



**Edward River**  
COUNCIL

EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL  
**COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2030**



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# ABOUT THIS PLAN



Welcome to *Edward River 2030*, the first Edward River Council Community Strategic Plan. This Plan identifies our community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and the strategies that will be implemented to achieve our shared vision for the future of the Edward River Local Government Area.

Under the State Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&R Framework), the Community Strategic Plan sits above all other Council plans and policies in the planning hierarchy. In accordance with the IP&R Framework, this Plan is based on the four priority areas of Community, Environment, Economy and Leadership.

In developing *Edward River 2030*, Council has undertaken significant consultation with community, government, business and industry. Through this consultation, we have developed a shared vision underpinned by five strategic outcomes:

- A great place to live
- A prosperous and vibrant economy
- A valued and enhanced natural environment
- A region with quality and sustainable infrastructure
- A community working together to achieve its potential

Each outcome is supported by a number of targets which, together, we will seek to achieve over the life of *Edward River 2030*.

As the custodian of *Edward River 2030*, Edward River Council will ensure that the leadership and governance it provides are reflective of this Plan and consider the Plan in the design and delivery of services and maintenance of assets and infrastructure.

Just as others have had a role in developing this Plan, so, too, will they have a role in delivering on its objectives. Collaboration between community, government, business and industry will be critical to achieving the vision outlined in this Plan. Edward River Council affirms its commitment to this collaboration and to implementing the vision of *Edward River 2030*.

The preparation of *Edward River 2030* has also been informed by key State Government publications, namely the Premier's Priorities and *Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2036*, as well as other Edward River Council strategic documents, including the Deniliquin Public Space Strategy, Disability Inclusion Action Plan, Economic Development Strategy and Edward River Region Open Space Strategy.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In accordance with section 402 of the Local Government Act 1993, the development of *Edward River 2030* has been underpinned by the four social justice principles:

### Equity

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Involving fairness in decision making, prioritising and allocation of resources, particularly for those in need.

### Participation

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The maximum opportunity to genuinely participate in decisions which affect their lives.

### Access

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Having fair access to services, resources and opportunities to improve quality of life.

### Rights

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Equal rights established and promoted, with opportunities provided for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to participate in community life.

# INTEGRATED PLANNING

Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) legislation introduced by the State Government sets clear requirements for all local governments to lead the development of long-term plans for their communities.

The following diagram illustrates how the IP&R framework ensures that local planning and reporting is informed, relevant and responsive to community needs:

## Community Strategic Plan

The Community Strategic Plan is the highest-level plan that Council prepares. Its purpose is to identify our community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and to plan strategies for achieving these goals. In doing this, the planning process considered the issues and pressures that may impact the community and the level of resources that will realistically be available to achieve its aspirations.



Informed by extensive community and stakeholder consultation, *Edward River 2030* seeks to answer four key questions:

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be in 10 years' time?
- How will we get there?
- How will we know when we have arrived?

At an operational level, this Plan will be implemented through Council's Delivery Program and one-year Operational Plans, which outline the activities and actions that are the responsibility of Council in achieving our shared vision.

## Resourcing Strategy

*Edward River 2030* provides a vehicle for expressing our community's long-term aspirations. However, the vision set out in this Plan will not be achieved without sufficient resources – time, money, assets and people – to carry them out.

The Resourcing Strategy comprises the following components:

- **Asset Management Planning:** Council's asset management planning is supported by an Asset Management Policy, Asset Management Strategy, and individual Asset Management Plans for all assets under Council's control. Considering 'whole of life' asset management from planning, purchase, operation and maintenance to disposal of assets; the Asset Management Strategy forecasts community requirements and the capacity to meet them on a short-, medium-, and long-term basis.

- **Long Term Financial Planning:** The Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) tests community aspirations as contained in the Community Strategic Plan against the financial realities of delivering on those aspirations. The LTFP integrates with *Edward River 2030* through the Delivery Program and one-year Operational Plan.
- **Workforce Management Planning:** The Workforce Management Plan addresses the human resourcing requirements of the Community Strategic Plan, including what people, skills, experience and expertise are required to achieve its strategic objectives.

## Delivery Program

The Delivery Program outlines how Council will contribute to achieving the vision set out in the Community Strategic Plan and turns the strategic objectives contained in *Edward River 2030* into actions. All plans, projects, activities and funding allocations made by Council must be directly linked to the Delivery Program.

## Operational Plan and Budget

Supporting the Delivery Program is an annual Operational Plan. Adopted by Council each year alongside its annual Budget, the Operational Plan identifies the plans, projects and activities that will be carried out over the financial year covered by the Operational Plan to achieve the commitments made in the Delivery Program.



