SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

GUIDELINES

FOR

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CONTEXT

East Gippsland Shire Council is committed to working with the community to build on the natural beauty of the municipality and the attributes of the local communities – to working with communities to achieve its vision, outlined in "Unlocking the Future – Long Term Community Vision 2030". This vision is centred on three themes, which together with principles of good governance, form the four strategic objectives of the Council Plan, 2009-13. These are:

- **Liveability: Strong and vibrant communities create healthy, productive and fulfilling places to live:**
  - ➢ *Cohesive Communities*: Cohesive communities with a strong sense of identity involved in the development and implementation of shared vision;
  - ➢ *Active, Healthy and Safe*: An active, health and safe engaged in recreational, arts and cultural activities;
  - ➢ *Diverse and Connected:* Services and facilities that support community diversity and connectivity, and promote quality lifestyles.
- **Productivity – Investment and visitation develop a sustainable and prosperous economy:**
  - ➢ *Economic Environment:* A vibrant and dynamic environment in which to do business;
  - ➢ *Development*: Infrastructure and information systems that support and attract diverse economic and social development in the region.
- **Sustainability – proactive leadership and strategic partnerships protect and enhance our quality environment**
  - ➢ *Community*: Communities equipped for sustainable living
  - ➢ *Natural Environment*: a sustainable, healthy and diverse natural environment
  - ➢ *Built Environment*: a built environment that is adequately maintained and is sensitive to the region's natural attributes.
- **Governance – strong leadership and prudent management of democratic and legislative requirements deliver good governance outcomes:**
  - ➢ *Financial sustainability* – well managed finances to maintain financial sustainability;
  - ➢ *Strong leadership and advocacy* – a responsible organisation that works actively with the community providing strong leadership and advocacy;
  - ➢ *Open and Accountable:* an open and accountable system of governance that reflects the highest level of good management.

Council is committed to ensuring that any proposed development, significant change in policy and/or infrastructure development ("project") in the municipality contribute to the achievement of this community vision and the delivery of the strategic objectives. Social considerations of such changes are thus this critical. Consequently, Council has decided to include an assessment of the social impacts of any proposed development, significant change in policy and/or infrastructure development as an integral part of the development assessment process.

1.2 Purpose of this Document

This document is intended to be incorporated into the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS). The requirements for SIAs are outlined in the MSS under Section....

The objective of these Social Impact Assessment Guidelines is to ensure that social considerations are an integral part of any proposed development, significant change in policy and/or infrastructure development. These guidelines will assist applicants, the community and Council to identify and address the potential positive and negative social impacts of such developments and changes. This document outlines:

- The definition of Social Impact Assessments (SIAs);
- The rationale and for undertaking SIAs;
- The principles and functions of SIAs;
- The trigger criteria for SIAs;
- The roles of key stakeholders – community, developers, Council;
- The process for undertaking SIAs;
- The assessment criteria;
- Guidelines for completing a SIA; and
- Processes for managing social impacts in the community over time.

1.3 Target Audience

This document is aimed at supporting the community, developers and Council staff in understanding and implementing SIAs.

2 Definitions, Rationale and Principles

2.1 Definition

A Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is a systematic approach to predicting and managing the potential positive and negative impacts on individuals, groups and communities resulting from changes arising from development. A SIA is more than a methodology: it is a philosophy about development and democracy. It considers the intended and unintended consequences of development across a whole range of impacts, including health and wellbeing, capacity of individuals to engage in economic development, the cohesion of local communities and the impact on community services.

2.2 Legislative Framework

The legislative framework for SIAs and authority of Local Government to require SIAs to be undertaken for selected developments is contained in the Planning and Environment Act Victoria 1987:

- Section 4:   Objectives;

    Objective 2 (d): to ensure that the effects on the environment are considered and provide for explicit consideration of social and economic effects when decisions are made about the use and development of land;
- Section 12: Duties and powers of planning authorities;

    Section 12 (2) (c): may take into account its social effects and economic effects. and
- Section 60: What matters must be considered by a responsible authority.

Section 60 (1A) (a): Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority, if the circumstances appear to so require, may consider— any significant social and economic effects of the use or development for which the application is made;

These guidelines cover the process for meeting the social objectives of land use and development planning, in accordance with the Act.

2.3 RATIONALE

Assessment and management of community health, wellbeing and safety is increasingly considered part of the risk management and social responsibility of developers and a range of industrial sectors, *e.g.,* mining companies, chemical manufacturing, transportation and housing developments[1].

