

Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel

Integrated Urban Design Framework





Prepared by THA Landscape Architects & ASR Research ADOPTED NOVEMBER 2007

Table of Contents

1.	PURPC	PURPOSE OF REPORT				
	1.1 1.2	PROJECT OBJECTIVES				
2.	SUMM	ARY OF PROCESSES UNDERTAKEN	3			
	3. 3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.5 3.6	ABOUT THE STUDY AREA DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS DWELLINGS AND POPULATION LAND USE PLANNING CONTROLS KEY COMMUNITY ASSETS CURRENT COMMUNITY PROVISION LEVELS PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES & ACTIONS FOR THE STUDY AREA TOWNSHIPS	4 6 7 8 9			
4.	DETAII	_ED ASSESSMENT OF ISSUES	12			
	4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.9	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC LAND HOUSING PATHS AND TRAILS RECREATION ROADS & TRAFFIC OTHER TOWNSHIP SPECIFIC ISSUES ASSESSMENT OF LAND USE PLANNING ISSUES	18 20 23 24 26 30 32			
5	RECOM	IMENDED ACTION PLANS	40			
	5.1 5.2 5.3	GENERAL COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN LAND USE STRUCTURE PLANS DEREEL TOWN PLACE PLAN	46			

1. Purpose of report

The Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel Integrated Urban Design Framework (RCD IUDF) addresses both township specific issues and the connections between them for the purpose of guiding and co-ordinating future use, development and infrastructure provision in each town.

1.1 **Project Objectives**

The specific objectives of the project were to:

- Establish a physical vision for the combined towns of Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel, based on the regional and local context and the role of each town, 10 years in the future;
- Develop linkages between Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel and encourage the integration and accessibility of services and facilities between the towns as well as enhancing the character and amenity of each township;
- Provide an integrated urban design policy and framework Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel and translate existing strategies and plans into practical actions;
- Provide a set of guidelines, principles and plans to ensure that future development and service provision for each town is conducted in a coordinated and forward looking manner. It will also promote the sustainable growth of each town, ensuring that development addresses the environmental, social and economic priorities of each town;
- Encourage private investment, community facilities and publicly funded projects to achieve high quality built form that positively contributes to the public environment and consistently reflects the Framework vision. In particular, the Urban Design Framework should integrate and strengthen relationships between the towns and maximise service and infrastructure provision to the towns;
- Provide visual concepts for key elements in each of the towns that will engender a greater sense of community ownership of place; enhance community use; integrate use and activities; and increase public safety and comfort;
- Identify key action plans and priorities for capital works and implementation of the Urban Design Frameworks including design guidelines and changes to the Municipal Strategic Statement and Local Planning Policies of the Golden Plains Planning Scheme;
- To integrate the use, activities and functions of the towns and enhance the appearance, amenity and community pride in the towns;
- Enhance the sense of community and pride in each of the towns;
- Improve the economic growth potential in the area;
- Provide incentives to live, work and invest in the area;
- Ensure community ownership of a co-ordinated approach to development and service provision in each town;
- Design guidelines for future development and land use activities in each of the towns;
- Provide a better appreciation of each town's assets and unique qualities;
- Provide for improved pedestrian and non-vehicular access between the towns;
- Provide improved presentation for residential and business growth strategies;

- Provide a clear identity for each town and a vision for the future of each town in the context an integrated plan;
- A realistic capital works program that can be arranged in the short to medium term to implement the Integrated Urban Design Framework;
- Ensure that the district has capacity to meet health, community and educational service needs; and
- Promotes an integrated and complimentary approach to service delivery in various locations through the district.

1.2 Anticipated Benefits

Key anticipated benefits of the process and resultant plan include:

- Improved economic growth potential, and a clear understanding of demographic trends and development opportunities;
- Enhanced community spirit and ownership of the vision for each town; and
- Protection and enhancement of the natural and built environments.

2. Summary of processes undertaken

The following report has been prepared by consultants THA Landscape Architects and ASR Research, and based on undertaking the following community consultation processes and other research tasks:

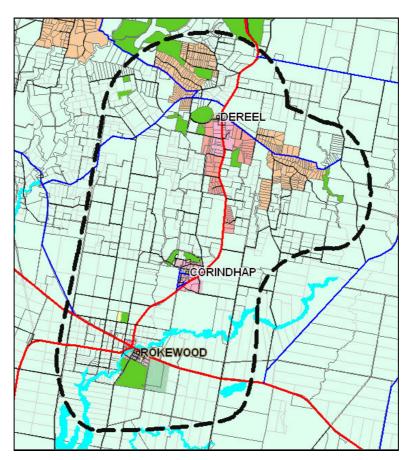
- Mail out to key stakeholders and letter box drop to all households in the three towns;
- One general community workshop undertaken in each town;
- Follow up information provided by residents who could not attend general community workshops;
- Online community feedback forum posted on <u>www.communityguide.com.au;</u>
- Key stakeholder interviews;
- Site inspection and analysis;
- Review of relevant literature (including Council plans and strategies);
- Demographic analysis;
- A further two general community workshops held in both Dereel and Rokewood to confirm the issues and priorities via the steps identified above;
- The draft report was prepared and exhibited during August 2007. 11 submissions were received and considered by the project team and Council.
 - Submissions covered a number of issues including:
 - \rightarrow Zoning of privately owned land;
 - → Preferred zoning of Crown land being Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ);
 - \rightarrow Management of Crown land and a desire for local involvement;
 - \rightarrow The installation of telecommunications facilities; and
 - \rightarrow Road and traffic safety.

The final report was amended to accommodate some of the issues raised in the submissions.

The final report was adopted by Golden Plains Shire Council on the 22nd of November 2007.

3. About the study area

The study area generally encompasses the towns of Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel located in the centre of the Golden Plains Shire. One of the key objectives of the UDF is to encourage linkages between the three towns and synergies in facilities and services, while enhancing the individual character and amenity of each of the three towns. A map showing the general study is provided below.



Map 1 – Rokewood, Corindhap & Dereel Urban Design Framework Study Area

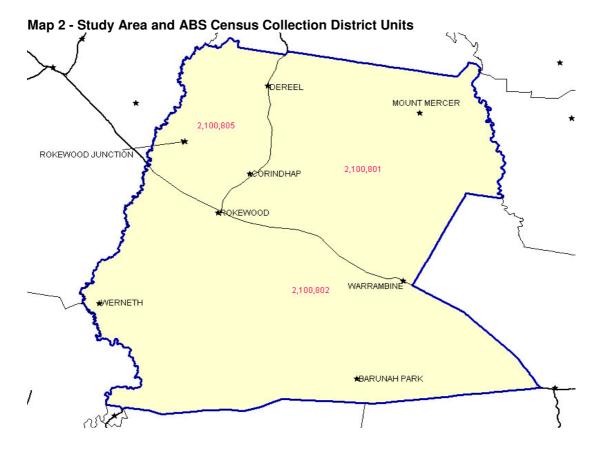
3.1 Demographic characteristics

For the purposes of describing the demographic characteristics of the three towns using the 2001 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census of Population and Housing (Census) a demographic area consisting of three census collection district (CCD) areas was developed (refer to Map 2 below). This 'demographic' area is larger than the 'study' area described above as CCD areas cannot be broken down into smaller geographic areas. The CCD areas are:

- 2,100,805 (north western component);
- 2,100,801 (north eastern component); and
- 2,100,802 (southern component).

The north western component of the demographic area incorporates parts of each of the three towns west of Colac-Ballarat Road and north of Rokewood-Shelford Road and also contains Rokewood Junction. The north eastern component of the

demographic area incorporates parts of each of the three towns east of Colac-Ballarat Road and north of Rokewood-Shelford Road and also contains Mount Mercer. The southern component of the demographic area incorporates that portion of Rokewood south of the Rokewood-Shelford Road and incorporates other localities such as Werneth, Warrambine and Barunah Park.



The 2001 ABS Census shows that the demographic area had a population of almost 900 people (refer to Table 1 below). The north western (38%) and north eastern (35%) components of the demographic area contained the largest populations within the demographic area, while the southern component had slightly less than 30%.

	North Eastern Component (CCD – 2100801)	North Western Component (CCD – 2100805)	Southern Component (CCD – 2100802)	Demographic area Total
Total Persons	312	340	240	892
% of Demographic				
area	35%	38%	27%	

Table 1 - 2001 Po	pulation Demogra	phic area Por	oulation by	CCD Area
	pulation Bonnogra		ounation by	000 / 104

A more detailed analysis of the 2001 ABS Census revealed that the demographic area overall had:

• A population of about 900 residents living in approximately 450 dwellings, approximately 6% of the Shire's population;

- An ageing profile indicated by a higher median age (41 years) compared to the Shire overall (36 years) and a much higher proportion of people aged 65 years and over (11% and 7% respectively);
- A higher unemployment rate (12%) than the Shire overall (9%);
- A lower proportion of people employed in most occupational categories compared to the Shire overall, except for managers and administrators (28% compared to 14% for the Shire) and labourers and related workers (12% compared to 11% for the Shire);
- A significantly higher percentage of households earning weekly incomes at the lower end of the pay-scale, particularly between \$200 and \$700;
- A much lower percentage of family households (75%) compared to the Shire overall (84%) and a much higher percentage of lone person households (22% compared to 15%);
- A higher proportion of couples without children (52%) compared to the Shire overall (36%);
- A slightly higher proportion of households who own their own home (51% compared to the Shire overall (48%);
- A slightly higher level of residential stability (i.e. living at the same address five years prior to the Census) compared to the Shire overall (60% and 58% respectively);
- A lower percentage of the population attending pre-school, primary and secondary schools compared to the Shire overall; and
- A higher percentage of households without a vehicle (3% compared to 2% for the Shire) or possessing only 1 vehicle (26% compared to 22% for the Shire).

