



---

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

10 July 2023

# **Huon Valley Council endorses Food Resilience Strategy**

Council has endorsed the Huon Valley Food Resilience Strategy at its June meeting.

The strategy has been designed to support advocacy and guide the growth of a vibrant and connected food system. It provides a framework for guiding and informing opportunities and proposes criteria for decision thinking and making.

The Food Resilience Strategy will help the Huon Valley Council improve coordination and collaboration among different sectors and levels of government where matters relate to the growth and production of food.

“The strategy will build on the existing efforts of businesses, community and other support agencies and services within the Huon Valley to support further initiatives and make the region more resilient,” said Huon Valley Mayor Sally Doyle.

The Covid-19 pandemic highlighted the fragility of our food systems at a global, state, and local level. All parts of the supply chain, from producers to consumers were impacted, demonstrating the importance of resilience at multiple levels.

To support pandemic recovery in the region, this project led the development of an innovative Food Resilience Strategy for the Huon Valley in consultation with the community.

The strategy focuses on how resilient our food system is by considering the health and capacity of six key areas: financial, manufactured, intellectual, human, social, and natural capitals.

Three key priorities emerged when considering the strategy's vision “To grow the capacity for resilience in the Huon Valley food system.” These priorities include:



Priority 01: Make the most of what we have – Harnessing rich natural and intellectual assets for sustainable development. Examples include seed libraries, community education through workshops and classes, agri-tourism.

Priority 02: Build together – A food system connected by social capital. Examples include shopping local, harvest time food hubs, community gardens.

Priority 03: Strive for change – Thriving social and human capital breaking down structural barriers. Examples include reducing food miles, circular economy, school breakfast clubs.

“A key outcome of the strategy is the formation of a food coalition, where there will be high level policy advocacy for a more resilient food system at a local level.”

An annual review of this strategy will support ongoing strategic decision making around food system resilience, and support further integration of novel accounting tools.

Thank you to the Australian Government’s *Building Better Regions Fund* for funding the development of the Huon Valley Food Resilience Strategy.

**For more information: Mayor Sally Doyle (03) 6264 0300**