Coordinator Nilesh Singh – Manager Development

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report assesses planning permit application P0009/24 to vary the existing cattle feedlot use from 1400 to 1600 Standard Cattle Units (SCU) and buildings and works associated with the Cattle Feedlot (Covered Pen) at 492 Irvine Road, Thoona.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The applicant states that the existing feedlot at 492 Irvine Road, Thoona, currently operates at a maximum level of 1400 Standard Cattle Units (SCU). The current application is seeking a planning permit to increase the capacity of the feedlot to 1,600 SCU.

The feedlot has been developed in three stages. Stage 1 involved four pens and a maximum of 500SCU. Stage 1 was undertaken in 2002. Stage 2, which commenced in 2006, involved a further five pens and increased the stocking level to 800 SCU. The third stage which was approved in 2018 increased the stocking level to 1400 SCU, involving construction of five additional pens. These pens were partially covered to provide shelter for the animals and to reduce amenity impacts to surrounding properties.

This application is for the proposed fourth stage of the feedlot development, to increase the capacity to 1,600 SCU. This stage will include the construction of four additional covered pens, with dimensions of 30 metres by 45 metres, yielding an overall increase in pen area of 5,400 metres squared. The whole of the pens are proposed to be roofed. The roofing will have a height of 5 metres at the lowest point raising up to the apex of 6.5 metres. Drainage from the roof will be directed to the existing water storage dam on the site. Wastewater from the pens will be directed to an existing sediment basin located directly to the east of the proposed pens. A copy of the plans are attached as **Appendix 1**.

#### **Locality Plan**



#### **PROPOSAL**

The subject land is within the Farming Zone and is partially affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay, however the works are located outside the defined Bushfire Management Overlay. Pursuant to the table of uses at Clause 35.07-1 of the Farming Zone, a cattle feedlot of the scale sought (more than 1,000 cattle) is a Section 2 use, provided it complies with the *Victorian Code for Cattle Feedlots 1995* (VCCF), which is an incorporated document in the planning scheme.

The existing site is operating under approval of the VCCF as the existing feedlot is in excess of 1000 cattle housed within the feedlot. The site has been audited previously to ensure compliance with VCCF. The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) undertook their audit in 2019 and provided Council with written advice regarding compliance with the code.

If the proposal, or its operation, does not comply with the VCCF, the use of the land for a cattle feedlot is prohibited.

Clause 53.08 of the planning scheme specifically relates to cattle feedlots and requires that any use or development of land for a cattle feedlot must comply with the VCCF.

The permit application includes a report prepared by the applicant which provides various plans, calculations and other information, a waste management plan and an odour assessment.

The only referral under Section 55 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* required under Clause 66 of the planning scheme is to the Minister of Agriculture (Agriculture Victoria). Copies of the application were also provided to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Goulburn Murray Water (GMW), the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBCMA), and the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) under S52 for advice.

No authority objected to the proposal. All the advice agencies provided comments and suggested conditions.

Notice of the application was provided by way of a sign on the subject land and by sending notice by post to neighbouring land owners. Three objections were received in relation to the proposal which are summarised later in the report.

#### DISCUSSION

The application was submitted on 15 January 2024. A request for further information was sent to the permit applicant on 30 January 2024, and a response to the request was supplied on 3 April 2024.

The application was subsequently referred under Section 52 and 55 accordingly to the following authorities on 11 April 2024.

Public notice of the application was completed via letters to the nearby residents, sign on site and publication in the Benalla Ensign newspaper on two concurrent issues. Three objections were received to the notice. Issues raised within the submissions is specified under the heading of community engagement below.

One threshold issue in relation to the proposal is that it must comply with the *Victorian Code for Cattle Feedlots 1995* (VCCF), otherwise it is a prohibited use. In the application documents the proponent states that the proposal complies with the VCCF. As per the referral to the Minister for Agriculture, the proposal is compliant to VCCF, and requirements of the conditions prepared by the Minister requires ongoing compliance with the VCCF.

It is noted that the proposal also complies with the National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots in Australia buffer distances which have more stringent buffer requirements. A National Feedlot Audit Scheme audit completed in 2017, did not note any requirements for corrective actions with the existing operation.

The proponent has submitted the application in the required format. The proposal addresses relevant criteria in the VCCF.

The VCCF is structured such that the design and operation requirements are broken into eight elements. These are:

- Element 1 Location and Size
- Element 2 Design and Construction
- Element 3 Odour
- Element 4 Noise
- Element 5 Waste Storage, Treatment and Use
- Element 6 Traffic and Parking
- Element 7 Landscaping
- Element 8 Operations and Management

Each element includes objectives, accepted standards and for some aspects of design and operation, approved measures.

The objective is a general statement of principle for the design and performance of the feedlot. All feedlots must meet the objectives.

The accepted standards are specific characteristics of performance of the feedlot related to the achievement of the objective. In most cases the standards will define the design or operational requirement. All feedlots must meet the accepted standards.

The accepted standards may be met by using the approved measures set out in the Code or by other means approved by the responsible authority on the advice of the Minister for Agriculture. The approved measures are in the nature of a "deemed-to-comply" provision. If the approved measures are adopted for the design and operation of a feedlot, this will be accepted as the basis for approval.

The application documentation includes a waste management plan prepared by Enviro Ag Australia, which, amongst other things, addresses the management of waste generated by the feedlot operation.

Waste generation including odours and waste management is one of the most critical aspects of the operation of a feedlot. The expanded feedlot will produce approximately 2,464.26 tonnes of dry manure per annum and 20,137 tonnes of wet manure production. This is an increase of 509 tonnes of dry manure per annum and 3,008 tonnes of wet manure from what currently exists on the site at 1400 SCU.

The application documents indicate that odour and waste will be managed in various ways.

- Manure is to be composted in windrows which must be carefully managed to avoid unreasonable odour emissions.
- Liquid waste and solid waste will be applied to agricultural land.
- Solid waste utilisation areas and liquid waste utilisation areas are specified in the environment management plan.
- Waste disposal areas include the feedlot property, and two other properties referred to as the Avondale property and the Lincoln Park property both properties are located within at least 3.5 kilometres of the subject site.
- Best management practices for odour management are as specified in the National Code for Cattle Feedlots in Australia.

It is considered that, amongst other things, the amended application is appropriate with respect to the waste management requirements, including the relative proportions of the different methods of waste management.

Council in its capacity as the responsible authority under the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987 must determine the permit application.

If the Council decision is appealed by any party to VCAT, the Council has a statutory role in being a party to the appeal and informing and assisting VCAT.

#### Referrals

Authority	Referral Type	Response
Environmental Protection Authority Victoria (EPA)	Section 52	No Objection – Recommended Conditions
Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA)	Section 55	Referred onto the Minister for Agriculture
Goulbourn Murray Water (GMW)	Section 52	No Objection – Subject to Conditions
Goulbourn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBCMA)	Section 52	No Objection – Recommended Conditions
The Hon. Ros Spence – Minister for Agriculture	Section 55	Request for Further Information. Additional Information provided on 16 July 2024 and re-referred on 17 July 2024 Consent with Conditions
Engineering Services	Internal	Consent with Conditions

#### **OBJECTOR CONCERNS**

Notice of the application was provided by way of a sign on the subject land, placing a notice in the 'Benalla Ensign' and by post to adjoining and surrounding landowners and occupiers.

Three objections were received in relation to the proposal. The planning grounds of objection included the following:

Use of other codes beyond the Victorian Code for Cattle Feedlots

It is noted that the application as submitted included reference to other codes rather than the VCCF, the Minister for Agriculture also advised of this, and requested further information be provided specifically to demonstrate compliance with this code.

