

# **Council Update**

## **April 2021**

**Simon McMillan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Whitehorse City Council**



WHITEHORSE CITY COUNCIL

# Updates

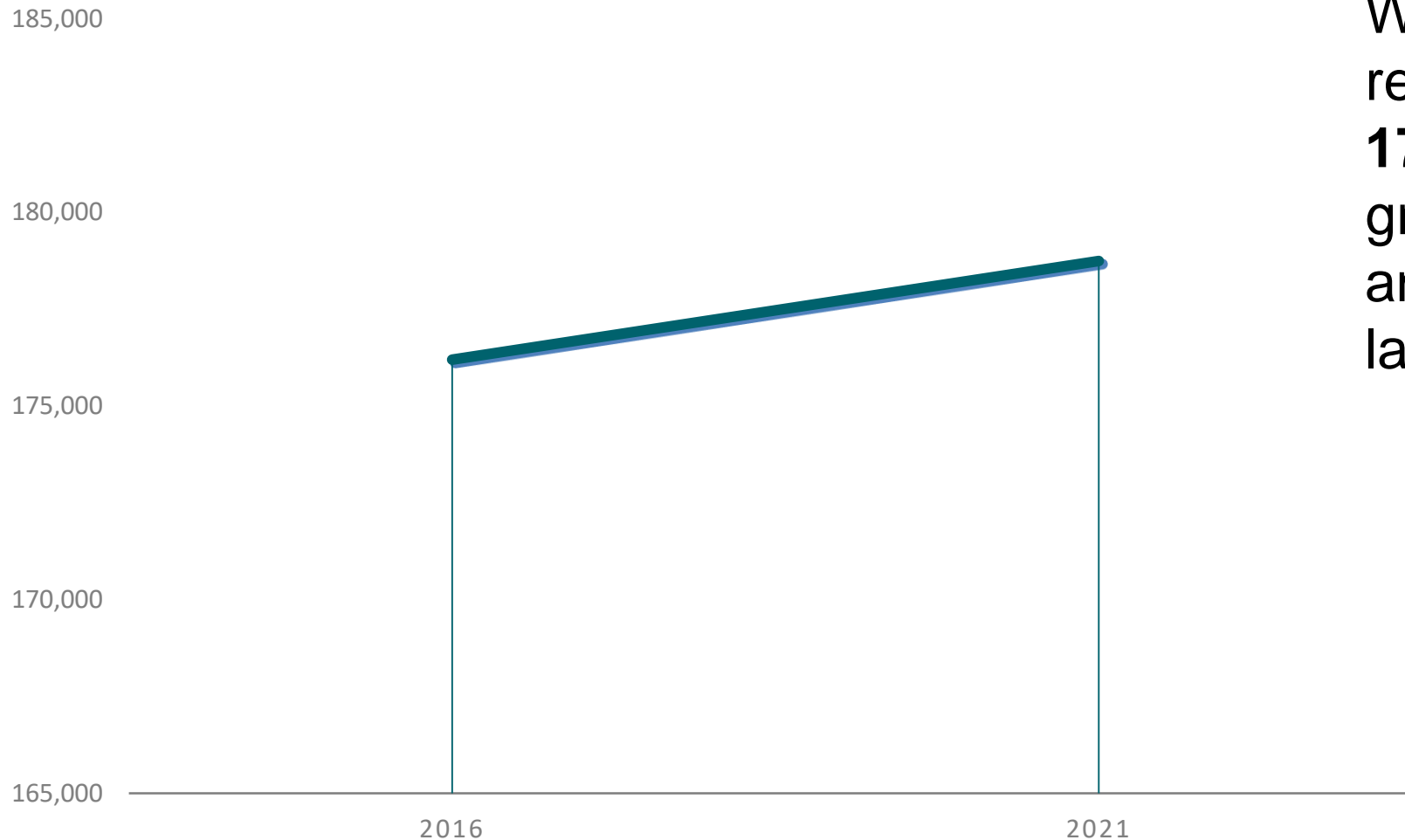
## City of Whitehorse – About us



CITY OF WHITEHORSE

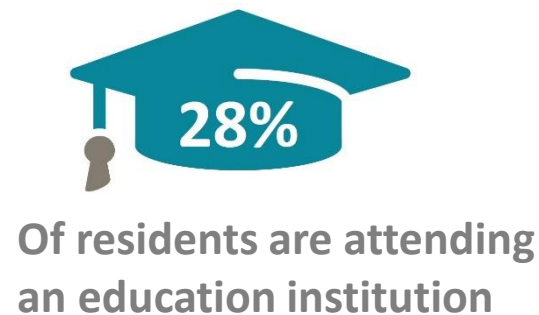
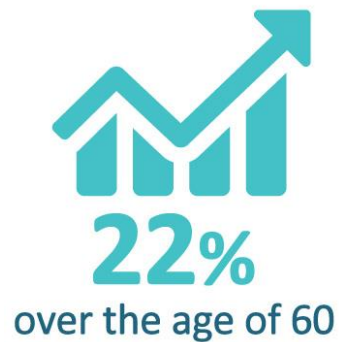
# Population Size

Average annual Whitehorse population growth rate of 0.4%



