21.06 MONITORING & REVIEW

19/01/2006
VC37

The Mitchell Shire Council's Corporate Plan

The Shire's Corporate Plan recognises that the future of the Shire highlights seven significant issues which are common across the Shire. These issues are:

Integration - between planning, development and service provision.

Diversity - between each distinct township and rural community.

Transportation and Infrastructure - road, rail and other localises infrastructure.

Economic Development - a comprehensive development strategy realising the various opportunities in tourism, industry and other economic development approaches.

Planning and Growth - with increasing development pressures, orderly planning is essential.

Community Facilities - including the delivery of children's services, aged care, libraries and sport and recreational infrastructure.

Conservation and the Environment - Protection of the Shire's rich prehistory and heritage assets, environmental protection and support for community initiatives.

The Corporate Plan sets out Key Targets which complement the new Planning Scheme, including:

- Partnership with Catchment Management Authorities to implement Land Management Policy.
- Preparation of individual development plans for each of the townships within the municipality.
- Review the future use of Site 17 at Seymour.

Review Period

The focus of the Municipal Strategic Statement is on land, its use and its development. The Municipal Strategic Statement addresses the key land use planning and development issues and the initiatives which need to be taken to implement and achieve an agreed vision. That vision embraces the concept of a prosperous community with a diversified economy integrated with a sustainable and productive natural resource base. The Municipal Strategic Statement is designed to enhance the diverse strengths of the Shire and provide direction for its future development.

The Planning Scheme is to be reviewed at least once every three years in accordance with State Government requirements. Council will develop an ongoing program of performance monitoring which will evaluate the achievement of strategic policy directions and the operational effectiveness of the administration of the Scheme. The Program will include key policy objectives, measurable indicators and targets established by the Council in consultation with the Department of Infrastructure.

As a guide the following policy objectives will form the basis of the Performance Monitoring Program:

KEY POLICY OBJECTIVE	INDICATOR/S	TARGET
Ensure sufficient supply of residential land available to meet projected demand.	Supply and consumption of residential and low density residential allotments.	Ensure supply is sufficient to cater for 10 years projected demand.
Ensure sufficient industrial and commercial land available to meet demand.	Amount of vacant commercial and industrial land.	Economic activity not constrained by land supply.
Protection and restoration of catchments.	Water quality, vegetation removal, erosion flora and fauna.	Measurable contribution to improvement of catchment monitoring indices.
Protection of cultural heritage.	Change in condition of items listed in heritage register.	Improvement in condition of listed assets, no loss of assets and identification of any additional assets.
Protection of significant agricultural land.	Amount of good quality agricultural land lost to non-agricultural uses.	No good quality agricultural land changed to non-agricultural use.
Ensuring adequate provision of infrastructure and community facilities and services for existing and new residential development areas.	Level of service provided to newly developed areas.	Development of residential areas not constrained by inadequate infrastructure provision. Ensure level of infrastructure and community service provision is uniform throughout Shire.
Maintaining the urban-rural mix of existing townships.	Amount of additional urban zoned land created.	Minimal expansion of urban zones (following review of rural residential areas).

In addition, in order to evaluate the operational effectiveness of the administration of the Scheme in accordance with State Government requirements, the Program will include the assessment of the planning decision making process under the new Scheme. The following Objectives and Indicators will form the basis of the assessment process. This aspect of the Program will be further developed in line with Best Practice Guidelines as they are produced by Government.

KEY POLICY OBJECTIVE	INDICATOR
Efficient decision making process	Time taken for decisions
	Cost of decision-making processes
Decision making process that meets with needs of stakeholders	Customer satisfaction
	(applicant and community)
Efficient operation of the new system	Number of amendments
	Consistency of decisions (delegate/Council/VCAT) with strategic policy objectives

The analysis of results will be used to provide feedback to the state government on the operation of the new system and in the planned review of the MSS.