



## Types of Government

In Australia there are three types of government – local (Ballarat), state (Victoria) and federal (Australia).

The City of Ballarat is our local government area and is on the Traditional Lands of the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung Peoples.

## What does Council do?

The Council has lots of people in many different jobs that help keep Ballarat running.

**Some of the things Council does are:**

- Waste management (like coming to empty your bins)
- Providing fun local events, like the Begonia Festival
- Looking after our great parks, playgrounds and reserves
- Providing childcare and kindergarten
- Providing our local Libraries and programs and services
- Caring for and adopting out stray cats and dogs
- Keeping lost pets safe until their owner is found
- School crossing supervisors keeping kids safe
- Helping people as they get older
- Making sure young people (aged 12-25) have lots of things to do and ways to be involved in the community
- Planning for how many people will live in Ballarat in the future and how we will make sure we have the right neighbourhoods for those people.

## What is Council?

**Council is the elected 'councillors', who represent the people in their area; and the people who work at the Council.**

People over 18 who live in Ballarat or own a house or property in Ballarat vote every four years to choose councillors, and those councillors are responsible for making sure the services provided by the Council are meeting the needs of the people.

## What is a Council Plan?

**A Council Plan is developed every four years. The council plan focuses on:**

### **Liveability**

Making sure Ballarat is a great place to live

### **Prosperity**

Providing opportunities for people to make money

### **Sustainability**

Protecting and looking after the environment

### **Accountability**

Making sure the people in charge are doing a good job