

From: [Emily Killin](#)
To: [amendments](#)
Subject: FW: Submission re Bannockburn Growth Plan
Date: Wednesday, 11 November 2020 10:04:40 AM

Hi Lydia, please register.

Thanks

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 11 November 2020 9:50 AM
To: Info <Info@vpa.vic.gov.au>
Cc: Crystal Tang <Crystal.Tang@vpa.vic.gov.au>; Emily Killin <Emily.Killin@vpa.vic.gov.au>
Subject: Submission re Bannockburn Growth Plan

Bob, this is the email I have been trying to send to Emily. Hopefully you will receive it.

Cheers, [REDACTED]

Emily,

I would like herein to make a few comments about the Bannockburn Growth Plan.

I have only lived in Bannockburn for a little over 3 years, but have grown to love the town and it's quiet, relaxed nature, the main reason we moved here.

In Item 1 under Growth and Renewal Opportunities it is to define and protect Bannockburn's rural character. By expanding to virtually triple the size and population of the town this will quickly deteriorate the rural character, making it less rural and more urban.

Another 5500 houses will add upwards of 11,000 people to the town and already the infrastructure is inadequate for the existing population. You are proposing higher density living, another step away from rural living, where people seek a little more room around themselves, larger house blocks and relaxed living.

The current Bannockburn P-12 College was inadequate for the number of students the day it was opened and your plan layout shows no proposal to build more schooling capacity. This school was planned some 10 years before it was eventually built and no moves were included to allow for the growth the town had experienced.

Prior to retirement I spent 34 years as a member of Victoria Police and in that time I spent 8 years stationed in a town of a similar size to the existing size of Bannockburn. I can see that the existing police station is already too understaffed to provide the service to the community that it should and there is no reference in the proposal to approach Victoria Police to expand or build a larger police station. Sir Robert Mark, a senior Police officer from England, who successfully restructured the Metropolitan Police Force in London identified the desired police/population ratio as 1.3 police officers per 1000 public. This will require a significant increase in police strength in this proposed increase of the town.

Approximately 3 years ago the town council proposed having the CFA Station moved, so that

more parkland could be created in the centre of town. The area defined is on the north side of the railway line on Clyde Rd, with apparently no real two way consultation with the local CFA management or State CFA command. The draft proposal shows the town expanding to the south, which will further heighten the risk factor to residents by significantly increasing response times for CFA units to attend fires and other emergencies. It may only be 3 – 4 minutes extra, but lives can easily be lost in that time . At the very least I would like to see a purpose build emergency services compound be built to house the CFA and maybe the SES closer to the centre of the expansion area in a location where vehicle egress under emergency conditions is not impeded.

The draft plan also talks about the heritage sites, perhaps you could enlighten me as to what these are. In the 3 years I have been here I have seen what I believe to have been an old cell block placed in the middle of a paddock, with no signs or any other identifying information to explain it's background. A few very old houses are around but no informative signs detail their importance to the town. The old railway station has not been given any promotion other than to have been converted to a very successful and popular high class restaurant, until COVID19 restrictions forced its closure.

A large part of the town has been established as acreage properties and I would not like to see any move to rezone and subdivide these areas.

If you would like to further discuss any of these ideas you are most welcome to either call me on [REDACTED] or by return email.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED].

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