

# Valley Regional Community Recovery Committee

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## Appendix to Terms of Reference

FINAL – February 2022

Members of the Valley Regional Recovery Committee

Alison Gommers

Bruce Argyle

Cr Fiona McAllister (Co-Chair)

Jillian Edwards (Co-Chair)

Kathleen Holton

Leigh Harry (Co-Chair)

Maree Rothwell

Michelle Zwagerman

Shona Rimmer

## 1. Introduction

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This document is an annex to the Terms of Reference established by Yarra Ranges Council guiding how Regional Community Recovery Committees (RCRC) are governed.

One of four, the Valley RCRC (the Committee) covers the townships of Badger Creek, Chum Creek, Dixons Creek, Gruyere, Healesville, Steels Creek, Yarra Glen and Yering.

The Committee commenced operations in December 2021; current members serve until the end of 2024.

As a newly created Committee, this Annex is to capture the inaugural understanding, approach, and scope of the Committee's work, recognising there will be a need to make changes and adapt as more is learnt from the people who live, work, and play in our townships and the data captured and made available by Council.

## 2. Context (and scope)

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- 2.1 Yarra Ranges Council is committed to strengthening community-led recovery and has established the Valley - Regional Community Recovery Committee (one of four). This committee is part of how Council is supporting communities to recover from emergencies, including the impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic and for affected areas, the June 2021 storm emergency.
- 2.2 Key strategic documents guiding Council action are the Pandemic Recovery Framework 2020, Yarra Ranges Municipal Recovery Plan and grant-making funding guidelines and criteria.
- 2.3 Key documents informing the work of this Committee are those listed in point 2.2, as well as the findings of surveys, inquiries and other reports that provide evidence of the need within the valley region.
- 2.4 The Committee has agreed it will initially prioritise funding for groups to address mental health issues, and build positive connections and resilience, both within their respective groups and the wider Yarra Ranges community.

Yarra Ranges Municipal Recovery Plan: *"The mental health and wellbeing of the community within the Yarra Ranges has been impacted like never before. In the September Impact Survey undertaken by Council, it was clear how much the community has been impacted by the pandemic. The storm has added additional stress with 32% of residents reporting they are continuing to experience trauma or anxiety stemming from the 9 June storm.*

*Supporting the community to lead their own recovery has been evidenced as the most effective way of responding ... and this is fundamental to the recovery efforts in the Yarra Ranges."*

- 2.5 The Yarra Ranges Council has allocated \$150k to Regional Recovery Committees towards community grants for each region.

- 2.6 Council has allocated some funding to support engagement activities for each of the Regional Recovery Committees.

### **3. Purpose of the Committee (what we will do)**

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The Valley RCRC will develop and implement an inaugural Valley Regional Recovery Plan that identifies and prioritises activities or services that help individuals and community groups to rebuild, reconnect, and be ready to cope with future shocks and disruption.

The Recovery Plan will focus on enabling existing community groups to reach and support people in need, including opportunities for direct financial contribution to local projects and rapid release of some funds for those in urgent need.

The Plan will also support those that are already well-resourced, for example HICCI, to facilitate the implementation of the Valley Regional Recovery Plan.

The Committee will deliver:

- a) Recommendations and advice to Yarra Ranges Council
- b) Rapid release grant making for those most in urgent need
- c) The Valley Regional Recovery Plan
- d) Grant making to support implementation of the Recovery Plan

### **4. Decision-making authority**

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The Committee's responsibility is to recommend to Council the release of recovery funding.

The Recovery Plan and grant making processes trigger the release of funding. Council has established internal delegations for swift response to the Committees recommendations.

