

Wellington Planning Scheme

Amendment C120well

Explanatory Report

Overview

This amendment translates the adopted *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) into the Wellington Planning Scheme. It provides direction for potential future residential growth areas, and commercial and industrial development through updated planning policy. The amendment supports the long-term growth of Maffra and acknowledges its role as the second largest township within the Wellington Shire, by:

- Introducing policy which guides the growth of Maffra to 2042 in *Clause 11.01-1L Maffra* of the Wellington Planning Scheme.
- Rezoning existing General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (GRZ1) land to a new Maffra specific schedule to the General Residential Zone (Schedule 2 - GRZ2).
- Updating the Development Plan Overlay Schedule 1 (DPO1).
- Correcting policy-neutral zone and overlay anomalies.
- Adding future projects to the list of further strategic work required to be undertaken.

Where you may inspect this amendment

The amendment can be inspected free of charge on the Wellington Shire Council website at www.wellington.vic.gov.au

The amendment is available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at the following places:

- Sale Service Centre: 18 Desailly Street, Sale 3850
 - Monday to Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm,
- Yarram Service Centre: 156 Grant Street, Yarram 3971
 - Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday 10.00am – 2.00pm, and
- Maffra Library: 150 Johnson Street, Maffra 3860
 - Monday to Saturday 10.00am – 6.00pm (12noon on Saturday)

The amendment can also be inspected free of charge at the Department of Transport and Planning website at <http://www.planning.vic.gov.au/public-inspection> or by contacting the office on 1800 789 386 to arrange a time to view the amendment documentation.

Details of the amendment

Who is the planning authority?

This amendment has been prepared by the Wellington Shire Council, which is the

- Amends Clause 11.01-1L (Maffra) to update the strategic directions for Maffra.
 - Note that the *Bushfire Assessment Report – Maffra Township* dated 4 November 2025 (see *Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?* below) recommends post exhibition changes to *Clause 11.01-1L Maffra* relating to bushfire which Wellington Shire Council has included in this Clause.
- Inserts a new Schedule 2 to Clause 32.08 (General Residential Zone) to include neighbourhood character objectives and decision guidelines specific to Maffra Residential Area (General Residential Zone area).
- Amends the Schedule 1 to Clause 43.04 (Development Plan Overlay) to update Sections 1-4 and remove Section 5 (to be consistent with Ministerial Direction *The Form and Content of Planning Schemes*).
 - Note that the *Bushfire Assessment Report – Maffra Township* dated 4 November 2025 (see *Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?* below) recommends post exhibition changes to *Schedule 1 to Clause 43.04 (Development Plan Overlay)* relating to bushfire. Wellington Shire Council has included bushfire protection measures to the extent recommended by the Panel Report dated 24 April 2026.
- Amends the Schedule to Clause 72.08 (Background Documents) to insert the following background documents:
 - *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022)
- Amends the Schedule to Clause 74.02 (Further Strategic Work) to include recommendations for future work outlined in the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022).

Zoning maps

- Amends Planning Scheme Map Nos 51, 53, 54, 55 and 56 to rezone all land in the Maffra township boundary currently in the General Residential Zone 1 (GRZ1) to the new General Residential Zone 2 (GRZ2) 'Maffra Residential Area'.
- Amends Planning Scheme Map Nos 54, 55 and 56 to selected properties to correct mapping anomalies.

Overlay maps

- Amends Planning Scheme Map Nos 50DPO, 51DPO, 52DPO, 53DPO and 54DPO to remove the Development Plan Overlay Schedule 1 (DPO1) from certain parcels of land within the Maffra township boundary, specifically:
 - From the majority of land to the north of Sandy Creek Road which is within the Rural Living Zone Schedule 2 (RLZ2) and covered by the Development Plan Overlay 1 (DPO1). The land is below the minimum lot size for development, and accordingly it is appropriate to remove the DPO1 from these sites.
 - Scattered properties within Maffra which have been developed as per the endorsed Development Plan for that area.

Strategic assessment of the amendment

Why is the amendment required?

The *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) is the first major strategic land use policy direction for Maffra since the adoption of the *Wellington Residential & Rural Residential Strategy – Maffra & Environs* in July 2003. This updated guidance responds to the changes that Maffra has experienced during this time and provides several key policies and recommendations to guide the growth of the town to 2042.

