Kindergarten Infrastructure and

Services Plan

Shire of Strathbogie

**CONTENTS**

1. Introduction 3

1.1. Reform context 3

1.2. Purpose of KISPs 3

1.3. How to use the KISP 3

1.4. Structure of the KISP 3

1.5. Disclaimer 4

2. Map of Early Childhood Education services in the Shire of Strathbogie 5

3. Local context 6

3.1 Purpose 6

3.2 Key considerations 6

4. Funded kindergarten enrolment estimates between 2021-29 for the Shire of Strathbogie 12

4.1 Purpose 12

4.2 Methodology 12

4.3 Summary of current kindergarten provision 13

4.4 Approach to optimising the use of existing services and infrastructure 14

4.5 Agreed estimates of demand for funded kindergarten places that cannot be met through existing services and infrastructure 16

5. Authorisation 18

# Introduction

## Reform context

In an Australian first, the Victorian Government has committed to implement Three-Year-Old Kindergarten for all children over a 10-year roll-out with a total investment of almost $5 billion, including $1.68 billion to support the infrastructure expansion required for the reform. This reform will add another year of universal funded kindergarten so that, by 2029, all children in Victoria will have access to two years of play-based learning through a funded kindergarten program.

## Purpose of KISPs

Three-Year-Old Kindergarten will require a large expansion of kindergarten across the State. The Government has invited all 79 Victorian Local Governments to discuss and agree upon a Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan (KISP) for their Local Government Area (LGA).

Each KISP has been jointly developed with Local Government and published to estimate the growth in demand for kindergarten within the LGA. The KISPs will help all kindergarten providers meet demand and provide a clear picture of infrastructure need across the State.

While a KISP is not a funding document and does not define required infrastructure projects or commit any party to funding specific projects, it is expected that future investment requests through Building Blocks and funding decisions about Local Government and not-for-profit projects would align with the relevant KISP.

## How to use the KISP

Each KISP contains estimates of future kindergarten supply of, and demand for, Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places against existing enrolment capacity. Not-for-profit and for-profit providers can use these estimates to inform their plans to expand kindergarten programs, establish new services or invest in new or extended facilities.

For example, KISPs provide demand estimates in terms of where, when and how much demand for kindergarten places will grow in an LGA. KISPs also estimate where and how many kindergarten places providers can accommodate in existing facilities before an area needs new infrastructure to meet demand. The estimates can be used to inform decisions about where and when expansions of kindergarten program capacity and the construction of new or extended facilities are needed to meet demand growth.

Where there is an agreed KISP for the LGA, the Local Government and not-for-profit kindergarten providers seeking co-investments through the Building Blocks Capacity Building stream must refer to, and align their proposed project with, the infrastructure need identified in the KISP.

## Structure of the KISP

Each KISP consists of the following sections:

* **Section 1**: A short introduction to the Three-Year-Old Kindergarten reform and the KISP.
* **Section 2**: A map of existing and planned Early Childhood Education and Care service locations.
* **Section 3**: Local knowledge and context relevant to the expansion of kindergarten services.
* **Section 4**: Funded kindergarten demand estimates.

## Disclaimer

All data presented in this document are estimates only and are based on the best information available to the Department and Local Government at the time. They are published on an as-is basis and are for informational purposes only. They are subject to adjustment in response to market forces and as new data and other relevant information becomes available. The data may under- or over-estimate both total demand in a given location or year and the capacity for new demand to be met by providers. As a result, operational and business decisions should not be made solely based on this document. Any use of this data is solely at the risk of the user. The Department and Local Government accept no responsibility for any loss or damage, either direct or incidental, that may result from the use of the data.

# Map of Early Childhood Education services in the Shire of Strathbogie

The map below shows the distribution of currently operating and new services that are planned to open in the future in the LGA and across its communities.

This map has been prepared using Departmental data, from both the National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS) and the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA). Where applicable, this map has been refined by the Strathbogie Shire Council and the Department to capture other services that are planned to open in the future.