The Minster's request was satisfied with the further information provided for the application and following referral back the Minister for Agriculture's office in which consent subject to conditions was supplied. It was considered that had this information been supplied to objectors it is unlikely this would have resulted in withdrawal of their objections based on other matters listed within their submissions.

#### Site has regularly been in breach of its previous approvals

At the time of preparing this report, Council has not been made aware of any complaints. It was noted during the planning process that the road improvements required to the intersection of Irvine Road And Sayers Road as part of the previous planning permit conditions had not been completed. The applicant was advised that a decision would not be made on the current planning application until the intersection works required by the previous planning permit were complete. The intersection treatment is now completed in accordance with the previously approved planning permit.

The site has undergone multiple audits from Government Departments and Council has not been made aware of any breaches to the VCCF code. In the absence of evidence, Council cannot give weight to this ground for objection.

Site does not have capacity to comply with the code

The application as submitted has been considered by Council as well as multiple other government agencies including the Minister for Agriculture who have all provided consent to the application. As part of the assessment against the VCCF, it is considered that the site has capacity for expansion subject to appropriate management conditions.

#### Odour.

The proposal has been referred to the EPA which advised of no objection to the proposal subject to conditions. The conditions relate to odour emissions from the site. The application includes design and operation best practice guidelines as mitigation methods from the increase. Having considered the proposal and comments from the EPA and the Minister for Agriculture Office, it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements of the code for Odour Management.

It is also noted that since the previous application, a closed, or covered, anaerobic digestion system has been installed. This traps the biogas emitted from the waste which can then be converted into different forms of energy and reduces odour emissions formed.

#### Truck traffic

Traffic from trucks moving cattle is not sought to be increased, since the previous approval to 1400 SCU. The following information has been obtained from the applicant regarding truck movements on site since the previous expansion to the cattle feedlot:

Truck Movements	<b>Existing Conditions</b>
Inwards (per month)	24
Outwards (per month)	13
Total Truck Movements (per month)	37

An existing condition of the previous planning permit required upgrades to the intersection of Irvine Road and Sayers Road. As above these works have now been completed.

Council has also approved previously and will endorse again the heavy vehicle transport routes as per the plan prepared by Gordon Gibson Nominees, drawing 0901 dated 06/18.

The existing road network already caters for vehicle movements to and from the site. The road is constructed but is not sealed and it is Council's responsibility to ensure that the road is maintained in good working order. The *Road Management Act* does allow the Council to recover costs for increased maintenance to roadways.

#### Pest birds

Concern has been raised that the proposal is increasing the amount of pest birds to the area, which in turn increases noise impact and has the impact of these birds causing damage to crops and trees on surrounding properties. The birds highlighted as being a pest is the cockatoo.

Cockatoos are a native species and there are many activities on farmland that can already attract the cockatoo. Farming activities such as seed raising, cropping and other forms of horticulture attract cockatoos to an area for food. Although the subject site may increase bird numbers, this proposal is not markedly different from other farming activities that may also attract birds such as Cockatoos to a property. It is also noted, the new area is roofed and is likely to limit potential increase to bird species.

#### Decrease in land value

Devaluation is not envisaged by the planning scheme to be a valid planning consideration and as a result this impact has not been assessed as part of this planning application.

It is noted that there is opposition from neighbouring land owners to the proposed extension. A decision by the Council to determine that a permit should be granted for the proposed extension may be appealed to VCAT by either the objectors or the applicant against conditions of the permit. In the instance that Council decides to Refuse to Grant a Permit the applicant also has a right of appeal to VCAT. It should be noted that the previous planning application for 1,200SCU was not appealed by either party to VCAT.

#### **PLANNING POLICY**

The proposal accords with relevant planning policy in a broad sense.

The core purpose of the Farming Zone is to provide for the use of land for agriculture.

Council's Municipal Planning Framework (MPS) and Planning Policy Framework (PPF) recognises that the local economy is focused on agriculture, employing over 11.6 percent of the workforce and that beef production is a major agricultural industry.

The PPF states that Council is committed to maintaining a diverse economy, especially in the main economic sectors, which includes agriculture. Clause 02.03-4 of the PPF states that Council will encourage and support viable and diversified agricultural pursuits.

The planning scheme also includes policy at Clause 14.01-1S for the protection of agricultural land and Clause 14.01-2S for sustainable agricultural land use, these policies include effects that air quality is to be protected and improved. Appropriate separation distances are to be utilised between uses that reduce amenity and sensitive land uses.

Provided potential environmental impacts of the proposal are adequately addressed, the proposal is satisfactory in planning terms.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

It is noted that there is opposition from neighbouring land owners to the proposed extension.

A decision by the Council to determine that a permit should be granted for the proposed extension may be appealed to VCAT by either the objectors or the applicant against conditions of the permit. In the instance that Council decides to Refuse to Grant a Permit the applicant also has a right of appeal to VCAT.

It should be noted that the previous planning application for 1,200SCU was not appealed by either party to VCAT.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The *Victorian Code for Cattle Feedlots 1995* (VCCF) is intended to facilitate new feedlots and the expansion of existing feedlots while achieving satisfactory environmental outcomes. In the absence of any expert evidence to the contrary, compliance with the 'deemed to satisfy' approved measures can be taken as satisfying the particular approved measure.

In terms of the current proposal, the proposal satisfies the approved measures in the VCCF, and there is no expert evidence to the contrary. The Council may be satisfied that the environmental measures have been addressed to the extent considered appropriate by the VCCF.

The Minister for Agriculture's Office has also provided its consent subject to implementation of the submitted Waste Management Plan, Odour Management Plan and Hydrological Modelling.

The current proposal exceeds the buffer requirements of the VCCF as it complies with the National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots, which are more extensive in terms of buffer distances.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Council in its capacity as the responsible authority under the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987 must determine the permit application.

If the Council decision is appealed by any party to VCAT, the Council has a statutory role in being a party to the appeal and informing and assisting VCAT.

#### **CONCLUSION**

A number of objections were received regarding the proposal, and it is acknowledged that the use may result in minor amenity impacts on the objectors.

However, the proposal complies with the set guidelines of the VCCF and national code.

The proposal is part of a growing agricultural enterprise that forms part of a significant sector of the local economy, for which there is general policy support.

Having regard to the relevant considerations in the planning scheme, including the VCCF, it is considered that the proposal, on balance, will result in a satisfactory planning outcome.

#### **OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflicts of interest in this matter.

#### Recommendation:

That Council having caused notice of Planning Application No. P0009/24 to be given under Section 52 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and having considered all the matters required under Section 60 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* decides to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit under the provisions of the Benalla Planning Scheme in respect of the land known and described as 492 Irvine Road, Thoona for the extension of an existing cattle feedlot in accordance with the endorsed plans and subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The entire use and/or development hereby permitted must also comply with the National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots 2013 (NGBCF), unless the NGBCF is contrary to the Victorian Code for Cattle Feedlots 1995 (VCCF) or the NGBCF imposes a lower standard than the VCCF.
- 2. Amended Plans Required.
  - Before the development starts, amended plans to the satisfaction of the responsible authority must be submitted to and approved by the responsible authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and a minimum of three copies (or as specified) must be provided. Such plan must be generally in accordance with the application, but modified to show:
  - a Any new proposed chemical storage areas;
  - b The location and orientation of floodlighting and/or security lighting, if proposed.
- 3. Drainage Discharge Plan.

The drainage layout detailed on the drawings prepared by Gordon Gibson Nominees Drawing Number 0601 (Rev 3) shall be endorsed and form part of the planning permit.

4. Layout Not Altered

The use and/or development as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the written consent of the responsible authority.

