



# Romsey community engagement snapshot

June-July 2023

[gww.com.au](http://gww.com.au)





## Why do we engage?

Our commitment to community is outlined in our **Community Engagement Framework**.

We want to:

- Understand **what our communities value** most, to inform our decisions
- Promote mutual understanding and stronger **relationships**
- Build trust and increase **community confidence** in our organisation
- Discuss the ownership of opportunities and challenges
- Meet regulatory requirements

# Macedon Ranges community engagement

Values-based engagement program from August 2022 to March 2023 across the Macedon Ranges

Community identified 10 priority areas including:

- Healthy waterways and habitats
- Safe drinking water
- Appropriate access to water for everyone

These community perspectives directly informed the potential future opportunities presented to the community for Romsey





# Romsey Recycled Water Plant Upgrade

---

- Inlet works upgrade
- Winter storage expansion
- Lagoon upgrades and remediation
- Recycled water pump station upgrade
- Electrical and instrumentation upgrade
- Construction of a biosolids sludge drying pad



## Romsey Recycled Water Plant Upgrade Engagement activities

Face to face community engagement and online consultation via our YourSay page was open for six weeks from 16 June to 31 July

- Community bulletin emailed to ~ 2,400 customers
- Drop-ins at Romsey Neighbourhood House on Saturday 17 June and Tuesday 20 June 2024
- Lancefield and Riddells Creek farmers' markets; Saturday 17 June and Saturday 24 June
- Pop-up sausage sizzle with Lions at Romsey IGA on Sunday 23 July 2023
- Letterbox drop across Romsey and Lancefield to 2,500 properties







### **Biodiversity outcomes**

- New habitat
- Nesting boxes



### **New water filtration technology**

- We're trialling new recycled water filtration technology

**Additional feedback was sought on these potential opportunities on improving community outcomes in line with values identified by the community**



### **New places for recycled water**

- Parks and gardens
- Farming



### **New wetlands**

- Natural water filtration stormwater and recycled water
- Many environmental benefits



# Community response

A strong community response was received:

- 1,149 views of the YourSay page
- Approximately 140 conversations with the local community at the pop up and drop-in sessions
- The community know the upgrade is needed and are supportive
- The community was most supportive of GWW exploring biodiversity opportunities and new wetlands



## Next steps

- Our project teams are undertaking further assessments on delivering an additional winter storage at the plant. This would increase the plant's storage space and support the region's growing population
- We will keep you updated on the results of this assessment
- These assessments have delayed our submission to the EPA for a Development Licence at the Romsey RWP
- We anticipate the application to be submitted by February 2024 and will provide a full engagement report to the community at this time
- The project is still on track for construction to begin in November 2024.

