

Excellence in Local Government Corporate and Community Planning Award

2008 AWARDS WINNER & FINALISTS

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Cultural Roadshow – An innovative Approach to Integrated Community and Council Planning

Shire of Yarra Ranges

Alison Cran, Greg Box, Dion Teasdale

*"Art is a waste of money."
"Culture doesn't pay the bills."
"Heritage is so yesterday."*

What's your opinion?



The Shire of Yarra Ranges has demonstrated excellence in integrated council and community planning, creating a new and innovative model of community consultation during the development of its Cultural Policy and Action Plan (2008 – 2013).

Council worked in partnership with a Community Reference Group, consisting of 32 local arts and heritage practitioners, to design a creative and interactive community engagement program.

The aim of the program was to create ways for the broader community to articulate preferences for the future delivery of arts, culture and heritage services in Yarra Ranges.

The project included delivery of a provocative marketing campaign and touring of a *Cultural Roadshow* - a four-week, multi-venue program of free arts and heritage activities (including interactive games, exhibits, video and sound installations, workshops and classes).

Through a range of innovative data collection methods, the project generated more than 1600 responses from the community. These responses were used to create the Cultural Policy and Action Plan.

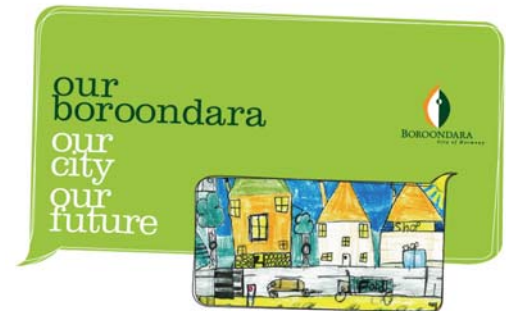
Our Boroondara – Our City Our Future

Boroondara City Council

Lisa Wilkins, Dr Helen Molnar, Kiera Naismith

The aim of the *our Boroondara – Our City Our Future* was to:

- Develop a long-term and strategic community vision for Boroondara.
- Consult broadly with the community to better inform, strengthen and enhance Council's Community Planning and long-term Corporate Planning function.
- Enhance Council's ability to make decisions, plan, lead and advocate on behalf of the municipality.



Our Boroondara will be a primary planning tool for Council. It will inform the Council Plan and budget processes, Council Strategies and every department's Annual Business Plan. It strengthens Council strategic directions by intrinsically linking community wellbeing to community connectedness and sustainability.

Systems that Serve – Planning for Our Future

Frankston City Council

Mark Brady, Gaby Schrott, Eibhlin Fletcher, Laura Smith, Jim Luscombe, Chris Innes, Brianna Isbister, Georgie Bodycomb

In December 2005, Frankston City Council's Corporate Management Team adopted a Strategic Corporate Planning and Reporting Framework called *Systems that Serve*.

The aim of *Systems that Serve* is for Frankston City Council to deliver a best practice, integrated Corporate Planning and Reporting Framework through streamlined systems and processes, supported by building staff capacity.



Central to the work being undertaken was the establishment of a long-term community vision for Frankston City (*Frankston 2025*), development of an action-focused Council Plan in response to the community vision, and consequent alignment of four-year Department Plans and Budget (Annual Plan) for improved responsiveness, accountability and reporting.

A Corporate Planning and Reporting software application was later purchased as a result of the project learnings to better automate processes, and to minimise waste and frustration through duplication in staff effort.

Celebration of Diversity: Disability Action Plan

Hobsons Bay City Council

Maria Cesarello, Megan Salisbury, Shane Wells, Catherine Viney, Peter Hunt

Local government plays a pivotal role in ensuring people with a disability have greater opportunities to participate in community life. Hobsons Bay City Council recognises that people with a disability still confront many barriers in the community, and as a result it acknowledges that further work needs to be undertaken to build a stronger and more inclusive community.



The Hobsons Bay Disability Action Plan has gone beyond the requirements specified in the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and in the State *Disability Act 2006*. This Plan has gained whole of organisation integration by using a social justice approach, which has reaffirmed the rights of people with a disability to live and participate in the community on the same basis as other citizens.

The development of the Disability Action Plan involved inclusive consultative practices by the use of methods that reduced barriers for those who had been unable to be consulted with in the past. This created opportunities for all people. The development of the Disability Action plan also involved various relevant Council Departments to think about how its work can contribute to eliminating barriers and inequalities for people with a disability.

Community Strengthening in Wellington

Wellington Shire Council

Frank Pearce, Darren Randle, Helen Montague, Steven Dickson, Glenys Butler

Wellington Shire Council is providing opportunities for communities to identify community priorities and work collaboratively with council, relevant state government departments and agencies to initiate positive community outcomes. Councillors have formally acknowledged their support to the process and systems have been established within the organisation to enable council to respond to priorities identified through the community planning process. But the success of this process is largely due to the dedication of a small team of council employees who are passionate about communities, committed to relationship building and value collective effort.

