



FOCUS AREA 2

Community engagement

Council will raise community awareness of environmental sustainability and support the community in building resilience and creating a sustainable future.



Policy position

Moira Shire acknowledges:

- Environmental sustainability is a key determinant for a healthy and liveable community;
- The best way to preserve Moira Shire's natural environment is for the community to value and take ownership; and
- The binding connections between people, biodiversity, ecological function, and community wellbeing is vital.

Policy rationale

Council recognises:

- Environmental sustainability needs to be embraced by the community to transition to a sustainable future.

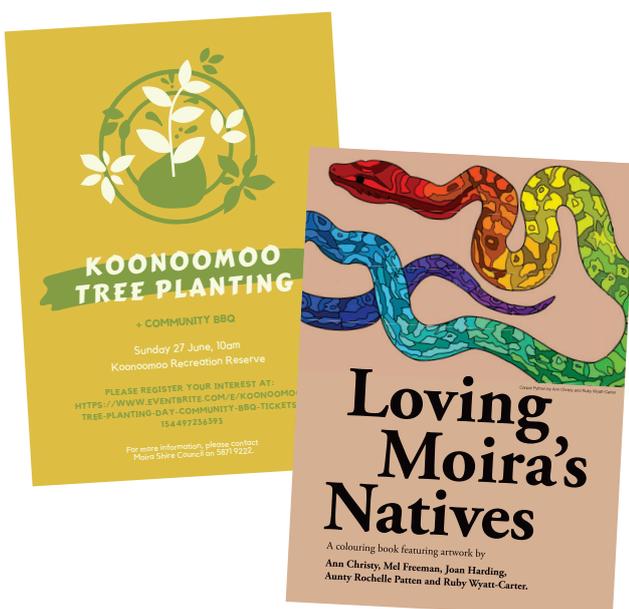
Long-term target

Community transitions towards a sustainable future.

Performance Indicators (by 2026)

The following performance indicator will be used to determine the successful implementation of the strategy:

1. Environment and environmentally sustainable living are embraced by the community.



Actions

The following actions will support the implementation of the strategy:

- Support and promote sustainability initiatives (such as community gardens, citizen science projects and environmental events).
- Support partners in the delivery of education programs (such as Broken Boosey Conservation Management Advisory Group, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, Goulburn Valley Water and Goulburn Murray Landcare Network).
- Work with schools, businesses and community groups (such as Friends of Chinamans Island Nature Reserve, Yarrawonga Urban Landcare and Nathalia Wildflower Group) to implement environmental sustainability projects.
- Encourage community connection with nature and our natural features through RiverConnect and various activities.
- Promote Environmental Upgrade Agreements to businesses in Moira Shire.
- Support the development of ecotourism opportunities such as bike trails, walking paths and other recreational pursuits highlighting significant environmental features and sustainable businesses (e.g. Farm gate trail).
- Identify and minimise gaps in the walking and cycling network (such as absence of shady trees or gaps in the footpath/cycling network).
- Promote environmental sustainability achievements in schools, businesses and other parts of the community.
- Source and promote grants and bulk buys for environmental upgrades (e.g. solar rebates).
- Install and maintain public hydration stations in towns across the Shire.
- Develop and deliver educational materials and programs for schools and wider community using various educational platforms.
- Celebrate achievements through sustainability competitions and positive stories.