

Lindenow and District Community Plan 2013 to 2018



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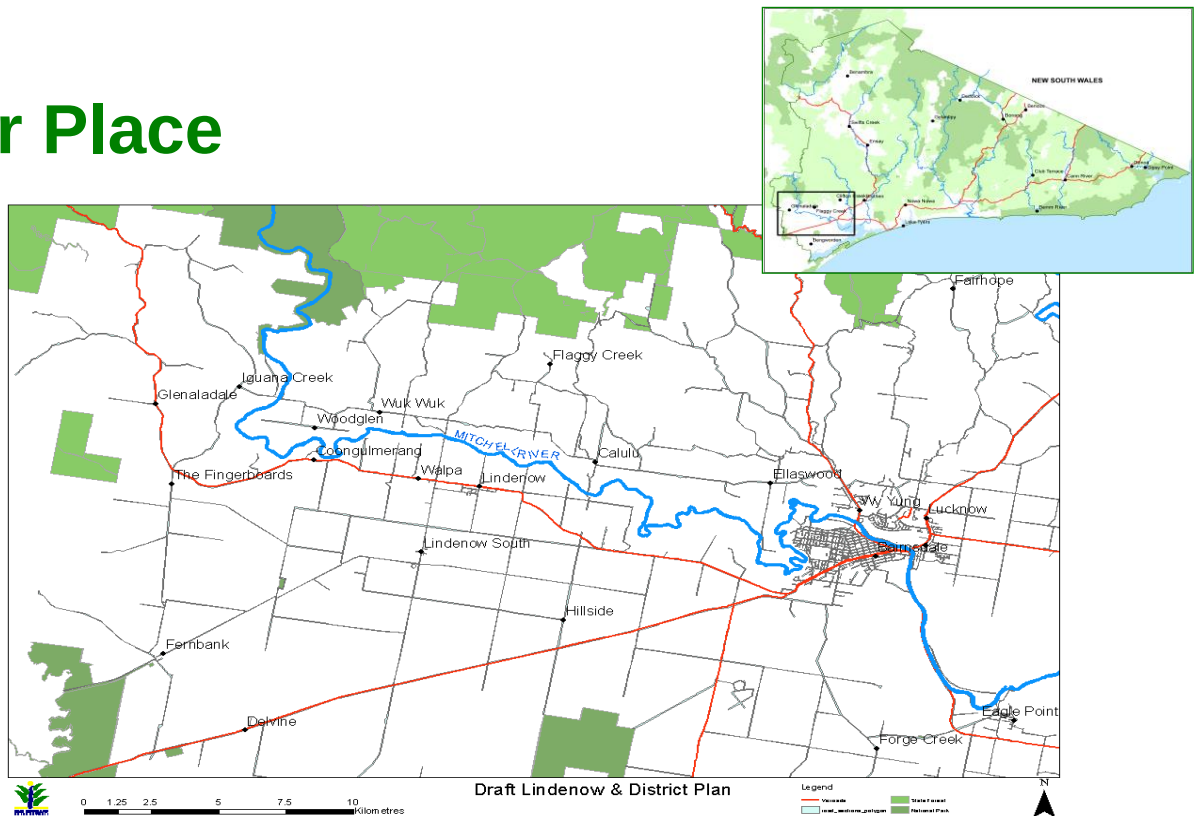
Outcomes, Strategies and Actions

Acknowledgements

Lindenow and District community for their input

East Gippsland Shire Council for their support

Our Place



Lindenow and District covers the tribal area of the Brabralung People of the Gunaikurnai Nation and we respectfully acknowledge past and present Aboriginal elders.¹

From the 1840s European settlers were drawn to the agricultural promise in the rich alluvial flood plains and vast red gum forests of the district.

From that time the Mitchell River has been used as a source for water not only for human and animal consumption but also for irrigation and recreational purposes. In the early days and during the depression years gold seekers searched the river for its valuable metal.² The valley is now a productive irrigated agricultural area of national importance with nearly 80% of its fresh vegetable and salad crops being transported interstate (mostly Sydney), with 20% consumed in Victoria and 1% exported.

These beginnings and natural resources have built a strong community serviced by primary schools, sports clubs and social groups that continues to attract new residents and development.