3.2 Dwellings and population

To understand the extent of growth in each of the three towns, building data for new dwellings built over the past 10 years has been analysed. Provided below is a table illustrating building rates for each of the three towns.

Dates	ROKEWOOD	CORINDHAP	DEREEL
1996	0	0	1
1997	1	1	1
1998	0	0	3
1999	1	0	3
2000	0	0	2
2001	0	0	2
2002	1	1	1
2003	2	2	2
2004	1	2	5
2005	0	3	7
2006	0	1	3
Total	6	10	30

Table 2 – New Dwellings

Using Council's rating information; the approximate township populations (as at January 2007) for each township have been calculated and summarised in Table 2 below, using an assumption of 2.47 persons per household. Using this data and recent building data, we have also been able to produce an average annual growth rate for each town.

Town	Approx. Population	Average Annual Growth Rate
Rokewood	207	0.77%
Corindhap	158	1.9%
Dereel	556	1.54%

Table 3 – Population & Growth

3.3 Land use planning controls

Land use and development in Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel is controlled by the Golden Plains Planning Scheme. The Scheme consists of a State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF), Local Planing Policy Framework (LPPF) and Zones and Overlay controls. The SPPF outlines State policies which Council must take into account and give effect to in planning and administering their respective areas. Relevant clauses of the SPPF of particular relevance to this project include:

- Protection of waterways, ground water and catchments;
- Floodplain management;
- Conservation of native flora and fauna;
- Heritage;
- Rural living and rural residential development;
- Tourism; and
- Declared highways and railways.

The LPPF sets out the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and the Local Planning Policies that apply to the area covered by the scheme. These policies must also be taken into account when preparing planning scheme amendments or making decisions. Key MSS objectives and strategies relate to:

- Managing residential growth;
- Economic growth;
- Agriculture; and
- Natural and Built Environment.

In relation to the study area, the MSS:

- Promotes town consolidation in Dereel and Rokewood;
- Identifies Rokewood as a key town providing services and facilities within a cluster of smaller towns. It should be developed to serve the residential and commercial needs of the surrounding district;
- Identifies Dereel as a local centre serving the community and commercial needs of the immediate residents;
- Identifies that the density and overall lot sizes in towns with Low Density Residential zoning needs to be controlled according to environmental conditions and established character;
- Identifies that none of these towns are sewered and that land capability is a key consideration;
- Rokewood Township Development Strategies:
 - Promote infill development;
 - Future commercial development south of Ferrars Road;
 - Reinforce urban and rural edge;

- Industrial use and development; Colac Ballarat Road, Kuruc-a-ruc Creek and South-west of Ferrars Road
- Dereel Township development strategies:
 - Maximise infill development
 - Retain native vegetation in development
 - Protect Dereel Swamp
 - Provide buffer between residential development and forestry plantations; and
 - Consolidate commercial and community development Alfred Street.

Structure Plans for Dereel and Rokewood are included in Clause 21.03 of the MSS. Key Local Planning Policies relating to the project and study area address issues relating to Intensive Animal Husbandry, Urban Growth Boundaries, Lot Sizes and Medium Density Housing, Catchment and Land Protection and Water Supply Catchment.

3.4 Key community assets

As the list of community assets below shows Rokewood functions as the main service centre within the study area providing most of the significant health, education community service, recreation and retail infrastructure.

Rokewood

- A number of heritage buildings in the main street (Ferrars Street), e.g. Uniting Church, shops with wide verandahs;
- Wide road reserve/median strip and established street tree planting along Ferrars Street;
- Kuruc-a-ruc Creek;
- The Lagoon;
- Dry stone walls at eastern end of town;
- Large parcels of Crown land set aside for conservation purposes The Common, Public Gardens;
- Extensive views over surrounding attractive agricultural land;
- Rokewood Primary School;
- Rokewood Kindergarten;
- Hesse Community Health (Rokewood);
- Police Station;
- Public Hall;
- Recreation reserve, including a football oval, tennis courts & playground;
- Elder Park;
- CFA shed:
- Churches;
- Rokewood Cemetery;
- Rokewood Reservoir;
- Rokewood Golf Course;
- Public toilets; and
- Local shops.

Corindhap

- Laidler Reserve, with timber sculptures;
- Avenue of Honour;
- Break-O-Day Hotel;

- Former school (converted to a house);
- Corindhap Creek to the west and north;
- Views over surrounding attractive agricultural land and former gold fields;
- Recreation Reserve;
- Corindhap Soldiers Memorial Hall;
- Laidler Reserve.

Dereel

- Dereel Swamp;
- Dereel Hall, including Skate facility, kick-about area and public toilets;
- CFA building; and
- Local shop.

3.5 Current Community provision levels

In order to place some of the key community facilities identified above into a population context the following table of current provision benchmarks have been prepared. It shows that almost two thirds of the community infrastructure measured exists in Rokewood confirming its status as the 'service centre' for the broader catchment area.

Service / Facility Type	Type of measure	Rokewood	Corindhap	Dereel	RCD Study Area (No.)	RCD Study Area Provision Level Per 1,000 People
Basketball	Indoor / outdoor courts	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cricket	Oval	1	1	0	2	2.2
Football	Oval	1	1	0	2	2.2
Indoor recreation centre	Centre	0	0	0	0	0.0
Lawn bowls	Lawn bowls facility	0	0	0	0	0.0
Netball courts	Indoor / outdoor courts	0	0	0	0	0.0
Soccer field	Pitch	0	0	0	0	0.0
Tennis courts	Court	2	0	0	2	2.2
Outdoor pools	outdoor pool	1	0	0	1	1.1
Golf course Council Multipurpose Leisure Centre	Number of courses	1	0	0	1	1.1
Residential aged care - independent living units	Retirement village dwellings	0	0	0	0	0.0
Residential aged care - hostel	Registered place	0	0	0	0	0.0
Residential aged care - nursing home	Registered place	0	0	0	0	0.0
Long Day Child Care	Registered place	0	0	0	0	0.0
Occasional Child Care Places	Registered place	1	0	0	1	1.1
MCH Centre	MCH centre	1	0	1	2	2.2
Playgroups	Playgroup	1	0	1	2	2.2
Kindergartens	Kindergarten	1	0	0	1	1.1

Table 4 – Summary of community infrastructure provision levels in RCD study area

Service / Facility Type	Type of measure	Rokewood	Corindhap	Dereel	RCD Study Area (No.)	RCD Study Area Provision Level Per 1,000 People
Primary School Facilities	Primary School Government	1	0	0	1	1.1
Secondary School	Secondary School		0	0	I	1.1
Facilities	Government	0	0	0	0	0.0
Tertiary Facilities	Tertiary facility (all)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Government Specialist School	Specialist school (all)	0	0	0	0	0.0
General practitioners	Number of GPs	0	0	0	1	0.0
Community health services	Centres	1	0	0	1	1.1
Hospitals (Public and private)	Public & private bed	0	0	0	0	0.0
Centre based library	Centre based library	0	0	0	0	0.0
Community Halls / Centres	Centres	1	1	1	3	3.3
Neighbourhood house	Centre	0	0	0	0	0.0
Country Fire Authority	Stations	1	0	1	2	2.2
Police	Stations	1	0	0	1	1.1
Rural Ambulance Service	Stations	0	0	1	1	1.1
Playgrounds	Playground	1	1	1	3	3.3
Social housing (public and community)	Number of dwellings	4	0	0	4	4.4
Total		20	4	6	30	

3.6 Previously identified priorities & actions for the study area townships

In preparing the issues and options paper it was important to consider and incorporate the many issues and priorities identified in previous strategies and plans undertaken by Golden Plains Shire in conjunction with each township.

Key documents reviewed included:

- Rokewood / Corindhap Community Plan¹ (2005);
- Rokewood Town Place Plan (2001);
- Corindhap Town Place Plan (2001);
- Dereel Community Plan (September2000);
- Golden Plains Shire Community Development Program: Six Monthly Report (March 2006);
- Golden Plains Open Space Study (2005);
- Golden Plains Paths and Trails Strategy (2005);
- Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003); and

¹ It should be noted that the various township Community Plans that have been prepared in the Golden Plains Shire reflect the desires and aspirations of the community. The recommended actions contained within them are not necessarily priorities endorsed formally by Golden Plains Shire Council.

- Golden Plains Shire: Town Structure Plans (Rokewood & Dereel) (1996); and
- Golden Plains Planning Scheme.

