INTRODUCTION

Background

This Municipal Strategic Statement outlines the future directions for land use and development in the Pyrenees Shire. The Statement has an overall time frame of ten years, although periodic reviews are expected to occur to accommodate changed circumstances and the results of further studies on the strategic and statutory planning needs of the Shire.

The Statement reflects the key aspects of the Government’s planning reform agenda, focussing on a pro-active and strategic approach to planning. It provides a rationale for the development and use controls that form part of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme which together with local policies, is designed to guide the exercise of discretion and decision making in the planning process.

The Statement aims to further the objectives of planning in Victoria to the extent that they are applicable to Pyrenees Shire and contains:

- The strategic planning, land use and development objectives for the Shire;
- The strategies for achieving these objectives; and
- A general explanation of the relationship between these objectives and strategies and the Planning Scheme controls on the use and development of land.

The Municipal Strategic Statement has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and is consistent with Council’s current Corporate Plan. It is to be read in conjunction with the local policies in Clause 22.

The Pyrenees Shire Council’s Corporate Plan

Pyrenees Shire’s current Corporate Plan was formally adopted by the Council on 17 February 1998 and represents the direction statement for the Shire as it heads towards the year 2000. It is reviewed annually. Section 12A(4) of the Planning and Environment Act provides that a Municipal Strategic Statement must be consistent with any Corporate Plan relating to the municipal district.

The Corporate Plan identifies the issues of major significance for the Shire, and then outlines measures and objectives for managing these issues. The following is an outline of some of the issues and objectives as far as achievement of the objectives of planning in Victoria (as stated in Section 4(1) of the Act) is concerned:

Infrastructure maintenance and development

This involves the definition of an infrastructure sustainability program, including maintenance and capital works schedules.

Objectives to be achieved in this regard relate to the development of an infrastructure sustainability program, and an infrastructure maintenance and development plan.

Quality of resident services

Community and customer satisfaction is to be gauged by (inter alia) road maintenance quality, planning and building timelines, environmental services, recreation and culture, and local laws.

Planning objectives in this regard relate to planning permit application processes being dealt with within defined timelines.
The Corporate Plan includes a Vision Statement and a Mission Statement for the Shire. The Vision Statement is as follows:

“To ensure a vibrant and sustainable municipality, that provides for its people a healthy lifestyle and a supportive community, in the context of a rural environment”

Council’s Mission Statement reads:

“To facilitate the growth of individuals, communities and enterprises in the municipality, through proactive and responsive action in keeping with our rural environment.

“To be a competitive organisation that strives for excellence in its operations, through commitment to dynamic and quality management and through the delivery of effective and efficient services, which meet the agreed needs of present and future generations.”