

Schedule 6

Annual Progress Report

For project: RiverConnect

Between
GOULBURN BROKEN CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
and
GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL
Funded by
State Government

Organisation Details:

Organisation:	Greater Shepparton City Council	
Project Contact Officer:	Sharon Terry	
Project Phone Number:	03 5832 9542	
Postal Address:	Locked Bag 1000, Shepparton VIC 3632	
Email Address:	Sharon.terry@shepparton.vic.gov.au	
Spatial collection method: (please circle) See Schedule 4A for details	DELWP Output Database in ESRI File Geodatabase Format	GB CMA Online Project Management System (enquire)
Reporting contact:	Alison White	
Contact name and email address:	03 5832 9714 alison.white@shepparton.vic.gov.au	
ABN:	59 835 329 843	
ABN registered name:	Greater Shepparton City Council	
Are you registered for GST?	Yes	
Incorporation / ACN name:		
Incorporation / ACN number:		
Start date:	1 July 2021	
End date:	30 June 2022	

Project expenditure

Description	Funds Approved	
	2021-2022	
	Budget	Actual
Employment / Project Management / Facilitation	\$ 92,304.00	\$68,389.50
In-kind/volunteer labour		
Total employment Costs (ex GST)	\$ 92,304.00	\$68,389.50
Community Group support	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 6,576.50
Communications/Publications	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,210.00
Revegetation		\$ -
Total Operating Costs (ex GST)	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 7,786.50
Total Budget (ex GST)	\$ 106,304.00	\$76,176.00

Comment on variation (10% or greater) of budget vs expenditure:

- No Revegetation plants/materials budget or actuals for GB CMA as captured under Council One Tree Per Child program budget in In-kind Actuals and salary under Employment costs
- Project Management/Facilitation, Community group support, Communications/Publications variation due to targets not met through COVID-19 restrictions on groups and RiverConnect activities through 2022
- GSCC Budget includes 2020/2021 funding underspend of \$13,759 plus 2021/2022 funding agreement contribution of \$106,304
- 2021/2022 forecast minus 2021/2022 expenditure resulted in \$30,128 funding underspend has been allocated in 2022/2023 budget to extra Project Management / Facilitation and Community Group support

RiverConnect 2020/2021 Financial Report

Description	Proponent Funds (GSCC)		Other Contributor (GBCMA)		Other Contributor		Total Budget 2021/2021	
	Budget*	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Employment / Project Management / Facilitation	\$ 92,879.50	\$ 112,275.50	\$ 92,304.00	\$ 68,389.50			\$ 185,183.50	\$ 180,665.00
In-kind/volunteer labour		\$ 15,500.00					\$ -	\$ 15,500.00
Total employment Costs (ex GST)	\$ 92,879.50	\$ 127,775.50	\$ 92,304.00	\$ 68,389.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 185,183.50	\$ 196,165.00
Community Group support	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 6,576.50	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 6,576.50			\$ 23,000.00	\$ 13,153.00
Communications/Publications	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,210.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,210.00			\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,420.00
Revegetation	\$ 13,183.50	\$ -		\$ -			\$ 13,183.50	\$ -
Total Operating Costs (ex GST)	\$ 27,183.50	\$ 7,786.50	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 7,786.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,183.50	\$ 15,573.00
Total Budget (ex GST)	\$ 120,063.00	\$ 135,562.00	\$ 106,304.00	\$ 76,176.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 226,367.00	\$ 211,738.00

*Budget includes \$13,759 2020/2021 underspend plus 2021/2022 funding agreement contribution \$106,304

Project Delivery

1. Outputs

- a. Total outputs delivered – Please provide the required information in columns K to Q for each output.
- b. Spatial mapping – When mapping the outputs achieved, refer to columns I and J for guidance. Column I provides for how the output should be mapped (i.e. as a point, a line or polygon). Column J provides for what information should be mapped. Please include all output attributes in the metadata of the mapped spatial object.