 

# Local context

 d

## 3.1 Purpose

Local, place-based knowledge and context play an important role in supporting the implementation of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten across Victoria. This section of the KISP documents this knowledge and context and has informed the funded kindergarten enrolment estimates in Section 4.

## 3.2 Key considerations

**Key demographic trends that influence demand for kindergarten**

**Strathbogie is attracting interest from tree-changers home buyers**

The proximity of Strathbogie Shire to Melbourne - 125 kilometres at the southern end in Nagambie makes it an inclusion in the “2 hours golden circle” from a capital city which attracts residents to country and village lifestyles.

The Strathbogie towns of Nagambie, Avenel, Euroa, and Violet town are attracting the interest of families seeking to move out of Melbourne.

Strathbogie Shire although predominantly agricultural land has two main population centres, Euroa (3279) and Nagambie (1880) are attractive regional towns of a good size, with good local amenities but not so big to have become impersonal. Strathbogie Shire towns are personable friendly communities and attracting interest from families aspiring to make a treechange.

The continued nationwide rollout of the NBN and the impacts of COVID 19 have shown that many Australians now realise they don’t need to live in the major cities for work, which could lead to big changes in the years ahead for shires such as Strathbogie that are within this 2 hour circle from Melbourne.

Employers have also become more prepared to operate with a working-from-home model, even after social distancing measures have eased.

**Coivid-19 Impacts on population growth**

Strathbogie Shire has not been a location where international migration has added substantially to population growth; therefore, it will not be affected by the sudden halt to international immigration which has driven growth in metropolitan Melbourne. Growth is more likely to occur as a result of movement away from cities and to the attractions of country living and new housing developments.

**Covid-19 forced many people to work from home** and proved that there is now real flexibility in choosing a place to live and work. Employers are more accepting of remote working. Tele-commuting is a reality with widespread acceptance therefore allowing businesses to operate from home and staff to stop, or at least greatly reduce the inefficient daily commute.

**NBN Survey - Connectivity making e-scape dreams come true**

Of Victorian residents surveyed by the NBN:

* 38 per cent are more likely to relocate to their ideal community after COVID-19
* 78 per cent say they couldn’t achieve the flexible lifestyle they’re seeking without access to fast and reliable broadband
* 57 per cent of those considering relocation are still keen to call Victoria home
* **50 per cent of those living in Melbourne would relocate regionally**
* 58 per cent indicate a good choice of local cafes and restaurants, and access to green spaces for exercising and relaxing, are their ideal community’s key features

There is a definite movement and aspiration expressed in these survey results which is likely to bring more working age people and families to Strathbogie Shire.

There is a significant group of housing developments in the pipeline.**The population of Strathbogie Shire is 10,781 currently and forecast to increase to over 15,000 by 2036.** This forecast is based on Strathbogie Shire data on proposed housing development applications.

**Projects or trends that may influence supply of early childhood education and care**

**Housing in Strathbogie is more affordable than the average for regional Victoria.**

The median house price in Strathbogie Shire is $310,000 which is $55,000 below the Victorian Regional average. Sales figures for 2018 showed a 13% increase in house sales and 76% increase in vacant land sales which indicates an increase in demand for housing in Strathbogie Shire. **91 % of houses in Strathbogie Shire are separate houses in low density settings attractive to families.**

**Proposed development, subdivisions projects and planning**

Council planning records show that most developments and sub- divisions are proposed for Nagambie. 81% of new housing development is proposed for Nagambie and the number of new dwellings in Nagambie is forecast to increase by 1254 by year 2036 adding a further 2642 people to the Nagambie population.

In other parts of the Shire the remaining 19% of proposals contribute a further 598 in new dwellings and 1432 in population by 2036 if fully realised.

**Key local geographic considerations or information relevant to Three-Year-Old Kindergarten**

**Kindergarten Locations in Strathbogie**

**Nagambie:** populated by 1880 people, new housing and development is growing in Nagambie. The attractions of the lake, recreational facilities, water sports, transport by freeway and railway is creating buyer interest.

