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AGENDA OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

To be held on Monday 26 July 2021 at 6.00pm

This Council Meeting will be held Virtually

**This meeting will be closed to the public pursuant to
Section 395 of the Local Government Act 2020**

**The meeting will be livestreamed and may be accessed
from Councils website www.darebin.vic.gov.au.**

Persons wishing to submit a 'Public Question' may do so online by 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting via the Question and Submissions form on Council website .



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Council pays respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.



English

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

Arabic

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8470 8888.

Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目，请致电8470 8888。

Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriiir 8470 8888.

Spanish

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کا ایجنڈا ہے۔ ایجنڈے کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8470 8888 پر فون کریں۔

Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Họp Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

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Agenda

1. OPENING OF MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Lina Messina (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Emily Dimitriadis

Cr. Tom Hannan

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Susanne Newton

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

3. APOLOGIES

4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 June 2021 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

6. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Members of the public can lodge questions for Council to answer at an Ordinary Council meeting.

Due to the current COVID-19 health crisis and associated requirements residents and interested persons are strongly encouraged to view this Council meeting online.

The meeting will not be open to the public and accordingly public questions to be answered at the meeting will only be received up until 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting.

QUESTIONS

Members of the public can ask up to three (3) questions at an Ordinary Council meeting.

Questions submitted online will be responded to in the first instance.

Any question not answered at the meeting will be taken on notice and a written response will be provided to the person asking the question.

In accordance with the Council Governance Rules 2020, the Chairperson may disallow a question if it:

- a) relates to a matter outside the duties, functions or powers of Council;
- b) is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance;
- c) may lead to a breach of Council's statutory obligations;
- d) relates to a Notice of Motion, Petition or item of urgent business;
- e) deals with a subject matter already answered;
- f) is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or an Officer; or
- g) deals with a matter that should be, or has been, considered as a confidential matter or relates to any matter in respect of which Council may close the Meeting to the public under section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

No questions directed at an individual Councillor or Officer will be allowed

SUBMISSIONS OR COMMENTS

Due to the meeting not being open to members of the public no submissions or comments will be able to be made on reports listed on the agenda .

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION OR MAKE A COMMENT OR SUBMISSION

Members of the public who wish to ask a question, or make a comment or submission to an agenda item, at an Ordinary Council Meeting may register their question or submission before 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting in one of the following ways:

- (a) online at darebin.vic.gov.au/questionsandsubmissions; or
- (b) by mail to PO Box 91, Preston 3072.

Council meetings can be viewed at the Watch Council and Planning Committee meetings page.

Agenda's will be available for viewing on Council's website at the 'Meeting Agendas and Minutes' page by 5pm, up to 6 days prior to the date of the meeting.

7. PETITIONS

8. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

8.1 DAREBIN INTERCULTURAL CENTRE PROGRAMMING THINK TANK

Author: Manager Creative Culture and Events

Reviewed By: General Manager Community

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the draft terms of reference to establish a new Programming Think Tank (PTT) to refocus the programming vision, strategies and objectives aligned to the relocation and renewal of the Intercultural Centre to 350 High Street Preston.

The PTT is designed to inform and guide the evolution of the Intercultural Centre during this period of renewal and relocation. The forum will bring together peak bodies, community leaders and community experts from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and experiences to work with Council Officers between September 2021 and February 2022.

Officer Recommendation

That Council

- (1) Endorses the proposed plan for expressions of interest to establish a short-term Programming Think Tank for the Darebin Intercultural Centre.
 - (2) Endorses the proposed Draft Darebin Intercultural Centre Programming Think Tank Terms of Reference at **Appendix B**.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

At its meeting on 24 May 2021, Council endorsed the proposal and concept designs to relocate the Intercultural Centre to a new home, in the heart of the Preston Town Hall Precinct, located at 350 High Street Preston. Council also tasked officers to propose a plan to establish a short-term 'Intercultural Programming Vision Group' that includes external advisors to prepare and establish a vision, objectives and strategies on future programming for the new Intercultural Centre.

The Darebin Intercultural Centre was established in 2011, conceived as a centre of excellence for intercultural relations and ongoing community development. It was intended as a practical demonstration of Council's objective to foster cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and connectedness between Darebin's diverse cultural groups.

The establishment of a PTT as a community-led and collaborative platform will renew the stated vision, mission and approach of the program at **Appendix A**.

The PTT will be convened from September 2021 and work in concert with the commencement of the construction phase of the Intercultural Centre Relocation Project into

the early stages of 2022. The Manager, Creative Culture & Events will convene these meetings and ensure good governance informs meeting protocols.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 24 May 2021, Council resolved to:

- (1) *Endorse the concept design for the relocated Intercultural Centre and approve the project proceeding to tender.*
- (2) *Note the recommendations of the Community Reference Group as supported by Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.*
- (3) *Receives a report in July 2021 on setting up a short term 'Intercultural Programming Vision Group' that includes external advisors to prepare and establish a vision, objectives and strategies on future programming for the new Intercultural Centre.*

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

The PTT itself is the consultation process. The PTT is a short-term, high impact, think tank that brings together our most trusted partners and community leaders to further develop the programming framework for the future Intercultural Centre.

The PTT will make its contribution to targeted agendas within the think tank sessions, which will be interpreted by officers into a programming framework guide for use in the years to come after the PTT membership has dispersed.

Think Tank Plan

A focus on a targeted culturally and linguistically diverse recruitment drive will invite expressions of interest from peak multicultural organisations, partners, local community organisations and representative groups to join the PTT. The candidates will be assessed to bring about a diverse, representative group to work together towards an ambitious new vision and programming offer at the Intercultural Centre. The engagement plan will seek to reach existing collaborators, previous Community Reference Group members, existing peak bodies and associations as well as reach to new networks and relations.

Bringing together a range of perspectives, experiences and interest, the PTT members will be aligned to the Terms of Reference (**Appendix B**).

Workshops will be designed to gain the insight and experience of the membership directly into the programming framework for the Darebin Intercultural Centre. The wider community will be informed and encouraged to join the conversation and ideas of the PTT to verify and ground the outcomes through regular updates on the Darebin Your Say page and through targeted e-Newsletters inviting further feedback and engagement.

Guiding principles

The guiding principles of the PTT are grounded in a social inclusion and Council's Towards Equality human rights-based framework, affirming:

- The rights of all people in Darebin to equal access to services, projects and programs initiated by Darebin Intercultural Centre and to participate in all aspects of civic life.
- The rights of all people in Darebin to observe their cultural practices and beliefs without fear of discrimination or any form of social disadvantage.
- The need for continued awareness raising, advocacy and community-based action to address barriers to equality faced by members of Darebin communities.

Expressions of Interest

Invitations to express interest in being a part of the short-term PTT will be targeted and include:

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation (Wurundjeri)

The acknowledgement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners of this land is the anchor point from which the centre and its programs must be based. The internal working group has an established relationship with Wurundjeri in relation to the Intercultural Centre relocation project. The Wurundjeri consultation team have indicated that Aunty Diane Kerr has expressed interest in providing input into the Intercultural Centre programming.

Following feedback provided by Wurundjeri Corporation as part of the evaluation process of the Intercultural Centre relocation project consultation process, local Elders will be invited to participate in the PTT in addition to Aunty Diane Kerr.

Strategic stakeholders

Representatives from peak bodies and key organisations will be invited to express interest in participating the PTT. Key stakeholders include:

- Darebin Ethnic Communities Council
- Victorian Multicultural Commission
- Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria
- Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia
- Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Australian Human Rights Commission
- Scanlon Foundation
- Welcoming Cities
- Australia GLBTIQ Multicultural Council
- Thorne Harbour
- Women's Health in the North
- Action on Disability within Ethnic Communities
- Multicultural Arts Victoria
- Melbourne Polytechnic International Students Department
- La Trobe International Students Department

Intercultural Centre Relocation Project Community Reference Group (CRG)

The members of the Intercultural Centre CRG as well as all applicants who expressed interest in being a part of the CRG during 2020 will be invited to submit an expression of interest to the PTT.

Darebin advisory and steering committees

Representatives from the Darebin Youth Jury, Darebin Interfaith Council, the Welcoming Cities Steering Committee and the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council Steering Committee will be invited to express their interest in participating in the PTT.

The PTT will work with officers to consider the programming vision, objectives and framework, further developing and refining the methods that the Darebin Intercultural Centre can take to create positive change for the Darebin community. Regular meetings of the PTT will commence in October 2021 and conclude in February 2022.

Other communications will include regular updates to existing stakeholders, and ongoing development of relationships across the local community and broader sector, including potential future participants and partners. Any feedback obtained through these mediums will be incorporated into program design and relayed at the PTT's subsequent meeting.

Key messages for communications throughout this process will include:

- (1) The Darebin Intercultural Centre is moving from 59A Roseberry Street, Preston to 350 High Street, Preston
- (2) The relocated Darebin Intercultural Centre will be a visible and central expression of Council's commitment to a more just society and will be programmed for, by and with Darebin's diverse communities
- (3) The Intercultural Centre and its programming are informed by and aligned with, Darebin's commitment to be a Welcoming City and Refugee Welcome Zone, Darebin's Towards Equality, Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework and Council's Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- (4) The PTT is designed to shape the future of the Intercultural Centre's program design, vision, priorities and objectives.
- (5) Programming will support the achievement of the Darebin Council Plan and Community Vision.

ANALYSIS**Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy**

This project aligns with Draft Darebin 2041 Community Vision priorities including:

- Respecting and recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities' values, living culture and practices; and
- Connecting, valuing and including our diverse communities

This project aligns with key actions in the Council Plan 2021 to 2025 strategic objectives including:

- Develop partnerships with organisations from across the city that celebrate people from diverse backgrounds
- Help to build an inclusive and empowered community where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered
- Increase social connection and reduce isolation, loneliness and support positive mental health

- Prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin
- We will ensure our festivals, events and functions are inclusive and respond equitably to celebrate the diverse needs and aspirations of our community
- Work towards a discrimination and systemic racism free Darebin and reduce the impact of poverty and disadvantage

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

Environmental sustainability and climate emergency do not immediately influence the PTT.

Climate Emergency

The PTT will not have any impact on climate change. Meetings will be held in Preston which is greatly serviced by public transport. Where meetings cannot be held in person, they will be held online.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

Council's Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework, Towards Equality, is a key platform to guide the future of the Darebin Intercultural Centre program. Aspects of this framework will be put into action through programming.

The Equity Impact Assessment (EIA) will be used as a key tool to apply a People, Place and Experience lens to the programming design for the Centre and to consider the how the centre can best respond to the diverse and varied needs of the Darebin community.

An EIA will be designed into a PTT session to guide the membership through these considerations. The final outcomes of the PTT will be taken through an EIA by officers to ensure that they are relevance to Darebin's diverse culturally and linguistically community, in addition to other areas of disadvantage.

Following the dissolving of the short-term PTT, our programs will continue to be co-designed with the local CALD community, with our migrant, refugee and recently arrived communities, and with others who are vulnerable, under-represented, or who are experiencing racism and discrimination because of their cultural background, their identity or their beliefs.

In addition to this, the Centre will consider how it can reflect Darebin's commitment to be a Welcoming City and integrate the six categories of the Welcoming Cities Standard across the centres programming, such as considering how the centre can provide a platform to enable Social and Cultural Inclusion, Civic Participation, Economic Development amongst newly arrived and migrant communities, which is the specific remit of the Standard.

Ongoing consultation with the Equity and Wellbeing Department and external stakeholders will seek to ensure that the relocation and redefinition of the Darebin Intercultural Centre's design and programming continues to reflect Council's equity, inclusion and wellbeing commitments and importantly, consider and reflect intersectionality in both the built form of the centre and the programming.

Cultural Considerations

Critical to the Intercultural Centre model is recognition of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, as articulated in Council's Statement of Commitment. Cultural considerations also relate to experiences of discrimination, particularly racism. The Intercultural Centre is focused on migrant and receiving communities, refugee and recently arrived communities, our most vulnerable community members, and members of our community who experience discrimination because of their identity and/or their beliefs. By enlisting the experience and skills of Think Tank participants, programming will respond to the community's experience of racism and discrimination in a responsive, co-designed and evidence-based way.

Economic Development Considerations

The community will reclaim this civic building and transform it from a largely bureaucratic space into a rich, life-filled community space. The PTT will examine the programming of the Intercultural Centre in relationship to social procurement, local business connections, employment opportunities for culturally and linguistically diverse providers. We will strengthen partnerships with local organisations, service providers and cultural groups as well as establish strategic relationships with peak bodies and institutions based out of the renewed Town Hall Precinct.

Financial and Resource Implications

Existing operational budget and staffing will resource the Darebin Intercultural Centre Programming Think Tank.

Legal and Risk Implications

No legal or risk implications are present at this stage.

Operational Impacts

The Darebin Intercultural Centre Programming Think Tank will provide a platform where ideas, opportunities and innovations can inform and guide programming and activations at the renewed centre.

DISCUSSION

The PTT is a short-term, high impact think tank that brings together our most trusted partners and community leaders to further develop the programming framework for the future Intercultural Centre.

The PTT will make its contribution to targeted agendas within the think tank sessions, which will be interpreted by officers into a programming framework guide for use in the years to come after the PTT membership has dispersed.

The role of the PTT is to:

- Support the refocus and renewal of the programming framework, vision, strategies and objectives.
- Interpret the programming framework that officers will use to generate activities, partnerships, new initiatives and promote innovation and ambition.
- Articulate what an Intercultural Centre experience will be, not through build environment but through the nature of the activity, program design and partnerships.

- Provide ambitious and innovative perspectives on program thinking, design and delivery for the Intercultural Centre
- Utilise creative and critical thinking to provide brilliant ideas and solutions for addressing discrimination at the local level with national significance.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1:

Proceed with an expression of interest process and establish a short-term PTT aligned to the PTT Terms of Reference. Convene a PTT to renew and refocus the vision, strategies and objectives of the Intercultural Centre.

Option 2:

Do not proceed to establish a PTT.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The outcomes of the PTT will be incorporated into the program design for the Intercultural Centre.

Communication

Ongoing communications throughout the PTT will include regular updates to existing stakeholders, meeting minutes uploaded to the Darebin Your Say project page, Mailchimp e-newsletter updates and ongoing development of relationships across the local community and broader sector.

Officers will offer to provide project updates at Council Advisory Committee meetings as relevant, as well as to the Darebin Youth Jury, Darebin Ethnic Community Council steering committee, Welcoming Cities steering committee and the Darebin Interfaith Council.

Timeline

DATE	ACTION
August 2021	Expressions of Interest are sought
September 2021	Applications are assessed and successful applicants informed
Oct 2021 – Feb 2022	4 – 6 PTT meetings plus additional roundtable meetings with priority groups as identified in the process by the PTT to leverage and test ideas and new perspectives.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Council Plan 2021 to 2025
- Toward Equality – Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029
- Welcoming Cities Standard
- Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Attachments

- Appendix A - The Future of Darebin Intercultural Centre Discussion Paper 2019 (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)
- Appendix B - Draft Darebin Intercultural Centre Programming Think Tank Terms of Reference (A6024286).pdf (**Appendix B**) [↓](#)

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

City of
DAREBIN

the place
to live

**DAREBIN'S
INTERCULTURAL CENTRE**

Discussion Paper, 2 October 2019

Acknowledgement of Darebin’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community

Darebin acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the traditional landowners and custodians of the land and waters we now call Darebin and affirms that Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people have lived on this land for millennia, practising their customs and ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. Council acknowledges that Elders past, present and emerging are central to the cohesion, intergenerational wellbeing and ongoing self-determination of Aboriginal communities. They have played and continue to play a pivotal role in maintaining and transmitting culture, history and language.

Council respects and recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities’ values, living culture and practices, including their continuing spiritual connection to the land and waters and their right to self-determination. Council also recognises the diversity within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities have had and continue to play a unique role in the life of the Darebin municipality. Council recognises and values this ongoing contribution and its significant value for our city and Australian society more broadly.

Acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land and recognising Darebin’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community provides the baseline for all of Council’s social justice work.

It is the foundation on which Council’s other commitments to all of our residents and communities can flourish and grow.

Our commitment

Darebin’s Intercultural Centre echoes this commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as it is expressed in Council’s Draft Human Rights Framework. We place this acknowledgement at the beginning of our Discussion Paper as this is the foundation upon which the renewal of Darebin’s Intercultural Centre must be based.



Darebin's Intercultural Centre and Feasibility Study

The Darebin Intercultural Centre was established in 2011 as a centre of excellence for intercultural relations and ongoing community development.

It was intended to be a practical demonstration of Council's commitment to fostering cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and connectedness between Darebin's diverse cultural groups.

Since 2015, the co-location of the Intercultural Centre with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal has confused the identity of the Centre and disrupted the focus and intention of programming.

In 2017, the Darebin Intercultural Centre Needs Analysis and Service Review recommended that the Centre be relocated. A revised vision, based on an expanded understanding of 'culture' and a more responsive approach to community needs and trends, was also proposed.

Questions about the Intercultural Centre were included in Council's annual community survey (2018-2019). Responses revealed a lack of awareness about what the Centre is and does, and a lack of connection to where it is located within the municipality.

The Darebin Intercultural Centre feasibility study commenced in February 2019 with a scoping study of alternative locations. Ten sites were assessed against criteria that had been generated from interviews with Centre staff, other Council departments,

and the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council. These interviews, plus a small number of intercept surveys at three Darebin events, also contributed an investigation into Centre programming.

This report outlines a new location and a fresh approach for Darebin's Intercultural Centre that is based on the consultations, contributions and recommendations that have been summarised above.

A new location and a fresh approach for Darebin's Intercultural Centre

The feasibility study recommends that the Intercultural Centre is moved from its current location at 59A Roseberry Avenue to the municipal buildings on the corner of Gower and High Streets in Preston.

The result will be a refurbished public precinct that redefines civic participation and re-asserts our human rights; to be included, to be respected, and to be heard.

The renewed Darebin Intercultural Centre will be:

- Programmed for, by and in partnership with Darebin's culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), migrant, refugee and recently arrived communities, and the most vulnerable members of our community
- Dedicated to the elimination of racism and all other forms of discrimination
- A place where connections and fearless dialogue - between people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, with different ethnicities, ancestries, identities, customs and beliefs - can occur
- A visible and central expression of our commitment to the pursuit of a more just society

We are proud of our diversity and we see this as our greatest asset. But we also know that racism and other forms of discrimination still exist in our municipality, across our region, and around the world.

Council wants Darebin to be a place where our CALD and migrant residents, our newly arrived and refugee community members, and those who are excluded and vulnerable, can feel safe and welcome, and can participate fully in civic and community life.

Council will continue to support and provide facilities to the community groups and individuals who are currently using the Intercultural Centre, and the Shire and City Halls.

A new location for Darebin's Intercultural Centre

The feasibility study recommends the relocation of the Intercultural Centre to Darebin's civic buildings on the corner of Gower and High Streets in Preston.

The new location encompasses the Shire and City Halls, a kitchen, offices, meeting rooms, entrances and exits, and the seating, gardens, porticos and pathways around the perimeter of the building.

Relocation to this new site will put Darebin's Intercultural Centre at the heart of the municipality and embed the Centre's mission to eliminate racism and discrimination firmly in the public domain.



The Darebin Intercultural Centre site scoping study

In 2019, Council commissioned a scoping study into a potential new location for the Darebin Intercultural Centre. Ten sites were surveyed and assessed against the following criteria:

- Site location
- Site ownership
- Current use and availability
- Walkability
- Parking and traffic flows
- Co-location potential
- Preston Incorporated Plan
- Planning restrictions/zoning
- Access to public transport
- Space capabilities
- Community connectivity and safety
- Heritage impediments
- Timing

The ten sites that were surveyed, and how they scored against the criteria, are listed below.

Site	Site Assessment	Site Assessment
Preston Shire Hall	92.9%	Excellent
Former Police Station	91.1%	Excellent
Former RSL Site	82.1%	Excellent
Preston Library Site	82.1%	Excellent
City Hall Car Park	78.6%	Good
Preston Library Car Park	71.4%	Good
Darebin Arts Centre Car Park #1	71.4%	Good
Reservoir Library Car Park	60.7%	Good
Darebin Arts Centre Car Park #2	55.4%	Reasonable
Darebin North East Community Hub	55.4%	Reasonable

Our renewed vision, mission and approach

Vision

Darebin's Intercultural Centre is a centre for support, learning and celebration in pursuit of a more just society.

Mission

We tackle racism and discrimination by strengthening connections between people and communities.

Council will provide:

Programs

Our programs will be co-designed with the local CALD community, with our migrant, refugee and recently arrived communities, and with others who are vulnerable, under-represented, or who are experiencing racism and discrimination because of their cultural background, their identity or their beliefs.

Community members, cultural leaders, young people, leading thinkers, activists, artists and others will design and deliver activities and events, such as workshops, talks, forums, performances, presentations and conferences, that will give their communities a voice.

CALD community members will create programs that will shape the agenda of our municipality, build the foundations of their own self-determination, and facilitate intercultural relationships and cultural exchange.

These programs will offer skills development, training and learning opportunities, provide a forum for

ideas and advocacy, and encourage rigorous debate.

Connections

Darebin's Intercultural Centre will enable connections between people from all cultural backgrounds and from all walks of life. We will plan for meaningful interactions between people with shared characteristics, such as their homeland, language, traditions, ethnicity, ancestry or faith.

The Darebin Intercultural Centre will be a welcoming, accessible and adaptable place where intercultural connections will happen accidentally and by design.

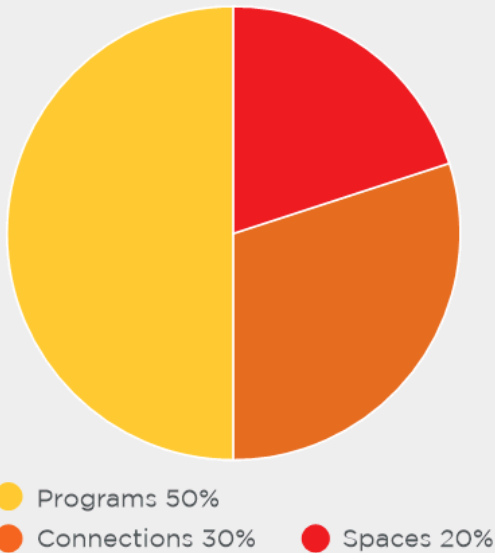
We will provide translation and interpreting services and invest in technologies of inclusion.

We will examine our own bias and investigate how power and privilege can exclude individuals and groups in our local community. We will use this knowledge to break down barriers to participation in civic and community life.

Spaces

We will support our CALD community, local cultural groups, key agencies and service providers, advocates and activists, by providing culturally-fit-for-purpose spaces. Our spaces will be used for conversations, celebrations, gatherings, workshops, meetings, co-working, hot desking, counselling, meditation, prayer, cooking, training and debate.

Indicative mix of programs, connections and spaces



Who is the Intercultural Centre for?

We will work with people from all different kinds of cultural backgrounds, who have many different identities, histories, customs and beliefs. We will work with people who are at all ages and stages of their lives and are from across the whole municipality.

To combat racism and discrimination at the local level we will prioritise:

- migrant and receiving communities
- refugee and recently arrived communities
- members of our community, individuals or groups, who experience discrimination as a result of their identity, their ethnicity and/or their beliefs
- the most vulnerable members of our community

How the community are involved

There are many ways to become involved in Darebin's Intercultural Centre.

By invitation

Members of the local CALD community, our recently arrived, refugee and migrant communities, and special guests from further afield, will be invited to the Centre, to design and participate in programs, to make use of spaces, and to determine what will happen next.

By application

Other opportunities will be offered upon application so that we can continually update our connections and relationships. This will include design and participation in programs, curation of special events, campaigns or investigations, and the use of our spaces for meetings, gatherings, workshops, celebrations and reasons that are as yet unknown.

Partnerships

The Intercultural Centre will form partnerships with local CALD organisations, service providers and cultural groups. We will establish relationships with peak bodies and institutions, national and international agencies, who are working to combat racism and discrimination at the cutting edge.

Community-led and co-designed

Members of the CALD community will lead and co-design programs and projects. Avenues for ideas that are generated by the community will be facilitated and kept open. Research and outreach will be a key to our approach, with a focus on issues and needs that are identified by the local CALD community.

Community hub

Various local CALD community groups, organisations and key service providers will use the Centre as a base for their operations, for meetings and administration, and to support and engage with individuals and groups. Representatives of relevant local, national and international agencies,

and special guests, will also spend time working, presenting and being in our spaces.

A renewed civic precinct

This renewal of Council’s civic buildings will provide a front-facing facility that embodies equity and inclusion in both the built design and the approach to programs, connections and spaces. Members of the local CALD community, our recently arrived, refugee and migrant communities, our most vulnerable, and all of our community, are welcome to gather, mingle and be here.



What spaces are required?

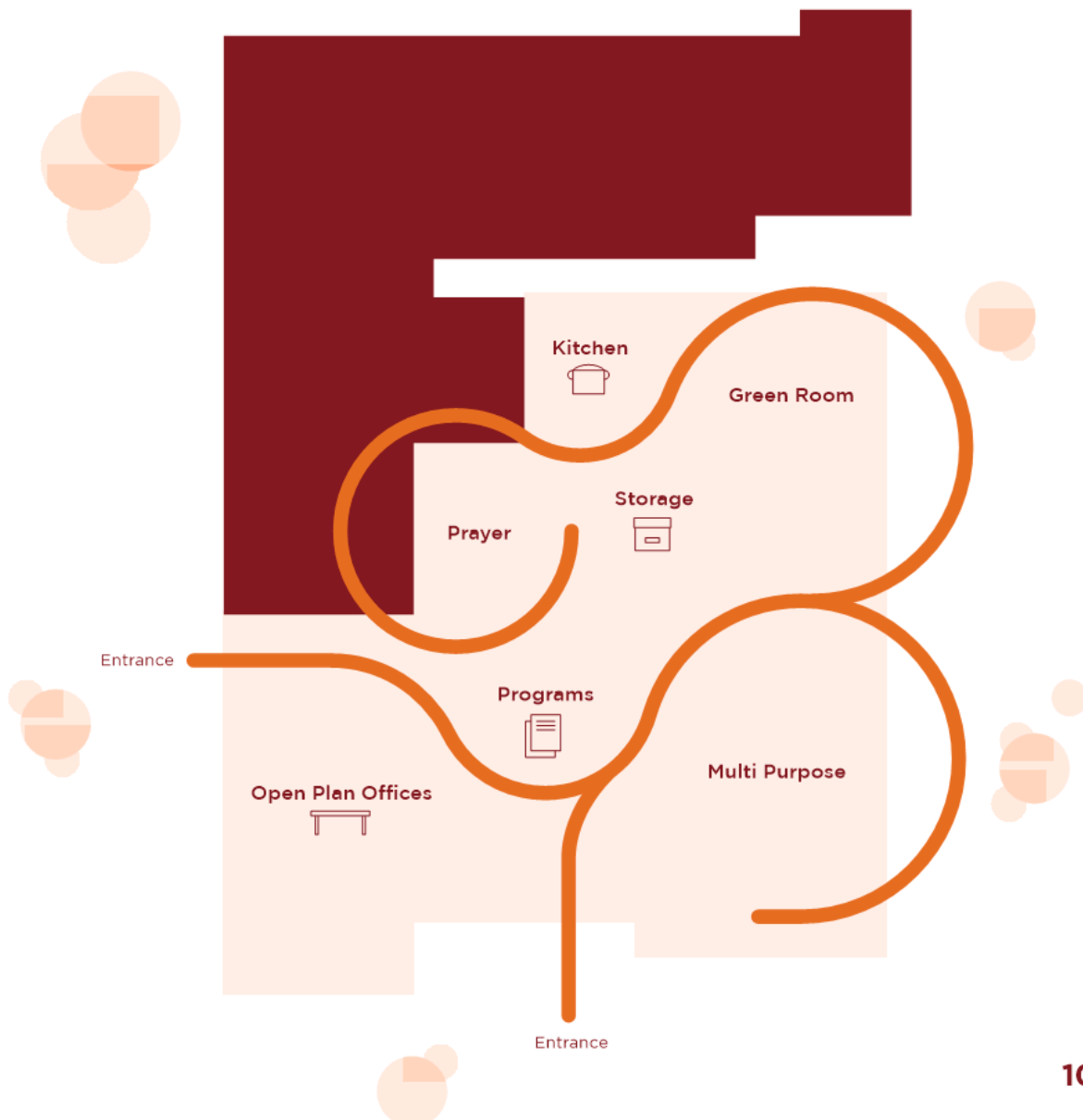
This diagram shows an outline of the spaces that could be suitable for a renewed and relocated Intercultural Centre, and how they relate to each other. These kinds of spaces will be designed into the existing footprint, which will also be modified to become fit-for-purpose.

The design will be multi-purpose and flexible; offices and meeting rooms will be open plan.

The ability to interact and connect is fundamental to how these spaces have been imagined.

The design brief will be developed to accommodate the specific needs of different cultural groups and to be adaptable as these needs change.

Equity, inclusion and access are integral to the design and will be embedded in the built form.



Summary

A recent survey conducted by the Scanlon Foundation found that 1 in 5 Australians in 2018 had experienced racism in the past 12 months.

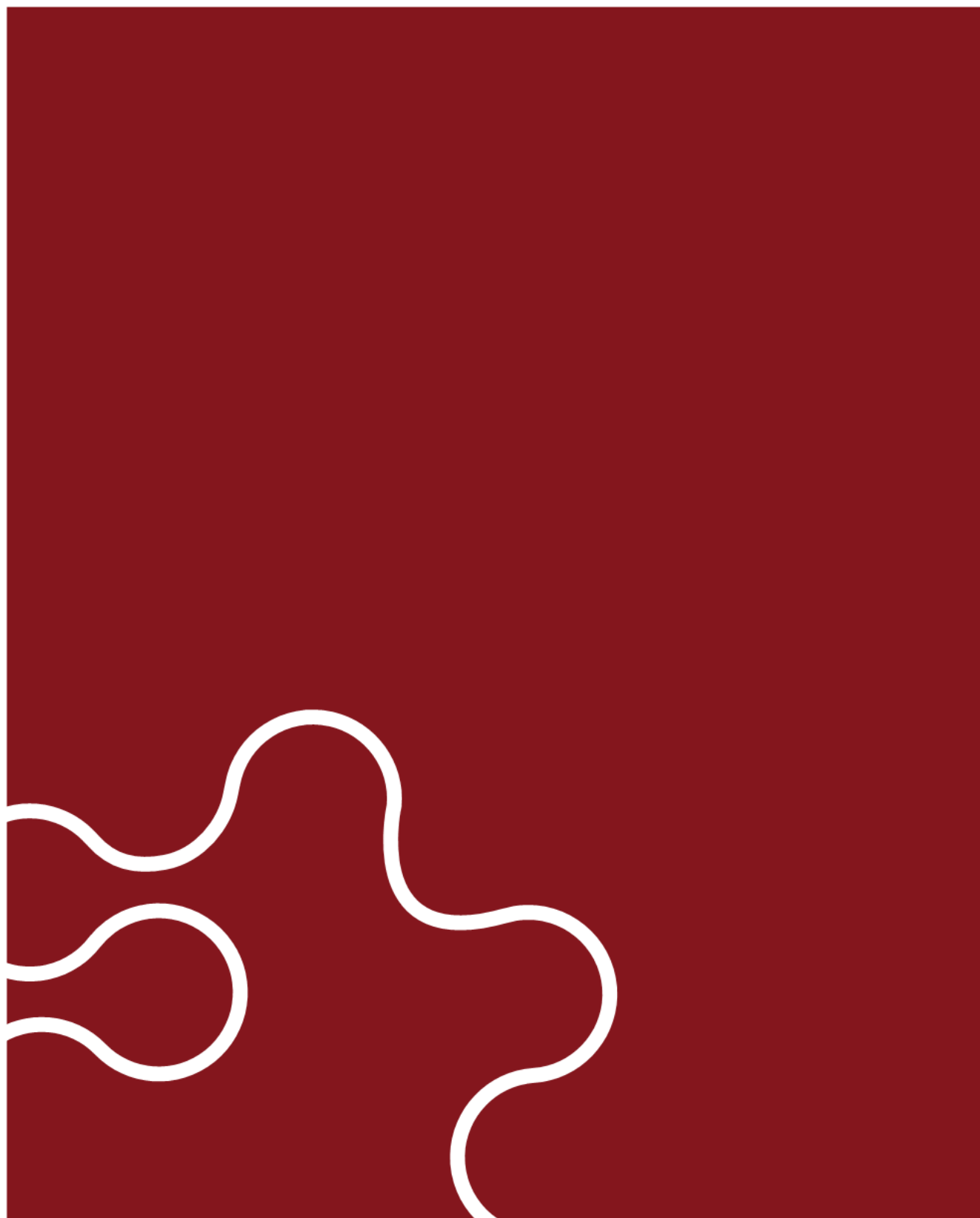
Darebin Council places a high priority on human rights and on services, facilities and programs that benefit all, including our most vulnerable.

We have signed on to The Welcoming Cities Standard, demonstrating our commitment to being a 'welcoming place'.


Diversity is our strength and our future. We want to be a modern and inclusive city, that is trusted by our CALD community and open to all. We want to be a place that is free from racism and discrimination.

Renewing our Intercultural Centre by moving to a new, more visible location, and by updating our approach, may be one way in which we can make a contribution towards a more tolerant local and global society.

¹ Andrew Markus, Mapping Social Cohesion: The Scanlon Foundation surveys 2018 p 67



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relayservice.gov.au
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Darebin Intercultural Centre Programming Think Tank (PTT) Terms of Reference

Introduction and background

In May 2021, Council tasked officers to form a short-term 'Intercultural Programming Vision Group' that includes external advisors to prepare and establish a vision, objectives and strategies on future programming for the new Intercultural Centre.

Policy context

2019 Feasibility Study

The outcome of the 2019 feasibility study, endorsed by Council proposed the following vision, mission and programming framework for the Intercultural Centre:

Vision

Darebin's Intercultural Centre is a centre for support, learning and celebration in pursuit of a more just society.

Mission

We tackle racism and discrimination by strengthening connections between people and communities.

Programs

Our programs will be co-designed with the local CALD community, with our migrant, refugee and recently arrived communities, and with others who are vulnerable, under-represented, or who are experiencing racism and discrimination because of their cultural background, their identity or their beliefs. Avenues for ideas that are generated by the community will be facilitated and kept open. Research and outreach will be a key to our approach, with a focus on issues and needs that are identified by the local CALD community.

How the community are involved

By invitation: members of the community will be invited to the Centre to design and participate in programs, to make use of spaces, and to determine what will happen next.

By application: opportunities will be offered upon application so that we can continually update our connections and relationships. This will include design and participation in programs, curation of special events, campaigns or investigations, and the use of our spaces for meetings, gatherings, workshops, celebrations.

Partnerships: we will form partnerships with local organisations, service providers and cultural groups. We will establish relationships with peak bodies and institutions, national and international agencies, who are working to combat racism and discrimination at the cutting edge.



Darebin Council Plan 2021 to 2025

This project aligns with Draft Darebin 2041 Community Vision priorities including:

- Respecting and recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities values, living culture and practices; and
- Connecting, valuing and including our diverse communities

This project aligns with key actions in the Draft Council Plan 2021 to 2025 strategic objectives including:

- Develop partnerships with organisations from across the city that celebrate people from diverse backgrounds
- Help to build an inclusive and empowered community where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered
- Increase social connection and reduce isolation, loneliness and support positive mental health
- Prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin
- We will ensure our festivals, events and functions are inclusive and respond equitably to celebrate the diverse needs and aspirations of our community
- Work towards a discrimination and systemic racism free Darebin and reduce the impact of poverty and disadvantage

Statement of Commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Recognising, respecting and valuing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Australia's First Peoples is the foundation of all of Council's social justice work to build equity, inclusion, human rights and wellbeing in our community.

In an Australian context, with its history of invasion, colonisation and dispossession and the lingering, inter-generational effects of those on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, there cannot be a fair and just society without this essential, initial step.

Our Statement of Commitment sets the baseline for the foundational commitments and actions we will take as an organisation to recognise, respect and value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and culture, in the community and in our organisation. The ICPTT will consider how this Statement of Commitment can be reflected in the Centre's programming design.

Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework -Towards Equality

Our work to create an equitable, inclusive and well community stems from a human rights approach. This recognises the fundamental right of all people to a life of freedom, equality, dignity, respect and non-discrimination. A human rights approach mandates that people who are affected by a decision, policy or practice have the opportunity to participate meaningfully in the process.



'Nothing about us, without us', and 'With us, not for us' are short-hand ways of expressing this approach.

In addition to applying a human rights approach, understanding social justice, as well as the environments for health, social determinants of health and health equity, is integral to a fairer, more harmonious and cohesive community and better health and wellbeing outcomes for our community.

Welcoming Cities Standards

The ICPTT will consider how it can reflect Darebin's commitment to be a Welcoming City and integrate the six categories of the Welcoming Cities Standard across the centres programming, such as considering how the centre can provide a platform to enable Social and Cultural Inclusion, Civic Participation, Economic Development amongst newly arrived and migrant communities, which is the specific remit of the Standard.

Guiding principles

The guiding principles of the PTT are grounded in a social inclusion and human rights-based framework, affirming:

- The rights of all people in Darebin to equal access to services, projects and programs initiated by Darebin Intercultural Centre and to participate in all aspects of civic life.
- The rights of all people in Darebin to observe their cultural practices and beliefs without fear of discrimination or any form of social disadvantage.
- The need for continued awareness raising, advocacy and community-based action to address barriers to equality faced by members of Darebin communities.

PTT membership

The group comprised of approximately 12 members includes a mix of representatives from Darebin's key priority groups: First Nations, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), asylum seeker/refugee, those with a disability and/or their carers, women, young people, older people, LGBTIQ+, long-term unemployed, single parents, international students..

The PTT comprises members and applicants of the former Darebin Intercultural Centre Community Reference Group, Wurundjeri Corporation, Aboriginal Elders, members of advisory and steering committees, Darebin Youth Jury and representatives from key stakeholder organisations.

Where a member is unable to attend a meeting, that member should submit an apology to the Secretariat. Apologies are noted in the Meeting Minutes. Proxies and/or observers will not be accepted to replace the absent members (with the exception of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members).

Should a casual vacancy arise for the duration of the term, the Officer will fill the position based on the recommendations of the Intercultural Centre team, responding to the skills gap resulting from such vacancies should they arise. Every effort will be made to ensure a transparent and inclusive process is undertaken by officers in the spirit of the PTT.



Council officers will give consideration to choosing members to provide a broad range of demographic representation, knowledge, skills, and competencies relevant to the Intercultural Centre Think Tank purpose.

Roles and responsibilities

Convenor

The role of the Convenor is to:

- Liaise with the Secretariat to develop meeting agendas and ensure the progression of actions arising from meetings
- Convene the meeting, open meeting, welcome and introduce members and guests
- Facilitate orderly and constructive discussions between members on matters within each agenda, keep individuals and the meeting focused on the topics being discussed
- Assist members to work together as a group by facilitating discussion; ensuring all members have equal opportunity to contribute ideas, opinions and concerns; and drawing participation from all members
- Consider innovative models and processes for idea generation and problem solving
- Maintain a positive and constructive atmosphere at meetings by encouraging courtesy, respect and openness, ensure the Code of Conduct is observed
- Ensure correct meeting procedures are followed and control of the meeting is maintained, keeping track of time
- Summarise discussion outcomes for the group
- Close the meeting after business at hand has been properly concluded

Secretariat

The role of the secretariat is to:

- Develop agendas in consultation with the Convenor
- Distribute agendas and briefing notes to members of the PTT prior to any meeting at which they will be discussed
- All administration, communications and logistics including arranging meeting venues, supporting participants with access needs, arranging catering, and documenting and distributing minutes within two weeks following each meeting

PTT

The PTT itself has no formal delegated or project decision making authority, nor is it an advisory committee, rather it is a short-term, high impact Think Tank that brings together our most trusted partners and community leaders to set an agenda the future Intercultural Centre programming.

Ideas will be generated for consideration of Council officers, based on items listed in the agenda only. Agenda items will be determined by the Chair in consultation with the secretariat.

The PTT does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.



The role of the PTT is to:

- Support officer's decision making by transforming the programming framework into a tangible understanding about what that looks like for the community
- Interpret the programming framework that officers will use to generate activities
- Support the development of a decision-making tool that will add structure to interpreting the framework
- Articulate what an Intercultural Centre experience will be, not through build environment but through the nature of the activity
- Provide perspectives on program design for the Intercultural Centre
- Utilise creative and critical thinking to provide brilliant ideas and solutions for addressing discrimination

Term of appointment

The PTT will meet for a total of 4 - 6 times between October 2021 and February 2022 after which time the PTT will dissolve.

PTT members are appointed in a voluntary capacity with the exception of consultation services provided by Wurundjeri Corporation.

Meetings and procedures

- Face-to-face meetings will be facilitated where possible, and in accordance with social distancing requirements. These meetings will be based in Preston
- Where required, meetings will be held remotely using Microsoft Teams, phone calls and written submissions dependent on the preferences of the PTT members
- Members are required to attend all meetings. If unforeseen circumstances arise, it is the responsibility of members to inform the secretariat of their inability to attend and to convey their view about any matter on the agenda
- There will be no quorum for meetings
- Minutes will be checked by the Convenor and PTT members as a true and accurate record at the commencement of the following meeting
- Interpreters will be made available upon request
- City of Darebin will cover all meeting costs

Conduct of ICPTT members

Code of Conduct

Following appointment, PTT members will be required to sign a declaration that they will abide by any guidelines (to the extent applicable) approved in Councils' Code of Conduct 2020 (the Code). The Code must always be adhered to. The code covers interactions with fellow members, other volunteers, staff, contractors, consultants, Councillors, clients, residents, ratepayers and visitors to Council.



Complaints and breaches of the Code of Conduct

A breach of the Code and/or the Terms of Reference may result in the termination of membership of the PTT member. If a member of the PTT feels another member is not adhering to the Code, this should be privately raised with the Convenor. The Convenor will decide what course of action to take.

Use of Information and Confidentiality

Members will not use any information disclosed at meetings or distributed to them in any way for personal purposes or gains for either themselves or others (including financial gains) and shall maintain confidentiality of all information provided unless specific consent is provided by Council. See the Code for further information.

Publicity

PTT members must not make statements to the media or on social media about Council business or items discussed by the PTT. Instead all media enquiries should be referred to council officers. A PTT member's term shall be terminated for making any statement to the media or on social media.

Conflict of Interest

Where there is conflict of interest by a member this needs to be disclosed prior to any discussions being held. The member will be required to complete a Conflict of Interest Declaration form. Once disclosed, the member is required to immediately leave the meeting for that agenda item, and the conflict disclosure noted in the minutes.

Contact Details

Convenor

Manager, Creative Culture and Events, Vicky Guglielmo

Vicky.Guglielmo@darebin.vic.gov.au

T 03 8470 8472 M 0401 242 697

Secretariat

Intercultural Centre Team Leader, Anna O'Brien

Anna.O'Brien@darebin.vic.gov.au

T 8470 8485 M 0430 909 514

Key Documents referred to in the Terms of Reference will be provided to participants within their induction package of related information.

8.2 LOCAL AREA PLACE-MAKING PROGRAM - YOUR STREET YOUR SAY

Author: Transport Project Officer

Reviewed By: General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the *Your Street, Your Say* approach to Local Area Place-Making and seeks endorsement of the proposed schedule of areas to be investigated. This report also details how the *Your Street, Your Say* approach will strengthen service delivery and achieve better transport outcomes for the community.

Local Area Place-Making (LAPM) is the use of streetscape changes and road safety treatments (e.g. kerb extensions, speed cushions) to influence driver behaviour and create safer and more liveable local streets.

Council has already developed a number of successful LAPM projects, including the Cheddar (Reservoir East), Croxton West, Clarendon (Thornbury East), and Northcote precincts.

The *Your Street, Your Say* program involves applying the LAPM approach across the entire municipality as part of a recurring three-year cycle. The program will consider Local Area traffic management, road safety, on-street parking (i.e. time restrictions, residential parking permits) and landscaping. The community, including young children, schools, and older adults, will play a key role in identifying issues and opportunities in local areas, and also set the outcomes they would like the program to achieve.

Emerging transport issues with a significant safety risk will continue to be treated separately from the LAPM program as required.

Officer Recommendation

That Council;

- (1) Endorses a rolling schedule for community engagement about the road reserve layout and transport operation through the local area place-making *Your Street Your Say* program, in the order shown as follows:
 - Year 1 (2021/22) – Reservoir West, Preston West and Thornbury West
 - Year 2 (2022/23) – Northcote East/Fairfield, Thornbury East and Bundoora/Macleod
 - Year 3 (2023/24) – Reservoir East, Preston East and Northcote West.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

One of Council's central responsibilities is the management of local roads within the municipality. Responsibilities for managing the roads are a legislative requirement and are set out in the *Transportation Integration Act 2010* and *Road Management Act 2004*.

This program is not just about mobility and road safety - it is also about how we allocate our public space within road reserves to achieve Darebin’s Community Vision:

- Vibrant, Respectful and Connected
- Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing
- Climate, Green and Sustainable.

In the past, changes to the road network have typically been made using one of the following approaches:

- Point location (i.e. single treatments); or
- Smaller corridor and area-based reviews.

Point Location Approach

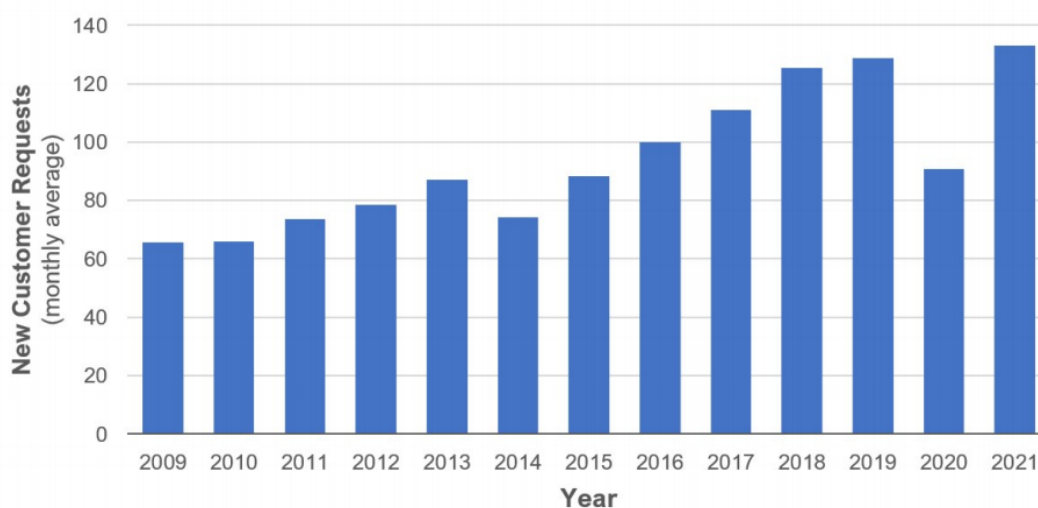
Council receives many requests from customers and other organisations to make changes to a single location. These requests are often made because of safety concerns, or because someone is requesting a change to access street space (for example to be prioritised for parking access).