#### 5. Audits and Reviews.

- a Site performance inspections, site audits and reviews of the feedlot operation and WMP must be undertaken by an auditor accredited under the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme consultant on an annual basis.
- b Any complaints received by the responsible authority and passed to the operator in relation to any environmental or waste management issues are to be documented and acted on at the time of receipt and provided to the auditor when inspection occurs.
- c Within four weeks of the inspection and upon a report from the audit by the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme, the permit holder must forward a copy of a report on the inspection and audit to the responsible authority. The report must be accompanied with an action plan that sets out how the operations and WMP will be modified to address any areas of noncompliance or other issues identified.
- d Any corrective actions are to be outlined by the applicant with a reasonable timeframe for implementation for approval by the Responsible Authority. The timeline must reflect the risk and/ or community impact of the issue.
- e Once corrective actions are outlined by the applicant and approved the Responsible Authority will notify the objectors of how they can access the audit report and plan for corrective actions.

#### 6. General Amenity.

The use and/or development of the land must not unreasonably adversely affect the amenity of the area, by way of:

- a Processes carried on the land;
- b The transportation of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;
- c The appearance of any buildings, works or materials;
- d The emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, grit, or oil; or
- e The presence of vermin.
- 7. Chemicals must be stored in a secure covered building at all times when not in use. A secondary containment system must be provided for the fuel storage in accordance with the EPA Publication 347 Bunding Guidelines 1992 or as amended.
- 8. Internal accesses.

Before the use begins all internal access roads to the new pens must be surfaced with crushed rock, formed, finished and drained to the satisfaction of the responsible authority in accordance with the Infrastructure Design Manual.

#### 9. Traffic.

- a The approved heavy vehicle transport route to and from the site must be as per drawings provided by Gordon Gibson Nominees drawing number 0801 & 0802 dated 05/18.
- b The responsible authority is to be paid a fee of 0.75 per cent of the total construction costs for these works for the approval of said plans plus 2.5 per cent for supervision of construction, such fees to be paid prior to the commencement of any works.

#### 10. Waste Management

- a The use must be undertaken in accordance with the waste management plan prepared by EnviroAg Australia dated 28 March 2024 and as amended from time to time as required by Condition 5.
- b Solid waste within the animal pens is to be managed in accordance with the Code to achieve the performance outcomes under Part 6.
- c Dead cattle must not be disposed of on site.
- d Solid waste storage and processing is to be managed in accordance with the Code to achieve the performance outcomes under Parts 5 & 6 as outlined in the Waste Management Plan.
- e Land application of solid waste on the site subject to this application is to be undertaken at a rate appropriate for the soil type and the type of pasture/crop grown. The rate of application should ensure relevant N,P and K uptake such that there can be no discharge of excess nutrients to any waterways.
- f Solids removed from the feed pad must not be spread within 40 metres of any natural drainage lines, the Rural Flood Overlay or any active flow paths.
- g Liquid waste water management is to be in accordance with the Code to achieve the performance outcomes under Part 6 as outlined in the Waste Management Plan.
- h Unless otherwise approved in writing by the responsible authority all water from the retention dams must be re-used within the boundaries of the lot. If climatic conditions are significantly wetter than average for an extended period of time written approval must be sought from EPA for the overflow to land may operate.
- i Retention dams which must be designed with a minimum capacity and freeboard to enable the run off from 1:50 year storm to be retained.

  Overflow must not cause erosion.
- j All wastewater drains are to be maintained to have a minimum capacity to hold water generated by a 1:20 year rain event.
- k Following each de-sludging of the retention dams, evidence is to be provided that they have a maximum hydraulic conductivity 1x10-9m/s so as to minimise ground water contamination. Any new retention dams must comply with this standard.

#### 11. Odours.

Management of operations is to ensure that offensive odours and dust that adversely impact upon the amenity of nearby sensitive land use is minimised. If the Responsible Authority determines that the amenity of nearby residents is adversely affected by the emission of an unreasonable level of odour from the subject land, the permit holder must take such action as is required to prevent those emissions to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. This may include but is not limited to adjusting stocking density in the pens, treating or removing waste materials, or any other actions reasonably required to rectify the emission of offensive odour.

12. All construction must be in accordance with sediment control principles outlined in 'Construction Techniques for Sediment Pollution Control' (EPA, 1991).

#### **Minister for Agriculture Conditions**

- 13. The use and development of the cattle feedlot must comply with the Victorian Code for Cattle Feedlots August 1995 to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- 14. The permit allows up to a maximum of 1,600 Standard Cattle Units
- 15. The use and development of the cattle feedlot must be in accordance with:
  - a. "Waste Management Plan Proposed feedlot expansion to 1,600 SCU", prepared by EnviroAg Australia to the satisfaction of responsible authority.
  - b. "Odour Assessment Proposed feedlot expansion to 1,600 SCU", prepared by EnviroAg Australia to the satisfaction of responsible authority.
  - c. "Hydrological Modelling Proposed feedlot expansion to 1,600 SCU, Long Gully Feedlot, Thoona, VIC", prepared by EnviroAg Australia to the satisfaction of responsible authority.

#### **Goulburn-Murray Water Conditions**

- 16. All construction and ongoing activities must be in accordance with EPA Publication 1834.1 Civil Construction, Building and Demolition Guide (September 2023).
- 17. Any effluent or wastewater generated from the feed pad/feed lot area must be discharged to an appropriately sized effluent pond via an appropriate drainage and collection system.
- 18. The effluent pond must be compacted to a permeability of no greater than 1x10-9 metre/second and be of sufficient capacity and design such that all effluent and liquid waste can be accommodated in the event that conditions are too wet for irrigation/re-use.
- 19. Contaminated stormwater from the feed pad/feed lot and manure stockpile area must be separated from uncontaminated stormwater and must not be discharged to any waterways.
- 20. The floor of the manure stockpile must be compacted and sealed such that no moisture is able to seep from the stockpile into the soil and the stockpile must be bunded to ensure all run-off is diverted to the effluent pond system.
- 21. Irrigation and wastewater reuse from the effluent ponds must be managed in accordance with the principles and requirements outlined in EPA Publications 1910.2 Victorian Guideline for Water Recycling and 1911.2 Technical Information for the Victorian Guideline for Water Recycling (March 2021) and 168: Guidelines for Wastewater Irrigation (April 1991).
- 22. Application of effluent to land either directly or through shandying with irrigation water must be done in a manner which optimises the uptake of water, nutrients and other pollutants such that they don't leach to groundwater or runoff to surface waters. The rate and application method must be consistent with the capability of the land and appropriate for the type of plant grown, the soil type and topography. N, P and K loading rates must not be exceeded. Appropriate harvesting must be undertaken to ensure nutrient removal.
- 23. Stormwater run-off from the shed must be dissipated as normal unconcentrated overland flow or directed to a storage tank or dam.

#### **Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority Conditions**

- 24. All drainage associated with the development should be managed and be retained on site.
- 25. To minimise groundwater contamination, the any new dam associated with effluent management should have a maximum hydraulic conductivity 1x10-9 m/s.
- 26. Time for starting and completion.

