



Golden Plains Shire

Communities Shaping Their Future

Today's Presentation

- Why should agencies consult with communities?
- How do you link what communities are saying with your strategic plans and other organisation's strategic plans?
- Benefits to your agency

Golden Plains Shire



What is Community Planning?

- Many forms of community planning



Why do Community Planning?

- Because it makes sense



Why Community Planning in Golden Plains?

- Strengthen the identity and vitality of all communities
- Give communities the opportunity to be more focussed on their own towns and plan for the future
- There is a need for an holistic approach to planning where the whole community is involved

‘All the historic evidence indicates that significant community development only takes place when local community people are committed to investing themselves and their resources in the effort. That's why you can't develop communities from the top down, or from the outside in’

*(John McKnight, John Kretzmann,
Mapping Community Capacity)*

‘The wisdom of the community
always exceeds the knowledge
of the experts’

(Harold Flaming)

“Community planning gave us the opportunity to work alongside the powers that be, have our say and feel, for the first time, that we were really being listened to. Residents now feel much more connected with decision-making and things are really beginning to improve around here.”

(Local Resident)

What Range of Programs Have Been Considered?

- Education
- Child Care
- Recreation
- Health
- Social Services
- Transport
- Housing
- Economic Opportunity
- All areas of Infrastructure Provision

- How did Golden Plains undertake the community planning process?



Communities Owning the 'Township or Community Plan'

- Confirming interest
- Generating energy and ideas
- Determining Priorities
- Creating a 'Township/Community Plan'

Focusing Local Energy and Investment

- Community Coordinator as a 'catalyst'
- External Facilitator
- Priority project leaders – getting on with it
- 'Learning through doing'
- Utilising other ideas, support & resources



Why Council?

1. Knowing what is important to the community will lead to better decision-making
2. Council can act as a facilitator with other stakeholders to attract support

What is the role of Council

- Respecting community ownership
- ‘Hands off’ approach by local Councillors & staff
- Developing Council’s systems – integrating community planning priorities with Council Plans

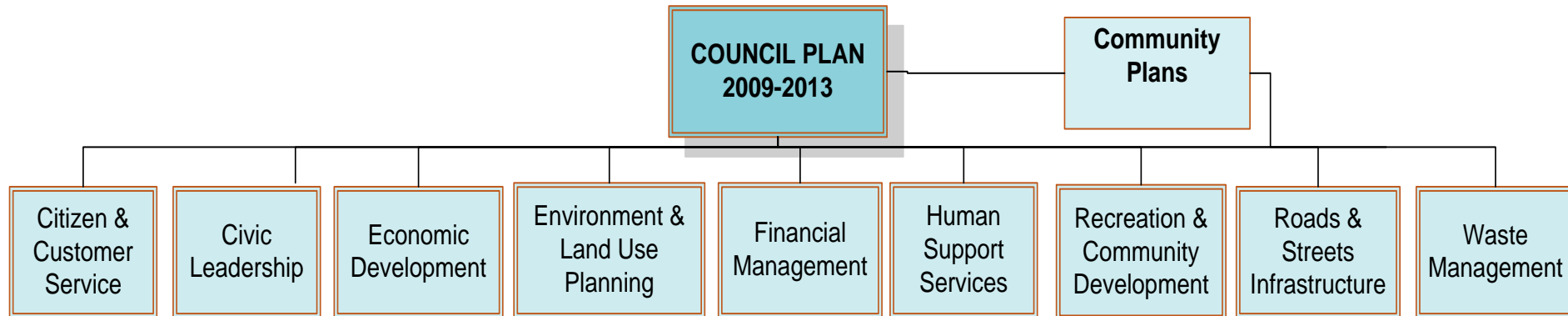



Links Between Community Planning and Council

1. Linking community planning to Council's strategic planning
2. Connecting Council and community activity



Linking Community Planning to Council's Planning – Strategic Framework





Links to Other Strategic Planning processes

- Coordinating the strategic consultations
- Using Community Plans as first point of reference
- Need to communicate back to the community



Linking Community Planning to the Development of the Council Plan

- Preparation of a synopsis
- Thematic Overview
- Review of priorities at the Corporate Planning Retreat



Connecting Community Activity with Council Activity – Operational Level

- An Intra-Council Committee
- Getting everyone on board – Role of Staff and Councillors
- Presentations of Community Plans to Council