Council officers investigate all requests and, in many instances, recommend and deliver minor, low-cost treatments (such as signage or line-marking). Other requests are more appropriately considered at a network level, and so are referred to future network studies.

Point location projects are also identified through the proactive review of collision information that is collated by the State Government. (A collision record is created when there has been an incident that involved a person being injured or dying on the road network.)

Customer requests have been steadily increasing over the past decade (see chart below that shows monthly average). Reasons could include changing transport patterns and increased road congestion.

Figure 1. Customer requests relating to transport have been steadily increasing*



*2021 includes only January to March, incomplete data for 2014 and 2015.

Network Approach

For more complex issues or where point location treatments would have knock-on impacts, Council undertakes 'Network' studies that look at a wider area or corridor and considers a variety of traffic management issues and road safety treatments at once.

Recent examples of this approach include:

- Cheddar Local Area Place-Making (LAPM) project
- Croxton West LAPM project
- Clarendon Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) project
- Northcote LATM project
- Streets for People Corridors
- Safe Travel to School Audits.

This type of network approach is generally considered best practice. Many other councils in Melbourne and beyond take a similar approach to managing their road network, including:

- [City of Moreland](#)
- [City of Yarra](#)
- [City of Melbourne](#)
- [City of Moonee Valley](#)
- [City of Maribyrnong.](#)

Investigating and considering non-urgent customer requests as part of a network study allows Council to achieve a better overall outcome for our community in the following ways:

- Community participation is more equitable because a proactive consultation program is designed to reach all road users, and not just people that call in with requests
- Considering several requests that are located nearby allows Council to:
 - identify and consider the 'knock on' effects a change will often have (this happens because the road environment and its users operates as a dynamic system)
 - identify safety and access needs in a timely manner, ensuring Council appropriately discharges its duty of care as the road manager
 - more efficiently process customer requests, reducing overall wait times
- Our statutory responsibility to take an integrated transport planning approach can be achieved
- We can align with other programs to enhance community outcomes, for example, the Darebin Nature Plan.

Previous Council Resolution

There has been no previous resolution in regards to the LAPM program schedule. The Council Plan (adopted 8 April 21) includes the Action Item #2-16 *"Investigate and prioritise road safety, accessibility, cycling, walking and wheeling improvements over the whole city using a Local Area Placemaking Approach where one third of the city is reviewed, with community, each year."*

There have been numerous transport related resolutions made by Council over the past 12 months, reflecting high community interest and need.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

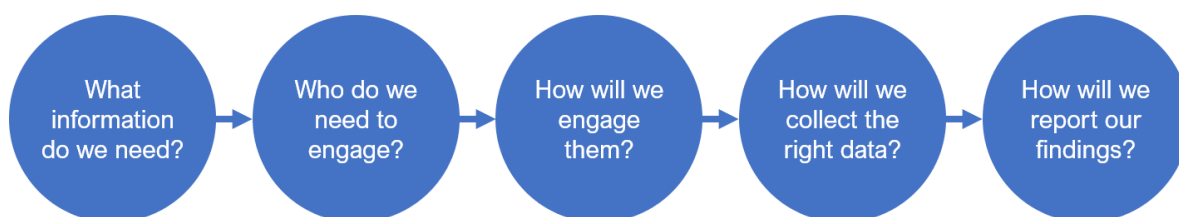
Consultation

For each Local Area, a detailed community engagement plan will be developed to give all members of our community a fair chance to be involved.

This will prioritise groups that are often under-represented in the engagement process, including:

- CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) communities that may require the assistance of translators to participate effectively
- Community members living with disability that have unique mobility needs and may have difficulty accessing traditional engagement sessions
- Residents that may not have access to the technology required to participate online engagement
- Younger residents (i.e. children and teenagers) who are unable to participate in the decision-making processes and often struggle to attend engagement sessions without the assistance of a parent or guardian.

The engagement plan involves the following five steps.



In particular, the engagement plans will focus on:

- applying lenses of 'people, places and experiences' to consider the diverse needs of our community and how they should be included in the engagement process
- obtaining useful insights that can be used to identify key issues and providing a genuine opportunity for people to provide input
- selecting methods of engagement to ensure that sessions are accessible, easy, and enjoyable.

Communications

A detailed communications and engagement plan will be developed for each Local Area, each year. Plans will include letters to residents, including details of access to translation services, and targeted outreach to CALD groups, senior citizens groups, youth and community services and Darebin Advisory Groups.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

The *Your Street, Your Say* program aligns with:

- Strategic Direction 2 – Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

The *Your Street, Your Say* rolling program closely aligns with the expected outcomes of several Council policies/strategies, including the *Darebin Transport Strategy*, *Walking Strategy*, *Safe Travel Strategy*, *Darebin Cycling Strategy*, *Breathing Space: The Darebin Open Space Strategy*, and *Climate Emergency Plan*.

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

How we manage traffic, road safety, parking and freight has significant potential to reduce the current eighteen percent of Darebin's greenhouse gas emissions that are from transport.

There is also potential to incorporate solutions that support Council's response to the climate emergency. Where possible, passive irrigation and water sensitive urban design principles could be applied to road safety treatments, along with landscaping. The program will also seek to align with complementary programs, such as street tree planting, to maximise local place outcomes for our community.

Climate Emergency

This program has a clear alignment with Key direction 4 of the Climate Emergency Plan 2017-2022, in particular Objective 1 "Reduce the number of private vehicle kilometres travelled in Darebin by increasing the share of public transport use, walking and cycling" and Key direction 7, to reduce the heat island effect, by increasing tree cover.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

The local street network plays a crucial role in promoting social and economic inclusion. It forms the connection between people's homes, schools, workplaces, community facilities, social services, and friends and families.

Recent research to inform the *Darebin Health and Wellbeing Profile* found that a sedentary lifestyle remains a key health risk affecting our community. Creating streets where people feel comfortable walking and cycling can improve physical and mental health, as well as fostering a greater sense of connectedness with the community.

An *Equity Impact Assessment* (EIA) and *Gender Impact Assessment* (GIA) will be completed as part of each LAPM Area program.

Cultural Considerations

Reaching residents of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds is a priority. We will build on the successful engagement approaches of the Streets for People Preston West, Croxton West, and the Cheddar LAPM projects.

Economic Development Considerations

Management of traffic issues, including parking restrictions, around activity centres has the potential to positively or negatively impact local businesses and is one of the factors that is considered with any change that is proposed. Businesses will be included in any community engagement to ensure their needs are understood.

Improving the quality of cycling and walking routes makes it easier for residents and visitors to use any mode of transport to work, shop, and visit local centres. This supports thriving local economies by activating centres with increased pedestrians who are more likely to undertake multiple activities in the one visit. It also reduces road congestion and parking pressure which are expected to increase over time with Melbourne's population growth.

Financial and Resource Implications

Reviewing Local Areas is a core council function and has been provided for on a rolling basis within the operating budget. If Council endorses the proposal in this report, engagement for the Year 1 LAPM program is expected to begin in August 2021.

Following engagement and concept design development and endorsement, further design work will be planned in preparation for construction priorities for each area in future years, subject to available budget.

Implementation of changes will need to be done over time – as the implementation costs require capital funding, which can be significant. Some improvements may need to be scheduled well into the future, while others such as parking changes can be done more quickly.

Legal and Risk Implications

Overall improvements to the operation of the street network through this process is expected to reduce safety risk, including by slowing traffic and reducing traffic volumes through local streets. Road improvement designs will be done to required standards.

There is a risk that some people who do not agree that there is a safety problem, or, with the recommended approach will be concerned. Project delivery will be supported with communications to explain safety, need and community benefit.

Council is required under the *Transport Integration Act* to comply with its obligations for transport system objectives and decision-making principles under transport legislation, including:

- social and economic inclusion
- economic prosperity
- environmental sustainability
- integration of transport and land use
- efficiency
- coordination and reliability, and
- safety, health, and wellbeing.

Operational Impacts

Council is receiving increased transport related customer inquiries. Proactive consultation through this rolling program of engagement and dialogue will provide more inclusive and timely opportunities for residents to participate in transport decisions.

Urgent safety matters are addressed separately to LAPM reviews. There are locations within the municipality that will require prioritisation using a case-by-case approach, and as a result it can be expected that single roads or streets may be treated outside of the three-year rolling program where there is demonstrated need.

Parking change requests in locations where there is high parking demand will continue to be progressed independently from this approach.

DISCUSSION

A new approach – *Your Street, Your Say*

Your Street, Your Say involves applying the Local Area Place-Making (LAPM) program across the entire municipality. It will include local area traffic management as well as on-street parking (i.e. time restrictions, residential parking permits) and landscaping.

Darebin will be ordered into three LAPM Areas as shown in Figure 3. Each LAPM Area will undergo a three-year process for the investigation, design, and delivery of projects. At the end of the three years, the cycle will start again, and Council will reengage with the community to consider new issues / changes to the transport network, while building on previous work.

A proposed schedule for how the three LAPM areas will fit into this cycle is shown below:

Figure 2: Three-year LAPM cycle

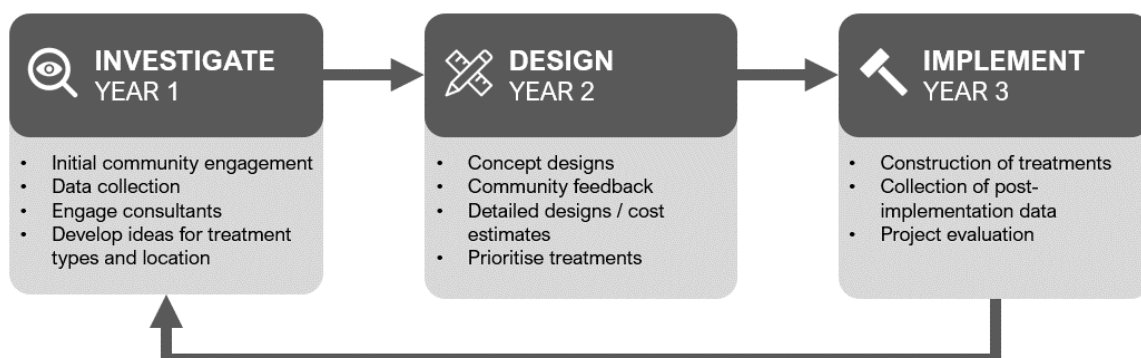


Figure 3: Three LAPM Areas within Darebin

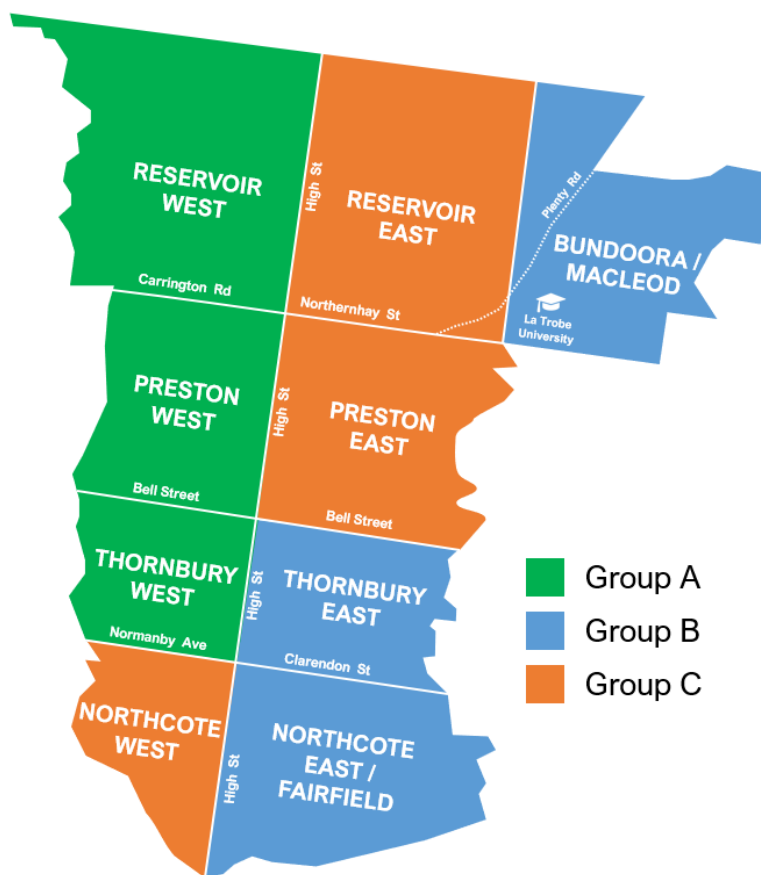


Table 1. Proposed schedule for LAPM areas

Year	Group A	Group B	Group C
2021-22	Investigate	-	-
2022-23	Design	Investigate	-
2023-24	Implement	Design	Investigate
2024-25	Investigate	Implement	Design
2025-26	Design	Investigate	Implement
2026-27	Implement	Design	Investigate

Benefits of the *Your Street, Your Say* approach

Your Street, Your Say will give every neighbourhood in Darebin certainty about when their area will be investigated and when they can expect to see projects delivered.

A ‘big picture’ approach to transport planning allows Council officers to consider treatments through the lens of Council’s strategic objectives and ensure that we are delivering the outcomes that the community have told us they want. The inclusion of landscaping and management of on-street parking will help streamline currently separate processes.

Other important benefits include:

- Proactive and inclusive community engagement designed to reach all road users, supporting our diverse community to have their say

- Ensuring emerging transport access and safety issues are identified and acted on in a timely manner
- Identifying and managing the ‘knock on’ effects a single change will often have (this happens because the road environment and its users operates as a dynamic system). For example, installing speed cushions on one street to reduce through-traffic and vehicle speeds may simply mean that the problem is shifted to a nearby street if traffic calming measures in surrounding streets are not considered and installed
- More efficiently processing customer requests, reducing overall wait times
- Enhancing our approach to integrated transport planning, which is an overarching statutory responsibility as a road manager.

At the heart of the *Your Street, Your Say* program is about asking the community what matters to them and tailoring projects to meet these needs. There will be a strong emphasis on inclusive engagement to ensure that all customers are given an opportunity to participate in the decision-making process and are encouraged to do so.

Overall, network studies have allowed Council to deliver changes to the road network in a way that deliver positive outcomes and gives everyone in the community a chance to participate. There are huge benefits from expanding this program to cover the whole of Darebin, while also including parking and landscaping.

Traffic calming measures at Preston Primary School

At the 22 March 2021 Council meeting, Council resolved that an immediate safety investigation occur and that a report be brought to Council. Officers have visited the site and have undertaken an urgent safety investigation. No major safety concerns were identified. Officers have also consulted with the school and will be placing the speed trailer at the site to encourage safer driver behaviour. Any other changes are best considered as part of a network study, which under the proposed *Your Street, Your Say* schedule, would occur in 2023-24.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

The following outlines options for how Council might proceed with the delivery of the *Your Street, Your Say* program.

Option 1: Recommended

Use a LAPM approach following the proposed 3-year schedule (map at Figure 3)

This schedule is recommended because:

- It responds to needs of Preston Level Crossing removal project
- Area based transport reviews have not recently been completed in the green area, and prioritising ensures Council picks up any safety issue
- 12 open parking change requests will be addressed
- High potential for improving strategic routes
- Observed safety risks with freight in this area that needs addressing
- More 40 kph speed limits on local roads can be progressed (community consultation is a requirement for Department of Transport to consider an application).

Option 2: Not Recommended **Change the order of the schedule proposed**

It is possible to change the 'green, orange, blue' sequence. If this option is preferred, Officers will need to undertake further planning and an additional report to Council would be required before consultation commenced.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

Following the above process outlined for engagement, a concept plan will be developed with interventions to be considered by Council and prioritised for delivery in future budgets.

A detailed communications plan will be prepared and delivered by officers, in consultation with internal stakeholders.

Timeline

The below timeline is indicative only

Date	Task
July 2021	Council Meeting and endorsement of Your Street, Your Say
August 2021	Commence community engagement for LAPM Group A (i.e. Reservoir West, Preston West, Thornbury West).
November 2021	Second round of Community Engagement with LAPM group A, seeking feedback on proposed treatments and street changes
March 2022	Present Concept Plan with community engagement summaries at Council for endorsement for LAPM group A.
From July 2022	Brief council on proposed forward plan for 2022/23 financial year. Commence community engagement for LAPM Group B (i.e. Bundoora/ Macleod, Thornbury East, Northcote East/ Fairfield). Commence design work for LAPM Group A .
From July 2023	Brief council on progress to date in 2022/23 financial year. Commence community engagement for LAPM Group C (i.e. Reservoir East, Preston East, Northcote West). Commence design work for LAPM Group B . Plan for construction of priority treatments for LAPM Group A .

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Transport Strategy
- Darebin Walking Strategy
- Darebin Safe Travel Strategy
- Darebin Cycling Strategy
- Darebin Breathing Space: The Darebin Open Space Strategy,
- Darebin Climate Emergency Plan
- *Transport Integration Act 2010*

- *Road Management Act 2004*

Attachments

Nil

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

8.3 DRAFT ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021**Author:** Infrastructure Inspections Officer**Reviewed By:** General Manager Operations and Capital

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the outcomes of the review of Council's Road Management Plan (RMP) for endorsement as required under the Road Management Act 2004 to be completed by 31 October 2021.

Council officers have undertaken an internal review of the RMP. This review has focused mainly on the schedules of inspections and other administrative changes to the previous RMP.

The plan is now ready for community consultation with a final 2021 Road Management Plan to be adopted by Council before 31 October 2021.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the officer review of draft 2021 Road Management Plan
 - (2) Releases the draft 2021 Road Management Plan for community consultation
 - (3) Receives a further report before October 2021 on community feedback received and a final proposed 2021 Road Management Plan for adoption.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The Road Management Plan, under the *Road Management Act 2004*, is Council's policy that articulates the levels of service provided to inspect and repair Council's road assets, ensuring that these assets are safe for all road users. Council must review the Road Management Plan every four years in line with Council elections.

Council is a road authority for the purposes of the Road Management Act 2004. The aim of this Act is to provide a safe and efficient road network via a regulated approach to the co-ordination of road authorities' responsibilities for the management of public roads. The Act provides road authorities with the option of developing a Road Management Plan (RMP) which then creates a policy defence against claims for damages from road users. The RMP does this by articulating intervention levels that will be implemented to maintain the integrity of Council's road assets, ensuring that these assets are safe for all road users.

The Road Management Plan:

- Establishes a management system for the road management functions of Council which is based on policy, operational objectives and available resources;
- Establishes the relevant standards or policies in relation to the discharge of duties in the performance of those road management functions; and

- Details the management systems that Council proposes to implement in the discharge of its duty to inspect, maintain and repair those public roads for which Council is responsible.

Additionally, benchmarking was conducted with several neighbouring Councils and government bodies aimed at ensuring achievability. Benchmarked Councils include the Cities of Banyule, Moreland, Whittlesea, Boroondara, Yarra and Manningham.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

Internal consultation was undertaken with City Works, Asset Planning, Transport Management and Risk Management to analyse the existing 2017 Road Management Plan and provide feedback towards the areas considered for updating and/or improving.

Subject to Council's decision, external consultation with the community will occur in August 2021.

ANALYSIS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

There are no environmental sustainability relevant to the RMP or this report. However, Council's road services are delivered in a way that reduces impact on the environment and maximises sustainability through the use of recycled materials in road maintenance, resealing and reconstruction services.

Climate Emergency

There are no climate emergency consideration pertaining to this report.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

Community consultation will be undertaken using methods that encourages residents from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and those who speak a language other than English at home to participate in the consultation stage of the RMP review.

Information has been translated into 12 languages in addition to posters about the RMP review being translated into these additional languages. Information will be provided to CALD and other community groups, schools and businesses in a way to encourage feedback from all members of the community. Interpreters will also be available for those requiring this support to participate in the review.

Cultural Considerations

Members of the CALD communities, those speaking languages other than English at home, Darebin's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and diverse community residents and groups will be targeted as part of the consultation process to encourage participation.

Economic Development Considerations

The review of the RMP itself does not provide economic stimulus to local businesses but the services Council offers in relation to its civil infrastructure (roads, footpaths etc) are critical to ensuring access to, an prosperity of, business activity areas of the municipality.

Financial and Resource Implications

The services and intervention levels provided for in the RMP will be delivered within the appropriately budgeted operating and capital budgets of the organisation. Increases in service levels will require additional resources to meet the increased service. Any reduction of these budgets during the life of the RMP may jeopardise the organisation's ability to deliver the level of service detailed in this Plan.

Legal and Risk Implications

The Road Management Plan aims to provide Council with an acceptable level of safety for road and footpath users and to fulfil Council's statutory obligations. Council's lawyers have advised Council through the development of the original plan and the recent officer review of the plan.

Operational Impacts

Having regard to operational impacts, the levels of service provided will be delivered within the current budgets and resources provided.

DISCUSSION

Council's existing 2017 RMP requires review in line with the recent Council election. The process to review the RMP is undertaken in four stages:

1. Officer review of the existing plan – complete
2. Community consulted on the initial review of the plan – the subject of this report
3. Officers consider community feedback
4. Council considers the reviewed plan, any community feedback and then adopts the plan – proposed for October 2021

In, summary, the internal review has proposed the following minor changes:

- Administrative changes to make the RMP easier to read
- Inspection changes where officers will inspect bike lanes concurrently with other parts of the road assets (previously they were inspected separately)
- The addition of emergency works being carried out within 36 hours (e.g. flooding)
- Road inspections including inspections for tree obstructions from private and Council owned trees being added to the plan.

The draft 2021 Road Management Plan is appended to this report at **Appendix A**

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – endorse that the community now be consulted on the internally reviewed Road Management Plan and feedback sought on intervention levels contained within the plan. This feedback will then be considered and presented to Council for adoption before October 2021. (Recommended)

Option 2 – undertake another internal review of the Road Management Plan before the community is consulted on the plan. This is not considered an efficient use of resources given a thorough review has already been undertaken by skilled, qualified and experienced staff. (Not recommended)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Stage	Timeframe
Council's consideration of reviewed plan	July 2021
Formal public consultation process	August 2021
Officer consideration of feedback and any changes as a result	September 2021
Adoption by Council	October 2021
Public Notice of adoption of RMP	October 2021

Attachments

- Proposed Amended Road Management Plan (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Draft Road Management Plan 2021

Draft | 27 April 2021



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Amendments from 2017 Plan

Date	Details
27/04/2021	Improved cross-referencing.
	Section 3: Meaning of terms - Added definitions of "the Act", "Response time", and "days".
	Clause 7.3: Category omitted
	Section 12: Updated Figure 7, Reactive maintenance process chart.
	Section 22: Updated - Road management (General) Regulations 2016
	Section 22: Updated - Road management (Work and Infrastructure) Regulations 2015
	Section 22: Objective references omitted.
	Appendix B
	Updated On-Road Bicycle Lanes & Bicycle Shimmy Route Inspection frequencies
	Updated Night Inspection descriptions and frequencies
	Appendix C
	Added Response times and omission of High/Low Category.
	Updated localised irregularities of pavement surface descriptions
	Updated surfaces with on-road bicycle lanes descriptions
	Separation of Missing Pit Lids from Damage Pits and updated response times.
	Added emergency situations and overhanging vegetation

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1. Introduction

This Road Management Plan (RMP) is prepared in accordance with Section 52 of the *Road Management Act 2004* (RMA). This Act sets the law relating to road management in Victoria, establishes the general principals which apply to road management and sets out certain rights and duties of road users and authorities.

In preparing this plan, Council has made policy decisions under Part 4 of the RMA.

This plan reflects the purposes and objectives of Council as specified under Parts 6 and 7 of the *Local Government Act, 1989*. These objectives are described in the City of Darebin Council Plan 2017 – 2021, which sets the strategic objectives of Council. These include:

Promote an innovative, vibrant and thriving economy with physical infrastructure that is both well maintained and appropriately regulated.

The respective rights of Council, ratepayers, residents and the general public have been considered in the preparation of this Plan. There are also obligations of road users under the Act, which requires that they exercise personal responsibility for their own and other's safety and interests.

2. Purpose of this Plan

This RMP has been prepared to the principles, methods and systems used in managing Darebin's road network. The plan details the management systems for the road management function under the control of Darebin City Council. It sets the relevant standards in relation to the discharge of its duties in the performance of the road management functions. It sets the standards based on policy and operation objectives within the resources available and ensures the provision of a safe and efficient road network for users and the community. It minimises road safety hazards and disruption to traffic. It also supports the use of different modes of transport to minimise the cost to the community.

In accordance with Sections 50 and 52 of the Act, the purposes of this Plan are:

- to establish a management system for the road management functions of Council which is based on policy, operational objectives and available resources;
- to establish the relevant standards or policies in relation to the discharge of duties in the performance of those road management functions;
- to detail the management systems that Council proposes to implement in the discharge of its duty to inspect, maintain and repair those public roads for which Council is responsible.

This Plan does not apply to arterial roads. VicRoads is the responsible authority for these roads. Council may be responsible for those sections of arterial roads outside of the through traffic lanes as detailed in the Road Management Act Code of Practice "Operational Responsibility for Public Roads". Those roads or parts of roads that Council is responsible for are listed separately in the 'Register of Public Roads'.

3. Meaning of Terms

Terms used in this Plan have the same meaning as the definitions included in the Act. These include:

"**the Act**" means *Road Management Act 2004* (RMA)

"**arterial road**" means a road which is declared to be an arterial road under section 14 of the Act. The VicRoads web site includes a list of arterial roads (<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/>).

“**Council**” means the City of Darebin as the coordinating road authority and as the responsible road authority (as applicable).

“**public road**” means a public road within the meaning of section 17 of the Act.

“**shared path**” footpath jointly used by pedestrians and cyclists.

“**response time**” A defect on an asset has reached the level where maintenance is required to bring it back to the required standard. The process of completion inclusive of administrative work.

“**day**” means any working day from Monday to Friday except declared public holidays.

4. Roads for which the Plan Applies

The provisions of this Plan apply to those roads, pathways and ancillary areas listed in the Register of Public Roads.

Council has determined that those local roads and pathways listed in the Register of Public Roads are reasonably required for general public use. Council has also designated certain areas adjacent to a public road as ‘ancillary areas’ and these areas are recorded in the Register of Public Roads. There are 65 car parks that will be separately identified in the road register which are located in road reserves that are not described as “**ancillary areas**”.

To the extent possible within resource constraints, the Register of Public Roads records the location, type, hierarchy, capacity, condition, configuration of road assets for which Council is responsible, together with a history of assets including any additions, deletions or changes.

Details of agreements with other road authorities and service providers will be added to the Register of Public Roads as they become available.

5. Exclusions from the Plan

The plan does not apply to:

- Roads and car parks on private property. These are the responsibility of the property owner. A private road is considered to be formed roadway within a privately-owned parcel of land. A private road is not referred to as a road (ROAD) on title, nor is it referred to as a right of way (ROW) on a title document. Examples of private roads include internal access roads within retirement villages and Housing Commission estates as well as internal access roads and carparks within shopping complexes (such as Northland). Council is not responsible for the maintenance, inspection or renewal of these road assets; accordingly, they are not included within the Road Management Plan.
 - Car parks outside the road reserve. Refer to the Road Asset Management Plan.
 - Car parks associated with Council buildings and car parks associated with open space reserves and sporting facilities. Refer to the Open Space and Facilities Asset Management Plans.
 - Pavements, kerb and channel on arterial roads. These are the responsibility of VicRoads. Refer to the Road Management Act Code of Practice “Operational Responsibility for Public Roads”.
 - Bus stop assets. These are the responsibility of the Public Transport Victoria. Refer to the description in section 8.3.
 - Unmade Rights of Way (ROW) that are not included in the road register. An unmade right-of-way is a portion of land that is designated as a right of way (ROW) or a road (ROAD) on title. Unmade rights-of-way do not have formed surfaces; however, they may have constructed drainage (either under or above ground). Council is not responsible for the maintenance, inspection or construction of the surface of unmade rights-of-way that
-

are not included in the register of public roads. Should an unmade right-of-way be surfaced (either via a special charge scheme or as a requirement of a planning permit) then the right-of-way would be added to the road register. Council may also decide to add an unmade right-of-way to its register of public roads for other reasons.

- Vehicle crossings. These are the responsibility of the property owner. Refer to the description in section 8.5.
- Private drainage. Refer to the description in section 8.6.
- Street Lighting.

6. Related Documents

A number of other Council documents are referred to in, or affect the operation of, this Plan. These include:

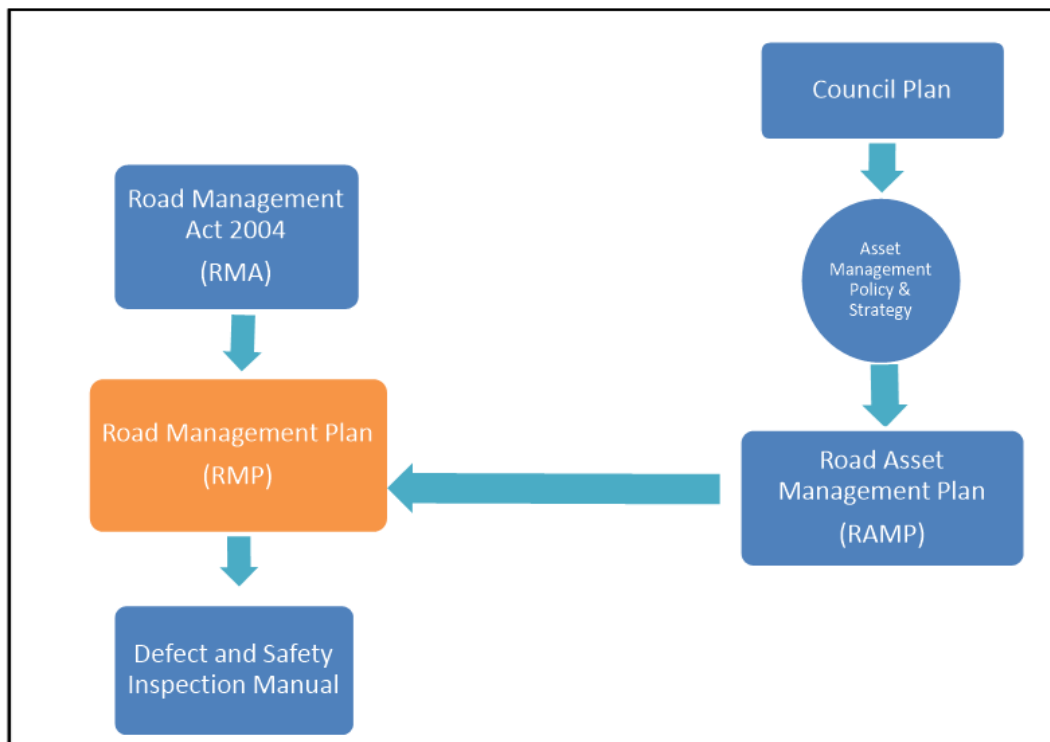
Darebin ‘Road Asset Management Plan’ (RAMP) – provides an understanding of Council’s road assets and concepts for their sustainable provision and provides a tactical approach towards achieving a cost-effective solution that meets Council’s long term strategic goals.

Darebin ‘Register of Public Roads’ – Lists those roads and ancillary areas for which Council is responsible for in accordance with section 19 of the Act.

Darebin ‘Defect and Safety Inspection Manual’ – Details the methods by which Council will undertake the periodic inspection of road assets and the response to various defects that may arise from time to time.

Darebin ‘Open Space Asset Management Plan’ – Details shared path and paths in parks. The linkage between these documents is shown in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1: Asset Management Policy Framework



7. Road and Footpath Hierarchy

7.1 Road Classification

Roads within Council are classified in a hierarchical system based on traffic volumes. The following definitions have been developed to determine the hierarchical system used: -

Road Hierarchy	Description
Link	Link Roads (>7500vpd) – Those roads whose main function is to supplement arterial roads in providing for traffic movements and which distribute traffic to collector roads and local street systems.
Collector	Collector Roads (>3000vpd) – Those roads whose main function is to supplement arterial and link roads in providing for traffic movements, or which distribute traffic to local street systems
Access	Access Roads incl. car parks (<3000vpd) – Those roads whose main function is to provide access to abutting properties or where the main function is to provide access to limited numbers of properties, or which provide almost exclusively for one activity or function.
Primary Access Rights of Way	Those roads whose main function is to provide primary property access i.e. where the front door is accessed directly from the Right of Way.
Laneways /Rights of Way	Laneways/Rights-of-Way– Those roads where the main function is to provide rear access to properties for delivery of goods, as in the case of commercial premises, or as a means to garage a car in the property in the case of residential properties.
On-Road Bicycle Lanes	Those on-road lanes reserved for people who ride bikes whose main function is to create on-road, separated travel facilities for people who ride bikes. They are identified with a bike symbol on the road and a sign which says that it is a bike lane.
Shimmy Routes	Bike routes using low traffic and low speed roads, which are primarily local access or link road, as an alternative to using collector or arterial roads with higher traffic volumes and speeds.

7.2 Pathways Classification

Pathways are classified into three categories

Pathways Hierarchy	Description
Principal Pedestrian Network (PPN) PPN Primary	These routes form the foundation of the PPN where a high level of pedestrian priority is assigned. These routes will be a major focus for the implementation of future walking infrastructure improvements.
PPN Secondary	These routes will provide a secondary role to the primary routes and will be assigned a high level of pedestrian priority.
All Other	This includes the balance of the pedestrian network within Darebin which is not identified as Primary or Secondary. Although they are not assigned a significant role in the PPN, they are recognised as providing a level of pedestrian priority because of their feeder role from residential and employment origins to the Secondary and Primary routes.

8. Operational Responsibility for Public Roads

The Code of Practice – ‘Operational Responsibility for Public Roads’ defines the limits of responsibility between road authorities for different parts or elements within the road reserve.

8.1 Arterial Roads

Pathways and service roads along Arterial Roads are the responsibility of Council. Median strips, intersection and road signage are the responsibility of VicRoads. (Refer Section 37 of the Act). An example of the division of responsibility between Council, VicRoads and the tram operator are shown in Figure 2 below.



Figure 2: Operational Responsibility on Arterial roads

In the example in Fig. 2 above, VicRoads is the Coordinating Road Authority for the road. VicRoads is the Responsible Road Authority for the pavement. Council is the Responsible Road Authority for the section from the back of kerb to the property boundary. Refer also to the Code of Practice.

8.2 Public Transport Assets

Trams – Yarra Trams provides the tram services within Darebin. They have many assets in the road reservation such as, tram tracks, overhead powerlines and shelters. Tram operators are responsible for the tram track reserve area within 450mm each side of the outer track rails in road reserves including crib crossings installed to protect pedestrians crossing tram tracks. Council is responsible for the road reserve outside these limits. Centreline road marking along a tram reserve is the responsibility of the responsible Road Authority but (yellow) linemarking designating tram operational limits is the responsibility of the tram operator. Operational responsibility for local roads with tram tracks is shown in Figure 3 below:



Figure 3: Operational Responsibility Trams on Local Roads

Trains - All assets associated with the train services are located in a railway reservation, however, where the railway and road reservations cross each other, both road and railway assets interface and the responsible agencies must work together. Trains assets include the tracks and the overhead power supply as well as, bridges, boom gates and fencing. Train operators are responsible for all components of the rail track reserve area within the road boundaries to a minimum of 3 metres each side of the outer rails or the extent of the boom gate in metropolitan Melbourne or as agreed. Council is responsible for the road reserve outside these limits.

8.3 Bus stop assets

The majority of infrastructure that is associated with bus stops is the responsibility of Public Transport Victoria, such infrastructure includes:

- The bus stop pole/flag/timetable case/braille badge.
- The concrete slab (hardstand) that forms the waiting area for bus patrons.
- Any dedicated path or ramp to the hardstand (so this is generally a path that runs from the Council owned footpath out to the hardstand).
- Any pedestrian fencing or tactile on this path or ramp to the hardstand.
- The tactile that is on the hardstand as well as the tactile that runs across the footpath to lead people onto the waiting area.
- Glass bus shelters installed.

Council is to maintain the following items that are associated with bus stops:

- Bus zone signs (which indicate where Council's parking stops and the bus zone starts/finishes) which are only usually installed in heavily parked areas.
- The road carriageway and kerb.
- Rubbish left on the naturestrip (including at a bus stop).
- Grass maintenance

8.4 Local Roads

All public roads, right of ways and footpaths listed in the Register of Public Roads are the responsibility of Council, as shown in Figure 4 below:



Figure 4: Operational Responsibility on Local Roads

8.5 Vehicle Crossings

The owner of a property must ensure that each vehicle crossing to the property from an adjacent road and any channel forming part of the crossing is maintained to the satisfaction of Council, as shown in Figure 5 below. Defects associated with vehicle crossings are reported to the property owner with a request to the property owner to rectify the defect.

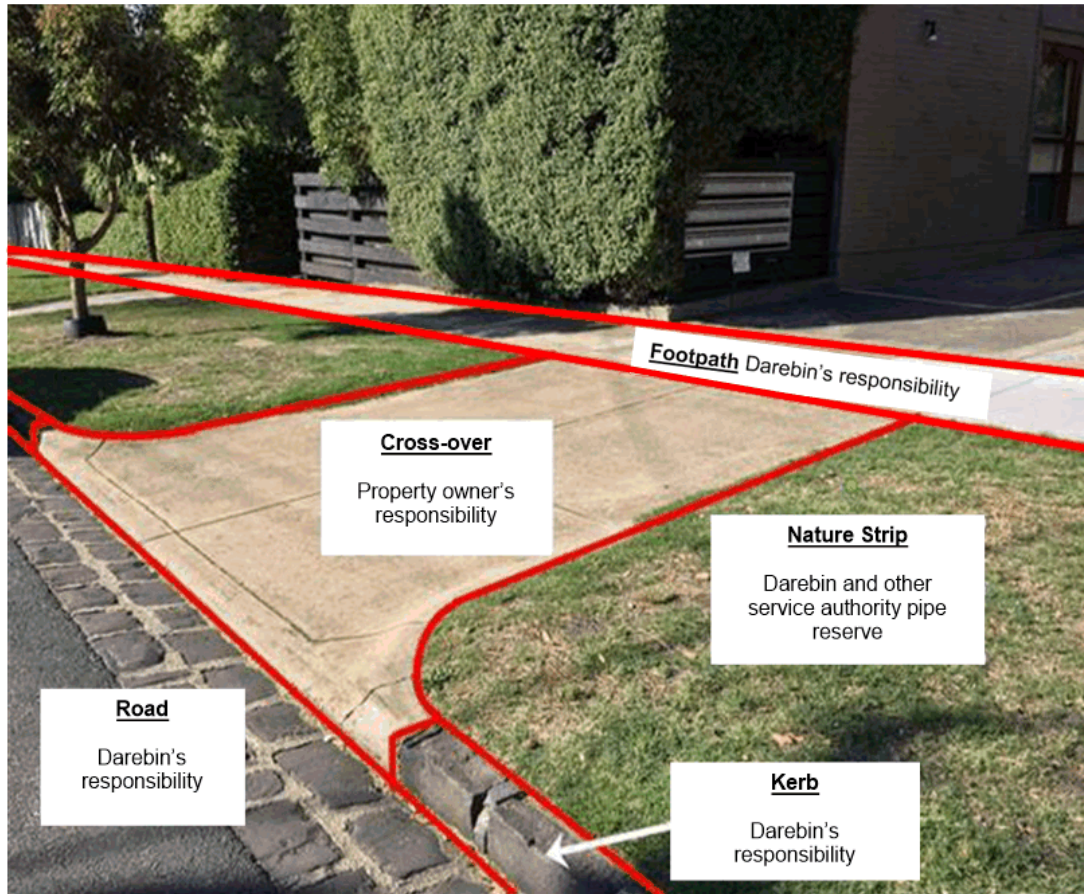


Figure 5: Operational Responsibility for Vehicle Crossings

8.6 Drainage Assets

Council is responsible for the maintenance of Council drains, pits and the kerb and channel to ensure that they are operating effectively. As shown in Figure 6, The Property Owner is responsible for the maintenance of private stormwater drain connected to Council drain, pit or kerb & channel. The Property Owner must ensure that the private stormwater connection to Council drainage assets is maintained to the satisfaction of Council.

The following are drainage related assets that are not considered in this plan, they include;

- Retention systems (refer to the Open Space Asset Management Plan)
- Wetlands (refer to the Open Space Asset Management Plan)
- Rivers/creeks
- Overland flow paths
- Non-Council owned assets

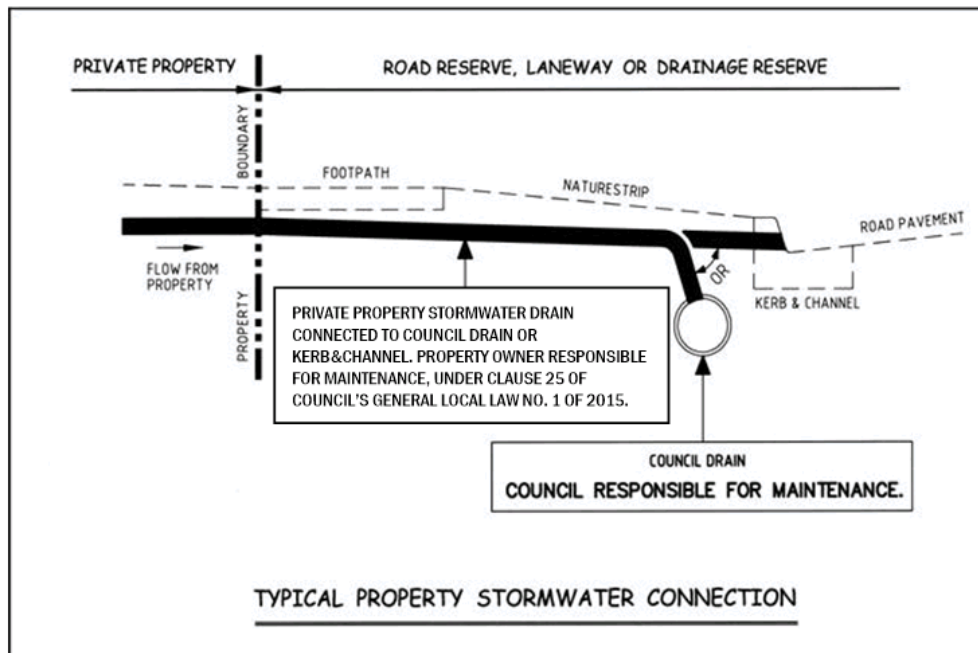


Figure 6: Operational Responsibility for Drainage Assets

8.7 Unmade Roads

Council will not maintain unmade roads unless it is declared a public highway and included in its register of public roads.

8.8 Unmade Rights of Way (ROW)

Council will not maintain unmade ROWs unless it is declared a public highway and included in its register of public roads.

An owner or occupier of land must keep that land, and anything on that land, in a condition that is not detrimental to the visual amenity of the neighbourhood. The following are examples of what may be detrimental to the visual amenity of the neighbourhood:

- (i.) Branches, materials or objects which may overhang the property;
- (ii.) Weeds and excessive vegetation; and
- (iii.) Accumulation of excessive materials and obstructions.

An owner or occupier of land abutting an unmade right of way must ensure that the unmade right of way is free of litter and obstructions.

8.9 Shared Paths

Shared paths in the road reserve are included in the public road register and will be inspected at same level as footpath assets. Shared paths in parks are not covered under the RMP and will be maintained in accordance with the Open Space Asset Management Plan.

8.10 Carparks

Off road car parks should come under the RAMP. Car parks will be separated in the road register and adopt the same level of service as roads.

9. Exceptional Circumstances

Council will make every endeavour to meet all aspects of its Road Management Plan, (RMP).

However, in the event of natural disasters and other events including, but not limited to, fires, floods, droughts and the like, together with human factors, such as a lack of Council staff or suitably qualified Contractors, because of Section 83 of the Victorian Wrongs Act, 1958, as amended, Council reserves the right to suspend compliance with its Road Management Plan.

In the event that the CEO of Council, has to, pursuant to Section 83 of the above Act, consider the limited financial resources of Council and its other conflicting priorities, meaning Council's Plan cannot be met, they will write to Council's Officer in charge of its Road Management Plan and inform them that some, or all, of the timeframes and response times are to be suspended.

Once the events beyond the control of Council have abated, or if the events have partly abated, Council's CEO will write to Council's Officer responsible for Council's Plan and inform them which parts of Council's Plan are to be reactivated and when.

10. Level of Service

The standards specified in Appendices A, B & C are set to maintain the service provided by Council's road network at the level applicable at the time of adoption by Council of this plan.

This level of service is considered reasonable having regard to the resources available to Council and the provision of other Council services. Levels of service may be amended from time to time having regard to Best Value reviews and community consultation to be conducted in the future.

11. Proactive Maintenance System

Council has a proactive system of maintenance based on the 45 maintenance zones as shown in Appendix A and the inspection frequencies described in Appendix B. Works orders derived from defects identified in these inspections are temporarily repaired under this Plan. Permanent repairs for these defects are scheduled based on timeframes outlined in this Plan.

12. Reactive Maintenance System - Service Requests (SR) and Data Recording

Council has systems in place to manage customer service requests and work orders and other information from road users and community members.

Key benefits of the system include:

- More efficient and effective method of actioning customer requests and managing our assets
- Better and more accurate information will be available to more staff than before
- Better reporting capability

The following flow chart describes the workflow followed for all service (customer) requests as described in this Plan and in accordance with timeframes specified in Appendix C. Works orders derived from defects identified in the inspection process in this work flow are temporarily repaired under this Plan. Permanent repairs for these defects are scheduled based on timeframes outlined in the Defect and Safety Inspection Manual which do not form part of this Plan.