This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

- a The development is not started within two (2) years of the date of this permit.
- b The development is not completed within four (4) years of the date of this permit.
- c The use is not commenced within four (4) years of the date of this permit. The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or otherwise in accordance with Section 69 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

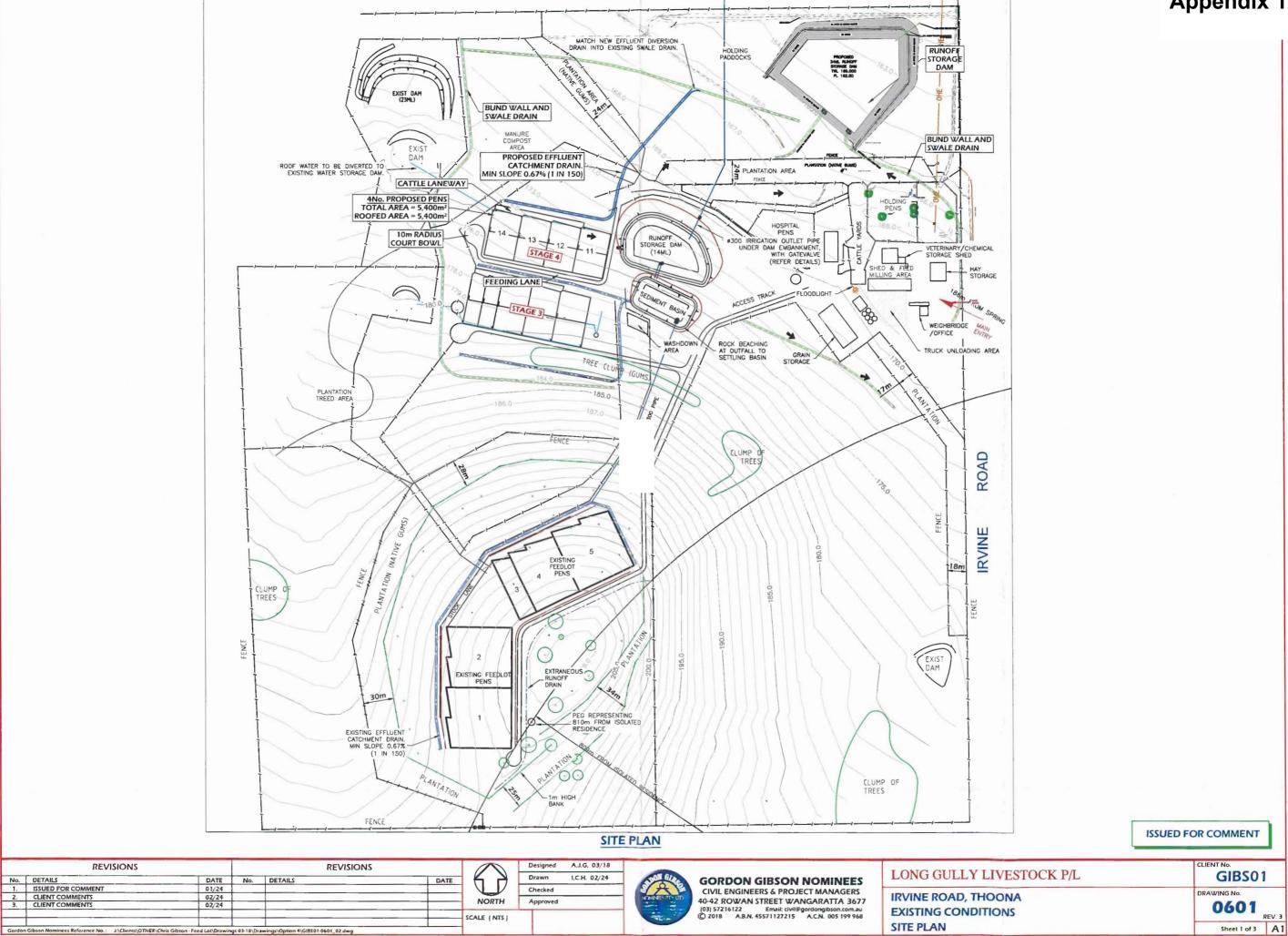
#### **General Notes**

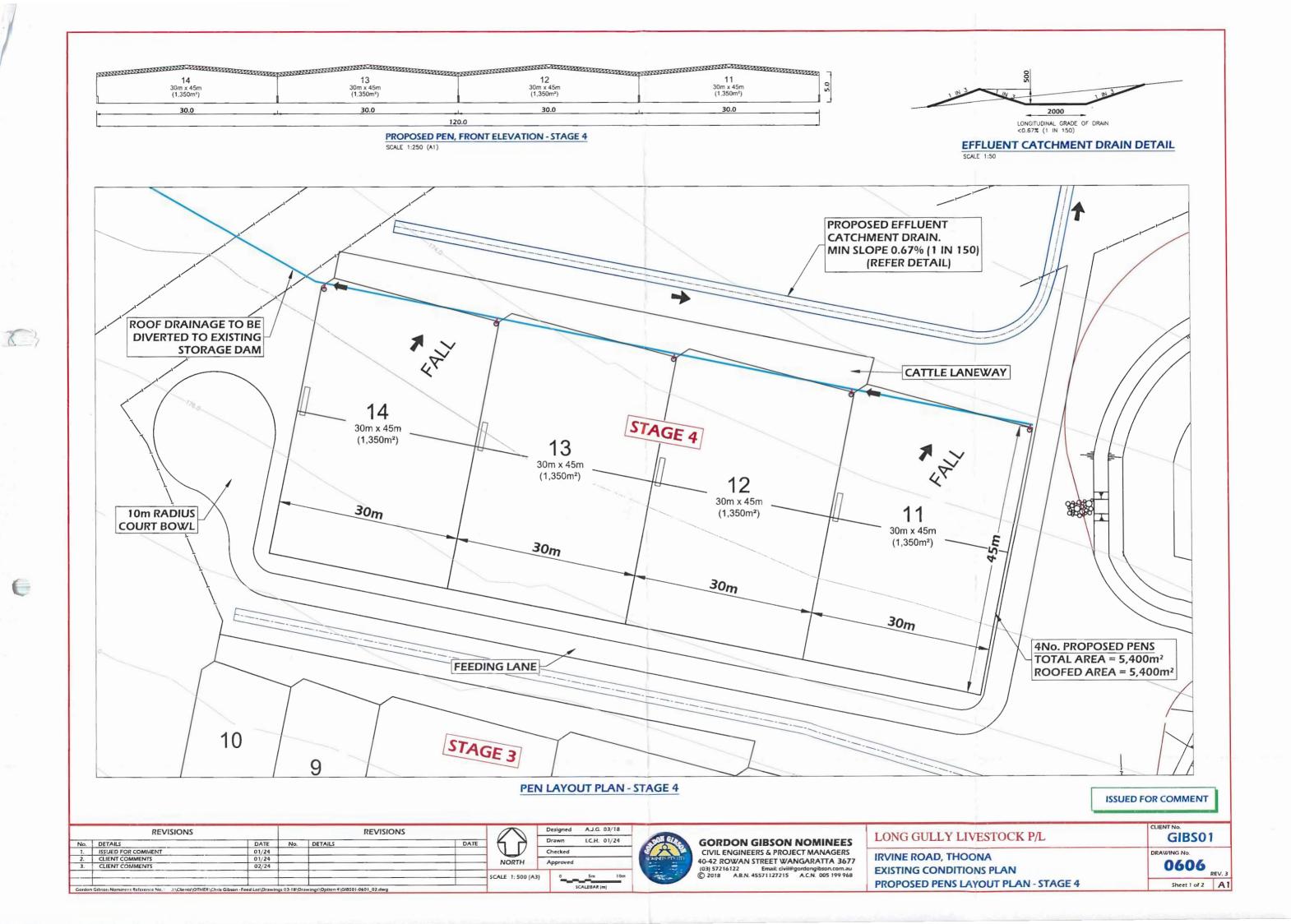
- 1. The granting of this permit does not obviate the necessity for compliance with the requirements of any other authority under any act, regulation or local law.
- 2. A asset protection permit is required prior to the commencement of any woks on site.
- 3. A consent to work within a road reserve must be obtained from the Responsible Authority prior to the carrying out of any vehicle crossing works.
- 4. This permit does not authorise the commencement of any building construction works. Before any such development may commence, the applicant must apply for and obtain appropriate building approval.