Benefits

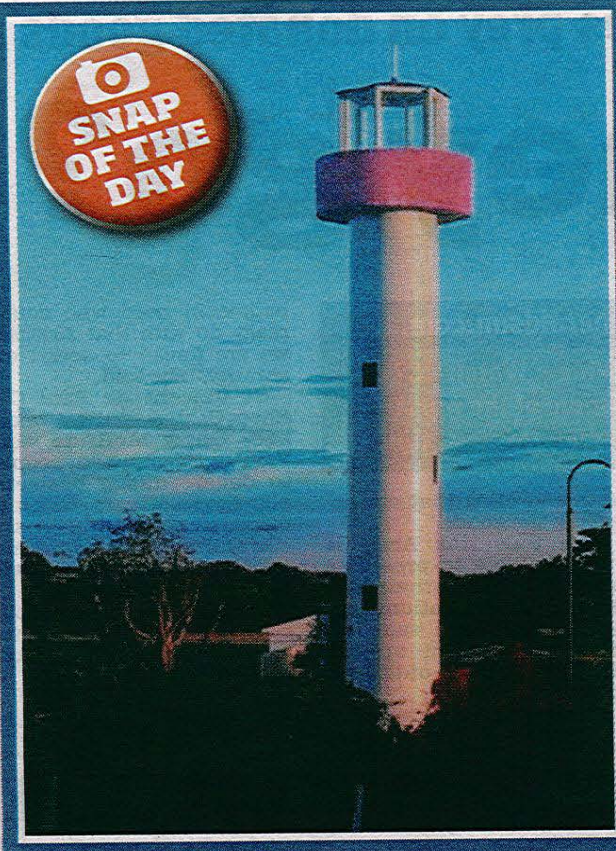
- For Communities
- For Council



“Since the project began, we have had people stopping, looking and taking photographs. We have had written articles in local newspapers, local publications and have had interviews with local television stations. I’d say that that is a huge success, wouldn’t you?”

(Cape Clear Community Coordinators)

YOUR STORIES



Plain sailing at the Cape

ENGLAND has a yacht race called the Fastnet. We have a yacht race called the Slownet.

England's yacht race is held on wild ocean seas. Ours isn't.

Ours isn't even held on water, although it does take place in a town called Cape Clear and within the shadows of a lighthouse.

It all seems a bit odd, but that pretty much sums up the people of Cape Clear, a tiny town about 40km from Ballarat and without a cape in sight.

On March 20, the town is hosting its

inaugural Slownet Inland Yacht Race in its recreation reserve.

Entrants will build yachts to certain specifications then race them on wheels propelled by the wind.

As for the town's lighthouse, it was built a couple of years ago using an old light tower somebody found rusting in a Ballarat scrapyard.

The locals figured that every cape deserved a lighthouse, so up theirs went.

If you want to know more about their yacht race, ring the Cape Clear pub on 5342 2210.







Health Promotion Partnership



learning

social
connection

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BALLARAT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Ballarat Community
Health Centre
Phone 5340 1200

Where are we?
Ballarat Community Health Centre

Where are we?
Ballarat Community Health Centre

Where are we?
Ballarat Community Health Centre

Where are we?
Ballarat Community Health Centre



Palliative Programs

Community Health Services

Exercise Programs

Exercise Programs



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An Australian Gov











Opportunities

- The Plan is a critical point for negotiation between the community and Council or community and other players
- The Plan informs Council decisions regarding community grants and priorities within program and corporate plans



Opportunities

- Timely support to community
- Ability to respond to more complex needs and issues
- Linking with other policy agendas
- Celebrating success



Community Benefits

- Think and act as citizens (other than as taxpayers)
- Worthwhile for government and other stakeholders to partner with them
- Don't wait for other stakeholders to do what could be better done by the community
- Think the big picture
- Keep informed



Agency Benefits

- Information about communities needs is more accessible
- Appreciate the unique character of different towns
- Stop focusing on the self proclaimed leaders and hear the voices of the community

Agency Benefits

- Recognise that the community have valuable expertise
- Easy for agencies to partner with and advocate for the community
- Move beyond customer service and citizen participation to empowerment

Focused



Community Engagement



Systems and Processes



Continual Education



Communication