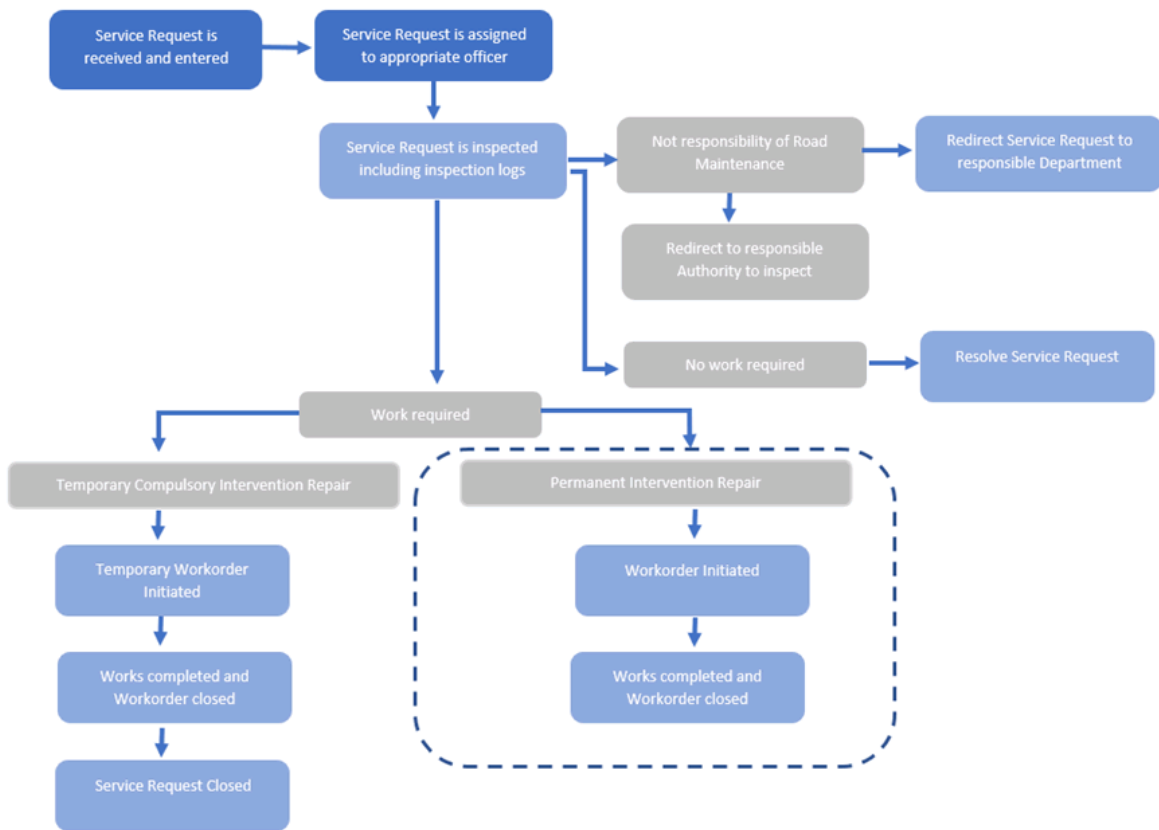


Figure 7: Reactive maintenance system workflow

13. Repair of Damaged Council Assets

Where damage has been caused to a Council asset / or road, the party, service provider or works and infrastructure manager that caused the damage shall be responsible for that damage, any consequences and the cost of repair to ensure that the area is safe and that the asset operates at the level it previously operated or higher. In particular, where secondary or ‘consequential’ damage has been caused to Council assets such as subsidence from water damage other than at the specific site of the asset works or repairs, the damage must be repaired at the expense of the responsible party to Council’s satisfaction. Refer Schedule 7 in Road Management Act 2004.

14. Risk Assessment

The consequences of asset failure can include loss of revenue, inconvenience to the community, loss of service and trade. It is not possible for Council to address all defects and eliminate all risks. However, risks may be identified and minimised by regular inspections and setting of clear priorities.

All reasonably foreseeable types of defect likely to be found in the road reserve were evaluated and a risk assessment undertaken that considered both likelihood and consequence. The details of this analysis are shown in the Defects and Safety Inspection Manual.

15. Standards for Construction, Expansion, Upgrading, Renewal and Refurbishment

The standards for the construction of new roads and pathways are given in the Road Geometry and Drainage Design Guidelines.

16. Standards of Maintenance

The standards for the maintenance of existing roads and pathways are:

- the task or work expected to be undertaken
- the schedule of inspections of specific matters to be undertaken at specified intervals
- the circumstances under which intervention action is to be undertaken with respect to repair or maintenance needs for defects reported or found on inspection
- the priority to be given to intervention action and the kind of action.

Council is committed to providing a response to any situation in accordance with the response times.

17. Financial Resources

The commitments and obligations specified in this Plan are matched to the financial resources available to deliver those commitments and obligations.

The availability of financial resources determines the level of service that can be provided. Any change in community expectations, i.e. higher or lower level of service has a corresponding financial effect.

18. Safety at Worksites

All construction and maintenance work on local roads and pathways will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant occupational health and safety legislation and guidelines.

In particular, the Code of Practice 'Worksite Safety – Traffic Management' applies to any works.

19. Duty to Inform Service Provider

If in the course of meeting its obligations under this Plan, Council becomes aware that any non-road infrastructure for which a service provider or works and infrastructure manager is responsible:

- is not in the location shown in the relevant records; or
- appears to be in an unsafe condition; or
- appears in need of repair or maintenance;

Council will convey that information to the relevant service provider or works and infrastructure manager.

20. Performance Management

In accordance with the Best Value principles and good management practice, a performance measurement, monitoring and reporting regime will be developed as part of the implementation, of Councils Asset Management System. This includes appropriate resources allocated to develop and implement an effective system for monitoring and reporting compliance.

21. Plan Review

This plan will be reviewed every four years after a new Council is elected in accordance with the Road Management Act 2004 and the Road Management (General) Regulations 2005.

22. References

The following references are referred to or affect the operation of this plan:

Acts

Road Management Act 2004

Local Government Act 1989

Local Government Act 2020

*Transport Integration Act
2010*

Regulations

Road Management (General) Regulations 2016

Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2015

Codes of Practice

Code of Practice 'Worksite Safety – Traffic Management'

Code of Practice – 'Operational Responsibility for Public Roads'

Code of Practice – 'Management of Infrastructure in Road Reserve'

Council Documents

Darebin - Road Asset Management Plan

Darebin - Road Geometry and Drainage Design Guidelines

Darebin - Defects and Safety Inspection Manual

Darebin - Register of Public Roads

Darebin - Stormwater Asset Management Plan

Darebin – As advised by the Asset Department, the 2017 Open Space Asset Management Plan which includes maintenance schedules of shared paths and paths in parks is to be finalised within the next six months.

Darebin - General Local Law 2015

Darebin - Principal Pedestrian Network Report April 2016

Darebin – Principal Pedestrian Network PPN Map

Darebin – People Feasibility Study Walking Strategy

Darebin – Safe Travel Strategy

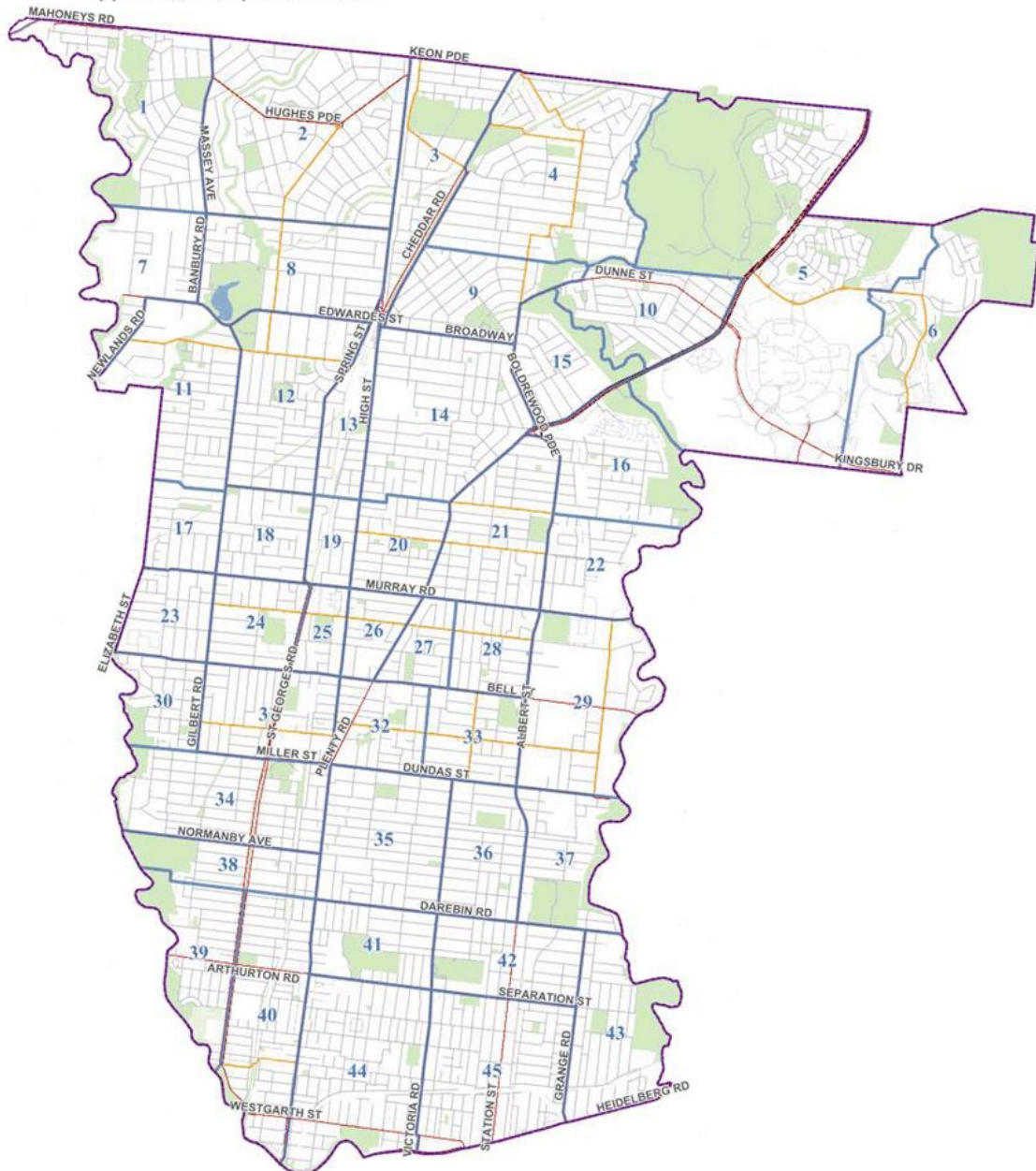
Darebin – Darebin Transport Strategy

Other Documents

Victorian State Government – Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030

23. Appendices

Appendix A- Inspection Zones



Appendix B- Inspection Frequencies

Inspections	Description	Frequencies	Hierarchy
ROAD (INCLUDING ON-ROAD BICYCLE LANE) DEFECT (HAZARDS) INSPECTIONS: - The undertaking by suitably qualified and experienced staff regular inspections of the asset to determine condition, compliance with maintenance standards and risk.	A defect inspection is undertaken to assess if any defects are present against an agreed set of criteria. Risk inspections are undertaken in response to customer complaints. Reports are provided by a nominated officer or maintenance staff.	12 months	Link
		12 months	Collector
		2 years	Access
		18 months	Primary Access ROW
		2 years	ROW
		Dependent on road hierarchy	On-Road Bicycle Lanes
CARPARKS	Part of Road Asset Management Plan Asphalt pavements.	2 years	All
FOOTPATH DEFECT (HAZARDS) INSPECTIONS: - The undertaking by suitably qualified and experienced staff regular inspections of the asset to determine condition, compliance with maintenance standards and risk.	A defect inspection is undertaken to assess if any defects are present against an agreed set of criteria. Risk inspections are undertaken in response to customer complaints. Reports are provided by a nominated officer or maintenance staff. PPN Primary routes form the foundation of the PPN where a high level of pedestrian priority is assigned. PPN Secondary routes provide a secondary role to the primary routes. All Other routes are those not identified as primary or secondary routes.	12 months	PPN Primary
		18 months	PPN Secondary
		2 years	All Other
KERB & CHANNEL: - Kerb and Channel holding water- minor reshaping to maintain flow of water and protect road and through lane traffic.	When Kerb and Channel has subsided or heaved and the ponding of water is encroaching into the through traffic lane.	12 months	Link
		12 months	Collector
		2 years	Access
		18 months	Primary Access ROW
		2 years	ROW
SHARED PATH	Shared path in road reserve	12 months	Road Reserve
	Shared path in parks. Part of Open Space Asset Management Plan.	2 years	Open Space
SAFETY (NIGHT) INSPECTION: - Involves driving on the local road network.	Hazards to the public, in particular regulatory and warning signs and line marking.	24 months	Link
		24 months	Collector
		24 months	Access
		24 months	ROW
INCIDENT INSPECTION: - An inspection carried out to comply with the requirements of the Road Management Act – Division 5 – Claims Procedure.	This inspection enables an incident condition report to be prepared for use in legal proceedings and the gathering of information for the analysis of the causes of accidents and the planning and implementation of road management and safety measures. Requirements include:- An Inspection by a Qualified engineer or Experienced Technical Officer with extensive knowledge and experience in road construction and maintenance practices	5 working days	All
BICYCLE SHIMMY ROUTE:	A defect inspection is undertaken to assess if any defects are present against an agreed set of criteria. Risk inspections are undertaken in response to customer complaints. Reports are provided by a nominated officer or maintenance staff.	Dependent on road hierarchy	All

Appendix C- Maintenance standards including response times

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
Road Pavement				
LOCALISED IRREGULARITIES OF PAVEMENT SURFACE (sq.m.) – The use of appropriate treatment and materials to repair the defect and restore the riding surface to a safe condition. This includes potholes, deformations, delamination and edge breaks.	Pothole depth of ≥ 50 mm in depth and ≥ 300 mm in diameter. Surface irregularities when hazardous to traffic. Primary Access ROWs are those roads whose main function is to provide primary property access i.e. where the front door is accessed directly from the Right Of Way. Laneways/Rights-of-Way are those roads where the main function is to provide rear access to properties for delivery of goods, as in the case of commercial premises, or as a means to garage a car in the property in the case of residential properties.	Link	5 days	30 days
		Collector	5 days	60 days
		Access	5 days	90 days
		ROW (made)	5 days	90 days
		Primary Access ROW	N/A	60 days
SURFACES WITH ON-ROAD BICYCLE LANES	Pothole depth of ≥ 30 mm in depth and ≥ 150 mm in diameter. Surface irregularities when hazardous to traffic (e.g. tree roots).	On-Road Bicycle Lane and Shimmy Routes	5 days	Dependent on road Hierarchy (Localised irregularities of pavement surface)
ROAD MARKING and/or LINEMARKING (l.m) - Regular painting of all pavement markings, including line marking and raised pavement reflectors. Missing, illegible or confusing.	>60% of delineator installations and linemarking per segment missing or defective, relative to original installation and design standards. (Refer AS1742 .2)	Link	10 days	60 days
		Collector	10 days	3 months
		Access	10 days	12 months
		ROW (made)	N/A	N/A
		Primary Access ROW	N/A	N/A
		On-Road Bicycle Lane	10 days	Dependent on road hierarchy

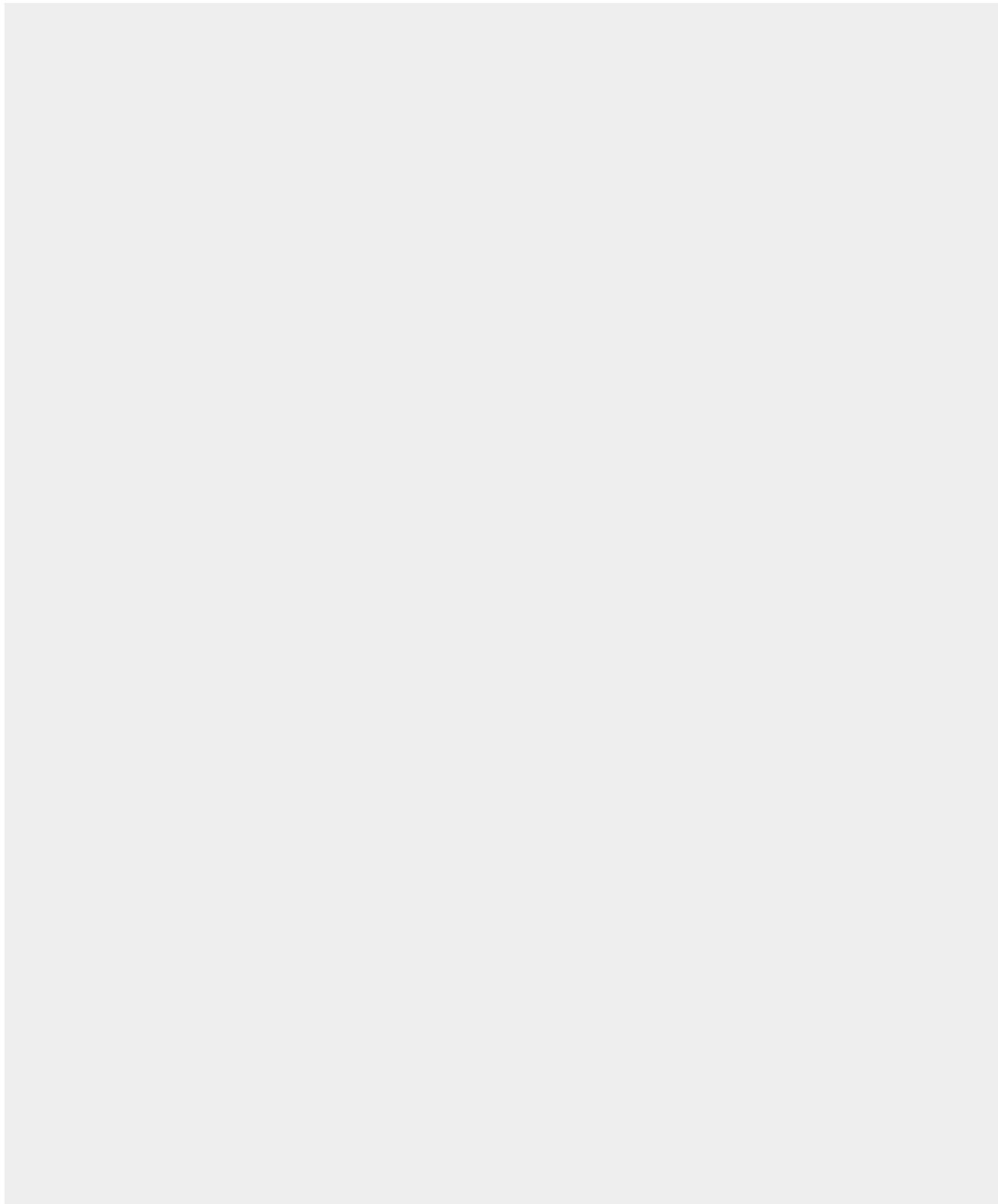
Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
Road Pavement				
PROUD/SUNKEN/DAMAGED COUNCIL SERVICE COVERS (No.) - -realign pit covers level with adjacent road or ground surface	Difference in surrounding level is $\geq 50\text{mm}$ (greater than or equal to 50mm) or hazardous to traffic	Link	5 days	60 days
		Collector	5 days	3 months
		Access	5 days	12 months
		ROW (made)	5 days	12 months
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	3 months
CARPARKS- The use of appropriate treatment and materials to repair the defect and restore the riding surface to a safe condition. This includes potholes, deformations, delamination and edge breaks.	Pothole depth of ≥ 50 mm in depth and ≥ 300 mm in diameter. Surface irregularities when hazardous to traffic.	Collector	5 days	60 days
		Access	5 days	90 days
Footpaths				
TRIP HAZARD (Im) – Uneven footpath caused by trees, natural ground movement, grass/foilage encroachment on the footpath surface or cracked/damaged footpath with distortion. This includes asphalt, concrete and footpath with spoon drains.	When horizontal or vertical displacement is $\geq 25\text{mm}$ (greater than or equal to 25mm)	PPN Primary	5 days	90 days
		PPN Secondary	5 days	2 years
		All Other	5 days	4 years
SHARED PATHS – Uneven shared path caused by trees, natural ground movement, grass/foilage encroachment on the shared path surface or cracked/damaged footpath with distortion.	When horizontal or vertical displacement is $\geq 25\text{mm}$ (greater than or equal to 25mm)	Road reserve	5 days	12 months
		Open space	5 days	4 years

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
Surface Drainage – Kerb & Channel and Drainage Pits				
<p>SURFACE DRAINS - Surface drains that run along the sides of footpath and drainage pits</p> <p>For ROW (unmade) this only applies to those with constructed drainage inverts.</p>	When a surface drain has been damaged or displaced.	PPN Primary	5 days	90 days
		PPN Secondary	5 days	2 years
		All Other	5 days	4 years
<p>KERB & CHANNEL– Kerb & Channel holding water-minor reshaping to maintain flow of water and protect road and through lane traffic.</p>	When Kerb & Channel has subsided or heaved and the ponding of water is encroaching into the through traffic lane	Link	5 days	90 days
		Collector	5 days	90 days
		Access	5 days	4 years
		ROW (made)	5 days	4 years
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	4 years
<p>PIT CLEANING - Inspection and cleaning of pits to maintain flow of water – blockages to the opening of the pit that prevents entry into the pit.</p>	When a blocked pit is causing water to encroach onto the through traffic lane	Link	5 days	30 days
		Collector	5 days	60 days

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
		Access	5 days	90 days
		ROW (made)	5 days	90 days
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	60 days
MISSING DRAINAGE PIT LID	Any drainage pit that has a missing pit lid / cover	All	2 days	90 days
DAMAGED PIT WALLS AND SURROUNDS	Any drainage pit that has a damage to pit walls and surrounds	All	5 days	90 days
Roadside				
REGULATORY SIGN OR POLE REPLACEMENT - Replacement of regulatory and warning signs or poles which are worn, illegible, damaged or missing.	Sign missing or illegible. Greater than 60 per cent sign is illegible from the direction of travel at a distance of 50m.	Link	5 days	10 days
		Collector	5 days	10 days
		Access	5 days	10 days
		ROW (made)	5 days	10 days
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	10 days
OTHER SIGNS – Replace all other damaged signs and/or poles	N/A	Link	5 days	20 days
		Collector	5 days	20 days
		Access	5 days	20 days

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
		ROW (made)	5 days	20 days
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	20 days
STREET FURNITURE – Guardrail, Barriers, Bollards, Seats, Bins, fencing and Bus Shelters – missing/damaged or deteriorated	When hazardous to traffic or pedestrians	Link	5 days	15 months
		Collector	5 days	15 months
		Access	5 days	15 months
		ROW (made)	5 days	15 months
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	15 months
EMERGENCY SITUATIONS	Any defect or hazard that presents as an immediate and significant risk of injury and/or property damage to road/footpath/pathway users (e.g. such as large (localised) flooding incidents)	All	36 hours	Dependent on the specific circumstances
Overhanging Vegetation (Council trees) Min Clearance: - 2.4m (above footpath) - 3.0m (above sharedpaths) - 4.0m (above pavement)	Notify Council’s Tree Management for follow-up action. Trim trees obstructing footpath, obscuring signs or visibility	All	Notify within 3 days As per tree pruning program	
Overhanging Vegetation (Private trees) Min clearance of 2.5 metres above the footpath	Notify Council’s Local Law for follow-up action.	All	Notify within 3 days	

Planned intervention level repairs can be referred in the appendices of the Asset Management Plan.



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हिंदी	Tiếng Việt

8.4 CONTRACT AWARD FOR CT2019181 FOR ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE AND INSTALLATION SERVICES

Author: Coordinator, Facilities Management

Reviewed By: General Manager Operations and Capital

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to award contract CT2019181 for the provision of electrical maintenance and installation services.

The City of Darebin is seeking to appoint two experienced contractors to deliver electrical programmed maintenance, reactive maintenance services and capital works installations across Council's building portfolio. The Request for Tender (RFT) was publicly advertised on 16 January 2021 and closed on 4 March 2021.

The tender evaluation panel has evaluated the tenders received and recommends awarding the contract to two electrical contractors. One contractor will provide programmed maintenance services in all facilities in the north of the City while the other will provide programmed maintenance services in nominated buildings in the south of the City. Both contractors will form a panel of suppliers that can be accessed for reactive maintenance services and capital works installations.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Awards Contract CT2019181 for Electrical Maintenance and Installation Services to two contractors for a principal contract term of two years with three one-year options to extend commencing on 14 August 2021.
 2. Awards Contract CT2019181 Package A for programmed maintenance to _____ for an annual fee of \$_____ (including GST) subject to adjustments to reflect changes in the asset portfolio.
 3. Awards Contract CT2019181 Package B for programmed maintenance to _____ for an annual fee \$_____ (including GST) subject to adjustments to reflect changes in the asset portfolio.
 4. Appoints _____ and _____ to a panel for reactive maintenance services and capital works, to be charged at the tendered schedules of rates.
 5. Approves an upper limit contract value of \$_____ (including GST) across the maximum contract term of five years.
 6. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations to the annual programmed maintenance fees to allow for the addition and removal of assets across the building portfolio.
 7. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute the contract documents on behalf of Council.
 8. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to exercise options for extensions if and when required.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Contract overview

The maintenance and renewal of electrical assets across the City of Darebin's broad portfolio of properties and other infrastructure is an essential service of Council. To meet legislative obligations and to optimise the management of electrical assets, Council sought to partner with third-party contractors to deliver these core services across approximately 200 sites located throughout the city.

The electrical services required of the contractor includes:

- Switchboards
- Emergency generators
- Emergency lighting systems
- General lighting for buildings and open space
- Power points
- Planned maintenance to reduce breakdown calls
- Reactive maintenance for power and lighting faults

The contract is structured as a limited panel of 2 contractors. Both contractors will form a panel that Council may access for reactive maintenance and capital works installations.

The successful contractors will work closely with Council's Facilities Management team and other departments to ensure that electrical and associated assets are well maintained and perform reliably and efficiently. Up to date with the latest technologies and innovative practices, successful contractors will share Council's commitment for environmentally sustainable maintenance practices, reducing operating costs and innovative capital solutions.

Scope of services

Broadly, the scope of services entails:

- General management and advisory services.
- Programmed maintenance for assets across Council's building portfolio.
- Reactive maintenance in the case of faults or breakdowns.
- New capital installations and renewals for assets that are no longer effective or are in need for scheduled replacement.

Contract term

Council is invested in developing a strong working relationship with contractors for a two-year principal contract term, with three one-year options to extend. The contract will commence in August 2021.

Public tender

On 16 January 2021 a public tender for CT2019181 for the provision of electrical maintenance and installation services was released to the market. A tender briefing was held on 11 February 2021. Tenders closed at 2.00pm on Thursday 4 March 2021.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

In planning for and conducting the tender, the following stakeholders have been consulted:

- Procurement and contracting
- Assets and Capital Delivery
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Procurement Australia
- Independent specialist engineering firm, FG Advisory

ANALYSIS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

In line with Darebin's Social and Sustainable Procurement policy, tender evaluation criteria gave weight to sustainable initiatives and practices. In particular, these contractors will assist Council to maintain, and install new, solar panels and energy storage batteries as opportunities arise.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

In line with Darebin's Social and Sustainable Procurement policy, tender evaluation criteria gave weight to social initiatives and practices. Tenderers were asked to consider how their business activities demonstrated a commitment to address disadvantage and improve equity to deliver social value and positive social outcomes.

Cultural Considerations

No cultural considerations are relevant to this procurement.

Economic Development Considerations

Evaluation criteria gave weight to Darebin based businesses. In addition, businesses that could demonstrate a local economic contribution through regular purchasing from local traders or the employment of local people were viewed favourably in line with evaluation criteria.

Financial and Resource Implications

Programmed and reactive maintenance services form part of Council's annual operational budget. Capital works installations are subject to the Council adopted Capital Works Program each year.

Legal and Risk Implications

Probity

As the procurement is valued at over \$1 million, external probity advisor Pitcher Partners was engaged at the start of the procurement process and retained through to the completion of tender evaluation. The probity advisor's report confirmed that all probity requirements have been met, and there were no probity issues (material or otherwise) that undermine the integrity of the procurement process. A copy of the probity auditor's report is included as part of Confidential **Appendix B**.

All shortlisted tenderers were subject to a third-party financial health check to ensure that they have the financial capacity to undertake a contract of this significance. The outcomes of the checks are summarised in Confidential **Attachment A**.

Operational Impacts

In undertaking maintenance and capital works, contractors are obligated to minimise disruptions to Council's normal business operations. The contract specification outlines a number of requirements that contractors must adhere to when working at Council buildings.

DISCUSSION

As communicated to prospective tenderers through the Request for Tender, a multi-stage evaluation methodology was adopted for the procurement. The purpose and activities of each evaluation stage are summarised in the table below:

Stage	Purpose
Stage 1 – Compliance assessment and preliminary qualitative assessment	To evaluate tender compliance and assess whether tenders satisfied minimum qualitative expectations
Stage 2 – Price review	To evaluate tender pricing and further consider service delivery and experience and expertise
Stage 3 – Final evaluation activities	To finalise qualitative scores

Evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria, including the weightings, were communicated in the RFT.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Refer to Confidential **Appendix A** circulated to Councillors under separate cover for options for consideration.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Transition planning with the successful contractors will begin immediately upon execution of the contract documents. Tenderers will be notified of the outcome following Council's award of the contract.

Attachments

- Contract Award CT2019181 Electrical Maintenance and Installation Services (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)
Confidential – enclosed under separate cover
- Probity Report (**Appendix B**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

8.5 CONTRACT AWARD FOR CT2019180 FOR MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE AND INSTALLATION SERVICES

Author: Coordinator, Facilities Management

Reviewed By: General Manager Operations and Capital

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to award contract CT2019180 for the provision of mechanical maintenance and installation services.

The City of Darebin is seeking to appoint two experienced contractors to deliver mechanical programmed maintenance, reactive maintenance services and capital works installations across Council's building portfolio. The Request for Tender (RFT) was publicly advertised on 16 January 2021 and closed on 4 March 2021.

The tender evaluation panel has evaluated the tenders received and recommends awarding the contract to two mechanical contractors. One contractor will provide programmed maintenance services in all facilities north of the City while an alternative contractor will provide programmed maintenance services in nominated buildings south of the City. Both contractors will form a panel of suppliers that can be accessed for reactive maintenance services and capital works installations.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Awards Contract CT2019180 for Mechanical Maintenance and Installation Services to two contractors for a principal contract term of two years with three one-year options to extend commencing on 14 August 2021.
2. Awards Contract CT2019180 Package A for programmed maintenance to _____ for an annual fee of \$_____ (including GST) subject to adjustments to reflect changes in the asset portfolio.
3. Awards Contract CT2019180 Package B to programmed maintenance to _____ for an annual fee \$_____ (including GST) subject to adjustments to reflect changes in the asset portfolio.
4. Appoints _____ and _____ to a panel for reactive maintenance services and capital works, to be charged at the tendered schedules of rates.
5. Approves an upper limit contract value of \$_____ (including GST) across the maximum contract term of five years.
6. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations to the annual programmed maintenance fees to allow for the addition and removal of assets across the building portfolio.
7. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute the contract documents on behalf of Council.
8. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to exercise options for extensions if and when required.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Contract overview

The maintenance and renewal of mechanical assets (heating and cooling) across the City of Darebin's broad portfolio of properties and other infrastructure is an essential service of Council. To meet legislative obligations and to optimise the management of mechanical assets, Council sought to partner with third-party contractors to deliver these core services. Through this public tender, the City of Darebin sought to enter into a contract with suitably experienced, responsive and reliable contractors to provide mechanical maintenance and capital installation services across approximately 200 sites located throughout the City.

Generally, services required of the contractor includes maintenance of:

Heating and Cooling systems:

- Air handling units (AHU)
- Heating hot water boilers (HHW)
- Chilled water systems (CHW)
- Pumps
- Control systems – Building automation systems (BAS)
- Water treatment plant
- Replacing gas appliances with electrical appliances
- Planned maintenance to reduce breakdown calls
- Reactive maintenance for heating and cooling issues

The contract is structured as a limited panel of 2 contractors to service the City. Both contractors will form a panel that Council may access for reactive maintenance and capital works installations.

The successful contractors will work closely with Council's Facilities Management team and other departments to ensure that mechanical and associated assets are well maintained and perform reliably and efficiently. Up to date with the latest technologies and innovative practices, successful contractors will share Council's commitment for environmentally sustainable maintenance practices, reducing operating costs and innovative capital solutions.

Scope of services

Broadly, the scope of services entails:

- General management and advisory services.
- Programmed maintenance for assets across Council's building portfolio.
- Reactive maintenance in the case of faults or breakdowns.
- New capital installations and renewals for assets that are no longer effective or are in need for scheduled replacement.

Contract term

Council is invested in developing a strong working relationship with contractors for a two-year principal contract term, with three one-year options to extend. The contract will commence in August 2021.

Public tender

On 16 January 2021 a public tender for CT2019180 for the provision of mechanical maintenance and installation services was released to the market. A tender briefing was held on 11 February 2021. Tenders closed at 2.00pm on Thursday 4 March 2021.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT**Consultation**

In planning for and conducting the tender, the following stakeholders have been consulted:

- Procurement and contracting
- Assets and Capital Delivery
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Procurement Australia
- Independent specialist engineering firm, FG Advisory

Communications

The opportunity to tender was communicated through a public advertisement placed on 16 January 2021.

ANALYSIS**Environmental Sustainability Considerations**

In line with Darebin's Social and Sustainable Procurement policy, tender evaluation criteria gave weight to sustainable initiatives and practices.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

In line with Darebin's Social and Sustainable Procurement policy, tender evaluation criteria gave weight to social initiatives and practices. Tenderers were asked to consider how their business activities demonstrated a commitment to address disadvantage and improve equity to deliver social value and positive social outcomes.

Cultural Considerations

No cultural considerations are relevant to this procurement.

Economic Development Considerations

Evaluation criteria gave weight to Darebin based businesses. In addition, businesses that could demonstrate a local economic contribution through regular purchasing from local traders or the employment of local people were viewed favourably in line with evaluation criteria.

Financial and Resource Implications

Programmed and reactive maintenance services form part of Council's annual operational budget. Capital works installations are subject to the Council adopted Capital Works Program each year.

Legal and Risk Implications

Probity

As the procurement is valued at over \$1 million (over the full 5-year term), external probity advisor Pitcher Partners was engaged at the start of the procurement process and retained through to the completion of tender evaluation. The probity advisor's report confirmed that all probity requirements have been met, and there were no probity issues (material or otherwise) that undermine the integrity of the procurement process. A copy of the probity auditor's report is included as part of Confidential **Appendix B**.

Financial health checks

All shortlisted tenderers were subject to a third-party financial health check to ensure that they have the financial capacity to undertake a contract of this significance. The outcomes of the checks are summarised in Confidential **Appendix A**.

Operational Impacts

In undertaking maintenance and capital works, contractors are obligated to minimise disruptions to Council's normal business operations. The contract specification outlines a number of requirements that contractors must adhere to when working at Council buildings.

DISCUSSION

As communicated to prospective tenderers through the Request for Tender, a multi-stage evaluation methodology was adopted for the procurement. The purpose and activities of each evaluation stage are summarised in the table below:

Stage	Purpose
Stage 1 – Compliance assessment and preliminary qualitative assessment	To evaluate tender compliance and assess whether tenders satisfied minimum qualitative expectations
Stage 2 – Price review	To evaluate tender pricing and further consider service delivery and experience and expertise
Stage 3 – Final evaluation activities	To finalise qualitative scores

Evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria, including the weightings, were communicated in the RFT.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Refer to Confidential **Appendix A** circulated to councillors under separate cover for options for consideration.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

Transition planning with the successful contractors will begin immediately upon execution of the contract documents.

Communication

Tenderers will be notified of the outcome following Council's award of the contract.

Timeline

The successful contractors will commence on 14 August 2021.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Attachments

- CONFIDENTIAL - Contract Award CT2019180 Mechanical Plant Maintenance & Installation Services (**Appendix A**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Probity Advisors Report (**Appendix B**) Enclosed under separate cover Confidential - enclosed under separate cover

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

8.6 CONTRACT AWARD FOR CT2019182 FOR FIRE SAFETY (ESSENTIAL SAFETY MEASURE) TESTING, INSPECTIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

Author: Coordinator, Facilities Management

Reviewed By: General Manager Operations and Capital

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to award contract CT2019182 for the provision of fire safety (Essential Safety Measure) testing, inspections and installations.

The City of Darebin is seeking to appoint a single experienced contractor to deliver fire safety programmed tests and inspections, reactive maintenance services and capital works installations across Council's building portfolio. The Request for Tender (RFT) was publicly advertised on 16 January 2021 and closed on 4 March 2021.

The tender evaluation panel has evaluated the tenders received and recommends awarding the contract to a single contractor to undertake all services.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Awards Contract CT2019182 for Fire Safety (Essential Safety Measures) Maintenance and Installation Services to _____ for:
 - a) A principal contract term of two years with three one-year options to extend;
 - b) An annual fixed fee of \$_____ (inclusive of GST) for programmed tests and inspections, subject to adjustments for changes to the asset portfolio and;
 - c) The tendered schedules of rates for reactive maintenance services and capital works installations.
 - (2) Approves an upper limit contract value of \$_____ (including GST) across the maximum contract term of five years.
 - (3) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations to the annual programmed maintenance fees to allow for the addition and removal of assets across the building portfolio.
 - (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute the contract documents on behalf of Council.
 - (5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to exercise options for extensions if and when required.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The effective maintenance of Darebin's broad portfolio of properties and other infrastructure is an essential service of Council. To meet all legislative obligations and to optimise the management of all fire safety and Essential Safety Measure (ESM) assets Council seeks to partner with a third-party contractor. As Council's fire safety and ESM experts, the contractor will be responsible for a wide range of inspections, services and works including but not

limited to, advisory and management services, fire tests and fire inspections, programmed maintenance, reactive maintenance and capital renewals and installations.

Generally, services required of the contractor includes maintenance of:

Portable firefighting equipment such as:

- Extinguishers
- Fire blankets

Fixed fire systems such as;

- Fire hose reels
- Fire and smoke alarm panels and detectors
- Emergency warning systems
- Planned maintenance to reduce breakdown calls
- Reactive maintenance for alarm and other system faults

The City of Darebin sought tenders from suitably experienced, responsive and reliable contractors to provide ESM testing, inspection and maintenance services. The successful contractor will work closely with Council's Facilities Management team and other departments to provide expert advice and high levels of service to ensure that all fire safety and ESM assets are compliant, well maintained and perform effectively. Up to date with the latest technologies and innovative practices, the successful contractor will share Council's commitment for achieving best practice standards.

Scope of services

Broadly, the scope of services entails:

- General management and advisory services.
- Programmed tests and inspections for ESM assets across Council's building portfolio.
- Reactive maintenance in the case of faults or breakdowns.
- New capital installations and renewals for assets that are no longer effective or are in need for scheduled replacement.

Contract term

Council is invested in developing a strong working relationship with a contractor for a two-year principal contract term, with three one-year options to extend. The contract will commence in August 2021.

Public tender

On 16 January 2021 a public tender for CT2019182 for fire safety (Essential Safety Measure) testing, inspections and installations was released to the market. A tender briefing was held on 11 February 2021. Tenders closed at 2.00pm on Thursday 4 March 2021.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

In planning for and conducting the tender, the following stakeholders have been consulted:

- Procurement and contracting
- Assets and Capital Delivery

- Parks and Open Spaces
- Procurement Australia
- Independent specialist engineering firm, FG Advisory

Communications

The opportunity to tender was communicated through a public advertisement placed on 16 January 2021.

ANALYSIS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

In line with Darebin's Social and Sustainable Procurement policy, tender evaluation criteria gave weight to sustainable initiatives and practices.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

In line with Darebin's Social and Sustainable Procurement policy, tender evaluation criteria gave weight to social initiatives and practices. Tenderers were asked to consider how their business activities demonstrated a commitment to address disadvantage and improve equity to deliver social value and positive social outcomes.

Cultural Considerations

No cultural considerations are relevant to this procurement.

Economic Development Considerations

Evaluation criteria gave weight to Darebin based businesses. In addition, businesses that could demonstrate a local economic contribution through regular purchasing from local traders or the employment of local people were viewed favourably in line with evaluation criteria.

Financial and Resource Implications

Programmed and reactive maintenance services form part of Council's annual operational budget. Capital works installations are subject to the Council adopted Capital Works Program each year.

Legal and Risk Implications

Probity

As the procurement is valued at over \$1 million (over the full 5 years), external probity advisor Pitcher Partners was engaged at the start of the procurement process and retained through to the completion of tender evaluation. The probity advisor's report confirmed that all probity requirements have been met, and there were no probity issues (material or otherwise) that undermine the integrity of the procurement process. A copy of the probity auditor's report is included as part of Confidential **Appendix B**.

Financial health checks

All shortlisted tenderers were subject to a third-party financial health check to ensure that they have the financial capacity to undertake a contract of this significance. The outcomes of the checks are summarised in Confidential **Appendix A**.

DISCUSSION

As communicated to prospective tenderers through the Request for Tender, a multi-stage evaluation methodology was adopted for the procurement. The purpose and activities of each evaluation stage are summarised in the table below:

Stage	Purpose
Stage 1 – Compliance assessment and preliminary qualitative assessment	To evaluate tender compliance and assess whether tenders satisfied minimum qualitative expectations
Stage 2 – Price review	To evaluate tender pricing and further consider service delivery and experience and expertise
Stage 3 – Final evaluation activities	To finalise qualitative scores

Evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria, including the weightings, were communicated in the RFT.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Refer to Confidential **Appendix A** circulated to Councillors under separate cover for options for consideration.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

Transition planning with the successful contractors will begin immediately upon execution of the contract documents. Tenderers will be notified of the outcome following Council's award of the contract.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Attachments

- Contract Award CT2019182 Fire Safety Testing, Inspection & Installations (**Appendix A**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Probity Report (**Appendix B**) Enclosed under separate cover Confidential - enclosed under separate cover

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

8.7 EDWARDES LAKE PARK PLAYSPACE FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN**Author:** Landscape Architect**Reviewed By:** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A draft concept design for the Edwardes Lake Park Seaver Grove Playspace has been developed and was released for public consultation between 3 July and 12 August 2020. The proposed Playspace has been designed to form a new focal point in the Edwardes Lake Park. It has been designed to bring to life the directions in Council's Master Plan which was developed with community feedback between 2017 and 2019.

The community's feedback overall was positive and in support of the playspace concept plan approach, vision and proposed improvements. This feedback has been used to update and improve the concept designs and this is now proposed for Council consideration, including improved safety, accessibility, and canopy trees for shade. The Edwardes Lake Park Seaver Grove Playspace site includes a nature play area, play equipment that emphasises adventure and accessibility, and indigenous plantings.

If Council endorses the concept design for the Edwardes Lake Park Seaver Grove Playspace proposed in this report, it will be used to help seek external funding, and construction would be planned for future years.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the final concept designs for the Edwardes Lake Park Seaver Grove Playspace;
- (2) Updates and thanks community members who participated in the consultation.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The Edwardes Lake Park Seaver Grove Playspace concept design (**Appendix A**) was developed in response to feedback received from the community during consultation in 2016-2017.

This design was released to the community for comment on the 3 July 2020 and open until 12 August 2020 and was undertaken in accordance with the approved Community Engagement plan for the playspace design.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 29 June 2020, Council resolved:

'That Council releases the Edwardes Lake Seaver Grove Playspace concept design for community consultation, and update community with a new site plan for the park that includes the proposed playspace and recent improvements Council has now implemented.'

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

The Playspace design concept was developed in response to the feedback received from the community during the engagement process in July/August 2020. A summary of the results of the feedback can be found in **Appendix B**.

How we engaged the community

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, face to face engagement activities and gatherings were not allowed. The engagement and communication methods were tailored to abide by State and Federal restrictions to ensure the safety of the community and officers. Communication and consultation were planned and delivered throughout the course of the project as follows:

- Letterbox drop to all residents within a 500m radius of the Edwardes Lake Park
- A dedicated Your Say page
- 7-minute video to explain the design, posted on the Your Say page
- Social Media posts on Council's social media outlets, weekly over 4 weeks
- Promotion on Council's website
- A1 Posters on site that direct to the Your Say page
- A direct email about engagement activities to all stakeholders (identified in the 2017 community consultation, including park user groups and sports clubs)
- Emails to the local high schools and primary schools inviting participation in the engagement activities
- Promotion of the consultation period on Community eNewsletters including What's on Intercultural Centre (approx. 1,200 recipients), What's on For Families (approx. 1,500 families recipients) and What's on Darebin Libraries (approx. 25,000 recipients) and
- Option for community members to provide feedback via phone call

Reaching diverse communities

The consultation was designed to be accessible for our diverse community including people not proficient in English or with other communication barriers. In this local area approximately 46% of residents identify as speaking a language other than English, and consultation sought to create opportunities for all residents to take part as follows:

- All information mailed out included information in 12 languages about access to translation services and accessing the national relay service.
- Translated materials were provided on the Your Say page in 12 languages (in the Document Library)
- Social media promotion ensured that residents could quickly access translated information about the project through online translations that are available in social media platforms.
- Diagrams were an important part of project communications materials and designed to communicate universally.

Overall, 29% of survey respondents identified themselves as speaking a language other than English at home

Communications

Council's communications and advocacy approach is based on the recently adopted Darebin Community Engagement Policy. This specific engagement had the following key objectives:

- Build trust with the community to achieve best outcomes and
- Gain input from the community to influence and enhance the playspace design.

ANALYSIS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

The proposed Edwardes Lake Park playspace character is focused on nature-based play, using natural elements, and increasing community stewardship of the natural world and biodiversity.

Climate Emergency

This program has a clear alignment with Key direction 7 of the Climate Emergency Plan 2017-2022, in particular Objective 3 "Create public open space that meet the diverse needs of the community and incorporates climate and water sensitive vegetation, healthy ecosystems and biodiversity."

