**BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING**

Dear Rural Communities Committee members,

The below opportunity to provide input into strategic bushfire management planning may be of interest to you.

**Please consider completing the survey on Loddon Mallee Strategic Bushfire Management Planning.**

It is the opportunity for everyone to have input into future bushfire management though a project known as **Safer Together**, a multi-agency process that addresses the risks posed by bushfires on both public and private land. It uses the latest science and technology and draws on values identified by the community that need protecting.

Planning teams consist of representatives from Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic), Country Fire Authority (CFA), Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) and local government, to protect human life, private property, the natural environment, human health and well-being, infrastructure, regional economies and cultural heritage, as identified as priorities so far through community input into the project.

The next step is to develop bushfire management strategies to help strike the right balance through future planning, and works such as fuel management, targeted community engagement, and prioritisation of government resources.

So what is different? Previous bushfire planning has been largely limited to bushfire risk on public land. This broader focus includes all land, public and private. Any work on private land will only be undertaken with landholder consent and is an opportunity to start a conversation with the community about how we can all work together to reduce bushfire risk.

**To have your say, go to:** [**https://engage.vic.gov.au/bushfire-planning**](https://engage.vic.gov.au/bushfire-planning)

Once on the page please click on Loddon Mallee to start.

The consultation period ends Monday 18 March.

Feel free to share this opportunity to provide input within your networks.

Sue Moses

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*The City of Greater Bendigo is on Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung Country.*