Since 2009 East Gippsland Shire Council has rolled out Community Plans in the Omeo Region, Buchan and District, Metung-Nungurner District and Twin Rivers District. Subsequent plans have been produced in Paynesville and District, Bruthen and District, Nowa Nowa and District, Mountain Rivers and Lindenow and District.

Community Plan development is part of Council's ongoing cycle of planning and implementation across East Gippsland Shire. See www.egipps.vic.gov.au

¹ Gunaikurnai Land and Water Aboriginal Corporation, 2012

² This information sourced with permission from 'History of Lindenow and District' by Judy Richardson and Margaret Treasure, Lindenow Primary School Press 1992

Our Plan

Our previous plan and what we have achieved

In 2009 Lindenow & District Progress Association Inc (LADPA) undertook development of a community plan with support from the Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development and East Gippsland Shire Council (EGSC).

LADPA engaged an independent facilitator to coordinate community consultation to identify concerns and opinions about where we live.

LADPA then prioritised objectives from a diverse range of ideas that emerged through the planning process.

The following table contains the prioritised objectives and their outcomes from the Lindenow and District Community Plan (2009 – 2012).

Completed Wuk Wuk bridge



Lindenow South pedestrian crossing



Lindenow & District Community Plan (2009-2012)

Objective	Status	
1. Lindenow South – pedestrian crossing over the railway line	Achieved	✓
2. Lindenow and Lindenow South – a shared pathway between two townships linking the communities and providing a safe amenity for locals to walk, cycle and horse ride	Partially completed	See further progress and Objectives, Strategies and Actions table
3. Flaggy Creek – work with EGSC to upgrade the intersection of Flaggy Creek /BoggyCreek / O'Doherty's Roads	Achieved	✓
4. Fingerboards intersection (Fernbank turn-off) – review design to improve safety	Achieved	✓
5. Lindenow South Primary School – improve safety signage and enforcement of school zone speed limits	Achieved – signs installed	✓
6. Lindenow South – public toilets for use by locals, visitors, travellers and attendees at the local cemetery	Achieved – public toilets installed at Lindenow South sports ground	✓
7. Lindenow – construction of a BMX bike track	Achieved - skate park construction completed	✓
8. Community Hall improvements / repairs: assist the local Hall Committees to obtain necessary funding to: a) Fernbank – provide repairs to the toilets b) Hillside – provide repairs to toilets and provide electric lights c) Glenaladale – provide cushioned chairs, improve weather sealing and insulation, provide air conditioning, construct new shower block	Achieved Achieved Achieved See Objectives, Strategies and Actions table regarding showers	✓ ✓ ✓
9. Lindenow and Lindenow South – an Urban Design Framework to be developed to promote “growth with vision”	Partially completed	✓
10. Sewerage and draining services		See further progress and Objectives, Strategies and Actions table
11. Lindenow district – facilitate the arrangement of a prescription/chemist service from Bairnsdale Pharmacy to the Lindenow General Store		✓
12. District's Youth – determine feasibility of a formalised school holiday activities program		✓

What further progress is underway?

East Gippsland Shire Council has completed the rebuilding of Wuk Wuk Bridge and extensive roadwork including the redesign and reconstruction of the Rodericks Road / Lindenow-Glenaladale Road intersection.

The sealing of O'Doherty's Road will bring improvement to the intersection of Flaggy Creek / Boggy Creek / O'Doherty's Roads.

Planning consideration has amended Land Subject to Inundation Overlay issues on the Lindenow escarpment and is currently with the Department of Planning and Community awaiting approval.

EGSC Mobility and Access Plan in consultation with residents has seen footpath construction in Lindenow and Lindenow South and includes railway crossing improvements. Further planned footpath and shared pathway locations can be viewed at http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/About_Us/Groups_in_Our_Community/Disability/Disability_Planning_and_Policy (Section 2 to 5)

'Share-a-Fare' initiative was taken up to support taxi users in Lindenow and District. This service, whilst running, was provided by Bairnsdale Regional Health Service, LADPA and EGSC in conjunction with aged care programs. (Program now ceased)

East Gippsland Shire Council supports a large range of services and assets including ongoing maintenance of districts residential areas, sporting and playground facilities and community halls, including major improvements to Lindenow, Lindenow South and Glenaladale sports grounds.

New bike racks have been installed at Lindenow that are consistent in style with others in East Gippsland and our old ones have been renovated.