Whitehorse's current resident population size is **178,739** and has been growing at an average annual rate of **0.4%** over the last five years.

# Population Size



# Electoral review

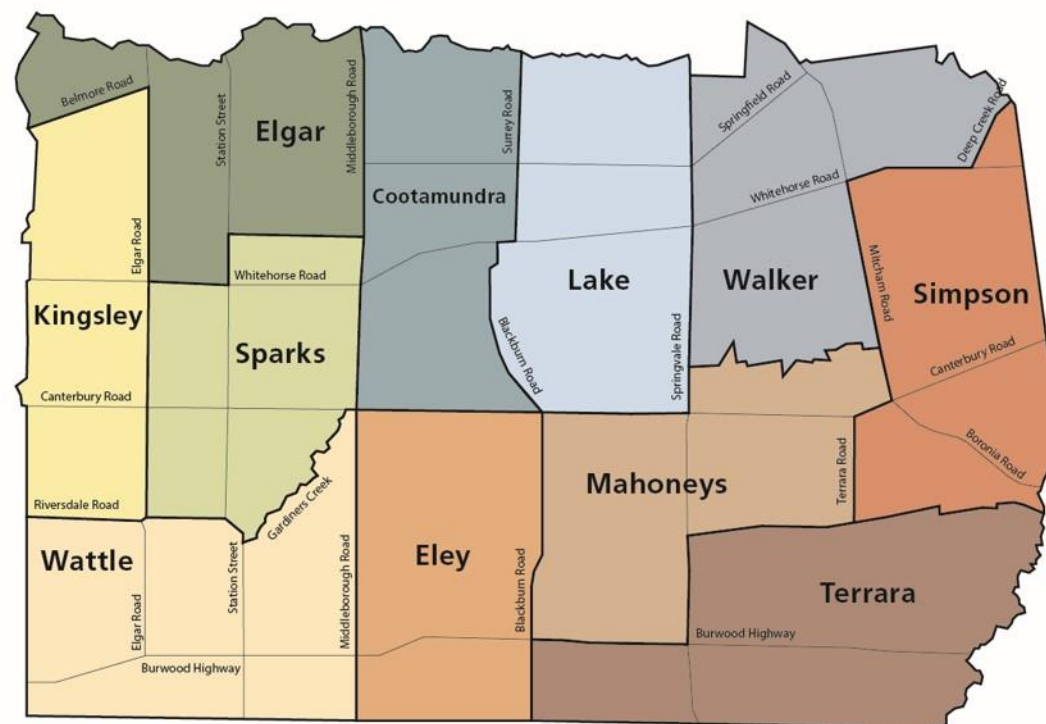
- 11 wards named after major parks
- 11 Councillors elected in October 2020 for 4-year terms
- Councillors elected Cr Munroe as Mayor for 1-year term
- Councillors elected Cr Carr as Deputy Mayor for 1-year term