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

Equity, inclusion, and wellbeing considerations in the Edwardes Lake Park Playspace are supported by design that will:

- Create community spaces and seating areas which are inviting and foster community interactions.
- Creating a community focal point and provide opportunities for the general community and families to connect and gather with others, and to feel a sense of home and make connections with their local neighbours and broader Darebin population.
- Include accessible play equipment within the play space
- Utilise Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles to ensure that play equipment, landscaping and planting creates a safe public space for all members of the community and allows for passive surveillance of the play space.

Cultural Considerations

The community of Reservoir is a diverse one, and the methodology for engagement was designed to reach people from a wide variety of backgrounds. The playspace will offer the community a space to meet and opportunities for cultural activities

Economic Development Considerations

Increasing amenity, usability and accessibility of public open space will have a positive impact on the community by creating places for communities to gather and make vital connections. High quality public spaces support the renewal efforts of local government to help attract and retain residential and business populations in Darebin.

Financial and Resource Implications

The concept design for the playspace was included within the 19/20 Council budget. Detailed designs have progressed throughout the 20/21 financial year, within standard operating budgets. The playspace construction will be referred to future budget processes and would need to be considered against priorities for investment across the City and across a range of services.

Legal and Risk Implications

There are no factors in this report which impact on Legal and Risk implications.

Operational Impacts

The Edwardes Lake Park Master Plan and the Playspace design have both been developed in close collaboration with the Parks and Open Space team, and agreement reached about the objectives of the design and its ongoing management.

DISCUSSION

The concept designs in **Appendix A** include play elements proposed to be constructed in future years (subject to Council's consideration of future budgets). The proposed playspace concept is based on nature play and adventurous play for children of all ages. The slope that the proposed playspace is located on creates opportunities for sliding, climbing, swinging, rolling, and spinning. The playspace also offers space and material for loose parts play and cubby building, relaxing and engaging with nature and watching the view.

Engagement on the concept plans has found strong support overall

Community feedback was positive and in support of the playspace concept plan approach, vision and proposed improvements. Findings from community consultation and consultation with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Corporation on the playspace concept confirmed the initial feedback trends received from community consultation in 2017 including the desire for:

- Nature play
- Water play
- Sound/music play
- New play equipment, spinning play equipment
- Loose parts play
- Sensory garden, native grassland meadow, garden beds, trees
- Environmental themes
- Treasure hunt/orienteering

The concept design was developed with the benefit of significant community feedback gathered during consultation on Edwardes Lake Park, which was reported at the Council meeting of 29 June 2020. This feedback informed the draft concept plans presented for feedback during engagement in February 2021.

In addition to the above themes from 2017, responses received on line via Council's consultation portal (Your Say) in 2020 showed support for design incorporating indigenous history and environmental themes, native and indigenous tree and understorey planting, educational signage, scooter trails and a need for all-access pathways and play equipment.

The proposed design includes:

- a variety of different play types such as sound play, water play, sensory play, imaginative play (treasure hunt references) and loose parts play
- a mindfulness maze
- accessible play equipment
- climbing elements
- native and indigenous planting
- aboriginal cultural and historical references, and
- bird boxes for habitat.

Engagement resulted in additions to the concept plans

Comments provided through the consultation process highlighted some areas that needed further attention. Officers have incorporated this feedback into the design as follows:

- Improved the design of the playspace and planting to ensure sight lines are kept open to enable passive surveillance and to maintain a sense of safety. This is also to reduce the potential for vandalism and graffitiing of the playspace.
- Provide additional canopy trees to ensure sufficient shading within the playspace (see below for further detail).
- Improved the design to increase accessibility to the playspace by including a gravel path and soft fall rubber under play elements.

Shading response

A site analysis of current conditions completed in 2020 indicated there was ample shade provided by existing tree copses, dominated by native and indigenous tree species (see **Appendix C**).

Only a small proportion of respondents mentioned the need for shade (approx. 5%) compared to other matters raised in engagement. The proposed concept design responds to community feedback regarding shade by using tree infill planting to further enhance the amount of shade provided. Due to the slope of the land, the size of the playspace, and the desire to retain views of the lake and parklands, alternatives to tree shade are not recommended, as it would not meet the design intent of nature based playspace where natural shade is desired. Existing trees would also inhibit construction of a shade structure over the proposed playspace. A hard structure would also result in a closed-in space, and a lack of natural light in winter months.

Shade structures are already available in other areas of the park, including the eastern aspect with multiple picnic tables and seating areas.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 (recommended):

That Council endorses the final concept designs for the Edwardes Lake Park Playspace, noting it will be used to help seek external funding for possible construction in future years depending on budget allocations and resourcing.

Option 2 (not recommended)

That Council does not endorse the final concept designs

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Construction is not included in the current year budget however construction documentation will progress for completion by the end of this financial year. This will assist to support seeking grant funding.

If the project is allocated budget and resources in future years (and/or funding is secured), a detailed design process will commence followed by construction. Depending on budget allocation, delivery may be staged over multiple years.

Communication

Following endorsement of the final concept designs, the community and people who registered for project updates will be updated.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Attachments

- Edwardes Lake Park Playspace Concept Design (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)
- Edwardes Lake Park Seaver Grove Playspace Community Engagement Summary Report (**Appendix B**) [↓](#)
- Edwardes Lake Park Playspace Natural Shade (**Appendix C**) [↓](#)

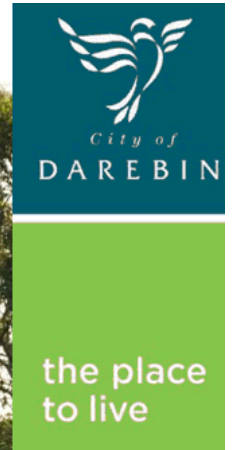
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Appendix A: Edwardes Lake Park design changes from community consultation





Edwardes Lake Park Playspace

Community Engagement Summary Report

May 2021

Edwardes Lake Park Playspace

Edwardes Lake Park, located in Reservoir, is of regional significance, and serves a critical role in providing ‘green lungs’ for the Darebin community. It is also an important connector for local habitat along Edgars Creek and is a popular regional destination for informal community gatherings and recreation.

Council worked with consultants Urban Initiatives to design the new nature-based playspace at Edwardes Lake Park close to Seaver Grove, based on the feedback we received from the community during consultation in 2016 and 2017 and the most recent feedback received in July and August last year.




What was shared with the community in 2020

A brochure was sent out to community members within a 500m radius of the park, seeking feedback of the new nature based playspace concept design and asking them to vote for their favourite sound play equipment. The Community were directed to the project Yoursay page where they could vote and give feedback.


Vote for your favourite sound play equipment!

Option 1:




Wooden Sound Arch

Option 2:



Steel Ferraphone

Please vote for your favourite piece of sound play equipment. You can choose from the steel 'Ferraphone', or the lovely wooden 'Sound Arch'.




EDWARDES LAKE PARK
A New Nature-Based Playspace for Edwardes Lake Park!


the place to live

Playspace Concept Design

This exciting new playspace will be on the steep slope above the wetland and lake, close to the boat house, BBQ area and small playspace, tennis courts and skate park.




1 Mindfulness Maze + Wilga Wattle Woods




A peaceful, secluded, sensory place which features along seasonal change, making it enticing all year round.

2 Sheoak Forests + Desert Palms




The close spacing of the indigenous Black Sheoak makes the scale of the space exciting to explore. The carpet of sheoak needles underfoot dampens sound and makes it an interesting sensory experience.

3 Little Hill + Rippla Hill




Open and undulating, this hill is exciting and boasts fabulous views. There are many educational opportunities for art, environmental and science-inspired projects.

4 Wetland Amphitheatre



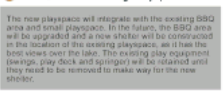
Natural amphitheatre sitting with exceptional views out to wetland and lake.

5 Big Hill Adventure Trail



Challenging and adventurous play opportunities for bigger kids with fabulous views.

6 BBQ Area + Existing Playspace



The new playspace will integrate with the existing BBQ area and small playspace. In the future, the BBQ area will be upgraded and a new shelter will be constructed on the location of the existing playspace, as it has the best views over the lake. The existing play equipment (swing, play deck and springer) will be retained until they need to be removed to make way for the new shelter.

An exciting new nature-play landscape overlooking Edwardes Lake for children of all ages

The design of the new playspace focuses on nature play and adventurous play for children of all ages.

The steep slope creates opportunities for sliding, climbing, swinging, rolling and spinning.

It also offers space for building cubbies, engaging with nature, playing with water and sound equipment, having picnics, watching a performance, hanging out, and enjoying the view.

For more information call City of Darebin on 8470 8888 or visit www.yoursaydarebin.com.au/edwardeslakeparkplayspace

Thank you

Given the evolving COVID-19 restrictions including the need for physical distancing and limits to outdoor gatherings, we are running this community engagement process without face to face consultation events.

Please visit the Yoursay page to watch the video and to find out more!

Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

	visits to site	Views/ downloads of playspace concept design	Feedback	New registrations
Your Say	1030	243	31	27
Social media			23	
Emails/comments			4	
Phone Calls			1	
Letter			1	
Total Feedback received			60	

Yousay Page visitation summary

The feedback was positive and in support of the playspace concept plan approach, vision and proposed improvements. Findings from community consultation on the playspace concept confirmed the initial feedback trends received from community consultation in 2017.

Yoursay respondents indicated support for the following areas during consultation in 2017:

- Nature play
- Water play
- Sound/music play
- New play equipment, spinning play equipment
- Loose parts play
- Sensory garden, native grassland meadow, garden beds, trees
- Environmental themes
- Treasure hunt/orienteering

From the feedback received in 2020, 50.8% of comments related to the playspace. Out of this feedback, Yoursay respondents showed support for the following areas during consultation in 2020:

- 16.2% of comments were in support of the playspace incorporating nature-based play into the design
- 10% of comments we received showed additional support for sound play being incorporated into the design. Yoursay respondents showed their support of sound play through the voting poll results which can be viewed on the following page
- 16.2% of respondents were excited by the concept of loose parts play being incorporated into the design, as cubby building was high on the agenda
- 9.7% of people showed support for the playspace incorporating waterplay elements into the design
- 12.9% were in support of new play equipment
- 35.4% were in support of the design incorporating Indigenous history and environmental themes
- 22.5% of comments related to the importance of native and Indigenous tree and understorey planting
- 16.2% thought that educational signage should be included in the design
- 16.1% of comments mentioned treasure hunts and scooter trails
- And 6.5% of comments spoke about the need for the playspace to have all-access pathways and play equipment

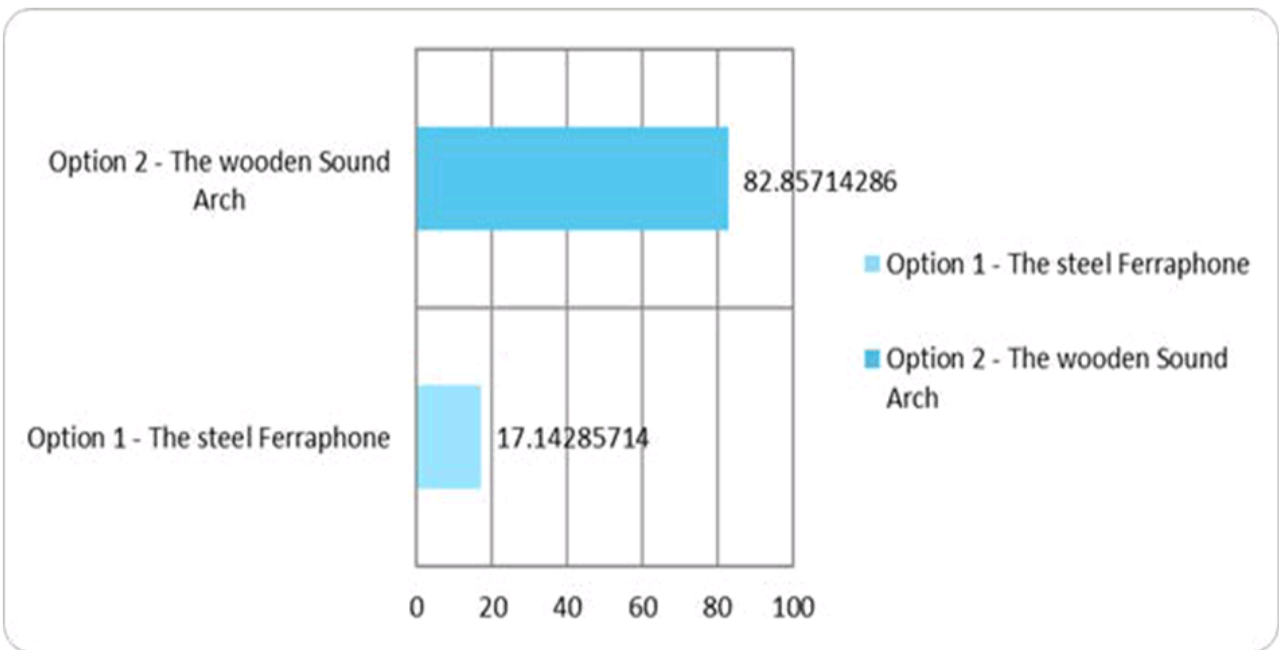
Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

Sound Play Preferences

The community were presented two options for sound play in the concept design which they were asked to vote on their preference. The two options were:

- a Steel Ferraphone, which allows children to create a melody through steel sound tubes by striking them with a hammer, and
- the Wooden Sound Arch, which can be played like musical chimes.

The Community preference was for option 2 the Wooden Sounds Arch



Soundplay voting poll results

Design Changes made after considering community feedback

As a result of community feedback, the following key changes are proposed to the playspace concept design:

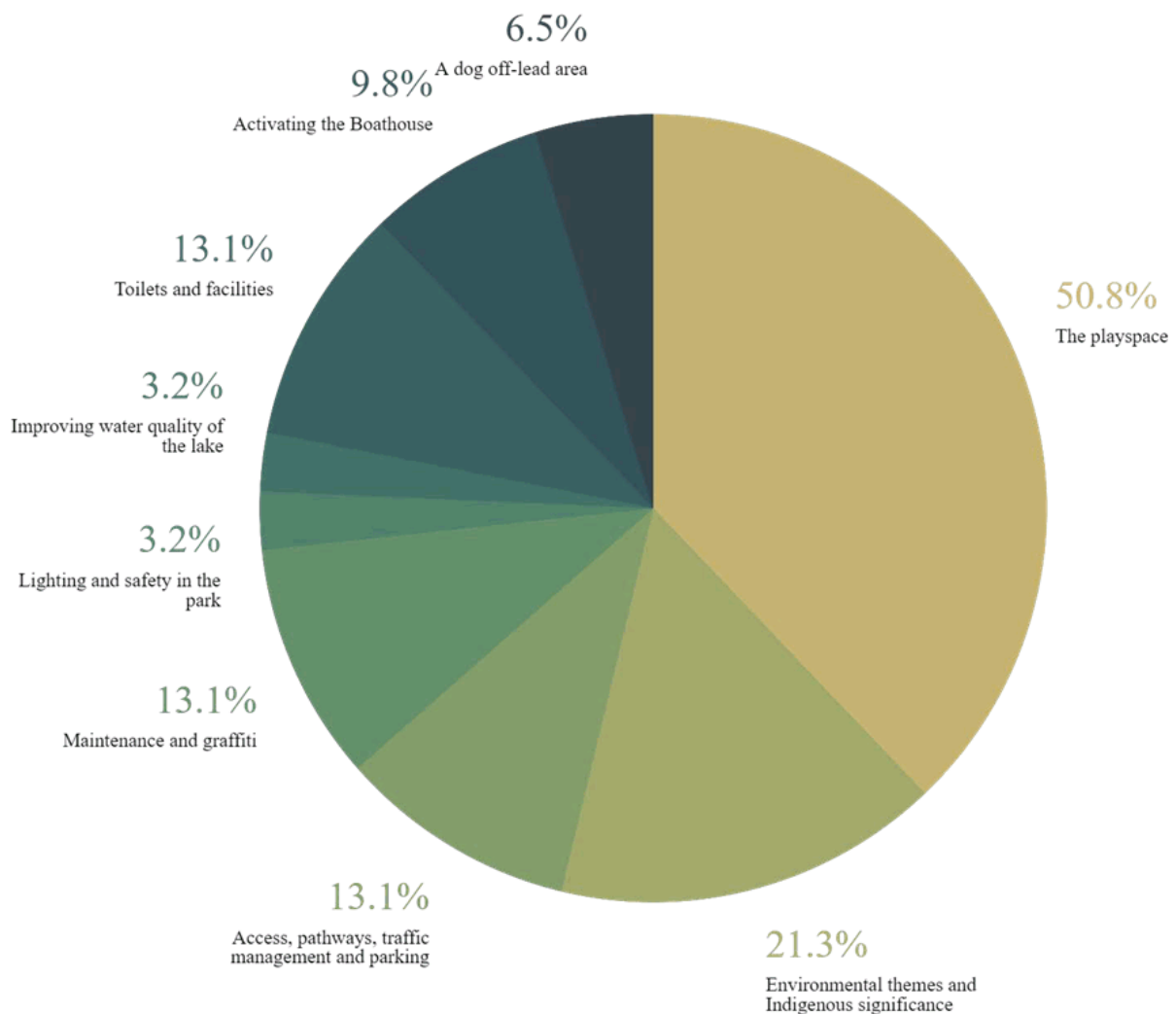
- Community feedback showed a clear preference (82%) for a wooden sound arch rather than a ferraphone, and therefore the proposed concept design includes a wooden sound arch.
- The playspace design and planting will ensure sight lines are kept open to enable passive surveillance and to maintain a sense of safety. This is also to reduce the potential for vandalism and graffitiing of the playspace
- Canopy trees will be provided to ensure sufficient shading within the playspace
- Improved accessibility to the playspace through the inclusion of a gravel path and soft fall rubber under play elements in the design

Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

Additional comments:

The community also provided additional feedback on other elements of Edwardes Lake Park that are beyond the scope of the play space project. The main feedback was around improving biodiversity within the whole park, and that caring for Country was also an important element that needs improving at Edwardes Lake Park. Other comments related to management of graffiti and rubbish, the need for more toilet facilities, and better connectivity and accessibility.

Where appropriate, issues raised have been forwarded to the relevant Council teams, and officers also note that other improvement works have been proposed for inclusion in the Council budget for 2021/2022, such as improving the water quality of Edwardes Lake.



Total feedback received from the playspace consultation

Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

- The playspace feedback we received supported the design and encouraged nature-based play at the proposed site
- Environmental education, increasing biodiversity and caring for Country were important elements that the community said needed improving at Edwardes Lake Park
- Better maintenance and management of rubbish, vandalism and graffiti of the new proposed play-space and the broader park were very important to the community
- Improving facilities such as existing bathrooms and installing new bathrooms near the proposed playspace were mentioned
- Access and pathways within the park and better connectivity between the park and surrounding suburbs, creeks and walking/cycling areas was mentioned. These comments also spoke about parking, traffic calming and traffic management around the park being improved
- The boathouse being turned into a café was mentioned by some members within the community
- A dog off-lead area was requested at the park by some community members
- The lake and water quality was mentioned, as the community felt that the water quality needs to be improved
- Lighting and safety were mentioned as some respondents felt that additional lighting could be added to increase feelings of safety within the park at night-time.

Other requests that were made by only one or two people may also not be incorporated into the design due to a lack of demand and timing or budget constraints.



Site Map with recent improvements made to Edwardes Lake Park

Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

1	<p>I was delighted to receive a letter and information today regarding the proposed nature-based playspace at Edwardes Lake Park (Seaver Grove). The concept is impressive, will fit into the space, and has been well considered.</p> <p>My only suggestion is the incorporation of a 'bumpy' bike/scooter circuit similar to that at Norris Bank Park in Bundoora - I think it would be an amazing addition and link between the new playspace and the existing skate park adjacent - there are scores of families riding scooters and bikes around the lake, and I think it would be a fantastic additional feature</p> <p>https://www.google.com/search?q=Norris+Bank+Park+Bundoora&rlz=1C1CHBF_en-gbAU-838AU838&oq=Norris+Bank+Park+Bundoora&aqs=chrome..69i57j46j69i57.4672j1j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8</p>
2	<p>Hi there,</p> <p>I'm providing feedback in response to the proposed nature-based playspace at Edwardes Lake.</p> <p>Great idea! We look forward to hearing/seeing more about! The location looks alright too.</p> <p>Now we just need something to happen with with that boathouse, a cafe or something would be great.</p>
3	<p>Hi team,</p> <p>I tried to vote for our favourite sound play equipment on the have your say website you published but it says 'access denied' regardless if i am logged in or not so i'm just emailing you instead.</p> <p>We vote for option 1: Wooden sound arch</p>
4	<p>Hi,</p> <p>absolutely love the design for the new playspace. My children are excited, and love all parts of it. Edwardes lake park is very popular, and the current playground is really limited to little children and is getting worn down, and needs some maintenance. This new playspace has something for all ages and encourages outdoor exploration (which we've enjoyed more of now the playground equipment is closed in lockdown). It will definitely become a destination playground, and attract large groups for birthday parties and parent's groups from neighbouring suburbs.</p> <p>My only concern is whether an accessible toilet will be located close to the playspace.</p> <p>The nearest toilet currently is behind the scout hall and it is frightening, in a terrible state of disrepair and does not feel safe at all. It's also a very very long way away if you are trying to rush there with a small child who desperately needs the toilet and you're also dragging a baby/stroller/bags/scooters/dog along with you!</p> <p>An adjacent toilet is absolutely essential. Otherwise kids (and some adults) will be forced to wee in the bushes! Additional rubbish bins nearby, would be great. The only bins on that side of the park, between the running track and the bridge is located at the tennis court bbqs, that's a huge space with no bins in easy reach.</p> <p>Thanks, and looking forward to the development.</p>
5	<p>Love it!!</p>

Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

6	I think this is a good idea, however with the sound play equipment hopefully it won't be too noisy for those residents that live close by, possibly an allocated time where its allowed to be played with so its not to be used in the middle of the night
7	It's great to see some more challenging items for the older kids to entertain themselves
8	Very excited about the new play area. My kids will use it almost every day. Any chance of the large grassed area to the west becoming a dog off leash area?
9	The design looks brilliant. Big areas for exploring and adventure. The mixing of nature and playground equipment is clever as both are important elements in play. Such an awesome idea. Hopefully it gets the support you need.
10	I love the idea of a nature play space, I'm very excited to see how this project turns out. Though I would like to add some tree houses would elevate it that much further. Also using logs as benches and natural materials for picnic tables etc would be great. Using more natural material and keeping with the look of the natural habitat will make this space so whimsical. Almost like a never never land where the lost boys live. Also having little bits around the park to make it though fairies or gnomes live there and look after the Local plants and animals. Things like little windows and doors put on tree trunks and rocks. Including a mini beige over the water tray/tunnel thing so fairy/gnome crossing. Also using the fairy and gnomes as a mouth Ice for educating children and adults alike about the local flora and fauna. You could even include a little post box for kids to write letters to the fairies and gnomes. Similar to the gnome tree at Mt.Buller. I think this would take this project that one step further into making something really special for darebin. I myself am born and raised in Darebin and now raise my children here. Thanks for your hard work on this. X
11	Hello I am an owner/occupier of one of the Villa Units on Seaver Grove, Reservoir and a member of the Body Corp Committee of the Seaver Grove Unit complex that runs along the whole of Seaver Grove. I am not adverse to the ideas/concepts present in this new playground, or the idea of having a play space in this area; however, I would like more information and clarification on a couple of things. First, has Council considered or anticipated an increase in visitation, cars, and noise levels, especially with the sound equipment/installation, earmarked close to Seaver Grove? One of the attractive things in living on Seaver Grove is the quiet and peacefulness of the street and view of green hills (for the most part) and the lake. What contingency plans have been put in place to avoid congestion/noise (if any)? I would not like to see new carpark spaces encroaching on the vast green space. I'm happy that a nature based play space is considered, but I hope it will stay true to the environment and be maintained on an ongoing basis. I have found through experiences that amphitheatres can be wasted spaces if not programmed so hope that this will be well utilised.
12	I really like the natural topography of the area, using the hills to advantage makes for an exciting concept, watching a performance. Other features that I like are the sensory garden, nature play and native grasslands. I worry that perhaps the park is trying to fit too much in, a bit crowded and trying to be too many things that people may identify with. Natural features like big rocks to scramble over or simply to appreciate would go well.
13	This park gets a lot of use and hence I feel that this is an opportunity to educate both young and old. How did local aborigines use endemic plants that are being planted in this proposal. Explain the volcanic history to those that don't understand how this land evolved. What native animals might we see use the lake and surrounds and what actions can people take to help them thrive.
14	It would be great to have public toilets in this area, with baby change facilities. I've been to many areas, esp in regional areas & interstate that have great toilets near their play areas & don't see why Darebin cannot have facilities to the same standards.
15	Yew The design is the right one go-ahead
16	We really need a proper off lead dog park in Reservoir. The area along Seavers and cnr of Leamington would work well. It would serve as a community hub and encourage dog owners not to let their dogs off lead in other areas.

Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent the boathouse over summer as a café with outdoor seating • Install more signs outlining the benefit of exercise • Install more rubbish bins in the park • A educational picture board about the types of wildlife found at ELP and general biodiversity information • The history of the lake (spoken through a speaker!) • More dog bag dispensers with an allocated bin for this matter • Lists of plant species in the park to promote garden groups • The footpath around the lake could have markers/be colour coded every 100m with a prompt for hydration • A colour coded legend outlining where toilets are along with locations of additional points of interest/ areas in the park • Hip height rail plaques in brail with information about the lake and the park • First aid points – AED. Install a phone or speaker system that is linked to nearby police station/000 for people who do not have phones.
18	We like the steel Ferraphone. We like that you can build cubby houses.
19	Love the idea of the loose parts play it Will allow the children to use the different materials to build cubby's and forts abs use thier imagination but also allows children to get explore with nature.
20	Looks great.. but! What about the dogs. The off leash area at the park is a joke that no one in their right mind uses - we all trek to Crispe Park when we're not pushed out by sports. It's took close to the road, too close to a play area, on a hill and has handy vents sticking out all over the place. The area under the powerlines that is now labelled "kickabout area" would be a perfect off leash area, but now it's slated for play. The park already has 3 playgrounds and a skate park for kids, it's time for a proper off leash dog park north of Edwardes St!
21	Could we make the treasure hunt with stars and numbers in them
22	All looks great. I noted in the video that there was a lot about listening quietly and noticing natural sounds of birds and other creatures. This would be enhanced massively if all the roads bordering Edwardes Lake Park had a speed limit of 30 kpm. The traffic noise from Edwardes St in particular is a massive impost on the amenity of the park to humans and all the wildlife.
23	Looks fantastic and greatly excited and look forward to completion of this project. Prefer Option 2 - Wooden sound arch.
24	This is wonderful! Our family incl 3 children are thrilled about this design. I am sure you have thought of all kinds of things but I had two suggestions: 1. It would be great to have some kind of discovery trail connecting this new playspace to the other playgrounds, or even over to Edgars Creek. It would help children (and adults) build an understanding of the physical and ecological connections between these places. It could be a physical trail, or perhaps a map (online or otherwise) that allows children and parents to explore and discover between the spaces. 2. What are the possibilities for having Indigenous components to the new space? Indigenous plants perhaps, or art? Or perhaps consultation with the Indigenous community to ensure it is culturally safe and welcoming for their families too. And many other options.
25	Looks great and like lots of fun for more son. I don't know if I missed it but I didn't see a water play area for the kids to get wet in the hot summer months. Just the swing that feels like going over the water? Is there plans of an area for kids to play with/in the water?
26	I think it all looks wonderful. I only have two things I wonder about: 1) rubbish has always been an issue at this park, how will you try to manage this in this space ? (as I note a picnic area) 2) sadly I worry that this will be vandalised, how or what measures can be put in place to limit this ?

Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

27	<p>It seems like a well thought through project. However, it seems highly concentrated to one area of the park. I also express concern for amenities such as toilets and a bubble tap on that side of the lake. At this point in time both do not exist on the side of the proposed project. In addition to this I would actually like to see more provided to engage all age brackets. What has been outlined seems to be more targeted and appropriate for younger people. If my memory serves me correctly, in approximately 2005 when the lake itself was upgraded there was a proposal for a footpath connecting to the Coburg lake (via the merri Creek I believe) . This would be wonderful for intersuburb connection and allow a footpath/cycling track for slightly older people. It would also provide an additional means of travel to see friends/family and reduce road traffic and carbon emissions. Another project that should have serious consideration, if not a feasibility study is that of cleaning the Edwardes lake as it often smells and is very unsightly. There is an opportunity for the boat house building to be privatised - it could become a cafe. And similar to that of the lake house in Fairfield and Studley Park, an opportunity for boat hire etc.</p>
28	<p>I think it looks great, just wanted to reiterate the importance of integrating Aboriginal history as much as possible - perhaps info points or acknowledgement signs. Also, toilets toilets toilets!!!! Shade is crucial, make sure there's lots of it.</p>
29	<p>Good Morning, The play space looks incredible using a lot of natural materials and looks extremely inviting. Having two young children, and living around the corner we head down to Edwards Lake on a daily basis. What I have noticed that there isn't much of a play ground there... We live on the Seaver side of the lake and (when we were allowed to) often walk around to the other side, the playground (in the fencing) . It's seems to be a little underwhelming for the children. There is that climbing section but there is not much you can do on there, and from the times I have been there children tend not to go on it. I was so excited to heard a new play space was being built on our side of the lake. I have shown my children the plans and they are very excited about it but would as it all be possible to have some climbing nets, rock climbing or monkey bars ...I can see the look you are aiming to achieve making it a playspace rather than a playground but I feel more children would play there. There is a great new park in Bellfield which I travel to because it is GREAT for kids so much for them to do and explore. The play ground up near the skate park is very sad and depressing and you could probably remove it altogether, although having those swings up there is great! Sorry for the long winded comment, we are really looking forward to having something on our side of the lake we just hope it will be something that the kids will enjoy playing on not just something that is aesthetically pleasing.</p>
30	<p>Would like to see a community garden at Edwardes Lake Park. She works within the community with people who have chronic pain and illness and was very keen to see something at ELP for people to engage in art and gardening for sensory and healing experiences.</p>
31	<p>Thank you for allowing community the chance to provide feedback on Edwards Lake Park. My role at Your Community Health is supporting gender equity, so many of my comments relate to thinking from a gendered perspective. It's hard to envision exactly what this play space will look like from the concept plan and video so please take the feedback below as more generalised with ideas for consideration. - Accessibility of each of the features within the play space: Consideration around paved access to support accessibility for parents with prams or for wheelchair access. - Bathroom and access to change room facilities - Ensuring unisex bathrooms and change table facilities within close proximity. Break away space for mothers who might wish to breastfeed - ideally within line of sight to play features. - Lighting and safety: Consideration around adding additional lighting along the path and throughout the play features, particularly for winter months, to increase perception of safety by women. - Further testing and concept refinement with a group of local women to go on a 'walkabout' and provide feedback periodically while under construction. - Consideration around lines of sight from chairs and observation points - particularly when considering the incline and hills.</p>

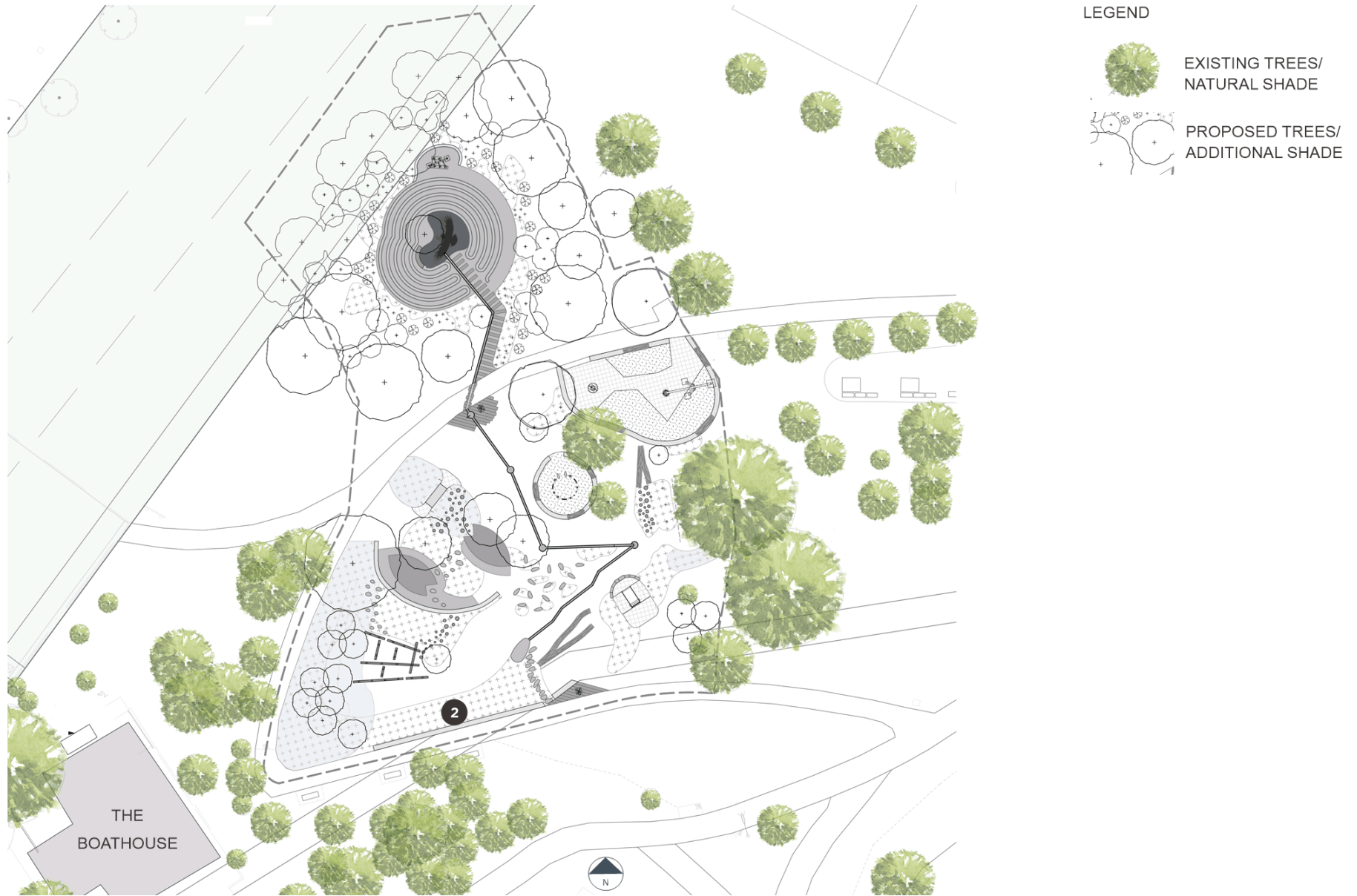
Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

32	<p>Dear Sir/Madam, As climate change is progressing even faster than the scientific predictions previously indicated, and as each year brings even more dangerous consequences for Australians, such as extreme heat, fires, drought and biodiversity loss, we would like to submit the following suggestions to the play space: 1) Substantially increase the planned amount of native trees to be planted around the play space 2) Substantially increase the planned amount of other vegetation to be planted, including shrubs, herbs, native grasses and flowers. This is because vegetation: - captures CO2 - helps retains moisture in the ground, which is crucial for drought prevention - filters out pollution (e.g. car pollution from the road), which is crucial for human health - attracts insects, including bees, which humans depend on for food production - provide shade in extreme heat. Australian summers are fast becoming unbearably hot, so if there is no shade, children will not be able to use the play space at all 3) Please do not use any plastic materials for building the play space. Choose all natural construction materials. This is because: - Plastic is toxic and never biodegrades. - Instead, overtime, it just disintegrates into smaller and smaller particles, down to micro and nanoplastic, which gets into the water, ground and air. - Plastic is toxic, cancerogenous and attracts other toxic substances, such as heavy metals. - As such, it is ingested by humans when they breathe and consume fish, vegetables, grains and water. - Nanoplastic particles have now been proven to penetrate animal and human cell membranes and accumulate in the body, acting as endocrine disruptors (i.e. harming the hormonal systems) and causing cancer 4) Given the harmful effects of all kinds of plastic, as well as other litter, such as cigarette butts, the play space should be a strictly litter free zone. There should be explicit signs banning all kind of litter, including plastic and cigarette butts, in the play space and the whole Edwardes Lake Park. Penalties should apply for leaving litter. 5) To support the litter ban, some information boards could be installed as an appealing educational material for parents and children to explain that: - litter is not just an aesthetic problem, but a serious environmental and human health problem - plastic breaks down into toxic nano plastic and is ingested by animals and humans with food and water, causing cancer and other disease. Everyone should strive to limit plastic use in their daily lives because most of it is not actually recycled, even if it is recyclable in theory. - cigarette butts release toxins into the water and ground and are later ingested by animals and humans, causing disease - litter kills animals when they ingest it or get entangled in it - litter will be blown by wind or washed away by rain from the play space to the surrounding nature and the Edwardes Lake There is little awareness about these issues among ordinary Australians, so the play space could have an important educational role for adults as well as children. Thank you for giving us an opportunity to provide our suggestions, Yours faithfully, Marta, Anibal and Adam Lai</p>
33	sounds great. cant wait.
34	It looks pretty good. Anything that can be added to it that could increase the amount of trees and bird nesting boxes would be wonderful.
35	I would like to shade accounted for in each of the areas, particularly while the trees are growing. We find in darebin many of the play spaces do not incorporate sufficient space for sun safe play during warmer months.
36	Fantastic idea and about time a wasted space was adapted. Love the idea of a modern play area instead of the standard play space. You only need to look at some of the others around Melbourne which are used heavily due to their uniqueness.
37	Sounds and looks good. I only hope that ELP is also available to those without children who want to use the park for walks, etc. It needs to be a Shaed Space project that takes in the needs of all rsidents
38	<p>Great concept but will supporting infrastructure be improved with regard to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Additional rubbish bins given the two at BBQs and the one at the skate park are usually full to overflowing. Toilets at skate park refurbished to support the area.
39	<p>We love the little skate track at Norris bank reserve playground. It would be fab to see one at Edwards Lake.</p> <p>Would also be great to see play equipment with ropes for climbing and slides for younger kids rather than just the big long slide.</p>

Community Feedback on the Playspace Concept Design

40	I think that providing better pedestrian access to the park (particularly for those on wheels) should be a higher priority than the playscape. Any update on that please? The entry point near the scout hall is really an accident waiting to happen
41	Now I hope I don't get howled down however I can't for the life of me understand how these projects continue during these compromised economic times. Oh, I forgot we are all getting a rates increase regardless of the pain and suffering in our community. At least we'll have a play space to look forward to. Hope it's worth it...
42	I would prefer to see more small projects carried out in a multitude of parks throughout the region. So many of the parks have playgrounds designed for young kids but nothing for the older ones. How about some more (sml) skate areas and half basketball courts ? (like at Penders)
43	Nothing about dogs here grrrr. Les Fogarty replied: Yes I seem to remember from a previous plan there was going to be a fenced 'Off Leash' area west of the tennis courts.
44	Is there enough parking or is Darebin going to try and implement the 1 hour zone everywhere! Like they tried within the residential areas and thankfully failed!
45	Looks great!!
46	this will be so cool when it's done
47	wow this is going to be so great!!
48	Looks a fabulous. A thought, why not turn the old yacht club into a cafe/restaurant run /staffed by tafe hospitality students. I am sure it would be absolutely supported by the community
49	With this project going ahead, what is the current outlook into an environmental study into the lake? The water quality has been on a steady decline. Part of inhabiting an environment is respecting it, so hopefully kids are taught this respect through the nature based play.
50	Very pretty but i feel like so many parks are missing out while Edwards Lake park already has pretty decent set up. Why fix something that is already perfect. Make Wood St park (A.G. Davis) into something special too! So much potential there for landscaping, yet you never even put a drop of water into that park..
51	Edwardes Cafe or Lake Cafe is definitely needed there. May as well renovate and expand the boathouse and while you're at it could the concrete waterfall be made to look more natural somehow. TIA
52	Looks great. Is there any area where children can construct their own play? Are there any movable parts? Who replenishes the parts? Are there places where children can be high (not just up the hill)?
53	Hey Darebin, what ever happened to park upgrades for Blake Reserve in Preston? They were promised to be finished by end of last year, but no work has started..?!
54	Take the sea sore down away near the track it's very dangerous. Lots of kids have gotten injured
55	Edwardes Lake defo needs a coffee van!
56	When is this going to be built? Looks great!
57	what a good idea!! Needs to have educational boards and games in the park too about climate and rubbish
58	They really need to do something about the toilet block, it's always disgusting.
59	omg YES update the litter signs too
60	darebin council great concept, but if between the council and the people who currently use the playspace available, the area is not kept clean, what's the use of the money spent? The current area is always dirty, there is rubbish everywhere, broken bottles and the bins are full or overflowing because people can't take rubbish home, or dispose of it thoughtfully. I feel sorry for the birdlife in the lake! The toilets are a disgrace. Look after what we have, before we deserve new!

Edwardes Lake Park playspace existing trees/natural shade



**8.8 COUNCIL PLAN ACTION PLAN 2021-22 AND 2021-25
COUNCIL PLAN UPDATE**

Author: General Manager, Governance and Engagement
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Reviewed By: General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required by section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020* ('the Act') to prepare a Council Plan that contains: the strategic direction of Council; strategic objectives for achieving the strategic direction; strategies for achieving the objectives for a period of at least the next 4 financial years; strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives and a description of Council's initiatives and priorities for services, infrastructure and amenity.

The 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) was adopted by Council on 28 June 2021. At this meeting officers advised Council that they would advise the outcome of the exemption request to the Secretary Department of Health. Feedback has been received and actioned and an exemption confirmed. The updated 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) is provided at **Appendix A** for Council noting. Council also received feedback from the Department on the Health and Wellbeing Profile Report and made minor adjustments to incorporate this feedback. The updated Health and Wellbeing Profile Report is provided at **Appendix B** for Council noting.

Historically, Council has adopted an annual Council Plan Action Plan that sets out in more detail how the objectives of the Council Plan will be achieved during the forthcoming year of the plan. Whilst this is not required by the Local Government Act 2020, Council intends to continue this best practice approach to ensure transparency and accountability to the Darebin community as it fulfils its commitment to deliver the 2021-25 Council Plan. This further supports feedback received from the Secretary to include a commitment in the Council Plan to develop an action plan for the health and wellbeing priorities.

The Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 (refer **Appendix C**) addresses the first year of the Council Plan 2021–25 and clearly articulates Council's priorities and initiatives towards achieving the 2041 Darebin Community Vision.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Note that Council has received confirmation of the exemption from complying with Section 26 (2) of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, relating to the preparation of a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, from the Secretary Department of Health approved subject to amendments including:
 - a) Developing an action plan for the health and wellbeing priorities that links strategies to actions and identifies progress measures.

- b) Annual action plans should be referenced in the *your 2021–2025 Council Plan* and be publicly accessible.
 - c) A description of how you will work with partners and community to develop and implement the action plan for health and wellbeing priorities and measure progress is also required.
- (2) Note the changes made to the adopted 2021 – 2025 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) at **Appendix A** to incorporate the feedback from the Secretary Department of Health.
 - (3) Note the changes made to the Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021 at **Appendix B** to incorporate the feedback from the Secretary Department of Health.
 - (4) Adopts the Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 at **Appendix C**.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Council is required by the *Local Government Act 2020 (section 90)* to prepare a Council Plan that contains: the strategic direction of Council; strategic objectives for achieving the strategic direction; strategies for achieving the objectives for a period of at least the next 4 financial years; strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives and a description of Council's initiatives and priorities for services, infrastructure and amenity. The 2021-25 Council Plan was adopted by Council on 28 June 2021, noting that a copy of this was to be submitted to the Minister for Families, Fairness and Housing.

The development of a 4-year Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) is required under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and sets the broad mission, goals and priorities. It strives to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of local communities by addressing the social determinants of health. Council's plan should be consistent with Council's corporate plan and land use plan required by the *Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS)*.

The health and wellbeing priorities identified within the Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) have been informed by the Health and Wellbeing Profile Report, as reported to Council on 28 June 2021.

Historically, Council has adopted an annual Council Plan Action Plan that sets out in more detail how the objectives of the Council Plan will be achieved during the forthcoming year of the plan. Whilst this is not required by the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council intends to continue this best practice approach to report against the strategic directions and strategic actions to ensure transparency and accountability to the Darebin community as it fulfils its commitment to deliver the 2021-25 Council Plan.

The draft Council Plan Action Plan 2010–22 outlines actions to meet our challenges, to involve the community in decision making and to build a thriving, resilient and equitable city while addressing critical issues of climate change, population growth and growing inequality. In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020 (section 18(d))* the Mayor is required to report to the municipal community on the implementation of the 2021-25 Council Plan at least once each year.

Previous Council Resolution**That Council:**

- (1) Adopts the following actions contained within the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) (**attached as Appendix A**) for inclusion in the 2021-25 Council Plan:
 - c. Action 1-17 (pg44) - develop a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia.
 - d. Action 2-44 (p.57) Partner with Bowel Cancer Screening, Cancer Council Victoria and local community organisations to increase awareness of bowel cancer and improve community understanding of the benefits of screening, with a particular focus on underrepresented groups undertaking bowel cancer screening.
 - e. Big Action No. 8 (p.39) Change the wording “reviewing our Parking Permit Policy” to be “review to amend our Parking Permit Policy”
 - f. Action 2-37 (p.56) Change the wording “Review the Parking Permit Policy” to be “Review to amend the Parking Permit Policy”
 - g. Action 1-32 (pg 46) Change the wording to ‘Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, begin discussions with Traditional Owners to understand the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management’
- (2) In accordance with section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020 and section 26 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act, adopts the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) (attached as Appendix A) subject to ministerial exemption in accordance with section 27 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act; and
- (3) Notes the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Profile Report (attached as Appendix B); and
- (4) Thank the Deliberative Panel for their work; and
- (5) Notes Darebin’s Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework that will guide Council’s work to embed the Strategic Principles of the Local Government Act 2020; and
- (6) Notes the summary of the submissions received, prepared on behalf of the Hearing of Submissions Committee (attached as Appendix D); and
- (7) Advises all submitters that Council has considered their submissions relating to the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and that the submitters be advised of the outcome of the consideration as it relates to their specific submission, and they be thanked for their contributions; and
- (8) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary administrative changes to the document and related documents to prepare them for publication, and
- (9) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to submit a copy of the adopted 2021 – 2025 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) to the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Families, Fairness and Housing.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

The 2021-2025 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) was informed by the Design Your Darebin 2041 engagement program, which included the establishment of a Deliberative Community Engagement Panel. The Design Your Darebin 2041 deliberative engagement program was informed by Council's Community Engagement Policy (2021). Refinements that have been made since its initial adoption by Council on 28 June 2021 in response to feedback from:

- North East Melbourne Area office for the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing; and
- the Minister for Local Government and the Secretary for Department of Health.

The Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 reflects the outcomes of consultation and engagement with Councillors, members of the community and staff that has occurred as part of the 2021–22 planning process.

Communications

The Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 will be promoted on Council's website and through social media. Internally, the document will be promoted on the intranet and via staff newsletters.

Quarterly reporting to Council and the community against the Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 will ensure transparency and accountability to our community against delivery throughout the year.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan

This report aligns to all four Strategic Directions of the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan).

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

The 2021 – 2025 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) acknowledges Council's commitment to environmental sustainability and includes several strategic objectives and priority strategies that focus on environmental sustainability.

Council's commitments to resource these priorities are reflected in the Financial Plan 2021-31 and 21/22 Annual budget.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

The 2021 – 2025 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) acknowledges Council's commitment to equity, inclusion and wellbeing as articulated through the Towards Equality Framework. The Towards Equality Framework has been a guiding document in the development and design of the Plan to ensure the strategic objectives and priority strategies recognise and respond to the diverse needs of the Darebin community throughout all aspect of Council's work.

A key part of the application was to the community engagement process to ensure that it was not only reflective of the Darebin community, but actively sort to gain the voices and perspectives of communities who may face barriers to participation. This is especially important to ensure that the Plan, which incorporates the Health and Wellbeing Plan, considers the needs of communities who experience poorer health and wellbeing outcomes and health inequity, as identified in the Towards Equality Framework.

By incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, the Council Plan and associated Action Plan also have a strong focus on, and recognition of the various roles and influence Council can have on the Environments for Health and social determinants which shape individuals and community's wellbeing outcomes. This integration also places health equity as a key principle for this work to recognise the disparity in wellbeing outcomes across the municipality and seek to address this through actions outlined in the Council Plan.

As a result of these considerations the Council Plan includes many strategic objectives and priority strategies that focus on improving equity, inclusion and wellbeing across the municipality, such as expansion of the assertive outreach program to support people rough sleeping and experiencing homelessness and working with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council and local organisations to create projects twice a year that foster respect and address systemic racism, and to develop a partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to support to the delivery of mutual goals.

Council's commitments to resource these priorities are reflected in the Financial Plan 2021-31 and 21/22 Annual budget.

Cultural Considerations

The 2021 – 2025 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) acknowledges Council's commitment to cultural considerations. The Council Plan includes several strategic objectives and priority strategies that focus on improving participation and inclusion for the diverse communities of Darebin.

Council's commitments to resource these priorities are reflected in the Financial Plan 2021-31 and 21/22 Annual budget

Economic Development Considerations

The 2021 -2025 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) acknowledges Council's significant commitment to Darebin's economy following the COVID-19 pandemic through a comprehensive package of economic relief and recovery measures and strategic economic development to support the Darebin community.

Council's continuing commitments to resource these priorities are reflected in the Financial Plan 2021-31 and 21/22 Annual budget.

Financial and Resource Implications

All priorities articulated in the 2021 – 2025 Council Plan Action Plan have been reflected in the Financial Plan 2021–31 and 2021/22 Annual budget.

Legal and Risk Implications

The Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 addresses the principles of the Local Government Act 2020, by considering accountability to the community and seeking to implement the 2021-25 Council Plan, giving effect to the 2041 Darebin Community Vision and aligned to the

Strategic Planning Principles, Governance Principles, Financial Management Principles and the Community Engagement Principles.

DISCUSSION

Responding to feedback

A copy of the draft 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and the Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021 were provided to the North East Melbourne Area office for the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing on 21 June 2021. The North East Melbourne Area office advised that the following minor changes needed to be made to the draft 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) in order for them to recommend approval for the exemption.

- *Sedentary lifestyle* to be listed as a modifiable risk factor on pages 42, 45, 52 and 53 of the Council Plan
- Action 2-44 (page 57) – bowel cancer screening to be reallocated from objective 2.5 to objective 1.1 with reference to understanding amongst Aboriginal and CALD communities in the action.
- Page 33 to include a sentence and link to data regarding gambling and levels of employment be included –
A range of data sets in addition to the Victorian Population Health Survey, including employment levels, income and losses from electronic gaming machines are available in the Darebin Health and Wellbeing Profile Report: www.darebin.gov.au/healthandwellbeing
- Page 30, to include a paragraph to reflect the partnership approach to responding to social determinants of health and wellbeing (to respond to Section 26(2)(d) – partnerships) –

Working in Partnership

Central to improving the wellbeing of our community is to work in partnership. Council will work in partnership with stakeholders, services providers and community to advocate, support, fund and deliver a range of actions over the next four years to respond to the social determinants of health and wellbeing.

- Page 34, include an additional sentence at the end of the fourth paragraph) –
Council will develop, implement and report on an annual action plan”.
- Page 34, include an additional paragraph at the end of the “Monitoring our progress” paragraph –

In addition to the actions listed in the Council Plan, Council will review and renew our strategies to ensure our efforts that respond to the health and wellbeing priorities are continued throughout the four-year Council Plan.

Feedback from Secretary, Department of Health advised that the following minor data changes needed to be made to the Health and Wellbeing Profile Report:

- include unemployment rates
- Include employment types and status
- update vegetable consumption
- Reference to Council's Electronic Gaming Machine Policy

All of these changes have been made in the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) **Appendix A** and the Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021 **Appendix B**.

Additionally, Council received confirmation of the exemption from complying with Section 26 (2) of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, relating to the preparation of a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, from the Secretary Department of Health approved subject to amendments noted below.

Department requested amendment	Council response
Developing an action plan for the health and wellbeing priorities that links strategies to actions and identifies progress measures.	Council develops an annual delivery plan for the Council Plan that outlines the key actions to be taken each year and reports progress against this action plan to Council quarterly. These annual actions are linked to the Strategic Objectives and Strategic Actions in the Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) The draft 2021-22 Council Plan Action Plan (Appendix C) to this report provides these actions to be taken in the 21-22 FY.
Annual action plans should be referenced in the <i>Your 2021–2025 Council Plan</i> and be publicly accessible	The draft 2021-22 Council Plan Action Plan (Appendix C) is provided to Council for endorsement with this report and will be made publicly available on Council’s website, along with quarterly reporting on progress against the plan.
A description of how you will work with partners and community to develop and implement the Action Plan for health and wellbeing priorities and measure progress is also required	How Council will work with partners and community to implement the health and wellbeing priorities and measure progress is embedded throughout the draft 2021-22 Council Plan Action Plan (Appendix C). The health and wellbeing identified priority actions include activities/actions to develop programs with community or specific partners to enable the achievement of the strategic action.

The endorsement of the draft 2021-22 Council Plan Action Plan (**Appendix C**) provides for Council to meet the requested amendments outlined above.

Draft 2021-22 Council Plan Action Plan

The draft 2021-2022 Council Plan Action Plan has been developed from the year 1 actions contained in the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan). The Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 reflects the outcomes of consultation and engagement with Councillors, members of the community and staff that has occurred as part of the 2021–22 planning process.

Reporting progress against the Council Plan Action Plan occurs quarterly to Council, highlighting what actions have been progressed or achieved each quarter. The annual reporting against the Council Plan Action Plan is recorded in the City of Darebin Annual Report.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

The options for Council are to:

- Adopt the Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 as presented and note the changes made to the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan) and Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021.
- Adopt the Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 with amendments and note the changes made to the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan) and Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021.
- Do not adopt the Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 and note the changes made to the 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan) and Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

Progress of the Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 will be reported to Council on a quarterly basis throughout the coming financial year as part of the Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report.

Communication

The Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 will be promoted on Council's website and through social media.

Timeline

Progress against the Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22 will be reported quarterly to Council during the 2021-22 financial year.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin 2041 Community Vision
- 2021-25 Council Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Profile Report
- 10 year Financial Plan
- 4 year Revenue and Rating Plan
- 2021/22 Budget
- Local Government Act 2020

Attachments

- 2021-25 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)
- Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021 (**Appendix B**) [↓](#)
- 2021-22 Council Plan Action Plan (**Appendix C**)

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.



the place to live

YOUR 2021- 2025 Council Plan



Incorporating the Darebin Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and Darebin 2041 Community Vision

Arabic

هذه هي خطة مجلس داربين لـ 2021-2025. وتحدد الاتجاه والإجراءات ذات الأولوية التي سيتخذها المجلس خلال السنوات الأربع القادمة.

خطة المجلس هذه هي الخطوة الأولى نحو خلق رؤية مجتمعا لداربين التي يريد تحقيقها بحلول عام 2041. تتضمن خطة المجلس هذه خطة البلدية للصحة والرفاهية، والتي تحدد الإجراءات لتمكين السكان من فرصة تحسين صحتهم ورفاهيتهم. لمزيد من المعلومات، يرجى الاتصال بخط الهاتف متعدد اللغات (03) 8470 8470 لإيصالك بمساعد لغوي أو مترجم فوري.

Chinese Simplified

这是戴瑞宾市议会的《2021-2025年计划》，其中确立了市议会未来四年的工作方针及将要采取的优先行动。

这个市议会计划是为实现我们的社区愿景迈出的第一步，我们的社区愿景是指社区想要戴瑞宾市在2041年前建设成什么模样。

在这个市议会规划中，还包括了《戴瑞宾市身心健康计划》，其中载明了为使居民有机会改善身心健康而需要采取的行动。

查询详情，请致电我们的多语种电话专线 (03) 8470 8470接通语言协助人员或传译员。

Greek

Αυτό είναι το Σχέδιο του Δήμου Darebin 2021-2025. Καθορίζει τις κατευθύνσεις και τις δράσεις προτεραιότητας που θα λάβει ο Δήμος τα επόμενα τέσσερα χρόνια.

Αυτό το Σχέδιο του Δήμου είναι το πρώτο βήμα προς τη δημιουργία του οράματος της κοινότητάς μας για το Darebin που θέλει να επιτευχθεί μέχρι το έτος 2041.

Σ' αυτό το Σχέδιο του Δήμου περιλαμβάνεται το Σχέδιο Υγείας και Ευεξίας του Δήμου, το οποίο θέτει δράσεις που θα επιτρέψουν στους κατοίκους την ευκαιρία να βελτιώσουν την υγεία και την ευεξία τους.

Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες, επικοινωνήστε με την Πολυγλωσσική Τηλεφωνική Γραμμή μας στο (03) 8470 8470 για να συνδεθείτε με ένα Βοηθό Γλωσσών ή μ' ένα διερμηνέα.

Hindi

यह डारेबिन काउंसिल योजना 2021-2025 है। यह तय करती है कि अगले चार सालों में काउंसिल की दिशा क्या होगी और वह किन कार्यों को प्राथमिकता देगी।

यह काउंसिल योजना वर्ष 2041 तक हम डारेबिन को कैसा बनाना चाहते हैं इस बारे में हमारे समुदाय के दृष्टिकोण की दिशा में पहला कदम है

इस काउंसिल योजना में नगरपालिका स्वास्थ्य और कल्याण योजना शामिल है, जो निवासियों को अपने स्वास्थ्य और कल्याण में सुधार करने का अवसर प्रदान करने के लिए किए जाने वाले कार्यों को निर्धारित करती है।

अधिक जानकारी के लिए, कृपया एक भाषा सहयोगी (Language Aide) या एक दुभाषिया से जुड़ने के लिए हमारी बहुभाषी टेलीफोन लाइन (03) 8470 8470 पर संपर्क करें।

Italian

Questo è il Piano Comunale di Darebin per il 2021-2025, che stabilisce la direzione e gli interventi prioritari che il Comune intraprenderà nei prossimi quattro anni.

Questo Piano Comunale rappresenta il primo passo verso la creazione della visione che la nostra comunità vuole vedere realizzata per Darebin entro l'anno 2041.

Incluso in questo Piano Comunale è il Piano Municipale per la salute e il benessere, che definisce gli interventi necessari per dare ai residenti l'opportunità di migliorare la propria salute e il proprio benessere.

Per ulteriori informazioni, si prega di contattare la nostra linea telefonica multilingue al numero (03) 8470 8470 per essere collegati a un assistente linguistico o un interprete.

Macedonian

Ова е Планот на општина Даребин 2021-2025 година. Ги поставува насоките и приоритетните активности што Општината ќе ги преземе во следните четири години.

Овој план на општината е првиот чекор кон креирање на визијата на нашата заедница што сака да биде Даребин до 2041 година.

Во овој план на општината вклучен е Општинскиот план за здравје и благосостојба, кој поставува активности за да им се овозможи на жителите можност да го подобрат своето здравје и благосостојба.

За повеќе информации, контактирајте ја нашата повеќејазична телефонска линија на (03) 8470 8470 за да бидете поврзани со лице помошник за јазик или преведувач.

Nepali

यो डारेबिन काउन्सिल योजना (Darebin Council Plan) २०२१-२०२५ हो। यसमा आगामी चार बर्षमा काउन्सिलले लिने दिशा र कार्यहरूको प्राथमिकता निर्धारण गरेको छ।

यो काउन्सिल योजना हाम्रो डारेबिनलाई सन् २०४१ सम्म कस्तो बनाउने भन्ने समुदायको मागदर्शन निर्माण गर्ने पहिलो कदम हो।

यस काउन्सिल योजनामा नगरपालिका स्वास्थ्य र आरोग्य योजना समावेश छ जसले यहाँका बासिन्दाहरूलाई उनीहरूको स्वास्थ्य र स्वस्थता सुधार्ने अवसर उपलब्ध गराउने पार्न कार्यहरू तय गरेको छ।

थप जानकारीको लागि, हाम्रो बहुभाषी टेलिफोन लाइन (03) 8470 8470 मा फोन गर्नुहोस् र भाषा सहयोगी वा दोभाषेको मद्दत लिएर कुरा गर्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਡੈਰਾਬਿਨ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਯੋਜਨਾ 2021-2025 ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਅਗਲੇ ਚਾਰ ਸਾਲਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਲਈ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਸੇਧ ਅਤੇ ਤਰਜੀਹੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈਆਂ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ।

ਇਹ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਯੋਜਨਾ ਡੈਰਾਬਿਨ ਲਈ ਸਾਡੇ ਭਾਈਚਾਰੇ ਦੇ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀਕੋਣ ਨੂੰ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਵੱਲ ਪਹਿਲਾ ਕਦਮ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਇਹ ਸਾਲ 2041 ਤੱਕ ਹੋਣਾ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ।

ਕੌਂਸਲ ਦੀ ਇਸ ਯੋਜਨਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਸਿਹਤ ਅਤੇ ਭਲਾਈ ਯੋਜਨਾ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹੈ, ਜੋ ਵਸਨੀਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਸਿਹਤ ਅਤੇ ਭਲਾਈ ਵਿੱਚ ਸੁਧਾਰ ਕਰਨ ਦੇ ਮੌਕੇ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਰੱਥ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਕਾਰਵਾਈਆਂ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ।

ਵਧੇਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਸਹਾਇਕ ਜਾਂ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਨਾਲ ਜੁੜਣ ਲਈ ਸਾਡੀ ਬਹੁਭਾਸ਼ੀ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਲਾਈਨ (03) 8470 8470 ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Somali

Tani waa Qorshaha Golaha Darebin ee 2021-2025. Waxay dejisaa tilmaamaha iyo ficilada mudnaanta Golaha waxay qaadan doontaa afarta sanno ee ku xigta.

Qorshahan Golaha waa talaabadii koowaad ee loo qaadayo abuurida aragtida bulshadeena ee Darebin oo ay dooneyso inay noqoto sannadka 2041.

Oo ay ku jirto Qorshaha Golaha waa Qorshaha Fiyooabaanta iyo Caafimaadka Degmada hoose, taas oo dejisay ficil si awood loogu siiyo deganayaasha fursada si loo horumariyo caafimaadka iyo fiyoobaanta.

Wixii macluumaad dheeraad ah, fadlan la xiriiir Khadka Taleefanka Luuqadaha badan (03) 8470 8470 si laguugu xiriiryo Caawiyaha luuqada ama turjubaan.

Spanish

Este es el Plan del Concejo Municipal de Darebin 2021-2025. Establece la dirección y las acciones prioritarias que el Concejo tomará durante los próximos cuatro años.

Este Plan del Concejo es el primer paso hacia la creación de la visión de nuestra comunidad para el Darebin que quiere ser en el año 2041.

En este Plan de del Concejo se incluye el Plan de Salud y Bienestar Municipal, que establece acciones para que los vecinos tengan la oportunidad de mejorar su salud y bienestar.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con nuestra Línea telefónica multilingüe (03) 8470 8470, para que lo conecten con un asistente de idiomas o un intérprete

Urdu

یہ Darebin کاؤنسل کا 2021-2025 پلان ہے۔ اس میں ان اقدامات کی سمت اور ترجیح کو متعین کیا گیا ہے جو کاؤنسل اگلے چار سالوں میں اٹھائے گی۔

کاؤنسل کا پلان Darebin کے لئے ہماری کمیونٹی کے خواب کی تعبیر کی جانب پہلا قدم ہے جو اس نے 2041 کے Darebin کے لئے دیکھ رکھا ہے۔

کاؤنسل کے اس پلان میں میونسپل ہیلتھ اور بہبود کا پلان بھی شامل ہے جو یہاں کے رہائشیوں کو اپنی صحت اور بہبود میں بہتری لانے کے قابل بنانے کے لئے اقدامات کا تعین کرتا ہے۔

مزید معلومات کے لئے ہماری ملٹی لینگویئل ٹیلی فون لائن سے (03) 8470 8470 پر رابطہ کر کے زبان میں مدد فراہم کرنے والے شخص یا زبانی مترجم سے بات کریں۔

Vietnamese

Đây là Kế hoạch Hội đồng Thành phố Darebin 2021-2025. Kế hoạch này đề ra phương hướng và các hành động ưu tiên mà Hội đồng Thành phố sẽ thực hiện trong bốn năm tới.

Kế hoạch Hội đồng Thành phố này là bước đầu tiên nhằm mục đích tạo ra viễn kiến của cộng đồng cho Darebin mà chúng ta muốn sẽ trở thành vào năm 2041.

Trong Kế hoạch Hội đồng Thành phố này có Kế hoạch Sức khỏe và An sinh Thành phố, đặt ra các hành động để tạo điều kiện cho cư dân có cơ hội cải thiện sức khỏe và an sinh của họ.

Muốn biết thêm thông tin, vui lòng gọi cho Đường dây Điện thoại Đa ngữ (03) 8470 8470 của chúng tôi để được kết nối với Trợ lý Ngôn ngữ hoặc thông dịch viên.

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About Our Council Plan

The *Local Government Act 2020* sets a new approach for all local government in Victoria, that aims to bring all communities back into the core of local government and the services we provide. This requires deeper engagement, with more voices heard that truly represent the communities we serve – in a process called deliberative engagement.

The Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, (and upcoming 10 year Asset Plan) are all required to be developed through deliberative engagement with communities.

We embrace and support this approach, as it has allowed us to bring the people of Darebin closer to our strategic planning.

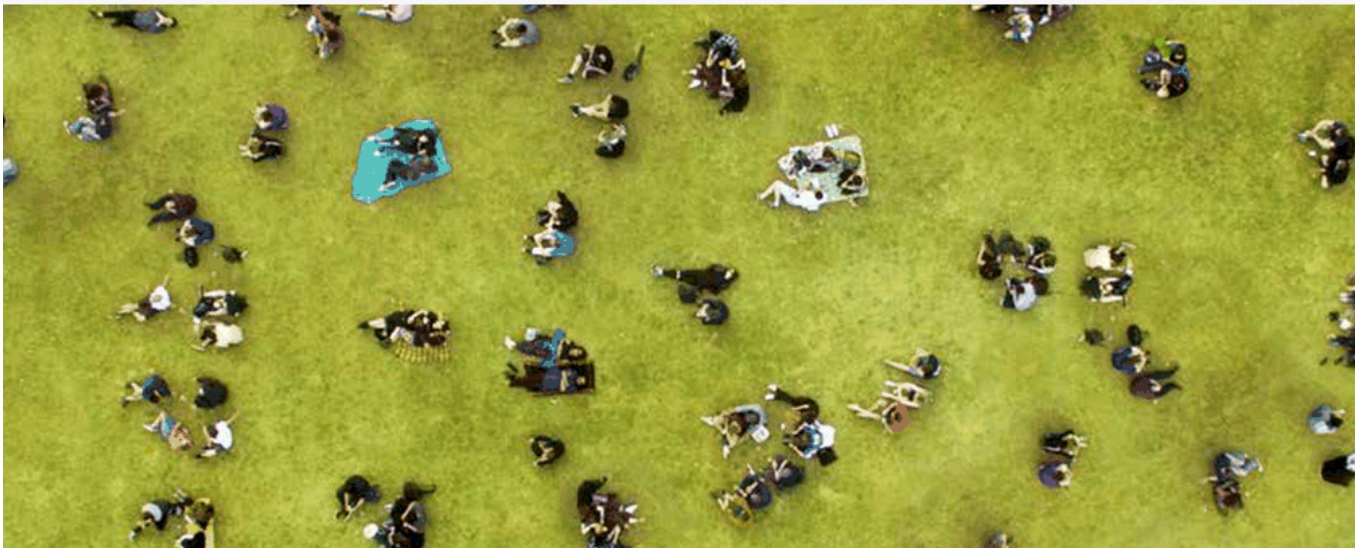
This 2021-2025 Council Plan (incorporating our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) is our Council's key strategic document for the next four years. It guides how we will move closer to our Darebin 2041 Community Vision – what areas will be our key focus, what actions we will take, how we will measure our progress, and transparently report to our community.

Each year, we will undertake priority actions – funded through our Annual Budget – and report back to our community through our Annual Report.

Our Council Plan has been informed by extensive community engagement, including the feedback collected for our Community Vision, and our current research, strategies and plans.

Our community has been involved through targeted community conversations and workshops – including with First Nations people, people from non-English speaking backgrounds and young people – and online and phone surveys with more than 3,000 residents and businesses. We've also heard from community members directly, at a hearing panel headed up by our Councillors.

We now have a Council Plan that truly represents the voices of our community, and sets us off in the direction of the Darebin we want to be by 2041.



Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land and waters we now call Darebin and affirms that Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have lived on this land for millennia, practising their customs and ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal.

Council acknowledges that Elders past, present and emerging are central to the cohesion, intergenerational wellbeing and ongoing self-determination of Aboriginal communities. They have played and continue to play a pivotal role in maintaining and transmitting culture, history and language.

Council respects and recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities' values, living culture and practices, including their continuing spiritual connection to the land and waters and their right to self-determination. Council also recognises the diversity within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities have had and continue to play a unique role in the life of the Darebin municipality. Council recognises and values this ongoing contribution and its significant value for our city and Australian society more broadly.

Extract from Darebin City Council's Statement of commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 2019.

Darebin's Diversity Statement

Situated on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, the City of Darebin is now home to a diverse community of people with different socio-economic status, gender, age, ability, race, culture, ethnicity, language, sexuality, sex characteristics, gender identity, beliefs, occupations, income, education, carer status and household type. The Darebin community cherishes this diversity and values it as an important civic asset.

Darebin City Council acknowledges the history and contributions of the various communities, migrants and refugees who have made the municipality their home. Their endeavours have enriched the economic, social, cultural, artistic, community and civic character of the city, and created a cosmopolitan locality where variety and difference are welcomed and encouraged.

Council also acknowledges that who we are today as a municipality rests on the history of loss and dispossession inflicted upon Aboriginal people, past and present, despite their strengths, resilience and continued contributions to our city.

Climate Emergency And Climate Risk

Addressing climate change is a key responsibility of Local Government under Victorian legislation.

The *Climate Change Act 2017* sets a target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050 for Victoria, and requires five-yearly interim targets to be set by the State Government. It also provides guidance for state and local government decision-making across a suite of legislation - including the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The *Local Government Act 2020* now requires Local Government to address climate change and consider climate change risks, as one of the key overarching governance principles.

Darebin City Council has a proud history of leadership in relation to tackling climate change.

In 2016, our Council was the first government of any kind to declare a climate emergency - requiring urgent action by all levels of government, including Local Government.

Since then, more than 1,900 governments around the world have made similar declarations and committed to urgent action to address climate change.

In 2017, Darebin City Council adopted its Climate Emergency Plan 2017-2022, that outlined Council's commitment to aim for zero greenhouse gas emissions for our Council and community. We called on the State Government and Federal Government to declare a climate emergency and legislate programs to drive an emergency response.

On 2 December 2019, our Council further resolved to call on the State Government and Federal Government to achieve zero emissions by 2030.

Council's commitment to addressing the Climate Emergency continues through this 2021-2025 Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan).



Quick Facts About Darebin



Place of birth

59%
born in Australia

33%
born overseas

(main countries: Italy, China, India, Greece, United Kingdom, Vietnam, New Zealand and Lebanon)

8%
not stated

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

0.8%
are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders



Place of birth of parents

58%
have either one or both parents born overseas



Households

60%
Live with family

26%
Live alone

8%
Live in group houses

6%
Other

Ages



16%
children 0-14

13%
young people 15-24

57%
25-64

14%
65+



Employment

70,306
Residents employed in 2016

60% Full-time

38% Part-time

5,433
7.2% were unemployed
(6.8% Greater Melbourne)

Languages spoken at home



36.9%
Speak a language other than English at home

82
Languages in total

- 56% English only
- 7% Italian
- 6% Greek
- 4% Mandarin
- 3% Arabic
- 2% Vietnamese
- 15% Other
- 7% not stated

2016 ABS census

Tertiary qualifications



40,282
32.7% Bachelor Degree
(27.5% Greater Melbourne)

Religion



40
Religions in total

- 43% Christian (all denominations)
- 36% not religious
- 5% Muslim
- 3% Buddhist
- 3% Hindu
- 1% other religions
- 9% not stated

Income



\$1,420
Weekly median
(\$1,539 Greater Melbourne)

39%
have a personal income of less than \$500 a week

Our Community At The Heart Of Our Vision

For the first time ever, our community has developed a vision to set the aspirations for the future Darebin, and the community we want to be 20 years from now.

From December 2020 to February 2021, we spoke to 1,631 people from all over our city, to gather as many ideas as possible about what they currently loved, what we could do better, and to use three words to describe the Darebin they want to see in 2041.

Under the new *Local Government Act 2020*, a community vision must be informed and shaped via a deliberative process, meaning the community is heavily involved in shaping the vision.

What our community told us they value



Greening the City

Our community values 'green' spaces (parks as well as street trees) and want more of them, and the ones they have to be protected and enhanced.



Sustainability

There is much regard and respect for the many people in our community who care about the environment and sustainability across a range of perspectives, from promoting less car use, protecting native plants and animals, and driving action on climate change.



Inclusive Diversity

Our community values multiculturalism and aspires to preserve inclusivity.



Safety

Our community aspires for a future that is clean and safe. Safety is referenced from both a sense of personal physical and psychological safety ("feeling safe" while out). It is also about safety as a cyclist and a pedestrian. Our community connects urban design with safety. There is a clear link between poorly lit and/or unkept dirty places, with a feeling of being unsafe.



Lifestyle

Our community both love the amenity of our city, and also want to see it get better in the future. Amenity covers a range of things, from the convenience of public transport and accessibility to local services, to protection from over-population and over-development.

To ensure the vision is truly one owned by our community, we then handed over the feedback from the hundreds of conversations we conducted online, in person and on the phone, to a group of 39 residents and business owners in Darebin. This group - the Darebin Deliberative Panel - was selected by independent experts to ensure community members of different ages, genders, nationalities and experiences, ultimately design our new Community Vision.

From February to May 2021, the panel met to shape and refine the vision, and we now have a clear expression of the Darebin we want to become by 2041. Our Community Vision is at the heart of our Council Plan, and all the work that flows from there - our priorities, strategic plans, investments, services, partnerships and activities. The vision is supported by three themed pillars - which form the key directions and focus of this Council Plan.



Darebin 2041 Community Vision

Darebin is an equitable, vibrant and connected community.

Darebin respects and supports First Nations People, values country, our diverse communities and places.

Darebin commits to mitigating the climate emergency, creating prosperity for current and future generations.

Supporting this Vision, are the pillars of:



Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

- Celebrating all diverse communities and uplifting different voices in places of power
- Connection to, and preservation of, local history acknowledging past harm and trauma
- Vibrant and dynamic spaces, amenities and events
- Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander values, living culture and connection to country
- One Darebin, no suburb left behind



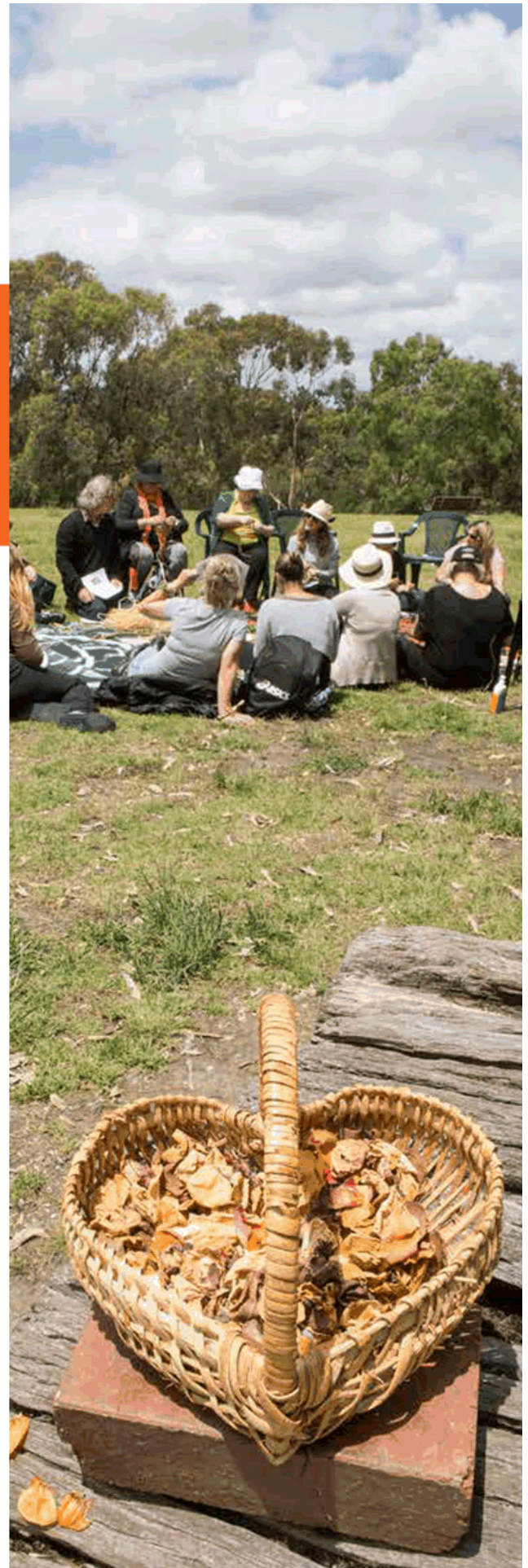
Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

- Encouraging and incentivising business investment and growth in the sustainability sector
- Creating equitable and diverse opportunities for employment and volunteering
- Being a 20-minute city with access to amenities and services close to our homes
- Sustaining community ownership of services and maintaining the health and wellbeing of all, across all life stages
- Making Darebin a Victorian centre for creative industry and the arts
- Ensuring development and the built environment are designed for liveability and sustainability



Climate, Green and Sustainable

- Taking urgent action on the climate emergency, leading and educating communities and businesses
- Making decisions that are community driven, transparent, socially and equitably just and equitable
- Providing and promoting safe and sustainable transport
- Regenerating, enhancing and protecting ecosystems and biodiversity
- Integrating ecological solutions in the built environment, promoting sustainable development and retrofitting practices, which protect natural assets and strive for zero carbon emissions



Message From Our Mayor



This past year has been a challenging one for all of us. And this was a key focus of the discussions we had developing this new Council Plan – how can we, as a Council, not only help our community recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, but how can we move our city forward to improve, and prosper?

The City of Darebin is not a simple one to govern; it is not generic. We are a diverse people in every sense – and with diversity comes many strengths, and also complexities. In developing the Community Vision 2041, which has guided this Plan, we were very keen to make sure all our voices had the opportunity to be heard. Using postcards, phone surveys and pop up events across Darebin, over 1,600 members of our community were able to tell us what they want our future to be.

We've also been privileged to work with a community deliberative panel – created to guide the Vision.

Thirty-nine community and business representatives from across our city, worked with us for months to discuss and refine all the information received from our community. We now have a Vision and a Council Plan that harnesses our community's strengths, and will meet the challenges ahead.

This Council – my fellow eight Councillors and I – was elected in October last year.

It is now our responsibility to guide and govern this wonderful city over these four years. We can only do this effectively by working with our community, our businesses, and other service organisations. If this last year has taught us anything, it is that we are in this together, and we all need to continue to work towards the Vision of our community.

The Council Plan sets, very clearly, what our goals are, and what actions we will take to meet those goals over these coming four years. It is our commitment to this community.

Every year, we will let you know how we are tracking – the achievements, but also any adjustments needed as we move ahead.

I encourage you all to please keep an eye on our progress, and let us know if there's anything we need to address. Keep talking to us. This is how a Council Plan becomes more than a document; it becomes a tool for us to continue building the Darebin we all want.

Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and waters we now call Darebin.

Across the ages Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have lived on this land, practising customs and ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal.

Council acknowledges that Elders past, present and emerging are central to ongoing self-determination of Aboriginal communities, and in maintaining culture, history and language. This is part of our formal Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We have four directions that will guide our actions and resources over the next four years:

Vibrant, Respectful and Connected – making sure our community is one where all our people are valued, and no one is left behind

Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing – building on Darebin’s strengths in relation to business, services and industry, and creating a city where all services and facilities to support a balanced, healthy life are easily accessible to our residents

Climate, Green and Sustainable – ensuring Darebin is a leader in responding to the climate emergency, and our natural environment is protected and enhanced

Responsible, Transparent and Responsive – recognising we are here to serve our community, in all its diversity, and that we govern transparently and accountably.

We know we have an important role to play in helping our businesses and activity centres recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, and that this needs to extend further than just financial reprieve.

We want to work in partnership with our businesses and traders associations to truly revitalise our city’s economic life, and once again, see flourishing businesses, industries and shopping precincts.

We plan to be at the forefront of waste reform, which is really about all of us taking responsibility for what we consume. We want to change our behaviour as a city, by moving towards a circular economy focused on how we can re-use our waste, not only to benefit our environment and economy, but also our own health and wellbeing.

And in the spirit of leaving no one behind, we will be focusing heavily on the people in our community experiencing disadvantage, through engagement and service and program development. In the past, these community members may have not had the opportunity or means to tell us what they need, and how they can contribute their value to community life.

Through the development of the Council Plan, it has become clear we need to do better to invite our people experiencing disadvantage, to play an active role in creating the Darebin we want to become.

Cr Lina Messina
Mayor

Message From Our Chief Executive Officer



As we focus on the years ahead in this Council Plan, I want to reflect on the past year, which has raised unprecedented challenges for our community, and our organisation.

It was a year that saw the introduction of a new *Local Government Act 2020* – the first in over 30 years – and Council elections, which would normally be a huge undertaking in itself. But of course, we also all experienced the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which required wholesale changes to how we, as an organisation, operated, to continue our services to our community.

I want to wholeheartedly thank our wonderful officers for their perseverance, patience and flexibility during this time. Our staff work here because they want to help to make our community's lives better, and they have done an amazing job in this last year to do just that.

I also want to sincerely thank the previous Councillors, who were steadfast in leading this city through this time of uncertainty. And I welcome working with our new Council – many who are returning Councillors – to continue Darebin's recovery from the pandemic, and to see in a new era of prosperity and community connectedness.

At the core of the new *Local Government Act 2020* is how we can better listen to, and work with, our communities. It also supports local governments to more easily work in partnership with each other – across municipal boundaries – to find new, more sustainable ways, to operate.

In this Council Plan, you will be able to see our Council's new planning and reporting framework – which sets out how we will deliver, and report back on, everything we do.

At the heart of this is the community-developed Community Vision 2041, and of course, the directions and actions of this four-year Council Plan. For the first time, we've embedded our health and wellbeing plan into our Council Plan, recognising it is integral to all our services and strategies.

Under the new Act, we are also developing 10-year finance and asset plans – to ensure we have a future view of our resources. This is important, as we need to make sure we can fund our commitments in the Council Plan, and provide the facilities and infrastructure our community will need into the future.

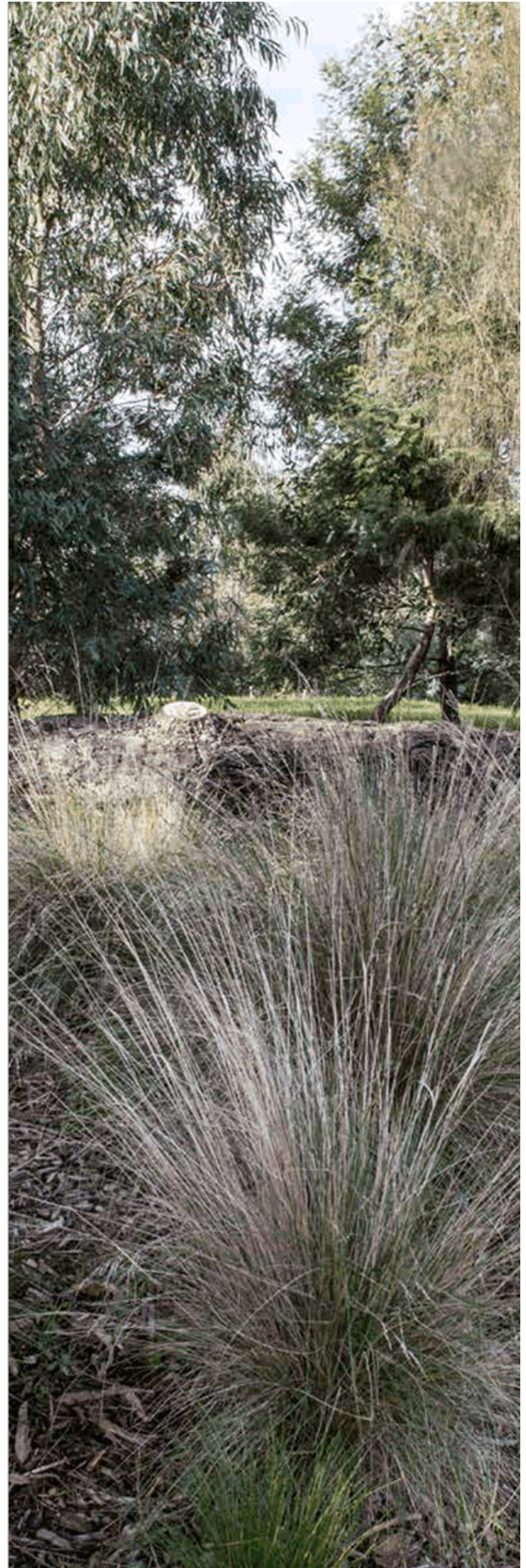
Ensuring our financial sustainability will be one of our greatest challenges in the years ahead. With our community and businesses recovering from the financial blow of the pandemic, we will need to find new, and better ways to maintain our infrastructure and provide our services. Partnership is the only way forward – with our services providers, organisations and businesses – and more broadly, with our local government neighbours, and state and federal governments.

Partnership is also how we want to orient our Council and organisation to our community. It's a new dawn for us, and we want to grow our connectedness with our diverse communities.

The new Act lays a foundation for this through its focus on deliberative community engagement. This method of engagement moves us to a deeper level - ensuring all of our community has the opportunity to help to form not only our strategic work, but the services and programs they use and know best.

We look forward to working with you.

Sue Wilkinson
Chief Executive Officer



Our Darebin

The City of Darebin is located between five and 15 kilometres north of Melbourne's central business district.

It has been home to the Wurundjeri people for many thousands of years.

Our city covers 53 square kilometres of land stretching from the inner northern suburbs of Northcote and Fairfield, to Reservoir and Bundoora.

We are growing: in 2019, our city's population was 164,184 people, and this is expected to increase to 230,118 by 2041.



We are home to one of Victoria's largest and most diverse communities in the realms of culture, language, religion, socioeconomic background, employment status, occupation and housing need. In 2016, 48,842 of our residents were born overseas; 25 per cent had arrived in Australia in the five years prior.

We have a diverse mix of properties - with 67,051 residential properties, 4,637 business properties and 530 mixed-use properties. Our largest industries are education and training, retail, manufacturing, health care and social assistance.

As a Council, we are responsible for a large part of our city's infrastructure and natural habitat. We own, manage or maintain 333 buildings, 930 hectares of open space (including parks and gardens), 509 km of roads, 30 km of shared paths, 1,035 km of footpaths, 13 road bridges, 52 foot bridges, 614 km of stormwater drains, 23,370 stormwater pits, and 30 gross pollutant traps (structures that trap solid waste such as litter).

While our city's social and economic prosperity is changing, with more of our residents earning higher incomes, we still have many of our residents experiencing disadvantage.

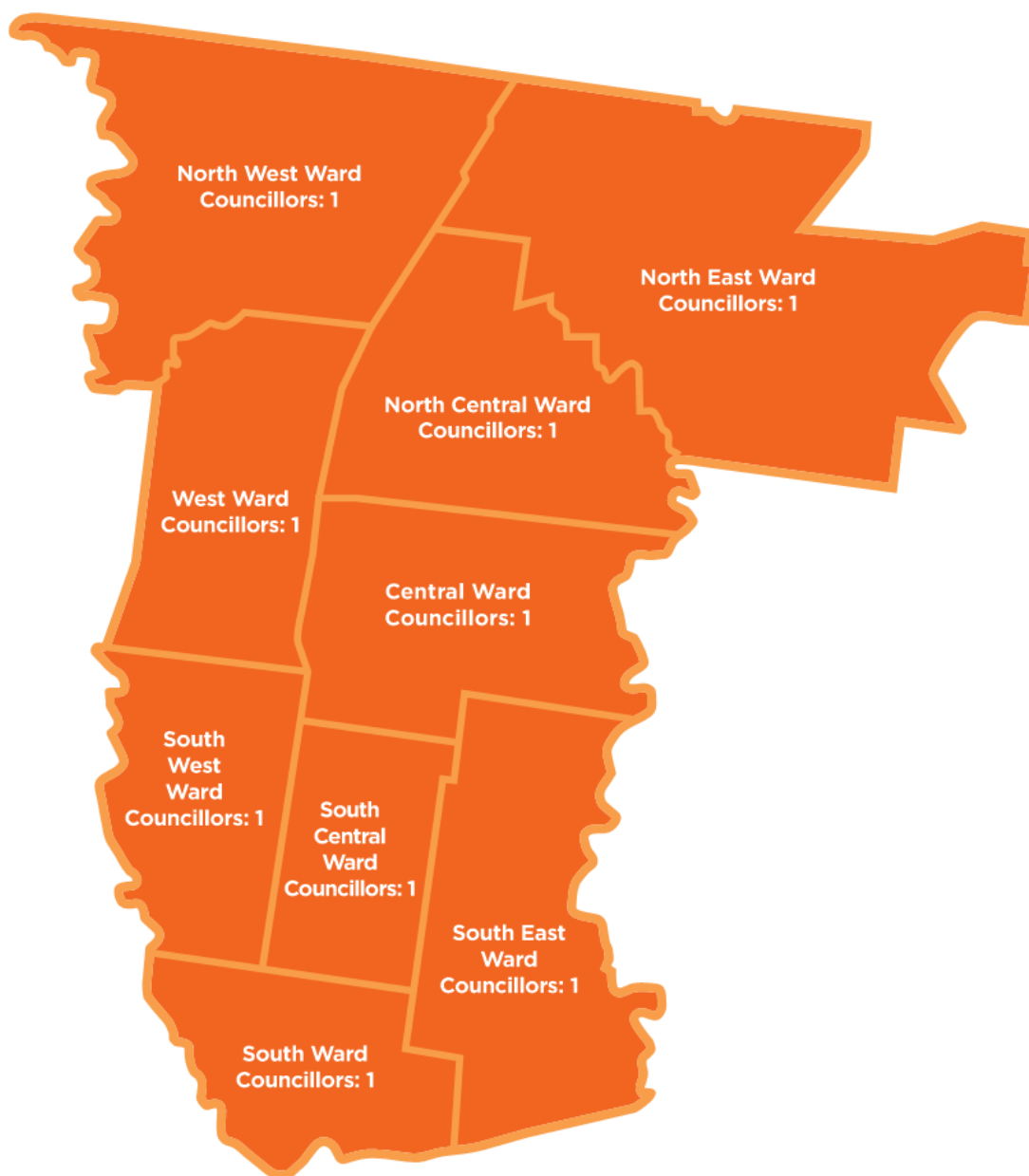
The Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) score ranks areas based on indicators that contribute to disadvantage (including unemployment and income). In 2016, Darebin's SEIFA disadvantage score was 1,004, lower than Greater Melbourne at 1018, and Victoria at 1,010. This indicates Darebin is still relatively disadvantaged, compared to Greater Melbourne and Victoria.

In June 2020, our unemployment rate was 5.6 per cent. This is slightly lower than Greater Melbourne (5.7 per cent), and slightly higher than Victoria overall (5.4 per cent).

Our Council

Our City

The City of Darebin ward structure changed for the general municipal election in October 2020. Our city is now divided into nine, single member wards.



