



Borough of Queenscliffe

Council Plan 2010-2013

Final Progress Report

**For the full year ended
30 June 2012**

GOVERNANCE, FINANCE & EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Strategic Direction

Providing accountable governance and long term sustainable financial management

2011-2012 Business Plan Priority Actions	Status
Undertake an annual review of the Strategic Financial Plan	Completed
As at 30/6/12: The annual review of the Council's Strategic Financial Plan was completed as part of the 2012/13 Budget preparation process with Council assessing its financial management and comparative position against a range of sustainability benchmarks.	
Minimise rate increases	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council adopted its 2012/13 Budget with a 4% rate increase (note that the increase in 2011/12 was 4.5%). This increase is amongst the lowest in the state and widens the gap between the Borough's rates – including any fixed charges – and those of other Local Government Associations in the region, when comparing like-value properties.	
Maximise state and federal grant revenue for community and Council Plan priorities.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: In 2011/12 Council received a total of \$2,464,390 in grant revenue. This shows a \$1m increase in grants on the 2010/11 year due to State Government funding under the Country Roads & Bridges Initiative that provides \$1m each year to rural Local Government Authorities.	
In 2011/12 Council attracted the following funding from the Federal Government:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aged Care - Community Aged Care Packages - \$73,252 	
In 2011/12 Council was successful in securing the following funding from the State Government:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aged Care Services - \$273,256 Kindergarten Planning - \$10,000 Point Lonsdale Bowls Clubhouse Upgrade - \$6,000 Maternal and Child Health - \$44,082 Sustainability Accord - \$20,000 Children's Week - \$500 Youth Week - \$2,000 Community Development Officer - \$20,637 Heritage Officer - \$14,000 School Crossing Supervision - \$12,441 Beach Cleaning - \$5,650 Senior Citizens Centre - \$7,856 Victorian Seniors Festival - \$2,600 Visitor Information Centre Traineeship - \$1,500 Regional Victoria Living Expo - \$20,000 Queenscliff Sports Club Enhancement Project - \$250,000 Princess & Citizens Park Redevelopment - \$125,000 Netball Courts Lighting - \$3,221 Music Equipment - \$11,473 Ferry to the Pier - \$125,000 Country Roads & Bridges Initiatives Program - \$1,000,000 Tobacco Activity Program - \$1,796 Coastal Tender - \$75,799 	

Council also has a number of other funding applications submitted to other levels of Government awaiting final assessment. While funds were not received in the 2011/12 financial year, a number of submission outcomes have been announced, specifically:

- State Government advised that Council's submission for funding to prepare a Development Plan for the Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserve (Shortlands Bluff) and the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve (Toc H) had been successful. This project will commence towards the end of 2012;
- Corangamite Catchment Management Authority has allocated a total of \$252k to be spent over 5 years for weed removal and revegetation in 'The Narrows' and the dune system adjacent to Ocean Road, Point Lonsdale.

Council has submitted and is awaiting the outcome of an application to the State Government for funding of the Point Lonsdale foreshore improvement works that include installation of a viewing platform and 'all abilities access' to and from the Point Lonsdale beach and foreshore area.

Maximise the return on Council assets within social and environmental constraints.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Increasing the return on Council assets, as an objective for Council, would result in an increase in non-rate revenue taking the pressure off rates as the primary source of funding. Council has a number of Council owned or managed land and/or buildings that provide facilities or amenity to the community. Increasing focus on those assets that are underutilised or provide a nil or low financial return to Council has resulted in a number of Council briefings and discussion including presentations to Council's Governance & External Relations Portfolio Reference Group, several of these related to the potential redevelopment of Golightly Caravan Park.</p> <p>The Queenscliff Recreation Reserve has increased the range and level of available tourist accommodation and therefore the revenue from this source. The change in the caravan park fee structure has increased revenue and now reflects comparative fees with other providers.</p> <p>Council has also made a successful submission to the State Government to undertake a 'Development Plan' at the Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserve and the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve that will include an increased level of tourist accommodation.</p> <p>Refurbishment of the ladies toilets in the Town Hall, following on from the kitchen renovation last year, now sees this facility with much higher booking potential.</p>	

Increase revenue by developing cabins and caravan parks.	Completed
<p>As at 31/6/12: Two additional cabins have been installed at the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve Caravan Park, one a deluxe cabin and one a budget cabin. This brings the total number of cabins to seven. The total income from Caravan parks has increased by \$132,000 to \$1,448,000 in 2011/12. Revenue from the cabin accommodation has increased by almost \$30,000 to \$178,000, which is anticipated to be greater next year given the additional cabins will be operational for a full year.</p>	

Seek to resolve key issues surrounding Queenscliff's marine precinct.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council's advocacy to the State Government resulted in a very positive outcome with the State Government establishing an expanded pile mooring ground in the Queenscliff Harbour and local residents being able to access an increased number of affordable moorings. Council also continues to lobby Parks Victoria seeking community use of the former Fisherman's Cooperative. While Council's previous advocacy resulted in the State allocating funds for the upgrade of Fisherman's Wharf, the State Government is yet to finalise plans for this infrastructure improvement. Council's advocacy to Parks Victoria resulted in a significant upgrade and major access improvements to Queenscliff Pier.</p>	