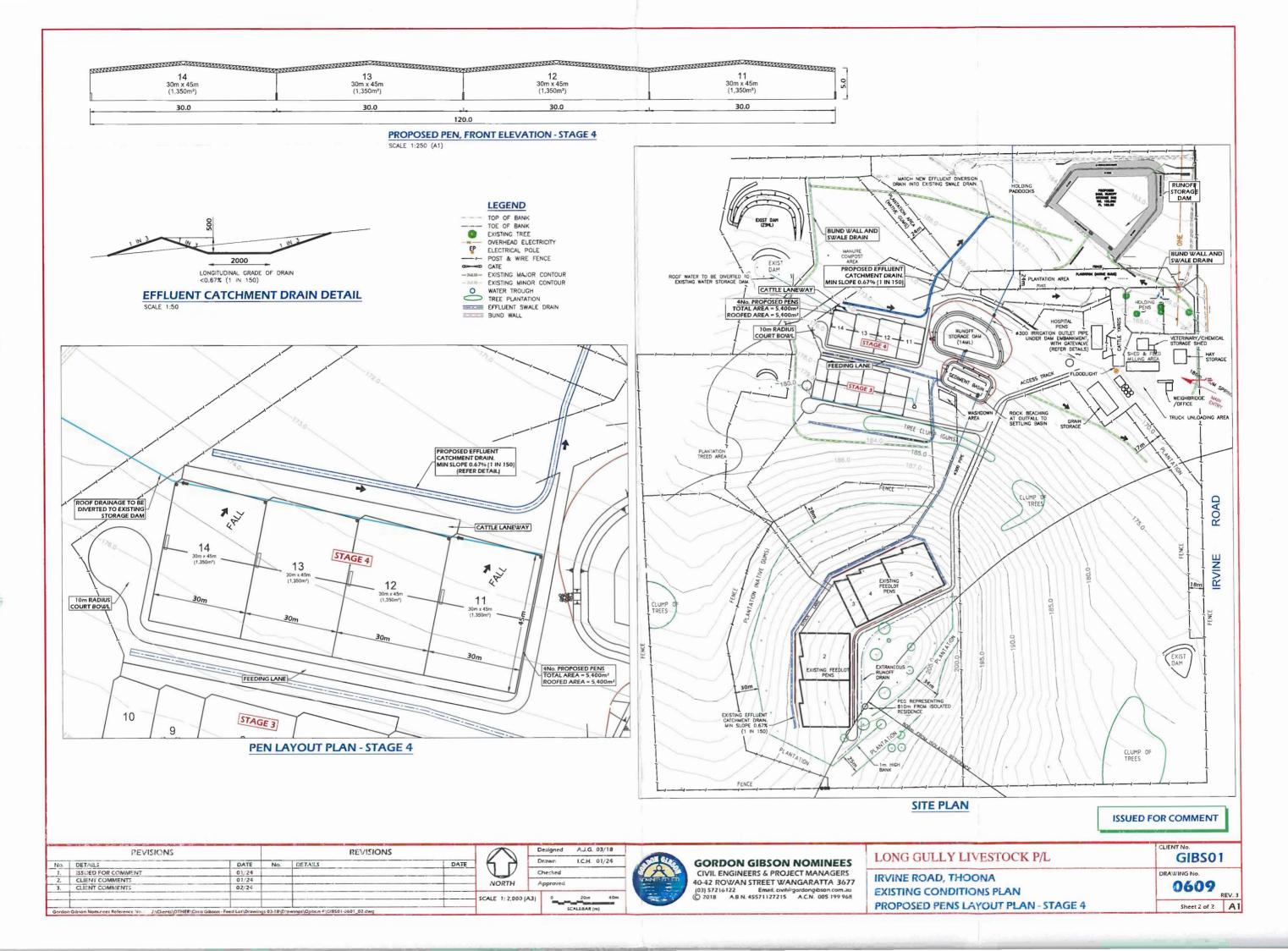
#### **EPA Note**

1. The Environment Protection Act 2017 came into effect on 1 July 2021. The Environment Protection Act 2017 imposes duties on individuals and/or businesses undertaking the activity permitted by this permit. If your business engages in activities that may give rise to a risk to human health or the environment from pollution or waste, you must understand those risks and take action to minimise them as far as reasonably practicable.

## **Appendix 1**







#### 2. Building and Planning Approvals – September and October 2024

SF/255

Sarah Ford – Building Coordinator Joel Ingham – Planning Coordinator Nilesh Singh – Manager Development

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The report details planning permit applications and building approvals for September and October 2024.

### Planning Permit Applications Determined under Officer Delegation September 2024

File	No	Description	Property Address	Decision
1	DA7681	Construction of a dwelling	5 Piccadilly Court, Benalla	Approved
2	DA7271	Construction of a carport, shed and outbuilding	14 Union Street, Benalla	Approved
3	DA6050	Construction of a dwelling	13 Crammond Street, Benalla	Approved
4	DA6965	Construction of a shed	36 Lakeside Drive, Chesney Vale	Approved
5	DA373	Construction of a shed	15 Market Street, Benalla	Approved
6	DA7682	Constructions of buildings and works for a warehouse	30 Enterprise Drive, Benalla	Approved

#### October 2024

File	No	Description	Property Address	Decision
1	DA7689	Construction of an outbuilding	213 Baddaginnie–Benalla Road, Benalla	Approved
2	DA7390	Development of a dwelling	45 Benson Street, Benalla	Approved
3	DA6204	Construction of buildings and works in association with the existing dwelling	184 Booth Road, Taminick	Approved
4	DA6886	Removal of native vegetation	Within the Road Reserve at Goorambat–Chesney Road, Goorambat	Approved
5	DA7033	Construction of a dwelling	320C Whites Road, Warrenbayne	Approved
6	DA4482	Use and development of the land for a dwelling	471 Greta Road, Glenrowan West	Approved
7	DA7685	Construction of a carport	14 Arundel Street, Benalla	Approved
8	DA7056	Extension to the existing bungalow	204 Samaria Road, Benalla	Approved
9	DA3268	Construction of a shed	11 Crammond Street, Benalla	Approved
10	DA5471/2	Development of a building associated with education	36 Arundel Street, Benalla	Approved

File	No	Description	Property Address	Decision
11	DA7545	Construction of a dwelling	24 Mayfair Drive, Benalla	Approved
12	DA7681	Construction of a shed	5 Piccadilly Court, Benalla	Approved
13	DA7679	Construction of six dwellings	3-5 Senator Drive, Benalla	Approved (Notice of Decision)
14	DA6897	Development of an outbuilding	92 Lakeside Drive, Chesney Vale	Approved
15	DA2970	Buildings and works for a verandah	2/25 Barkly Street, Benalla	Approved

### Planning Permit Amendments Determined Under Officer Delegation September 2024

There were no planning permit amendments determined under officer delegation during the month of September 2024.

#### October 2024

File	No	Description	Property Address	Decision
1	DA7360	Construction of a shed	6 Mayfair Drive, Benalla	Approved
2	DA6306	Construction of a truck wash bay	22 Irwin Road, Benalla	Approved

## Planning Permits Issued Under VicSmart September 2024

File	No	Description	Property Address
1	DA6965	Construction of a shed	36 Lakeside Drive, Chesney Vale
2	DA7682	Constructions of buildings and works for a warehouse	30 Enterprise Drive, Benalla

#### October 2024

File	No	Description	Property Address
1	DA3268	Construction of a shed	11 Crammond Street, Benalla

#### Planning Permit Applications and Amendments Determined by the Council

There were no planning permit applications determined by the Council during the months of September and October 2024.