Proposed new sub-divisions and developments are forecast to add 1254 dwellings by 2036.

During 2020 the Victorian government announced a $400 million Shepparton Rail Line Upgrade will enable nine daily return passenger services to Melbourne stopping at Nagambie. Available rail is an additional benefit to those who may wish to live in Nagambie and commute to Melbourne regularly or occasionally.

It has also been announced that Nagambie State School will be funded for a redevelopment.

**Avenel:**  has a population of 1054, new housing in Avenel has introduced new families to the town.

Further housing developments of 118 homes are proposed, the town is well located close to the Hume Highway with a Kindergarten and primary school.

Avenel and district has been identified as a future growth area, reflected by the relatively high rate of historic growth of 1.7%

In addition to population growth Avenel kindergarten receives enrolments from neighbouring Mitchell Shire residents where the kindergarten is a feeder to the highly regarded Avenel Primary School.

**Euroa:** with a larger population of 3279 and an active regional administrative centre, Euroa has two kindergartens two primary schools and a secondary school. Euroa is the district regional and administrative centre. The Strathbogie Shire Offices are located here. Euroa also draws those living in the small villages and districts into a regional service centre for agriculture.

Further development of 145 homes are proposed.

Euroa also has medical and hospital facilities.

**Violet Town:** is placed just off ofthe Hume Hwy (M31) and also sits on the interstate railway line, Violet Town is smaller and has a kindergarten and primary school. Violet Town is famous for the monthly farmer’s market, a friendly atmosphere that draws thousands of visitors to the town each third Saturday of the month. Population is 872. Further development of 24 homes are proposed.

**Rural and regional factors**

Unlike metropolitan suburbs, going to kindergarten or school in Strathbogie Shire is often not a choice of many available options but rather a choice of the one which is near and available. Unlike suburbs in Melbourne where there may be several nearby kindergartens and several privately operated facilities, in Strathbogie Shire it is not the case.

Parents are unable to shop for a kindergarten place when the next available place may be an unsustainable 50 kilometres drive away. Therefore, having available spaces in the four locations of Nagambie, Euroa, Avenel; and Violet Town is an imperative for accessibility of children’s access to services.

**Distances**

Strathbogie’s towns are within the golden circle of two hours from Melbourne however, the space between the towns does not promote likelihood of parents of kindergarten aged children shuttling between towns to transport kids to kinder.

An example of this is if there were no places in Nagambie it is unlikely that the parents will drive to Avenel or Euroa for kinder. This would be unlikely due to the travel time and transport costs as they are inhibiting factors for the parents.

The same can be said for the combination of possibilities for the other towns. It is not the same as Melbourne suburb where there may be several kindergarten options or at least another available and accessible location in a neighbouring suburb.

* **Avenel to Euroa is** **38 kilometres, 76 return**
* **Nagambie to Euroa is 48 kilometres, 96 return**
* **Violet town to Euroa is 20 kilometres, 40 return**
* **Nagambie to Violet town is 61 kilometres, 122 return**

**Public transport options do not work for drop off and pickups to kindergarten between towns in Strathbogie Shire.**

Local program availability in the towns is an important factor to meeting the aim of educating all 3 and 4 year old children at kindergarten.

**Birth rates**

According to ABS statistics there has been a consistent birth rate and the number of persons aged 0-4 years of age was 504 in 2019 and had risen from 480 in 2014. The number of births in Strathbogie Shire was 95 in 2018, 93 in 2017 and 88 in 2016.

**According to the ABS 2016 Census of population**

* 872 people lived in the Violet Town area
* 3279 people lived in the Euroa area
* 1054 people lived in the Avenel area
* 1880 people lived in the Nagambie area
* 3187 people lived in locations outside these town and district centres.