Investigate resource sharing with neighbouring municipalities and other organisations.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council has established a number of areas of resource sharing with neighbouring municipalities that has resulted in more coordinated approaches to and improved service provision. The key areas of improvement include working with the City of Greater Geelong in the areas of Fire Prevention and Emergency Management response and recovery, coordinating road infrastructure improvements where there are shared responsibilities on the municipal boundaries and establishing a service provision arrangement for the delivery of Environmental Health Services. Council has also worked with the G21 Regional Alliance on various planning projects that include the G21 Region Growth Plan and the G21 Region Economic Development Plan. Council has also been an active partner in the regional 'Climate Resilient Communities of the Barwon South-West' project.</p>	

Further improve community input into Council's Business Plan priorities.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: The development of the 2012/13 Council Plan and 2012/13 budget included a review of the 120+ submissions for capital works and new initiatives received from local community organisations, Councillors and Council officers. Council also conducted two community presentations of the draft Council Plan and draft budget that were held in Queenscliff and Hawthorn in April 2012. Council also provided an opportunity for community members to present their submissions.	
Continue process for municipal boundary relocation.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council continued advocating to State Government Ministers and MPs for a change to the municipal boundary to enable the Borough of Queenscliffe to provide a single point of governance for the township of Point Lonsdale. Council renewed its commitment to this outcome in the 2012/13 Council Plan and allocated \$30K in the 2012/13 budget to undertake an independent plebiscite of Point Lonsdale residents in the City of Greater Geelong.	
Continue to improve the standard of customer service.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: The final audit for the 2011/12 year provided very positive feedback from the community survey and showed continuing adherence to the standards set. The review of the Charter's standards resulted in the standard set for responding to correspondence changing from 5 days to 12 working days to be in-line with other LGAs and more appropriate for the resource capacity of the Borough.	
Increase residents' access to information and services through upgrading the Council's website.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: A number of new sections and pages have been added to the Council website, including information regarding forthcoming Council Elections, a state-wide regional living program that was applied to the Borough of Queenscliffe in the 'Live.Work.Love.' campaign and improvements to children's services information. Work continues on the development of a new website using a better software platform and content management system. This is anticipated for completion in November 2012.	
Work to maintain strong Department of Defence presence in the Borough of Queenscliffe given its significant role in the local economy and community activity.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council's strong relationship with and advocacy to key Ministers, MPs and officers in the Federal Government has been important in securing an ongoing role for the Department of Defence at Fort Queenscliff. In late 2011 the Federal Government announced the establishment of the Department of Defence's National Archive Centre at Fort Queenscliff. While this will see the cessation of the military presence in Queenscliffe, it will result in an increase in the civilian workforce from 45 to approximately 90 effective full time positions. Council continues to advocate for community use of the Department of Defence 'King Street Cottage' that remains vacant at this time as well as opportunities for use of Fort Queenscliff.	

SUSTAINABILITY & LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Strategic Direction

Living sustainably and protecting and restoring our diverse environment

2011-2012 Business Plan Priority Actions		Status
Implement Council's Environmental Sustainability Plan.		Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council progressed implementation of priority actions in its Sustainable Living Action Plan including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing all actions in the Corporate Carbon Neutral Action Plan; • Working with consultants and a community reference group to complete a draft of the Community Carbon Neutral Action Plan; • Launch a trial of energy efficient street lights in two streets (one in Queenscliff and the other in Point Lonsdale), including seeking community feedback on the trial; • Installing solar-powered public lighting at the Queenscliff Neighbourhood House and Point Lonsdale Tennis Clubrooms car park. • Completing the second milestone in Council's 'Working towards Carbon Neutrality in the Borough of Queenscliffe' project. <p>Throughout the year Council also achieved a number of other initiatives that were designed to reduce emissions and improve recycling including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting Council's first E-waste Collection Day; • Using Alcoa Foundation funding to conduct bin audits of Citizens & Princess Parks and evaluate purchase of dual recycling/waste stations in the parks; • Working with neighbouring Councils and Barwon Regional Waste Management Group in the development of education resources following the completion of kerbside recycling/waste bins audits; • Hosting a successful National Recycling Week 2011 collection; and • Co-ordinating a fluorescent tube and CFL globe collection for Borough residents. 		
Implement a strategy to move the Council by 2013 and community by 2020 towards carbon neutrality.		In Progress
<p>As at 30/6/12: This priority action involves the preparation of two plans; a Corporate Carbon Neutral Action Plan designed to reduce the emissions of Council activities and a Community focused Carbon Neutral Action Plan. The Corporate Carbon Neutral Action Plan was adopted by Council at its April 2012 Ordinary meeting. Officers have completed the second milestone of the 'Working towards carbon neutrality in the Borough of Queenscliffe' project. This was the result of a successful submission to the Victorian Local Sustainability Accord. The resultant actions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplying 100% green power to all Council-operated caravan and camping parks from 1st July 2011; • Conducting energy audits of the Council Offices, Town Hall, four Council-operated caravan parks and implement priority audit recommendations; • Completing a 'Business Case' for the bulk replacement of street lighting that includes the financial and environmental impacts of a this change; • Contributing funds to the trial of energy efficient street lights in two streets in the Borough; • Purchasing an energy audit kit to be loaned to Council staff for measuring energy and water usage. <p>Consultants and officers have been working with a community reference group to prepare a Community Carbon Neutral Action Plan. This will be presented to Council prior to a broader community consultation in 2012.</p>		
Advocate at all opportunities for a move to carbon neutrality.		Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council has played an active role in advocating for a move to carbon neutrality. The completion of Corporate Carbon Neutral Action Plan and the progress on the Community Carbon Neutral Action Plan provides a platform for focusing the advocacy efforts of Council. Media releases have appeared in local newspapers and on Council's website to promote current projects designed to reduce the Council and community 'carbon footprint'.</p>		
Move towards carbon neutrality by providing green power at all caravan and camping parks managed by Council.		Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council's commitment to reducing carbon emissions has resulted in 100% green power being supplied to all Council-operated caravan and camping parks as of 1st July, 2011.</p>		