## REPORTING OUR PROGRESS

Reporting is a key element of the IP&R framework. Council uses a variety of tools to report back to our community about our progress in achieving the Community Strategic Plan and implementing the Delivery Program, as well as our financial performance against the annual and longer-term budgets:

- **Annual Report:** Within five months of the end of each financial year, Council prepares an Annual Report, which includes a copy of our audited financial reports. The Annual Report details our progress in implementing the Delivery Program and the activities we have undertaken to deliver on the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan.
- **End of Term Report:** Tabled at the last meeting of the outgoing Council, the End of Term Report provides an update on our progress in implementing the Community Strategic Plan over the term of the Council, as well as the results and outcomes the implementation of the Community Strategic Plan has had for our community.
- **State of the Environment Report:** Included in the Annual Report in the year in which an ordinary election is held is a State of the Environment Report. This document reports on environmental issues relevant to the objectives for the environment established by the Community Strategic Plan.
- **Delivery Program Progress Reports:** Every six months, Council prepares a report detailing our progress in achieving the principal activities detailed in the Delivery Program.
- **Budget Review Statement:** Council prepares a Budget review statement three times each year which shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of Council's revenue policy in the Operational Plan for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

# DEVELOPING THIS PLAN



Following the creation of Edward River Council in 2016, a new Community Strategic Plan was required to be developed for the entire Edward River local government area. This Plan consolidates and builds on past engagement outcomes and identifies the new issues, challenges and opportunities facing the Edward River region.

To support the development of *Edward River 2030*, a program of community and stakeholder engagement was undertaken throughout October and November 2017. As part of this process, we utilised a series of consultation tools to engage government, community, business and industry, including:

- Community survey
- Community pop-up consultation sessions
- Open-house forums
- School visits
- Stakeholder workshops
- Telephone interviews

Close to 500 people joined the conversation and had their say on where they wanted the Edward River region to be in 10 years' time. We received hundreds of contributions, suggestions and ideas as part of our consultation process, and we have incorporated this feedback into this Plan.

This engagement process was structured around the following four key questions:

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be?
- How will we get there?
- How will we get there?



# THE PLAN



## WHERE ARE WE NOW?

By determining where we are now, we can clearly articulate what we, as a community, value about the Edward River region and identify the opportunities and challenges ahead of us. It also provides context for the outcomes we will work to achieve over the course of *Edward River 2030* and provide a foundation for collaborative community discussions into the future.

### **Our community values**

- Our rivers, creeks, billabongs and our natural environment
- Community services, wellbeing and safety
- Parks, playgrounds and open spaces
- Access to health, medical and emergency services
- Events, entertainment and community life
- Transport, connectivity and ease of getting around
- Quality education opportunities that provide for lifelong learning
- Diversity of community groups

### **Our opportunities**

- Diverse economic base and industry development opportunities
- Strategic position within the Murray-Riverina and centre of Adelaide-Melbourne-Sydney triangle
- Affordable to live and raise a family
- Leveraging natural assets
- Maximising the visitor economy