Specifically, the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) shapes the vision for the town by undertaking the following:

- Influencing, managing and facilitating change to land uses, the built form and public spaces in accordance with relevant state, regional and local planning policy.
- Assessing the suitability and proposed locations of future residential growth.
- Identifying land for future commercial, industrial and community services and facilities to support growth.
- Guiding the future land use and development in an integrated and coordinated manner.

The *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) was adopted by Council on 17 May 2022, reaffirming the commitment of Council to deliver this important strategic document. Accordingly, this amendment is required to translate the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022), alongside a suite of recommended changes to the Wellington Planning Scheme.

The *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) underwent further refinements during preparation of Planning Scheme Amendment C120well, and subsequently was re-adopted on 16 July 2024. Changes to the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) included minor updates to *Figure 28: Proposed Overlay Plan* (page 73) and the wording of Action A8 on pages 34 and 68.

On 6 August 2024 Council adopted the *Wellington Shire Growth Management Strategy* (SGS, 2024) which identified land for ‘potential drainage/residential use’ within the Maffra Township Boundary.

The subject land was previously identified as ‘public use and utilities’ given the need for the land to be utilised for future drainage purposes to support urban growth.

Since the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) was re-adopted by Council in July 2024, the ability to co-locate drainage and future residential development on the land has been further considered. Accordingly, the Maffra Strategy Map at *Clause 11.01-1L Maffra* has been updated to identify the strategic intent for the subject land.

How does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?

The changes sought as part of this amendment will enable the development of the township in accordance with Section 4(1) of the Act. Specifically, the amendment gives effect to the following objectives:

- a) *To provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land;*

- b) *To provide for the protection of natural and man-made resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity;*
- c) *To secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria;*
- d) *To conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value;*
- e) *To facilitate development in accordance with the objectives;*
- f) *To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.*

How does the amendment address any environmental, social and economic effects?

Environmental effects

The amendment has a positive environmental impact on the township of Maffra by directing new development within proximity to the central business district. It encourages infill development, thereby supporting walkability, in a township with limited public transport.

The *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) defines a township boundary to avoid inappropriate urban sprawl and in doing so serves to contain and direct new development to areas identified for development within the town.

This in turn protects the surrounding land beyond the township boundary, where the natural environment is characterised by high quality and irrigated agricultural land.

New residential subdivisions and development will be required to provide space for canopy tree planting, while the existing significant canopy trees within the Boisdale 'Green Spine' will be protected. The existing Boisdale Street 'Green Spine' is recommended to be extended northwards to Sandy Creek Road, integrating high quality green spaces that encourage walking and cycling.

Contaminated Land

Land promoted for sensitive (residential) uses in the amendment are assessed as unlikely to be contaminated. They are currently or were previously used for agricultural and rural living purposes.

The amendment recognises that only property specific assessments would conclusively confirm no contamination. To mitigate remaining risks and to demonstrably comply with Ministerial Direction 1:

- The Planning Authority is satisfied that the environmental conditions of land to be rezoned (under separate, future planning scheme amendment/s) for sensitive (residential) uses are suitable for that use based on the land promoted for sensitive (residential) uses being existing rural living and agricultural land, and likely to be assessed as low potential for contamination.
- The amendment includes within the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) an objective (GD6, page 29) to investigate potential future residential development in consideration of locating sensitive uses outside of the Sewerage Treatment Facility 'odour buffer', any existing industrial buffers, and that land at 145 Fulton Road, Maffra be reviewed (in future) in detail for

contamination. This would operate alongside *Clause 13.04-1S Contaminated and potentially contaminated land*, and which together apply to future applications for sensitive uses.

Adverse Amenity

The *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) includes buffers associated with uses with potential adverse amenity impact. These buffers are derived from *Clause 53.10 Uses with Adverse Amenity Potential* and *EPA Guideline 1518 Recommended Separation Distances for Industrial Residual Air Emissions* (March 2013). Amendment C120well does not propose to rezone land which would result in the development of sensitive land uses. Future rezonings would be subject to relevant EPA requirements, including buffer assessments.

It is specifically noted that the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) and land rezoned for sensitive uses are not directed to land in proximity to the Maffra Sewerage Treatment Plant. *EPA Publication 1518* sets out separation distances which should be met. Based on the high-end population estimate for Maffra if all land developed as envisaged in the Structure Plan, the separation distances specified are met as it relates to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Social effects

During the preparation of the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) and *Maffra Discussion Paper & Emerging Directions* (Mesh, 2021) consultation was undertaken to understand the views of the community. This feedback was considered when finalising the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) and Directions Report, and subsequently in the preparation of the amendment.