(A) Project	(B) Activity	(C) Annual output target	OUTPUT ATTRIBUTES													
			(D) Output title and type	(E) Activity type	(F) Planned management outcome	(G) Planned management outcome direction of change	(H) Region, area or reach	(I) Spatial object type	(J) Spatial object description	(K) Specific attribute 1 (if applicable)	(L) Specific attribute 2 (if applicable)	(M) Specific attribute 3 (if applicable)	(N) Specific attribute 4 (if applicable)	(O) Specific attribute 5 (if applicable)	(P) Annual Output achieved	(Q) Spatial data recorded and provided (Y/N)
RiverConnect	Weed control	0.7 ha each year	2.2 Weed control – Non-woody	Establish	Species control	Increase control of undesirable species	Shepparton	Polygon	Gross area over which weeds were controlled, including the area searched for target weeds and treated where present	Primary treatment method (select one): N/A	Biosecurity aim (select one): N/A	Estimate of percentage (nearest 10%) of the output polygon that was treated N/A	Arrangement of the target species within output polygon (select one): N/A	Species ID using the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas	0 Ha	N/A
	Revegetation	1 ha each year	2.1 Vegetation – Native indigenous	Establish	Vegetation extent	Increase vegetation extent	Shepparton	Polygon	Area where vegetation has been established, maintained or modified	Specific activities undertaken (select): Seedling planting Plant guarding Supplementary watering	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.45 Ha	Y
	RiverConnect Paths Master Plan	20/21 - Construct Route 3 and 5 21/22 - Land acquisition Route 2 Detailed Design Route 2 22/23 - Construct Route 2 Design Route 1 23/24 - Construct Route 1	4.1 Approval and advice – Advice	Establish	Awareness	Increase awareness of target audience	Shepparton	Point	Location of Organisation's office	Identify the status of the approval and advice (select one): Public Acquisition of portion of land required to complete detailed design	Identify the specific type of approval and advice (select one): Public Acquisition – Route 2	N/A	N/A	N/A	No. of approvals and advice 1	N
	Assessments	20/21 - Contaminated land assessment Route 2 21/22 - CHMP and Native Vegetation Assessment Route 2 22/23 - CHMP and Native Vegetation assessment Route 1	4.3 Assessment - Cultural	Establish	Awareness	Increase awareness of target audience	Shepparton	Polygon	Area where assessment has been conducted	Area where the assessment data is stored (select): Agency database	ID for the entries into the database F&F Route 2 CHMP Route 2 Contamination assessment Route 2	Specific activities undertaken (select one): Inspection Survey	N/A	N/A	No. of assessments 4	Y

[illegible]

(A) Project	(B) Activity	(C) Annual output target	OUTPUT ATTRIBUTES													
			(D) Output title and type	(E) Activity type	(F) Planned management outcome	(G) Planned management outcome direction of change	(H) Region, area or reach	(I) Spatial object type	(J) Spatial object description	(K) Specific attribute 1 (if applicable)	(L) Specific attribute 2 (if applicable)	(M) Specific attribute 3 (if applicable)	(N) Specific attribute 4 (if applicable)	(O) Specific attribute 5 (if applicable)	(P) Annual Output achieved	(Q) Spatial data recorded and provided (Y/N)
										FamilyCare disability support group Cussen Park Advisory Committee Headspace Scouts Victoria Girl Guides Wellways St Georges Rd Community Hub Shepparton English Language Centre Out in the Open Festival Shepparton Art Museum Veolia Burnanga Indigenous Fishing Club Friends of Gemmill's Swamp Point of Difference Studio Victorian Fisheries Authority Things of Spirit	4 5 4 3 3 2 2 2 1 3 1 3 1 8 4					
	Engagement events	20/21 – 2,500 participants *COVID impact 21/22 – 3,000 participants 22/23 – 3,500 participants 23/24 – 4,000 participants	4.4 Engagement event – Presentation Social Media Online content	Establish	Awareness	Increase awareness of target audience	Shepparton	Point	Location where each event was held	Name of each event Please see table below for detail	Length of each event in hours, to the nearest hour Please see table below for detail	Number of events – where events have identical values for all attributes (e.g. location, type) they can be captured together Please see table below for detail	Target audience of each event (select): General community Agency staff Schools CBNRM group General community At risk groups Please see table below for detail	Primary focus of each event (select): Conservation management / techniques Data management & reporting Survey & monitoring Planning Consultation Collaboration Please see table below for detail	No. of participants per event Please see table below for detail	Y

