Yarra Ranges **Council**

Council Plan Snapshot
2025–2029

Yarra Ranges Council

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Council Plan 2025 – 2029

About Yarra Ranges

Yarra Ranges offers diverse landscapes and communities across 2,500km² and 55 townships. The municipality is the largest metropolitan Council, stretching from the densely populated suburbs into the foothills of Mt Dandenong, agricultural valleys and mountain side of Donna Buang. Home to over 165,000 people, the majority live in townships and urban areas which represent only three per cent of the Yarra Ranges landmass.

While our region enjoys the benefits from tourism, agriculture, rich landscapes and unique character, we face important challenges including funding limitations, diversity of housing, cost of living pressures, growth and tourism, changing climate and increasing extreme weather events.

The role of Council

Provider

Responsible for delivery of services, programs, infrastructure and support to individuals and groups.

Partner

Build relationships and partner with others to enable things to happen and work towards common goals.

Planner

Use evidence, including community views to plan for current and future community needs and priorities.

Educator

Share information, raise awareness, develop knowledge and skills to empower individuals and groups.

Advocator

Raise awareness and show leadership for the interests of local communities, to other decision makers e.g. State and Federal Government.

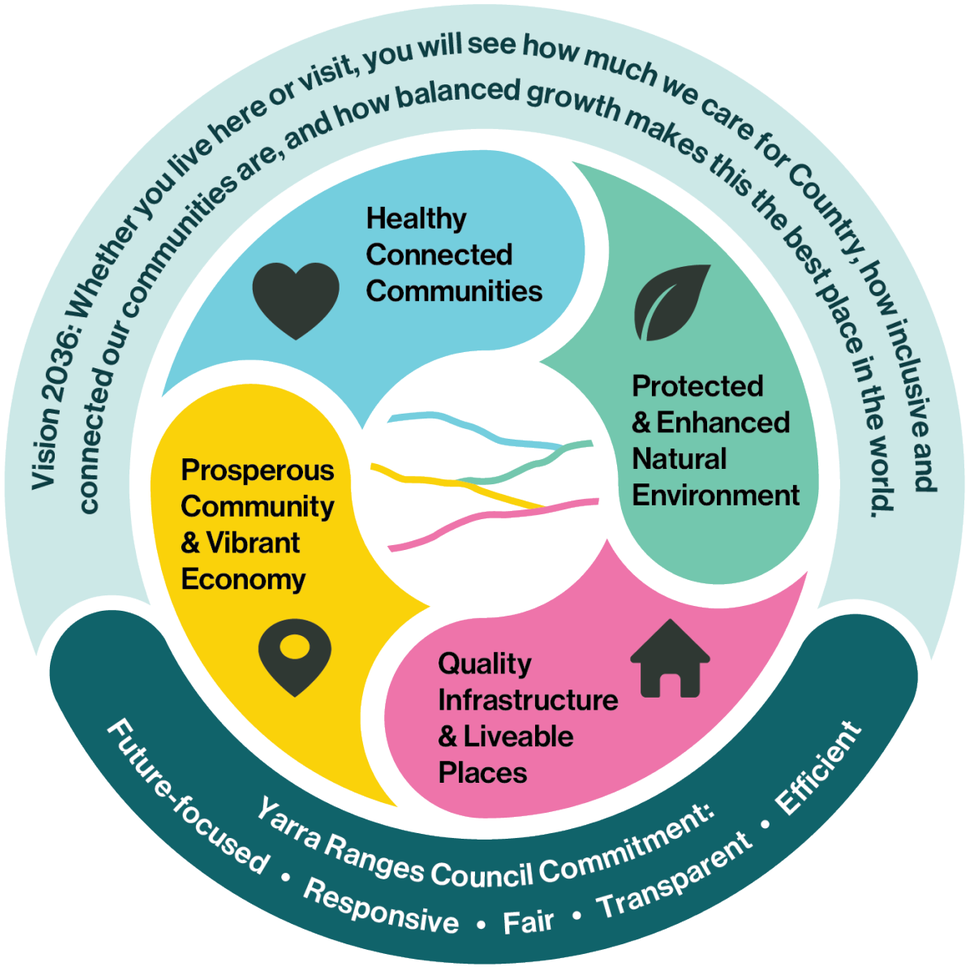
Regulator

Prioritise safety and regulate compliance of activities through local laws and legislation.

Community Vision 2036

Whether you live here or visit, you will see how much we care for Country, how inclusive and connected our communities are, and how balanced growth makes this the best place in the world.

Our Strategic Objectives



How we plan to deliver our Strategic Objectives

	Healthy Connected Communities	Protected & Enhanced Natural Environment	Quality Infrastructure & Liveable Places	Prosperous Community & Vibrant Economy
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	Communities are safe, resilient, healthy, inclusive and socially connected. Quality services are accessible to everyone.	Together we care for Country and the environment is healthier for future generations.	Facilities and infrastructure meet current and future needs. Places are well planned and are hubs of activity that foster wellbeing and innovation.	Our economy, tourism and industries support our communities. Strong investment attraction underpins sustainable economic wellbeing and local job creation.
PRIORITIES	• Connected and resilient • Inclusive and safe • Healthy through life stages • Access to local services	• Local biodiversity • Energy, disaster and climate resilience • Water management • Circular economy	• Roads and drainage • Paths, trails and green open space • Clean and well-planned townships • Fit for purpose assets and facilities	• Local industry and producers • Local business • Balanced tourism • Local jobs
INITIATIVES	1. Place-based approach to achieve local priorities. 2. Work with partners to advocate for local priorities. 3. Deliver and enhance multiuse Community Pavilions across the municipality. 4. Planning for an urban aquatic and leisure facility.	5. Enhance energy and infrastructure resilience for Council and communities before, during and after extreme weather events. 6. Increase and protect biodiversity links and canopy connections. 7. Use nature-based solutions to increase resilience of natural landscape in a changing climate. 8. Provide leadership in achieving net zero emissions and developing a resilient local energy supply.	9. Reduce stormwater and flood risks. 10. Activate Ridges and Rivers. 11. Facilitate diverse housing options. 12. Improve safety and maintenance of local roads.	13. Enhance local amenity and walkability. 14. Strengthen tourism destination management across the region. 15. Support local Agri-Food Futures Centre of Excellence and Innovation. 16. Develop a new Green Wedge Management Plan.
INDICATORS	• Access to services and facilities • Sense of community • Feeling secure • Mental health and wellbeing	• Biodiversity protection and enhancement • Council greenhouse gas emissions • Prepared for weather events • Waste diversion	• Roads and drainage • Diversity of housing supply • Community facilities usage and demand • Access to open space and walkability	• Local employment • Diversity of local economy • Overnight stay tourism • Buisiness friendly Council

Yarra Ranges Council Commitment **Future-focused • Responsive • Fair • Efficient • Transparent**

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