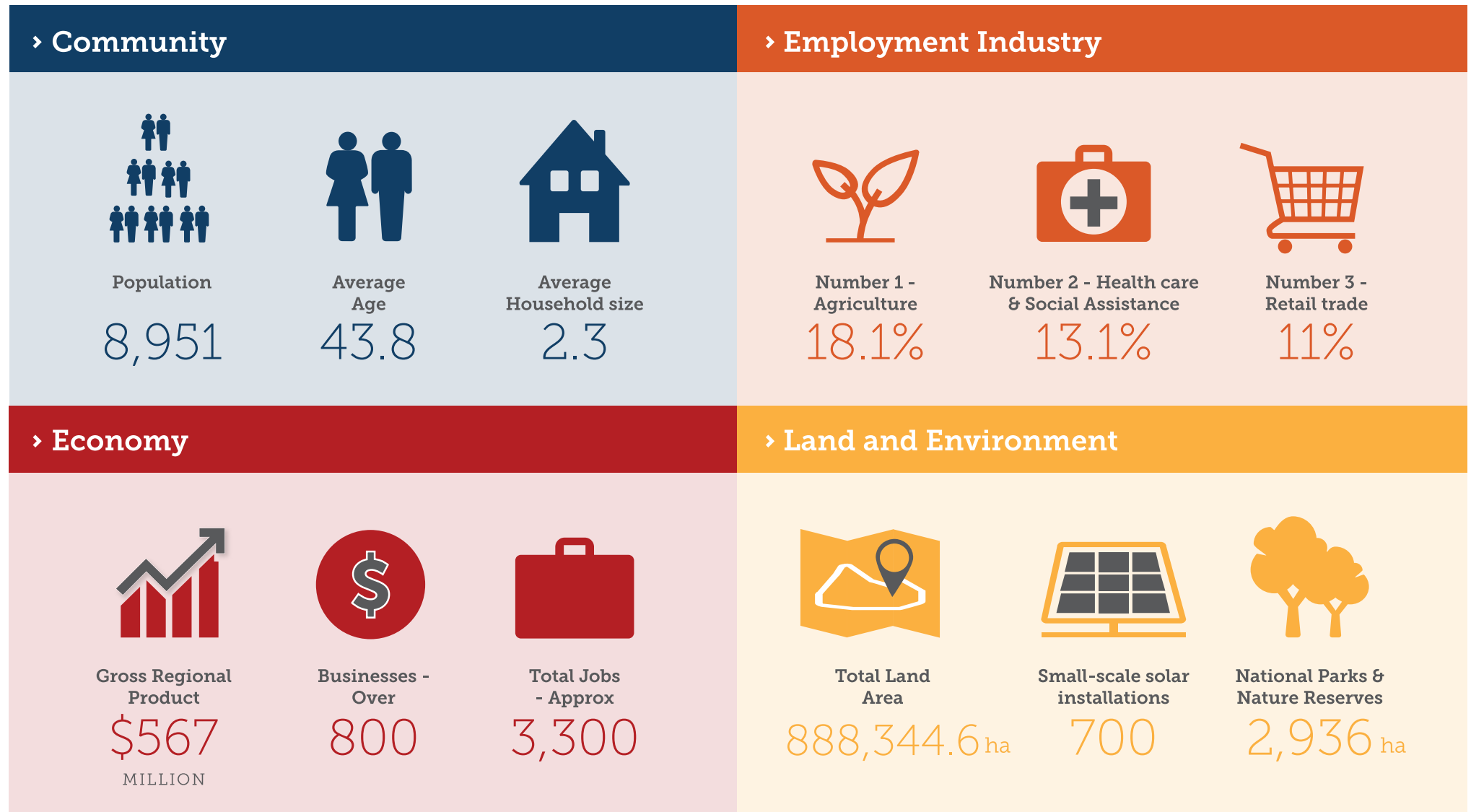
- Enhancing education opportunities with a focus on working with trades and TAFE to align courses with local industry needs
- Influence water policy and maximise access to water
- Encourage value-adding industry to locate in the region

### **Our challenges**

- Ageing infrastructure and assets
- Poor access to Information Technology services and infrastructure
- Slow population growth and ageing population
- Reducing level of government service provision
- Water security
- Attracting industries not impacted by seasonal conditions
- Cross border issues



# What & Who Make Up EDWARD RIVER



## WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?

Through consultation with government, community, business and industry, we have developed a clear vision as to what we want the Edward River region to look like in 2030.

During this consultation, we developed a vision for the Edward River to strive toward:

*We are the centre of the Southern Riverina. Home to a connected and engaged community, driven by a diverse economy. We work together to lead our community, achieve our potential and embrace our future.*

This vision is designed to encourage commitment to our future and engender a sense of common purpose and responsibility in all stakeholders responsible for delivering *Edward River 2030*.

In 2030, our community wants the Edward River region to be:

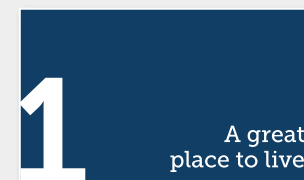
- A great place to live
- A prosperous and vibrant economy
- A valued and enhanced natural environment
- A region with quality and sustainable infrastructure
- A community working together to achieve its potential

## HOW WILL WE GET THERE?

Over the life of *Edward River 2030*, we will work to achieve our shared vision by delivering on our four outcomes, each of which is supported by three targets.

Everyone in our community has an opportunity in helping to achieve our shared vision. Under each outcome, we have explained how both Edward River Council and the Edward River community can contribute to delivering on the targets listed.

## Our Vision for EDWARD RIVER 2030



## Outcome 1 - *A great place to live*

We love our strong sense of community, our willingness to help each other out, and the fact that our region provides an ideal environment in which to raise a family. Over the life of *Edward River 2030*, we want to keep our community safe, active and healthy and make sure that our public and open spaces – such as our sporting grounds, community halls, parks and gardens – provide social value and keep us connected.

One of the highest priorities for our community is improving essential services. We want to see improved transport and communications services and infrastructure. Improved access to health services is vital to improving the social and economic wellbeing of our community, as are enhanced transport and communications services and infrastructure.