Facilitate programs to assist resident's access to sustainability products including solar hot water, water tanks and solar panels.	In Progress
As at 30/6/12: Council has been working with Barwon Water to plan a 'showerhead exchange program' throughout the Borough of Queenscliffe and this will be implemented in 2012/13.	

Seek funding opportunities to progressively implement the upgrade of the Queenscliff to Point Lonsdale shared pathway link.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: There have been a number of projects in 2011/12 that contributed to the goal of progressively upgrading the Queenscliff to Point Lonsdale shared pathway link, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocating funds to undertake an upgrade of Dog Beach and Springs Car Parks. Council has appointed a Landscape Architect to prepare design plans with construction to occur in 2012/13; • The Department of Sustainability and Environment has reviewed and provided approval for the plans for the Ferry to Pier Coastal Pathway Development project which includes improvements to the trail linking the Queenscliff township with the Ferry Terminal and providing pathway and boardwalk access to the beach and a viewing platform over the Bay. A planning permit application in relation to vegetation removal is currently being considered by Council that will lead to construction commencing in 2012; • Allocating funds to the Point Lonsdale foreshore improvement works. Council has again appointed a Landscape Architect to prepare design plans that will be the subject of community consultation in 2012. The proposed works include a viewing platform and 'all abilities access' to and from the Point Lonsdale beach and foreshore area. These draft plans have been considered by the Point Lonsdale Main Street reference group with feedback informing the final draft. Council has submitted a funding application for this project that is currently being assessed by the State Government. 	

Implement the Council's Tree Management Strategy.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council have been proactive in managing trees over the last 12 months, particularly very mature trees that present a risk to the public safety. Actions undertaken over the last 12 months include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The removal of 15 street trees and replacement planting of 95 street trees; • Almost 1,600 trees and plants in public parks, coastal reserves and nature strips; • The removal of five over mature Monterey Cypress trees that presented a public safety risk with the timber from these trees is being stored for future use as new park furniture, bollards and fencing; • Continuing to monitor and assess trees in high risk areas such as caravan parks, public parks and high use areas; • Commissioning eight arborist reports regarding mature trees that present a public safety risk, then implementing actions that either limit public access to the area or remove and replace the trees; and • Completing all electrical line clearance works as required by new more stringent regulations. 	

Implement the 'Weed Management Plan' for the Borough of Queenscliffe in consultation with Bellarine Catchment Network and other key stakeholders.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council's weed removal and revegetation program is an important priority that requires an ongoing commitment. This cannot be achieved without the partnership with the Bellarine Catchment Network and the working relationship with Correctional Services. Targeted actions have occurred in 'The Narrows', Citizens Park Escarpment and the Ocean View beach access areas in Queenscliff and the coastal reserve and Golightly Caravan Park in Point Lonsdale. Our combined efforts were recognised at the annual Victorian Coastal Council excellence awards in April 2012. This underlined the significance of the community approach to coastal vegetation management through the Coastal Moonah Woodlands project.</p>	

Work with local environment groups and the community to reduce and prevent spread of noxious and environmental weeds in the Borough.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council successfully applied to the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) for funding to address areas of high incidence of noxious and environmentally hazardous weeds. Scoping of the range of work required on the sites selected under the CCMA's Coastal Tender project has been undertaken. An Expression of Interest process to select contractors to undertake the range of weed removal and revegetation works is to commence early in the 2012/2013 year. Works will include fencing and protection of the back beach in Point Lonsdale between Fellows Road and the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse as well as 'The Narrows' area in Queenscliff with weed removal, revegetation and ongoing maintenance over the five year period of the CCMA funding program.</p> <p>The combined efforts of the Geelong Environment Forum and Council resulted in further weed removal work on the escarpment below Citizens Park in Queenscliff. In addition Council worked with Barwon Coast (as project manager) to tackle the spread of weeds by using aerial spraying of biological control agents in the dune foreshore area from Point Lonsdale Lighthouse to Fellows Road.</p>	
Identify funding opportunities that would enable Council to progress a 'Wetlands & Environment Management Strategy'.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: No funding opportunities have been identified through State or Federal Government grant programs to progress this priority.</p>	
Continue to advocate to State and Federal Governments for an extension of 'Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula' Ramsar site to include the Core Wetlands and surrounding land of the Lonsdale Lakes Wetland Complex and Sand Island.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: While this remains a priority for the Borough of Queenscliffe Council and community, it has not been identified as a priority by either State or Federal Governments. Council's advocacy to the State and Federal Governments in relation to the Stockland Residential Development in Point Lonsdale has underlined a number of issues related to this priority project.</p>	
Advocate for Lakers Cutting to be included in the Port Phillips Heads Marine National Park.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: While this remains a priority for the Borough of Queenscliffe Council and community, it has not been identified as a priority by either State or Federal Governments. Council's advocacy to the State and Federal Governments in relation to the Stockland Residential Development in Point Lonsdale has underlined a number of issues related to this priority project.</p>	