Developments impact on communities across a spectrum and can result in changes to how people live, work and interact with each other, their culture, community and environment, and as well as their health and wellbeing. Developments can also impact on people's fears and aspirations, including their perceptions about their safety. Understanding and managing the long-term effects of these changes is central to supporting the development of sustainable communities in the long term and mitigation against any negative impacts.

A number of factors have led to the introduction of social impact assessments as part of the planning approval process. These include:

- Council is committed to promote and implement the community's vision for strong, vibrant, sustainable and productive communities;
- Growth and change is occurring across a number of communities, as Council encourages economic growth;
- Increasing land prices encourages sub-division of farming land for residential development, particularly in coastal communities;
- Environmental changes are occurring, as a result of climate change impact, with increasing devastation from bushfires and floods. There is a need to manage these changes and support communities in the longer term;
- There is increasing divides in socio-economic status between communities in the municipality, with disadvantage and poverty increasing in socially isolated communities and increasing wealth and prosperity in the coastal and more accessible areas of the municipality. There is a need to manage the potential displacement of existing low income residents to more isolated areas where land is affordable;
- Council has a process for economic and environmental assessments. Given the definition of "sustainable communities" outlined in the Ministerial Guidelines (Ministerial Guidelines for Assessment of Environmental Effects, Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2006) and Council's Plan, there is a need to develop a more robust process for assessing social impacts.

The SIA process will:

- Enable an integrated planning process to occur, complementing the economic and environmental assessments which are currently required;
- Provide a systemic assessment of the cumulative effect of multiple development proposals in local communities;

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[1] International Council on Mining & Metals, 2010

- Introduce better outcomes for communities, linking the planning process to the directions of the Council Plan;
- Promote the "liveability" of the Shire; and
- Ensure that potential negative impacts are reduced through effective management and opportunities of potential positive impacts are maximised.

SIAs can[2]:

- Identify and maximise the positive community health and wellbeing impacts and opportunities that development, policy changes and infrastructure can bring;
- Identify, avoid and minimise, through changes to project design and implementation, the unintended negative community health and wellbeing impacts that can arise;
- Identify relevant Federal, State and local Government regulations and policies which may impact on the project;
- Identify existing community issues, including gaps in services and infrastructure, which could amplify the impact of a proposed project and affect its viability;
- Provide a process through which the project can work in partnership with council and local health and wellbeing service providers to jointly alleviate any existing social or health concerns or potential negative social impacts;
- Contribute to broader community and local stakeholder involvement and engagement that can build trust, draw out any community concerns and generate dialogue about the best ways that the project can benefit local communities;
- Provide a balanced and integrated approach between social, economic and environmental outcomes;
- Provide an equitable, transparent and evidence-based approach to planning and funding community infrastructure and development activities to protect and enhance sustainable local livelihoods and communities;
- Assist to jointly negotiate those aspects of community health and wellbeing which are the responsibility of the project and those aspects which are the responsibility of council and other levels of government;
- Help to manage project sustainability and viability.

2.4 PRINCIPLES

The following principles underpin Council's approach to SIAs:

- Developments will be socially sustainable;
- Policies and infrastructure will contribute to building sustainable communities in East Gippsland;
- Inform balanced decision making for planning;
- Decision making will be transparent and honest;
- Produce net community benefit, taking accounting of the differing needs across gender and the age spectrum;
- Acknowledge and respect diversity;
- Balance the interactions between social, economic, environmental and cultural aspects of community life;
- Be supported by practical and timely strategies which are able to manage and/or prevent any potential negative impacts and maximise opportunities for potential positive impacts;

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[2] Ibid:6

- Engage the community and other stakeholders;
- Assess the range of social impacts, particularly as they affect the most vulnerable groups in the community and the impact for future generations.

2.5 FUNCTIONS OF SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

SIA has three broad functions:

- Identifying social issues and potential social impacts relevant to particular policies for particular communities and circumstances;
- Assessing those impacts, in terms of their magnitude, duration, and the probability of their occurrence; and
- Recommending measures that will reduce negative impacts and enhance positive impacts of a decision.

SIAs need to be practical and include a range of strategies and actions which can mitigate against any negative consequences and maximise the opportunities and benefits. Importantly, SIAs need to provide clarity about the responsibility for cost of implementing these strategies and actions.

2.6 RELATIONSHIP WITH ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH IMPACTS

SIAs support the development of socially, economically and environmentally sustainable communities. Understanding what constitutes a sustainable community is thus central to SIAs.