Our Councillors



Darebin City Council 2020-2024

From L to R: Cr Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor), Cr Emily Dimitriadis, Cr Julie Williams, Cr Lina Messina (Mayor), Cr Trent McCarthy, Cr Susan Rennie, Cr Susanne Newton, Cr Tom Hannan, Cr Tim Laurence

Our Councillors



Cr Lina Messina
Mayor
Central Ward
0419 750 504
Lina.Messina@darebin.vic.gov.au



Cr Gaetano Greco
Deputy Mayor
North West Ward
0419 750 214
Gaetano.Greco@darebin.vic.gov.au



Cr Julie Williams
North Central Ward
0419 750 152
Julie.Williams@darebin.vic.gov.au



Cr Tim Laurence
North East Ward
0419 750 234
Tim.Laurence@darebin.vic.gov.au



Cr Susanne Newton
West Ward
0419 764 245
Susanne.Newton@darebin.vic.gov.au



Cr Susan Rennie
South Central Ward
0419 750 035
Susan.Rennie@darebin.vic.gov.au



Cr Trent McCarthy
South West Ward
0419 750 604
Trent.McCarthy@darebin.vic.gov.au



Cr Emily Dimitriadis
South East Ward
0437 918 708
Emily.Dimitriadis@darebin.vic.gov.au



Cr Tom Hannan
South Ward
0437 917 078
Tom.Hannan@darebin.vic.gov.au



Our Planning Framework

Our Integrated Strategic Planning Framework is how we set the direction for Council, and ensure we are moving towards that direction. At the start of this process is the development of our new Community Vision - Darebin 2041 - that sets our horizon 20 years into the future, on the community we want to be in 2041.

From there, we have developed our medium term strategies - our four-year Council Plan and actions (incorporating our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan), our Corporate Plan for the organisation, and our Budget.

In this first year of our term, our Budget is annual (2021-2022), however we will move to a four-year focused budget the following year.

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, a longer term focus is encouraged. We now have 10 year financial plan and a 10 year asset plan to ensure we have the financial resources and infrastructure to deliver the actions we commit to.

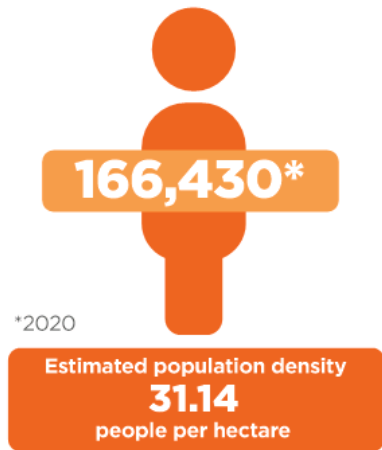




Our People

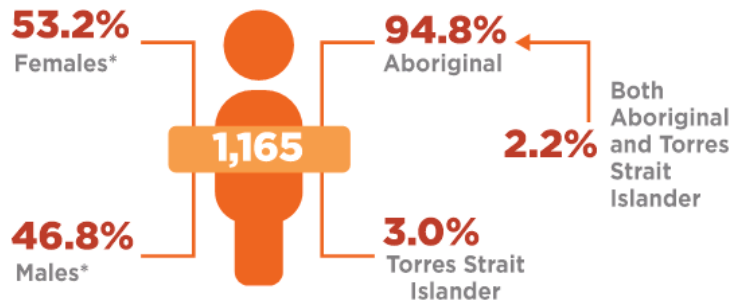
We are proud to be one of the most diverse cities in Victoria

Population

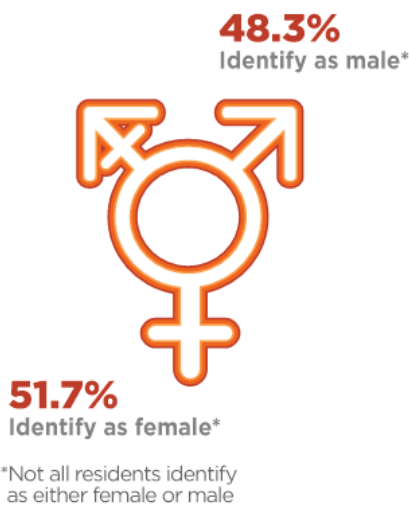


Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

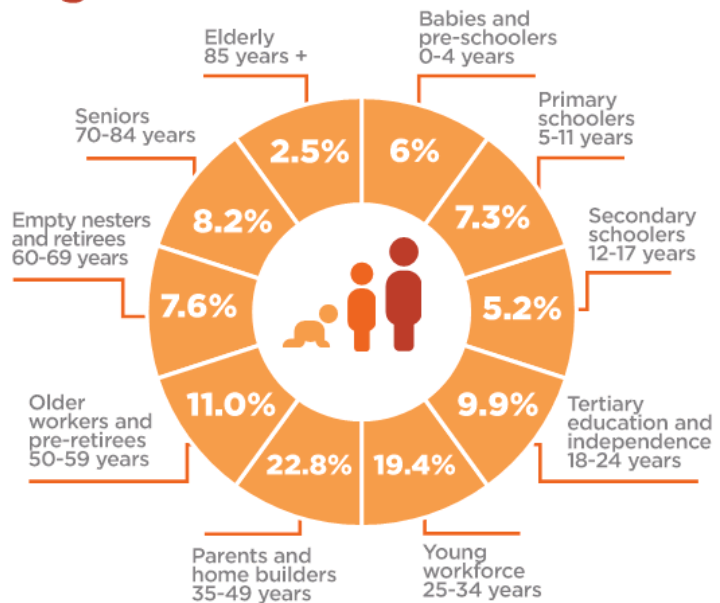
Residents live in
652
properties



Gender



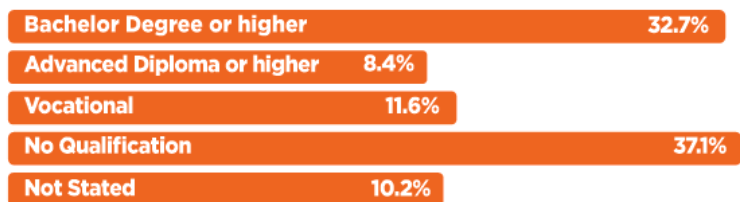
Age structure



Sexuality

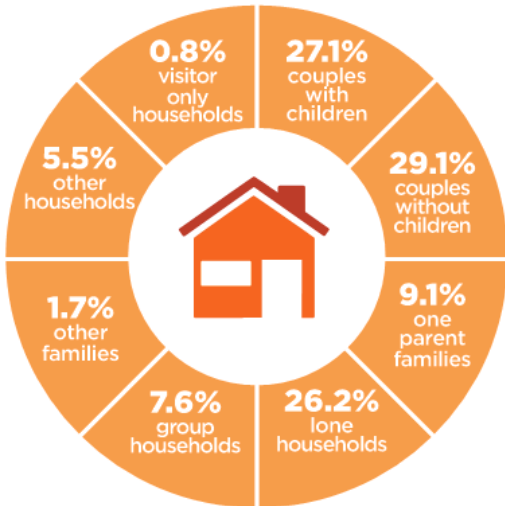


Highest education qualification achieved



At A Glance: Darebin's Diverse Community¹ (based on 2016 Census)

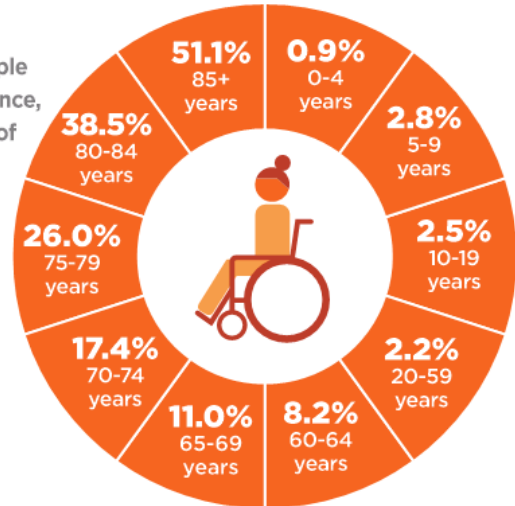
Households



People with a disability and needing assistance

8,774

(6%) of people need assistance, an increase of 724 people since 2011



Multilingual



36.9%

Spoke a language other than English at home



Place of birth

59.2%
Born in Australia

7.5%
Not stated

142
Asylum-seekers
(holders of Illegal Maritime Arrival Bridging Visa E or IMA BE)**

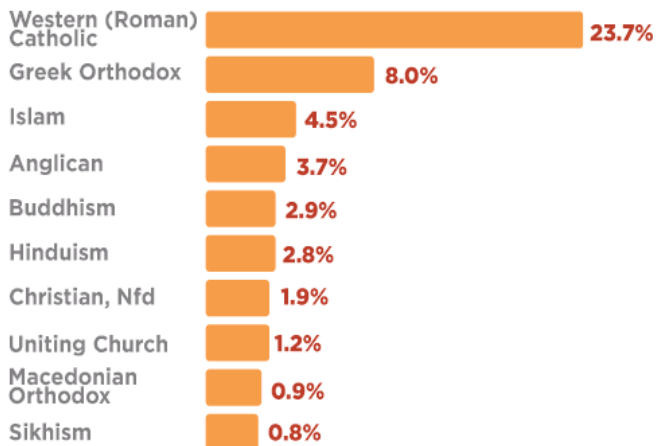
51.4%
Female

48.6%
Male

33.2%
Born in overseas

2,000
International students*

Faiths and beliefs



Place of birth of parents

58%

of Darebin residents have either one or both parents born overseas*

*source 2016 Census

* Source .id consulting. Estimated here as persons attending tertiary education, who were born overseas, arrived in Australia less than 4.5 years ago, and were living either in a group household, as an unrelated person in a household, as an overseas visitor in household, or alone.

** Estimation provided by the City of Greater Dandenong.

¹Data sourced from .id consulting website at <https://profile.id.com.au/darebin> (11 November 2020). Data is based on the 2016 Census of Population and Housing.

Darebin Population by Suburb

(Estimated Resident Population at 30 June 2019²)

Preston (East) and Preston (West) have the highest number of people living in each suburb, in Darebin. Northcote (East) and Thornbury (West) are the most densely populated suburbs.

Suburb	Population	% of Population	Population density**
Alphington	3,505	2.1	25.86
Bundoora-Macleod	8,828	5.4	11.41
Fairfield	6,431	3.9	42.98
Kingsbury	4,426	2.7	35.01
Northcote (East)	16,759	10.2	47.32
Northcote (West)	11,080	6.7	44.46
Preston (East)	19,913	12.1	29.38
Preston (West)	17,757	10.8	37.36
Reservoir (Cheddar)	15,413	9.4	33.81
Reservoir (Edwardes Lake)	15,050	9.2	27.05
Reservoir (Merrilands)	10,616	6.5	23.70
Reservoir (Oakhill)	13,879	8.5	32.60
Thornbury (East)	11,941	7.3	38.00
Thornbury (West)	8,586	5.3	43.12
City of Darebin	164,184	100	33.72

²ERP is the official population of the area. It is updated annually and provides a more accurate population figure between Census periods.

**Persons per hectare.

Data sourced from .id consulting website at <https://profile.id.com.au/darebin> (1 June 2021).

Data is based on the 2016 Census of Population and Housing.

Our Municipal Public Health And Wellbeing Plan

Our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan is embedded in our Council Plan. Under law, the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, we have a responsibility to protect, promote and improve the public health and wellbeing of our community.

We believe a transparent and streamlined approach is best, so rather than have a separate plan for this, our Council Plan has critical actions for the planning - and collaborative delivery with other health providers - of health and wellbeing initiatives.

One way we do this is to ensure our Council Plan - our key strategic plan - includes actions to enable residents the opportunity to improve their health and wellbeing.

Wellbeing Commitment

Darebin City Council is committed to promoting, protecting and improving the wellbeing of our community, and addressing health inequality.

Our Approach To Health and Wellbeing

To inform our planning for community health and wellbeing, our Council developed the 2021 Darebin Health and Wellbeing Profile Report. The Report examines data on the health status and health determinants of our city, including analysis of:

- Policy and laws guiding how our Council plans for the health and wellbeing of our community. This includes considering the priorities of the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023, and the requirements of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and *Climate Change Act 2017*
- Local data from the 2020 Darebin Annual Community Survey, and the findings of the 2015 Reservoir East and Preston East Health and Wellbeing Survey.
- The health status of our people based on data from sources including State Government departments, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), VicHealth and .id consulting

How We Work

Integrated Planning

Our Council embraces a collaborative, whole-of-organisation approach to improving health and wellbeing. We have a strong commitment to partnerships with a broad range of stakeholders, service providers, and the community.

Working in Partnership

Central to improving the wellbeing of our community is to work in partnership. Council will work in partnership with stakeholders, services providers and community to advocate, support, fund and deliver a range of actions over the next four years to respond to the social determinants of health and wellbeing.

Influencing the Environments for Health

We understand health and wellbeing is influenced by the social, economic, cultural, built and natural conditions - the environments for health - in which we are born, grow, learn, live, work and age.

Our Council will continue to build on previous work, learnings, successes and partnerships with community and stakeholders, to influencing these 'environments' and improve the health and wellbeing of our community.

Addressing Health Inequalities

Our Council is committed to reducing - and eliminating where possible - unfair and avoidable differences in the health and wellbeing status of diverse groups in our community.

We are dedicated to applying the lenses of our Towards Equality Framework - People, Places and Experiences, to understand the differences in the health status across our city, and ensure the actions we take, and the resources we distribute, seek to correct these inequities.



Environments For Health



Natural

- Connection with nature
- Climate change
- Waste management



Social and Cultural

- Human rights
- Sense of place and belonging
- Social connection
- Volunteering
- Community participation
- Arts and culture
- Community facilities
- Social support
- Perceptions of safety
- Social inclusion
- Lifelong learning
- Recreation programs
- Housing and homelessness



Built/Physical

- Local roads
- Urban planning
- Parks, street lighting and footpaths
- Playgrounds, leisure centres and sports facilities

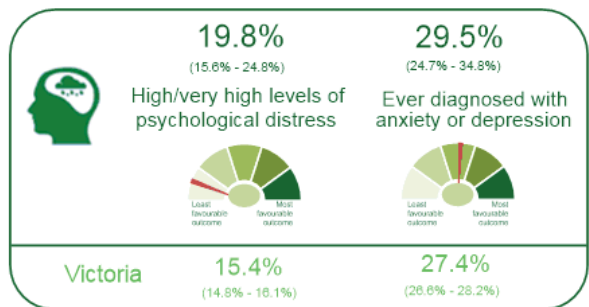
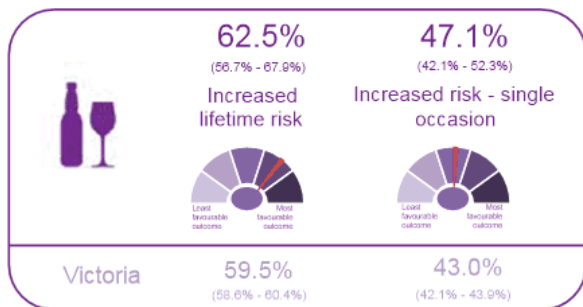
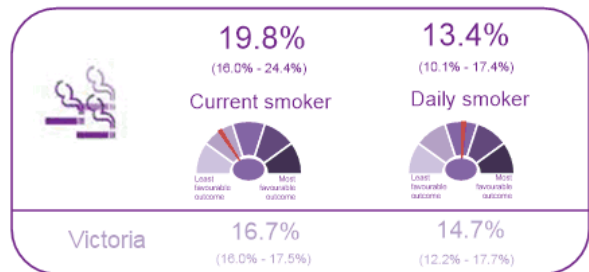
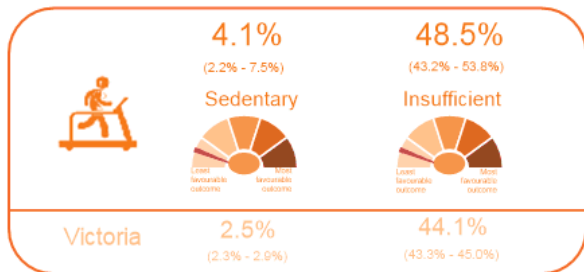
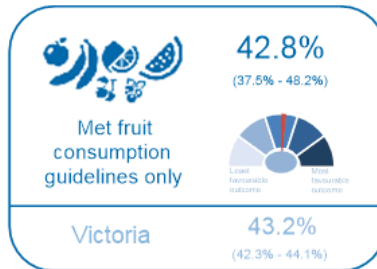
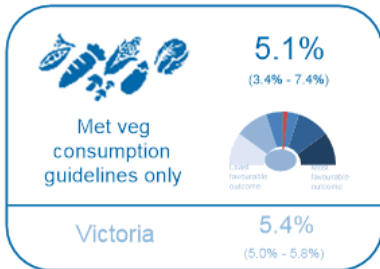
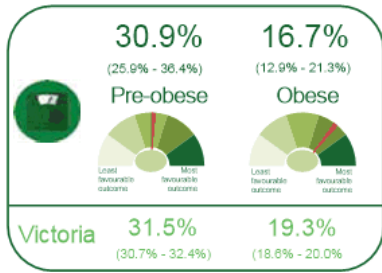


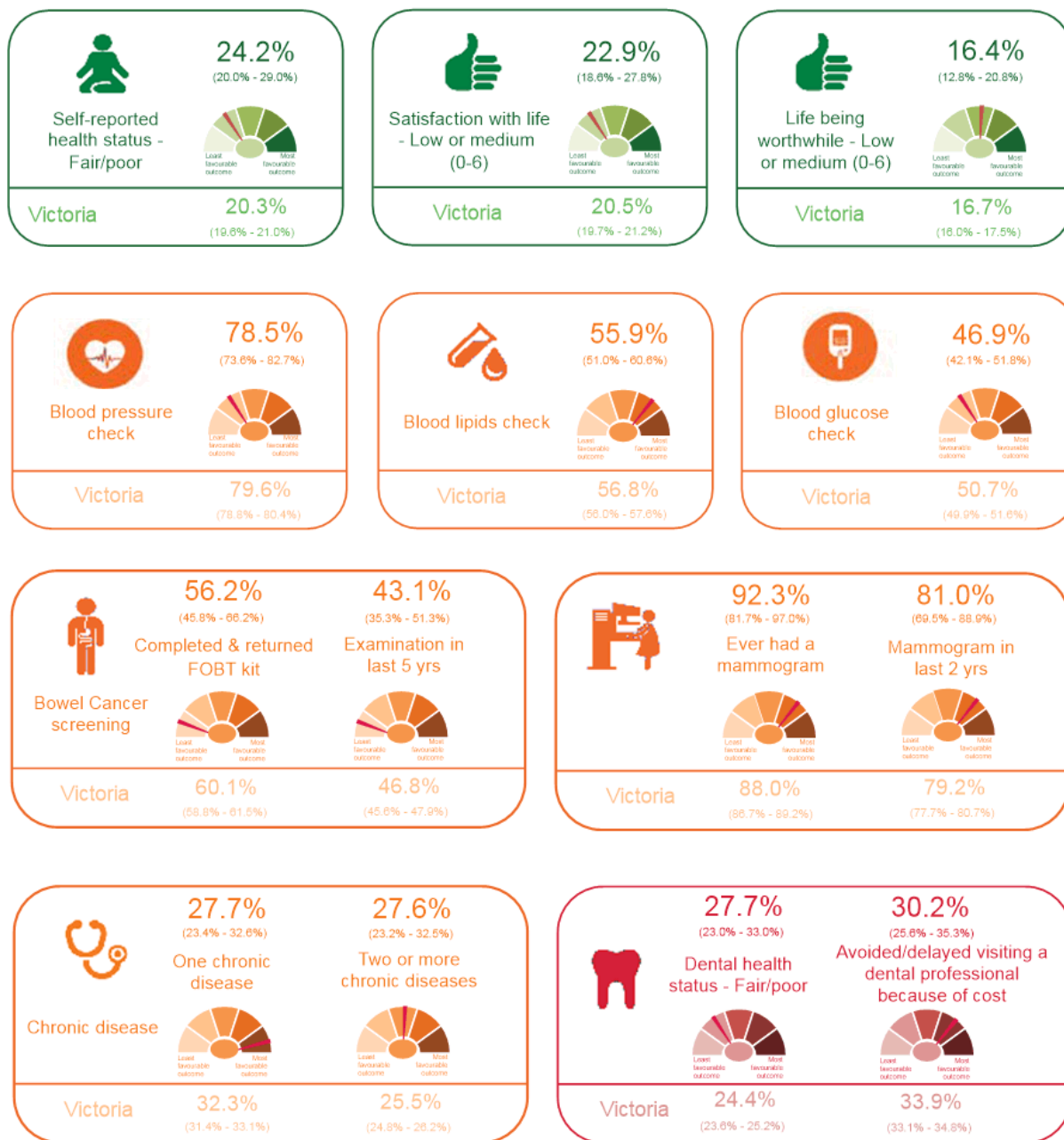
Economic

- Employment
- Local economy

Health And Wellbeing Indicators

How we compare to Victorian average for key indicators of health and wellbeing





Source: Victorian Agency for Health Information (2017) Victorian Population Health Survey <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/population-health-systems/health-status-of-victorians/survey-data-and-reports/victorian-population-health-survey/victorian-population-health-survey-2017>

A range of data sets in addition to the Victorian Population Health Survey, including employment levels, income and losses from electronic gaming machines are available in the Darebin Health and Wellbeing Profile Report: www.darebin.gov.au/healthandwellbeing

Our Health And Wellbeing Priorities

To understand the health and wellbeing needs of our people, we developed a Health and Wellbeing Profile Report. In addition to health data analysis, the report includes findings from consultations with our community and local organisations.

This report identifies five health risks as key areas of concern, and highlights the need to continue working with the community and other stakeholders to address eight determinants of health.

We have identified these 13 areas as the priorities to focus on for 2021-2025, to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for our community. These priorities also align with the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023 priorities.

Monitoring our progress

Council is committed to ongoing monitoring of the Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan). Council will review the public health and wellbeing matters addressed in the Council Plan each year, and if necessary, make amendments. Council will develop, implement and report on an annual action plan.

In addition to the actions listed in the Council Plan, Council will review and renew our strategies to ensure our efforts that respond to the health and wellbeing priorities are continued throughout the four-year Council Plan.



Priorities: Modifiable Health Risks

- Sedentary lifestyle
- Risky alcohol consumption
- Smoking
- Mental health
- Bowel cancer screening for those aged 50-74 years



Priorities: Determinants of Health

- Loneliness and social isolation
- Unemployment
- Food security
- Harm associated with gambling
- Homelessness
- Family violence and violence against women
- Community safety
- Mitigating the impact of climate change on health and wellbeing

Our approach to address these health and wellbeing priorities is three-fold:

1

Ensuring Health Equity

2

Focusing on Environments for Health

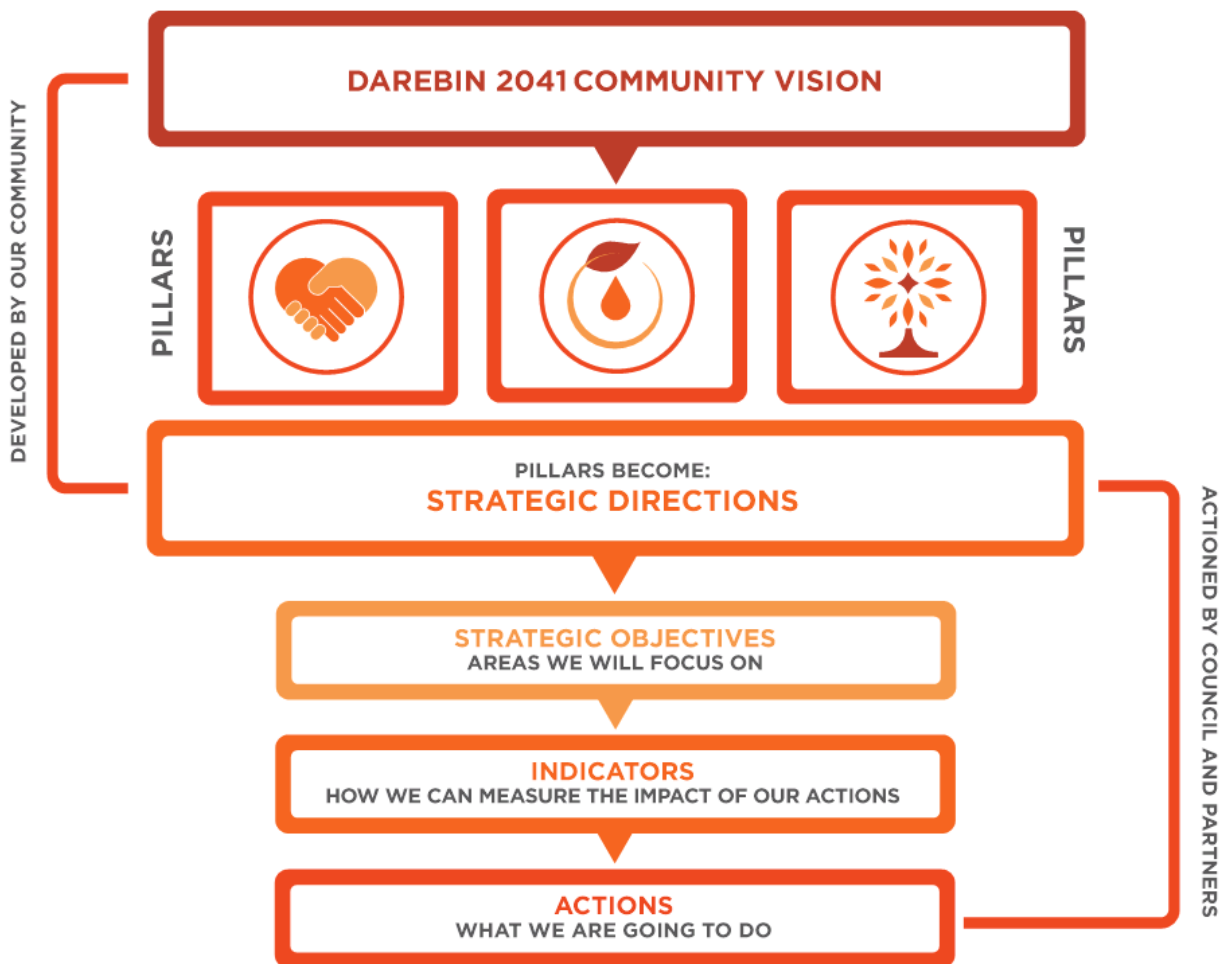
3

Taking a Life Course approach (targeting the modifiable health risks)



How To Read Our Plan

Our Council Plan is created from our Darebin 2041 Community Vision. We have then developed three pillars to support our approach to delivering that vision. These pillars - or themes - have been selected through a deliberative community engagement process. The voices of over 1,600 members of our community, and our Darebin Deliberative Panel, were at the heart of this process.



These pillars become our strategic directions for the next four years. Under each of these pillars, we commit to strategies objectives (what we want to achieve), indicators (how we can tell if we have), key actions (what actions we will take), and the health and wellbeing priorities they will address.

We also know that we can't do it alone, and partnership is needed.

Sometimes we are responsible for delivering an action, sometimes we partner with other levels of government, the public, private and not for profit sectors, and sometimes will focus on facilitating or advocating for what our community has told us is important.

The indicators are divided into two groups: ones our Council is responsible for; and city-wide indicators we don't have ownership of, but, together with our partners and the community, we can seek to influence.



Health and Wellbeing Priorities in this Plan

Our actions in the Plan that deliver on Health and Wellbeing priorities are marked with this icon.

Council Plan

incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

Strategic Objectives, Indicators and Actions

Our 10 Big Actions

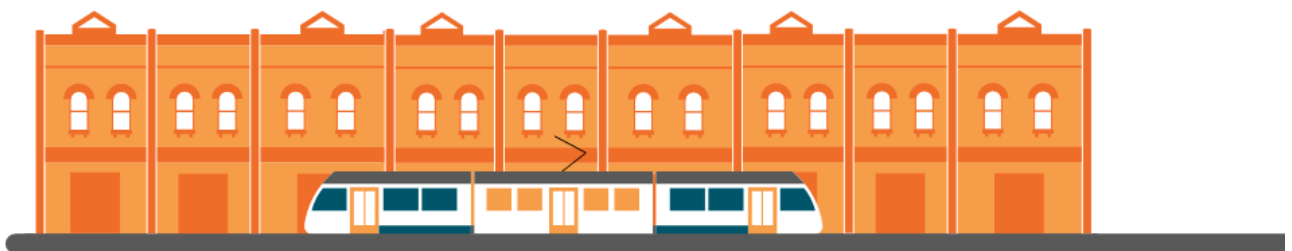
- 1** **Build infrastructure for the future** by redeveloping Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, redeveloping BT Connor Pavilion in Reservoir, and building Darebin Intercultural Centre in Preston

- 2** **Plan infrastructure for decades to come** by redeveloping Reservoir Leisure Centre, activating Edwardes Lake Boat House in Reservoir, building new kindergarten facilities, and undertaking a feasibility study for a Global Learning Hub in Preston

- 3** **Continue to lead with our response to the climate emergency** by updating our Climate Emergency Plan to set out how to best achieve zero greenhouse gas emissions for Darebin by 2030, offering solar installations and energy retrofits to pensioners and vulnerable communities, delivering new business and community power purchase partnerships, supporting a shift to a circular economy and massively reducing our waste going to landfill, and delivering projects and programs aimed to improve safety for people cycling, walking and wheeling, increasing active travel which will also reduce transport emissions

- 4** **Deepen our commitment to truth and justice for First Nations communities** in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples who live and work in Darebin

- 5** **Support vulnerable members of our community** by providing support with COVID-19 recovery, expanding our Homelessness Assertive Outreach program, and supporting community-led programs in East Reservoir and East Preston, to achieve greater physical and mental health, and wellbeing for all





6 **Champion local business and creative industries** by providing support with COVID-19 recovery, facilitating the establishment of a Darebin Chamber of Commerce, and improving the lighting and safety of our retail precincts and business activity centres

7 **Build a more inclusive community for all** by supporting Darebin’s multicultural communities, reducing racism and discrimination, increasing access to our Council’s services and sporting assets by groups who are under-represented, developing our Disability Action Plan to improve access for all to our services and infrastructure, and achieving Rainbow Tick accreditation (best practice in LGBTQIA+ inclusion) for our services and activities

8 **Improve the quality of development** and work to protect all that we love about Darebin by pursuing protections for Preston Market, conducting a Planning Scheme review informed by in-depth community consultation, and reviewing to amend our Parking Permit Policy

9 **Protect our natural environment and biodiversity** by significantly improving water quality in Edwardes Lake, increasing tree canopy coverage in our parks, residential areas and retail precincts, and enhancing understorey planting

10 **Expand our delivery of quality universal services** across the lifespan by providing more three-year-old kindergarten places, continuing to deliver our flagship Age Friendly Darebin project, expanding aged care direct services, and registering to become a home care package provider







Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

Our Darebin will celebrate all our diverse communities.

We will uplift different voices in places of power, influence and decision-making.

We will recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander values, and honour their living culture and connection to country.

We will support connection to, and the preservation of, local history, and acknowledge past harm and trauma.

Our Darebin will be one filled with vibrant and dynamic spaces, amenities and events. It will be a city where no suburb, or person, will be left behind.

We are one Darebin.









Strategic Objective

1.1 We will develop partnerships with organisations from across our city, to value and include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds

Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Social and Cultural Environment	Sedentary Lifestyle
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
1.1.1 Number of people or groups from culturally diverse and diverse backgrounds and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, accessing Council services and sporting assets	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
1-1	Develop a partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria to deliver artistic opportunities for Darebin's communities		•	•	•	•
1-2	Support and promote a significant increase in participation in Darebin's sports clubs, in particular, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities		•	•	•	•
1-3	Encourage and reward sporting and leisure groups/sporting teams that use Council's recreation spaces, by reducing user fees to those that demonstrate inclusion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities		•	•	•	•
1-4	Develop a memorandum of understanding with Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV)		•	•	•	•
1-5	Work with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to progress "decolonising" Bundoora Park, including the farm and homestead		•	•	•	•
1-6	Develop partnerships with local Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to enhance our work towards mutual goals		•	•	•	•
1-7	Work with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC), the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, and local Aboriginal organisations, to respond meaningfully and comprehensively to the six key requests of DAAC's Our Black Lives Matter statement to Council		•	•	•	•
1-8	Partner with Bowel Cancer Screening, Cancer Council Victoria and local community organisations to increase awareness of bowel cancer and improve community understanding, including for Aboriginal and culturally and linguistically diverse communities, of the benefits of screening, with a particular focus on underrepresented groups undertaking bowel cancer screening		•	•	•	•




Strategic Objective

1.2 We will help to build an inclusive and empowered community, where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Social and Cultural Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
1.2.1 % of people from the community satisfaction survey that believe Darebin values inclusiveness		1.2.2 % of people from community satisfaction survey from diverse backgrounds that believe Darebin values inclusiveness	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
1-9	Develop the Disability Action Plan to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors		●	●	●	●
1-10	Develop programs to support international students living in Darebin		●	●	●	●
1-11	Develop a program to support middle years students (later primary school, and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on systemic racism issues together, to support student voices		●	●	●	●
1-12	Develop a Cultural Diversity Action Plan to significantly improve access to services and infrastructure for multicultural communities		●	●	●	●




Strategic Objective

1.3 We will embrace diversity and ensure everyone is included in our society, and no one is left behind - by combating discrimination, and championing equity, inclusivity and diversity

Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Social and Cultural Environment	N/A
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
1.3.1 Rainbow Tick Accreditation is achieved by 2023	
1.3.2 % increase in user satisfaction with Council's website	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
1-13	Work towards the Rainbow Tick accreditation (best practice in LGBTQIA+ inclusion) for Council's services and activities		●	●	●	●
1-14	Offer co-working spaces at our arts centres in Darebin		●	●	●	●
1-15	Support social enterprises that wish to work in our city, and with our Council - one per year		●	●	●	●
1-16	Provide financial and in-kind support to neighbourhood houses that bring our diverse people together		●	●	●	●
1-17	Launch Council's new website, with improved access functionality for people from diverse communities		●	●	●	●
1-18	Develop a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of LGBTQIA+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective	
1.4 We will increase social connection to reduce isolation and loneliness, and support positive mental health	
Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Social and Cultural Environment	Mental Health
	Sedentary Lifestyle
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
1.4.1 Broader diversity participation (including culturally and linguistically diverse) in Council services and venues (> over 4 years)	1.4.2 Darebin volunteering rate over four years (> to 20%)

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
1-19	Deliver Age Friendly Darebin, expand aged care direct services, and register Council to become a home care package provider		●	●	●	●
1-20	Facilitate and support volunteer opportunities with Council across our diverse communities, to strengthen community connection and skills development		●	●	●	●
1-21	Increase the access of culturally and linguistically diverse and diverse communities to Council venues, and encourage participation in Council services (where participation rates are low)		●	●	●	●
1-22	Work in partnership to address the digital divide for public housing and high-risk accommodation residents, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and other excluded groups, including those impacted by COVID-19		●	●	●	●
1-23	Provide grants, and deliver and facilitate programs, services, and events that address loneliness, through supporting social connectedness and positive mental health		●	●	●	●
1-24	Work with our sporting and recreation clubs to increase access and participation of people from culturally diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds		●	●	●	●
1-25	Increase the opening hours of Reservoir Library to include Sundays (to align with the opening hours of Northcote and Preston libraries)		●	●	●	●
1-26	Provide the Libraries After Dark program at Reservoir and Preston libraries		●	●	●	●
1-27	Provide sports grants to encourage increased participation of women, girls, people of all abilities, multicultural and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, in community sports		●	●	●	●
1-28	Advocate to state and federal governments to increase investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services		●	●	●	●
1-29	Work with other organisations to provide health information to communities on health and wellbeing issues including alcohol and other drugs, gambling, mental health support, and family violence		●	●	●	●
1-30	Work in partnership to deliver initiatives that reduce the stigma associated with mental ill-health, through awareness and education		●	●	●	●



Strategic Objective

1.5 We will prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Social and Cultural Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
1.5.1 Amount of funding provided to Aboriginal community-led organisations over four years		1.5.2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in Darebin that are working/employed (> in four years)	
		1.5.3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led businesses and organisations in Darebin (> in four years)	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
1-31	In consultation with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee, continue to implement and expand our Aboriginal Employment Strategy and Aboriginal Action Plan		●	●	●	●
1-32	Develop a partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to support the delivery of mutual goals		●	●	●	●
1-33	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, begin discussions with Traditional Owners to understand the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management		●	●	●	●
1-34	Deliver initiatives that support truth telling, and provide opportunities for culturally diverse communities, and our broader Darebin community, to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history		●	●	●	●
1-35	Increase support to Aboriginal community-controlled organisations by incorporating a specific funding stream into our Community Grants Program			●	●	●

Strategic Objective

1.6 We will ensure our festivals, events and functions are inclusive and respond equitably to, and value the diverse needs and aspirations of, our community

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Social and Cultural Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
1.6.1 Number of partnerships with community-based organisations			

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
1-36	Initiate an annual cultural diversity and social cohesion oration as part of the FUSE festival		●	●	●	●
1-37	In Partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV), deliver a closing event for the Spring FUSE Festival at Edwardes Lake Park that showcases culturally diverse artists, music and performances		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

1.7 We will continue to be a local government leader in the prevention of violence against women, and gender equity

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Social and Cultural Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
1.7.1	Number of gender and community safety audits across Darebin at relevant consultation / project sites (2 per year)	1.7.4	Proportion of women and girls participating in sports and recreation (> over four years)
1.7.2	Number of Council policies and programs that apply a gender lens (> each year)		
1.7.3	Number of infrastructure programs that apply an Equity Impact Assessment to their planning process in alignment with Towards Equality Framework / Gender Equality Act		

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
1-38	Continue to implement and evolve our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach		●	●	●	●
1-39	Implement our responsibilities under the <i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i>		●	●	●	●
1-40	Apply a Gender Impact Assessment to our Council policies and programs, as part of the Towards Equality Framework, and continue to gather data about gendered experience in public spaces, and use this to inform community safety initiatives		●	●	●	●
1-41	Identify opportunities to support the economic participation of women, as part of Council's COVID-19 recovery initiatives		●			
1-42	Continue to support regional work to promote women's sexual and reproductive health, and advocate for a dedicated sexual and reproductive health service in the Northern region		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

1.8 We will work towards a discrimination-free, and systemic racism-free Darebin, and reduce the impact of poverty and disadvantage

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Social and Cultural Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
1.8.1 Welcoming Cities Standard - Mentoring Level achieved by June 2022		1.8.3 Reported incidences of racism and hate speech, sourced from Human Rights Equal Opportunity Commission (< in four years)	
1.8.2 Number of Council policies and programs that apply a gender lens (> each year)			

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
1-43	Continue to implement our Towards Equality Framework and Equity Impact Assessment to address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised		•	•	•	•
1-44	Work with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, our community, and local organisations, to create projects twice a year that foster respect and address systemic racism		•	•	•	•
1-45	Continue to implement the Welcoming Cities Standard, with the aim of becoming a 'Mentoring' level Council		•	•	•	•
1-46	Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities		•	•	•	•
1-47	Through our Youth Strategy, develop and implement programs to support the participation and leadership of young people from disadvantaged, and culturally diverse, backgrounds		•	•	•	•
1-48	Mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of our disadvantaged communities		•	•	•	•
1-49	Partner with our community organisations to support Welcoming Community meals		•	•	•	•



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Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

Our Darebin will encourage and incentivise business investment and growth in the sustainability sector.

We will create equitable and diverse opportunities for employment and volunteering.

We will make Darebin a centre for creative industry and the arts in Victoria.

We are a 20-minute city, and will ensure our community's access to amenities and services close to our homes.





We will sustain our community's ownership of services across their lifespan. We will maintain the health and wellbeing of all.

Our Darebin will ensure development, and the built environment, is designed for our liveability and sustainability.

Strategic Objective	
2.1 We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well	
Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Built/Physical Environment	Sedentary Lifestyle
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
2.1.1 Improved occupancy of buildings by community groups and/or for community wellbeing purposes	2.1.2 Increase in the number of 3-year-old kindergarten places

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-1	Complete construction, and commence operation of the Multi Sport Stadium in Thornbury 	●	●	●	●
2-2	Redevelop Reservoir Leisure Centre, incorporating opportunities to enhance health, wellbeing and socio-economic outcomes 	●	●	●	●
2-3	Invest in the Edwardes Lake Boathouse in Reservoir to support a long-term lease arrangement	●	●	●	●
2-4	Undertake community consultation about the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land	●			
2-5	Establish the new Ruthven Playspace in Reservoir	●			
2-6	Expand funded 3-year-old kindergarten	●	●	●	●
2-7	Improve physical access for our residents and visitors to Council-owned community buildings - at least five buildings per year 	●	●	●	●
2-8	Commence design work for the construction of Darebin Creek Bridge at Bundoora Park	●	●		
2-9	Redevelop BT Connor Pavilion in Reservoir	●			
2-10	Redevelop KP Hardiman Pavilion in Kingsbury		●	●	●
2-11	Redevelop the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre 	●	●	●	●
2-12	Develop an Integrated Families, Youth and Children Strategy	●			
2-13	Rejuvenate and beautify Cheddar Road in Reservoir, in collaboration with stakeholders	●	●	●	●
2-14	Plan for the redevelopment of John Hall pavilion and public toilet in Kingsbury	●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective





2.2 We will design and create public spaces where our people feel safe, welcome, and respected, including improving lighting and safety for people walking, wheeling, cycling and driving

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Built/Physical Environment		Sedentary Lifestyle	
Natural Environment			
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
2.2.1	Increase in the city-wide perceptions of safety over four years (> by 1%)	2.2.3	Zero deaths of vulnerable road users on Darebin's roads and streets
2.2.2	% of respondents who feel graffiti is a problem in the City of Darebin (40% or less)	2.2.4	Increase proportion of trips made by active and public transport (from baseline of 2016 levels)
		2.2.5	Amount of private vehicle use (from baseline of 2016 levels)

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-15	Improve road safety, and the cycling, walking and wheeling network, by constructing high priority improvements		●			●
2-16	Investigate and prioritise road safety, accessibility, cycling, walking and wheeling improvements across Darebin by using a Local Area Placemaking approach - where one third of the city is reviewed, with community involvement, each year		●	●	●	●
2-17	Conduct a community advocacy campaign on key transport priorities, including new bus routes, walking, wheeling and cycling improvements, extension to Tram 11, accessible stops, and the suburban rail loop		●	●	●	●
2-18	Develop and implement a Community Safety Framework		●	●	●	●
2-19	Improve disability access at Bundoora Park Farm		●			
2-20	With State Government approval, reduce the speed limit in more local streets across our city		●	●	●	●
2-21	Continue to implement our Graffiti Management Strategy to prevent, remove and reduce the reoccurrence of illegal graffiti, and support the launch of a graffiti tag app		●	●	●	●

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
2-22	Identify creative opportunities to reflect Darebin's different cultures in the built environment across our city		•	•	•	•
2-23	Consider the development of a Global Learning Hub in the Preston Civic Precinct that incorporates library and community spaces, and looks at options to include social housing		•	•	•	•
2-24	Significantly increase funding to our Roundabout Renewal program across our city		•	•	•	•
2-25	Develop a Community Infrastructure Plan to inform Council's decision making on the future of our assets, based on service needs across our city for the next 10 years		•	•	•	•
2-26	Build new Intercultural Centre at Preston Civic Precinct		•	•	•	•
2-27	Update flood risk assessments across Darebin, and incorporate them into our Darebin Planning Scheme		•	•	•	•
2-28	Continue our Traffic Blackspot Design and Construction Program		•	•	•	•
2-29	Install new lighting at GH Mott Reserve in Preston		•			
2-30	Review our Transport Strategy and refresh our Bicycle Strategy		•			
2-31	Implement the Reservoir Revitalisation Project		•	•	•	•
2-32	Establish an Asset Management Plan for shopping precincts' infrastructure and cleaning		•	•	•	•
2-33	Advocate to the State Government to increase annual funding for road safety infrastructure, driver behaviour campaigns, and law enforcement, and work collaboratively with other local governments to implement the Victorian Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030		•	•	•	•
2-34	Work in partnership to deliver initiatives that improve perceptions of safety and reduce the opportunity for crime		•	•	•	•

Strategic Objective

2.3 We will facilitate more affordable, social and public housing in Darebin, to meet our community's needs

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Built/Physical Environment Social and Cultural Environment		Bowel cancer screening for those aged 50-74 years	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
2.3.1 Amount of affordable and social housing facilitated through planning decisions		2.3.2 Increase in affordable, social and public housing in Darebin	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-35	Enable and facilitate more affordable and social housing across our city		●	●	●	
2-36	Partner with the State Government to ensure its social and public housing investment meets our community's needs, and creates liveable, connected communities through appropriate design and construction		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

2.4 We will foster local urban streetscapes and activity centres that connect our community, support economic recovery, and encourage people to live, work and play locally

Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Built/Physical Environment	N/A
Natural Environment	
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
2.4.1 Number of trees planted in activity centres	
2.4.2 Community satisfaction with our streetscapes 'look and feel'	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-37	Review to amend the Parking Permit Policy to: (i) improve access for people with special needs (ii) allow owners of single lot dwellings that exist on their own Torrens title, the option to have an additional residential parking permit at the same price as current parking permits (iii) allow single lot dwellings built after December 2004 that are greater than 300sqm property with three or more bedrooms and that exist on their own Torrens title (even if the property was previously subdivided), to have the same entitlements to parking permits as dwellings built before December 2004 (iv) ensure that renovations of a property that is still a single lot on its own Torrens title and is greater than 300sqm with three or more bedrooms are still entitled to parking permits	●			
2-38	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, increase shade in our business activity centres to support footpath trading	●	●	●	●
2-39	Keep our business activity centres clean and well maintained, with a focus on reducing cigarette litter	●	●	●	●
2-40	Develop a policy setting the basis for how Council may permit commercial or private Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure on our public streets	●	●	●	●
2-41	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, improve streetscapes to support COVID-19 recovery	●			
2-42	Continue to implement our Street Furniture and Equipment Renewal Program	●	●	●	●


Strategic Objective

2.5 We will invest in services and the built environment to improve access for our residents and visitors

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Built/Physical Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
2.5.1 Increased number of accessible car parking spaces			

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-43	Create two additional accessible car parking spaces in our city each year		●	●	●


Strategic Objective

2.6 We will support the human rights, housing and wellbeing needs of our people experiencing homelessness

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Social Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
2.6.1	Participation rate in Council services of people experiencing homelessness (> over four years)		
2.6.2	Number of people that obtain a housing outcome through our Assertive Outreach Program (> over four years)		

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-44	Expand our Assertive Outreach Program to support people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness		●	●	●	●
2-45	Expand our Shower Access Program and support access to Council services and programs for people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness		●	●	●	●
2-46	Continue to support the High Risk Accommodation Response (HRAR), focusing on the coordination, support and funding of high risk accommodation settings and the emergency relief sector		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

2.7 We will work in partnership to address place-based socio-economic disadvantage and health inequity in East Preston and East Reservoir

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Social Environment		Physical Activity (sedentary lifestyle) Mental Health	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
2.7.1 East Preston and East Reservoir residents' satisfaction with local amenity to improve		2.7.3 Selected social and wellbeing indicators from Socio-Economic Indexes For Areas (SEIFA) in East Reservoir and East Preston (> improvement over 4 years)	
2.7.2 East Preston and East Reservoir residents' satisfaction with Council services to improve			

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-47	In partnership with the community, deliver four place-based projects each year that respond to local community issues and need		●	●	●	●
2-48	Transition the East Preston Community Centre to a community organisation-led model, to support the needs of the surrounding community		●			
2-49	Identify opportunities to increase access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir		●			



Strategic Objective

2.8 We will advocate to reduce the harm associated with electronic machine gambling, alcohol and tobacco

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Social Environment		Tobacco smoking Excessive alcohol consumption	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
2.8.1 Sporting groups and clubs using a Darebin facility that are free of Electronic Gaming Machine (EGM) income or sponsorship (100% within four years)		2.8.3 Reports relating to public drinking (< over four years)	
2.8.2 Number of programs supported, including through partner agencies that encourage smoking cessation			

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-50	Implement public health approaches to address problematic public drinking, including advocating to the State Government to prioritise health and wellbeing impacts in planning applications, to reduce the saturation of packaged liquor outlets in our city		●	●	●	●
2-51	Support partner and local community organisations, groups, and clubs, to deliver initiatives that encourage smoking cessation		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

2.9 We will focus on our economic assets and recovery to ensure Darebin is a great place to do business

Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Economic Environment	N/A
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
2.9.1 Increased community satisfaction with the management of natural and cultural attractions, and local amenity	2.9.2 Increase in the number of local jobs by 2025
	2.9.3 Maintain or increase in the number of local businesses by 2025
	2.9.4 Increase in the number of employed residents by 2025
	2.9.5 Increase in the number of active, registered businesses by 2025
	2.9.6 Increase in the number of local jobs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and people from disadvantaged backgrounds, by 2025

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-52	Develop an Economic Development Strategy, based on the principles of a circular economy, food, health, renewables, creative and digital industries, jobs of the future, and leveraging partnerships	●	●	●	●
2-53	Increase our investment in economic reactivation and recovery initiatives to support existing and new industries, to ensure Darebin's economy is robust and resilient	●	●	●	●





Strategic Objective

2.10 We will leverage investment, partnerships and advocacy to drive Darebin's growth and sustainability

Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Economic Environment	N/A
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
2.10.1 Increase in our procurement expenditure with Darebin businesses and suppliers	2.10.2 Increase in the local employment of our community members within Darebin by 2025

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
2-54	Develop and implement an advocacy strategy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the minimum wage, and increase Job Seeker payments Partner with other levels of government to lift their commitment to the sustainable economy, particularly in sustainable transport and sustainable skill development Encourage federal and state governments to invest in the sustainable economy, as major generator of jobs Secure manufacturing investment in Darebin through the North and West Melbourne City Deal Plan 2020-2040 		●	●	●	●
2-55	Establish a regional alliance of government, business and community organisations, to drive economic outcomes, including local, social, sustainable procurement		●	●	●	●
2-56	Continue to implement our Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy to increase the engagement of Aboriginal-led businesses, and focus on job creation for culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, and young people		●	●	●	●
2-57	Promote to Darebin businesses the benefits of voluntary adoption of our Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy		●	●	●	●
2-58	Build partnerships across all levels of government and the private sector, to attract new industries and investment into Darebin, to support its future growth		●	●	●	●
2-59	Establish a Darebin Chamber of Commerce (or an equivalent body) to strengthen and support our business community		●	●	●	●
2-60	Catalyse new jobs at scale in Darebin with businesses, new industry attraction and our partners - including Jobs Victoria Advocates - focusing on job seekers facing multiple employment barriers including culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, young people, women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples		●	●	●	●
2-61	Implement measures to increase digital capability for our businesses, including local, regional and global connectivity		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

2.11 We will support, promote, and attract diverse local businesses and industries

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Economic Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
2.11.1	80% level of satisfaction with industry and business programs that support the growth of our local economy	2.11.3	Increase in the proportion of knowledge-intensive and innovative industries
2.11.2	Increase in the number of community-led festivals/ events, including culturally diverse events across Darebin	2.11.4	Increase in the number and diversity of jobs
		2.11.5	Mix of businesses/industry
		2.11.6	Increase in local employment opportunities

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-62	Deliver programs and services to build skills and resilience across a range of industries	●	●		
2-63	Promote, support, and market Darebin's diverse business community and precincts, including our multicultural businesses and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses	●			
2-64	Attract and support innovation businesses, entrepreneurship, creative industries, and the tech start up ecosystem	●			
2-65	Implement a Destination Marketing campaign to position Darebin as a natural, cultural and event destination, and including an annual city-wide calendar of events	●			
2-66	Deliver an expanded Activity Centres-focused program that leverages State Government funding to shape our city of the future, including revitalisation, outdoor dining and parklets, shade, cleanliness, pride, place activations and programs, and thriving retail centres	●	●	●	●
2-67	Finalise Service Level Agreements with Darebin's four main traders associations to partner in the management of graffiti, maintenance and weeding	●	●	●	●

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2-68	Create a portal for our business community to use to connect with each other, collaborate and promote their offerings	●			
2-69	Support our businesses to leverage the sustainable economy, including providing education for businesses and customers, and assisting businesses to set and achieve sustainability targets	●			
2-70	Provide financial relief initiatives for our community by extending deferral of rate payments for our residents for 12 months (until June 2022)	 ●			





Strategic Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable

Our Darebin will take urgent action on the climate emergency facing our world. We will lead and educate our community and businesses to redress the imbalance.

