

**21 MUNICIPAL STRATEGIC STATEMENT**

15/07/2010  
C76

**21.01 Municipal Profile**

15/07/2010  
C76

The Baw Baw Shire Council was created on December 2, 1994 from the former Shires of Buln Buln, Narracan and Warragul and part of the Upper Yarra Shire. With an area of 4,027 square kilometres, the Shire is located in West Gippsland in south-east Victoria between Melbourne's south eastern growth corridor and the Latrobe Valley. The Shire is a municipality of great natural beauty and is bordered by the Great Dividing Range to the north and the Strzelecki Ranges to the south. It has some of Australia's finest agricultural land at its heart.

The population of the Baw Baw Shire in 2006 was 38,484 people, of which 23,381 resided in the nine largest towns. The two main towns are Warragul and Drouin. The projected population for the Shire to the year 2031 is estimated to be about 47,928. In common with State trends, the older age groups (particularly 50-64 years) are projected to increase at a greater rate than younger age groups.