BUSINESS & TOURISM

Strategic Direction

Supporting local businesses and tourism by providing an environment in which they can both flourish

2011-2012 Business Plan Priority Actions	Status
Implement opportunities arising from the Tourism Infrastructure Opportunities Study.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council's Business and Tourism priority actions have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing discussions with Architects for the Hesse Street Cultural Hub project, which will include the Visitor Information Centre, the Library, and the Queenscliff Historical Museum, have occurred with concept plans nearing finalisation; Upgrading the Borough of Queenscliffe website to include a site map for the Visitor Information Centre as well as a campaign targeting people considering living in Queenscliff or Point Lonsdale; Conducting a review of service standards at the Visitor Information Centre (VIC) to meet Australian Tourism Accreditation Program requirements and developing a 3 year Business and Marketing Plan as part of the VIC's annual accreditation renewal; Improving Wi-Fi functionality at the VIC to provide better internet access for visitors to the Borough; Upgrading the Queenscliffe Tourist Parks website to improve promotion and marketing of the caravan park accommodation options; Progressing plans to link the Queenscliffe Visitor Information Centre website pages to the 'Visit Geelong' and 'Bellarine' and 'Great Ocean Road' websites; Planning the implementation of the 'Ferry Ambassadors' and 'Roaming Information Volunteers' to service the Ferry, Harbour and Point Lonsdale precincts particularly over the summer period; Producing and distributing additional local 'E-News' and regular information to promote tourism opportunities to key stakeholders within the Borough; Improving staffing and volunteer arrangements at the Queenscliff Visitor Information Centre to ensure the standard of Visitor Information Centre services over all weekends. 	
Work with local traders, Queenscliff Lonsdale Business & Tourism and Bellarine Tourism to maximise tourism opportunities in the Borough of Queenscliffe.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12:</p> <p>In July 2011 the Borough of Queenscliffe Visitor Information Centre was awarded the Geelong Advertiser Business Excellence Award under the category of 'Tourism Attraction, Events & Services'. This was the third time the Council's Visitor Information Centre was the recipient of a Business Excellence Award resulting in the Council's VIC being inducted into the Business Excellence Hall of Fame.</p> <p>Key Activities undertaken in 2011/12 to maximise tourism opportunities in the Borough included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the Queenscliff Lonsdale Business & Tourism Association (QLBTA) to host the Small Business Breakfast and workshops during the Small Business Victoria Festival in August 2011 and planning a number of events that will take place at the 2012 Festival in August including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> QLBTA Networking Function with Small Business Mentoring Program; Professional Development Workshop; Business Breakfast and 2 workshops with Debbie Mayo Smith; Networking function for the 'Tradies and Builders' operating in the Borough; Queenscliffe Business Women's networking dinner; 	

- Leading the Borough of Queenscliffe's promotional campaign that formed part of the State Government's 'Regional Victoria Living Expo' that was held over the weekend in late April 2012. This gave Melburnians considering a move to regional Victoria, the opportunity to meet with the 48 rural Councils and more than 130 other exhibitors from the regional Victoria who were showcasing the attributes of their respective localities. Research indicates that 11 per cent of Melburnians (some 450,000 people) are thought to be considering moving to regional Victoria in the next three years and another 39 per cent are considering doing so at some stage in the future. The State Government has dedicated \$3 million to a series of Expos over four years. Over 8,000 people attended this year's expo. The Borough of Queenscliffe was represented in collaboration with the City of Greater Geelong and Surf Coast Shire under the 'Geelong and Surrounds' brand. A number of inquiries have been received from potential residents, and interest shown in the Queenscliff Living pages on the website. In June 2012 the City of Greater Geelong hosted an Open Day at the Sheraton to further support people's interest in the region. The Borough of Queenscliffe had a display and participated in a bus tour of the region to provide information and answer questions.
 - Showcasing the Borough of Queenscliffe tourism opportunities at the 'Regional Destination and Shopping Fair' at Federation Square on 12 August 2011;
 - Promoting Borough of Queenscliffe tourism to the 15,000 people that attended the relaunch of the Searoad Ferry Service at Docklands, Melbourne on 25 September 2011. Planning with Bellarine Tourism to prepare a 2012/13 Professional Development Calendar that will target businesses within the Borough of Queenscliffe;
 - Disseminating information on local events including 'Bellarine Lighthouse Films' and 'Bookshop Author signings'; and
- Promoting and coordinating ticket sales through the Visitor Information Centre for a number of key events and local fund raisers including Queenscliff Bricks, Queenscliff Music Festival, Lighthouse Theatre, Kevin Hocking, and the visit by the Eltham Primary School Choir.