Engagement Events Table

Region Area or Reach	Spatial object type	Spatial object description	Event name	Length in hours	Target Audience*	# of events (where events are similar they can be captured together)	Focus of event ^	# of participants	Location
Shepparton	Point		Nature Journaling	1	General Community	1	General	8	Online
		360592.982 5971783.656	Ecology Tours at Turtle Muster w/ Kaiela Arts	3	General Community	3	General		Victoria Park Lake
			DELWP Hume Engagement Network Meeting	0.5	Agency	1	General	16	Online
		360592.982 5971783.656	World Rivers Day Radio Broadcast	4	General Community	1	General	4500	Tom Collins Drive
			Presentation to Shepparton Councillors	0.5	Agency	1	General	8	Online
			Education program	3	School students	3	Education	65	Tassicker Reserve, Princess Park
			JULY - DECEMBER 2021 TOTALS	12		10		4597	
		355366.05 5972378.56	Twilight Stroll	3	General Community	1	Education, Participation	270	KidsTown, Mooroopna
		354926.73 5970683.27	Clean Up Australia Day	2	General Community	1	Education, Participation	30	Kalinga Park, Broken River, Shepparton
		356277.03 5972809.79	River Lunch	1	General Community	1	Participation	11	Monash Park, Shepparton
		356435.37 5973305.71	World Social Work Day Breakfast - nature connection activity	1	Social Work Staff in Shepparton	1	Education, Participation	10	Family Care, Shepparton
		354690.74 5970448.93	Creating with Clay - Shepparton Festival	2	General Community	1	Art and Culture Participation	24	Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton
		355116.59 5971090.39	River of Words - Shepparton Festival	2	General Community	1	Art and Culture Participation	9	Confluence of Broken and Goulburn Rivers, Shepparton
		360592.982 5971783.656	Presentation to North East CMA staff	0.5	NECMA agency staff	1	Program promotion	25	Victoria Park Lake
		360592.982 5971783.656	Charcoal Drawing - Shepparton Festival	2	General Community	1	Art and Culture Participation	12	Kaiela Arts
		356388.72 5973006.68	Story time in the park	1.5	General Community	1	Education, Participation	45	Queens Gardens Shepparton
		352319.49 5956453.10	School holiday activities with Burnanga Fishing Club	2	Save the Children school holiday program	1	Education, Participation	15	Arcadia Fish Hatchery
		352936.99 5970820.82	Family Haven School Holiday Program	2	Family Haven Community	1	Education, Participation	30	Family Haven, Mooroopna
		355366.05 5972378.56	Nurture Nature School Holiday Activity	2	General Community	1	Education, Participation	42	KidsTown, Mooroopna
		355932.40 5972663.67	Canoeing on the Goulburn	6	General Community	2	Education, Participation	54	Mooroopna to Shepparton, Goulburn River
		360592.982 5971783.656	Victorian Fisheries Authority All Abilities Fishing event	5	General Community	1	Education, Participation	100	Victoria Park Lake
		354279.67 5975372.90	One Tree Per Child 100,000 tree celebration	2	General Community, schools	1	Education, Participation, Celebration	75	Tassicker Reserve Shepparton
		354690.74 5970448.93	Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton Open Day	4	General Community	1	Education, Participation	250	Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton
		355366.05 5972378.56	SIRRPIC meeting	1.5	Agency and community	1	Program promotion	15	KidsTown, Flats Walk, Mooroopna
		360592.982 5971783.656	Liquidarium tour and Frog Hotel workshop	2	General Community	1	Education, Promotion	25	Shepparton Arts Museum, Victoria Park Lake
			Education program	48.5	School students	24	Education	788	Various
			JANUARY TO JUNE 2022 TOTALS	90		43		1830	
			TOTALS	102		53		6427	