The amendment will have positive social effects as it will provide strategic direction for the future development of Maffra, resulting in the provision of areas for new housing, green connections, and improving the public interface.

The amendment supports the provision of new infrastructure including footpaths and cycling routes, and upgrades to roads and intersections to enable people to safely connect to open spaces, facilities and key destinations.

The amendment will generate positive social benefits by providing for a range of housing choices through the identification of future general residential, low density and rural living areas. It will help support and maintain the community within Maffra, in turn supporting resilience in the local economy.

In addition, future development (subdivision) within proposed 'Residential Growth Areas' will require new open spaces and parks that focus on providing high quality, connected green spaces within a walkable catchment to new residential estates.

Economic effects

The translation of the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) will reinforce and strengthen Maffra's role as an agricultural hub and food precinct by providing more opportunities for big businesses to locate within Maffra's industrial precincts.

Maffra will be a self-sustaining town as a key leader in agribusiness and food production, providing the community with more places to work and meeting its day-to-day needs.

The town centre will continue its role as the primary meeting place and destination

for a mixture of businesses, retail, community and food offerings.

A vibrant mix of activity will be encouraged along Johnson Street and surrounding streets and in doing so, will provide greater activation to Macalister Park and The Island Reserve.

Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?

Much of the study area is not included within a 'Bushfire Prone Area' (BPA) as declared by the Minister for Planning under the Building Regulations 2018. The study area includes some small areas which are subject to the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO). The extents of both the BPA and BMO have been considered in the preparation of the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) and are located in the following areas:

- A section of land to the west of Maffra-Briagolong Road, and the south of McCubbins Road, Maffra is within the BMO.
- The majority of land outside of the established (General Residential Zone) area of Maffra (mostly between Johnson Street and Merry Street) is within the BPA.

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) were consulted during the preparation of the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) and have been formally notified as part of the exhibition of Amendment C120well.

In response to an objecting submission from the CFA to C120well, a bushfire assessment has been prepared to support the planning scheme amendment. The assessment includes a bushfire hazard landscape assessment, a bushfire hazard site assessment and an assessment against *Clause 13.02-1S Bushfire Planning* of the planning scheme.

Landscape-scale assessment

The landscape risk is assessed as Landscape type one under the landscape methodology in *Planning Permit Applications Bushfire Management Overlay Technical Guide* (DELWP, 2017). Landscape type one is the lowest landscape risk arising under the landscape typology approach. The subject site represents a relatively lower risk location which is a suitable place for development contained in the Maffra Structure Plan.

Site-scale assessment

New development promoted in the Maffra Structure Plan can satisfy the *Clause 13.02-1S Bushfire Planning* site-based exposure benchmark of 12.5kw/sq.m of radiant heat.

Safer areas / Low hazard land

Low hazard (BAL:Low) land is where human life can be better protected from the harmful effects of bushfire. They can provide protection by enabling people to move away from bushfire hazards if they need to.

Low hazard land is present in most parts of the existing settlement. The low hazard land is in proximity to all parts of Maffra.

Bushfire protection measures in new development

The amendment includes bushfire protection measures for new development in

proposed *Clause 11.01-1L Maffra* including those designed to:

- Prevent grassfire from entering developed areas and manage exposure of new development to bushfire through perimeter roads and bushfire setbacks on hazard interfaces.
- Enable an effective movement network for before and during a bushfire emergency.
- Manage new development on larger lots in a low hazard condition to prevent a grassfire moving through developed areas.

The amendment also includes bushfire protection measures in the updated Development Plan Overlay Schedule 1 to ensure proposals include a Bushfire Management Plan that addresses the *Design Guidelines: Settlement Planning at the Bushfire Interface (DELWP 2020)* (simplified measures to streamline and reduce duplication as per Panel Report of 24 April 2026).

The bushfire protection measures work in combination with the lower-risk landscape setting of Maffra.

Conclusion

The proposal has been assessed and is consistent with the bushfire policies and directions contained in the planning scheme, including *Clause 13.02-1S Bushfire Planning*.

