



Ararat Rural City

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## POMONAL & YARRAM GAP FIRE UPDATE

FRIDAY 8 AUGUST 2025

### HAVE YOUR SAY: DRAFT MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN

Council has endorsed a new plan that outlines goals and strategies to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for the Ararat Rural City community.

The Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-29 outlines the positive changes that Council aims to bring to community health and wellbeing.

The plan details the actions Council will take, as part of its operations and guided by available evidence, to implement these changes.

The Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-29 is open for community feedback on Engage Ararat until 5pm on Friday 15 August 2025.

Scan the QR code to provide your feedback, or visit Engage Ararat: [engage.ararat.vic.gov.au](https://engage.ararat.vic.gov.au)



### PRIMARY PRODUCER SUPPORT PAYMENTS

As part of the Victorian Government's Drought Support Package, primary producers in Ararat Rural City will receive a 40% reduction on their 2025-26 rates.

This support is part of the Primary Producer Support Payments initiative, to provide cashflow relief to farmers in regions hardest hit by ongoing drought conditions. The program is funded by the Victorian Government and administered by Council. The 40% reduction will apply to the Farm Rate and Municipal Charge across all properties rated as a farm as of 30 June 2025 for the 2025-26 financial year.

More information on the Primary Producer Support Payments initiative, and the Drought Support Package, can be found at [agriculture.vic.gov.au](https://agriculture.vic.gov.au).

### COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING WORKSHOPS

A further round of Community Emergency Management Planning workshops, facilitated by Ararat Rural City Council with support from Emergency Management Victoria, have been scheduled for August and October this year.

The workshops are designed to develop tailored strategies to address unique local vulnerabilities in our townships' emergency preparedness, response and recovery capabilities.

Workshops will be held at:

#### ELMHURST MECHANICS INSTITUTE

Monday 18 August 2025, from 6.30pm - 9.30pm

#### POMONAL HALL

Wednesday 8 October 2025, from 6.30pm - 9.30pm at Pomonal Hall

A free dinner will be provided. For catering purposes, please register via the QR code.

For more information, please call Council on (03) 5355 0200.



### POMONAL RECOVERY CENTRE OPERATING HOURS

Pomonal Recovery Centre operating hours as of 1 August 2025: **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am - 5pm (excluding Public Holidays).**

Manager of Planning & Building will be available to Pomonal residents by appointment.

For more information, and to make an appointment, please contact Ararat Rural City Council on (03) 5355 0200.