We will make decisions that are driven by our community. Our decisions will be transparent, and socially and equitably just. Our decisions will be equitable for our community.

We will provide and promote safe and sustainable transport across our city.

We will lead the regeneration, enhancement and protection of our natural ecosystems and biodiversity.

We will integrate ecological solutions into our built environment. We will promote sustainable development and retrofitting practices that protect our natural assets.

Our Darebin will strive for zero carbon emissions.





Strategic Objective

3.1 We will adapt to climate change and build the resilience of our community, infrastructure and the built environment, with a focus on our vulnerable communities at risk of fuel poverty, and flooding

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks
Built/Physical Environment		N/A
Natural Environment		
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators
3.1.1	Number of residents supported to avoid heat stress and fuel poverty	
3.1.2	Number of actions taken to protect the built environment from flooding and extreme heat	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
3-1	Through our Solar Saver 4-year program, support solar installation and energy efficiency retrofits for our vulnerable households, including public and social housing, and renters		●	●	●	●
3-2	Review our Climate Emergency Plan, including in-depth engagement with our community		●	●	●	●
3-3	Support our community members experiencing fuel poverty, to prevent heating and freezing		●	●	●	●
3-4	Assess the current and future climate risks facing our community, and identify actions Council and other levels of government can take to provide maximum protection for people, property and the natural environment, in response to the assessed climate risks		●	●	●	●
3-5	Develop a program to support middle-years students (later primary school and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on climate and waste issues together, to support student voices		●			
3-6	Undertake a whole of Council review of existing policies and practices to identify where climate emergency outcomes could be achieved in the areas of mitigation, resilience, education and advocacy		●	●	●	●


Strategic Objective

3.2 Aim to achieve 12% canopy cover on Council owned and managed land by 2025, prioritising catchment biodiversity and shopping areas

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Natural Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
3.2.1 Number of indigenous plants planted			
3.2.2 % canopy cover on public land			

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
3-7	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, continue to deliver the Street Tree Planting Program, prioritising areas without coverage, areas with people experiencing disadvantage, and business activity centres		●	●	●	●
3-8	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, create a roadmap to reach 40% canopy cover of the city by 2050 (prioritising areas with poor coverage), and develop a Community Planting Guide in partnership with the Darebin Nature Trust		●			
3-9	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, prioritise rehabilitating existing grasslands with cool burns					●
3-10	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, develop universal planting standards for our city, including a process to track progress					●
3-11	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, develop an Indigenous Ranger Program					●
3-12	Acquire land to create new parks		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

3.3 We will drive significant improvements in water quality and biodiversity across Darebin, designating Edwardes Lake as a flagship project to demonstrate water recreation (in the long term)

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Natural Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
		3.3.1 Significant improvements in the quality of water coming into Edwardes Lake from upstream	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
3-13	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, establish partnerships to improve the Edwardes Lake Park precinct in Reservoir, including water quality, and the quality of water across our city		●			●
3-14	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, rehabilitate Edwardes Lake and re-forest Edgars Creek in Reservoir, to achieve significant and measurable improvements in biodiversity by 2025		●	●	●	●
3-15	Establish and adequately resource the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to significantly improve the water quality and amenity of Edwardes Lake in Reservoir		●	●	●	●
3-16	Advocate with Melbourne Water to secure funding to improve the water quality of Edwardes Lake in Reservoir		●	●	●	●
3-17	Partner with our community and stakeholders to advocate to ensure the protection of Strathallan as public land for the long term, and to enable better management of the kangaroo population		●	●	●	●


Strategic Objective

3.4 We will reduce carbon emissions by switching to renewable energy on a large scale for Council buildings and through community focused initiatives

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Natural Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
3.4.1 % Council energy supplied from renewable sources		3.4.2 % Council energy supplied from renewable sources	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
3-18	Progressively install solar panels and batteries, and introduce other energy efficiency initiatives, into our Council buildings		●	●	●	●
3-19	Develop and offer to our businesses a Group Power Purchase Agreement		●	●		
3-20	Develop an advocacy strategy to drive community and business use of solar panels and batteries, and other energy efficiency initiatives		●	●		
3-21	Investigate and establish programs to achieve an increase in the uptake of renewable energy sources by our community and businesses		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

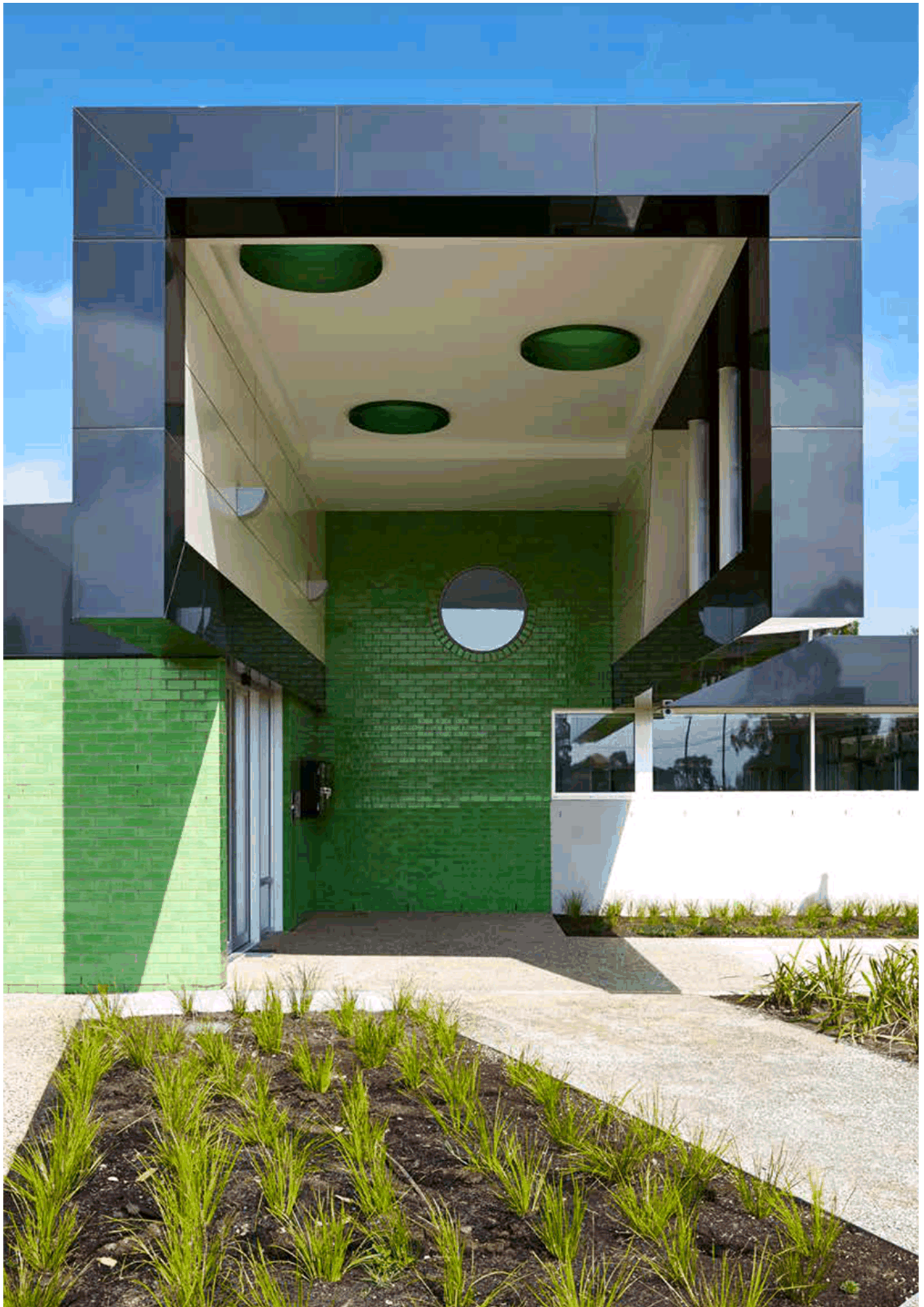
3.5 We will reduce waste and stimulate a local circular economy, where waste resources are re-used rather than discarded

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Built/Physical Environment		N/A	
Natural Environment			
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
3.5.1 % of recycled or reused content used in Council-managed services		3.5.2 % reduction in total amount of waste generated	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
3-22	Develop a plan to respond to new State Government requirements for contaminated land		●			
3-23	Increase food waste recycling through Council's food and garden waste service		●			
3-24	Undertake waste reform and take action towards establishing a circular economy		●	●	●	●
3-25	Undertake waste charge reform in response to changing legislation and future operational requirements		●	●	●	●
3-26	Reduce the impact of illegal dumping in our city		●	●		





Strategic Direction 4: Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

Our Darebin is responsible, and responsive, to our community's needs, now and into the future.

We will make our decisions in the best interests of our community – transparently, and with integrity.

We will manage our resources effectively, and plan for our future growth.

We will work in partnership with our community, business, and other government, to fulfill our responsibilities as the custodians of our city.

Our Darebin is progressive. Our Darebin is accountable. Our Darebin is a leader.

Strategic Objective

4.1 We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks
Social Environment		N/A
Economic Environment		
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators
4.1.1	Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) indicators: liquidity; net result; adjusted underlying result; internal financing; indebtedness	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
4-1	Plan for adjustments in waste services due to the landfill levy and landfill gate fee increases (from 1 July 2021)	●	●	●	●
4-2	Develop and implement an Advocacy Framework and four-year Advocacy Plan, informed by our Council Plan priorities, aimed at influencing public policy change and attracting support and funding for our priorities	●	●	●	●
4-3	Develop a Revenue and Rating Plan that supports the Financial Plan and ensures fee structures support the most disadvantaged within our community, providing a guide to our budget decisions to ensure they are responsible and sustainable				●
4-4	Review our 10 year Financial Plan to ensure a level of revenue that maintains a balance between service delivery, asset maintenance and renewal, and provides a strong, sustainable base for the future				●




Strategic Objective

4.2 We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community

Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Built / Natural Environment	N/A
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
4.2.1 Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) indicator: asset renewal and capital replacement	
4.2.2 Increase occupancy of unused and under-utilised Council buildings	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
4-5	Review our Asset Portfolio, to ensure maximum benefit for our community is being realised, including the occupancy of unused and under-utilised Council buildings		•	•	•	•
4-6	Explore opportunities for Council owned and managed land (including airspace) to be used as temporary housing for people at risk or who are experiencing homelessness		•	•	•	•
4-7	Conduct an audit of the users of Council spaces and services, and develop strategies to increase the participation of under-represented groups in our community		•	•	•	•
4-8	Develop specific strategies to increase the participation of under-represented groups and develop responses to support greater inclusion where audit data collected indicates low participation rates		•	•	•	•
4-9	Explore the opportunities to offer a Council building space each year to one community group or organisation, to promote cultural diversity		•	•	•	•
4-10	Improve delivery of our services to our community by developing an Asset Management Plan for Open Space, establishing a level of service for each class of our assets, and collecting data on our drainage assets		•			
4-11	Develop a 10 year Asset Plan in compliance with <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> requirements		•			

Strategic Objective

4.3 We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging and future needs of our community

Environments for Health	Modifiable Health Risks
Social and Cultural Environment	N/A
Darebin City Council Indicators	City of Darebin Indicators
4.3.1 Decrease in number of days taken to approve planning applications for home owners / small applications	4.3.4 Increase in occupancy of unused and under-utilised buildings
4.3.2 Increase active library borrowers by 20%, from 14.32% in 2019-20 to 17.18% in 2024-25	
4.3.3 Key performance indicators for our key services (based on data submitted to State Government through its Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)	

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
4-12	Transform our models of service delivery through service reviews, to improve and ensure accessibility and consistency of our customer experience	●	●	●	●
4-13	Develop a Communications Strategy that ensures our printed and digital publications feature images of people that reflect the diversity of our community, and that our Darebin Community News includes a diverse mix of language and cultural content	●	●	●	●
4-14	Review and develop a new Domestic Animal Management Plan	●			
4-15	Develop a Leisure Strategy for our city	●			
4-16	Undertake a review of the General Local Law	●	●		


Strategic Objective

4.4 We will ensure major changes in our city achieve significant improvements in our City

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Built/Physical Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
4.4.1 Major Council precinct investment designed			

What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
4-17	Support our community and businesses during the construction phase of the Preston Level Crossing project		●	●		
4-18	Protect Preston Market, including advocating Council's position to the State Government during its planning consultation process, and working with our community to advocate for the strongest possible planning controls and protections		●	●	●	●

Strategic Objective

4.5 We will improve the sustainability, accessibility, and design of development on private land in our city

Environments for Health		Modifiable Health Risks	
Built/Physical Environment		N/A	
Darebin City Council Indicators		City of Darebin Indicators	
4.5.1	% of planning permits issued incorporating sustainability features	4.5.4	Improvements in state planning and building controls
4.5.2	% of planning permits issued incorporating key design elements		
4.5.3	Improvements in local planning controls		

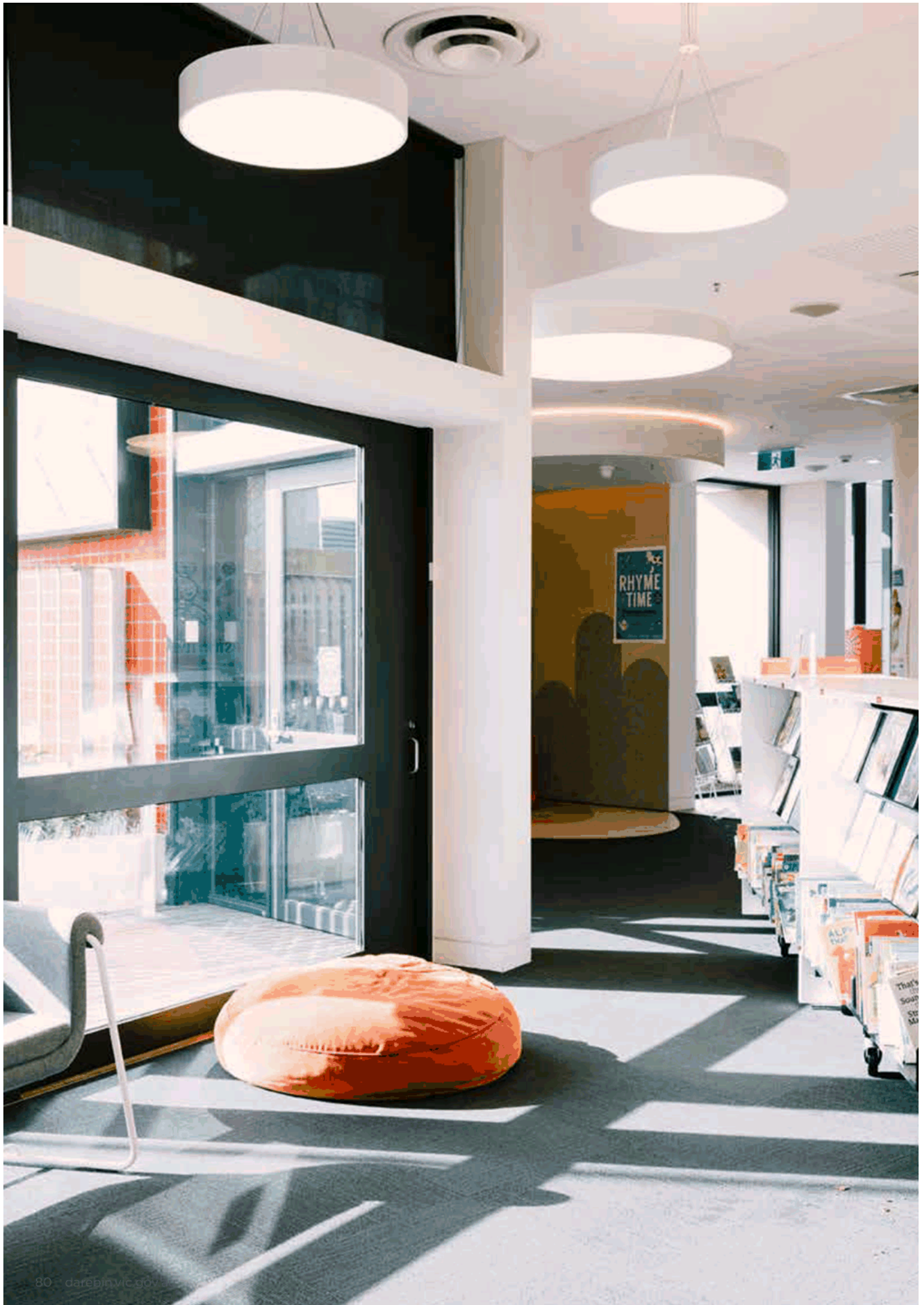
What We'll Do in 2021-2025

The Actions we've identified to support the achievement of the Strategic Objective over the next four years

Actions to Achieve the Strategic Objective			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
4-19	Progressively improve our Darebin Planning Scheme, establishing a new Municipal Planning Strategy and undertake two new major planning reform projects		●	●	●	●
4-20	Review our Housing Strategy and planning zones including engaging with our community on where housing and development should be, and strengthening neighbourhood character provisions		●	●	●	
4-21	Advocate for higher and mandatory Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) standards in building and planning controls		●	●	●	●
4-22	Complete major planning reform work to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce an open space levy to fund open spaces in our city • Introduce a Developer Contributions Scheme to help fund infrastructure for our growing population • Establish Heidelberg Road Corridor controls • Establish Thornbury Park Heritage Estate controls 		●	●		
4-23	Complete our Central Preston Structure Plan		●	●	●	

Our Strategies And Plans

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2027
- Active Healthy Ageing Strategy 2011-2021
- Age Friendly Darebin Report
- Breathing Space – The Darebin Open Space Strategy 2019
- Climate Emergency Plan 2017-2022
- Community Engagement Policy 2021
- Creative and Cultural Infrastructure Framework 2018
- Darebin Design Excellence Program
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021
- Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2011-2031
- Early Years Plan 2011-2021
- Electronic Gaming Machine Policy and Action Plan 2018-2022
- Gender Equity and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019
- Graffiti Management Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2023
- Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021
- Housing Strategy 2013-2023
- Libraries and Learning Strategy
- Natural Heritage Strategy 2015-2025
- Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework
- Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025
- Safe Travel Strategy 2018-2028
- Ten Year Capital Works Plan 2020/2021 to 2029/2030
- Towards Equality Framework – People, Places, and Experiences
- Transport Strategy 2007–2027
- Urban Forest Strategy 2013-2028
- Walking Strategy 2018-2028
- Waste and Recycling Strategy 2020
- Youth Services Strategy 2019-2021



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Our Services



For Our Community

- Pet registration and education
- Building services and planning permits
- Libraries
- Leisure and sports facilities
- Parks, gardens, and playgrounds
- Arts events, exhibitions, performances, festivals, and cultural programs
- Arts and heritage programs, including indoor and outdoor artworks
- Community safety and crime prevention programs
- Community publications, including Darebin Community News and Your Darebin
- Gender equity and violence against women awareness programs
- Waste, green waste and recycling
- Road and footpath maintenance
- Local laws education and enforcement
- Graffiti removal and prevention
- Parking permits
- Pests and pollution education
- Sustainable food and environment initiatives
- Newly arrived people and refugee support
- Environmental sustainability initiatives
- Sustainable transport opportunities
- Local amenities and facilities maintenance



For Our Businesses

- Food and health business registrations and regulation
- Business support and education
- Business networking opportunities
- Business permits
- Food safety regulation programs
- Tobacco control

For Our Families



- Maternal and child health services
- Street lighting and signage
- Parents education sessions
- Kindergarten and childcare registration for community-managed services
- Immunisation
- School crossing supervisors
- Youth engagement programs
- Family services
- Playgroups and toy library

For Our Older People and People with a Disability



- Assessment for aged and disability services
- Social support groups
- Navigation support for older residents
- Domestic assistance
- Personal care
- Flexible respite care
- Delivered meals (meals on wheels)
- Community transport
- Home maintenance
- Funding and support of older adults groups and clubs
- Access to senior citizen facilities
- Information, advocacy and support of individuals and groups accessing aged and disability programs
- Older persons housing sponsorship program

Glossary

Term	Definition
Annual Report	A publication that monitors and reports back to our community on how we are going with each year of our Council Plan actions and Budget performance.
Budget	A publication that sets out how we will fund each year of Council Plan actions, including all the current services and facilities we provide.
Darebin 2041 Community Vision	A statement that sets our horizon 20 years into the future, on the community we want to be in 2041. Under the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> , a community vision must be informed and shaped via a deliberative process, meaning our community is heavily involved in shaping the vision.
Council Plan	A four-year strategic plan that sets our Council's direction, objectives, strategies, and priority actions, and includes our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
Darebin City Council	The Council that is formed by elected representatives to govern the City of Darebin, and the organisation that implements the Council's decisions and provides services to the community.
Darebin Deliberative Panel	The Panel formed by 39 Darebin residents and business owners, of different ages, genders, nationalities and experiences, to develop the Community Vision.
The City of Darebin	The municipality of Darebin.
Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan	A four-year strategic plan that provides information and analysis on the health status of the Darebin community, and sets actions to enable residents the opportunity to improve their health and wellbeing. This plan is embedded in the Council Plan.
People	Community members of the City of Darebin.

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the place
to live

Darebin Health and Wellbeing Profile June 2021

Acknowledgement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and waters we now call Darebin and affirms that Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people have lived on this land for millennia, practising their customs and ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. Council acknowledges that Elders past, present and emerging are central to the cohesion, intergenerational wellbeing and ongoing self-determination of Aboriginal communities. They have played and continue to play a pivotal role in maintaining and transmitting culture, history and language.

Council respects and recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities' values, living culture and practices, including their continuing spiritual connection to the land and waters and their right to self-determination. Council also recognises the diversity within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities have had and continue to play a unique role in the life of the Darebin municipality. Council recognises and values this ongoing contribution and its significant value for our City and Australian society more broadly.

Extract from Darebin City Council's Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 2019.

For further information, contact: Community.Wellbeing@darebin.vic.gov.au

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Executive Summary

Darebin City Council's (Council) commitment to reduce inequalities and improve equity, inclusion and the human rights of the Darebin community is guided by the Towards Equality: Darebin City Council's Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 (the Framework). An Equity Impact Assessment was developed to operationalise the Framework and to embed equity, inclusion, human rights and wellbeing considerations, values and practices into all of Council's work. The Darebin Health and Wellbeing Profile (the Profile) complements the Framework by examining data on health status and health determinants in the municipality. This is intended to provide a deeper understanding of health inequalities in Darebin.

The Profile is informed by evidence from a range of sources, including:

- 1) Analysis of the policy and legislative context within which Council plans for the health and wellbeing of its residents. This includes considering priorities of the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023, and Council's legislative requirements as outlined in the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 and Climate Change Act 2017;
- 2) Findings from a series of consultation with the community and local organisations;
- 3) Analysis of the health status of Darebin population based on data from a range of sources such as the State Government departments, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), VicHealth and .id Consulting;
- 4) Findings of the 2015 Reservoir East and Preston East Health and Wellbeing Survey. The planned 2019 neighbourhood indicator survey was postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns highlights the need to support Darebin residents in the recovery process as well as improve their health and wellbeing. The Profile notes that the Darebin community has fared relatively well compared to / with those living in other Local Government Areas. However, the following health risks are key areas of concern: sedentary lifestyle, risky alcohol consumption, smoking and rates of bowel cancer screening for those aged 50-74 years. In addition, the report highlights the need to continue working with the community and other stakeholders to address the following determinants of health: loneliness and social isolation, unemployment, food security, harm associated with gambling, homelessness, family violence and violence against women, and community safety. Darebin residents also reported fair or poor self-reported health status as well as high or very high levels of psychological distress and anxiety or depression.

The 2020 Darebin Annual Community Survey showed that the most common reasons why respondents attributed poor health and wellbeing to COVID-19 was because of a lack of physical exercise and being inside at home due to lockdown. Other reasons included: stress, having children at home away from their usual routine and activities, interruption of health treatments, and the limited social interaction and activities. These issues require attention in order to assist the community successfully recover from the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

This report recommends the following two distinct, but interrelated, approaches to guide Council's efforts to achieve optimal health and wellbeing outcomes for Darebin community:

- **Health Equity:** This approach acknowledges that some population groups are vulnerable to poorer health and wellbeing outcomes. Therefore, the approach focuses on reducing and eliminating unfair and avoidable or remediable conditions that lead to poor health and wellbeing outcomes for these groups.
- **Environments for Health:** This approach recognises that many factors that contribute to health inequalities and ill health lie in the complex social, economic, physical and

natural environments in which people are born, grow up, live, work and age. The approach recommends working to improve those environments in order to promote, protect and improve health and wellbeing of individuals.

This report will inform priority areas of new projects, strategies, plans, and policies including the forthcoming Darebin City Council Plan 2021-2025 (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan). The Report will also assist community and health organisations in Darebin to identify health and wellbeing priorities of their 2021-2025 integrated health promotion (IHP) plans.

Introduction

Policy and Legislative Context

Victorian local governments have a legislated responsibility to protect, promote and improve public health and wellbeing of local communities. Under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, local governments are required to develop a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) that outlines actions to enable residents to achieve maximum health and wellbeing. The Act also requires councils to outline measures to prevent family violence and violence against women in the municipality. In addition, the *Climate Change Act 2017* requires local governments to consider climate change in planning for health and wellbeing, and that the MPHWP is consistent with the Council Plan prepared under section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, and the municipal strategic statement prepared under section 12A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* refer to Appendix 1 for more details on Acts and Policies that influence public health and wellbeing planning at the local government level.

Darebin people

Darebin City is one of the most diverse local government areas in Melbourne. Table 1 below summarises Darebin diversity.

Table 1: Darebin's diverse community at a glance¹

Estimated Resident Population	The City of Darebin Estimated Resident Population for 2019 is 164,184, with a population density of 30.72 persons per hectare.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Census population of the City of Darebin in 2016 was 1,165, living in 652 dwellings. 46.8% Males 53.2% Females 94.8% Aboriginal 3.0% Torres Strait Islander 2.2% both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Gender	51.7% of residents identify as female and 48.3% identify as male. (NB: Not all residents identify as either male or female*)
Age structure	Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4) 6% Primary schoolers (5 to 11) 7.3% Secondary schoolers (12 to 17) 5.2% Tertiary education and independence (18 to 24) 9.9% Young workforce (25 to 34) 19.4% Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49) 22.8% Older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59) 11.0% Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69) 7.6% Seniors (70 to 84) 8.2% Elderly aged (85 and over) 2.5%
People with a disability and needing assistance (by age group)	8,774 people (6%) needed assistance in 2016. This was an increase of 724 people since 2011. 0.9% (0 to 4 years) 2.8% (5 to 9 years) 2.5% (10 to 19 years) 2.2.% (20 to 59 years)

¹ Data sourced from Id consulting website at <https://profile.id.com.au/darebin> viewed 11 November 2020. Data is based on the 2016 population census.

	<p>8.2% (60 to 64 years) 11.0% (65 to 69 years) 17.4% (70 to 74 years) 26.0% (75 to 79 years) 38.5% (80 to 84 years) 51.1% 85 and over</p>
Place of Birth	<p>59.2% of residents were born in Australia and 33.2% were born overseas, 7.5% not stated. Of the total born overseas, 48.6% were male and 51.4% female Just over 2,000 international students live in Darebin** There are 142 holders of Illegal Maritime Arrival Bridging Visa E or IMA BVE (asylum-seekers) by December 2020***</p>
Multilingual	36.9% of people spoke a language other than English at home
Sexuality	6% identify as lesbian, gay or bisexual****
Faiths and beliefs	<p>35.5% no religion 9.4% did not answer the question on religion 23.7% Western (Roman) Catholic 8.0% Greek Orthodox 4.5% Islam 3.7% Anglican 2.9% Buddhism 2.8% Hinduism 1.9% Christian, nfd 1.2% Uniting Church 0.9% Macedonian Orthodox 0.8% Sikhism 0.8% Presbyterian and Reformed 0.5% Baptist 0.3% Pentecostal 0.3% Maronite Catholic 0.2% Other Protestant 0.2% Jehovah's Witnesses 0.2% Serbian Orthodox 0.2% Lutheran 0.1% Judaism 0.1% Salvation Army 0.1% Other Eastern Orthodox 0.1% Coptic Orthodox 0.1% Other Non-Christian Religions 0.1% Churches of Christ 0.1% Latter Day Saints (Mormons) 0.1% Paganism Other Eastern Catholic 0.1% Seventh Day Adventist 0.1% Assyrian Apostolic</p>
Highest qualification achieved	<p>32.7% Bachelor or Higher degree 8.4% Advanced Diploma or Diploma 11.6% Vocational 37.1% No qualification 10.2% Not stated</p>
Household type	<p>27.1% couples with children 21.9% couples without children 9.1% one parent families 1.7% other families</p>

	7.6% group household 26.2% lone person 5.5% other not classifiable household 0.8% visitor only households
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Sources: ID Consulting, * The ABS does not capture data around gender identity or people who identify as gender diverse or non-conforming, nor does it capture data around people with intersex variations. ** Estimated here, as persons attending tertiary education, who were born overseas, arrived in Australia less than 4.5 years ago, and were living either in a group household, as an unrelated person in a household, as an overseas visitor in a household, or alone;***Estimation provided by the City of Greater Dandenong ****Darebin Household Survey (2014). It is likely that this figure is a clear under-estimation of the LGBTIQ+ population as the survey question identified sexual orientation only (lesbian, gay, bisexual) and did not capture people who identify as transgender, gender-non-conforming or people with intersex characteristics.

A note on binary language: Council recognises that sex and gender are not the same and that some people’s gender identities may not reflect the biological sex they were assigned at birth. Moreover, this recognises that gender is not binary and that some people’s gender identities may not fit into binary categories of male or female and indeed that some people may identify as neither male nor female, or both. The ABS does not capture data around gender identity or people who identify as non-binary, gender diverse or gender non-conforming, nor does it capture data around people with intersex variations. Binary language is used throughout this Profile report and Council recognises the limitations of this terminology in this profile.

Table 2: Population trends, Darebin

Trend	Darebin	Victoria
Population (2019 update)	164,184	6,596,039
Population change (ERP) 2016-19 (3 years)	+9,058 people, +5.8%	+422,867, 6.8% growth
Components of population growth (1 year)	Natural Increase +917 Overseas Migration +3,110 Internal Migration -1,504 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City of Darebin has a diverse migrant population and is reliant on overseas migration for population growth. Darebin’s population growth may stagnate temporarily due to the loss of overseas migration. The City of Darebin lost population due to internal migration. This was partially influenced by trends in housing affordability in metropolitan regions ‘pricing out’ residents and communities. This trend may accelerate as more people move to peri-urban and regional centres due to COVID-19 (which has enabled people to work remotely). Population growth is expected to be close to zero or slightly negative in the short term. 	

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented by profile .id

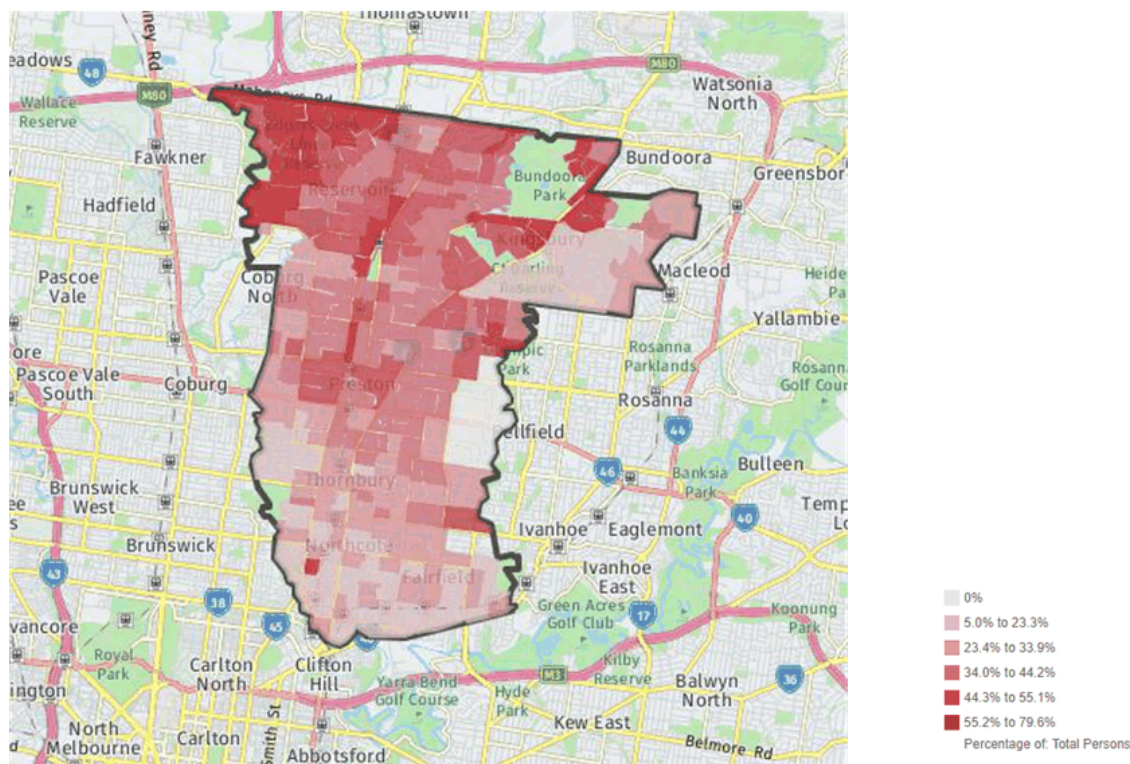
Preston (East) and Preston (West) are the most populous suburbs in Darebin while Northcote (East) and Thornbury (West) are the most densely populated. Table 3 below shows Darebin population distribution and density.

Table 3: Darebin population by suburb, Estimated Resident Population (ERP) as of 30 June 2019²

Area	Population	% of total population	Population density**
Alphington	3,505	2.1	25.86
Bundoora-Macleod	8,828	5.4	11.41
Fairfield	6,431	3.9	42.98
Kingsbury	4,426	2.7	35.01
Northcote (East)	16,759	10.2	47.32
Northcote (West)	11,080	6.7	44.46
Preston (East)	19,913	12.1	29.38
Preston (West)	17,757	10.8	37.36
Reservoir (Cheddar)	15,413	9.4	33.81
Reservoir (Edwardes Lake)	15,050	9.2	27.05
Reservoir (Merrilands)	10,616	6.5	23.70
Reservoir (Oakhill)	13,879	8.5	32.60
Thornbury (East)	11,941	7.3	38.00
Thornbury (West)	8,586	5.3	43.12
City of Darebin	164,184	100	33.72

Source: Id Consulting

Figure 1: Darebin language diversity trends in 2016 – language other than English at home



² ERP is the official population of the area. It is updated annually and provides a more accurate population figure between Census periods. **Persons per hectare. Accessed 11 November 2020 <https://profile.id.com.au/darebin> viewed.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented by .id consulting

Darebin's residents speak a wide range of languages, with 37% speaking a language other than English at home. Besides English, the most common languages are Italian, Greek, Mandarin, Arabic, Vietnamese, Macedonian, Cantonese, Hindi and Punjabi. Approximately 7% of the population have difficulty speaking English. This is one indication of how culturally diverse a population is and the degree to which different ethnic groups and nationalities are retaining their language. Language diversity is currently concentrated in the north of Darebin, while the south is predominantly English speaking. The northern parts of Reservoir have a significant ageing Italian population. Most of the population migrating into Northcote and Thornbury are English-speaking migrants, with the existing Greek community declining in number.

Community Consultation and Engagement

Council conducted significant engagement with the community, including local community organisations, to develop the Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities. More than 1,100 people participated in community engagement activities. Approximately half of these respondents indicated they spoke a language other than English at home. There was a good geographic representation of community members from across the municipality with Reservoir, Preston, Northcote and Bundoora/Kingsbury making up the highest proportion of postcodes in the targeted engagement sessions. Participants included people of all genders, including non-binary people, as well as a diversity of sexualities. Approximately 15% percent of respondents identified as having a disability.

A further 85 submissions were received from a broad range of community members and groups via Council's YourSay webpage. A total of 14 sessions were held, which were attended by 50 individual participants, who provided extensive qualitative feedback. There were a further 35 meetings and pop-ups held, spanning 10 language groups, capturing more than 280 people from multicultural communities and people experiencing disadvantage, as well as four geographically targeted sessions. Council also conducted about 750 phone surveys with community and 105 surveys with local businesses and trade associations.

A comprehensive community engagement program was delivered from 20 April 2021 to 17 May 2021 to consult with the community regarding the Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and the 10-Year Financial Plan. The key questions asked as part of these consultations related to the Strategic Objectives of the plan, the investment priorities for the next ten years and which health and wellbeing risks and concerns were of the highest priority for the community.

In accordance with the Council resolution on 26 April 2021, a further effort was made to test the Council Plan, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and Financial Plan with members of the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community. A key focus of the engagement activity was to ensure Council was making a concerted effort to involve a range of diverse voices across the community. A range of engagement techniques and activities were used to draw feedback from the widest range of residents and people who work in Darebin. All engagement methods accounted for 437 respondents, in addition to a further 742 responses as part of the Annual Community Survey Program telephone survey. A breakdown of the respondents is show in Table 4 below:

Table 4a: Participants in the engagement activity

Engagement Activity	Number of participants/ people engaged	Targeted group	Demographic information
Businesses engagement	101	Businesses	Middle age business owners and workers, some who live in Darebin.
Bundoora targeted engagement	51	NE Darebin	20-44-year olds who live in Bundoora, Kingsbury and McLeod
Children and Youth Forum	40	Youth	Mostly under 15 (82%) who live and study in Darebin
Italian seniors	34 16 14	Kingsbury Thornbury Community Health	Over 65 group who lives in Reservoir, Kingsbury, Bundoora, Thornbury – Italian heritage
Newlands primary school	31	Youth	Most did not provide an age, but we presume they are under 12
Greek seniors	34	Greek	Over 65s from Thornbury and Northcote
Vietnamese seniors	16	Vietnamese	Over 65s from Preston
Arabic language group	16	Arabic speakers	35-75yr olds from Reservoir & Preston
Somali group	12	Somali	16-24year olds from northern parts of Darebin
Indian seniors	10	Indian	Over 65yr old group with Indian heritage who mostly visit Darebin
Nepalese group	9	Nepalese	Wide range of ages who both live in and visit Darebin
Youth Jury	10	Youth	Under 24yrs who live and study in Darebin (across 2 sessions)
Spanish Group	6	Spanish speakers	Younger Spanish speakers who visit Darebin
All abilities group	6	Disability	Those identifying as having a disability, and their carers, who live and work in Darebin
Northcote seniors	5	Elderly	Over 65s who live in Darebin
Macedonian seniors	5	Macedonian	Over 65s who live in and visit Darebin

Annual Community Survey of Darebin residents	742	Representative group	Broad spread of participants selected to be representative of the broader Darebin population
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Further conversation and workshop style sessions were run by the Equity and Wellbeing Department with key services systems and community groups. A high-level breakdown of the sessions, some of which have been grouped together is outlines below:

Table 4b: Engagement Activities and participants

Engagement Activity	Number of participants/ people engaged	Targeted group	Demographic information
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and Aboriginal Advisory Committee members	6	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander from Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.	Members of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and representatives
Faith Leaders and Multicultural community session	8	Faith Leaders and multicultural communities	Leaders from 5 different faith communities in Darebin, including Christian, Baptist, Catholic, Sikh, Islamic and Bahai communities.
Emergency relief and homelessness networks	14	Services who work with people who experience homelessness food insecurity and poverty	Representatives from a wide range of emergency relief and homelessness services including MOSS Merri Outreach Support Service, Haven: Home safe and Salvation Army Preston.
Darebin Neighbourhood House Network	6	Members of the Darebin Neighbourhood House Network	Managers of the 6 Darebin Neighbourhood Houses
Health Promotion and prevention organisations	4	Organisations who provide health promotion and prevention services to communities who experience poorer health and wellbeing outcomes	Your Community Health, North East Healthy Communities, Darebin Information Volunteer Reservoir Service

Community safety and Justice system	2	Organisations who work in community safety, crime prevention and or people involved in the justice system	Representatives from Victoria Police Fitzroy Legal Service
East Reservoir and East Preston community	13	People who live in the east Preston and east reservoir communities	Residents who live in either the east Preston or east Reservoir, specifically in the areas around the East Preston Community Centre and Reservoir Neighbourhood House. Age range from 60 – 80 years plus+
Darebin Family Violence Network	3	Services who work with people experiencing family violence	Representatives from services in the Darebin Family violence service system

Feedback by LGBTQIA+ stakeholders and community was submitted online via Your Say page.