2.6.1 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Sustainable communities are resilient communities. A resilient community is developed through supporting and encouraging social connectedness and inclusion. This needs to be reflected in the physical environment and the social infrastructure and supports. This includes:

- Focussing on the needs of all members of the community – existing and new residents;
- Promoting quality service planning and delivery;
- Promoting the development of integrated, accessible and health promoting services;
- Providing affordable, safe and high quality housing;
- Supporting the development of physical and social infrastructure that is adaptive and responsive to changing community needs;
- Developing people-focussed infrastructure;
- Encouraging community participation and consultation in the development, implementation and delivery of the service and social infrastructure, including the SIA;
- Offering a range of services and providing choices;
- Acknowledging, understanding and respecting the culture and community fabric;
- Providing access to employment and training; and
- Respecting and nurturing the environment.

A definition of "ecologically sustainable development", outlined in the *Victorian Ministerial Guidelines for the Assessment of Environmental Effects under the Environment Effects Act 1978,* is contained in Attachment One.

2.6.2 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

At the core of sustainable communities are healthy communities. Investment in a population health approach offers benefits in three main areas:

- Increased prosperity, because a healthy population is a major contributor to a vibrant economy;
- Reduced expenditures on health and social problems; and
- Overall stability and well-being (Health Canada, 1994:7).

Health is defined in accordance with World Health Organisation definition:

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease. (WHO)

Health is influenced by a complex interplay of social, economic, environmental, behavioural and genetic factors: these are the *determinants of health* (see Attachment One). These form the basis of health and wellbeing planning in East Gippsland and underpin community development in local communities.

3 ROLE OF STAKEHOLDERS

3.1 ROLE OF THE APPLICANT

- Consult with council officers early in the development concept stage to determine the SIA requirements and issues;
- Consult with communities potentially affected by the development by providing appropriate information and resources. The level of consultation will vary according to the proposal;
- Prepare SIA in line with the principles and processes outlined in these guidelines and adequately address relevant social impacts, both positive and negative. This will help expedite the processing of the application by avoiding the need for council to request additional information to enable a proposal to be properly assessed; and
- Prepare an Implementation Plan which addresses the relevant social impacts, both positive and negative and contribute to the monitoring of these impacts. Where necessary resource as appropriate.

3.2 ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY

- Participate in the process during the public consultation stage;
- Participate in surveys, community meetings or written submissions; and
- Assist in monitoring social impacts.

3.3 ROLE OF COUNCIL

- Advise applicants as to whether a SIA is required;
- Provide advice when requested on the need for, and extent of, a SIA at an early stage in the design process through pre-lodgement consultation;
- Evaluate all the potential impacts of a development, including social impacts. Council officers may request further information from an applicant if the information submitted is inadequate.
- Be satisfied that the social impacts of a development have been reasonably identified and addressed;
- Prepare a report on the application recommending whether a development should be approved or refused;
- Work with the applicant to consult with identified groups as appropriate;
- Monitor social impacts of approved developments where appropriate;

- Undertake the above in a timely and cost effective manner.

3.4 ROLE OF VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

- Ensure that the objectives of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, are met;
- To provide relevant assistance, support and information to Council in assessing social impacts. For large and complex developments, this may include deciding on whether an Environmental Effects Statement is required.

4 SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

4.1 LEVELS OF ASSESSMENT

For a development, policy or infrastructure change requiring consideration of its social impact, the applicant will be required to provide either:

- A Social Impact Comment (SIC) (basic level assessment); or
- A Social Impact Assessment (SIA) (more in-depth assessment).

It is important that only social impacts relevant to the proposal be considered.

4.1.1 SOCIAL IMPACT COMMENT

A SIC is an initial and basic assessment of social impacts. This does not need to be long, but must provide sufficient information for council to make a decision. It requires basic level assessment and should not require specialist technical assistance to complete. Some consultation with affected members of the community and other stakeholders may be helpful in providing relevant information.

Council has developed an overview of the information which is required to assist with this assessment (see Attachment 4).

4.1.2 SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

A SIA is an in-depth assessment about the actual and potential social impacts. This assessment should be undertaken by a suitably qualified professional.

The applicant should seek a meeting with council officers early in the process and follow Council's guidelines. A SIA for large developments should be undertaken early in the planning process (*e.g*. at rezoning and or masterplan/precinct plan stage). The SIA accompanying subsequent applications referring to the same site and development would then only need consider those issues identified as outstanding from the SIA process.