However, the most important indicator of growth is the development applications and sub-divisions likely to be developed. There is a significant additional housing development on the books which will increase housing and population – mainly in the Nagambie township.

According to ABS Statistics the current estimated population growth in Nagambie is 2.24% per annum, which is greater than the current average population growth of 1.37% seen in regional Victoria. Predicted population rates based on 2.24% would see Nagambie’s population reach 2442 over the next 5 years and 2728 over the next 10 years.

Unlike many other regional locations who have seen population growth as a result of the increased population of Empty Nesters and Retirees Nagambie has seen significant population growth in the Young Workforce 25-34 year age group. From 2011 – 2016 this age group increased by 28%. Our expectation is that population growth in this demographic will have a direct correlation to an increase in the 0-4 age group over the next 10 years.

In addition, long day care demands over the past 5 years has continued to grow in Nagambie in fact from 2017 to 2021 children attending daycare has grown by 235%. The growth in long day care will begin to feed into the requirements of 3 year old and 4 year old kindergarten enrolments as these kids come of age.

**Estimate of population growth based on Strathbogie Shire projections:**

The numbers below are based on Strathbogie Shire Council issued building permits 2016-2019. Urban residential subdivisions approved by Council 2014-2019 & subdivision applications before Council as of 09/09/2020.

* **2016-2019 additional 710 residents**
* 10,984 residents in Strathbogie Shire as of 2019
* **Projected total population of Strathbogie Shire in 2036 - 15,058**
* Projected growth of + 4,074 residents between 2019-2036
* **Dwellings projected to increase by + 1,852 between 2019-2036**

These are significant increases which should be carefully considered for all planning and future educational needs in the Strathbogie Shire. The majority of these population and housing increases will occur in Nagambie and Avenel with these locations expected to represent around 74% of total projected growth for the Shire.

The Shire will look to focus on population growth targeted towards young and mid-life families, which will support labour force growth and provide for a more sustainable community in the future. Should this strategy prove successful growth will put pressure on current kindergarten capacity.

**Other information about the expansion of early childhood services**

**Employment levels and growth**

Available jobs and income are key, employment in Strathbogie Shire has been stable and endured the Covid- 19 crisis. Trades and self-employed business people are popular occupations. An increase in new housing would support a larger number of tradespeople.

In 2019 there were 3593 people with jobs in Strathbogie Shire which grew by 5% in the past year.

78% of these jobs are contained within Strathbogie Shire. Employment opportunities are enhanced by the proximity of large region centres adjacent to the Shire at Shepparton and Seymour.

There is a significant level of business ownership with over 1400 businesses, 46% are agricultural and 68 % non-employing, many are trade and agriculture related small businesses.

**Unemployment rate**

As at March 2020 (pre Covid impacts) the unemployment rate in Strathbogie was 3.6%. This rate was lower than other comparable regions. The impact of Covid 19 on employment has yet to work its way through the economy because (at the time of writing) JobKeeper has supported businesses and employees have been retained. Over 380 employing Businesses have applied each month for JobKeeper support in Strathbogie Shire.

**Strathbogie Shire is rated as the 26th most disadvantaged of 79 Victorian municipalities by the SEIFA 2016 index**

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) is a product developed by the ABS that ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. The indexes are based on information from the five-yearly Census. SEIFA 2016 is based on Census 2016 data, and consists of four indexes, each focusing on a different aspect of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage and being a summary of a different subset of Census variables. Some common uses of SEIFA include:

* determining areas that require funding and services,
* identifying new business opportunities,
* and assisting research into the relationship between socio-economic disadvantage and various social outcomes.

The Strathbogie Shire score on the index of relative socio-economic disadvantage was 974 in 2016. The lower the score indicates greater disadvantage with 1000 being the median score.

Attendance at kindergarten in Strathbogie Shire should not be hindered by social or economic disadvantage, all children and families should be included in the benefits and joys of early childhood development.

Local Government Areas with low scores are more likely to contain people who may be unable to join in with community activity including all forms of education.