The bushfire assessment advises that *Maffra is an acceptable location for new development from a bushfire perspective. This includes all land within the township boundary as shown in the Maffra Structure Plan, including the selected sites where a planning scheme amendment may in future be required to enable new development.*

Does the amendment comply with the requirements of any other Minister's Direction applicable to the amendment?

Ministerial Direction – The Form and Content of Planning Schemes

All schedules and consequential changes to local planning provisions in the amendment have been prepared in accordance with applicable style guides, formatting and layout as specified in the *Ministerial Direction - The Form and Content of Planning Schemes* under section 7(5) of the Act.

Ministerial Direction No. 1 – Potentially Contaminated Land

The purpose of this Direction is to ensure that potentially contaminated land is suitable for a use which is proposed to be allowed under an amendment to a planning scheme and which could be significantly adversely affected by contamination.

The amendment complies with *Ministerial Direction No. 1 – Potentially Contaminated Land*. The amendment does not involve the rezoning of land (other than a minor General Residential Zone schedule change). All future rezonings will be subject to further planning scheme amendments, where contamination assessments will be required (as necessary).

The *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022), which will be included as a background document as part of this amendment, clearly indicates land parcels which are known to be potentially affected by contamination. These land parcels include 87 Powerscourt Street, and 145 Fulton Road, Maffra.

As part of the draft Maffra Structure Plan consultation period (in late 2021 / early 2022), the EPA advised that there was the potential for contamination at 87 Powerscourt Street, Maffra due to a service station (and ancillary uses) being located on the land. The final *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) included an Action (A38) which states *Council to consider applying the Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO) to 87 Powerscourt Street, Maffra in collaboration with EPA and landowner*. At this stage, Council is not aware of any plans to alter the use, however, should this change, the risk could be managed by undertaking a future planning scheme amendment to apply the EAO to the land.

Further to this, the amendment has considered the potential for land contamination and identified that the nominated 'future investigation areas' in Figure 13 of the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) consider the following criteria:

- Sensitive uses to be located outside of the odour buffer of the sewerage treatment facility.
- Land at 145 Fulton Road, Maffra has been reviewed in terms of any potential contamination of the land, based on historical uses.
- Sensitive uses are located outside of any relevant industrial use buffers of the 'industrial estate'.

Sites identified as 'future investigation areas' are not proposed for rezoning through this amendment. Accordingly, when these areas are considered in the future under separate proponent-led planning scheme amendments, they will need to be prepared in accordance with Ministerial Directions No 1 and No.19 and using the methodology outlined in *Planning Practice Note 30: Potentially Contaminated Land*. This will likely require the creation of a PSI or PRSA report to confirm the suitability of land to transition to a different use and be rezoned.

As per the above, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) were consulted during the preparation of the *Maffra Structure Plan (2022)*, and provided a written response (dated 21 December 2021). EPA provided the following recommendations:

1. Make reference to the cheese manufacturing facility and associated wastewater treatment plant – 6-10 Bundalaguah Road, Maffra along with recommended separation distances
2. Council look to apply the Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO) to the land at 87 Powerscourt Street (service station priority site) to manage risk
3. The draft Maffra Structure Plan include discussion on the process undertaken in determining the separation distance for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) – Morrison Street, Maffra
4. Council to consider EPA Publication 1518 (or as amended) when establishing separation distances for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) – Morrison Street, Maffra
5. Council to be aware of the requirements of Ministerial Direction 1 (MD1) and Planning Practise Note 30 (PPN30) in considering land to be used for future sensitive uses.
6. Council may wish to consider whether a buffer around [certain] industries should be explored, to manage future development around these areas, and to protection the operation of these industries.

Council provides the following information in relation to the 6 recommendations listed above:

1. Council proposes to include a new Appendix 8 to the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) titled 'Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Requirements and Information'. This Appendix includes wording which states:

For future planning and decision making the following is to be considered or implemented (as relevant):

Recommended separation distances for wastewater treatment plants and cheese manufacturing facility (or future use) are to be determined in consultation with EPA (and other relevant authorities)

2. Council included an Action in the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) as follows:
 - "Council to consider applying the Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO) to 87 Powerscourt Street, Maffra in collaboration with EPA and landowner."
3. As per No. 1 above.
4. As per No. 1 above, as follows:

For future planning and decision making the following is to be considered or implemented (as relevant):

Industrial buffers are to be determined using EPA's Separation Distance Guidelines (as updated) and in consultation with the EPA

