SETTLEMENT POLICIES

The settlement policies for the Shire are:

- To encourage the consolidation and enhancement of existing urban centres, through the provision of the widest possible range of services and facilities and the provision of a diverse range of housing types and lifestyle opportunities.

- To encourage new urban development which makes efficient use of existing physical and servicing infrastructure.

- To allow for urban expansion only in areas which have a suitability for specified uses and which represents an orderly extension of existing settlements and infrastructure.

- To restrict rural residential development to areas which are intrinsically suitable for this type of use, which:
  - Are in close proximity to existing urban centres and have good access to services and facilities.
  - Are not subject to significant land management hazards.
  - Are not subject to flooding.
  - Are aesthetically attractive and are capable of providing appealing lifestyle opportunities for future residents.
  - Are not inappropriately subdivided.
  - Are in accordance with Ministerial Direction No 6.

- To ensure that a compatible relationship exists between residential and industrial uses, including the maintenance of appropriate environmental buffers.

- To establish strategies for the development of small townships and residential settlements that promote future consolidated growth and the provision of improved services and community facilities.

- To require the abandonment and subdivisional restructuring of obsolete and defunct Crown Townships.

- To promote the retention of existing industries and employment uses and the attraction of new use and development which can take advantage of the Shire’s natural and cultural resources.

- To encourage the maintenance and improvement of retail and commercial enterprises in the larger towns so as to provide the best possible levels of service to residents and visitors.

- To prepare and implement strategies for visual and landscape enhancement of townships, designed to enhance their inherent qualities and to help create a sense of “place” and unique identity. Particular emphasis should be given to roadside landscaping, and the creation of themed entrances on principal road approaches.