Consideration should be given to the prospect that some parents in Strathbogie may, due to their socio-economic disadvantage find it difficult to have their children participate in 3 and4 year old kindergarten program.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDEXES FOR AREAS (SEIFA) 2016

[https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/2033.0.55.001Main+Features12016?OpenDocument](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/Lookup/2033.0.55.001Main%2BFeatures12016?OpenDocument)

Endnotes and references

<https://www.realestate.com.au/news/melbourne-residents-to-make-sea-and-tree-changes-report-predicts/>

<http://ripehouseadvisory.com.au/assets/ripehouseadvisory_covid_19_vs_property_2020.pd>

<https://www.innovation-intelligence.com/covid-19-could-usher-in-a-regional-boom>

<https://www.nbnco.com.au/corporate-information/media-centre/media-statements/national-flexible-lifestyle>, consul

[Connectivity making e-scape dreams come true | nbn (nbnco.com.au)](https://www.nbnco.com.au/blog/the-nbn-project/connectivity-making-e-scape-streams-come-true)

[https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/2033.0.55.001Main+Features12016?OpenDocument](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/Lookup/2033.0.55.001Main%2BFeatures12016?OpenDocument)

[Service age groups | Strathbogie Shire | Community profile (id.com.au)](https://profile.id.com.au/strathbogie/service-age-groups?WebID=120)

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) is an ABS product that ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. The indexes are based on information from the five-yearly Census of Population and Housing.

# Funded kindergarten enrolment estimates between 2021-29 for the Shire of Strathbogie

## 4.1 Purpose

As Three-Year-Old Kindergarten is rolled-out and Victoria’s population grows, demand for both Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places will increase significantly. While additional capacity will be needed to meet this demand, this will vary across the State and over time, due to differences in the capacity of existing services, growth trends and sector composition.

To identify where, when and how many additional kindergarten places are expected over the roll-out in the Shire of Strathbogie, the Strathbogie Shire Council and the Department have developed:

1. A summary of the current provision of kindergarten within the LGA (**Section 4.3**).
2. An approach to optimising the utilisation of existing services and infrastructure through ‘change management’ strategies that the Strathbogie Shire Council and the Department will support to help meet additional demand in the LGA (**Section 4.4**).
3. An estimate of the Three and Four-Year-Old kindergarten places that cannot be met through existing services for the 2021-29 period, taking into account the additional demand that can be accommodated by optimising utilisation of existing services and infrastructure through point 2, above (**Section 4.5**).

Local Government and providers can use these published estimates to inform reform implementation activities such as service planning, kindergarten program expansion, infrastructure investments and Building Blocks funding applications in alignment with future demand over the 10-year roll-out.

## 4.2 Methodology

The estimated Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places used in the following sections have been agreed between the Strathbogie Shire Council and the Department, and were informed by:

* Estimates developed by the Department which draw on a range of inputs, including population forecasts, current enrolments and results from the Kindergarten Capacity Assessment Program (KCAP), conducted in 2019.
* The estimated capacity of new services that are planned to open in the LGA (Section 2)
* Local knowledge and context provided by the Local Government (Section 3) that explains particular issues and trends in their area.
* The approach to optimising utilisation of existing services in the LGA (Section 4.4), and
* Other sources, such as modelling undertaken by Local Governments and local data.

The KISP measures a service’s capacity to deliver funded kindergarten in terms of the number of children it could enrol in Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten. The number of funded kindergarten places is different from a service’s licensed or approved places, which count the number of children permitted to attend the service at any one time under the license. Many services can enrol more children in their funded kindergarten program(s) than they have licensed places for because they can run more than one kindergarten program per week. Kindergarten places are therefore a more accurate measure of service kindergarten capacity than licensed places.

Three-Year-Old Kindergarten places have been presented as 15-hour places so they can be easily compared to Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places. Moreover, when Three-Year-Old Kindergarten is fully rolled-out in 2029, every three-year-old child will have access to 15-hours of kindergarten.