5. Council has provided further detail in the Explanatory Report regarding MD1 and MD19, and also included a section on PPN30. Council has also made reference to the need to provide a detail response to MD1, MD19 and PPN30 as part of future explanatory reports for Planning Scheme Amendments as part of the new Appendix 8 to the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022).
6. Council to include (as part of post exhibition changes to C120well) the following at Schedule to Clause 74.02 Further Strategic Work of the Wellington Planning Scheme as follows:

Investigate the application of the Buffer Area Overlay (BAO) as a means of ensuring safe and appropriate land use and development in areas where there is potential for off-site impacts on human health or safety, or significant off-site impacts on amenity, from industry, warehouse, infrastructure or other uses.

Ministerial Direction No. 11: Strategic Assessment of Amendments

The amendment complies with *Ministerial Direction No. 11 - Strategic Assessment of Amendments*) under section 12 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The amendment is consistent with this direction which ensures a comprehensive strategic evaluation of a planning scheme amendment and the outcomes it produces. This explanatory report provides a detailed assessment of the changes proposed and the outcomes expected.

Ministerial Direction No. 15: The Planning Scheme Amendment Process

The amendment complies with *Ministerial Direction 15 - the planning scheme*

amendment process) under section 12 of the Act.

Ministerial Direction 19 – Amendments that may result in impacts on the environment, amenity and human health

The purpose of this Direction is to require planning authorities to seek the views of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in the preparation of planning scheme reviews and amendments that could result in use or development of land that may result in significant impacts on the environment, amenity and human health due to pollution and waste.

The amendment complies with this Direction. The amendment does not seek approval to rezone (other than a schedule change to the General Residential Zone), use or develop land. Rather, it provides the strategic justification and guidance for future rezonings, which may result in new land uses and development.

The amendment translates the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) into the Wellington Planning Scheme, and largely leaves areas identified as ‘future investigation areas’ to be rezoned through proponent led planning scheme amendments.

Applying the EAO is a consideration identified in the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) on areas suspected to be subject to contamination, including 87 Powerscourt Street, Maffra. Beyond this site, by introducing the initial strategic justification for ‘future investigation areas’, through Amendment C120well, this allows the properties to continue to be used in their current capacity and is consistent with *Planning Practice Note 30 – Potentially contaminated land (PPN30)* in deferring the requirements to undertake site-specific environmental assessments to future developers as part of future planning scheme amendments.

Ministerial Direction No. 22 – Climate Change Consideration

The amendment does not require consideration of the above ministerial direction, as per section 4. (b) (application) which reads “...an amendment which does not do any of the things specified in paragraph (3)(b) and (c).” It meets this exemption for the following reasons:

- The proposal is not seeking to rezone land from a non-urban to an urban zone,
- It will not result in the intensification of use and development of urban land,
- The proposal will not introduce a new use or development that may be exposed to natural hazards relating to climate change, and
- The amendment is not being prepared on behalf of the Minister for Planning.

Planning Practice Note 30 (PPN30) – Potentially Contaminated Land

One of the purposes of PPN30 is to provide guidance for planners and applicants on appropriate provisions in planning scheme amendments relating to potentially contaminated land. It requires planners and applicants to consider and apply the requirements of Ministerial Direction 1 and Ministerial Direction 19 when undertaking planning scheme amendments. These requirements will be strengthened via the inclusion of a new Appendix 8 to the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh 2022) titled ‘Potentially Contaminated Land and EPA Requirements’. This Appendix will set out

all relevant EPA requirements and further information about potentially contaminated land in Maffra.

How does the amendment support or implement the Planning Policy Framework and any adopted State policy?

The amendment supports and implements numerous policies within the Planning Policy Framework and State Policy. The most relevant policies are listed below:

Clause 11.01-1S – Settlement- requires planning to anticipate and respond to the needs of existing and future communities through the provision of zoned and serviced land for housing, employment, recreation and open space, commercial and community facilities and infrastructure. This Clause requires planning authorities to facilitate the order development of settlement areas through the preparation of strategic plans. The amendment focuses on growth in Maffra and guiding the development of Maffra through translation of the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022), including reinforcing a Maffra township boundary. It implements local policies that consider Maffra's distinctive characteristics and respond to the needs of the community through the provision of housing, recreation, open spaces, commercial land and community infrastructure.