Identify your ward via Council's interactive maps:

[www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/whitehorse-wards](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/whitehorse-wards)



Single Councillor Ward Map 2020



# COVID-19

## Council impact and response

# Council's Pandemic impact

## Impact on Council

- Many facilities closed, re-opened, closed, re-opened
- Some services altered
- Some services carried on as usual
- Council meetings - community participation via technology
- Approximately \$16m in costs and lost revenue

# Council's Pandemic response package

## **\$4.5m COVID-19 response package**

\$2m Relief & Support

\$2.5m Recovery & Stimulus



# Support for **community and individuals**

- **Families & individuals**
- **Community organisations/sporting clubs**
- **Business**

# Key strategies and policies in 2021

# The Whitehorse 2040 Community Vision

WHITEHORSE 2040  
COMMUNITY VISION

Will set out our vision for the whole of Whitehorse, **beyond just the work of Council** and includes everything that makes up a community.



## Our draft Whitehorse 2040 Community Vision

*Whitehorse is a resilient community where everyone belongs.*

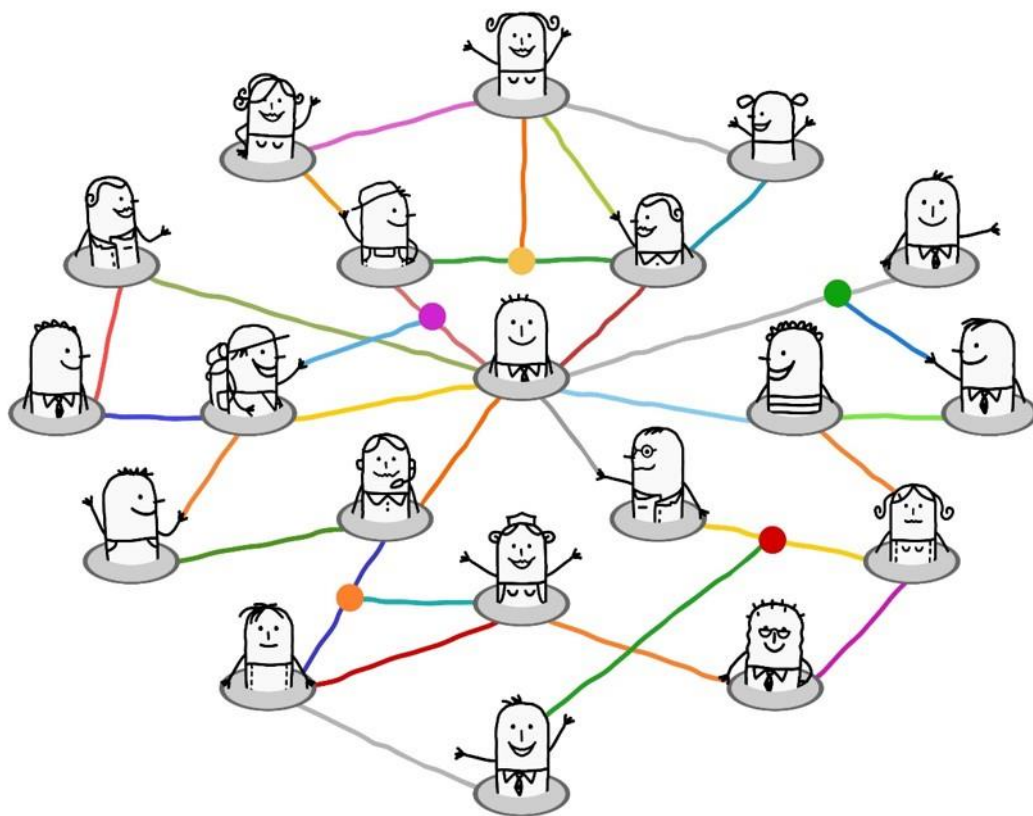
*We are active citizens who value our natural environment, history and diversity.*

*We embrace sustainability and innovation.*

*We are dynamic. We learn, grow and thrive.*

[oursay.org/whitehorsecitycouncil/communityvision](https://oursay.org/whitehorsecitycouncil/communityvision)

# Community Engagement Policy



The Community Engagement Policy will provide direction for all future community engagement activities undertaken by Whitehorse City Council.