Development of shared pathways can be linked to the East Gippsland Trails Strategy www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au

Tourists are encouraged to follow the route from Fernbank through Red Gum Forests to the panoramic views of Lindenow as one of Eight Great Drives.

Fernbank – Fingerboards – Lindenow - Bairnsdale



Residential developments in line with associated zoning and infrastructure requirements are underway in areas of Lindenow South and Lindenow.

In response to community requests, East Gippsland Water has reviewed local sewer systems via a feasibility study and can be contacted for further information. Also refer to Council's Domestic Waste Water Management Plan.

The Department of Environment and Primary Industries continues to manage and maintain crown lands in partnership with East Gippsland Shire Council, LandCare and Committees of Management of the various halls and reserves.

Our active Landcare groups work to protect areas of our district which hold valuable and protected Red Gum and remnant grassy woodlands as well as maintaining agricultural and natural spaces in our environment.

<http://eastgippsland.landcarevic.net.au/EGLN/projects/bairnsdale-districts-species-selection-guide>



Landcare volunteers
maintaining McMillans Cairn
Reserve on Settlement Road

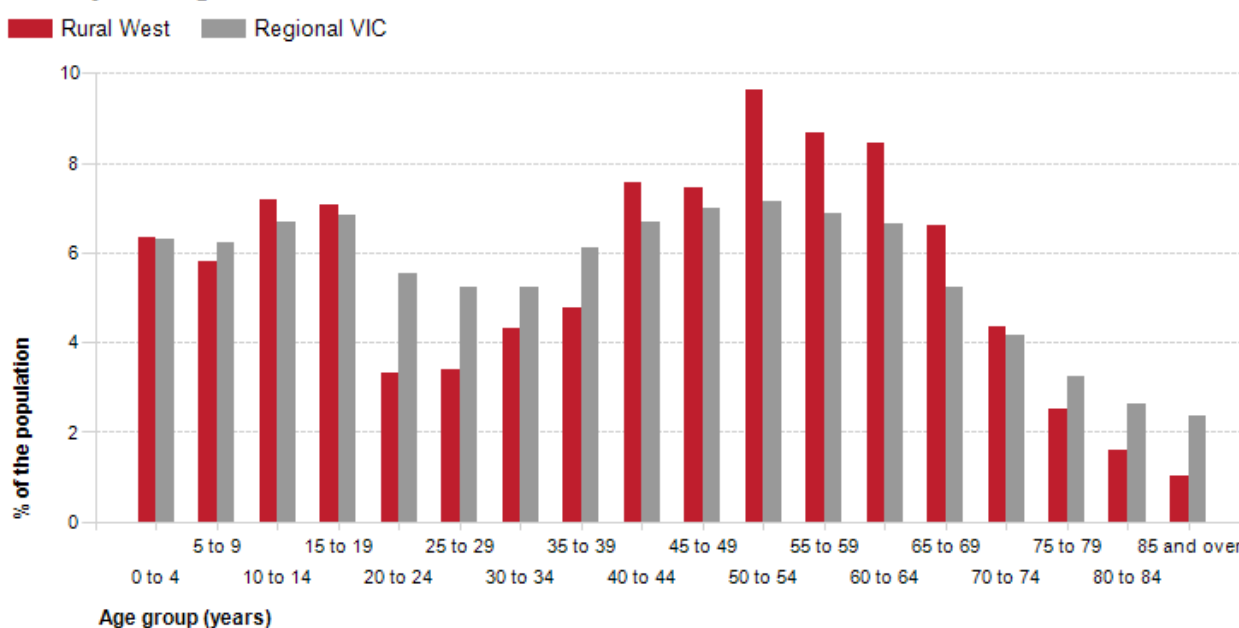
Comparative Statistics

The following key statistics are extracted from East Gippsland Shire Council's 'Community Profile' for Rural West. This Census district includes localities outside our district such as Mount Taylor and Wy Yung but does give a good indication of our data. <http://profile.id.com.au/east-gippsland>

The total number of people in the Rural West has risen from 2,264 in 2006 to 2,380 in 2011.

The following graph illustrates the age distribution of our population in comparison to that of Regional Victoria

Five year age structure, 2011



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 (Usual residence data)
Compiled and presented by .id, the population experts.



The total number of Rural West dwellings in 2011 are 1041, an increase of 147 since 2006.