As a community, we celebrate our heritage and acknowledge Indigenous connection to Country. Over the coming decade, we will continue to acknowledge and celebrate our history, heritage and culture.

Building an inclusive and accessible community is important to our residents. We want to ensure that our physical environment, services and programs are designed in such a way that everyone finds them easy to access and use, particularly older people, parents with young children, and those with a disability or limited mobility.



## We will achieve this outcome by:

### Our targets:

- 1.1** Our community has access to essential services
- 1.2** Our community is safe, happy and healthy, both physically and mentally
- 1.3** Our community and public spaces are accessible and inclusive and reflect our history, heritage and culture

Council Role	Community Role	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for improved health, medical and emergency services and transport infrastructure</li> <li>Promote healthy lifestyle choices</li> <li>Operate section 355 committees to effectively manage community halls and recreation reserves</li> <li>Continue to provide library services through the Central Murray Regional Library</li> <li>Facilitate the development of a retirement living facility to support our ageing population</li> <li>Promote and support local events and activities such as NAIDOC Week, Wamba Wamba Perrepa Perrepa week, Seniors Week, International Women's Day and Youth Week activities</li> <li>Support youth events and activities that promote leadership opportunities for young people</li> <li>Work with indigenous groups and organisations to ensure that local indigenous arts, culture and heritage are represented in the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in community groups, sports clubs, and service clubs</li> <li>Advocate to Federal and State Members of Parliament for improvements to health, medical and emergency services and transport infrastructure</li> <li>Visit the Central Murray Regional Library</li> <li>Attend, support and promote cultural programs and initiatives</li> <li>Respect others and accept diversity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal and State Governments</li> <li>Transport providers</li> <li>Roads and Maritime Services</li> <li>Community groups</li> <li>Murrumbidgee Local Health District</li> <li>Local Government NSW</li> <li>National Broadband Network and communications providers</li> <li>South West Arts</li> <li>RDA Murray</li> <li>Outback Theatre for Young People</li> <li>Indigenous community and groups</li> <li>Yarkuwa Land Council</li> <li>South West Music</li> </ul>



## Outcome 2 - *A prosperous and vibrant economy*

The Edward River region is one of the most productive irrigation areas in New South Wales, and our local economy is driven by a strong and diverse agriculture industry spanning a variety of sectors. Over the coming 10 years, we want to diversify and grow agricultural production, pursue options for value adding and develop opportunities for domestic and international export markets.

Education is critical to helping existing business to grow and advance local industry. We want to increase education and training opportunities within our region to improve employment opportunities for residents, especially our youth, and support the development of a skilled workforce to meet the needs of local business and industry.

Our unique natural environment and busy events calendar – headlined by the iconic Deniliquin Ute Muster - ensures that our region offers a range of exciting tourist and visitor experiences. Just as we recognise that tourism is an important pillar of our economy, we also recognise that by further developing our key assets, including our rivers and town centres as well as our public spaces, we can facilitate more events, support existing business, and attract more tourists.

While we will continue to support our traditional industries, we also want to seize the opportunities presented by our growing arts and culture sector. Developing a creative economy will enhance our region's liveability for current and future residents.





## We will achieve this outcome by:

### Our targets:

- 2.1** Our economy is strong and diverse
- 2.2** We develop our key assets to enhance agriculture, boost tourism and support existing business
- 2.3** Our region provides strong education, employment and training opportunities

Council Role	Community Role	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Champion the industries and sectors that underpin our economy</li> <li>Advocate to State and Federal Governments on projects that will stimulate economic growth and job creation in the Edward River region</li> <li>Promote the Edward River region as an ideal destination to live, learn, work, play and invest</li> <li>Support and promote existing major events and local arts/music/culture sector and attract and develop new major events and arts/music/culture opportunities</li> <li>Streamline processes and identify efficiencies to assist investors, developers, builders and event organisers</li> <li>Promote community and regional growth through effective strategic planning</li> <li>Support education providers by advocating for funding, support and facilities</li> <li>Develop public spaces, inclusive of wayfinding signage, that are inviting and encourage locals and tourists to stop and enjoy our community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support local business by shopping locally</li> <li>Promote Edward River as a desirable place to live, learn, work, play and invest</li> <li>Support local business groups and industry organisations</li> <li>Attend, support and promote local events</li> <li>Employ local people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal and State Governments</li> <li>Business and Industry</li> <li>Destination NSW</li> <li>Deniliquin Business Chamber</li> <li>Murray Regional Tourism</li> <li>Farmers and irrigators</li> <li>TAFE Riverina</li> <li>Local schools</li> <li>Regional Development Australia Murray</li> <li>Developers, builders and tradesmen</li> <li>Edward River Community Education Fund</li> <li>Murray RDA</li> <li>South West Arts</li> <li>Outback Theatre</li> <li>South West Music</li> </ul>

## Outcome 3 - *A valued and enhanced natural environment*

Our rivers, creeks and billabongs are at the heart of our region and play an important role in our community, economy and lifestyle. Improving the access and amenity of these areas is of great importance. Building on the social and cultural role that they play and exploring further opportunities to better use public space around the Edward River region is a key priority for our community over the coming 10 years.

