

Future Direction - Strategic Plan

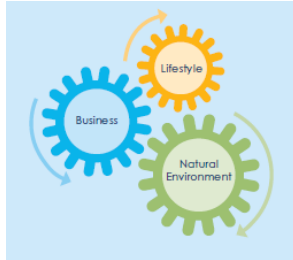
Council's Strategic Community Plan 2020-2025 outlines the following Vision, Mission and Goals as an expression of Council's response to the aspirations of the community and to ensure our district is a great place to live, now and into the future.

Our Vision

To enhance the livability and enterprise of our community.

Our Values

Professionalism
Excellence
Service
Leadership
Resilience
Accountability
Inclusiveness



Our Themes

Our Strategic Community Plan is shaped by three themes. Our commitment to these three themes shapes our work, our values and our practices. They are Council's reply as to what it will do to combat the challenges that face the region in the foreseeable future. The themes are Lifestyle, Natural Environment and Business and are intertwined so that when all three themes are being addressed collectively they will provide our community a way of life we can all be proud of.

For further information regarding these objectives please refer to Council's Strategic Plan 2020 - 2025 which can be viewed online at www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au

Project Priorities for 2022/2023

- **Completion of the Multisport Changerooms and Oval Lighting Upgrades at the Barmera Sporting Precinct**
- **Streetscape Design of McGilton and Clarke Roads, William and Denny Streets in Berri**
- **Preparation of the future of the Barmera Jetty**
- **Sealing of Costello Road, Loveday**
- **Stage 2 Lake Bonney Caring for Country Project with Federal Government assistance through the Healthy Rivers – Healthy Communities grant program**
- **Streetscaping design for the town of Glossop and**
- **Various small scale projects.**

Influencing Factors

The Annual Business Plan is built to deliver upon the priorities and objectives of Council's Strategic and Community Plan. However, there are other influencing factors taken into consideration, particularly with regards to sound financial management and the long term sustainability of Council.

The major influencing factors are:

- Funding from both Federal and State Governments
- Planning for future residential development and industrial / commercial development
- Increasing statutory reporting requirements
- Requirements to maintain and improve infrastructure assets to acceptable standards
- Increasing regulatory standards e.g. audit committee, risk management and occupational health and safety compliance.
- Increased costs of goods and services
- Enterprise bargaining agreements
- The requirement to maintain the provision of services at the high level currently provided and expected by the community
- Economic effects of the COVID-19 global pandemic.



Rate and Service Charge breakdown

To fund the Business Plan, Council will raise operating revenue of \$18,646,081 which includes general rates of \$9,678,794.

The Valuer-General has provided Council with the property valuations for 2022/2023 whereby there has been an overall increase of more than 10% for valuations over the Council area.

Council provides a Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS) to each of its townships and the full cost to maintain this service for 2022/2023 is budgeted to be \$3,120,188. These costs include capital expenditure of \$150,000 for the replacement and renewal of pumps and other equipment and for the running of the Wastewater Re-Use Scheme. The service charge for 2022/2023 is \$779 per occupied unit and \$743 for each unoccupied (vacant land) unit.

Council provides a recycling and green waste collection. This service includes:

- Weekly domestic collection in a smaller 140 litre bin for all properties
- Fortnightly recycling collection in a 240 litre bin for all properties
- Fortnightly green waste collection in a 240 litre bin for town residential properties.

The annual service charge has been set at \$240 for the three bin collection and \$203 for the two bin collection. The fee for an additional red bin will be \$220.



Rate Relief measures

Rebates and Remissions

The Local Government Act requires Councils to rebate the rates payable on some land. Specific provisions are made for land used for health services, community services, religious purposes, public cemeteries and educational institutions.

Discretionary rebates may be applied by the Council under Section 166 of the Act, upon receipt of applications in accordance with Council's Rate Capping Rebate Policy that deem to satisfy the criteria specified within the Policy.

For those ratepayers who are on fixed incomes such as pensioners and self funded retirees, Council will remit a fixed amount of \$50 per annum of the general rates, \$20 per annum of the effluent drainage charge and \$20 per annum of the waste management service charge.

The rebates and remissions are subject to the applicant meeting certain criteria. For further information please refer to the Annual Business Plan document or get in touch with Council directly.

Rate Capping Rebate

For 2022/2023 Council are proposing to apply a rate cap of 12% to all properties. This decision is in response to rapid property valuation increases experienced throughout the district and a rate relief mechanism allowable to Councils under the Local Government Act.

Postponement and Deferment of Rates

The Local Government Act permits the Council, on the application of the ratepayer, to partially or wholly remit rates or to postpone rates on the basis of hardship. Where a ratepayer is suffering hardship in paying rates it is recommended they contact the Rates Officer on (08) 8582 1922 to discuss the matter.

Business and Residential Development Support Policy

Council is called upon by businesses and potential businesses for support for their business venture/s. In addition, there are several vacant allotments in the townships of Berri and Barmera of which Council wish to encourage development.

Council's strategies to expand and diversify the economic base of its area and the region and support growth within the region is outlined within the Business and Residential Development Support Policy.

Further information

The due dates for the quarterly instalments of Council rates for 2022/2023 are:

Quarter 1	1 September 2022
Quarter 2	1 December 2022
Quarter 3	1 March 2023
Quarter 4	1 June 2023



Berri Barmera Council (Principal Office)
19 Wilson Street, BERRI SA 5343
Telephone (08) 8582 1922
Fax (08) 8582 3029

Postal Address PO Box 229, BERRI SA 5343
Email – bbc@bbc.sa.gov.au

Barmera Library Customer Service Centre
Barwell Avenue
BARMERA SA 5345

A copy of the entire Annual Business Plan 2022/2023 can be obtained from Council's offices or from Council's website www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au.



Berri Barmera Council is pleased to present the 2022/2023 Annual Business Plan and Budget which sets out Council's proposed services, programs and projects across all our district's towns and communities for the coming financial year. It also sets out how Council will fund these projects.

Each year the Annual Business Plan is guided by key strategic documents namely the Strategic Community Plan 2020-2025, the Long-Term Financial Plan and the Infrastructure and Asset Management Plans.

Council has been mindful when setting this year's budget of the current increase in living costs and the impact of council rates on the normal household budget. To minimise the rate burden on the community, Council proposes a minus 7% in the rate in the dollar for residential properties, along with a minus 4% for primary production properties which leads to an average rise of 4% in rates, below the March 2022 CPI rate of 4.7%.

Council and staff look forward to working with our community to implement some exciting projects, collectively working towards Building a Better Community.

Dylan Strong, Chief Executive Officer