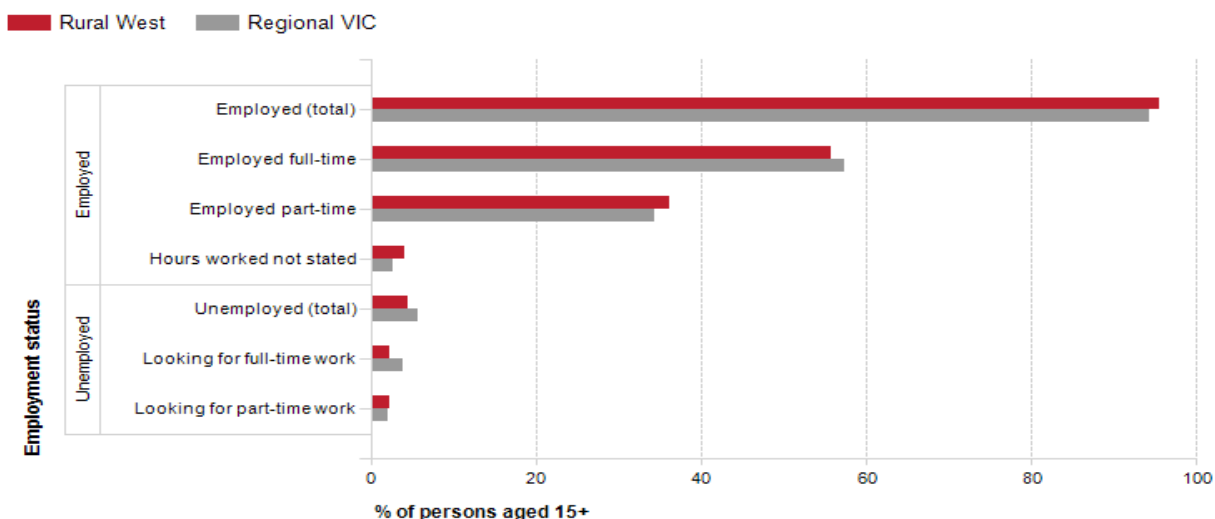
Household income quartiles

Rural West		2011		2006		Change	
Quartile group	Number	%	Regional VIC	Number	%	Regional VIC	2006 to 2011
Lowest group	214	27.3	32.0	31001	178	25.7	31.1 +35
Medium lowest	262	33.4	29.0	31002	201	28.9	28.2 +61
Medium highest	197	25.2	23.5	31003	209	30.1	24.7 -12
Highest group	111	14.1	15.6	31004	106	15.3	16.0 +4
Total Households	786	100.0	100.0	696	100.0	100.0	+89

Employment data

Total number in Rural West labour force for 2011 is 1,005 persons, 55% are Full time employed, 34.8% are Part time employed with 6.9 % unemployed

Employment status, 2006



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 (Usual residence data)
Compiled and presented by .id, the population experts.

.id
the population experts

These figures may not include seasonal or project workers employed in our district.

Occupations categories

Numbers of people employed under the four most popular employment categories show an increase of 113 persons in Manager/administrator occupations.

	2006		2011	
Managers and administrators	269	24.8%	382	34.9%
Labourers	163	15.0%	162	14.7%
Technicians and Trades workers	152	14.0%	155	14.1%
Professionals	143	13.2%	139	12.6%



What's in this plan for our District?

This Lindenow and District Community Plan 2013 to 2018 will be a source document for the community, Council and other organisations. It is a living document that will be regularly reviewed and updated and will help us direct our time, efforts and resources to the things that matter most to us.

The Lindenow and District Progress Association (LADPA) have worked in conjunction with East Gippsland Shire Council to produce this document.

The ideas that have informed this plan have come from residents, workers and others who have a stake in our district.

To gather this information, groups and individuals have been surveyed by LADPA.

Community planning facilitators from East Gippsland Shire Council spoke with children at Lindenow South Primary School and Lindenow Primary School to gain their perspective and through them invited input from their families.

Students from both schools said how the country lifestyle of the district was most important to them.



Farming, the natural environment and open spaces contribute to their sense of freedom and schools and sports clubs form part of their sense of belonging.

Their focus for the future is on increased technological access, attracting small business, aesthetic improvements (to townships) and retaining existing infrastructure.

We have advertised in the vicinity and through print media to advise and encourage community input.

We have contacted stakeholder, individuals and agencies and invited their comment.