Clause 11.01-1R Settlement – Gippsland requires planning to support the continuing role of towns and small settlements in providing services to their districts, recognising their relationships and dependencies with larger towns'.

Clause 11.02-1S – Supply of urban land requires planning to be consistent with the objective of ensuring a sufficient supply of land is available for residential, commercial, retail, industrial, recreational, institutional and other community uses, and implements several strategies by identifying a future growth area for rezoning to residential when supply is required.

Clause 11.02-2S – Structure planning requires planning to support the objective of this clause to facilitate the orderly development of urban areas by implementing a structure plan which will guide the orderly growth and development of Maffra.

Clause 11.03-2S - Growth Areas and 11.03-6S Regional and local places identifies that Maffra is well located as a growth area and meets several of the strategies of these clauses including improving the diversity of housing type for the municipality and providing guidance for development in a sequence.

Clause 13.02-1S Bushfire Planning and Clause 13.02-1L Bushfire Prone Areas - The Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022) includes objectives and strategies to manage bushfire risk and ensures that further work, including future rezonings, adequately addresses bushfire risk.

Clause 15.01-1S Urban Design seeks to create urban environments that are safe, healthy, functional and enjoyable and that constitute to a sense of place and cultural identity.

Clause 15.01-5S Neighbourhood character requires that planning recognise, support and protect neighbourhood character, cultural identity, and sense of place.

Clause 16.01-1S Housing supply ensures an appropriate quantity, quality and type of housing is provided, including social housing.

Clause 16.01-3S Rural residential development requires that planning identify land that is suitable for rural residential development.

Clause 17 Economic Development seeks that planning contribute to the economic wellbeing of the state and foster economic growth by providing land, facilitating decisions and resolving land use conflicts, so that each region may build on its strengths and achieve its economic potential.

Clause 18 Transport requires that planning should ensure a safe, integrated and sustainable transport system.

Clause 19 Infrastructure requires that planning for development of social and physical infrastructure should enable it to be provided in a way that is efficient, equitable, accessible and timely.

How does the amendment support or implement the Municipal Planning Strategy?

The Wellington Planning Scheme includes a Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) at Clause 02.

The amendment supports and implements numerous policies within the Municipal Planning Strategy. The most relevant are listed below:

Clause 02.02 – Vision highlights key land use and development aspirations for the Wellington Shire including increasing our population growth and securing greater housing choice, which has positive ripple effects right across our economy and community. Increased population improves the prosperity of our businesses and greater housing choice is important for our ageing and vulnerable people. The *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) has been developed to manage growth, facilitate change and guide infrastructure provision in the township.

The Wellington Community Vision for 2031 is *Happy people, healthy environment and thriving community*. This amendment will assist with achieving this vision by providing a framework for future land use and development within the Maffra Township Boundary.

Clause 02.03 – Strategic Directions includes key strategy with respect to settlement that outlines the predicted the role of Maffra as a large settlement with a population of 4300, with a productive rural hinterland and rural industry in the town.

Clause 02.03-1 Settlements – Large Settlements identifies Maffra as a large settlement which provides an ‘...*administrative, commercial and social centre for surrounding farms and communities.*’

Clause 02.03-4 Natural resource management outlines directions to protect the Macalister Irrigation District (MID) including to ‘*maintain settlement growth boundaries to protect...the Macalister Irrigation District and high-quality agricultural land.*’

Clause 02.03-5 – Built environment and heritage outlines directions that seek to ensure that development enhances the individual character of each township and promotes the cultural value of each township.

Clause 02.03-6 – Economic development identifies that Wellington's economy is linked to the natural resource base and productive agricultural land and it is important to ensure natural assets are protected and used sustainably.

Clause 02.03-7 Infrastructure supports the need for an integrated approach to the provision of infrastructure by encouraging '*...a consistent approach to the design and construction of infrastructure*'.

Does the amendment make proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions?

The amendment makes proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions by updating and amending the Planning Policy Framework to implement objectives and strategies to achieve the strategic directions set by the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022).

Further, the amendment proposes to rezone land from the GRZ1 to GRZ2 which is consistent with *Planning Practice Note. 91: Using the residential zones* as the type of residential development sought in this location of Maffra aims to maintain Maffra's identity as a vibrant and growing township with a 'small country town feel'.

How does the amendment address the views of any relevant agency?

Views of relevant agencies will be sought during the exhibition process.