4.2 TRIGGER CRITERIA AND EXAMPLES

The following table outlines developments which should be considered for a SIC or a SIA. This list is intended as a guide only. Some applications which may fit the description of a SIC may require a SIA due to their nature or scale. Council reserve the right to request a SIC or SIA if it determines it is necessary.

In some instances, the assessment of the SIC by council officers may indicate that a more detailed assessment is required and thus a full SIA would be required to be undertaken by the applicant.

TABLE 1:TRIGGER CRITERIA FOR SOCIAL IMPACT COMMENTS AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Social Impact Comment
• Rezoning resulting in significant change in land use
• Housing developments between 20 and 60 dwellings that will result in changes in population density, such as residential subdivisions and construction on a single allotment.
• Accommodation , including aged care facilities
• Places of assembly, such as neighbourhood houses
• Education Centre
• Medical Centre with less than five general practitioners
• Places of worship
• Youth Centre
• Childcare Centre
• Removal of structures or facilities which are valued highly by the community
• Transport facilities
• Any development which is likely to cause changes in community perceptions of safety or social behaviour

Social Impact Assessment

- A development application for residential development for 60 dwellings or more, or when a number of development applications for residential development cumulatively result in 60 dwellings or more

- A Hospital or mental health treatment facility or large Medical Centre (5 or more practitioners)

- A Place of Assembly used for entertainment such as a cinema or amusement centre

- Major roads, arterial or transport corridors

- Major Leisure and Recreation development

- Hotels, nightclubs and taverns; in conjunction with *Licensed Premises: Assessment of Cumulative Effects*

- Commercial and retail development with a gross floor area of more than 2,000 sqm

- Industrial development with a gross floor area of more than 2,000 sqm

- Use and development of land for Mining which has not triggered the need for an Environmental Effect Statement

- Any development requiring the preparation of a structure plan or an overall development plan

- Boarding Houses and Hostels

- Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Centre.

- Camping and Caravan Park

- Any significant change of planning policy initiated by Council

- Where a completed SIC raises issues about which Council is concerned

- Any other proposal deemed by Council to have likely significant social impacts and advised by council staff at pre-lodgement meetings.

4.3 SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

A SIA Management Plan may be required for developments where the SIA indicates:

- The social impacts will continue over five years or more;
- Significant changes to community functioning are anticipated;
- Development of community infrastructure which will require management and maintenance by Council;
- Longer term monitoring by Council of social impacts is required.

A SIA Management Plan will establish the roles and responsibilities of the applicant, Council, other levels of government and communities, throughout the life of a project in mitigating and managing social impacts and opportunities during construction, operation, and in the case of resource developments, de-commissioning of projects. The plan will:

- Outline clear actions required;
- The cost of these actions and how these costs will be met;
- Responsibility for delivering the actions of the plan;
- Outline an ongoing role for communities to engage in contributing to the ongoing social impact assessments.