We also invited further feedback on the DRAFT Community Plan from all ratepayers, residents, key stakeholders and others who have an interest in Lindenow and District.

What are the issues that are important to us now?

To plan for the future growth of our town, East Gippsland Shire Council contracted a consulting firm to conduct a zoning and overlay review for the Lindenow area. This review offers suggestions in regard to Lindenow Land Supply and Assessment based on projections to the year 2030. The Lindenow Zone and Overlay can be viewed http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/Plans_and_Projects/Plans_for_Towns_and_Localities/Lindenow

The development of an Intermodal Freight Exchange has commenced and will link to Lindenow and District as outlined in the Gippsland Transport Strategy 2005 www.thinkingtransport.org.au.

East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority works in partnership with local people to manage our waterways. They are the Regional Flood Plain Authority responsible for mapping developments on flood plains and have responsibility under the Water Act to maintain the health of the Mitchell River.



Our Future

What do we do well?

"We were drawn to it's proximity to wilderness, natural beauty and farming opportunity. We have found a welcoming and active community."

- New Flaggy Creek resident.

Lindenow is exceptional for its scenic beauty, agricultural production and employment and residential opportunities.

Our district provides solid employment opportunity for locals with flow on economic benefits throughout East Gippsland.

Our district supplies clean and healthy primary produce to markets and consumers throughout south eastern Australia.

Our Community groups are vibrant and welcoming, in particular the Lindenow Lions Club. The Lions Club leads, among other things a community effort to run the very successful East Gippsland Field Days and has taken a 9 year lease to continue at the current site.

What could we do better?

"It is important to me that my children have a country upbringing, even though we are 10 minutes away from major services and a commercial centre."

- Active community member and mother.

We want to retain our rural ambience while allowing for economic development.



We have an active sports culture and want to develop and support our clubs and small businesses to strengthen our community.

What do we need to plan for in the future?

Lindenow and District is well placed to play a vital role in facing future world challenges in quality provision of water and the sustainability of a valuable agricultural region.

Our unique profile provides the opportunity to influence and achieve a broader range of high value economic, social and environmental outcomes in our district and the surrounding region.

We are represented on the East Gippsland Food Cluster, a project development group acknowledging how a vibrant food production and processing sector plays a major role in the region's economy and the resilience of its communities.

The Lindenow Valley Water Security Project involves considering a range of water storage options to improve the reliability of water supplies for food production in the Lindenow Valley, while also protecting the high environmental values of the Mitchell River and Gippsland Lakes systems. Members of our Community hold key positions in steering this project.

What do we do to implement this plan?

The next stage of the Lindenow and District Community Plan will be finalising the prioritisation of key actions and to allocate resources by considering:

- Level of importance – support expressed in numbers and urgency,
- Economic, social and environmental benefits to our district
- Achievability – who will progress this action and identify opportunities for agency support
- Timing and
- Costs involved.

Lindenow and District Progress Association will work with local groups and individuals in conjunction with East Gippsland Shire Council and other agencies towards implementing priority strategies and actions contained in Lindenow and District Community Plan 2013 to 2018.

The following tables contain Outcomes and Strategies and their supporting Actions put forward by the community and key stake holders and compiled by the Lindenow and District Progress Association and East Gippsland Shire Council.

Outcomes, Strategies and Projects

LIVEABILITY

An active, healthy and safe community with services that support community diversity and connectivity.

Key Principles:

- Safe community for all to live in;
- A caring and supportive community; and,
- A range of services that support healthy lifestyles

Outcomes	Strategies	Actions
1. A healthy, active and safe community.	1.1 Maintain and upgrade sporting and community facilities. 1.2 Pursue increased connectivity throughout the district in terms of safety, health and social living. 1.3 Continue access improvements as identified in short, medium and long term objectives of EGSC Access and Mobility plan.	Encourage and support strategic planning for recreation reserves that detail assets, highlight issues, prioritise actions and seeks appropriate funding. Develop an inventory of community hall assets and prioritise actions and seek funding. Finalise key footpath connections and lighting throughout Lindenow and Lindenow south. • Uplands street football ground, Lindenow South • Main Road Lindenow • Robinson St to Hoyt St • Lindenow to Lindenow South (Golf Course) • Lighting Upland St to football ground Lindenow South Sealing of key streets within Lindenow to improve safety and minimise dust. • Henry St Lindenow • Ives Rd Lindenow Sth • Collins St Lindenow Sth • Upland St Lindenow Sth • Growcott St Lindenow Sth Develop incident management plans for Lindenow and Lindenow Sth Completion of the Lindenow to Lindenow South link path. Finalise the town planning and rezoning for Lindenow and Lindenow South. Widening of road entrances to Lindenow to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

LIVEABILITY

An active, healthy and safe community with services that support community diversity and connectivity.