Work in partnership with businesses and other organisations to promote the packaging of tourism and accommodation options, particularly during low-season times of the year.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12:</p> <p>Over the 2011/12 year several initiatives have been undertaken in order to promote tourism in the region and improve low season visitation levels. Packaging of events and experiences with accommodation deals has been a key focus. Council is involved with local Tourism groups to assist in events promotion and continues to promote tourism destinations and features of the region through the VIC. Other activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning the 2012/13 Professional Development and Excellence Calendar with Geelong Otway Tourism, Bellarine Tourism and Central Geelong Marketing; • Conducting a Queenscliffe Familiarisation tour of local businesses with Bellarine Tourism in March 2012; • Hosting a Customer Service Workshop at Beacon Big 4 in February 2012 with Mel Neill with 12 Bellarine businesses availing themselves of Mel's comprehensive understanding of how we best serve the needs of our customers; • Working with QLBTa on the 'Christmas in July' marketing program that was promoted through Geelong and Bellarine to encourage people to visit friends and relatives. 	

Improve and promote the calendar of events in the Borough.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council has undertaken a range of activities designed to promote events in the Borough of Queenscliffe, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrading the events calendar component of the Borough of Queenscliffe website; • Linking local events to the Geelong Otway Tourism regional website to ensure marketing opportunities are promoted through local, regional and where relevant state-wide media outlets; • Promoting events information on a monthly basis to the local business network and advising accommodation providers of upcoming events through the weekly 'Roombank' reminder email; • Progressing plans to link the Queenscliffe Visitor Information Centre website pages to the 'Visit Geelong' and 'Bellarine' and 'Great Ocean Road' websites; and • Producing and distributing additional local 'E-News' and regular information to promote tourism opportunities to key stakeholders within the Borough. 	

Encourage the development of improved community transport during peak tourism periods.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12:</p> <p>Throughout 2011/12, Council has been active in encouraging the development of improved community transport through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the Bellarine Taxi Network and the Queenscliff Lonsdale Business & Tourism Association to improve taxi services within the Borough and across the Bellarine, particularly in peak tourism periods; • Supporting the Queenscliff Music Festival to secure additional transport services; and • Advocating to have a maxi-taxi service based with the Bellarine Taxi Network and servicing the Borough of Queenscliffe. 	
Advocate for the development of the Point Lonsdale to Ocean Grove shared path.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council continued its advocacy to the City of Greater Geelong encouraging the Council to include planning of this project in its capital works planning as part of the 2012/13 budget. While this was initially included in the City's budget proposals it was not incorporated into the final budget for the 2012/13 financial year.</p>	
Investigate funding opportunities for development of Toc H and Shortland's Bluff sites, working with DSE to implement the Borough of Queenscliffe's development priorities.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council has been advised that its funding submission to the State Government towards production of a Development Plan for both the Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserve (Shortlands Bluff) and the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve (Toc H) has been successful. This major planning project will be commenced in late 2012.</p>	
Develop a Masterplan for tourism accommodation development at the Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserve (Shortland's Bluff)	In Progress
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council has been advised that its funding submission to the State Government towards production of a Development Plan for both the Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserve (Shortlands Bluff) and the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve (Toc H) has been successful. This major planning project will be commenced in late 2012.</p>	
Support Geelong Steam Preservation Society to progress improvements to the Bellarine Railway Station facilities	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council has worked with representatives from the Geelong Steam Preservation Society (operating as the Bellarine Railway) and the State Government to secure funding to upgrade the historic Railway Station facilities in Queenscliff. This has resulted in the State Government requesting a formal proposal from the Borough Council and Bellarine Railway. Council officers are currently preparing this submission.</p>	

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Strategic Direction

Work in partnership with the community to build a strong, safe, inclusive and connected community.

2011-2012 Business Plan Priority Actions

Status

Support local community organisations, civic events and arts, cultural and sporting activities in the Borough.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council played an important role in supporting a range of community, sporting, civic, arts and cultural events throughout the 2011/12 financial year. Council's involvement extended to direct sponsorship, grant funding, assistance with event planning or simply an administrative role in ensuring that all arrangements were consistent with statutory requirements and Council policies and Local Laws. The events through the year included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kids Busking for the Kids in support of the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal; • Queenscliff Music Festival; • Anzac Day Celebrations; • Australia Day Celebrations; • Queenscliffe Maritime Weekend; • Sand Sculpture Contest; • Point Lonsdale Lighting of the Christmas Tree; • Rip View Swim Classic; • Amy's Ride; • Blue Water Swim Classic; • Annual Queenscliff Rod Run; • Giants of the Bay Swim; • Dog's Breakfast; • Around the Bay in a Day; • Walking Home 2011; • Annual Toy Run; • Rip to River Run; and • Bellarine Rail Trail Fun Run. 	
Support local community initiatives through the Council's Community Grants program.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: The 2011/12 Community Grants program distributed almost \$20,000 to successful community groups and organisations. Fourteen recipients were presented with their cheques by the Mayor at the presentation in July 2011. The 2012/2013 Community Grants program was advertised, with applications closing on Friday 29 June and the grants presentation eventing to be held in August.</p>	
Promote volunteerism through Council's Recognition Awards and ceremonies.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Volunteers play a key role in improving and maintaining the health and wellbeing of the community. At Council's Australia Day Awards, Val Lawrence received the Citizen of the Year Award with Jess Dyer and Alex Baker being recognised as the Junior Citizens of the Year. The Community Event of the year was awarded to the Queenscliff Football and Netball Club, acknowledging the Senior Football Team's efforts in winning the Bellarine Football League premiership. The Community Service of the Year was awarded to the Masonic Lodge No. 96 for their important work in conducting a Men's and Women's Health and Wellbeing Forum. Finally, the Community Environment Project of the Year was awarded to the Bellarine Catchment Network, Queenscliffe Community Nursery and the Swan Bay Environment Association for their collaborative work in rehabilitating the coastal dunes in 'The Narrows.</p> <p>Council's annual Volunteer Celebration evening was held on the 22nd May 2012 at the Queenscliff Bowls Club. The evening provided an opportunity to thank volunteers from the range of organisations for the great contribution they make to the community. Over 130 volunteers attended. The 2012 Citizen of the Year, Val Lawrence, spoke about her volunteering experiences and the key ingredients that have made volunteering so important to her.</p>	