4.4   HOW DOES THE SIA PROCESS WORK?

FIGURE 1:   **SIA PROCESS FLOW CHART**
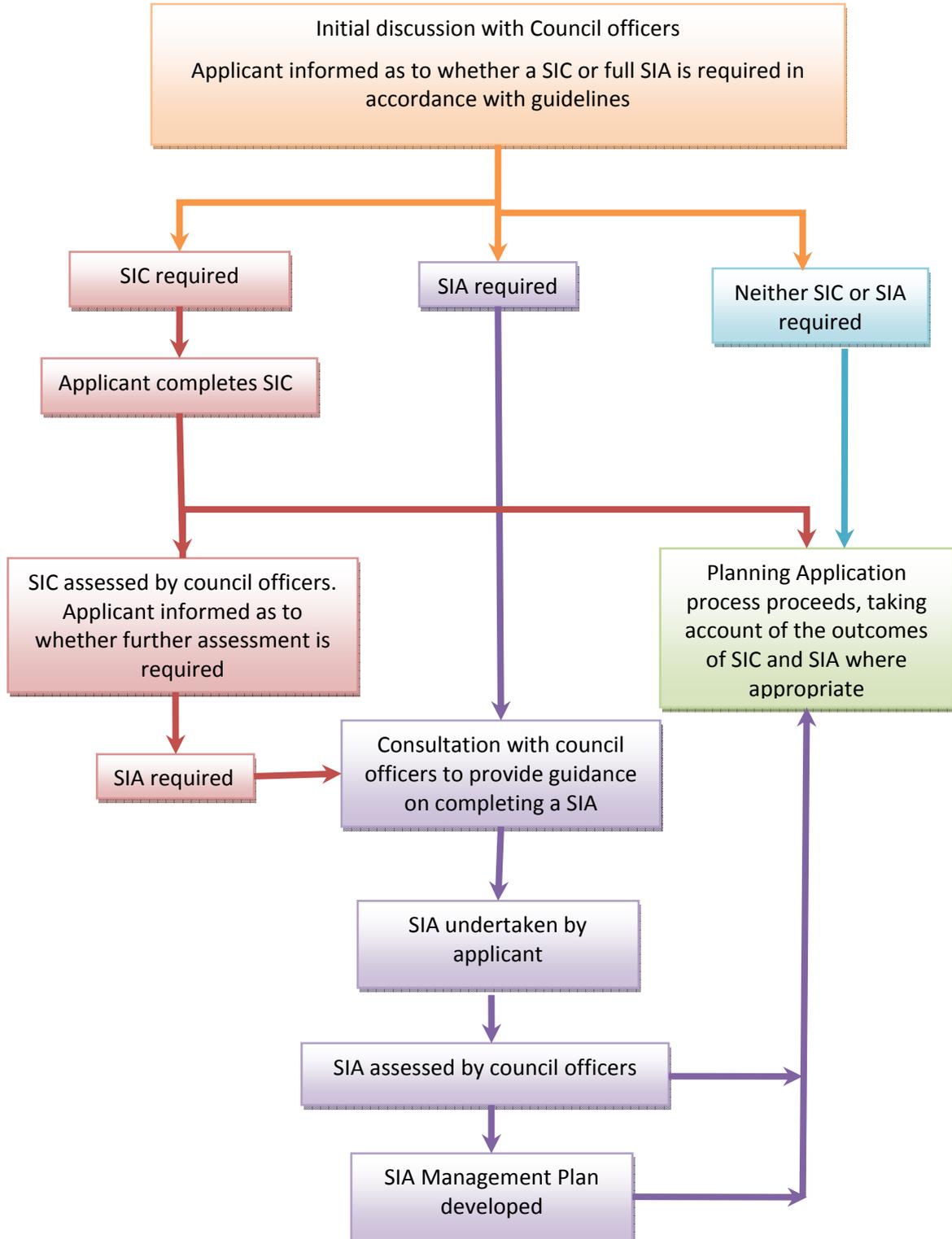
5 THE SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

5.1 CONTENTS

TABLE 2: **TYPICAL CONTENTS OF SIA REPORT**

Factor	Description
• **Scoping of the development:**	• Description of the proposed project, including anticipated population changes • Groups/individuals who will be impacted

• **Community profile of the area and surrounding areas –**	• Data and information to be made available by Council, including:
	   o Socio-demographic data – census
	   o Community Indicator data
	   o Economic data
	   o Housing data

• **Mapping of services, facilities and their capacity to meet current and projected demand**	• Community facilities • Recreation facilities • Public open space • Transport • Commercial facilities
• **Policy context – Federal, State, Local, other**	• To be provided by Council and analysed by applicant in relation to the proposed project
• **Community consultation**	• To be discussed with Council during initial scoping of SIA to determine who needs to be consulted and the process for consultation and evaluation
• **Identification and Assessment**	• Identifying potential negative and positive impacts on the existing community of the population changes (see Attachment 1 for definitions and Attachment 2 for possible impacts) • Prioritising these impacts • Possible solutions to mitigate against negative consequences and maximise opportunities
• **Evaluation**	• Criteria for evaluating and measuring impacts over time
• **Recommendations**	• Need to be clear about responsibility – what will the applicant do, what is expected of Council.

5.2 ASSESSMENT MATRIX

A range of different services and infrastructure are required to support the development and maintenance of sustainable and healthy communities across the age spectrum. Table 3 outlines a Social Impact Assessment Matrix to guide the consideration of the impacts and importantly, management strategies, to mitigate against negative impacts and to maximise the opportunities of developments.

5.2.1 AGE COHORTS

To take account of the different needs of people in the community, it is useful to consider the population across age cohorts. These are:

- *Children and Families*

    o Children aged 0 – 4 years (birth-preschool);

    o Children aged 5 – 11 years (approximately primary school aged children);

- *Young people aged 12 – 24 years*: this includes secondary school age students and young adults. While the needs of young people in this cohort are quite different across the age spectrum, most government funding programs cover this age grouping;

- *Adults aged 25-65 years:* this includes the majority of adults who are working;

- *Older adults aged 65 – 80 years*: taking account of the increasing health of the population, this cohort comprises older adults who are usually fit and independent;

- *Older people aged 80 + years*: this cohort includes older people who are becoming increasingly frail and may require support to remain living independently in the community or specialist support.