Water is the lifeblood of the Edward River region and plays an important role in our environment, just as it does in our economy. Our community is passionate about protecting our water supply and promoting the importance of reliable access to water to our region. We will work collaboratively with government, community, business and industry to better manage our water resources and secure the future of our natural environment and irrigated agriculture sector.

Keeping our natural environment clean is an important priority for our community, as is protecting it from invasive weeds. Over the life of *Edward River 2030*, we will work together to tackle littering, increase recycling, and minimise the impacts of existing and new and emerging weeds; protecting and enhancing our natural environment for us and for future generations.



## We will achieve this outcome by:

### Our targets:

- 3.1** We are committed to resource recovery and waste management
- 3.2** Our natural environment is protected and enhanced
- 3.3** We plan for the future to accommodate and facilitate sustainable growth and development

Council Role	Community Role	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsibly manage growth and development</li> <li>Ensure development is sustainable and responsive to current and future community needs</li> <li>Undertake invasive weed management programs with a focus on protecting our agricultural lands and maintaining our native vegetation</li> <li>Support and promote initiatives to conserve the environment and maximise water efficiency</li> <li>Improve waste management and recycling options</li> <li>Partner with agencies to achieve coordinated emergency management</li> <li>Maintain and manage Public Lands</li> <li>Develop a plan with relevant groups to manage the impact of free camping on our environment</li> <li>Investigate opportunities for sustainable energy and emerging technologies that provide a positive benefit for Council and the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and participate in activities that assist in protecting our environment</li> <li>Manage invasive weeds and species on private property</li> <li>Use water thoughtfully</li> <li>Compost household waste</li> <li>Dispose of waste thoughtfully through the Deniliquin Community Recycling Centre and the Return and Earn container deposit vending machine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal and State Governments</li> <li>Business and Industry</li> <li>Central Murray County Council</li> <li>Police and Emergency Services</li> <li>State Emergency Service</li> <li>Rural Fire Service</li> <li>Murray Local Land Services</li> <li>Murray Darling Association</li> <li>Murray Irrigation Limited</li> <li>Environmental organisations</li> <li>Developers</li> <li>Community groups and Schools</li> </ul>

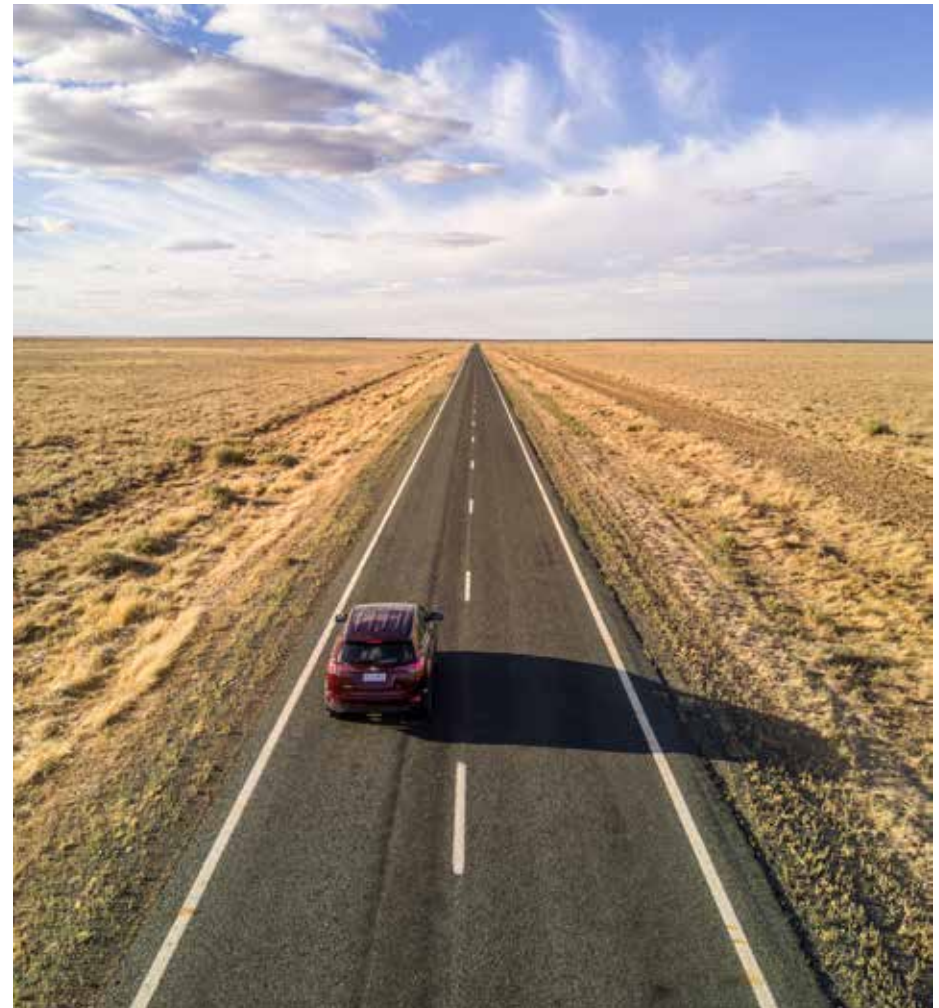
## Outcome 4 - *A region with quality and sustainable infrastructure*