The policy was adopted by Council in February.

Register your interest in engagement activities:  
<https://oursay.org/whitehorsecitycouncil>

# Council Plan, Health Plan, Financial Plan



We're developing plans to help shape Council's strategic direction over the coming years and this is your chance to get involved, have your say and make a difference.

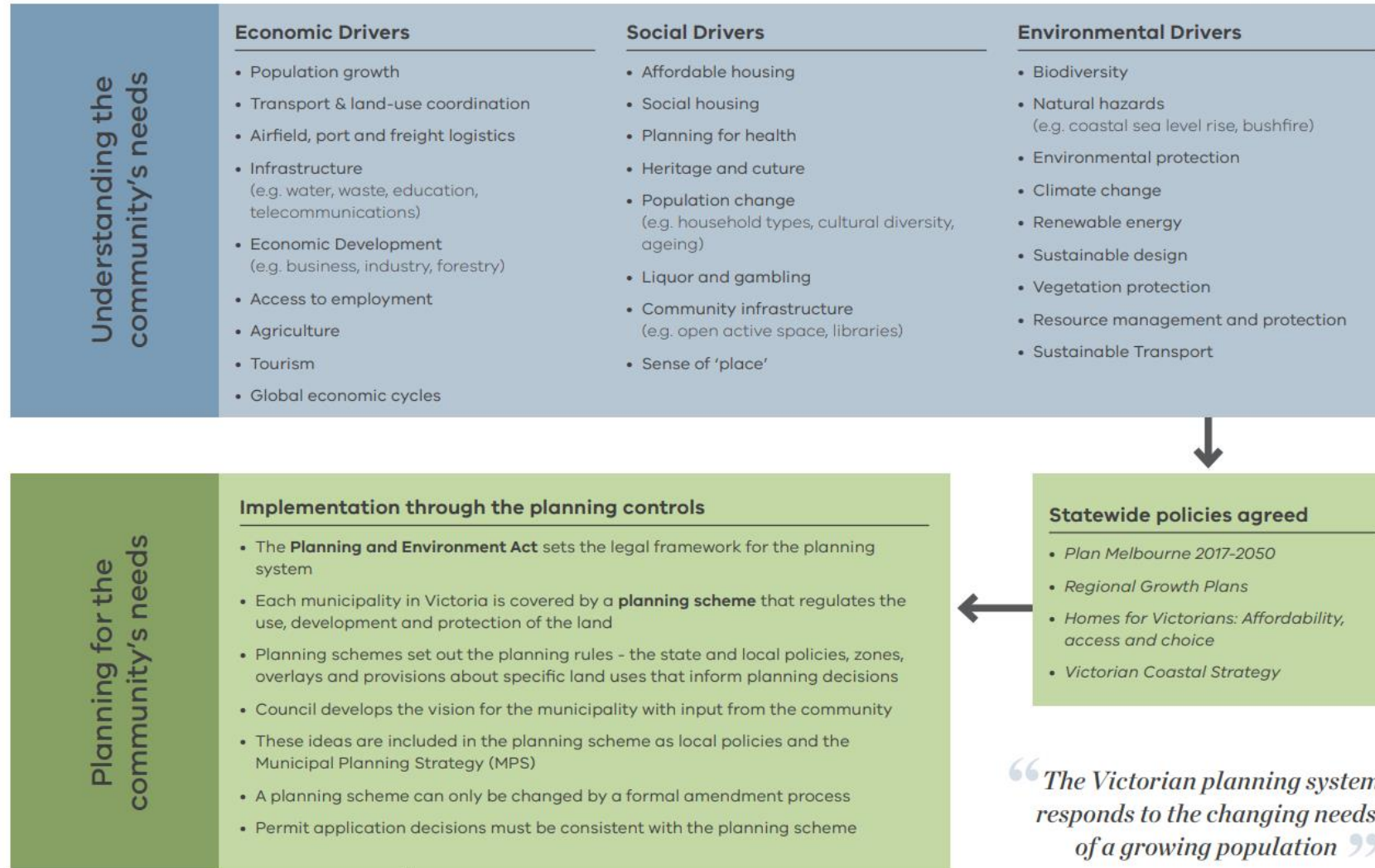
Engagement has commenced – many opportunities to get involved