While not all the recommendations from these previously developed plans are relevant to the preparation of the RCD IUDF, a great number were. These priorities are summarised in more detail in a literature review located in Appendix 1. The first table combines Rokewood and Corindhap priorities together as a number of the plans assessed the towns as one entity, and the other presents a Dereel specific list of priorities.

4. Detailed Assessment of Issues

Via the consultation processes identified in Section 2 a comprehensive range of issues and suggested actions were identified by the general community and key stakeholders. These community issues, and the information presented in the previous sections of this report were assessed in detail and categorised into the following broad themes:

- 1. Community development and heritage;
- 2. Economic development & tourism;
- 3. Environment & public land;
- 4. Housing;
- 5. Paths and trails;
- 6. Recreation;
- 7. Roads & traffic;
- 8. Other township specific Issues.

In addition to community issues a separate land use planning assessment was also undertaken and is summarised at Section 4.9 following the themes.

4.1 Community development and heritage

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
Strengthening local community services and activities - Rokewood		
 Hesse Rural Health service - The service based at Rokewood offers a variety of allied health services such as physiotherapy and podiatry and the District Nursing Health Service. Other non-Hesse specific services and activities operate from the Centre including a private masseur, playgroup, Planned Activity Group, MCH services and an art group. Hesse Rural Health also operates an occasional childcare service from the Rokewood Kindergarten on a Wednesday and Friday for 3 hours each day. If required the Hesse facility in Rokewood could be expanded to accommodate additional functions. The sustainability of services in Rokewood depends on the wider catchment: Emphasis is on the elderly as there is not a great deal of children in the region. Need to reflect people's understanding of Rokewood as a service centre. More emphasis on shared use of facilities. Need to consider ongoing costs versus needs. Consolidate / upgrade the Rokewood hall as a multi purpose space for sport and other 	 Explore future service functions and community activities most likely to be accommodated at the Hesse Rural Health Service site such as Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) and Adult Community and Further Education (ACFV). The Golden Plains Health Planning Forum that brings together all health service providers, State and Local Government, established sector planning groups to determine the priority service development needs in each area of the Golden Plains Shire. Local needs should be continued to be raised through the Golden Plains Health Planning Forum. Suggestion that much of what is offered in Rokewood, particularly at the Rokewood Recreation Reserve has a focus on people aged less than 30. There needs to some more activities for people over 30 but who are not necessarily seniors (e.g. family nights, games, social club and other planned activities). 	 Council has undertaken a significant amount of previous strategic work and identified a number of specific actions to improve services in the area. These measures are also being supported through the sector planning groups of the Golden Plains Health Planning Forum. Upgrading the hall to include services such as Planned Activity Groups, MCH, Kindergarten, indoor bowls and other family activities etc would be cost prohibitive. The current trend is to co-locate services in existing locations. Prior to the 2006 election, the Vic ALP released a 10 year plan for Victoria's Government School system planning widescale capital improvements. As part of this funding announcement, Rokewood Primary School was included in the group of 40 small to medium rural schools where relocatable buildings would be replaced with permanent modern facilities. The timeframe of when this will happen is not known at this stage.

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
activities. Need to consider more seniors based activities at the rear of the hall.		
Strengthening Local Community Services – Dereel		
Maximise community facilities which currently exist in Dereel as a well identify opportunities to address service gaps.	 Based on the Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003) reaffirm the need for early childhood services utilising current Council community facilities in Dereel. Try to attract more outreach services to existing community facilities in Dereel such GP services. Strengthen community transport services by creating more awareness of existing operation. Neighbourhood house idea has strong support with the community, could run it out of the Dereel Community Centre with funding sought from the Department of Planning and Community Development. 	Council will continue to explore with community key service issues such as those identified in previous reports and additional service needs identified during the consultation such as: • The possibility of a neighbourhood house in Dereel which may be a medium term project to service all three towns. A Neighbourhood house could integrate into existing facilities in Dereel.
<i>Community facilities / Dereel Swamp hub improvements</i>		
 This functions as Dereel's main services hub with community hall, community centre, CFA and children's and youth leisure infrastructure, public toilets, informal open space area and the Dereel Swamp². Community would like to see more seats and 	 Improve various aspects of the hub including: lighting, particularly around the community buildings, toilet and car park. further landscaping and general beautification. installing bike racks at the hall. a safety check of the some of the public 	 Take opportunities to purchase land adjacent to Council reserves. Refer to Town Place Plan for suite of measures recommended.

² Dereel Swamp is managed by Parks Victoria.

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
 other facilities at the swamp for residents and visitors There should be clear signage at the Swamp Road intersection to direct people to the toilets, specifically one of the blue directional signs. Community also want toilets to be safer and more inviting. The lack of lighting at the Dereel hub is a serious issue. Lighting structures should be established around community buildings, toilet and car park. 	 amenities should also be undertaken (e.g. skate ramp). signage at Community hub, indicating direction to Dereel Swamp. Develop an outdoor theatre at the hub. Relocating existing toilets to a more accessible spot, particularly in light of more visitors being encouraged to stop at the Dereel Swamp. 	
Improvements to community facilities and service provision - Corindhap		
There is general community recognition that local area service requirements for Corindhap residents will be based at Rokewood and to a lesser extent Dereel. However, improvements to the few facilities which exist in Corindhap should be pursued.	 The old playground in Corindhap needs to be upgraded and better located. Corindhap hall needs to be utilised better. This may require better promotion and marketing either by Council or the local community. Establish a men's group for younger men Provide for anytime activities for unemployed and general need for life skills for young people- eg. Cooking Explore establishment of a scouts or guides club. 	 Refer to Open Space Strategy. Council to explore with community, via community development initiatives (e.g. service development, social group development, entertainment gatherings such as trivia nights), that will encourage greater use of existing facilities such as Corindhap Hall. There will be no need to develop Hall unless greater community use occurs.
Public art		
• Community should be taking inspiration from the Corindhap wood carvings many locals supported the idea of installing public art	 Commission a static display / sculpture reflecting the history of the area should be investigated. About 60 years ago there was a legend about a 	 Subject to external funding Council will work closely with the community and Council's Regional Arts Development Officer to develop

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
features in Rokewood.	Bunyip that lived in the Dereel Swamp, maybe this theme could be incorporated into the interpretive signage leading to and around the swamp.	and implement arts initiatives in all three towns. This again will also assist with the area's push for increased tourism visitation.
Reflecting the history of the area		
 Mining is the historical base of the Rokewood area, and is the southern most extension of the Ballarat goldfields. There might be an opportunity to make something of the "Pitfield Plains". Pastoral industry has contained key Merino studs and associated transportation to Geelong. The Leigh Historical Society have started recording histories of the area from older residents. 	 Explore the installation of: Plaques put out side places of historic reference (e.g. old police station, old green grocer, hospital, doctors surgery, old shire office, old bank, old school sight, old mines etc) A board displaying places of interest for people to go and see. This could be placed in the main street. 	 Council is about to undertake Stage 2 of its Heritage Study which will confirm sites of significance in the area. Investigate funding options from Heritage Victoria and other cultural sources for study area projects that may arise from the Heritage Study.
RSL		
 There is a strong sentimental value among the local community for the RSL facility but acknowledgement that it would be expensive to upgrade. In 1955 families moved into the soldier settlement area. Returned soldiers bought the hut for the RSL for 320 pounds sterling. RSL looking at use of the memorial hall. 	 Determine the future role function of the RSL facility and site. Options include: Retaining facility and RSL functions at the present site; Relocating RSL functions to the Rokewood Memorial Hall; Using the RSL site / facility for tourism purposes; and Using the RSL site for residential aged accommodation if RSL functions are 	Council to undertake dialogue with local RSL members to ascertain the future of both the club and the current site.

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
	adequately relocated Using the RSL site for outdoor lawn bowls.	