As a community we are lucky to have well developed built infrastructure. In particular our sporting facilities and community halls are an area of immense pride. We see opportunity for improvement in our road, footpath and drainage networks and by taking a proactive approach to building maintenance.

We want a sustainable built environment that complements our natural environment, and which supports the continued growth of our region, through both retaining existing residents and attracting new residents.

We see opportunities to invest and develop our town centres through well planned and managed streetscape projects. We want strong and sustainable sporting clubs and community groups and see great opportunity in the future for the sharing of infrastructure and facilities.

To achieve our goal, we need to ensure that our built environment is well planned, and that our roads, community facilities, town centres and local infrastructure are effectively managed and enhanced, is fit for purpose and meets the needs of an evolving community.





## We will achieve this outcome by:

### Our targets:

- 4.1** Our built environment is managed, maintained and improved
- 4.2** Our road network is a source of pride
- 4.3** Our water and sewer infrastructure is efficient and fit for purpose

Council Role	Community Role	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectively maintain the region's water and sewer infrastructure</li> <li>Effectively maintain council roads and footpaths</li> <li>Undertake a regular program of building maintenance</li> <li>Undertake sound asset management planning and asset mapping</li> <li>Focus on reducing our asset backlog with our road network as a targeted area for improvement</li> <li>Where appropriate upgrade existing or provide new infrastructure</li> <li>Maximise funding opportunities to renew and upgrade-built infrastructure</li> <li>Partner with the community to understand service needs and ensure infrastructure is fit for purpose</li> <li>Implement streetscape improvement projects across our town centres and town entrances</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with Council to explain community service needs</li> <li>Proactively report infrastructure issues to Council so they can be actioned</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal and State Governments</li> <li>Business and Industry</li> <li>Roads and Maritime Services</li> <li>Section 355 Committees</li> <li>Business and Industry</li> <li>Community user groups</li> </ul>



## Outcome 5 - *A community working together to achieve its potential*

We are a strong and resilient community and we are proud of what we have achieved and excited about the opportunities ahead of us.

While our community is strong in spirit, we know that we have limited resources to work with. Over the next 10 years, we need to work smarter and more cohesively to ensure we invest our time, efforts and resources strategically and do not duplicate services.

We have a strong network of community groups and social service organisations and we know that by working together we can make the greatest impact

Our community has shared responsibility for achieving our goals. As we work together in implementing Edward River 2030, we want to have more opportunities for residents to speak up, have their say, and influence the decisions that impact them. Our community will remain engaged and informed and will work collaboratively and cooperatively to ensure the Edward River region achieves its potential.

Edward River Council is committed to providing open, accountable and transparent leadership and effective operational administration. We will champion our community's vision and play an active role in delivering on the objectives of Edward River 2030.



