

1 A living cultural landscape

- 1. Traditional Owners have the capacity and resources to contribute effectively to the management of water for cultural purposes.
- 2. 'Country' plans are developed for the key rivers of the Barwon to ensure consideration of cultural values in future planning.
- 3. Cultural indicators are identified to measure the cultural health of the rivers.



2 Water management for a secure future

- 1. Consider the protection of stream flows and future water recovery for the environment in the new Sustainable Water Strategy.
- 2. Prioritise essential waterway restoration works to minimise flow constraints and maximise the benefits from environmental water entitlements.
- 3. Maximise the region's links to the Victorian water grid to realise regional economic and environmental outcomes from the use of scarce water resources.
- 4. Investigate the introduction of a more natural flow regime for the Yarrowee/Leigh River.
- 5. Maximise the use of alternative water supplies.
- 6. Make the water resource planning process more visible to the public.
- 7. Increase the focus by all agencies on regional climate adaptation planning and adoption.



3 Targeted and integrated management for a healthy catchment

- 1. Undertake 'place-based' scale planning and management to maximise engagement and impact, but within a catchment context and narrative.
- 2. Focus management and investment on upper catchments to maximise benefits.
- 3. Strengthen the planning and measurement of water-way health outcomes, including greater opportunities for community-based citizen science monitoring.
- 4. Prioritise the Barwon as the next targeted large-scale waterway project – as a new 'Living Barwon' flagship waterway.



4 Enhanced waterway corridors for community connection, access and use

- 1. Enhance the Barwon River Parklands.
- 2. Adopt a parklands concept for the Yarrowee corridor through Ballarat.
- 3. Explore opportunities to enhance broader access and connectivity to the rivers of the Barwon.
- 4. Consider a regional paths and trails strategy for the catchment's river corridors.



5 Planning for sustainable growth and liveability

- 1. Identify the rivers of the Barwon as significant rivers in Clause 12.03-1S (River Corridors, Waterways, Lakes and Wetlands) of the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP).
- 2. Introduce a regional-level planning policy for the rivers of the Barwon.
- 3. Develop master plans to outline the vision and strategic directions to guide future land use and development along and adjoining the river corridor.
- 4. Strengthen methods for better implementation of integrated water management principles through planning systems for new growth areas (including through precinct structure planning).
- 5. Use development contribution plans and value capture options to fund integrated water management infrastructure for new growth areas.
- 6. Create interim and consistent overlay controls for the rivers of the Barwon.



6 An effective governance model for the catchment

- 1. Develop a set of key principles to provide improved governance for the Barwon catchment that includes integration of water management and land use planning and a framework of shared accountability.
- 2. Establish an interim taskforce to facilitate the implementation of the MAC's recommendations and drive delivery of the planned Rivers of the Barwon Action Plan in line with the agreed principles.
- 3. Review funding arrangements to ensure ongoing improvements to the rivers of the Barwon.
- 4. Strengthen existing partnership forums and governance arrangements to support the role of the interim taskforce.
- 5. Make management decisions and the roles and responsibilities of government agencies more visible to the public.