4.2 Economic development & tourism

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
 Improving local employment opportunities Local employment was considered by some residents as the most critical issue and underpinned all other aspirations the town might be seeking. At the moment, the study area is characterised by a high level of unemployment and a high level of dependency on various Centrelink benefit types. Broiler farm not beneficial from an employment generation perspective. 	 Establish an industrial estate with one option being the area between Colac Ballarat Road and the Creek, behind the recreation reserve. Encourage small home businesses to establish. Economic development measures should focus on industries compatible with what the local district currently produces (e.g. ethanol production from grains). Locate intensive industry possibility close to water and power infrastructure. Explore the establishment of a community operated business centre (using the Business Park at Bannockburn as a model for the three towns to pursue as well). 	 The Rokewood Structure Plan identifies some key sites that have potential for commercial activity. Council has adopted a strategy (Developing Suitable Areas for Intensive Agricultural Industries – 2004) which recommends a buffer between Rokewood and proposed intensive agricultural industry locations.
Enhancing camping opportunities Increased camping opportunities for people visiting the area were identified as an issue to explore further.	Identify potential options for camping sites at or near: • The Rokewood Lagoon; • The Rokewood Reservoir; • Elder Park; and • Other site options for camping in the study area.	• There are concerns from some local people about developing camping options near private property. However, Council will investigate further with the community camping opportunities in the area including details about location, quality of amenity provision, car parking, access etc. The most feasible and attractive camping ground option appears to be

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
	Explore the creation of camping areas, particularly on Crown Land and with potential linkages to proposed regional trail.	beside the Dereel Swamp and should be the main focus of any future investigation.
	Camping opportunities are strongly supported in Dereel and could encourage tourists to stop. The community suggested developing a parcel of land owned by Council adjacent to the swamp for camping. Any facility developed should also be suitable for people with a disability.	
 Improving regional tourism There is a need to promote Rokewood as a central shopping / resting point. Tourism will create more jobs for the existing business in Rokewood. Develop tourism opportunities using historic buildings in the area, the cemetery. The population is aging and they tend to be more interested in history. 	Refer to other sections of this table for measures that may help to boost tourism.	 The study area's role in regional tourism needs to be assessed with regional tourism bodies. The full implementation of each town's respective Town Place Plan will help with any increased tourism push.
<i>Improving Dereel general store precinct</i> Improving the general store precinct was seen as a high priority by many local people, particularly because of its distance from Dereel's other main focal point the community facilities / Dereel Swamp hub.	 Develop main town centre (around the General Store) as an 'avenue of honour". Install 3 or more main lights in the same vicinity. Signage as you enter town needs to be improved significantly 	• Addressed in Town Place Plan.

4.3 Environment & public land

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
Improving the Dereel Swamp		
This is a much valued regional and environmental asset. The flora, fauna and geology of the swamp and surrounding bushland is very significant. Some community members want the swamp to be cleaned up while others want the natural assets to be protected. Community co-ordinators are doing work with the swamp (e.g. Dereel Walking Group's grant funding for path & interpretive signage).	 Construct 1 metre unsealed track around Dereel swamp and continue track to Rainbow Bird Trail. Provide more information, interpretation and signage on the swamp on surrounding bushland (e.g. a sign to indicate the use of the Swamp as a former horse racing track). Undertake tree planting along roadway to Dereel Swamp and pull down existing fence that runs along side the Swamp. Explore establishment of public art feature at Dereel Swamp (e.g. Bunyip legend). 	 Council will continue to support community initiatives already underway in conjunction with Parks Victoria (e.g. the Dereel Walking Group's proposed Swamp trail and interpretive signage). Refer to Town Place Plan for more details.
 Improve fire and vegetation management Given local concerns about bush fire threats the management of roadside vegetation was seen as a key issue. For example, emergency vehicles need to have sufficient clearance (tanker 5.1 metre clearance). The issue also raises the need for power line management Education for plant operators 	 Identify priority locations for roadside vegetation management. 	 Generally considered to be outside the scope of the project. Balance needs to be struck between the value that vegetation qualities bring to the character of Dereel and addressing fire management issues.
Fire management is a major community priority because of its proximity to the Enfield State Forest	 Identify all measures relevant to reducing the threat to Dereel posed by bush fires. These 	 This issue will be addressed via Council's Municipal Fire Prevention Plan and the fire

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
and nearby Pine plantations.	include: - Appropriate service response systems and infrastructure; - Planning scheme adjustments - Roadside vegetation management - Improved vehicular access.	prevention officer.
The management of environmental weeds such as Gorse and Spanish Heath requires significant attention.	 Identify priority locations for weed management activities. 	• Outside the scope of the project but this issue is addressed by Council's Environment Strategy, however, the status of the issue in Dereel will be increased and referred to Council's environmental officer.
Enhancing amenities at Corindhap Reservoir		
Council should explore the development of the 'Corindhap Reservoir' as a public facility with attractive amenities.	 Undertake a masterplan for the Corindhap Reservoir. Local management of Crown land reserves. 	 Work with DSE to clarify public access to the Reservoir. Then confirm ability to install / construct a small range of amenities such as seating and pathways. Council will support local management of Crown land reserves.
Enhancing amenities at Rokewood Reservoir & Cemetery		
The Rokewood Reservoir is considered a 'hidden treasure'.	 Improve signage; Upgrade tracks around Reservoir; and Revegetate relevant sections. 	• Work with DSE to implement discrete improvements (without disrupting the peaceful character of the area)
There are many historical sites in the cemetery but requires increased town pride.	 Install directional signage and interpretative 	Provide assistance to the Cemetery Committee

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
	material about the cemetery.Protect the high conservation value of indigenous plant species located at the entry to the cemetery.	to develop and implement a conservation plan and install interpretive and directional signage.
<i>Improving identification of Crown Land</i> The study area, including Rokewood, contains significant tracts of public and crown land reserves.	 Install signage which provides a clear sense of which parcels of land are public / crown owned. 	 Council and community will work with DSE to achieve this outcome.

4.4 Housing

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
 The 'ageing' profile of the study area was considered by many as an important reason to explore increased opportunities to access housing specifically designed for older people, whether that be independent living complexes or supported residential aged care facilities. A few community members were concerned that the 'lifestyle market' attraction of the town may be at odds with core agricultural / farming interests. Any transition should be a gradual one. 	 Identify potential options for older persons housing including: Discussions with the Office of Housing about providing more social housing stock in the study area targeted at older people; and Potentially converting RSL site as independent living units. 	 Any 'lifestyle' demand change is likely to be gradual because of the area's distance from the commuter circuit of Ballarat and Geelong. Encourage greater use of existing social housing dwellings in Rokewood by local Shire residents. At present these dwellings are not the focus of strong demand, particularly from local residents. Council to support any additional public or private investment in housing provision in the study area.

4.5 Paths and trails

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
Development of a regional trail		
Trail infrastructure development was seen as both a central means of connecting key activity nodes within Rokewood and also the three townships of Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel. In doing so not only would local people benefit but the increased number of visitors likely to be attracted to regional features such as the Rainbow Bird Trail.	 Establish walking / bicycle pathway connecting Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel. Options include: Along main highway between Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel; Unsealed roads on the eastern outskirts of each town. Unsealed roads on the western outskirts via Paynes Bridge Road. In establishing a trail that connects the three townships ensure that the trail connects into major regional features, particularly the Rainbow Bird Trail. Suggestion that young people are more likely to use the Highway to travel between Corindhap & Dereel from Rokewood as it is the most direct route. However, safety issues appear to be the main concern with this option. 	• The development of a regional trail should be strongly supported and should link the three study area towns and the Rainbow Bird Trail. In so doing this will create a major focal point for area's push for increased tourism visitation.
Developing trail and other infrastructure along Kuruc a ruc Creek		
A key environmental and leisure attribute of the	Develop trail infrastructure along Kuruc a ruc	Council will continue to work with the community

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
Rokewood Township with the capacity to provide better linkages throughout the town.	 Creek. Council has allocated path funding to widen and seal the path along the creek and make it accessible for wheel chairs. Erosion prevention measures are also required. Enhance parkland options along the creek – particularly south west of the intersection with a picnic area, tables and chairs. 	to develop a trail and other infrastructure along the Creek and seek external funding on both pathway and environmental grounds.

4.6 Recreation

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
Rokewood Recreation Reserve		
 The Reserve functions as the main active sporting reserve in the study area and beyond as well as containing some more informal leisure features such as a playground. A new multipurpose pavilion at the Reserve will be a significant community asset not just for the sporting clubs who operate from the reserve, but also other community groups who will be able to use the facility as a meeting space. The Rokewood Football Club which uses the reserve is interested in making the club more 'family focused'. The Rokewood Netball Club also uses the Reserve. The Reserve has two outdoor courts only one of which is suitable for competition netball. 	 Explore opportunities to improve Rokewood Recreation Reserve in the following ways: Landscaping around the new facility; Improving the road within the reserve; Improving pedestrian linkages to the Reserve; Creating a pathway linkage along the Kuruc a ruc Creek; Installing water tanks as a means meting the watering requirements of the reserve in a more sustainable way; Installing more seating around the ground; Improving signage to the Reserve with a gateway entrance sign heading into town introducing the town as the 'home of the Grasshoppers'; and Replace the surface of both Netball courts with plexi-pave. 	 Council supports strengthening the active recreation role this reserve plays for the broader region. Therefore, it is recommended that Council focus most of the study areas key future recreation infrastructure projects at the Reserve. Development of the Rokewood Recreation Reserve will be considered in the coming review of Council's Recreation Strategy. Comments from this process will be fed into the strategic planning process for consideration. A potential result could be preparing a master plan for the reserve in the future.
Rokewood Lagoon		
 This is a much valued regional asset providing the area with one its few aquatic leisure facilities. 	 Revegetate and improve the landscaping around the Lagoon. Upgrade toilets at the Lagoon. Improve water quality of lagoon potentially through some form of treatment system. 	 Council should recognise the Lagoon as an important aquatic recreational asset to both the study area and broader region. It is recommended that Council identify either internal or external resources, or both, to upgrade amenities at the Lagoon.