## Planning Permit Applications Withdrawn or Lapsed September 2024

File	No	Description	Property Address	Decision
1	DA7669	Construction of Rural Workers Accommodation	485 Green Road, Molyullah	Withdrawn

#### October 2024

There were no planning permit applications withdrawn or lapsed during the month of October 2024.

#### **Notices of Decision**

#### September 2024

There were no Notice of Decisions issued during the month of September 2024.

#### October 2024

File	No	Description	Property Address
1	DA7679	Construction of six dwellings	3-5 Senator Drive, Benalla

A Notice of Decision (NOD) is issued when Council has decided to grant a planning permit when objection(s) are received regarding the application.

An objector may appeal to Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) against the decision to grant the permit within 21 days of a Notice of Decision being issued. After 28 days if no appeal has been lodged Council will issue the Planning Permit.

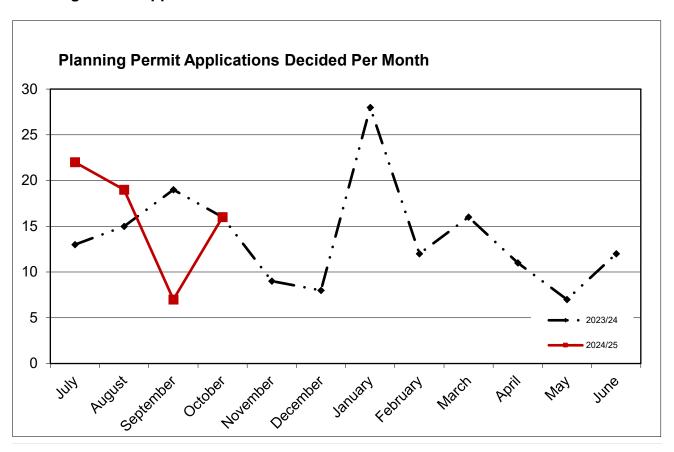
#### Planning Permit Applications Determined by VCAT

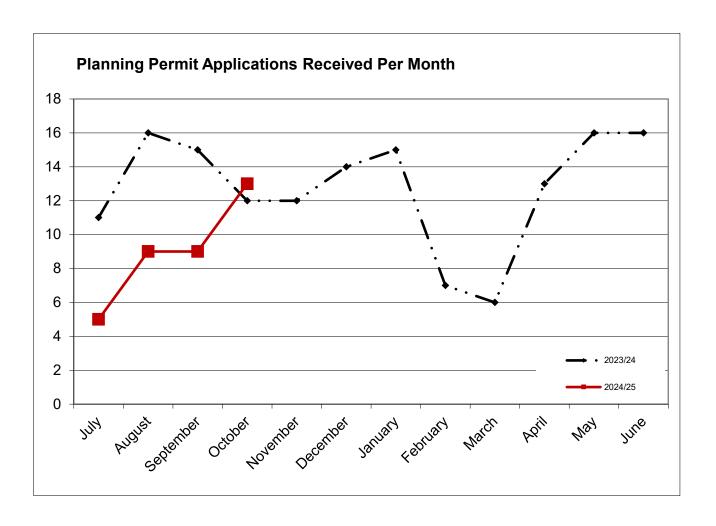
There were no planning permit applications determined by VCAT during the month of September 2024.

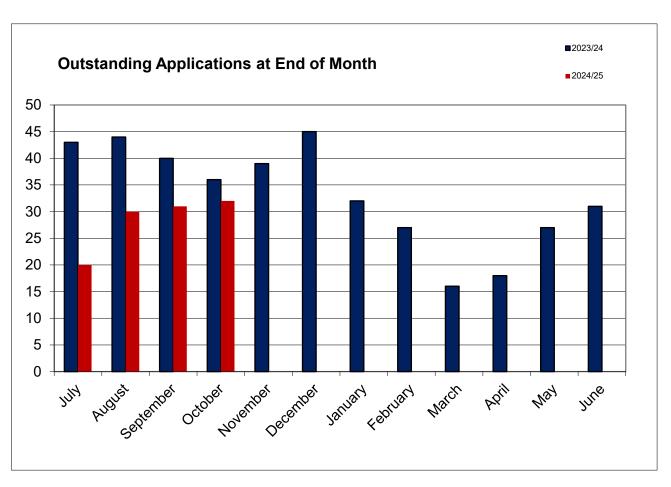
#### **Matters Before VCAT**

There are no planning related matters currently before VCAT.

#### **Planning Permit Applications**







## **Building Approvals Issued by Council and Private Practitioners September 2024**

File	No	Description	Property Address	Value
1	BLD2400016	Construction of a shed	Benalla Showgrounds, Arundel Street Benalla	\$13,261
2	BLD2400019	Construction of a shed	25 Tulley Road, Lima East	\$26,000
3	BLD2400020	Replace roof sheeting	17 Hangar Lane, Benalla	\$61,275
4	BLD2400022	Construction of a shed	59 Benson Street, Benalla	\$34,241
5	DA7004	Construction of a shed	10 Levy Court, Benalla	\$185,700
6	PBLD2400016	Construction of a dwelling and garage	12 Willis Little Drive, Benalla	\$300,000
7	PBLD2400027	Construction of a dwelling and garage	41 William Street, Benalla	\$391,940
8	PBLD2400072	Construction of a dwelling and garage	721 Burness Road, Tarnook	\$955,397
9	PBLD2400075	Alterations to an existing dwelling	398 Love Road, Stewarton	\$122,550
10	PBLD2400079	Construction of a swimming pool or spa	29A Charles Street, Benalla	\$60,000
11	PBLD2400081	Refurbishment of existing toilet facilities	127-139 Waller Street, Benalla	\$439,429
12	PBLD2400083	Construction of a dwelling and garage	51 Inglis Road, Benalla	\$461,100
13	PBLD2400084	Construction of a swimming pool	1997 Samaria Road, Moorngag	\$74,060
14	PBLD2400085	Construction of a shed	14 Dunn Street, Benalla	\$60,262
15	PBLD2400086	Construction of a shed	116 Lee Road, Winton	\$39,235
16	PBLD2400087	Alterations to an existing dwelling	55 Faithfull Street, Benalla	\$21,560
17	PBLD2400090	Construction of a swimming pool	37 Inglis Road, Benalla	\$59,180
18	PBLD2400091	Restumping of an existing dwelling	67 Waller Street, Benalla	\$9,000
19	PBLD2400092	Demolition of toilet block and classroom	413 Quinn Road, Broken Creek	\$84,795
20	PBLD2400093	Construction of a farm shed	Lot 21B O'Dea Road, Molyullah	\$247,146
21	PBLD2400098	Construction of a shed and carport	25 Bourke Drive, Benalla	\$92,009
22	PBLD2400100	Construction of five units	17 Mary Street, Benalla	\$1,175,851
23	PBLD2400101	Construction of a dwelling and garage	240 Asbury Road, Lurg	\$913,340
24	PBLD2400103	Demolition of the Salvation Army building	83 Bridge Street West, Benalla	\$28,600

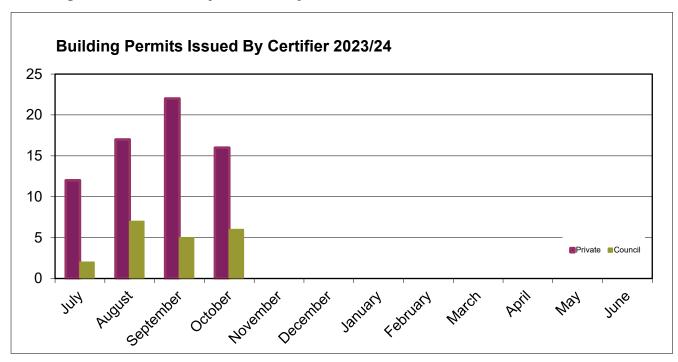
File No		Description	Property Address	Value
25	PBLD2400106	Landscaping works and construction of walkways	44 Clarke Street, Benalla	\$295,748
26	PBLD2400114	Construction of a dwelling and garage	39 Roynic Parade, Benalla	\$374,950
27	PBLD2400116	Construction of a dwelling and garage	13 Ambridge Avenue, Benalla	\$314,218
Tota	ıl			\$6,840,847