## We will achieve this outcome by:

### Our targets:

- 5.1** Our community is informed and engaged
- 5.2** We collaborate and pursue partnerships that achieve great outcomes for our community
- 5.3** Our local government is efficient, innovative and financially sustainable

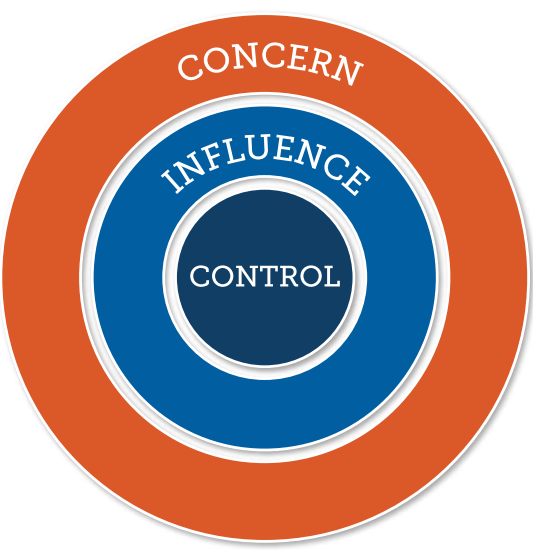
Council Role	Community Role	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide strong leadership through our approachable elected representatives</li> <li>• Conduct Council business transparently</li> <li>• Manage community expectations</li> <li>• Develop a skilled and community-responsive workforce</li> <li>• Engage in open communication with our community</li> <li>• Encourage community participation in decision making and planning</li> <li>• Provide professional, efficient and effective customer service</li> <li>• Partner with the indigenous community, groups and organisations to achieve positive combined outcomes</li> <li>• Partner with community groups and regional organisations to achieve combined outcomes</li> <li>• Partner with neighbouring municipalities on projects that provide benefit for Council and the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend Council meetings and actively participate in civic affairs</li> <li>• Participate in community consultations and engage in decision making</li> <li>• Provide feedback to Council</li> <li>• Become informed of Council's decisions, programs and activities and local issues</li> <li>• Visit Council's website and like our Facebook page</li> <li>• Volunteer and encourage others to participate in our community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal and State Governments</li> <li>• Business and Industry</li> <li>• Riverina and Murray Regional Organisation of Councils</li> <li>• Local Government NSW</li> <li>• Media</li> <li>• Community organisations and service clubs</li> <li>• Sporting clubs</li> <li>• Indigenous community, groups and organisations</li> </ul>

# HOW WILL WE KNOW WE HAVE ARRIVED?

We will use a variety of indicators to measure our progress in delivering on *Edward River 2030* and determining when and how we have succeeded in achieving our shared vision for our community.

While Edward River Council is the custodian and champion of *Edward River 2030*, it is not able to control all aspects of our four outcomes and has a varying level of involvement in influencing the indicators we will use to measure our progress.

Due to the nature of the Community Strategic Plan as a broad document with far-reaching aspirations, many indicators used to monitor our progress in delivering on *Edward River 2030* are only able to be influenced by Council or of concern to Council. The indicators that Council controls are outlined in the Delivery Program and implemented through the annual Operational Plan.



Control

Council can directly control change through our decision making and direct provision of services, facilities and resources through our Delivery Program and Operational Plans.

Influence

Council can influence change through our leadership and advocacy on these areas and partnerships with other stakeholders, including government, community, business and industry.

Concern

As with our community, Council is interested in, or concerned about, change but is not able to control or influence it.

The table below shows the suite of indicators which will be used to measure our progress in delivering *Edward River 2030*, along with Council's ability to control, influence or concern change in this area:

<b>Outcome 1 - A great place to live</b>		
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Council's Role</b>	<b>Desired Trend</b>
Availability of health services and access to doctors and medical professionals	Influence	Increasing
Condition of parks, reserves and open spaces	Control	Increasing
Mobile and broadband coverage	Concern	Increasing
Sport and recreation participation	Influence	Increasing
Crime	Concern	Decreasing
<b>Outcome 2 - A prosperous and vibrant economy</b>		
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Council's Role</b>	<b>Desired Trend</b>
Unemployment rate	Influence	Decreasing
Household Income	Influence	Increasing
Gross Regional Product	Concern	Increasing
Events participation	Influence	Increasing
Apprenticeships and vocational training enrolments	Concern	Increasing
Completed Year 12 or equivalent	Concern	Increasing
Visitor nights, numbers and expenditure	Influence	Increasing

<b>Outcome 3 - A valued and enhanced natural environment</b>		
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Council's Role</b>	<b>Desired Trend</b>
Property development activity	Influence	Increasing
Household recycling	Influence	Increasing
Household waste generation	Influence	Decreasing
Alternative energy use	Influence	Increasing
<b>Outcome 4 - Quality and sustainable infrastructure</b>		
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Council's Role</b>	<b>Desired Trend</b>
Road safety	Influence	Decreasing
Asset Renewal Gap	Control	Decreasing
Increased satisfaction with road network	Influence	Increasing
Amount of investment in renewing and upgrading buildings	Influence	Increasing
<b>Outcome 5 - A community working together to achieve its potential</b>		
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Council's Role</b>	<b>Desired Trend</b>
Membership in local community organisations, sporting clubs and service clubs	Influence	Increasing
Community participation in decision making	Influence	Increasing
Council achieving Fit for the Future benchmarks	Control	Increasing



## PLANNING IN PARTNERSHIP

Planning in partnership is essential to achieving our shared vision. Community, government, business and industry all have a role to play in helping us meet the targets set out in this Plan.