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
		• The lagoon is managed by a Committee of Management. Improvements will depend on their plans and available funding. Refer comments onto Committee.
Rokewood playground infrastructure		
 There is divided opinion about where to locate a children's playground. Some argue that the playground to be placed in the main street and have a child proof fence. The existing playground at the Rokewood Recreation Reserve is placed behind the building. Those supporting a Main Street location option say that not only will it be better utilised by locals but also by those passing through town. It was argued that parents can stop and cook a BBQ while the children play in an enclosed area safely. The gazebo is already located there in the main street along with tables and chairs. 	 Determine options for the establishment of an additional children's playground in Rokewood. There is agreement that the Rokewood Recreation Reserve playground needs an upgrade. The Open Space Strategy recommends a basic children's playground for Rokewood. Maybe there are other funding options for a playground in the median strip (e.g. Rotary funding) and a facility focused on older children. Maybe any funding obtained for a playground could be slipt between Recreation Reserve and main street options. 	• An application for funding for a playground at the Recreation Reserve has been lodged. If funding application is successful, Council will negotiate the playground location with the Rokewood community.
Corindhap Recreation Reserve		
The recreation reserve is underutilised. It could be viewed as an overflow reserve for organised sports that can't be catered for in Rokewood. The Reserve may also hold potential to be developed for more passive open space purposes.	 Improve Reserve by: Installing toilet (disabled and unisex – suitable theme, eg. corrugated iron etc.). Installing features that make it more attractive for community use, in particular young people. Installing BBQ facilities. 	 Important to retain reserve as a flexible passive / active open space reserve. Zoning for recreation reserve will be corrected. Council will support community driven initiatives to seek external funding for improved amenities. Council will support local management of the reserve.

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
 Enhanced open space opportunities in Dereel Community feedback conveyed the sense of an 'east / west divide' in Dereel, reinforced by the fact that the local community facilities and the Dereel Swamp are located on the western side, and the general store some distance away on the eastern side of the Highway. One high priority initiative to help bridge this divide is the identification, creation and development of a community park on the main highway as a genuine community enterprise. Local community members support the establishment of a multi use court at the Dereel hub to allow participation in sports such as tennis. 	 Explore opportunities for the establishment of an additional passive open space reserve on the main highway. This project would focus on providing appropriate landscaping / revegetation, and amenities such as a playground, pathways and BBQs. The landscaping component should continue along the main highway in Dereel. 	 Given limited resources and the cost effectiveness of continuing to develop an important community hub, passive open space initiatives should continue to focus on the Dereel Swamp / Community Hub. Refer to Town Place Plan for more details.
 Enhanced indoor recreation opportunities Strong interest has been expressed by the local community in an indoor recreation facility, particularly as a means of increasing leisure opportunities for young people. 	 Options include establishing an indoor recreation facility at: Elder Park along with indoor Equestrian Centre; The Rokewood Primary School; or Could upgrade memorial hall for indoor sporting activities – upgrade would be cheaper than building a whole new facility. However, there may be a problem with the height and length of the hall. 	 There is a need to confirm with the community expectations around the standard of such a facility because of the potentially significant capital implications. The construction of a high level indoor recreation facility at Elder Park appears not to be a feasible option given the small population catchment such a facility is likely to serve, and its proximity from the centre of the Rokewood township. However, Council should assess the feasibility

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
		of a establishing a low level indoor recreation facility in Rokewood geared toward meeting the informal needs of local residents.
Enhanced recreation opportunities for young people		
 Providing young people with increased leisure opportunities was regularly identified by residents as a priority. 	 Explore opportunities to establish: Kinder Gym and Athletics BMX track Skate Park Suggestion to establish an incorporated community body to obtain funding for young people's workshops. 	• Encourage community to support Council's youth services co-ordinator to look for funding opportunities to deliver more youth programs and projects within the study area, with a particular focus on Dereel.

4.7 Roads & traffic

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
Corindhap traffic issues and measures	 Widen culvert, on corner of Colac – Ballarat Rd and Boyles Rd to allow easier turning for B doubles 	 Refer to Council's engineers and VicRoads.
Dereel traffic issues and measures		
 Improve road safety treatments in the area. Traffic along the highway is increasing, particularly by trucks. 60km speed limit in Swamp Road is not appropriate, impossible to travel at that speed. General concern about speed limits around Dereel and that there are too few speed limits signs. Grassy Gully Road needs improvement near the bus stop. Concerns about Paynes Bridge Road – people are using it to access Geelong. There are problems with road grading and the bridge needs upgrade. Keen for a turning lane at Swamp Rd & the C-B Road Community support for a turning lane at the Rokewood Junction Road and Colac-Ballarat Road and relocation of the gravel store away from public view (VicRoads for turning lane and Council for gravel). Establish a 70km sign north of the Rokewood / Junction Road intersection to slow people down 	 Determine whether main highway should be widened near Dereel to better accommodate regular use by trucks. Explore the development of a left turning lane along main highway as it approaches Misery Creek Road further north of Dereel township. Keep big Dereel signs at Swamp Road. Needs to be a pedestrian crossing on the main road in Dereel. A pedestrian refuge would be beneficial outside the shop and near the hub designating an appropriate area to cross. 	Minor traffic issues will need to be referred to Council's review of its Road Strategy.

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
and improve lighting also.		
Rokewood traffic issues and measures		
 Suggestion that Hesse Community Health Centre staff and clients using street for long periods of the day, particularly along Ferrars Street and is affecting parking for local shop customers. While logging trucks and general traffic are a concern they both stop and use the commercial facilities. 	 Install parking signs in the main street. Encourage trucks to stop and use local facilities by establishing purpose constructed truck stops. 	• These issues will need to be monitored by Council before any upgrade measures can be justified.

4.8 Other township specific issues

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
Improve town entrances to Rokewood	 Upgrade entrances with native / indigenous species Additional streetscape improvements throughout town and along creek 	 Addressed by the current Rokewood Town Place Plan. Incorporate into Town Structure Plan.
Rokewood main street improvements		
 Current shelter has no walls / wind protection but is heavily used and needs additional seating. Curbing in Rokewood should be in keeping with local town / rural character. Recently completed curbing is not in keeping and considered an urban solution to a rural setting. The strength of the town is its spaciousness through the main street. Any tree planting strategy should be careful not to compromise this spaciousness. The town is extremely dark at night if people go into town for anything. Street lighting measures should be investigated. Toilet block does not present well and needs to be more identifiable to the general public. Progress Association would like a community directory established in Rokewood. 	 Extend shelter in the median for "passers-by". Install an additional two benches around cenotaph. Make old store a focal point. Explore ways in which shops could improve their appearance and encourage people travelling through to stop and have a coffee and bite to eat. Signage in the town needs to improve. Install town centre street lighting. Upgrade toilet block and establish signposting of the facility 10-15 kilometres before the town on the highway which would include café, petrol, etc. 	• Many of these are already incorporated in the Rokewood Town Place Plan which is progressively being implemented. Other suggestions which are not should be considered as part of a potential future review of the Plan. Relatively minor items can be reflected simply in an updated Plan.

Sub theme - General Issues and Comments	Suggested Actions by Community / Previous Recommendations	Assessment and Recommendations
General Dereel amenity improvements	 People want existing public mail box to be located where it currently is at the general store but enlarged. Public notice board in town along the main highway needs to be changed because it obscures view while driving. Sign on Moffat Road / Ferres Road needs to be relocated to better reflect traffic patterns. Current bus stops (either side of the highway) are in a dangerous location and should be relocated to avoid accidents. Existing walking trail should be upgraded and have a safety guard constructed along parts of it. 	• Will be addressed by the Town Place Plan.
Improve access to broadband and mobile phone services in Dereel	 Determine interest from telecommunication providers in establishing a mobile phone tower in the area. Continue to assist local residents to obtain sufficient names and addresses of people wanting broadband and submit formally to Telstra. Some residents are concerned about potential Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR) that is emitted from microwave radiation communications towers. Some members of the community would support the opportunity for better network coverage 	 Council will continue to support existing initiatives identified in the Dereel Community Plan for improved communications via Telstra Country Wide, particularly via the use of community co-ordinators. If a provider was to approach the community and or Council they would be subject to the relevant provisions of Clause 52.19 (Telecommunications Facility) of the Golden Plains Planning Scheme and the Telecommunications Act 1997. There is also A Code of Practice for Telecommunications Facilities in Victoria which addresses electromagnetic radiation (EMR) standards.
Improved lighting for Corindhap	Identify locations for street lighting.	Council needs to determine further the strength of community support for where and what lighting they want in Corindhap.