From 2023 all providers will have flexibility to determine how many hours of funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten they deliver per week, with a minimum of five hours and a maximum of 15-hours funded pro-rata. It is expected that hours offered will vary. Given this variation, **it is important to be aware that during the transition to all three-year-old children receiving 15-hours of funded kindergarten per week in 2029,** **the 15‑hour places presented in this report may represent multiple three-year-old places that individually receive less than 15-hours of kindergarten per week.**

These estimates have been developed at an LGA and community level to show the overall forecast and variation within an area. The KISP defines community at the Statistical Area Level 2, which is medium-sized areas which represent a community that interacts socially and economically, with a population range of 3,000 to 25,000 people, and an average population of about 10,000 people.

## 4.3 Summary of current kindergarten provision

The figures below provide a summary of current kindergarten provision within the LGA and provide relevant context for the estimates of demand for funded kindergarten places included in Section 4.5. The data included in this section are largely drawn from:

* The Kindergarten Capacity Assessment Program (KCAP), collected between June and October 2019.
* The Department’s Kindergarten Information Management System (KIMS), as at 2019.
* The Department’s Quality and Regulatory Division (QARD) monitoring data, as at 2019.
* The National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS), as at April 2020.
* The Victorian Child and Adolescent Monitoring System (VCAMS), as at 2018.

Please note that, because these sources were collected at different points, this may result in slightly different totals appearing in the below data.

|  |
| --- |
|  Number of services by service type (NQAITs, 2020) |
| Stand-alone kindergartens | 2 |
| Long day care centres  | 3 |

|  |
| --- |
| Percentage of services by management type, LGA level (NQAITs, 2020) |
| ***Type*** | ***Percentage***  |
| Local Government | 0% |
| Private not for profit | 100% |
| Private for profit | 0% |
| Other | 0% |

|  |
| --- |
| Current kindergarten offering |
| Four-Year-Old Kindergarten participation rate (VCAMS, 2018): | 109% |
| Number of services that offer a funded kindergarten program (DET, 2019): | 5 |
| Number of services that offer an unfunded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program (DET, 2019): | 4 |



## 4.4 Approach to optimising the use of existing services and infrastructure

**Change management strategies to optimise existing** **services and infrastructure**

Children can often be accommodated through existing spare places and by services ‘unlocking’ unused capacity. As the experience of providers in the 2020 Three-Year-Old Kindergarten roll-out LGAs shows, while the optimisation of existing services can be challenging, it is highly time- and cost-effective compared to building new capacity through infrastructure projects. It also helps target infrastructure investment to the places that need it most and avoids over-supplying the local market.

The Strathbogie Shire Council and the Department will support providers and services to maximise their kindergarten places through the following change management activities and practices:

* Increasing the capacity of any Local Government operated services by:
	+ Running additional programs.
	+ Using different timetables, including running 7.5-hour days.
	+ Changing the delivery model, such as introducing rotational models or mixed-age groups.
	+ Having degree-qualified kindergarten teachers leading integrated kindergarten programs in long day care settings.
* Encouraging and supporting other providers and services in the LGA to undertake change management.

The Strathbogie Shire Council and the Department have estimated how many Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places can be accommodated through existing services in the LGA (**Table 1**). Both parties are committed to helping providers and services offer these kindergarten places before progressing to funded infrastructure solutions to meet demand. This commitment is reflected in the LGA and community level estimates below (**Table 2** onwards), which assume that demand will be met first through existing services and second through additional infrastructure. Note that in some cases the number of kindergarten places that can be offered through existing services may exceed demand for kindergarten places.