Key Principles:

- **Safe community for all to live in;**
- **A caring and supportive community; and,**
- **A range of services that support healthy lifestyles**

Outcomes	Strategies	Actions
2. A valued and well supported aging population.	2.1 Ensure ongoing home and community day care support for our ageing population.	Work with EGSC to upgrade heating of the Lindenow hall for community day care and other hall hirers.
	2.2 Explore the possibility of supported accommodation for our ageing population.	Approach aged care service providers to determine options for further support.
3. A flourishing youth population contributing to our district's future.	3.1 Provide opportunity through education, employment (training and apprenticeships) and lifestyle options that will encourage families and youth to remain in Lindenow and District.	Continue liaison with local businesses to create training and youth opportunities.
	3.2 Continue to support sporting groups and facilities.	Facilitate an annual sporting facilities meeting with key groups to determine priorities and support requirements.
	3.3 Provide social opportunities for the youth of the district.	

Key stakeholders for success:

Lindenow and Lindenow South Sports Group COM, Lindenow Lions Club, Flaggy Creek Hall COM, Fernbank Hall COM, Glenaladale Cricket Club and COM, Department of Environment and Primary Industries, other funding options Lindenow Hall COM, EGSC, LADPA, other groups. Lindenow and Lindenow South Primary Schools. CFA, Red Cross, EGSC, Key local and external agencies connected to safety and recovery. VicRoads, LADPA, EGSC, other funding sources, East Gippsland Trails Strategy.

Aged Care support services:

Affected residents, Lindenow Adult Day Care Centre, Gippsland Lakes Community Health, Kilmany Uniting Care Gippsland and other relevant organisations.

SUSTAINABILITY

A sustainable, healthy and diverse natural environment combined with a built environment that is sensitive to our region's natural attributes.

Key principles:

- Open and transparent communications between all sectors of community;
- Community supported sustainable agricultural industries; and,
- Strong support for Landcare groups within our district.

Outcomes	Strategies	Actions
1. A protected and valued natural environment.	1.1 Support the work and volunteers of our Landcare groups and other environmental initiatives that ensure the longevity of our natural attributes. 1.2 Continue to explore options around implementing and/or extending sewerage services as further development occurs. 1.3 Support the work of the water security group to ensure the long term viability of our horticultural industries.	Hold annual public meetings to inform of developments and proposals affecting our district. Inform and encourage community input through various forms of media and direct contact with residents, businesses and social and sporting groups. Undertake tree planting on Eastern approach to Lindenow as part of aesthetic improvements to Lindenow township. Work towards providing a lay by at McMillan's Cairn. As residential development continues hold further conversations with key agencies around waste water management and support services and infrastructure. Improve the waste water management with East Gippsland Water.

Key stakeholders for success:

Lindenow Valley Strategic Water Storage Committee, EGSC, DEPI other relevant agencies and corporations, LADPA, East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority, East Gippsland Water Local Landcare Groups, EGSC, DEPI, VicRoads
LADPA, Residents and Developers of our district, Environmental Protection Authority (Victoria).

GOVERNANCE

A community with a unique identity, characterised by strong leadership and organisations which are open and accountable.

Key principles:

- Co-operative and partnership approach.
- Flexible response to solving issues.
- Community engagement is critical to success.

Outcomes	Strategies	Actions
1. Productive engagement between individuals, community groups and stakeholder agencies.	1.1 Lindenow and District Progress Association to continue to provide opportunity for input from all sectors of the community and progress strategic intent of Community Plan. 1.2 LADPA will strive for open negotiation with East Gippsland Shire Council and other groups and individuals towards 'place-based' delivery of services and infrastructure. 1.3 Encourage community planning input from people from all areas of our district.	Invite discussion around cooperative management of Lindenow Hall and kindergarten. Continue to improve infrastructure and service response according to residential development and environmental changes.

Key stakeholders for success:

Lindenow Kindergarten COM, Lindenow Hall COM, DEPI, EGSC Residents, LADPA, East Gippsland Water, EGSC



PRODUCTIVITY

A progressive community that encourages business and agriculture to thrive and develop sustainably.