Work with the community to commence planning the 150 year anniversary of the Borough of Queenscliffe.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: The Council's 150 th Anniversary occurs in 2013 and Council established a Community Advisory Committee to assist in planning and coordinating a program of events and activities. The weekend of the 4-5 May 2013 will be the centrepiece of the community celebrations as this coincides with the date that the Governor of Victoria formally established the Borough of Queenscliffe. The proposed program of events and activities through the year has been submitted to the State Government with Council seeking funding assistance to plan, promote and conduct the events and achieve a high level of community and visitor participation.	
Work with Queenscliff Lonsdale Community Enterprise to increase support to local Committees of Management.	Yet to Commence
As at 30/6/12: Queenscliff Golf Club, Queenscliff Sports Club and the Queenscliff Bowling club have worked together to identify common issues that impact on the ongoing viability of sporting clubs with the intention of preparing a coordinated response to addressing these challenges. Queenscliff Point Lonsdale Community Enterprise has an interest in progressing the project. A small grant has been provided by the Borough Council to assist in preparing a joint Action Plan.	
Maintain a zero waiting list for access to Council's Aged & Disability Service.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council has continued to maintain the zero waiting list status for access to Aged Care & Disability Services. Over the 2011/12 financial year Council has provided services to 223 residents including 5361 hours of Home Care, 979 hours of Respite Care, 1049 hours of personal care and 979 hours of home maintenance.	
Develop a Footpath and Road Treatment Strategy for the Borough to increase pedestrian road safety.	Yet to Commence
As at 30/6/12: The project was not commenced in the 2011/12 financial year as a result of other components of the Capital Works Program and planning initiatives taking precedence. This project will be a priority in the 2012/13 financial year.	
Advocate for improved public transport services and timetabling with regional organisations and State and Federal Government.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council's advocacy, both independently and through G21 Region Alliance has resulted in an allocation of \$110K funding to G21 from the Regional Development Australia program for development of an Integrated Public Transport Plan covering the five municipalities in the G21 region. This will be implemented in 2012/13 and provide the Borough Council and community with a good opportunity to influence future public transport provision priorities in the G21 region.	
Improve pedestrian safety including advocating for reduced speed limits in residential streets without footpaths.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Improving pedestrian safety has been achieved through a number of specific initiatives conducted by the Borough Council either directly or in partnership with the State Government. These included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The installation of pedestrian safety infrastructure in Point Lonsdale Road to compliment the actions taken to reduce the speed limit to 40km/h. Works in this area included two pedestrian crossings and signage and line marking to reduce vehicle speed. • A new footpath was constructed in Lawrence Road, Point Lonsdale to provide pedestrians with a continuous off road path between Point Lonsdale Road and Fellows Road. 	
Facilitate use of and access to public transport.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council has undertaken a number of actions to facilitate use of and access to public transport including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocating to improve public bus services linking to the arrival and departure timetable at the Queenscliff to Sorrento Ferry; • Successfully advocating to the State Government to increase public bus transport services from Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula to the Queenscliff Music Festival; • Working with McHarry's Buslines to address vegetation issues associated with both vehicle and pedestrian access to bus stops through out the Borough; and • Incorporating planning of a 'Taxi Zone' as part of the scheduled improvements to Hesse Street, Queenscliff. 	