Media Mentions

Article title	Media	Date
Secret wildlife surveillance cameras pick up surprising findings	Shepparton News	26/07/2021
In the running to prevent dam drownings (RiverConnect 2km Kids Dash)	The Adviser	18/08/2021
Nature Journaling activity promotion (blog)	Shepparton News	28/08/2021
Nature Journaling activity promotion (blog)	Shepparton News	31/08/2021
Nature Journaling activity promotion (blog)	Shepparton News	1/09/2021
The healing power of being in nature	Shepparton News	1/09/2021
RiverConnect celebrates World Rivers Day	The National Tribune	23/09/2021
RiverConnect celebrates World Rivers Day	Mirage News	23/09/2021
World Rivers Day promotion	ABC Goulburn Murray	25/09/2021
World Rivers Day Radio Broadcast and associated ads	One FM Radio	20-26/09/2021
Calling Shepparton backyard bird watchers	Shepparton News	4/10/2021
Busy birdwatchers out for count	Shepparton News	9/11/2021
Turtles on the move across Greater Shepparton	Australian Rural and Regional News	12/11/2021
Turtles spotted exploring Greater Shepparton need our protection	Shepparton News	14/11/2021
Residents encouraged to get involved in pollen count	Shepparton News	14/11/2021
Turtles on the move	Triple M GV Radio	15/11/2021

Article title	Media	Date
Wild Pollinator Count	Triple M GV Radio	15/11/2021
Turtles nesting in Goulburn Valley	10 News (TV)	17/11/2021
Climate Ready Hume 'Aussie Backyard Bird Count is a huge success' (newsletter)	DELWP	24/11/2021
Frogs campaign in Goulburn Broken	Shepparton News	5/01/2022
Clean Up Shepparton on March 6	Shepparton News	23/02/2022
Tourism effort recognised with silver award	Shepparton News	2/03/2022
Take a twilight stroll this Friday, March 4	Shepparton News	3/03/2022
Clean Up Australia Day 2022 (pre-recorded short radio interview)	Triple M GV Radio	4/03/2022
Locals turn up to pick up rubbish	Shepparton News	10/03/2022
Greater Shepparton Climate Emergency Action Plan special broadcast from Victoria Park Lake (2nd speaker - Ali White - RiverConnect Project Officer - 10m 40s interview)	One FM Radio	11/03/2022
What's on this weekend 'Charcoal drawing and culture' (blog)	Shepparton News	24/03/2022
Rivers of rich connections	Shepparton News	1/04/2022
Students get back to nature	Shepparton News	5/04/2022
Digital journey: The birds of Cussen Park	Shepparton News	20/04/2022
What's on this weekend 'Canoeing on the Goulburn' (blog)	Shepparton News	27/04/2022
	TOTALS	31 items

Social Media and Website Metrics

Social Media (Facebook and Instagram)	Website Analytics
1662 followers	369 average users per month

