



FOCUS AREA 2: Community engagement

Policy position

Moira Shire acknowledges:

- The need for Council to support the community as it transitions to an environmentally sustainable future;
- Healthy, sustainable landscapes include people; and
- Promoting the binding connections between people, biodiversity, ecological function and community well-being is vital.

Moira Shire Council will:

- Play an important role in informing, educating and raising awareness in the community in regards to environmental sustainability;
- Continue to work with key partners to inform, educate and raise awareness in the community as we work towards an environmentally sustainable future; and
- Learn from others and collaborate to ensure best practice approaches are used to engage the community.
- Continue to increase the use of digital platforms to communicate with residents and visitors.

Policy rationale

Council recognises:

- Parts of the community are very active in environmental sustainability, others are interested but uncertain of the best course of action, and others are yet to be convinced of the need to act.

Performance Indicators (by 2021)

1. 75% of schools in Moira have been involved in environmental sustainability projects.
2. 25% increase in business sector involvement in environmental sustainability projects.
3. Moira's environment and environmentally sustainable living are celebrated.

Example actions

- Develop and implement a Public Relations Campaign around this ESS and its key messages.
- Initiate discussions with key stakeholders regarding the application of a RiverConnect-type approach (used in Greater Shepparton) to the Moira section of the Murray River.
- Contribute to and support the Goulburn Broken Stormwater Education Project.
- Network with other providers offering environmental sustainability education to schools to ensure an efficient, coordinated approach.
- Work with schools to implement environmental sustainability projects.
- Develop a scheme to reward and recognise environmental sustainability achievements in schools, businesses and other parts of the community.
- Work with the community to explore the concept of a Community Solar Garden.
- Work with the community to develop ecotourism opportunities such as bike trails, walking paths and other recreational pursuits, highlighting significant environmental features.
- Contribute to and support the Broken Boosey Conservation Management Network.