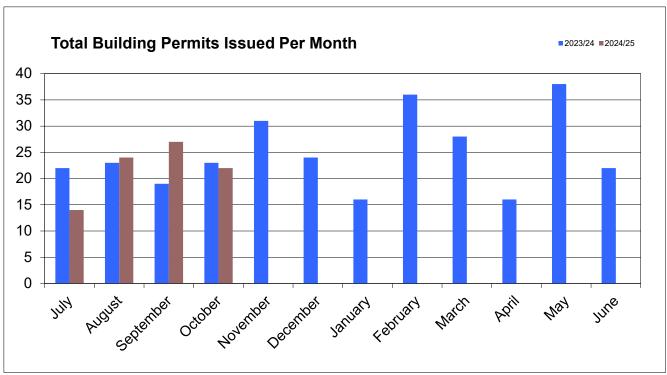
#### October 2024

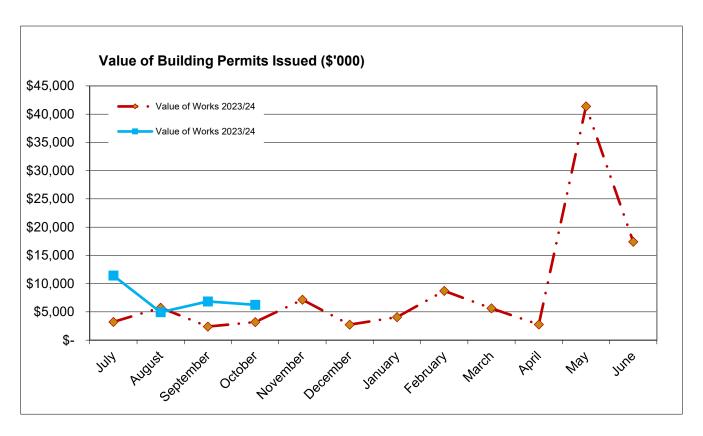
File No		Description	Property Address	Value
1	BLD240006	Construction of a dwelling extension	37 Salisbury Street Benalla	\$255,200
2	BLD2400013	Construction of a garage	14 Dawn Street, Benalla	\$15,435
3	BLD2400018	Construction of a shed	26 Goodenia Drive, Benalla	\$14,870
4	BLD2400023	Construction of a shed	82 Dennis Road, Benalla	\$58,528
5	BLD2400024	Alterations to an existing office building	26 Church Street, Benalla	\$522,479
6	BLD2400033	Restumping of existing dwelling	16 Kent Street, Benalla	\$11,800
7	PBLD2400021	Construction of a dwelling and garage	2/53 Charles Street, Benalla	\$270,000
8	PBLD2400038	Construction of a dwelling and garage	13 Bourke Drive, Benalla	\$323,949
9	PBLD2400108	Minor internal alteration - remove internal wall	8 Tatong - Moorngag Road, Tatong	\$5,000
10	PBLD2400109	Proposed alterations to dwelling and construction of ramp	2/31 Walker Street Benalla	\$158,753
11	PBLD2400110	Construction of a shed	92 Lakeside Drive Chesney Vale	\$101,640
12	PBLD2400111	Extension to existing place of assembly and storage shed	85 Bridge Street West, Benalla	\$2,113,389
13	PBLD2400118	Construction of a new dwelling and garage	17 Bourke Drive, Benalla	\$311,960
14	PBLD2400120	Construction of a dwelling and garage	5 Piccadilly Court, Benalla	\$389,740
15	PBLD2400124	Alteration to an existing dwelling	105 Faithfull Street, Benalla	\$14,100
16	PBLD2400127	Re-stump part of the existing dwelling	686 Webb Road, Goomalibee	\$27,500
17	PBLD2400128	Construction of a shed	6 Senator Drive, Benalla	\$30,752
18	PBLD2400129	Construction of a dwelling and garage	21 Goodenia Drive Benalla	\$461,778

File No		Description	Property Address	Value
19	PBLD2400131	Construction of a shed	61 Inglis Road, Benalla	\$32,905
20	PBLD2400132	Construction of a dwelling and garage	10 Kingsley Street, Benalla	\$400,000
21	PBLD2400140	Construction of a dwelling and garage	8 Croft Court, Benalla	\$305,420
22	PBLD2400142	Construction of a dwelling and garage	16 Ambridge Avenue, Benalla	\$422,454
Tota	ıl			\$6,247,652

#### **Building Permits Issued by Certifier by Month**







#### COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 IMPLICATIONS

#### Community

- A healthy, Safe and resilient community.
- A connected, involved and inclusive community.

#### Livability

- Vibrant public spaces and places.
- Connected and accessible roads, footpaths, transport and parking.

#### **Economy**

Population growth.

#### **Environment**

Healthy and protected natural environment.

#### Leadership

Good governance.

#### **OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflicts of interest in this matter.

#### Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

#### 3. 2024/2025 Quick Response Grants

SF/2857

Tom Arnold – Community Development and Recreation Coordinator

Jane Archbold – Manager Community

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The report presents funding applications for 2024/25 Quick Response Grants.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Quick Response grant program enables local community groups, clubs and organisations to seek funding to increase their capacity to work in partnership with the Council and others to address local needs and enhance the local community.

The program distributes grants up to \$500 allowing local clubs, groups and organisations the opportunity to seek funds when the need arises.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Applications for consideration under the 2024/25 Quick Response Grant program are detailed in the table below.

Applicant	Details	Amount Requested	Proposed Assistance
Benalla Homelessness Response Group Inc.	Pocket Guide to Help in Benalla  The Benalla Homelessness Response Group, in partnership with local organisations, has compiled a list of support services, including after-hours assistance for our region. This information will be printed in a pocket-sized directory for distribution through the community to provide information about food relief, homelessness help and other assistance for those experiencing financial hardship, hunger and homelessness.  Funding will go toward printing costs.	\$500	\$500
Rotary Club of Benalla Inc.	Sending Kids to Portsea Camp 2025 Sending 25 socially disadvantaged children from the Benalla district to the 'Make a Difference' camp at Portsea Camp in January 2025. This initiative, supported by the Rotary Club of Benalla and the Council, continues a 70-year tradition, offering children a week of activities in a positive social environment, helping them experience a world beyond their own.	\$500	\$500

Applicant	Details	Amount Requested	Proposed Assistance
Tatong Community Centre and Recreation Reserve	Tatong Community Christmas Gathering Community Christmas event with a BBQ dinner, where Santa arrives on a horse-drawn buggy to give out lolly bags to the kids. The event brings the Tatong community together to connect before Christmas. More than 150 people have attended in recent years. Funding will go towards catering costs.	\$500	\$500
Lima School Community Centre Committee	In 2022 and 2023, the Committee held a 'Community Christmas BBQ' to help reconnect with the community. The event was a huge success, drawing one of the largest crowds the Community Centre has seen in years. Because of its popularity the Committee are seeking funds to help cover the costs of the 2024 BBQ and Santa gifts for the children.  Funding will go towards catering, refreshments, and a gift for the kids from Santa.	\$500	\$500
Winton Community Group	Gathering of Winton Community Members Celebrating the festive season by bringing the community together for a BBQ and Santa visit. The event will also be an opportunity for CFA to provide education and planning for the upcoming fire season. The organisers are hoping to help people become more aware of their neighbours and the needs of the community. To encourage support of one another, create a sense of belonging, and strengthen connections with the CFA. Funding will go towards catering costs.	\$500	\$500
Boweya Community Inc.	Boweya Community 10-Year Fire Commemoration  Boweya's December Christmas get-together is the 10-year anniversary of a devasting fire that impacted the Community. Out of the aftermath the Community group was formed to encourage solidarity between neighbours. The 2024 event will have a Celtic Music group in the background of the Christmas get-together as a solemn but sensitive reflection for the fire event that impacted the Boweya community.  Funding will go towards catering and entertainment costs.	\$500	\$500
Thoona Memorial Hall Inc.	Community Carols and BBQ An annual get-together BBQ and Christmas carols evet for the Thoona community. This is a much-anticipated local event. It is a friendly way for the district folk to get together with other families. It brings the children together for a fun night. Christmas carols will follow the BBQ. Funding will go towards catering.	\$500	\$500