4.9 Assessment of land use planning issues

Issue	General Comments	Assessment of Identified Issues and Suggested Actions
Public Land	There are many parcels of public land across the three	Parcels of public land could be clearly identified with signage and contact
	townships – it is unclear where they are and their	details for any management issues etc. Interpretative signage
	boundaries, what their purpose is and who is responsible	particularly of sites with biodiversity significance, would add value to
	for management.	peoples understanding and appreciation of the value of these sites.
	The final Plan will provide more details of all publicly	Community involvement in the management and maintenance of these
	owned/managed land in the three townships.	sites would help foster local ownership of these sites.
	Both the Common and the Gardens at Rokewood are	Discussions should be had with the Ballarat Environment Network (BEN),
	under Council Committee of Management.	the local community and the Department of Sustainability and
	The Corindhap Water Reserve and Crown land to the north	Environment (DSE) to explore options for management of significant
	of the Colac-Ballarat Road are also managed by Ballarat	public land.
	Environment Network (BEN), with a proposal for BEN to	It is recommended that sublic level be repeat approximately, through the
	manage old Department of Education land in School Road.	It is recommended that public land be zoned appropriately, through the use of the Public Park and Recreation Zone or Public Conservation and
		Resource Zone, depending on its existing or intended use.
Zoning anomalies	Area of land east and south (surrounding) of the	Having confirmed the ownership of the land and discussing the issue with
	Rokewood Golf Course is zoned PPRZ. Property records	the owner, rezone land around the Rokewood Golf Course that is
	indicate that this land is privately owned, so it is unclear as	privately owned from the Public Park and Recreation Zone to the
	to why the land is zoned PPRZ. A review of aerial	Farming Zone (to be implemented as part of Amendment C39.
	photographs show the land to be separate to the golf club.	Rezone eastern edge of the Corindhap Recreation Reserve to PPRZ.
	Further investigations need to occur.	Areas of public land that are currently incorrectly zoned should be
	Eastern edge of the Corindhap Recreation Reserve is	rezoned to the appropriate public zone: Public Use Zone (PUZ), Public
	zoned TZ.	Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ).
Provision for	To provide future employment opportunities, it has been	The Township Zone (TZ) allows for significant flexibility with land use
future industrial	identified that there is a need for land to be set aside for	activity, including industrial use subject to a permit (except Refuse
land in	future industrial development. It has been suggested that	Disposal). As the town is not expected to grow significantly in the next 5
Rokewood.	this may occur adjacent to the creek, along the southern	- 10 years and the current town area has large areas of vacant land, the
	section of the Colac-Ballarat Road, to the west of the	preferred outcome is to focus on developing existing land zoned TZ.
	Recreation Reserve (currently PPRZ) or the west of the	As part of any proposal, it is of a high priority to ensure that the use can
	current TZ (currently RUZ, north of the Rokewood-Skipton	operate without detrimentally affecting surrounding residential areas.
	Road). There are some existing low scale rural service	Any major rural industry proposals should be considered as part of future
	industry type uses towards the eastern end of Ferrars	rural land planning and be located on the town's periphery with sufficient
L	Street, such as tractors sales and stock feeds that appear	buffers from existing and future residential areas.

Issue	General Comments	Assessment of Identified Issues and Suggested Actions
	to be compatible with the surrounding area.	The option to use the land adjacent to the creek is not desirable for industrial activities due to the potential impact on the creek. The land area available is relatively limited which would not provide an adequate setback from the creek and the creek embankment is severely eroded in places which may impact on its stability. Care must be taken not to exacerbate this situation. Importantly, maintaining creek side vegetation and protecting water quality is a key consideration which is not compatible with using this space for industrial purposes. Land is also in public ownership and it is desirable to maintain this land for public access. The land to the west of the current town area is identified for future residential development. It is considered that residential land use is preferred in this area. Further low scale development may be best located at the eastern end of the town around the current Council depot site and other rural service uses to consolidate rural service industry in the town.
Accuracy of the Salinity Management Overlay (SMO) and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO).	The SMO and LSIO are currently being reviewed and an amendment is currently being prepared with the new maps/controls. The LSIO applies to the Dereel Swamp, but not the surrounding area. Other areas are likely to be affected by flooding and should be incorporated into the LSIO.	Implement the revised Salinity (Amendment C35) and Land Subject to Inundation (Amendment C14) Overlay controls through a planning scheme amendment.
Vegetation protection controls	The Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1 - Western Plains Grasslands) currently applies to large areas of public land, including the Public Gardens, the Common, Elder Park, the Golf Course and Cemetery in Rokewood. The creek through the town contains significant vegetation, and is protected with an Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO 2 - Watercourse Protection). The Reservoir and Reservoir Road contains areas of significant and consideration should be given to application of a VPO over this area.	The Vegetation Protection Overlay should be reviewed to ensure that it is applied appropriately to areas of significant vegetation, including the Reservoir area and the length of Reservoir Road. Rezone the Crown land at the south east corner of Rokewood (last 6 lots zoned TZ) to PCRZ and apply the VPO2 if appropriate.

Issue	General Comments	Assessment of Identified Issues and Suggested Actions
	The last 6 lots zoned TZ at the south east corner of the township are Crown Land and contain significance western plains grassland and could be included in the Common (rezone to PCRZ and apply VPO1).	
Protection and use of heritage buildings.	Heritage buildings add significantly to the character of the town. Opportunities should be explored for better community use of these and protection through the Planning Scheme e.g. application of a heritage overlay.	Council is about to commence Stage 2 of the Heritage Study which will result in a planning scheme amendment with a Heritage Overlay. May be useful as part of a structure plan or any new scheme clause to reference protection of each township's unique character, including heritage buildings.
Suitability of zoning of land between the Recreation Reserve and the Rokewood Gardens.	The previous Rokewood Structure Plan recommends removal of the "residential zoning" south of the Recreation Reserve. The area to the south of the Recreation Reserve is currently zoned Township Zone (there is a shed at the western end). The recommendation to remove the residential zoning from this area relates to infrastructure/service provision and town consolidation.	Recommend rezoning the subject land to Low Density Residential to enable residential uses but provide a more suitable transition between land uses at appropriate densities and provide for a variety of lot sizes in town.
Staging of township expansion in Rokewood	The existing Structure Plan recommends future long term township development to the west of the current town. This area is considered appropriate, subject to population growth, land availability within the town and assessment of the need for rural land.	To achieve a suitable transition from the town to rural areas, it is recommended that staged development of the area designated for long term growth be supported (see draft Structure Plan), i.e. land directly north of the existing TZ on the corner as Stage 1, land to the west on the north side of the Highway as Stage 2. Land directly below stage 2, on the southern side of the Rokewood-Skipton Road is subject to salinity and poor drainage and has not been recommended for future residential development. Any future rezoning of land will need to be supported by sufficient demand.
Commercial activity in Rokewood	The existing Structure Plan identifies the land on the north west corner of the Colac-Ballarat Rd / Rokewood Shelford Road intersection for possible commercial use. It also recommends that commercial activity is focused on the south side of Ferrars Street.	With the aim of consolidating and providing greater definition for the township, it is recommended that commercial activity be focused on the south side of Ferrars Street. Two key sites that abut Ferrars street and straddle either side of the creek are also recommended as key sites for commercial development that can take advantage of passing traffic. These lots already exist in the Township Zone.
Providing housing	Increasing demand for higher density / older persons	Subject to land capability and appropriate design, support medium

Issue	General Comments	Assessment of Identified Issues and Suggested Actions
options for an aging population	housing options is occurring as a result of the aging population. There are a number of vacant lots within the township which may be suitable for development of higher density housing/accommodation for older people, subject to suitable waste water treatment solutions. There are other areas of vacant land throughout the town centre (between McMillan St, Ferrars Street, Hardie Street and Wilson Street) that may be suitable for this type of development.	density developments suitable for aged care accommodation within the township area. Proposals would need to meet the necessary requirements of the Golden Plains Planning Scheme, i.e. Clause 55 and be able to treat and retain effluent on site.
Oversupply of land zoned for high density development in Corindhap	 The designated Corindhap town area is large with many vacant parcels of land throughout the township. A large area of land to the south east of the Colac-Ballarat Road is zoned Township Zone yet is generally undeveloped for this purpose. This area also contains a large water body (old town reservoir) adjacent to significant bushland which is Crown Land, managed by BEN. To maintain the low density residential township setting, the planning controls for the town should be reviewed to ensure that overdevelopment cannot occur. The Township Zone (TZ) which currently applies to the majority of residential land in Corindhap allows for high density development which would be detrimental to the town. Development yield scenarios were analysed during the study for the Corindhap township using an average of 2.47 people per dwelling/lot. The following figures show the potential outcomes: 1 acre (4000 sqm) lots, possibility of 91 new dwellings resulting in an additional 225 people; Half acre (2000sqm) lots, possibility of 205 new dwellings resulting in an additional 899 people; and 1 hecatre (10,000sqm) lots, possibility of 55 new dwellings resulting in an additional 136 people. 	 Given the large areas of land zoned for Township Zone, the current division of the town by the main road (yet limited development to the south), small size of the population, resident's preference for larger lots and significant vegetation and water body to the south, it is recommended that the current planning controls be reviewed to: Change zoning of the Reservoir Land (Crown land managed by BEN) and other areas of Crown/Public Land to Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ). Back zone the balance of the area to the south currently zoned TZ to the Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ) for lower density residential purposes. Rezoning the land to the north of Dalton Road (currently TZ) to Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ). A preference of an adjoining farmer was to include his own parcels within the Farming Zone to protect current farming activities and this change has been reflected in the Corindhap Structure Plan.