Continue with the review of Council leases.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council continues to advocate to the State Government and VicTrack for improved lease arrangements for the Senior Citizens Centre and Sea Scouts Clubrooms. Through the year Council also formally advised and reached agreement with the Department of Sustainability and Environment regarding being appointed Committee of Management for the Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserve (Shortlands Bluff) and Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve (Toc H) sites. Council also reviewed existing lease arrangements on areas of Crown land in the Borough and will progress renegotiated of these over the next 12 months.	
Work with local groups interested in establishing a community garden on the High School site.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Five community members, two Councillors and two Council officers have been appointed to the new Project Control Group (PCG) for the development of the proposed Botanic Gardens at the former High School site. The community members were appointed following an Expression of Interest process and will assist Council in preparing a brief that informs the future design of the site provide advice on the best governance model. This follows an extensive community survey that provided Council with community views regarding the components that should form part of the Botanic Gardens project.	
Finalise the Precinct Plan for Queenscliff Recreation Reserve.	In Progress
As at 30/6/12: The Precinct Plan for the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve has not progressed as scheduled. This has been due to recognising the need to investigate the current and future camping and caravan service and infrastructure requirements at the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve and Victoria Park prior to preparing a precinct plan for the area. This project will now be completed in 2012/13 and guide the future sporting, camping and parks and open space requirements and development proposals in this precinct.	
Prepare a concept plan, quantity survey and costing for the development of netball courts at Queenscliff Recreation Reserve.	Yet to Commence
As at 30/6/12: This priority action is dependant upon the development of the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve Masterplan. The Masterplan provide clear guidance on the most appropriate future location of the netball courts and enable a detailed design and costing to be progressed in 2012/13.	
Source funding opportunities to implement priority works identified in the Hesse Street Revitalisation project.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Funding of \$250k has been secured from the State Government towards main street improvement works in Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale. Concept Plans have been completed and the Hesse Street Revitalisation Reference Group has given in principle support for the proposed works, including tree plantings and other low level plantings, street furniture and improved pedestrian crossings. The concept design will be presented to VicRoads for approval early in 2012/13 prior to preparation of detailed design and construction.	
Source funding opportunities to implement priority works in the Point Lonsdale shopping precinct.	In progress
As at 30/6/12: Funding of \$250k has been secured from the State Government towards main street improvement works in Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale. Council have prepared a draft concept design for Point Lonsdale foreshore improvement works near the shopping precinct. The proposed works include a viewing platform and all abilities access to and from the beach and foreshore area. These draft plans have been considered by the Point Lonsdale Main Street reference group with feedback informing the final draft before public consultation early in 2012/13. Council has applied for additional State Government funding of \$200k to enable Council to progress additional elements of the Point Lonsdale foreshore improvement project.	
Improve Municipal Emergency Management Planning.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: The key improvements in the Council's Emergency Management in 2011/12 included the final review and endorsement by Council of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan and working with the City of Greater Geelong to progress a joint approach to fire prevention and emergency response and recovery. Finally Council officers have been working with state level emergency response agencies (Police, SES, Ambulance, DHS, etc) to review any emergency incidents and improve our response and recovery practices.	

Work with the CFA and SES to improve community awareness and participation in responses to emergencies.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: A Memorandum of Understanding has been prepared between Council and the City of Greater Geelong identifying each Council's commitment to assisting each other in cases of emergencies. This will be finalised in 2012/13.	

Maintain regular dialogue with the Victoria Police.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council continues to have regular communication and meetings as required with the local Police. Over the 2011/12 financial year discussions included reviewing specific incidents regarding tree vandalism, excessive vehicle speed, management of large scale public events and emergency incidents associated with maritime safety and scuba diving.	

PLANNING, HERITAGE & COMMUNITY ASSETS

Strategic Direction

Striving to ensure development sustains and enhances the character of the natural and built environment

2011-2012 Business Plan Priority Actions

Status

Progress the review of the Borough of Queenscliffe Planning Scheme.	In Progress
As at 30/6/12: The formal review of the Queenscliffe Planning Scheme did not progress to the scheduled timelines due to changes in key staff at Council. The project will now be completed in 2012/13 following the final 'peer review' of the consultant's report, including findings and recommendations. Council's Steering Committee will consider this at its July Council Meeting and determine the timing of the community and stakeholder review after the draft report is finalised. This will occur late in 2012.	
Progress a planning scheme amendment to incorporate the Point Lonsdale Structure Plan.	In Progress
As at 30/6/12: In 2011/12 Council received and responded to the Panel report regarding the Point Lonsdale Structure Plan. The Council forwarded its submission to the Minister in September 2011 requesting a number of specific changes to the recommendations of the Panel. Council had not received the Minister's response to its submission at the end of the financial year.	
Implement Council's Asset Management Plan.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council continued to implement recommended actions in the Asset Management Plan in 2011/12 including:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing a detailed design of and preparing tender specification documentation for reconstruction of Gellibrand Street and replacement of drains in Learmonth Street. This included a detailed briefing to Councillors and information distribution to all residents impacted by the proposed development. The tender for the Gellibrand Street reconstruction was advertised in June and scheduled to close mid July 2012; • Working with Powercor to plan the upgrade of the electricity sub-station in the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve; • Working with the Queenscliff Sports Club to progress the Queenscliff Sports Club Enhancement project (Monahan Centre redevelopment); • Completing footpath renewal in Symonds Street, Point Lonsdale Road and Lawrence Road, Point Lonsdale; • Undertaking unplanned drainage improvements in Queenspoint Crescent, Queenscliff that led to deferral of Nelson Road drainage pump replacement to 2012/13; • Renewal of the Williams Street, Point Lonsdale community playground; and • Renewal of the roundabout surface at the Stokes Street and Learmonth Street intersection in Queenscliff. • Asphalt Resurfacing of Queenscliff Recreation Reserve roads, Point Lonsdale parking lane (west side) between Admans & Loch Streets, and Williams Rd/Fellows Rd intersection. • Spray Seal surfacing of the following streets; Admans St, Bailey St, Egerton St, Elgin Gv, Girvan Gv, Pentland Rd, Moore Crt, Flinders St service Rd, Bethune Street, Kirk Rd between Point Lonsdale Rd & Glaneuse Rd and Fellows Rd between Lawrence Rd & Williams Rd. • Citizens and Princess Park – fence renewal and path upgrades. • Town Hall ladies toilet refurbishment. • Queenscliff boat ramp hardstand renewal. • Construction of Tobin Drive car park. • Renewal of the Bezzant Reserve playground. 	
Implement priority recommendations from the Geotechnical Cliff Safety Assessment at Point Lonsdale.	In Progress
As at 30/6/12: Further investigation into the cliff safety adjacent to the Point Lonsdale Bowling Club has resulted in further discussions with the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) regarding the priority actions and final methodology to achieve cliff greater stability at Point Lonsdale. The initial cliff stability report recommendations were silent to the fact that the sea side approach to the cliff areas is a Marine National Park and the cliff top approach has a vegetation conservation value which impacts on how the recommended works should be carried out. DSE is working with Council to determine the most suitable action.	