5.2.2 DIMENSIONS OF THE MATRIX

The dimensions of the matrix describe the key factors which contribute to healthy and sustainable communities. Using these dimensions, a systematic approach can be taken to:

- Describe the current characteristics of the community across the age cohorts;

- Understand the impacts of changes in relation to the dimensions and for particular population cohorts;

- Quantify and describe the strategies to be developed to manage the impacts. This may include the development of a multi-purpose community facility, which is able to accommodate a range of services to meet the needs across age cohorts or specialist services, such as a child care centre.

5.2.3 USING THE MATRIX

It may not be necessary to complete all components of the matrix for all SIAs. In some instances, greater differentiation maybe required. For example, if an aged care facility is being developed, the age cohorts of older people will need to be further differentiated. At the same time, it would not be necessary to consider the infrastructure and services required for young children if the development is a residential service for older people.

TABLE 3: **SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK**

		Children and Families (0-4 yrs)	Children and Families (5-11 yrs)	Young people (12-24 yrs)	Adults (25-65 yrs)	Older Adults (65-80 yrs)	Older people (80+ yrs)
Population characteristics	Demographic characteristics						
	Social characteristics						
	Health characteristics						
	Special needs, *e.g. disability*						
Community infrastructure	Accommodation and housing						
	Community facilities to support a range of activities						
	Community services, including relevant government services						
	Intensive services – specialist treatment facilities						
	Education facilities						
	Transportation						
	Sport and Recreation						
Community functioning	Cohesion impacts						
	Identity and culture, including historical aspects						
	Health and wellbeing						
	Needs of particular groups						
	Social equity – displacement,						

		Children and Families (0-4 yrs)	Children and Families (5-11 yrs)	Young people (12-24 yrs)	Adults (25-65 yrs)	Older Adults (65-80 yrs)	Older people (80+ yrs)
	needs of disadvantaged groups						
	Community safety and law and order issues						
Economic Development	Employment						
	Local economic impacts						
Natural Environment	Open public space Specific local concerns						
Community consultation	Perceptions of community						

5.3 QUANTUM OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES TO MEET CHANGING COMMUNITY NEEDS

When assessing the requirements for community infrastructure and services to meet the needs of residents in proposed developments and assessing the impact for existing residents, the following variables need to be taken into account:

- Socio-demography of the community and surrounding areas;
- Typography of the area and transport availability and the impact that these have on accessibility to services;
- Fabric and quantity of existing community infrastructure; and
- Capacity of existing infrastructure and services to meet existing and anticipated community need.

Table 4. below, outlines the appropriate ratios for developing an assessment of the social infrastructure needs of a development or group of developments. These ratios are designed for standard greenfield developments and where appropriate is to be used in conjunction with the assessment of existing social infrastructure.

5.4 DATA

Sources of relevant of data are included in Attachment Three. These should be referred to ensure reliability, accuracy and consistency in providing a picture of the community and assessing the potential social impacts of any changes.

5.5 SEEKING ADVICE

Council strongly advises applicants to meet regularly with council officers. Council officers will provide guidance to applicants in completing the SIA and meet regularly to ensure that all aspects are being considered. Council is willing to advise applicants as to how to get in touch with suitably qualified professionals to undertake the SIA.

TABLE 4 :   QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL/COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS THREE DEMOGRAPHIC SCENARIOS

Facility	Benchmark	Existing Community (a)	Projected Community (b)	New Development Scenario 1 (c)	Total Projected (b) + (c)	New Development Scenario 2 (d)	Total Projected (b) +(d)	New Development Scenario 3 (e)	Total Projected (b) + (e)
Early Learning Centres/ Children's Services									
Kindergarten (place)	1 place: 2.2 children aged 4 years (assumes 90% of demand is met by dedicated Council preschools)[1]								
Maternal and Child Health (session)	1 EFT Nurse: 140 infants (0 year olds) Equivalent of 1 session: 14 infants (0 year olds)								
Long day child care (place)	1 place: 4.8 children aged 0-6								
Occasional care	1 place: 28 children aged 0-6								
Community Facilities									
Neighbourhood community centre	1 centre: 3,500-15,000 residents								
Multipurpose community centre	1 centre: 20,000-30,000 residents								
Community meeting room/hall	1 room: 6,000-10,000 residents								
Youth space/facility	1 venue: 1: 20,000 residents								
Cultural Facilities									
Centre based library	1 static library: 30,000 residents								
Community arts venue	1 venue:60,000 residents								
Museum	1 venue: 30,000-130,000 residents								
Art Gallery	1: 30,000-150,000 residents								
Performing arts venue	1: 50,000-200,000 residents								
Civic/cultural space	1: 25,000 residents								
Active Recreation Facilities									
District park	1 park: 3,000-5,000 residents. Min of								