Applicant	Details	Amount Requested	Proposed Assistance
Benalla Table Tennis Association	Club Shirts The club wants to provide shirts for all playing members at no cost to the members. This will enable members to feel part of the club and community. Members of the club come from all areas of the community aging from 12 to 90 years old and from various cultural backgrounds. The club will commit \$712 of their own funds to meet the total cost of \$1,212.	\$500	\$500
Devenish Public Hall Committee of Management Inc	Community Christmas Party The annual Devenish and surrounds community Christmas party. The committee will host the Devenish community for a BBQ, raffles, Santa gifts and Christmas carols played by the Rose City Band. The funding will contribute towards catering, presents, and payment for the Rose City Band. The committee will cover additional costs for the event.	\$500	\$500
Total		\$4,500	\$4,500

#### COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 IMPLICATIONS

#### Community

- A healthy, Safe and resilient community.
- A connected, involved and inclusive community.

#### Leadership

Engaged and informed community.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

In accordance with the Council's *Community Engagement Policy*, it is proposed that community engagement be undertaken at the 'Inform' level under the International Association for Public Participation's IAP2 public participation spectrum.

Level of Public Participation	Promise to the community	Techniques to the used	
Inform	We will provide information	<ul> <li>Promotion of program via media, website and social media.</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Program presented in public reports to the Council.</li> </ul>	
		Outcomes advised directly to applicants.	
		Outcomes detailed in Annual Report.	

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The 2024/25 Budget allocates \$15,000 to the Quick Response Grant program. To date, \$2,971.00 in Quick Response Grant funding has been allocated.

Recipients of support throughout the financial year are detailed in the Annual Report.

#### OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflicts of interest in this matter.

#### Recommendation:

That \$500 grants from the 2024/2025 Quick Response Grant program be allocated to:

- Benalla Homeless Response Group
- Rotary Club of Benalla
- Tatong Community Centre & Recreation Reserve Committee
- Lima School Community Centre Committee
- Winton Community Group
- Boweya Community
- Thoona Memorial Hall
- Benalla Table Tennis Association
- Devenish Public Hall Committee of Management Inc.

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The report considers the vacant Councillor Representative positions on the Audit and Risk Committee.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Council has established an Audit and Risk Committee (the Committee) pursuant to Section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) to support the Council in discharging its oversight responsibilities related to financial and performance reporting, risk management, fraud prevention systems and control, maintenance of a sound internal control environment, assurance activities including internal and external audit and Council's performance with regard to compliance with its policies and legislative and regulatory requirements.

The Committee has no executive authority and no delegated financial responsibilities and is therefore independent of management.

The committee consists of up to six members, including up to four independent members and two councillors.

Rita Ruyters (term expiry 31 December 2025) and Cameron Gray (term expires on 24 April 2027) are the two current independent members on the committee.

Cr Peter Davis and Cr Bernie Hearn represented the Council on the Committee over the 2023/24 council year.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires Councillor representatives to be appointed to the Committee on an annual basis.

The Audit and Risk Committee meets at least four times a year. The next meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee is scheduled for Tuesday 10 December 2024 at 5pm.

Conventionally, one of the Councillor Representatives on the Committee has been the Chair of the Finance and Planning Committee.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

In accordance with the Council's *Community Engagement Policy*, it is proposed that community engagement be undertaken at the *'Inform'* level under the International Association for Public Participation's IAP2 public participation spectrum.

Level of Public Participation	Promise to the community	Techniques to be used
Inform	We will provide information	<ul><li>Public report presented to the Council.</li><li>Report posted to Council's website.</li></ul>

#### COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 IMPLICATIONS

#### Leadership

- Good governance.
- High performance culture.
- Engaged and informed community.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no material financial implications with appointing councillor representatives to the Audit and Risk Committee.

#### **OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflicts of interest in this matter.

Recommendation:	
That Councillor be appoint the Councillor representatives on the Benalla Rural City Council Audit and I Committee for the 2024/25 Council Year.	

#### 5. Urgent Business

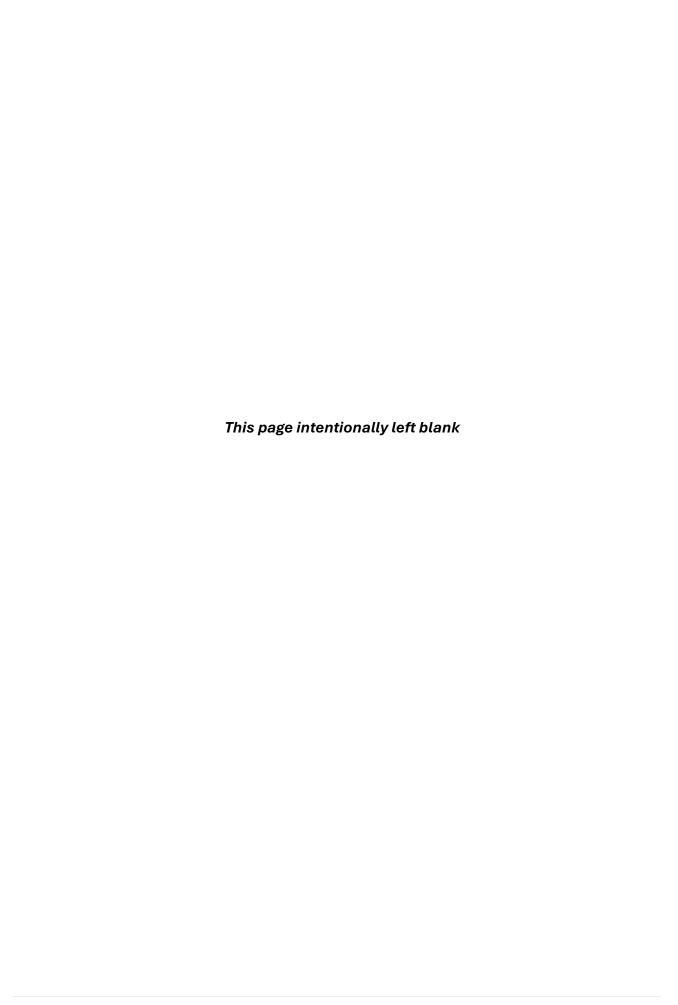
#### **Confidential Business**

It is proposed that the following items be considered in confidential business pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020* as they contain personal information or private commercial information that would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about a person, their personal affairs or expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking if released:

- 6.1 Tender for Contract CM25.006 Supply and Delivery of a Truck Mounted Street Sweeper
- 6.2 Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee

#### Recommendation:

That the meeting be closed to the public for the consideration of the confidential business item noted above pursuant to Sections 3(1) and Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020.



Recommendation:

That the meeting be reopened to the public.

7. Reopening of the meeting to the public

**Closure of Meeting**