

Title **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT -
DRAFT HUON VALLEY RECREATION PLAN**

Agenda Number 19.019/20*

Strategic Plan Reference 1,2,3 and 4

File Reference 22/308

Author Community Engagement Officer

Responsible Officer Manager Recreation Services

Reporting Brief The Director Community Services presenting a report from the Community Engagement Officer on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan.

Attachments A. Summary of Engagement - Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan
B. Draft Recreation Plan

Background

1. The Huon Valley Council is the major provider of recreational facilities, programs and services to the community. About 10% of the Council's total annual expenditure is allocated towards sport and recreation, including the maintenance of open space areas.
2. Development of a new Huon Valley Recreation Plan is needed to guide Council towards working with and within the community to deliver services and recreational spaces needed to accommodate the changing needs of our community. Support and development of a wide variety of recreational pursuits will encourage and enhance the experiences for our community whilst also engaging in tourism.
3. Inspiring Place was awarded the contract.
4. The project addressed a range of aspects including:
 - changing needs within the community;
 - achieving equitable access to multipurpose facilities and spaces;
 - better utilisation of existing recreational facilities and services;
 - potential for changing, enhancing, sharing or rationalising use of existing facilities;
 - identifying the need and priority for new facilities; and
 - opportunities where recreational pursuits may also engage tourism.
5. The draft Huon Valley Recreation Strategy was endorsed by Council at its Ordinary meeting of 26 February 2020 for Community Engagement at the Consult Level.
6. The Purpose of this report is to consider the formal adoption of the Plan following Community Engagement.

Council Policy

7. Community engagement has been completed in accordance with the Council's Communication and Engagement Policy and Community Engagement Framework.
8. Council does not have a current Recreation Plan. The previous plan was endorsed by Council in 2006.

Legislative Requirements

9. There are no legal requirements for this matter.

Risk Implications

10. A Recreation Plan is needed to identify the goals and actions that will meet the changing needs of the Huon Valley community well into the future. The plan identifies where the Council will need to prioritise expenditure in relation to recreation needs to ensure that facilities and opportunities are of a high standard and are equitably distributed based on need, throughout the Valley.
11. Without a guiding strategic document of this nature opportunities for the community could be missed.
12. Community members have volunteered considerable time to consider the project and provide feedback. It is acknowledged that due to opposing and diverse community views, there may be some community members who disagree with the Recreation Plan.
13. The Council's Communication and Engagement Policy ensures the final designs will consider the feedback received, the common themes raised, budget implications, broad community benefit, access and best-practice design standards. The rationale for those recommendations will be shared with the community at an Inform level.

Engagement

14. Community engagement on the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan was undertaken at the Consult level from Monday 18 May 2020 to Friday 5 June 2020.
15. Following the community engagement period, the feedback received was compiled into the summary of community engagement report which is included as Attachment A to the reports. The feedback was reviewed and considered by Council Officers responsible for the project.
16. The techniques used are outlined in the table below and detailed further in the summary of community engagement included as Attachment A to this report.

Engagement Technique	Date	Reach
Huon Valley Council Website - Community Engagement 'Have Your Say' page	18 May 2020 – 5 June 2020	221 page views
Survey Monkey	18 May 2020 – 5 June 2020	11 online surveys completed
Facebook	18 May 2020 – 5 June 2020	4,350 People Reached 156 Engaged with post
Council eNewsletter	Emailed on: 22 May 2020 29 May 2020	Emailed to: 592 593
Paid Advertising	20 – 21 May 2020	
Huon FM Radio	Included in the Mayor's weekly radio interview.	

Human Resource and Financial Implications

17. Implementation of the plan will require significant funding over a 10-year period. Funding for the recommended work will need to be targeted and sourced from a range of potential areas including State and Federal Government funding opportunities.
18. Endorsement of the Huon Valley Recreation Plan will require Council to consider contributing funding for implementation of projects over the next ten years.

Discussion

19. Open spaces, sport and recreation are essential elements contributing to the quality of life enjoyed by the community. Well-designed and implemented planning policies for sport and recreation can help deliver a range of Council's broader objectives for the community. For example, high quality recreational facilities, programs and services may improve people's sense of well-being in the place they live, foster community activities that engage social interaction and promote healthy living, preventing illness, and contributing to the social development of the community.
20. The plan recognises the capacity of Council to implement the recommended outcomes. It identifies areas for improving existing or where new facilities, programs and services are needed. The plan also identifies opportunities for fostering synergies and benefits between recreation and tourism.
21. An implementation plan prioritises recommended actions with high, moderate, low and ongoing level priorities.
22. As outlined in the Summary Report, community engagement at the Consult level was conducted for a three-week period.

23. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions Council was unable to provide hard copy surveys or conduct on site meetings.
24. Community members received notification of the open engagement via email and the Council's eNewsletter. A total of 1,185 recipients received the eNewsletter over the three-week period.
25. A total of 11 responses were received. Feedback received has been collated into a table and is included in the engagement summary report. Responses to each submission received have been provided as required.

Conclusion and Recommendation

26. All feedback and suggestions received have been reviewed and responses provided and outlined in the Attachments to the Reports.
27. It will be recommended the Huon Valley Recreation Plan be endorsed for implementation.

19.019/20*

RESOLVED

CR DOYLE

CR O'MAY

That:

- a) **The Report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan be received and noted.**
- b) **The Huon Valley Recreation Plan be endorsed for implementation, subject to funding opportunities.**
- c) **The Huon Valley Recreation Plan be made available to the public on the Council website.**

Councillors Enders, Doyle, Newell, Gibson, Campbell, Wilson, Prince, Lovell and O'May voted for the motion and no Councillors voted against the motion.