Facility	Benchmark	Existing Community (a)	Projected Community (b)	New Development Scenario 1 (c)	Total Projected (b) + (c)	New Development Scenario 2 (d)	Total Projected (b) +(d)	New Development Scenario 3 (e)	Total Projected (b) + (e)
	8ha								
Sub-regional park	1 park: 30,000+ residents. Min of 8ha								
Football field	1 field: 5,000 residents								
Cricket field	1 field: 4,000 residents								
Soccer field	1 field: 5,000 residents								
Netball Court	1 Court: 7000 residents								
Hockey									
Tennis court	1 court: 3,000 residents								
Lawn bowls green	1 green: 10,000 residents								
Field for lower profile sports	1 field: 15,000 residents								
Indoor multipurpose court	1 court: 10,000 residents								
Indoor aquatic/leisure centre	1 venue: 60,000 residents								
Passive Open Space									
Passive space	1ha: 1000 people								
Informal park	Within 500m of every household								
Local/neighbourhood park	1 park: 750-3,000 people, generally min of 1ha								
District park	1 park: 3,000-5,000 residents. Min of 2ha								
Sub-regional park	1 park: 30,000+ residents. Min of 5ha								
Regional park	1 park: 200,000 or 20min drive. Min of 5-10ha								
Playgrounds									
Playgrounds	Within 500m of every household								
Playground	1 playground: 250 children aged 0-12 years								

Facility	Benchmark	Existing Community (a)	Projected Community (b)	New Development Scenario 1 (c)	Total Projected (b) + (c)	New Development Scenario 2 (d)	Total Projected (b) +(d)	New Development Scenario 3 (e)	Total Projected (b) + (e)
Education Facilities									
Government primary students	55% of children aged 5-11								
Government secondary students	47% of children aged 12-17								
Catholic primary students	25% of children aged 5-11								
Catholic secondary students	25% of children aged 12-17								
Independent school students	10% of children aged 12-17								

6 ATTACHMENTS

6.1 ATTACHMENT ONE: DEFINITIONS

DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Income and Social Status	Social Support Networks	Culture	Personal Health Practices and Coping Skills
• the ability to purchase adequate housing, food and other basic needs • having a sense of control over decisions in life • health status improves at each step up in the income and social hierarchy	• support from families, friends and communities, worksites, schools, churches, parks, libraries, clubs, businesses	• language and beliefs that may influence people's behaviours and access to health information and services	• knowledge and behaviour • a person's ability to handle outside influences and stresses
Gender	**Employment and Working Conditions**	**Education**	**Health Services**
• the roles, power and influence society gives to men and women	• a steady job that provides sufficient income • a safe workplace	• level of education	• services that maintain and promote health, prevent disease, and restore health and function
Social Environment	**A Healthy Start - Early Childhood Services**	**Biology and Genetic Endowment·**	**Physical Environment**
• the values and rules of a society	• for the best start in life, children need good birth weight, positive parenting, caring caregivers and a safe, friendly neighbourhood	• our body's predisposition to diseases	• air, soil and water quality • infrastructure, e.g. transport and roads • safe and affordable housing and accomodation • safe neighbourhood

Source: Adapted from "The Determinants of Health", developed by Health Canada, 2001

ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Ecologically sustainable development is development that improves the total quality of life, both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends.

2. The objectives of ecologically sustainable development are—
   a) to enhance individual and community well-being and welfare by following a path of economic development that safeguards the welfare of future generations;
   b) to provide for equity within and between generations;
   c) to protect biological diversity and maintain essential ecological processes and life-support systems.

3. The following are to be considered as guiding principles of ecologically sustainable development—
   a) that decision-making processes should effectively integrate both long-term and short-term economic, environmental, social and equity considerations;
   b) if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation;
   c) the need to consider the global dimension of environmental impacts of actions and policies;
   d) the need to develop a strong, growing and diversified economy which can enhance the capacity for environment protection;
   e) the need to maintain and enhance international competitiveness in an environmentally sound manner;
   f) the need to adopt cost effective and flexible policy instruments such as improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms;
   g) the need to facilitate community involvement in decisions and actions on issues that affect the community.