### **5. Mission statement (how we will do it – Figure 1)**

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To fulfil its purpose, the Committee will:

- expand our knowledge of the need across the municipality and the services available
- lead, drive and facilitate – playing a bridging role, acting as knowledge brokers between council and community groups, sharing information, raising issues, developing/influencing plans and actions as needed
- listen to local communities and facilitate broad input into Committee decision-making and the development of the Valley Regional Recovery Plan
- assemble and advocate for community recovery programs, processes, services, and activities that reflect the needs of the local communities

- enable others to reach and support people in need
- ensure transparency, focus and accountability

## Valley Community Recovery Committee Regional Recovery Plan

\$150K to benefit social cohesion and collective wellbeing of  
people in the Valley region

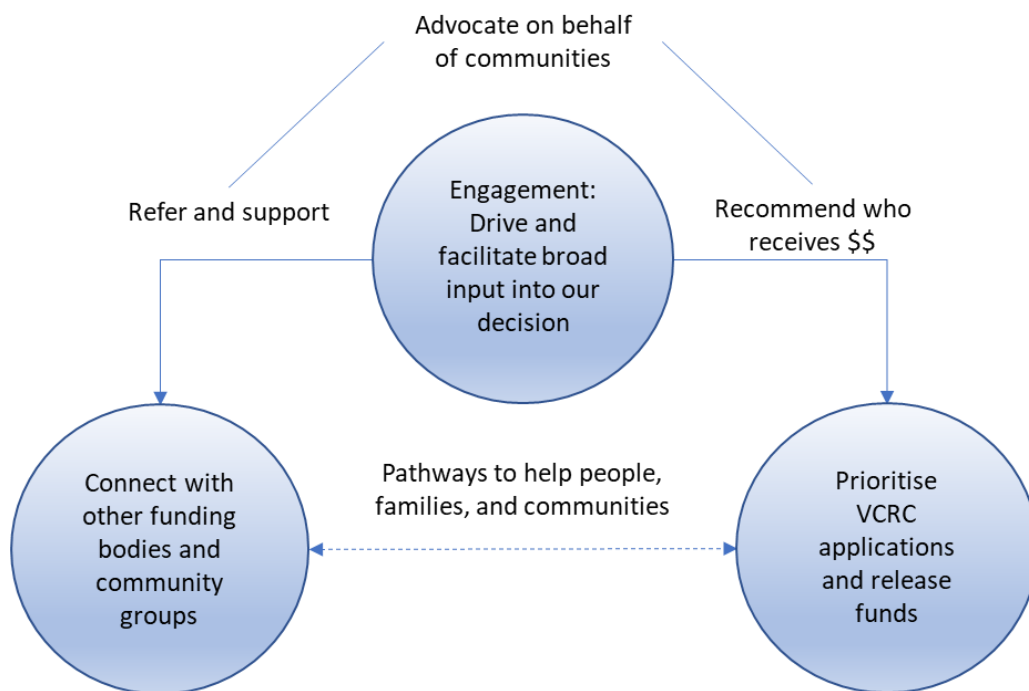


Figure 1: Valley RCRC approach

### 6. Getting ready (initial plans)

TOPIC	ACTION	WHO	WHEN
<b>Harmonising the efforts of the 4 Committees</b>	Build relationships with the other RCRCs and avoid duplication of effort.	Co-Chairs and Council	ASAP
<b>Sensemaking analysis</b>	Committee to develop a list of questions for data analysis by council staff.	All	End March
<b>Purpose and Role</b>	Build shared understanding within the Committee. Create an appendix to the Terms of Reference.	Co-Chairs	ASAP
<b>Engagement Model</b>	Create and implement a stakeholder engagement plan.	Kath to lead	End Feb
<b>Stakeholder Map and Plan</b>	Develop a stakeholder map and plan in concert with the stakeholder engagement plan.	Maree	ASAP

TOPIC	ACTION	WHO	WHEN
<b>Marketing materials</b>	Create and implement a comms and marketing plan.	Council staff	End Feb
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Create criteria, specific to the Valley, to be included in the Funding Guidelines for grant applications.	Michelle to lead	End March
<b>Stocktake other funding sources</b>	Create and maintain a register of relevant grant programs and funding sources, accessible to members.	Council Staff	End Feb
<b>Regional Recovery Plan</b>	Determine what a Valley Regional Recovery Plan looks like and develop a task list to build it.	Co-chairs and Council	End April