Plans to be adopted in October 2021.

<https://oursay.org/whitehorsecitycouncil/shapingwhitehorse>

# Planning update

# What is Planning?





# What is Planning? (cont.)

## Planning for the community's needs

### Implementation through the planning controls

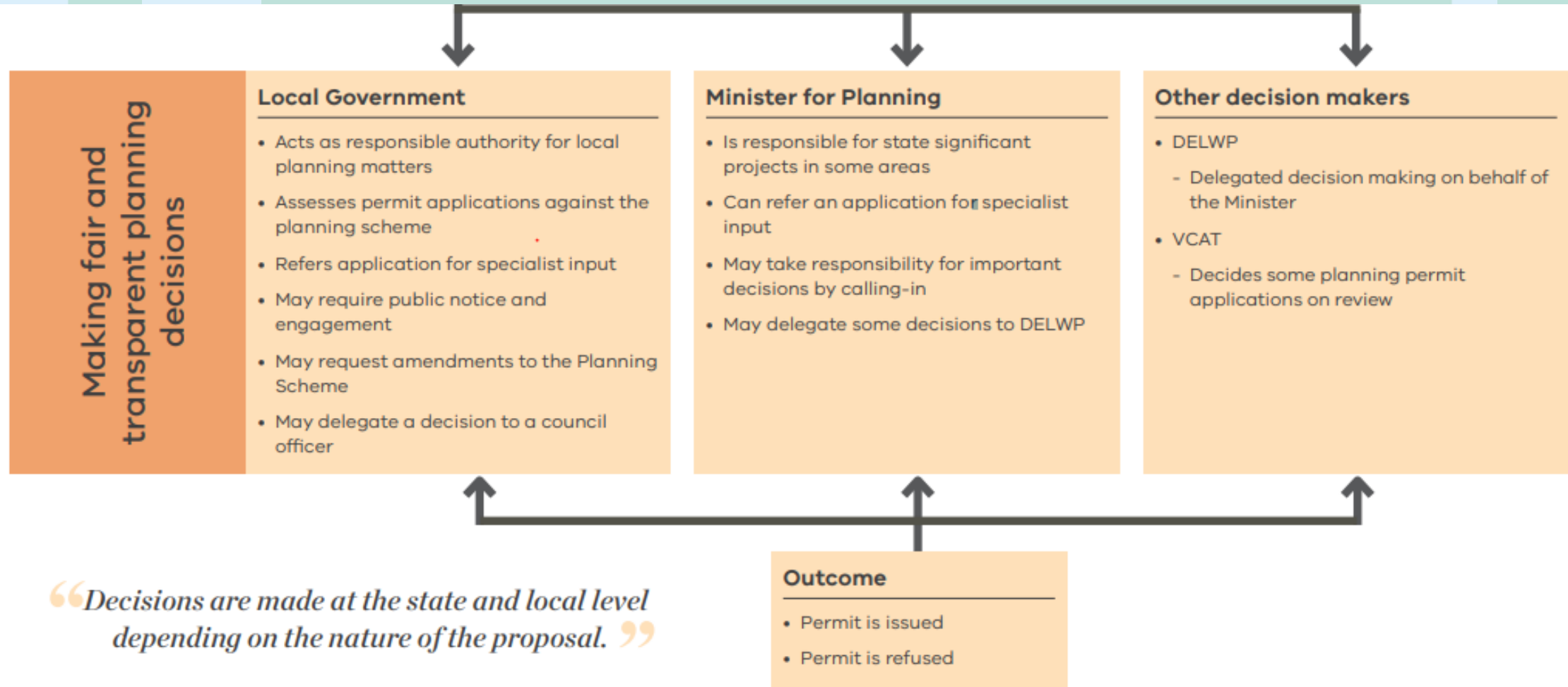
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- The **Planning and Environment Act** sets the legal framework for the planning system
- Each municipality in Victoria is covered by a **planning scheme** that regulates the use, development and protection of the land
- Planning schemes set out the planning rules - the state and local policies, zones, overlays and provisions about specific land uses that inform planning decisions
- Council develops the vision for the municipality with input from the community
- These ideas are included in the planning scheme as local policies and the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS)
- A planning scheme can only be changed by a formal amendment process
- Permit application decisions must be consistent with the planning scheme