5 Year priorities 2017-2022 (^Analysis in Trail Counter Data Analysis 2017-2022, **Affected by Covid-19 implications)

Priority	Target	Achievement quantifiers	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
ETC	25% increase in use of shared pathways	Need to establish baseline, then 25% per cent increase off baseline data	95 average daily visits^	91 average daily visits^	114 average daily visits^	133 average daily visits^	115 average daily visits^
	25% increase in participation in river environment activities	250 increase/year	4978	5832	4290**	860**	5639** (4500 from World Rivers Broadcast - 1139 general engagement events)
IES	50% COGS schools one class >1,000 students	1,000/year	1929	2617	1314**	731**	853**
	One tertiary education project in the river environment	1/year	1	1	1	0	0
SAC	1,000 participants annually in traditional owner-led events in river environment	1000/year	92	47	268	60	216
	Significant whole of community events and projects that celebrate our shared history	1	0	0	0	0	0
IHW	Shared path extended by 9km	Km of path built	0	0	2km - The Flats Walk	In progress - Route 5 Bridge, boardwalk and path	1.661km – Route 5 Bridge, boardwalk and path
	Opportunities and spaces are created that people actively use	Number of opportunities and spaces built/upgraded	0	0	0	In progress - Route 5 Bridge and path	2 - Route 3&5 upgrade/construction completion
RARE	Extent and quality of native veg & water quality is improved	1 hectare reveg CMA target	2.87 hectares	0.795 hectares	1.12 hectares	0.28 hectares**	0.45 hectares**
	Access for various sectors improved at 5 locations	1 location/year	0	0	1 - The Flats Walk	In progress - Route 5 Bridge and path 1km	1 - Route 3&5 completion
	75% decrease in volume of illegally dumped rubbish	40m3 / \$112,500 labour /260 reports GSCC only. \$23,000 disposal incl PV	331 reports	339 reports	125 reports, 3+ tonnes removed by community	612 reports, 3+ tonnes removed by community, 30.38m³ removed by Working for Victoria Crew	254 reports, 2 tonnes removed by community
	Decreased priority weeds on shared path network	Need baseline. 0.7 hectare CMA target	2.03 hectares	1.275 hectares	0.88 hectares	77.47 hectares removed by Working for Victoria Crew	0 hectares**
SPE	One example of social enterprise associated with RC aspirations	1	0	1	0	0	0
	One example of private enterprise associated with RC aspirations	1	0	0	2 - Bohollow Enviro Ed and Into the Wild Education	0	1 - Trelly's Canoe Hire
PGG	Key stakeholders continue to endorse and support the partnership and governance arrangements of RiverConnect	Stakeholder support, attendance at meetings, etc.	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
	Funding won from government and non-traditional sources consistent with RC aspirations	Funding won	\$610,740 won from Federal Regional Jobs and Investment Packages. \$10,000 won from Sustainability Victoria	0	\$500,000 won from Regional Development Victoria – Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund	0	0
	RiverConnect is accountable and adaptive	Meets requirements, adapts delivery to improve	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

2. Acknowledgement of Fund Source

- a. Have you acknowledged the fund source (eg. State Government, Australian Government, etc.)?
Yes/~~No~~ (please circle)

3. Spatial reporting and documentation

- a. The outputs reported in the table above are spatially recorded, reported and provided through:
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Online GB CMA mapping system | Yes/ No (please circle) |
| ESRI File | Yes/ No (please circle) |

Please see attached files

- b. All documents prepared and/or published as part of the project, including those not publicly released (i.e. technical reports and specifications), attached?
Yes/~~No~~ (please circle)

4. Comments on delivery of each project

- a. Overall comments on project progress:

The RiverConnect program has continued to be impacted by various COVID-19 related challenges, and although we have come to accept this as the new normal, we have many ongoing learnings. The ongoing effects of COVID-19, such as lockdowns, learning and working from home, and sickness impacted on RiverConnect's capacity to meet the weed removal and revegetation targets. The program did however maintain and develop new partnerships with 48 individual community groups, organisations and agencies.

Despite 1/3 of the Greater Shepparton population in isolation in August and a snap-lockdown in October, RiverConnect engaged 6427 people in 53 community engagement activities and 853 students from 12 schools and one kindergarten across the year. RiverConnect was featured in 31 media items, including the World Rivers Day broadcast that reached 4500 people, and is followed by a total of 1662 people on social media. RiverConnect maintained and developed partnerships with 48 community groups, organisations and agencies.