In preparing *Edward River 2030*, we have considered a range of strategic documents produced by Council which were informed by consultation with our community, including our Deniliquin Public Space Strategy, Disability

Inclusion Action Plan, Economic Development Strategy and Edward River Region Open Space Strategy.

We have also ensured this Plan effectively aligns with both the NSW Premier's Priorities and the Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2036, demonstrating our commitment to pursuing partnerships that benefit our region and deliver positive outcomes for our community.

Premier's Priority	Edward River 2030 Target
Improving service levels in hospitals	<b>1.1</b> Our community has access to essential services
Protecting our kids	<b>1.2</b> Our community is safe, happy and healthy, both physically and mentally
Reducing domestic violence reoffending	
Reducing youth homelessness	
Tackling childhood obesity	
Creating jobs	<b>2.3</b> Our region provides strong education, employment and training opportunities
Improving education results	
Keeping our environment clean	<b>3.2</b> Our natural environment is protected and enhanced
Delivering infrastructure	<b>4.1</b> Our built environment is managed, maintained and improved
Making housing more affordable	
Improving government services	<b>5.3</b> Our local government is efficient, innovative and financially sustainable
Driving public sector diversity	

<b>Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2036 Direction</b>	<b><i>Edward River 2030 Target</i></b>
<b>1.</b> Protect the region's diverse and productive agricultural lands	<b>3.2</b> Our natural environment is protected and enhanced
<b>2.</b> Promote and grow the agribusiness sector	<b>2.1</b> Our economy is strong and diverse
<b>3.</b> Expand advanced and value-added manufacturing	
<b>4.</b> Promote business activities in industrial and commercial areas	
<b>5.</b> Support the growth of the health and aged care sectors	
<b>6.</b> Promote the expansion of education and training opportunities	<b>2.3</b> Our region provides strong education, employment and training opportunities
<b>7.</b> Promote tourism opportunities	<b>2.1</b> Our economy is strong and diverse
<b>8.</b> Enhance the economic self-determination of Aboriginal communities	<b>5.2</b> We collaborate and pursue partnerships that achieve great outcomes for our community
<b>9.</b> Support the forestry industry	<b>2.1</b> Our economy is strong and diverse
<b>10.</b> Sustainably manage water resources for economic opportunities	<b>3.2</b> Our natural environment is protected and enhanced
<b>11.</b> Grow agribusiness across the region	<b>2.1</b> Our economy is strong and diverse
<b>12.</b> Sustainably manage mineral resources	<b>3.1</b> We are committed to resource recovery and waste management
<b>13.</b> Grow agribusiness across the region	<b>2.1</b> Our economy is strong and diverse
<b>14.</b> Manage land uses along key river corridors	<b>3.2</b> Our natural environment is protected and enhanced
<b>15.</b> Protect and manage the region's many environmental assets	
<b>16.</b> Increase resilience to natural hazards and climate change	
<b>17.</b> Transform the region into the eastern seaboard's freight and logistics hub	<b>2.1</b> Our economy is strong and diverse
<b>18.</b> Enhance road and rail freight links	

<b>19.</b> Support and protect ongoing access to air travel	<b>2.2</b> We develop our key assets to enhance agriculture, boost tourism and support existing business
<b>20.</b> Identify and protect future transport corridors	<b>4.1</b> Our built environment is managed, maintained and improved
<b>21.</b> Align and protect utility infrastructure investment	<b>4.1</b> Our built environment is managed, maintained and improved
<b>22.</b> Promote the growth of regional cities and local centres	<b>3.3</b> Our built environment is managed, maintained and improved
<b>23.</b> Build resilience in towns and villages	<b>1.3</b> We embrace our community strengths and areas of interest
<b>24.</b> Create a connected and competitive environment for cross-border communities	<b>5.2</b> We collaborate and pursue partnerships that achieve great outcomes for our community
<b>25.</b> Build housing capacity to meet demand	<b>4.1</b> Our built environment is managed, maintained and improved
<b>26.</b> Provide greater housing choice	
<b>27.</b> Manage rural residential development	
<b>28.</b> Deliver healthy built environments and improved urban design	



EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL

**COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2030**

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