Source: *Section 4 from the Victorian Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability Act 2003*

6.2 ATTACHMENT TWO: POSSIBLE SOCIAL IMPACTS

These possible social impacts are underpinned by the definitions of health determinants (see Attachment One).

Demographic change	• Changing community needs and expectations • Population changes
Accommodation and housing	• Availability of affordable housing • Housing for older people and those with additional needs
Population life stages	• Access to services • Availability of support services
People with disability and additional needs	• Access to services • Availability of support services
Children and young people	• Availability of and access to childcare, education facilities; • Safety for children and young people; • Open space and playgrounds.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	• Impacts for local Indigenous communities • Impacts on sacred sites • Access to and availability of culturally sensitive services
Multi-cultural issues	• Needs of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds • Religious needs • Needs of other cultural groups
Cultural issues	• Iconic and historical structures • Opportunities for artistic and cultural expression
Health impacts	• Range of health impacts, *e.g.* obesity as a result of no space/opportunity for exercise, environment waste impacts
Neighbourhood and community	• Neighbourhood safety; • Community identity • Community dislocation • Community cohesion • Gentrification
Facility requirements	• Need for community infrastructure, services and facilities; • Recreation needs • Education and health facilities • Transport

Economic issues	• Local employment generation
	• Unemployment
	• Business development
Transport/access issues	• Access and equity across life stages, taking account of mobility
	• Safety impacts
Cumulative impacts	• Redundant facilities and possible re-use
	• Effects of similar developments in the locality
Public open space	• Access and availability (related to health impacts also)

6.3 ATTACHMENT THREE: DATA SOURCES

This list is not exhaustive and other relevant sources may be relevant.

Data Sources

Source	Type
East Gippsland Shire Council	• Social and community profiles, www.abs.gov.au • Community Wellbeing Plan • Relevant strategic plans across ages and service types, • Environmental status reports • Community Services Directory • Rates information – dwellings, land use • Local economic development data • Links to these and other relevant data sources on line, www.egipps.vic.gov.au
Federal Government	• Australian Bureau of Statistics, www.abs.gov.au • Benefit data - fees apply • Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, DEEWR Small Area Labour Market Quarterly Statistics (unemployment rates, labour force data), www.deewr.gov.au
Victorian Government	Range of data is available on State Government websites. This includes: • Population health data, www.health.vc.gov.au • Housing data, www.dhs.vic.gov.au • Education data, www.education.vic.gov.au; http://www.education.vic.gov.au/sensecyouth/ontrack/default.htm • Journey to work data, other transport data, www.transport.vic.gov.au • Population projections, www.dpcd.vic.gov.au • Crime statistics: www.doj.vic.gov.au
VicHealth	Range of health promotion data and research, www.vichealth.vic.gov.au
Community Indicators Victoria	www.communityindicators.net.au

6.4 ATTACHMENT FOUR: PROFORMA FOR SOCIAL IMPACT COMMENT

Discussion Point	Response*	Areas to address	Sources of Information**	Comment
Will the proposal be likely to give rise to a significant increase in the population demographics of the local area?		• Current demographic information • Estimate of population increase	Australian Bureau of Statistics Website East Gippsland Shire Council website (Community Profile Data)	
Will the proposal benefit or disadvantage any particular population cohort or group in the community?		• Current demographic information • Support service data	Australian Bureau of Statistics Website East Gippsland Shire Council website (Community Profile Data)	
Will the proposal be likely to give rise to increased employment opportunities in the local area?		• Current Employment profile • Estimate of areas and quantum of potential employment	Australian Bureau of Statistics Website Dept of Employment Education and Workplace Relations http://www.deewr.gov.au/lmip/ East Gippsland Shire Council website (Community Profile Data) Local business owners	
Will the proposal have a significant impact on the existing housing stock in the local area, particularly affordable housing?		• Current and projected local housing profile	Local information from real estate agencies East Gippsland Shire Council website Building approval data	

Discussion Point	Response*	Areas to address	Sources of Information**	Comment
Will the proposal have an impact on current social, recreational or community infrastructure in the local area?		• Current social, community and recreational infrastructure • Estimated increases in the demand for social, community and recreational infrastructure	Local information from schools, recreation committees, community organisations, health and service agencies	
Will the proposal create increased or decreased risk for occupants or pedestrians within the development or its surrounding area?		• Transport and public safety	Local school and public transport providers, VicRoads Local residents	

*   Response is 'YES', 'NO' or 'POSSIBLY'. If you answer *Yes* or *Possibly* the issue will need to be addressed in more detail.

**   Refer also to Attachment Three

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