Issue	General Comments	Assessment of Identified Issues and Suggested Actions
	than double its current population. This type of over development would impact on the visual amenity and function of the town, as well as creating servicing issues.	
Significant vegetation in Dereel	The bushland setting of Dereel creates a distinct character for the town which is highly valued by the residents. Roadside vegetation contributes significantly to the character and habitat values in Dereel. Protection and management of these areas varies significantly across the township.	The Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO 2 – Bushland Reserves and Roadside Vegetation Areas) applies along substantial roadside areas throughout Dereel, including small sections of the Colac-Ballarat Road (between Ferrers Road and Delaccas Road, and north of Grass Gully Road). Consider developing overlay planning controls (e.g. DDO) to protect native vegetation (in particular trees) along the frontages of properties along the Colac-Ballarat Road, to ensure that a reasonable buffer of trees is maintained along the road frontage. Develop a roadside vegetation management information brochure for residents and ensure that any Council/VicRoads staff managing vegetation along these roadsides are trained in best practice roadside vegetation management techniques. The Rural Conservation Zone is recommended for application to land that has significant vegetation coverage.
Proximity of pine trees to private residences.	The close proximity of pine plantations to roads and adjacent properties can create a fire risk that is difficult for private property owners to manage. Set backs for these plantations should be required, particularly to the north and west of private properties. The regulation of forestry plantations is managed by the State Government.	Encourage local residents to make submissions to the upcoming review of the Code of Practice for Timber Plantations.
Maintaining large lot sizes in Dereel.	There are large areas of land zoned Township Zone and Low Density Residential, particularly flanking the main road in Dereel.	In order to maintain larger lots and protect the environment, it is recommended that current planning controls be reviewed and changed to either Rural Living Zone (min lot size 8ha) or Rural Conservation Zone (new zoning to be used in areas where there is significant vegetation, min lot size 60ha). A schedule to the zone should be used to allow for smaller lots where appropriate.
Improve connectivity of	The land to the south east of the Ferrers Road and Arnold Road/Gum Road intersection is currently zoned Farming	It may be appropriate, to rezone the bushland areas for Rural Conservation and cleared areas for Rural Living, subject to:

Issue	General Comments	Assessment of Identified Issues and Suggested Actions
residential areas and to the main road.	Zone and could be used for rural living purposes to create a stronger connection with rural living development to the east. The area abuts land zoned for Rural Living to the east and Low Density Residential to the west. The land has previously been used for a pine plantation, which has been recently cleared. It also contains substantial areas of remnant bushland. 19.78 ha is cleared with 38.37 ha treed as at Nov 04 Aerials. The landowner has identified an interest in pursuing the rezoning. Additionally, physical links between the main road and residential areas to the NW of the town are minimal.	A demand for additional land for rural living purposes Environmental/conservation assessment of the remnant bushland The area proposed for rezoning should only extend as far south as the land zoned LDRZ to the west and to meet with the land zoned RLZ to the east (see area shown on Structure Plan). Explore opportunities to strengthen / improve links between the main road and area to the NW, including: • Road links – more or upgrade • Improved signage Review zoning of land between this area to the NW of town and the main road. The Rural Living Zone is recommended for further application through Dereel (refer to proposed Structure Plan) for zoning consistency and to connect the two sides of Dereel together with continues built form. Lots that have been selected for Rural Living Zoning already existing in a subdivision pattern that is consistent with the minimum lot size and purpose of the zone.

5 Recommended action plans

This concluding section presents the following three action plans in response to the information and issues presented in previous sections of this report:

- General community action plan;
- A Land use structure plan for each of the three towns;
- Dereel Town Place Plan

5.1 General community action plan

The following general community action plan is based on the assessment of issues presented Sections 4.1 to 4.8 and covering the following themes:

- Community development and heritage;
- Economic development & tourism;
- Environment & public land;
- Housing;
- Paths and trails;
- Recreation;
- Roads & traffic; and
- Other township specific Issues.

General community action plan

Theme and sub themes	Rec. Number	Action	Responsibility	Priority
Community development & heritage				
Strengthening local community services and activities - Rokewood	1.1	Continue to support measures identified via the existing Health Planning Forum establish to address the needs of the centre of the Shire.	Council Health Planning Forum	High
Strengthening local community services – Dereel	1.2	Investigate the establishment of a Neighbourhood House service in Dereel. A Neighbourhood house should be integrated into existing facilities within Dereel.	Council Department of Planning and Community Development Communities	High
Community facilities / Dereel Swamp hub improvements	1.3	Implement the suite of amenity measures indicated in the Dereel Town Place Plan	Council Community Funding Agencies	Medium
Improvements to community facilities and service provision - Corindhap	1.4	Council to explore with community, via community development initiatives (e.g. service development, social group development, entertainment gatherings such as trivia nights), that will encourage greater use of existing facilities such as Corindhap Hall.	Council Community	Medium
Encourage public art initiatives	1.5	Subject to external funding Council will work closely with the community and Council's Regional Arts Development Officer to develop and implement arts initiatives in all three towns.	Council RAV	Low
Reflecting the history of the study area	1.6	Confirm sites of historical significance as part of Stage 2 of Council's Heritage Study. Investigate funding options from Heritage Victoria and other cultural sources for	Council Heritage Victoria	Medium

Theme and sub themes	Rec. Number	Action	Responsibility	Priority
		study area projects that may arise from the Heritage Study.		
Determine future role of RSL and its facilities	1.7	Commence dialogue with local RSL members to determine the future of the club and explore opportunities they may already identified.	RSL	Low
Economic development & tourism				
Enhancing camping opportunities	2.1	Council will investigate with Parks Victoria and the community the feasibility of establishing an informal camping ground beside the Dereel Swamp.	Council Parks Victoria Community	Medium
Improving regional tourism	2.2	The study area's role in regional tourism will continue to be pursued via council's Economic Development Strategy.	Council Tourism Victoria	Low
Improving Dereel general store precinct	2.3	Implement suite of general store precinct improvement measures outlined in the Dereel Town Place Plan.	Council Community	Medium
Environment & public land				
Improving the Dereel Swamp	3.1	Council will continue to support initiatives already underway by the community, for example the Dereel Walking Group's proposed Swamp trail and interpretive signage. Implement measures outlined in Dereel Town Place Plan.	Community Parks Victoria DSE	Low
Enhancing amenities at Corindhap Reservoir	3.3	Work with DSE to clarify public access to the Reservoir. Then confirm ability to install / construct a small range of amenities such as seating and pathways.	DSE	Medium
Enhancing amenities at Rokewood Reservoir & Cemetery	3.4	Work with DSE to implement discrete improvements (without disrupting the peaceful character of the area).	DSE Community	Medium

Theme and sub themes	Rec. Number	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	3.5	Provide assistance to the Cemetery Committee to develop and implement a conservation plan and install interpretive and directional signage.		Medium
Improving identification of Crown Land	3.6	Council and community will work with DSE to achieve improved identification of Crown Land located within the study area.	DSE	Low
Housing				
Enhance local housing options	4.1	Encourage greater use of existing but underutilised social housing dwellings in Rokewood by local Shire residents.	Community Council Office of Housing	Medium
Paths & trails				
Development of a regional trail	5.1	Develop a regional trail linking Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel and key regional features such as the Rainbow Bird Trail. See Appendix 2.	Council Parks Victoria Community	High
Developing trail and other infrastructure along Kuruc a ruc Creek	5.2	Council will continue to work with the community to develop a trail and other infrastructure along the Kuruc a ruc Creek and seek external funding on both pathway and environmental grounds.	Council Community	Medium
Recreation				
Improve Rokewood Recreation Reserve	6.1 6.2	Council should support strengthening the active recreation role this reserve plays for both the study area and the broader region, including efforts to consolidate future recreation infrastructure projects at the Reserve. Development of the Rokewood Recreation Reserve will be considered in the coming review of Council's Recreation Strategy. Comments from this process will be fed into the strategic planning process for consideration. A potential result could be preparing a master plan for the reserve in the future.	Council Committtee of Management Community	Medium Medium
Rokewood playground infrastructure	6.3	Depending on the outcome playground funding application Council to facilitate a	Council	Medium

Theme and sub themes	Rec. Number	Action	Responsibility	Priority
		process to determine the most appropriate playground location with the Rokewood community.	Community	
Improve Rokewood Lagoon	6.4	It is recommended that Council identify either internal or external resources, or both, to upgrade amenities at the Lagoon.	DSE Committee of Management Council	Medium
Improve Corindhap Recreation Reserve	6.6 6.7	Council will support community driven initiatives to seek external funding for improved amenities and retaining the reserve as a flexible passive / active open space reserve. Implement Planning Scheme change to reflect correct zoning for the Reserve.	Council Community	Medium Medium
Enhanced open space opportunities in Dereel	6.8 6.9	Given limited resources and the cost effectiveness of continuing to develop an important community hub, passive open space initiatives should continue to focus on the Dereel Swamp / Community Hub. Implement open space measures outlined in Dereel Town Place Plan.	Council Community	Medium Medium
Enhanced indoor recreation opportunities	6.10	Through the preparation of Council's forthcoming Recreation Strategy, assess the feasibility of a establishing a low level indoor recreation facility in Rokewood geared toward meeting the informal needs of local residents and broader study area catchment. This assessment should focus on the feasibility of upgrading the Rokewood Memorial Hall.	Council Community	Medium
Enhanced recreation opportunities for young people	6.11	Encourage community to support Council's youth services co-ordinator to look for funding opportunities to deliver more youth programs and projects in the study area, particularly in Dereel.	Community	Medium