Prior to preparation of Amendment C120well, the views of relevant agencies were sought in the development of the *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022). The *Maffra Structure Plan* (Mesh, 2022) was prepared in consultation with the following key agencies:

- Country Fire Authority (CFA),
- West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA),
- Gippsland Water,
- Department of Transport (DoT) and
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) (now Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)),
- Environment Protection Authority (EPA),
- Ausnet Services,
- APA Group,
- Southern Rural Water (SRW),
- First Nations – State Relations, Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC), and
- Agriculture Victoria.

Does the amendment address relevant requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010?

This amendment is unlikely to have a significant impact on the transport system as it is not significantly increasing the capacity for development.

Resource and administrative costs

What impact will the new planning provisions have on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority?

The Amendment is not expected to have a significant impact on the future resources of Council. The proposed Amendment is not expected to result in a large increase in the need for planning permits.

The proposed rezoning of land from GRZ1 to GRZ2 and other local policy changes are expected to have a negligible impact on the planning permit requirements of the Wellington Planning Scheme.

The removal of the DPO1 from certain parcels where it is considered redundant and where the land has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the DPO1 will have a positive impact on planning resources. Further to this, updates to the wording of the DPO1 will facilitate and enable successful Development Plan outcomes.

The amendment will provide a clear planning framework that will provide greater certainty and clarity to the community and other stakeholders regarding land use and development within the Maffra Township Boundary.

Attachment 1 – Mapping reference table

Location	Land /Area Affected	Mapping Reference	Address	Proposed Zone changes	Proposed Overlay changes	Proposed deletion changes
Maffra	Section of road on Thomson Street, Maffra (between Johnson and Queen Street) affected by split zoning	Wellington C120well 001znMap55 Exhibition	Maffra	Rezone from C1Z to GRZ2	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Retired public laneway contained on residential land.	Wellington C120well 002znMap55 Exhibition	49 Queen Street, Maffra	Rezone from PUZ6 to C1Z	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Ritchies IGA Supermarket affected by split zoning.	Wellington C120well 002znMap55 Exhibition	102-106 Johnson Street, Maffra	Rezone from PUZ6 to C1Z	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Public car park affected by split zoning.	Wellington C120well 002znMap55 Exhibition	Pearson Street, Maffra	Rezone from C1Z to PUZ6	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Maffra Hospital and Nursing Home affected by split zoning.	Wellington C120well 004znMaps54_56	42-48 Kent Street, Maffra	Rezone from GRZ1 to PUZ3	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Residential land affected by split zoning, contained on Lot 2 LP 52337	Wellington C120well 001znMap55 Exhibition	5 Duke Street, Maffra	Rezone from C1Z to GRZ2	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Residential land affected by split zoning, contained on PPC 102102	Wellington C120well 001znMap55 Exhibition	2/3 Duke Street, Maffra	Rezone from C1Z to GRZ2	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Residential land affected by split zoning, contained on Lot 3 PS 531627R	Wellington C120well 001znMap55 Exhibition	2/1D Duke Street, Maffra	Rezone from C1Z to GRZ2	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Tractor Dealership and mechanic affected by split zoning.	Wellington C120well 001znMap55 Exhibition	11 Duke Street, Maffra (also known as	Rezone from GRZ1 to C2Z	n/a	n/a

Location	Land /Area Affected	Mapping Reference	Address	Proposed Zone changes	Proposed Overlay changes	Proposed deletion changes
			16-20 Johnson Street, Maffra)			
Maffra	Tractor Dealership and mechanic affected by split zoning.	Wellington C120well 001znMap55 Exhibition	13 Duke Street, Maffra (also known as 16-20 Johnson Street, Maffra)	Rezone from GRZ1 to C2Z	n/a	n/a
Maffra	All land within the Maffra Township Boundary (see Figure 1) currently in the GRZ1.	Wellington C120well 001znMap51 Exhibition Wellington C120well 001znMap53 Exhibition Wellington C120well 001znMap54 Exhibition Wellington C120well 001znMap55 Exhibition Wellington C120well 001znMap56 Exhibition	n/a	Rezone from GRZ1 to GRZ2	n/a	n/a
Maffra	Relevant areas within Maffra Township Boundary (130+ properties)	Wellington C120well 002d-dpoMaps50_51_52 Exhibition Wellington C120well 003d-dpoMaps53_54 Exhibition	n/a	n/a	n/a	D-DPO1