Investigate State Government support and funding opportunities for additional groynes at Point Lonsdale beach.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: No further progress. The rock groynes are a DSE responsibility and whilst Council has continued to advocate, DSE have advised no funding is available.	
Implement priority recommendations from the Climate Change Risk Assessment report.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council continue to progress actions from its Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing energy audits of the Town Hall and four Council operated caravan parks. Actions from these audits will be implemented in the 2012-13 financial year. • Obtaining quotes for energy and thermal audits at other Council facilities including the Queenscliff & District Neighbourhood House and the Music Festival residence in King Street, Queenscliff; • Seeking quotes to conduct water audits of Council facilities including the Council managed caravan parks, sportsgrounds and other key community buildings. This will assist in the development of actions to achieve sustainable water use; • Obtaining quotes to test stormwater from Council land running into wetlands at two locations; and • Designing the reconstruction of Gellibrand Street, Queenscliff to divert stormwater into Citizens and Princess Parks. 	
Review Council's Road Management Plan.	In Progress
As at 30/6/12 A review of the Council's Road Management Plan standards were incorporated into the performance targets in the Council's Roads, Parks and Reserves Contract that commenced in 2011/12.	
Construct traffic calming devices in Point Lonsdale Shopping Centre precinct.	Completed
<p>As at 30/6/12: Several traffic calming measures were completed in the Point Lonsdale shopping precinct in 2011/12 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VicRoads constructing new pedestrian crossings in the centre of the shopping precinct and installing safe crossing points where Point Lonsdale Road intersects with Kirk Road and at Albert Street; • VicRoads and Council working together to install signage and line marking designed to reduce vehicle speed; • Council installing bollards and planted beachside kerb outstands; and • Upgrading the street lights over the three new crossings in Point Lonsdale Road. 	
Design pedestrian safety improvements at Fellows & Grimes Roads in Point Lonsdale and Flinders & Henry Streets in Queenscliff, in consultation with VicRoads.	In Progress
<p>As at 30/6/12: Council identified two potential pedestrian crossings as priority actions in the 2011/12 financial year. Discussions have been held with VicRoads and the City of Greater Geelong for the Fellows Road crossing near Grimes Road with vehicle and pedestrian counts through peak use periods to occur between September and December 2012 and construction at the commencement of the 2013 calendar year.</p> <p>Council has discussed the location of the proposed crossing at Flinders Street and Henry Street intersection with VicRoads not supporting this proposal due to pedestrian safety and related risk management issues. A comprehensive solution to pedestrian safety at this location is yet been determined apart from traffic management activities at this intersection during the Nipper's annual events.</p>	
Complete the construction of the footpath on Lawrence Road, Point Lonsdale between Fellows and Point Lonsdale Roads.	Completed
As at: 30/6/12: Council completed construction of an unsealed crushed rock footpath on Lawrence Road, Point Lonsdale including the renewal work on the existing section of unsealed path.	
Improve road edges in Point Lonsdale for pedestrian safety and amenity.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council's road inspection and road edge maintenance regime continues to be undertaken. Council's Roads, Parks and Reserves Maintenance Services contract specifications have been reviewed prior to contract renewal. New contract specifications include an expectation of maintaining road assets prior to intervention levels occurring with the intention of further improving road edges.	

Advocate to VicRoads for improved pedestrian safety measures and roundabouts in priority locations.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: Council has identified two priority roundabouts and advocated to the Minister for Transport requesting approval for Country Roads & Bridges Initiative funds to be allocated to the construction of the Point Lonsdale Road – Admans Street roundabout and the design of the Hesse Street – Symonds Street roundabout. The Minister has provided approval for the Point Lonsdale Road – Admans Street roundabout however is yet to endorse funding for the Hesse Street – Symonds Street roundabout. Council will continue discussions with the Minister and VicRoads to secure funding for the Hesse Street – Symonds Street roundabout.	
Commission the design and costing for undergrounding of powerlines in Point Lonsdale Road, Point Lonsdale in consultation with Powercor.	Completed
As at 30/6/12: The design work for this project has been commissioned. The initial design with the cost estimates has been received from Powercor. Currently Council officers are consulting with VicRoads, the Department of Sustainability and Environment and Powercor to determine the final location of power infrastructure and the detailed costing of the undergrounding works.	
Upgrade the power supply to the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve and Victoria Park in consultation with Powercor.	In Progress
As at 30/6/12: Council has continued to work with Powercor to finalise installation of the kiosk substation at the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve that has been scheduled for October 2012. A staged program for consolidating the existing points of electricity supply (proposed as a staged implementation over 3 years) has been submitted to Powercor for approval.	