Key Principles:

- Economic growth that is sensitive to our environment.
- We value local industries and businesses.
- We support water security for our agricultural industries.

Outcomes	Strategies	Actions
1. An environment that encourages new business investment and employment and is supportive of existing industry.	1.1 Develop and promote unique attributes of Lindenow and District to attract responsible tourism and new residents. 1.2 Continue to review zoning in support of local industry that is sensitive to residential and natural environments and the preservation of agricultural land. 1.3 Actively promote and support local retailers and small businesses. 1.4 Advocate for improved and consistent internet access. Also a safety issue. 1.5 Investigate availability of consistent power source.	Investigate viability of providing RV park and associated outlet points within Lindenow. Work with EGSC / VicRoads to develop the alternate route from Princes Hwy through district to Bairnsdale Explore possibility of weekly sales of local produce. Lobby for improvements to broadband access and more reliable power supply
2. A valued and protected natural environment that encourages responsible tourism and attracts new residents.	2.1 Promote and protect our natural resources and other attributes.	Continue cooperation between local groups and key agencies to protect our natural resources. Create a means of promoting Lindenow and District through websites, pamphlets, interpretive signs and tourist centres.

Key stakeholders for success:

EGSC, LADPA, and Local Businesses, Government agencies

LADPA, Lindenow Lions, Local businesses, EGSC

Landcare groups, DEPI, Catchment Management Authority, East Gippsland Water, Residents

KEY PRIORITIES:

Key Priorities for the coming 5 years:

Sealing of roads within townships of Lindenow and Lindenow South:

- Henry Street, Lindenow
- Ives Road, Lindenow South
- Collins Street, Lindenow South
- Upland Street, Lindenow South
- Growcott Street, Lindenow South

Widening of both entrances to Lindenow township area to improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians due to trucks and large farm machinery usage.

Sewerage extensions to Lindenow South, Lindenow and Walpa.

Major drainage improvements to Lindenow and Lindenow South.

Additional Footpaths and extensions to include:

- Upland Street – football ground, Lindenow South
- Main Road, Lindenow
- Robinson Street to Hoyt Street, Lindenow
- Lindenow to Lindenow South (Golf Course).

Improved Street Lighting:

- Upland Street to Football ground Lindenow South.

Finalise the zoning and town planning work that is underway for Lindenow and Lindenow South.



Getting Involved

The Lindenow and District Community Plan is a living document that will continue to grow. In the coming months we will be developing projects to fulfil the aspirations of our Community Plan.

If you feel inspired by the idea of making things even better and want to participate, you can contact the Lindenow and District Progress Association and/or Community Planning East Gippsland Shire Council.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Lindenow and District Progress Association and East Gippsland Shire Council wish to thank everyone who contributed to the development of this Community Plan.

Key Stakeholder strategies pertaining to future planning in Lindenow and District can be found at the following:

- East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority <http://www.egcma.com.au> – Regional Catchment Strategy 2012-2018, East Gippsland Regional River Health Strategy
- East Gippsland Water and Lindenow South Sewerage Scheme Feasibility Report (East Gippsland Water 2009)
- Department Environment and Primary Industries - Lindenow Valley Water Security Project 2011
- Department of Planning and Community Development
- Gippsland Lakes Authority

Council Plans and Strategies that have informed this plan:

The Lindenow and District Community Plan does not stand alone. It has been developed in partnership with East Gippsland Shire Council and has been informed by the following Strategies and Plans operating within the Shire:

Council Plan 2009-13
East Gippsland Planning Scheme
Assets Management Plan,
Economic Development Strategic Plan,
Sustainable Water Use Plan,
Domestic Waste Water Management Plan,
Community Well-being Plan 2010-2012,
Accessible Information and Lifelong Learning Plan,
Municipal Early Years Plan 2009-13,
Regional Youth Strategy,
Positive Ageing Strategy,
Access and Mobility Plan,

Disability Action Plan,
Strategic Plan for Sporting Infrastructure,
Municipal Emergency Management Plan,
Arts and Culture Strategy Plan,
Strategic Tourism Plan,
Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2008-13,
Roadside Management Plan,
East Gippsland Trails Strategy 2012,
East Gippsland Cycling Tourism Action Plan 2012,