After some unavoidable delays, the construction of a pedestrian bridge across the Broken River, boardwalk beside the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton wetland and associated shared path connection to Riverview Drive was completed on April 2022 (see below images). The bridge has seen increased visitation to the Botanic Gardens and provided the connecting shared pathway link between Kialla and Shepparton.





The three field assessments for the next stage of the shared path project, Route 2 (Gemmill's Swamp to KidsTown), have been completed. Detailed design for the path is planned to be undertaken in FY22-23, pertaining finalisation of the land acquisition, and construction is allocated in the 2027 capital budget by the Greater Shepparton City Council.

Recruitment for the Project Officer position commenced in December 2021 and was successful with the appointment made in January 2022. Since then, the Project Officer has been working heavily on the RiverConnect Strategic Plan review with the public consultation and adoption of the final plan expected in FY22-23.

b. Key achievements and highlights:

- Completion of Route 5 including a pedestrian bridge over the Broken River, a boardwalk beside the Botanic Gardens wetlands, and associated path providing the connecting link between Shepparton and Kialla and to the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton.
- Facilitated collaborative and engaging events for community attracting 6427 participants, including 4500 reached during the World Rivers Day broadcast with One FM Radio.
- Reconnected with schools despite ongoing COVID-19 implications with high engagement from alternative schooling institutions including ACE College, ASHE and Shepparton Flexible Learning Centre.
- Inspired 853 students from 12 schools and one kindergarten to learn unbound by the walls of traditional learning, spending 51 hours in or near the river environment.
- Supported relationships between the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (RBGV) and the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton to run a Biomimicry educational day for 90 primary-aged students. This is likely to continue with strong indication from RBGV for future delivery of similar educational events in Shepparton.
- Progression towards finalisation of the Committee of Management for Council assets on Parks Victoria managed land.
- Formed relationships with the Shepparton Art Museum and delivered the first collaborative event built around SAM's Liquidarium (looking at a wetland from the eyes of a frog) exhibition.
- Celebrated and leveraged off GB CMA's Year of the Frog campaign to deliver several frog-themed activities including building frog hotels with GB CMA agency staff.

- Continued positive media messaging of the program including 31 individual media mentions, 1662 followers on social media and an average of 369 website users per month.
- Celebrated young leaders of our region, including Jacob Dedman at the opening of the Birds of Cussen Park Edition 2.
- Submission and acceptance of RiverConnect abstract to the National Landcare Conference with the RiverConnect Project Officer offered to present as a stream speaker in Sydney on 23-25 August 2022.
- Commenced RiverConnect Strategic Plan review with stakeholder discussions formulating the Draft RiverConnect Strategic Plan 2023-2028.
- Updated the funding agreement and reporting requirements with GB CMA to ensure ongoing support for the program.
- RiverConnect has continued to develop our partnerships, including reaching out to The Youth Foyer (provides housing/support for youth at-risk of homelessness), connecting to the Greater Shepp Young Champions (Council Youth Committee) and with the new CEO of The Lighthouse Project.

c. Challenges and issues faced that have directly impacted on project delivery in the reporting period:

- COVID-19 continued to disrupt students and staffing at schools, leading to a hesitancy in booking in classes and activities especially for Term 3 and 4 of 2021 and Term 1 of 2022. Schools were struggling to maintain day-to-day operations and hence offering online alternatives were also unsuitable during this time. We noticed a rise in bookings once Term 2 began particularly from alternative educational institutions such as ACE College, Verney Road and also from ASHE, Berry Street School and Shepparton Flexible Learning Centre. Our current strategy is to maintain contact with schools and offer opportunities that suit their needs and capacities.
- COVID-19 and other illnesses have disrupted attendance at community events and activities. There has been a noticeable reluctance for community to book attendance in advance or to notify us when they are not attending. We adapted to promote the events/activities closer to the event and also phoned attendees prior to confirm their attendance.
- We implemented a strategy to only have one RiverConnect staff at these activities where possible to ensure if one of us became unwell, we would maintain business continuity in relation to mandatory COVID-19 isolations.
- Unfortunately these challenges have impacted the ability to meet our annual targets for weeding, revegetation, school participation, and community engagement (in lieu of the World Rivers Day broadcast).
- Finalisation of the Committee of Management for Council assets on Parks Victoria managed land remains an on-going activity. Further progress has been made with meetings between Council and Parks Victoria to determine boundaries and regular internal meetings of Council stakeholder departments to ensure all assets and considerations are included.

d. How these challenges and/or issues are going to be mitigated or addressed:

- Continuing to work with schools and environmental education colleagues around their capacity and providing adaptations to remove barriers where possible. We will continue to operate as normal, with back up plans of Zoom or postponement of classes.
- RiverConnect staff will continue to keep the program flexible and adaptable and transfer activities to a COVID safe format (e.g. online / outdoors) instead of postponing, where suitable.
- To ensure the weeding and revegetation targets are met, RiverConnect will look to broaden the current focus on schools and expand to engage community and other groups.
- Council is currently working through additions to the Committee of Management boundaries to present to Parks Victoria for their final review.

e. If previous mitigations have been identified in earlier reports, how successful have these been?

- We have used online methods for engagement with positive effects in the past despite the challenges of these, and can easily revert to this if needed.
- Lockdowns have eased however we have ongoing contingency plans to postpone classes/events if needed.

f. A statement about the Project's approach for, and progress towards, supporting aboriginal engagement and collaboration:

- Facilitated relationship links between headspace and Kaiela Arts, aligned with headspace's focus to encourage youth Aboriginal engagement in mental health-related cultural workshops.
- Uncle Ruben Baksh continues to be passionate and enthusiastic about connecting students to culture and has directly facilitated relationships between RiverConnect and Shepparton Flexible Learning Centre. He delivered a pedal boat tour on the Victoria Park Lake for students as the first collaborative event and is keen to continue building upon this relationship.
- RiverConnect is continuing to support Uncle Ruben Baksh in progression towards formalisation of the Yiyirr Nitel Men's Group by facilitating meetings and relationships between Council staff including the Community Director and Community Wellbeing Manager.
- During the Shepparton Art Festival, RiverConnect engaged Kaiela Arts Gallery to deliver a Charcoal and Culture workshop which was a fantastic success for both the artists and community.
- RiverConnect has continued to show support for Aboriginal-led events including the Day of Mourning Ceremony, National Sorry Day and the upcoming NAIDOC week celebrations.
- The RiverConnect Project Officer has been attending outside of hours Weaving Workshop's by local Yorta Yorta woman, Suzanne Atkinson at the Point Of Difference Studio in Mooroopna. Many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal ladies attend the workshops and it has been a great opportunity to build relationships in a more relaxed setting. There have also been some discussions of enabling Traditional Owners to collect local native plant material to weave and will likely be explored in the future.
- RiverConnect continues to strengthen our relationship with Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation staff with continuous engagement and regular meetings.

Organisation declaration:

We declare that we are authorised representatives* of the recipient organisation, that the information given on this form is complete and correct and that expenditure of moneys paid under the financial agreement have been solely expended upon the project and in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and Conditions.

Name (please print)		Peter Harriott		Name (please print)		Geraldine Christou	
Position in organisation		CEO		Phone		5832 9700	
Position in organisation		Director Sustainable Development		Phone		5832 9700	
Signature		Date		Signature		Date	

* Declaration to be signed by the Organisation’s two responsible officers other than the Project Manager (for example, the Organisation’s President / Secretary or CEO and the Organisation’s Treasurer or Chief Finance Officer).