*Source: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning*



# Decision Making in Planning



Source: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

# Key Strategic Planning Projects

- Tree protection controls (Planning Scheme Amendment C219)
- Review of Commercial 1 Zone – Tally Ho Activity Centre
- Infrastructure and Development Contribution Frameworks
- Planning Policy Framework Translation

# Box Hill Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC)

- Review commenced late 2018 providing updated Structure Plan and Urban Design Framework (UDF)
- May 2020 - Council resolved to note the draft Structure Plan and draft UDF for community consultation, and to seek authorisation from the Minister to commence a planning scheme amendment
- Officers are reviewing feedback from DELWP to progress lodgement of the planning scheme amendment
- Any significant changes will be the subject of a report to Council
- For updates visit [www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/vision-box-hill](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/vision-box-hill)

# Heritage Conservation

Identify and list places on heritage registers or lists

Three different statutory listings (National, Victorian, Local)

790 heritage places protected by Heritage Overlays within the municipality

10 places in Whitehorse listed on the Victorian Heritage Register

Whitehorse Heritage Assistance Fund

Planning & Environment Amendment Bill 2021

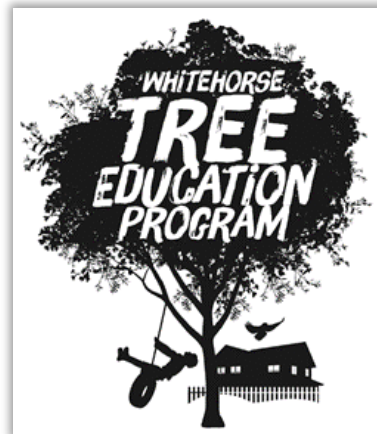
# Programs

## Gardens for Wildlife

Volunteer program, supported by  
Council  
80-100 visits per year

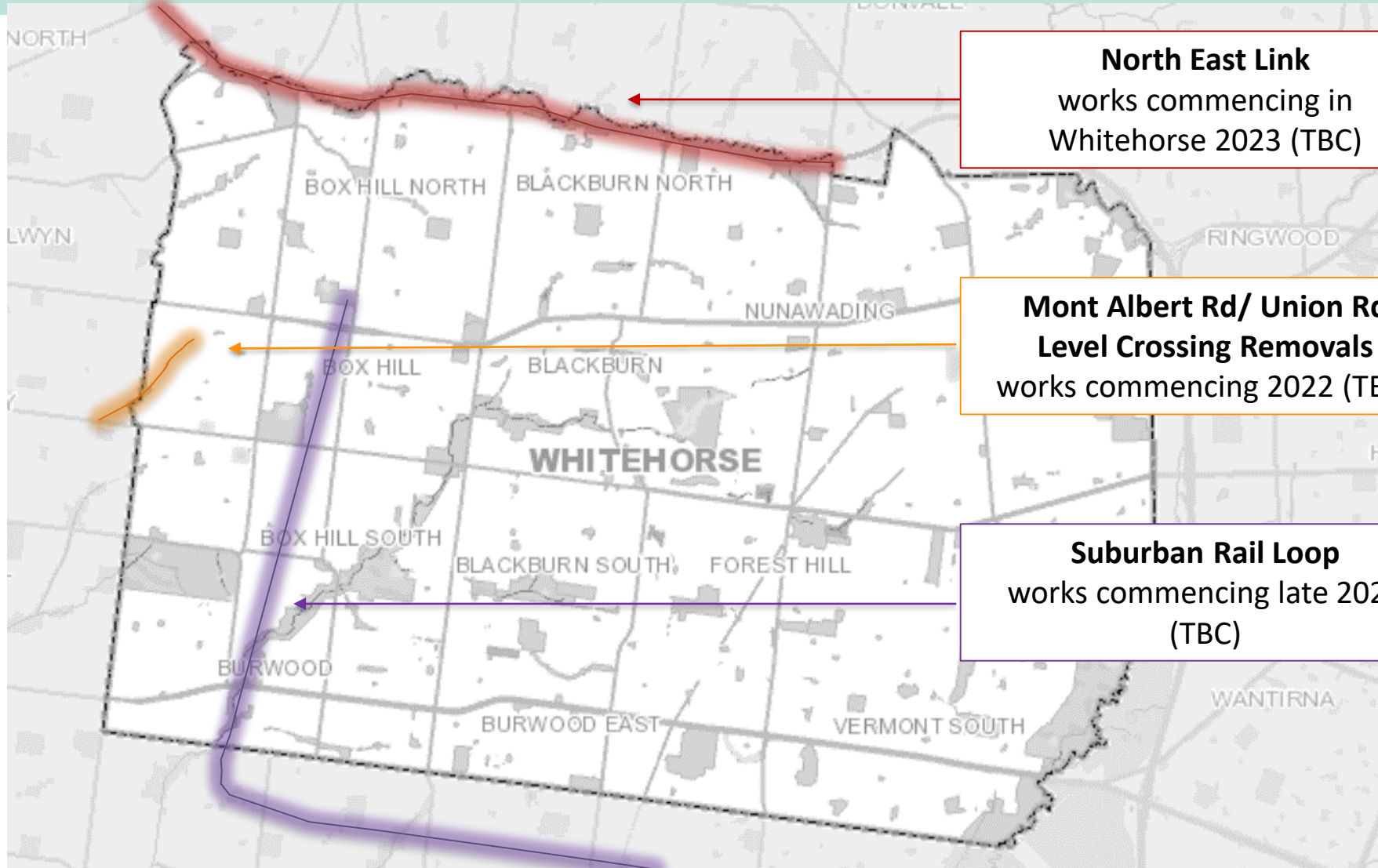
## Tree Assistance Fund

\$40,000 available  
45 applications granted 2020



# Major projects

# WHITEHORSE CITY COUNCIL MAJOR TRANSPORT PROJECTS



**North East Link**  
works commencing in  
Whitehorse 2023 (TBC)

**Mont Albert Rd/ Union Rd  
Level Crossing Removals**  
works commencing 2022 (TBC)

**Suburban Rail Loop**  
works commencing late 2022  
(TBC)



# Nunawading Community Hub

- Completed and open
- User groups can move in per COVID restrictions
- The new home of more than 30 community groups and Council's Meals on Wheels service, delivering more than 1200 meals a week





# Whitehorse Centre

The new centre will include:

- A 600 seat auditorium with larger stage and modern backstage
- a 200 seat studio theatre
- a multipurpose rehearsal and dance studio
- An open double storey carpark



## Questions