Theme and sub themes	Rec. Number	Action	Responsibility	Priority
Roads & traffic				
Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel road and traffic issues and measures	7.1	All road and traffic measures identified as part of the UDF process will be referred to the most relevant Council department and, where appropriate, VicRoads.	VicRoads Council	High
Other township specific issues				
Improve town entrances to Rokewood	8.1	Continue to progressively implement measures outlined in the Rokewood Town Place Plan.	Council Community Medium	
	8.2	Implement relevant measures outlined in Rokewood Local Structure Plan.		
Rokewood main street improvements	8.3	Continue to progressively implement measures outlined in the Rokewood Town Place Plan.	Council	
	8.4	Assess the need to review and update Rokewood Town Place Plan.	Community	Low
General Dereel amenity improvements	8.5	Implement amenity improvement measures outlined in Dereel Town Place Plan.	Council	High
Improve access to broadband and mobile phone services in Dereel	8.6	Council will continue to support existing initiatives identified in the Dereel Community Plan such as improved communications.	Telstra	Low
Improved lighting for Corindhap	8.7	Refer Cordindap street lighting issues Council's engineering department to assess to confirm need and feasibility.	Council	Low

5.2 Land use structure plans

The following land use structure plans for each of the three study area towns is based on the assessment of land use planning issues presented in Section 4.9 of this report.

It should be emphasised that further consultation will be required with land managers before these structure plans are implemented. The land use changes and concepts outlined in the three structure plans have not been fully investigated or tested with the relevant land managers (i.e. Department of Sustainability, Parks Victoria, Committee's of Management, VicRoads or Golden Plains Shire) particularly changes to zoning and Crown Land Reservations. The concepts represent the community's thoughts for future development options as interpreted by the consultants at officer level discussion from Golden Plains Shire, and it is acknowledged that further consultation will be required to achieve some of these recommendations.

5.3 Dereel Town Place Plan

The following Dereel Town Place Plan is based on the assessment of issues presented Sections 4.1 to 4.9 and responds to a combination of both general community issues and land use planning issues.

Appendix 1 – Review of Priorities Identified in Previously Prepared Plans

Fable 5 - Previously identified Rokewood and Corindhap Prio Rokewood / Corindhap Priorities	Source:
Developing a playground for local children	Rokewood / Corindhap
Developing a playground for local children	Community Plan (2005)
Develop Elder Park for the Pony Club. The pony club has now	Rokewood / Corindhap
	•
been relocated to the Woady Yaloak Equestrian Facility.	Community Plan (2005)
Developing business in the local area such as tourism, to help	Rokewood / Corindhap
boost employment opportunities	Community Plan (2005)
Improving public lighting in Rokewood and Corindhap	Rokewood / Corindhap
	Community Plan (2005)
Complete the walking track that has commenced in the plan	Rokewood / Corindhap
	Community Plan (2005)
Developing a walking track from Rokewood to Dereel	Rokewood / Corindhap
	Community Plan (2005)
Improving footpaths within Rokewood	Rokewood / Corindhap
	Community Plan (2005)
Improving health services in Rokewood	Rokewood / Corindhap
	Community Plan (2005)
Further development of the Main Street Beautification Project	Rokewood / Corindhap
with particular attention to upgrading the kerbs and installing	Community Plan (2005)
bollards	
Placing speed humps in high risk traffic areas to help reduce	Rokewood / Corindhap
the speed of local traffic, with particular attention to the school	Community Plan (2005)
and the entrance of the football oval	
Sealing town streets	Rokewood / Corindhap
5	Community Plan (2005)
Developing more sculptures in the local areas to help beautify	Rokewood / Corindhap
the town	Community Plan (2005)
Upgrading opportunities for internet access and improvement	Rokewood / Corindhap
to the reliability of phone lines within Rokewood and Corindhap	Community Plan (2005)
community	()
Building a skate ramp in the Rokewood area for local youth	Rokewood / Corindhap
	Community Plan (2005)
Developing a recreational stadium with various functions (e.g.	Rokewood / Corindhap
basketball gymnasium etc)	Community Plan (2005)
Improving childcare and other social services within the local	Rokewood / Corindhap
area	Community Plan (2005)
Developing a community garden where the local community	Rokewood / Corindhap
cab have a direct input into the design, plants etc.	Community Plan (2005)
Directional and historical signage in the Rokewood and	Rokewood / Corindhap
Corindhap community	Community Plan (2005)
Placing a truck stop in the main street of Rokewood	Rokewood / Corindhap
Tracing a truck stop in the main street of nokewood	•
Econology off the greak in Dekoweed	Community Plan (2005)
Fencing off the creek in Rokewood	Rokewood / Corindhap
Developing public tollate in Labellan Daga and Orderling	Community Plan (2005)
Developing public toilets in Laidler Reserve, Corindhap	Rokewood / Corindhap
	Community Plan (2005)
Develop trails and links along Kuruc-a-ruc Creek and around	Golden Plains Open
the town with links to community facilities such as a hall,	Space Strategy (2005)
recreation reserve, pony club and golf course	
The theme for development of trails in Rokewood is to firstly	Golden Plains Paths and
construct a path on the main block to enable residents to	Trails Strategy (2005)
access the hall, community services, kindergarten, school,	

Table 5 - Previously identified Rokewood and Corindhap Priorities

Rokewood / Corindhap Priorities	Source:
to the Kuruc-a-ruc Creek Trail. The Kuruc-a-ruc Creek Trail will be extended and future connections linking the open space areas around the town are proposed.	
There is a need for additional services to address the social isolation issues of older people and the disabled.	Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003)
There is a need for an expansion of District Nursing Services within the Shire to meet evidenced need for HACC and Primary Care services.	Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003)
There is a need for an expansion of District Nursing Services within the Shire to meet evidenced need for HACC and Primary Care services.	Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003)
An emergency relief outlet to be placed in the Rokewood Hub.	Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003)
Extend Rokewood Kindergarten.	Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003)
Rokewood Township Development Strategies:	Rokewood Structure Plan
Promote infill development	
• Future commercial development – south of Ferrars Road	
Reinforce urban and rural edge	
Industrial use and development:	
> Colac – Ballarat Road	
> Kuruc-a-ruc Creek	
> South-west of Ferrars Road	

Table 6 - Previously identified Dereel Priorities

Dereel Priorities	Source:
Develop recreation area	Dereel Community Plan
	(September2000)
School bus safety	Dereel Community Plan
	(September2000)
Education and community house	Dereel Community Plan
	(September2000)
Community festival / event	Dereel Community Plan
	(September2000)
Fire safety and awareness	Dereel Community Plan
	(September2000)
Restrict breakup of large farming land	Dereel Community Plan
	(September2000)
Encouraging greater economic growth	Dereel Community Plan
	(September2000)
Regulate the use of recreational vehicles on private land	Dereel Community Plan
	(September2000)
Review existing open space and consider purchase of	Golden Plains Open
additional land for sport and recreation activities near	Space Strategy (2005)
Community hall	
Liaise with Parks Victoria to develop Dereel Swamp	Golden Plains Open
	Space Strategy (2005)
Develop trails around Dereel Swamp connecting to Community	Golden Plains Open
hall	Space Strategy (2005)
A trail has recently been constructed between the store and	Golden Plains Paths and
the Community Hall. The Rainbow Bird Trail commences at	Trails Strategy (2005)

Dereel Priorities	Source:
the Hall.	
The Rainbow Bird Trail is a trail along quiet country roads, State Parks and the Ballarat to Skipton Rail Trail between Dereel and Linton. The trail was developed by a community group and covers a total length of 38.5 kilometres. The Strategy recommends that Council liaise with the community to continuously improve the quality and safety of the Trail and provide more signs, maps and information on the trail.	Golden Plains Paths and Trails Strategy (2005)
The theme for development of trails is to provide a connection to community facilities. A major feature in the area is the Dereel Swamp and community interest in a trail around the swamp connecting to the Community hall has already been identified.	Golden Plains Paths and Trails Strategy (2005)
The Colac-Ballarat Road should be widened to facilitate the inclusion of a marked bicycle lane.	Golden Plains Paths and Trails Strategy (2005)
There is a need to provide voluntary ambulance services to the Rokewood/ Enfield central area of the Shire within the 10 year planning period. This is particularly important given the remoteness of many communities and the lack of acute facilities within the Shire.	Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003)
Establish early childhood services utilising current Council community facilities in Dereel	Golden Plains Rural Health Strategic Service Plan (2003)
Township development strategies:	Dereel Structure Plan
Maximise infill development	
Retain native vegetation in development	
Protect Dereel Swamp	
Provide buffer between residential development and forestry plantations	
Consolidate commercial and community development – Alfred Street	

Appendix 2 – Proposed regional trail linking Rokewood, Corindhap and Dereel