

## VicSmart - a new, streamlined planning permit assessment process

In March 2017, the State Government introduced an amendment to the planning permit assessment process. It is the responsibility of councils to enforce these processes. The new planning permit assessment process has a number of changes:

- Council now has five days to request further information instead of 28 days
- A decision must be made by the Council within 10 working days instead of 60 calendar days
- No notice is given to potentially affected parties and there are no third party appeal rights
- An application must be decided by the Chief Executive Officer or nominated delegate, not by the Council
- An applicant can apply to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) for a review of a decision but this must be done within 10 business days, not the standard 60 calendar days.

If you would like to make an appointment to speak with a Council Officer about this, please call us on 03 5760 2600. For a full understanding of how the changes may impact you, go to [www.planning.vic.gov.au](http://www.planning.vic.gov.au).



Benalla Rural City's Road Management Plan will be available for review and comment until 26 June 2017. You can find the Road Management Plan at the Customer Service Centre or at [www.benalla.vic.gov.au](http://www.benalla.vic.gov.au).

## BENALLA RURAL CITY COMMUNITY PLAN 2016-2036

In 2015 you, the community, developed a long-term, aspirational community plan that provides a vision for Benalla Rural City over the next 20 years.

A Steering Committee continues to meet regularly to ensure that the realisation of the Plan is driven by the community.

We are seeking expressions of interest from those who would like to work on one of these three action teams:

Progressive Economy  
Connected Community  
Sustainable Environment.

A community friendly summary of the Plan is available. For further information contact Freida Andrews, member of the Community Plan Steering Committee, on 03 5765 2476 or the Customer Service Centre on 03 5760 2600.

## Mobile immunisation service

On the first Monday of every month, the Council provides a mobile immunisation service.

**10am-11.30am**

Benalla Community Care  
Ray Sweeney Centre  
45 Coster St, Benalla

**12.45pm-1.30pm**

Waminda Neighbourhood House  
19 Ballintine St, Benalla

Call 1800 655 360 for more details. Bookings are not required. To ensure your vaccine is available, call two weeks in advance.



## NEW BARBECUE

A commercial barbecue has been installed near the Sir Edward "Weary" Dunlop Learning Centre. This was funded by the Federal Government Stronger Communities Program and installed by the Council.



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AT THE ART GALLERY?

The Art Gallery is looking for volunteers to join its team to assist with public programs, special events, research, administration and social functions. Call the Council for more information 03 5760 2600.



## DID YOU KNOW?

If you have a current parking permit for people with disabilities, you can park in a regular car spot for twice the period indicated on the sign. Benalla has a higher proportion of people who need assistance with core activity than the state average.



**Know your Councillors** - check out our website to find about more about the Council and our Councillors, including their participation on Committees and how to contact them - [www.benalla.vic.gov.au](http://www.benalla.vic.gov.au)

## 2017 VICTORIAN SENIOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Do you know an older person who inspires others with their positive attitude to ageing? Senior citizens who volunteer to make a difference to community wellbeing are eligible for the 2017 Victorian Senior of the Year Awards.

Mayor, Cr Don Firth, is pictured here with Ralph Stone, his nominee for the award. Ralph serves on the Cooina Board of Management where he says that he feels "privileged to represent the people of the Cooina community." He is passionate about "breaking through the pervasive culture of ignorance about the lifestyle of places like Cooina."

"The concept of being in God's waiting room is far from the truth," said Ralph. "We have fun, we laugh, and we do a lot of living."

If you know someone, like Ralph, who inspires a positive attitude to ageing, consider nominating them for the 2017 Victorian Senior of the Year Awards. Forms are available from [www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au](http://www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au).

Organisations or businesses which deliver an age-friendly approach to programs and services may also be nominated.