**Table 1: total estimated funded kindergarten places that can be offered by optimising existing services and infrastructure across the LGA, between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Estimated existing supply of kindergarten places\* | 320 | 320 | 320 | 320 | 320 | 320 | 320 | 320 | 320 |
| Total three and four-year-old places that can be accommodated by optimising existing services\*\* | 320-445 | 320-445 | 320-445 | 320-445 | 320-445 | 320-445 | 320-445 | 320-445 | 320-445 |

*\**This may be higher than current three and four-year-old enrolments as it includes any spare places that are currently available or could be generated by making some minor adjustments to programming approaches.

\*\*The likely expansion of services and kindergarten places in response to population growth (i.e. growth in demand not generated by the Three-Year-Old Kindergarten Reform that would likely occur) is not accounted for in these estimates.

## 4.5 Agreed estimates of demand for funded kindergarten places that cannot be met through existing services and infrastructure

The below estimates (**Table 2** onwards) have been developed by the Strathbogie Shire Council and the Department to illustrate the estimated:

1. Total number of Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places expected over the roll-out period.
2. Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by optimising existing services and infrastructure over the roll-out period.

These estimates have been developed to reflect that the increase in demand for Three-Year-Old Kindergarten places will be gradual.

In estimating how many Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places cannot be accommodated by existing services and infrastructure, the Strathbogie Shire Council and the Department have taken into account any new places that will be made available through planned expansions of existing services or new services, into estimates of existing supply, where this information is available. This may include Local Government owned services being developed and planned Kindergartens on School Sites.

These estimates do not, however, estimate how and when the broader sector will expand to meet the additional demand for kindergarten places that are estimated over the roll-out period.

Infrastructure need in the LGA and its local communities is indicated by the bottom rows of the tables in this section (**Table 2** onwards): ‘Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services’. For example, if the number of kindergarten places for the LGA or a community is above zero in this row, it means that the area is estimated to need additional infrastructure (noting that further optimisation which avoids the need for additional infrastructure may be possible). Any type of provider – Local Government, not-for-profit or for-profit – can build this additional infrastructure. If this row shows all zeros, it means that there is no estimated need for additional infrastructure in the area.

Local Government and not-for-profit kindergarten providers must refer to the estimates in this section when applying through the Building Blocks Capacity Building Grants stream for Government funding. Under this stream, projects must be in a community where there is infrastructure need as shown in the community’s table of estimated demand for kindergarten places (i.e. there are numbers in the bottom row above zero). Projects in LGAs or communities where demand can be met through existing services (i.e. the bottom row shows all zeros) are not eligible for funding under this stream.

**LGA estimates**

**Table 2: estimated three and four-year-old kindergarten places between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LGA level estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 188 | 196 | 200 | 201 | 202 | 213 | 212 | 212 | 212 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

**Community estimates**

**Table 3-4: estimated three and four-year-old kindergarten places between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Euroa estimates**  | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 100 | 104 | 105 | 106 | 105 | 111 | 110 | 110 | 110 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Nagambie estimates**  | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 88 | 92 | 95 | 96 | 97 | 102 | 102 | 102 | 102 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

# Authorisation

The Acting Area Executive Director (Goulburn) of the Department of Education and Training and the Chief Executive of Strathbogie Shire Council endorse this Kindergarten Services and Infrastructure Plan (KISP) for the Shire of Strathbogie by signing on 20 / 04 / 2021.

This KISP is not intended to create legal relations or constitute a legally binding contractual agreement between the parties. The parties may review this KISP in 2024 to publish a new version that will replace the previous version.

An out-of-cycle review may be triggered if both parties agree that there has been a change in relevant data, information or the local early childhood sector that significantly affects the reliability of a KISP’s estimates for planning purposes.

**Signed for and on behalf and with the authority of the Strathbogie Shire Council**

…………………………………… …………………………………

Signature Witness Signature

Name: Julie Saloman

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Address: 109 Binney Street, Euroa

**Signed by Acting Area Executive Director (Goulburn), Department of Education and Training**

…………………………………… …………………………………

Signature Witness Signature

Name: Sharon Hensgen-Smith

Title: Acting Area Executive Director (Goulburn)

Address: 150 Bridge Street East, Benalla, 3672