Outcomes of community engagement

Strategic Objectives

- All of Council’s strategic objectives were supported by engagement respondents. All have support of at least 91% of respondents.
- There were no objectives that were significantly more or less supported than others.

Investment Priorities

- Council asked respondents to rank the importance of three major areas for investment – the built environment, the natural environment and community programs.
- The natural environment was consistently the highest-ranking priority across the telephone survey and the engagement sessions.

Health and Wellbeing Concerns

- Council asked respondents to score out of ten their level of concern for a range of health and wellbeing issues. Family violence, community safety and discrimination were the top three concerns.

Health Risk Concerns

- Council asked respondents to score out of ten their level of concern for a range of health risks. Mental health was a clear standout, followed by climate change, COVID-19 impacts and lack of access to appropriate services and support.

Targeted conversations

The targeted conversations outlined above identified a broad range of issues and topics which reflect the diversity of participants involved. The most common overlapping priority areas and themes were:

- Mental health
- Increasing social connection
- Increasing Councils role increasing partnerships and collaboration
- Equity of access to Council services for disadvantaged and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.
- Community safety, including the impact of alcohol and other drugs

Feedback from the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Council officers also sought feedback from the regional Department of Families, Fairness and Housing team on the Draft Council Plan Priorities document. The Department recommended a few actions to respond to identified modifiable health risks including low levels of bowel cancer screening, smoking, risky alcohol consumption and health eating.

How the findings will be used

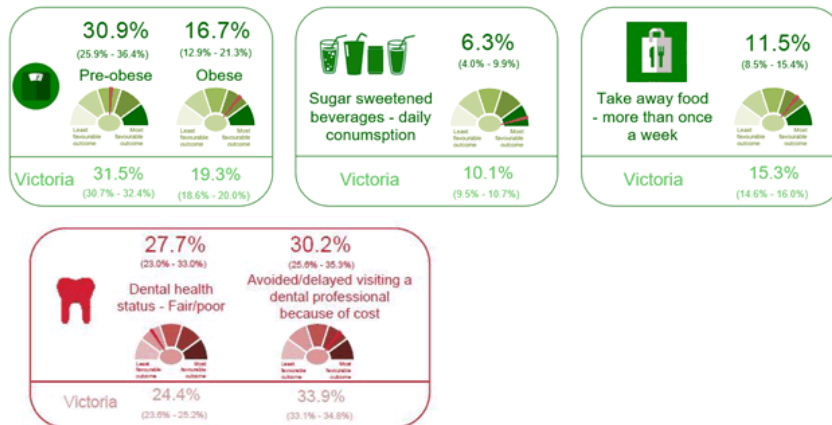
Findings from this broad consultation will inform priorities areas of the 2021-2025 Council Plan (incorporating the MPHWP). The findings will also guide Council on ways to deliver on the priority issues for our municipality over the next four years.

Modifiable Health Risks

Council has conducted a review of evidence on health risks for the Darebin community.

Compared with the Victorian average Darebin community has fared relatively well compared to the Victorian State average in a range of health and wellbeing indicators (see Figure 2 below). These indicators include pre-obese, obese, consumption of sugary drink and take-away food, breast cancer screening and accessing a dental professional.³

Figure 2: Modifiable health risks – areas progressing well in Darebin



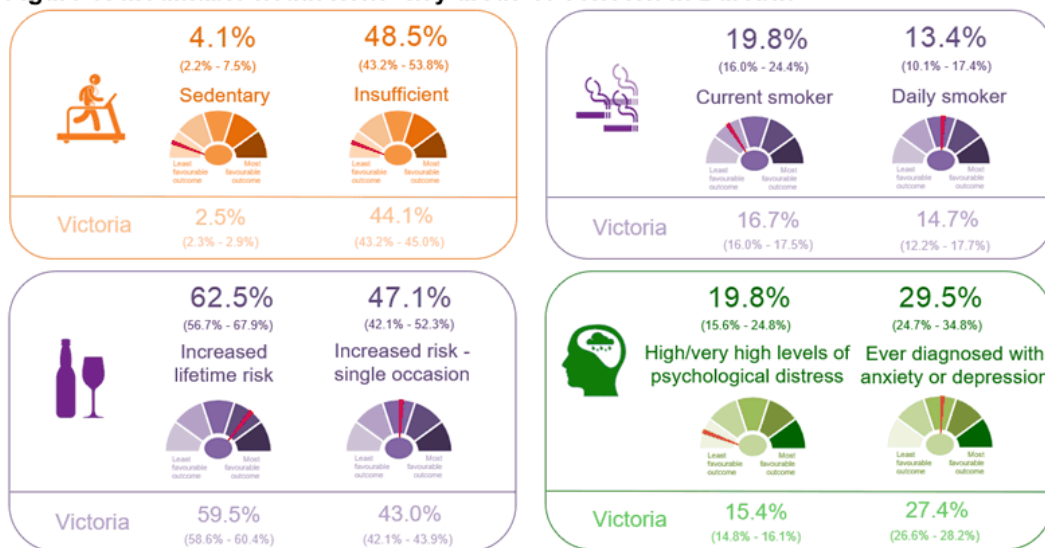
³ Victorian Agency for Health Information. 2017. Victorian Population Health Survey. Viewed on 9 November 2020. Available <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/population-health-systems/health-status-of-victorians/survey-data-and-reports/victorian-population-health-survey/victorian-population-health-survey-2017>

The Darebin community performed less favourably than the Victorian State average (see Figure 3) for the indicators of bowel cancer screening, sedentary lifestyle, smoking, alcohol consumption and levels of psychological distress, anxiety or depression. However, the proportion of females in Darebin who sought professional help for a mental health problem in the previous year preceding the survey was above the State average.

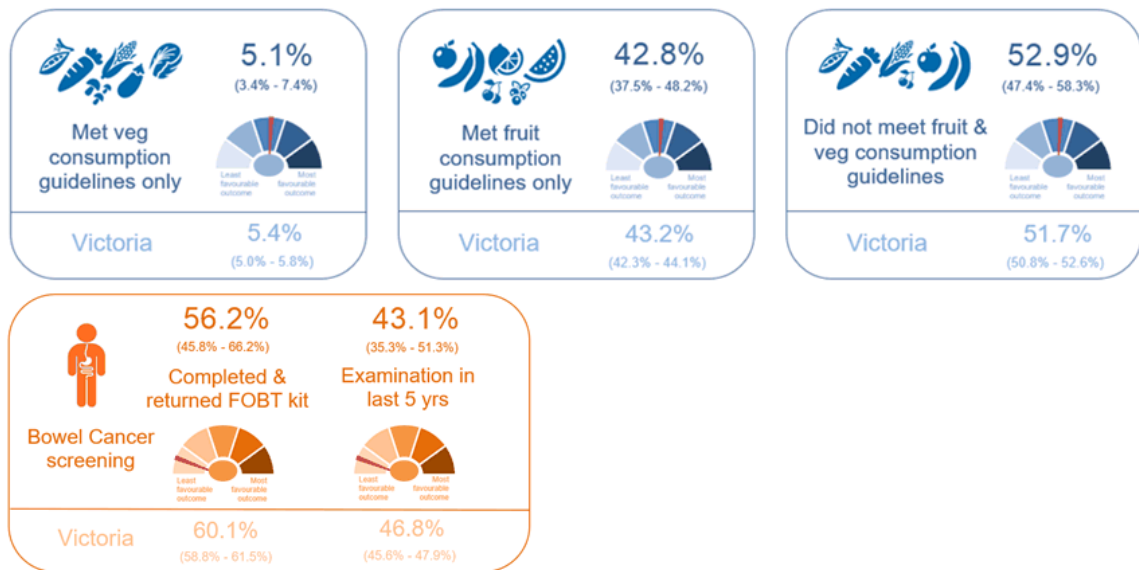
Darebin compares poorly to the State average for bowel cancer screening rates, with only 56.2% of tests returned, compared to 60% for the wider Victorian population. Darebin scores comparatively poorly for self-reported dental health status as 27.7% reported their dental health status to be fair/poor. (Figure 2).

Data shows that Darebin does not score well in relation to vegetable consumption, with 52.9% of the Darebin population not meeting fruit and vegetable consumption guidelines and only 5.1% of the Darebin population meeting vegetable consumption guidelines. These scores reflect trends across the Victorian population, which average 5.4% and 51.7% respectively for these same indicators⁴. This may suggest that there is an increasing number of people experiencing food insecurity in Darebin.

Figure 3: Modifiable health risks- key areas of concern in Darebin



⁴ Victorian Agency for Health Information. 2017. Victorian Population Health Survey. Viewed on 9 November 2020. Available <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/population-health-systems/health-status-of-victorians/survey-data-and-reports/victorian-population-health-survey/victorian-population-health-survey-2017>



Sedentary lifestyle is known to double the risk of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and obesity, and increase the risk of colon cancer, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, lipid disorders, depression and anxiety.⁵ Council will continue to identify and implement actions to enable the community to live a healthy and happy life through participation in sport and recreation.

Excessive alcohol consumption is known to contribute to excess body weight and the development of chronic diseases such as liver disease, some cancers, oral health problems and cardiovascular disease.⁶ Alcohol consumption has also been associated with increased risk of suicide.⁷ Tobacco smoking is known to increase the risk for cancer, heart diseases, stroke, lung diseases, eye diseases and diabetes.⁸ Council will aim to reduce the harmful effects of tobacco smoking and alcohol consumption through the enforcement of relevant regulation. For example, Council will continue to work with the state government to enforce smoke free dining, banning smoking in designated areas, and regulating the display and advertisement of tobacco products.⁹

Bowel cancer is the second biggest cancer killer in Australia.¹⁰ If detected early, bowel cancer can be successfully treated in more than 90% of cases. Therefore, screening is important in detecting bowel cancer at an earlier stage when treatment can be more successful.

⁵ World Health Organisation. 2002. Physical inactivity a leading cause of disease and disability, warns WHO. Accessed 20 March 2020 <https://www.who.int/news/item/04-04-2002-physical-inactivity-a-leading-cause-of-disease-and-disability-warns-who>

⁶ NHMRC (National Health and Medical Research Council) 2009. Australian Guidelines to reduce health risks from drinking alcohol. Canberra: National Health and Medical Research Council.

⁷ DHHS. 2016. Victorian Population Health Survey 2014: Health and wellbeing, chronic conditions, screening and eye health, Department of Health & Human Services.

⁸ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2014. The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress (A Report of the Surgeon General). Accessed 18 March 2021 www.cdc.gov/tobacco

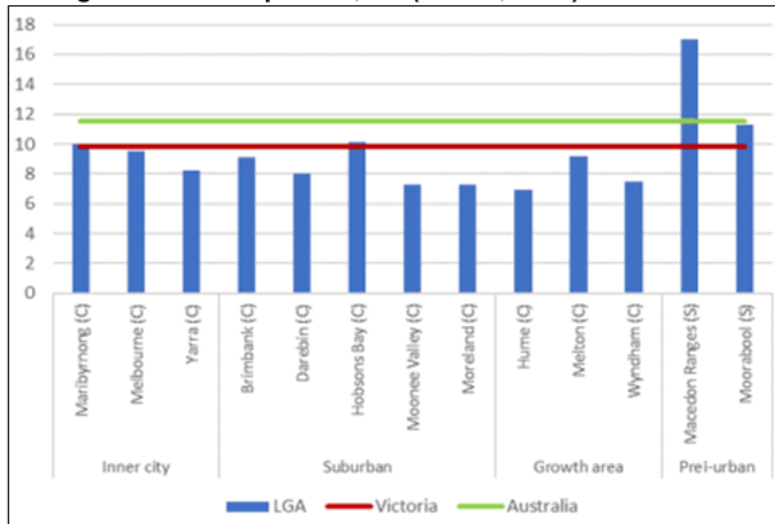
⁹ Darebin City Council 2020. Public Health and Safety. Tobacco. Accessed 25 March 2020 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Darebin-Living/Community-support/PublicHealthandSafety>

¹⁰ Australian Government. 2020. National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: Monitoring Report. Accessed 10 March 2021 https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/da6be503-6185-4b05-9724-953f81ad31de/aihw-can-133_31July2020.pdf.aspx?inline=true

Psychological distress is associated with risk behaviours such as risky drinking, smoking and drug use and is directly linked to a number of diseases and conditions, such as fatigue, migraines, cardiovascular disease, injury, obesity, depression and anxiety.¹¹ International harm and suicide have been linked to mental illness in large body of literature.^{12,13} In 2017, intentional self-harm was a leading cause of premature mortality in Australia.¹⁴ Self-harm, though accounting for a relatively small proportion (1.9%) of all deaths in Australia, accounts for a high proportion of deaths among younger people. In the same year, suicide accounted for over one-third of deaths (36%) among people aged 15-24 years of age, and over a quarter of deaths (30.9%) among those aged 25-34 years.

The North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network’s suicide prevention profile¹⁵ provides an overview of the rate of suicide and self-harm in the Northern Western local government areas. The report shows that the number deaths due to suicide and self-inflicted injuries in Darebin was slightly less than Victorian average (see Figure 4 below).

Figure 4: Deaths from suicide and self-inflicted injuries, 0 to 74 years 2011 to 2015 Average annual ASR per 100,000 (PHIDU, 2018)



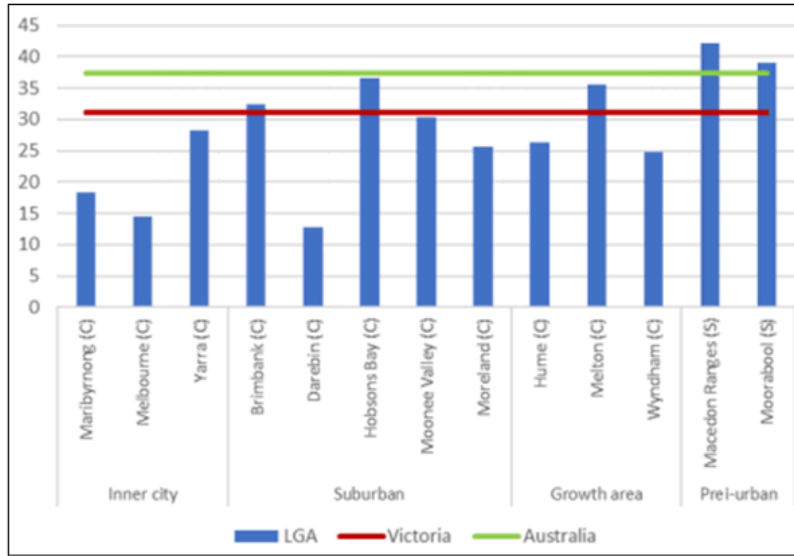
Source: NWMPHN

The report also indicates that suicide rates among young people is a key issue of concern (see Figure 5 below).

Figure 5: Youth mortality: Deaths of persons aged 15 to 24 years, 2011 to 2015, Average annual ASR per 100,000 (PHIDU, 2018)

¹¹ Russ, T. C., Stamatakis, E., Hamer, M., Starr, J. M., Kivimaki M., and Batty G. D. 2012. Association between psychological distress and mortality: individual participant pooled analysis of 10 prospective cohort studies. *BMJ*, pp: 1-14
¹² Brádvík L. 2018. Suicide Risk and Mental Disorders. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 15(9), 20-28.
¹³ Tishler, C.L., McKenry, P.C. and Morgan, K.C. (1981), Adolescent Suicide Attempts: Some Significant Factors. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 11: 86-92.
¹⁴ ABS 2017. Causes of Death, Australia 2017. Accessed 23 March 2020 www.abs.gov.au

¹⁵ North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network. 2018. Suicide Prevention Profile. Accessed 10 May 2020 <https://nwmphn.org.au/>

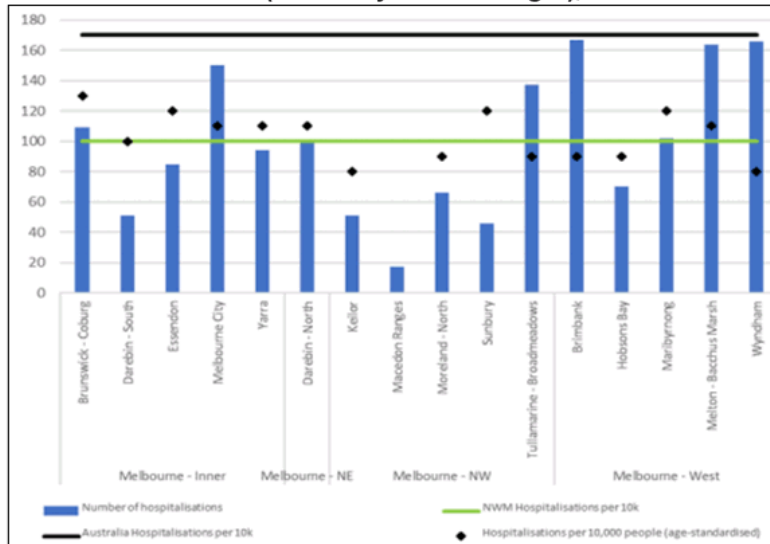


Source: NWMPHN

Darebin council’s Youth Services Strategy 2019-2021 provides framework for action to promote mental health and emotional wellbeing, and harm minimisation due to drugs and alcohol.¹⁶

The report also indicates that there are high number of people hospitalised for internal self-harm is Darebin North compared with Darebin South (see Figure 6 below).

Figure 6: NWMPHN SA3, national and metropolitan/regional hospitalisations for intentional self-harm (same day and overnight), 2015–16



Source: NWMPHN

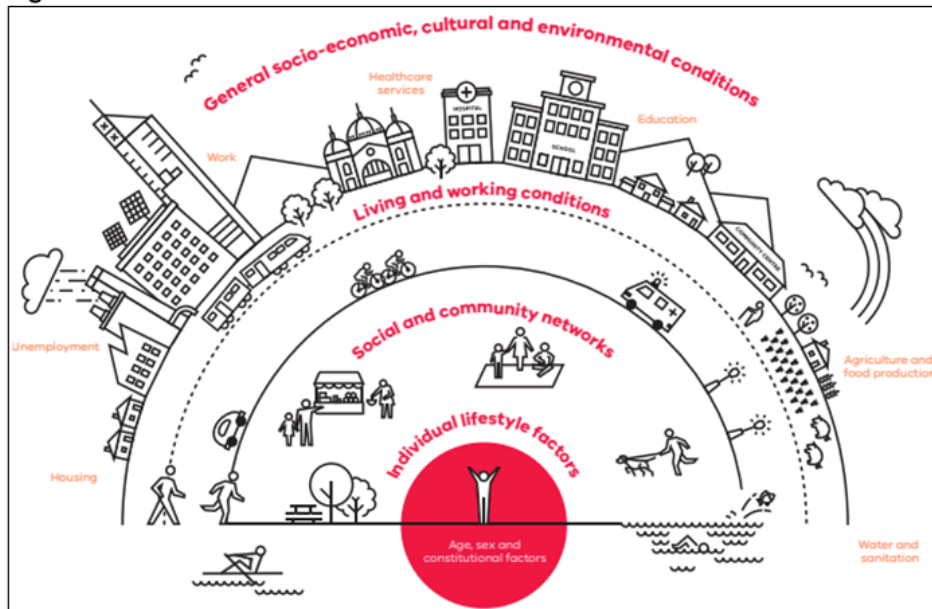
¹⁶ Darebin City Council 2019. Youth Services Strategy 2019-2021. Accessed 20 March 2020 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/Darebin-Living/Community-support/Youth-Services/youth-voice>

Council will continue to work in partnership with stakeholders and the community to mitigate the above modifiable health risks.

Determinants of Health

Council recognise that poor health outcomes result from inequalities in various other areas of life such as employment, life experiences, gender, education and housing. Therefore, Council has a range of policies, plans and frameworks that inform actions to address a range of determinants of health (refer to Appendix 1 for key strategic plans). These determinants of health – conditions in which people are born, grow up, live, work, and age¹⁷– are key considerations for designing and delivering successful public health and wellbeing interventions. Figure 7 below shows the complex interaction of individual characteristics, lifestyle and the physical, social and economic environment that influence health and wellbeing outcomes.

Figure 7: Determinants of health



Source: State of Victoria¹⁸

The following section provide data on key determinants of health in the City of Darebin.

Disadvantage across suburbs

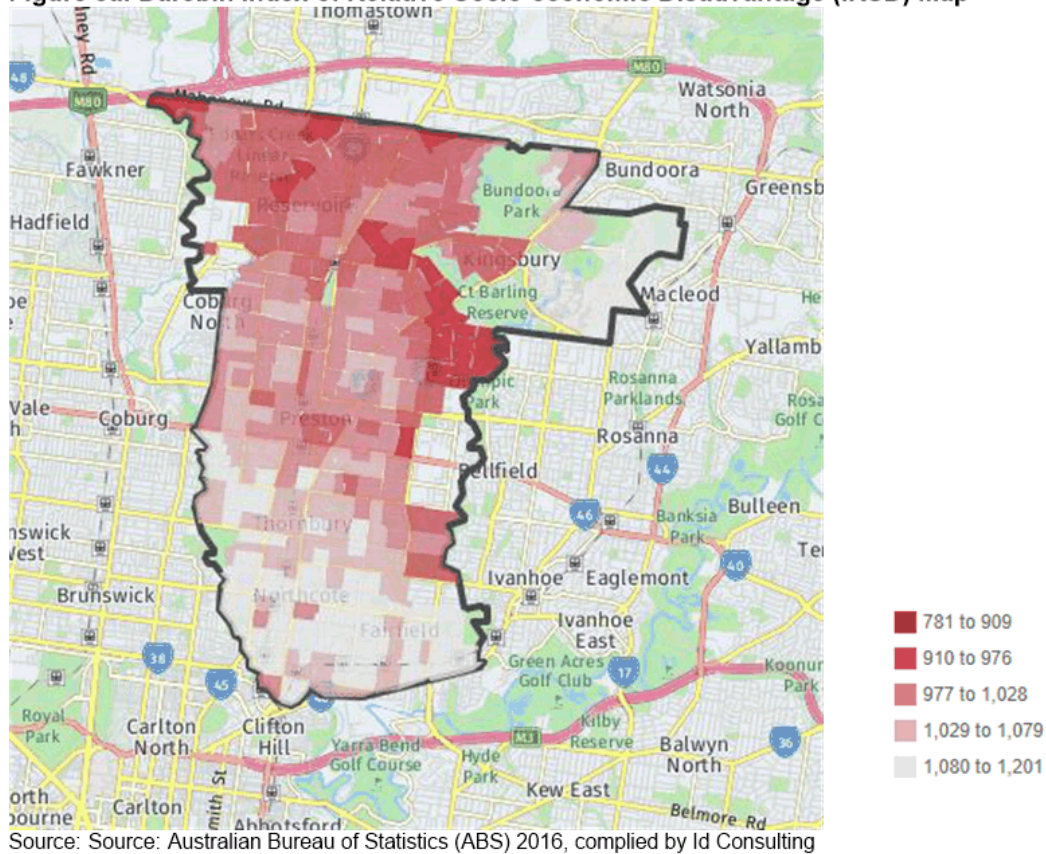
The Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) is an Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) tool that uses Census data to measure disadvantage. The ABS broadly define relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage as people’s access to material and social resources, and their ability to participate in society. SEIFA indexes provides a good starting point to understand the relative level of disadvantage in one area compared to others. However, it is important to also recognise other underlying characteristics that shed more light on the type of disadvantage being experienced in a particular area. The Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) is a general socio-economic index that summarises a range of information about the economic and social conditions of people and households within an

¹⁷ World Health Organization (WHO) 2016. What are the social determinants of health? Accessed 16 March 2020 http://www.who.int/social_determinants/sdh_definition/en/

¹⁸ State of Victoria 2019. Victorian public health and wellbeing plan 2019–2023. Accessed November 2020 <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/policiesandguidelines/victorian-public-health-wellbeing-plan-2019-2023>

area. Unlike other Socio-Economic indexes for areas, this index includes only measures of relative disadvantage. There are large pockets of disadvantage in Darebin (see Figure 8a below).

Figure 8a: Darebin Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) Map



The 'south to north distribution of disadvantage' describes the trend that disadvantage increases as you travel further north in the City of Darebin. In part, this trend is linked to the process of gentrification impacting housing affordability and the 'pricing out' of residents and communities, as well as growing social, health and economic inequalities. Therefore, the suburbs in the south of the municipality generally have a higher SEIFA, compared to the suburbs in the north of the municipality. However, it is important to note that the Macleod/Gresswell Hill area just East of Latrobe University is an enclave of high socio-economic characteristics in the north, quite different from the rest of Darebin.

In 2016, Darebin had an overall SEIFA IRSD score of 1,004. Table 5 below shows that Reservoir (Oakhill, Merrilands, Cheddar, Edwardes Lake), Kingsbury and Preston (East) are Darebin's most disadvantaged suburbs. There is a large disparity in the SEIFA indexes of these suburbs and Alphington, which is the least disadvantaged suburb in Darebin.

Table 5: IRSD score, Darebin, Northern Region¹⁹, Greater Melbourne²⁰ and Victoria

Suburb	Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage score
Alphington	1,088.9
Bundoora-Macleod	1,055.7
Fairfield	1,064.2
Kingsbury	938.4
Northcote (East)	1,065.1
Northcote (West)	1,063.4
Preston (East)	971.0
Preston (West)	1,024.4
Reservoir (Cheddar)	946.0
Reservoir (Edwardes Lake)	982.7
Reservoir (Merrilands)	941.2
Reservoir (Oakhill)	935.7
Thornbury (East)	1,026.2
Thornbury (West)	1,055.3
City of Darebin	1,004.0
Northern Region	1,006.6
Greater Melbourne	1,021.0
Victoria	1,010.0

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id Consulting

Parts of Preston and large areas in Reservoir remain very disadvantaged and have a high proportion of low-income households. Two particularly disadvantaged neighbourhoods fall between the suburbs defined by the ABS as Preston (East) and Reservoir (Oakhill). Neither of these neighbourhoods fit neatly into ABS's Statistical Areas Level 1 (SA1) but are represented by the dark areas between Preston (East) and Reservoir (Oakhill) (see Figure 8b below).

The Preston (East) neighbourhood includes the area known as the 'Northland Activity Centre'. This area has the lowest SEIFA index in Darebin (840.5) and is ranked among the lowest in the country (fourth percentile). This indicates that approximately 96% of suburbs in Australia have a SEIFA score that is higher than this area.

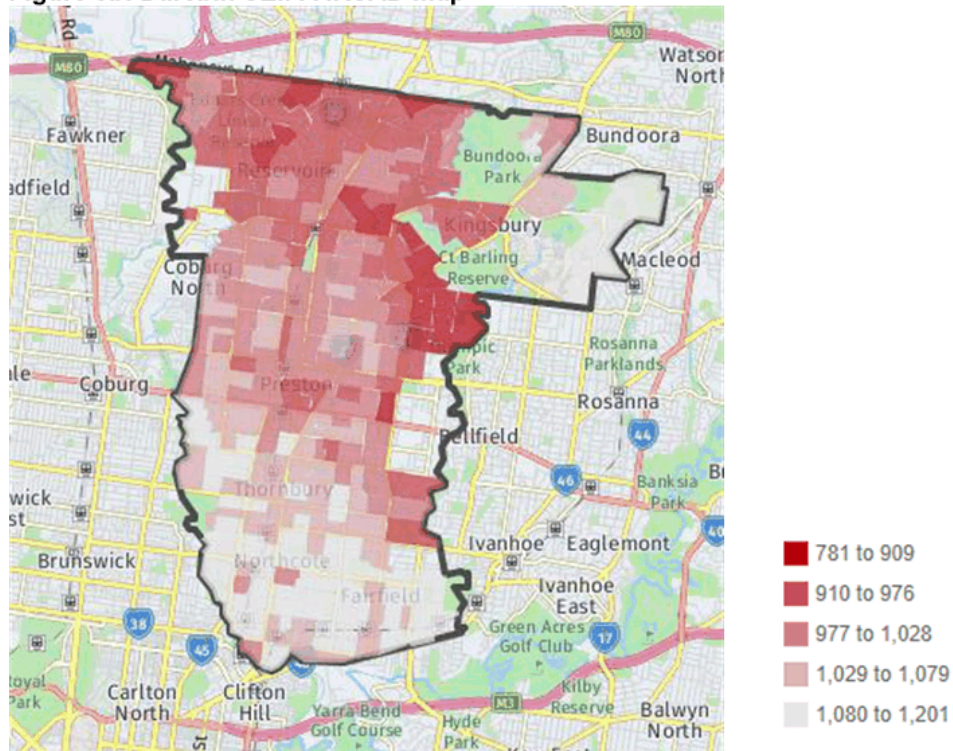
Council and the ABS at times use different place names for neighbourhoods within the City of Darebin's suburbs. For the purpose of this Profile, references to Reservoir (East), a term used by Council but not by the ABS, relates to the area of disadvantage adjacent to the suburb of Kingsbury. References to Preston (East), a term used by Council and the ABS SEIFA, relate to two different areas. The ABS uses Preston (East) to denote the large outlined suburb in Figure 8b, while Council uses the name Preston (East) to refer to the area of disadvantage that spans across the Preston (East) and Reservoir (Oakhill) areas, from Tyler Street to Plenty Road.

The Index of Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD) contains indicators of disadvantage (Figure 8b) as well as additional indicators of advantage (e.g. professional occupations, high income, higher education levels, larger houses).

¹⁹ Northern Region refers to the LGA's of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Nillumbik, Whittlesea and Yarra

²⁰ Greater Melbourne is the geography applied to the 2016 Census to describe metropolitan Melbourne

Figure 8b: Darebin SEIFA IRSAD map



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016

Council prioritises its community development work in the Council-termed neighbourhoods of Reservoir (East) and Preston (East), because communities in these areas experience some of the greatest health and wellbeing disparities in the municipality.

The disadvantage in Reservoir (East) has long been recognised: the area took part in the Victorian Government’s Community Renewal Program for disadvantaged neighbourhoods from 2005-2013. In 2015, Council conducted a community survey in Preston (East) and Reservoir (East) that focused on indicators of the social determinants of health. Of 1,875 households, 401 participated in the survey. A clear social gradient was identified across several health and wellbeing indicators when compared to other neighbourhoods in Darebin, the municipality as a whole and Victorian averages²¹.

In addition, residents of disadvantaged neighbourhoods often report lower perceptions of community safety. A survey conducted in 2015 (see Appendix 3) showed that the percentage of residents in Preston (East) and Reservoir (East) who felt safe walking alone during the day were 93.5% and 88.2% respectively. This was lower than the Darebin average of 95.9%. The percentage of residents who felt safe walking alone during the night in Reservoir (East) was 36.5%. This was significantly lower than the averages for both Darebin and Preston (East), which both scored 60.9%. When people have lower perceptions of safety in their

²¹ The Victorian Health Promotion Foundation 2016. Darebin LGA Profile, VicHealth Indicators Survey 2015 Results. Accessed 6 July 2021. https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/-/media/VHIndicators/Middle-metro/Vic161_Darebin_indicator_v5.pdf?la=en&hash=0097B53460FE9A149D39A2820A96460DBDE7BE3D

neighbourhoods, social connections and interactions are reduced and they may experience higher levels of anxiety. This can increase the risk of social exclusion and mental illness.²²

Social connection is important for the health and wellbeing of the community and exclusion can compound the experience of disadvantage. The survey found that residents in both Preston (East) and Reservoir (East) scored poorly on social connectedness. Respondents in Preston (East) were more likely to have less time for friends and family than those in Reservoir (East) and reported sharing fewer meals with family per week. Residents in both Preston (East) and Reservoir (East) also produced lower scores, when asked if they felt valued by society, which could reduce the desire to reach out for social connection.

Residents in disadvantaged neighbourhoods are more likely to engage in risky health behaviours such as alcohol use and smoking, demonstrate more sedentary behaviour and consume more sugary drinks:

- Reservoir (East) had a higher percentage of people who purchased alcohol in the last seven days (41.7 per cent) compared to the Darebin average (35.1 per cent).
- Preston (East) had a larger percentage of current smokers (30.1 per cent) than Darebin (23.9 per cent) and Victoria (15.7 per cent).
- Adults in Reservoir (East) reported sitting for more than seven hours per day (43.8 per cent), which was higher than the Darebin average (40.2 per cent).
- Preston (East) adults reported consuming higher levels of sugary drinks (19.4 per cent) than the Darebin average (14.9 per cent).

The areas of Reservoir (East) and Preston (East) showed less favourable outcomes for health indicators compared to Darebin overall, highlighting that a social gradient in health exists within Darebin. This will be further explored in other social determinants throughout the Profile. Disadvantage is highly but not completely correlated with density of social housing. While this is strong in Preston East, the northern parts of Reservoir are disadvantaged with very little public housing, due to factors relating to age and poor English proficiency.

Housing tenure and affordability

Housing tenure and affordability is critical in influencing health and wellbeing outcomes. For example, adequate housing is protective for physical and mental health. This is because homes that are safe and free from physical hazards protect individuals and families from harmful exposures and provide a sense of privacy and security, resulting in better health and wellbeing outcomes for individuals.²³

The Darebin Housing Strategy 2013-2032²⁴ guide outlines how land use planning and development for housing is undertaken across Darebin. The Strategy identifies land use planning actions designed to ensure that housing developments meet the needs and aspirations of existing and future communities and deliver on the Vision of the Strategy.

Darebin has one of the highest percentages of social housing dwellings in Victoria. Figure 9 shows the distribution of social housing in Darebin. The term 'social housing' is often used to include public housing (managed by the State Government) and community housing (managed by organisations). Figure 9 below shows a cluster of social housing in Reservoir

²² Cubbin, C, Pedregon, V, Egerter, S & Braveman, P. 2008, 'Where we live matters for our health: Neighborhoods and health', *Issue brief 3: Neighbourhoods and health*, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, San Francisco.

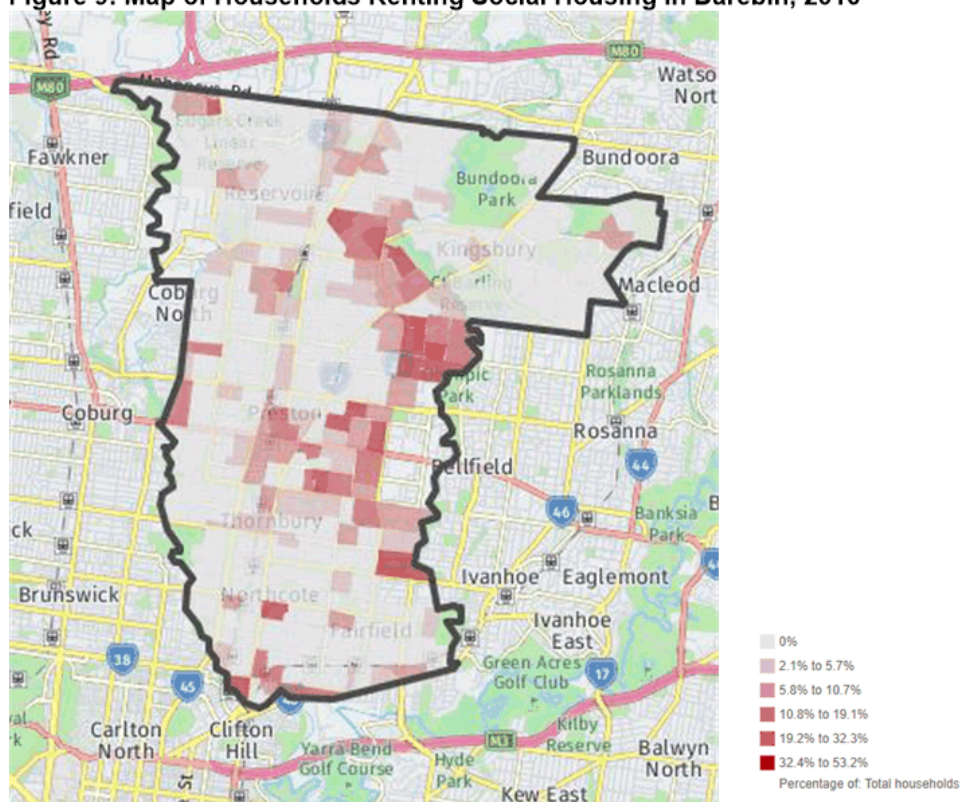
²³ VicHealth. 2011. Housing and Health Research Summary. Accessed 16 March 2020 <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/>

publications/housing-and-health-research-summary; Johnson, R., Craig P., Susan E., Tabashir S., Mercedes D. and Paula B. (2008). Where We Live Matters for Our Health: The Links Between Housing and Health. Accessed 16 March 2020 <http://www.commissiononhealth.org/PDF/e6244e9e-f630-4285-9ad7-16016dd7e493/Issue%20Brief%202%20Sept%2008%20-%20Housing%20and%20Health.pdf> Viewed on 12 July 2020

²⁴ Darebin City Council. 2013. Darebin Housing Strategy 2013-2032. Accessed 5 September 2020 www.darebin.vic.gov.au

(Oakhill). These clusters of social housing are in the Council termed areas of Preston (East) and Reservoir (East) neighbourhoods. It should be noted that the areas of social housing overlap with some of the areas that have lower SEIFA scores.

Figure 9: Map of Households Renting Social Housing in Darebin, 2016



At the time of the 2016 Census, there were 58,417 households in Darebin. Of these, 28.7% were purchased or fully owned, 31.5% were rented and 4.3% were social housing. 26% of households had single occupants, 27.1% comprised a couple and children, 21.9% were couples (no children), 9.1% were single-parent families, 9% were lone older adults, and 7.6% were group/share houses.

Table 6 below shows the changes in housing tenure since the 2011 census. Between 2011 and 2016, there was a slight decline in the number of purchased or fully owned households (-3%) and in social housing (-0.5%) accompanied by an increase in the number of rental households (3% per cent). Fewer people owned their home outright and more people were renting, although there was a decline in people renting social housing.

Table 6: Housing trends 2016 (compared with 2011)

Trend	City of Darebin	Victoria
% Full Home Ownership	28.7% ▼ (-3.1%)	30.7% ▼ (-2.3%)
% Mortgage	26.0% ▼ (-0.7%)	33.5% ▼ (-1.0%)
% Renters	36.3% (+2.4%)	27.5% ▲ (+1.6%)
Medium and High Density Housing	41.8% ▲ (+7.4%)	26.8% ▲ (+3.4%)
Unoccupied Dwellings	8.0% ▲ (-1.0%)	11.0% ▲ (+0.2%)

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id Consulting

Figure 10 below illustrates the percentage of Darebin rental properties that were affordable for a family (two adults and children) receiving Centrelink income support compared to the Metropolitan Melbourne average.

Figure 10: Affordability of rental properties in Darebin and Metropolitan Melbourne, 2000-2019

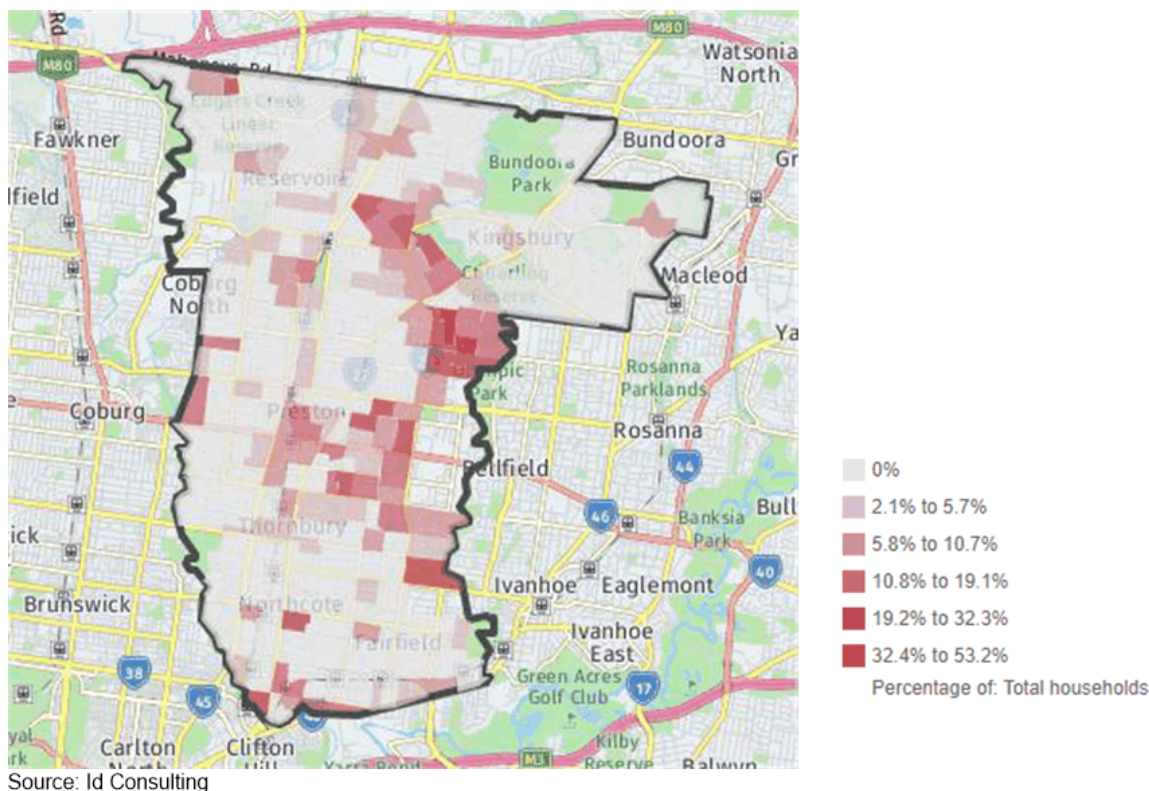


Source: City of Greater Dandenong²⁵

In March 2019, only 1.7% of the available rental stock in Darebin was available to this cohort, which was below the Metropolitan Melbourne average of 5.6%. Since the trend in Darebin is a reduction in fully owned households and an increase in rentals, the increase in demand is excluding community members who are reliant on income assistance. The reduction in social housing stock and lengthy public housing waiting lists may also contribute to the instability of housing experienced by these communities.

Figure 11: Social housing in Darebin 2016

²⁵ City of Greater Dandenong 2020. Statistical Data for Victorian Communities. Accessed 2 December 2020 <https://greaterdandenong.com/document/18464/statistical-data-for-victorian-communities>



Housing Stress

The National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling defines ‘housing stress’ according to the 30:40 indicator. That is, households in the lowest 40% of incomes who are paying more than 30% of their usual gross weekly income on housing costs are in housing stress. Housing costs can include rent, mortgage payments (principal and interest), rates, taxes, insurance, repairs and maintenance, and interest payments on loans for alterations and levies on strata-title dwellings.²⁶ Occupants of public housing are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Research by Sustainability Victoria shows that 45% of Victorians in public housing have had to leave their home because of extreme heat or cold²⁷. Table 7 below shows the number of households in Darebin that were experiencing household stress at the time of the 2016 census.

Table 7: Households in housing stress, Darebin, Northern Region, Greater Melbourne, Victoria and Australia 2016 (enumerated count)

Suburb	Number of households in housing stress	Total households	%
Alphington	89	1,211	7.3
Bundoora-Macleod	365	2,243	16.3
Fairfield	238	2,404	9.9
Kingsbury	240	1,366	17.6
Northcote (East)	463	6,008	7.7
Northcote (West)	298	3,981	7.5

²⁶ Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) 2016, *Understanding the 30:40 indicator of housing affordability stress*. Accessed 22 May 2019 <https://www.ahuri.edu.au/policy/ahuri-briefs/2016/3040-indicator>

²⁷ McDonald D & Havens, C, 2021. *Linking Climate Change and Health Impacts Social research exploring awareness among Victorians and our healthcare professionals of the health effects of climate change*. Accessed June 2021 <https://assets.sustainability.vic.gov.au/susvic/Report-Linking-climate-change-and-health-impacts-Research-Snapshot-2020.pdf>

Preston (East)	946	6,921	13.7
Preston (West)	721	6,350	11.4
Reservoir (Cheddar)	787	5,717	13.8
Reservoir (Edwardes Lake)	772	5,512	14.0
Reservoir (Merrilands)	346	3,543	9.8
Reservoir (Oakhill)	735	5,120	14.3
Thornbury (East)	523	4,615	11.3
Thornbury (West)	388	3,252	11.9
City of Darebin	6,963	58,417	11.9
Northern Melbourne	42,254	359,327	11.8
Greater Melbourne	195,262	1,664,554	11.7
Victoria	255,657	2,242,285	11.4
Australia	1,014,220	8,861,642	11.4

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id Consulting

A total of 6,963 households were in housing stress in 2016, which was an increase of 810 households since the 2011 census. Reservoir (Cheddar) and Preston (East) had the highest number of households in housing stress, while Kingsbury had the highest proportion of households in housing stress. The Darebin average was larger than Greater Melbourne and Victorian averages. The groups most vulnerable to housing stress include those in private rental, low-income households and lone-person households.

Unemployment

Unemployment is associated with an increased likelihood of morbidity and mortality for individuals. The study found that unemployed people had increased risk of mortality as a result of diseases such as cardiovascular diseases or as a result of other external causes such as suicide. Individuals experiencing unemployment also had an increased risk of hospitalisation from alcohol-related causes ²⁸.

In 2016, Darebin ranked 20th most advantaged local government area in Victoria on the SEIFA score for index of Advantage and Disadvantage. Table 8a below show the social-economic trends for Darebin.

Table 8a: Social-economic trends, 2016

	Darebin City	Victoria
Median weekly individual income	\$650, +22%	\$644, +15%
Median weekly household income	\$1,420, +21%	\$1,417, +17%
Median weekly rental payment	\$339, +16%	\$325, +17%
Median weekly mortgage payment	\$450, +2.6%	\$399, +1.6%
SEIFA Index of Advantage/Disadvantage	\$1,020	Ranked 20 th most advantaged in Vic in 2016 (42 nd in 2011) –now a little above average -though SEIFA can't be directly compared, in relative terms this shows the gentrification of Darebin.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id Consulting

Since mid-March 2020, Victoria experienced extended lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic.

²⁸ Lundin, A. 2011. Unemployment and mortality and morbidity– epidemiological studies. Accessed 10 December 2020 https://openarchive.ki.se/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10616/40759/Thesis_Andreas_Lundin.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

During this period, non-essential services were shut down and trading restrictions were implemented. This has had a significant impact on the Australian labour market. It will take some time to have reliable local data to analyse how many residents lost their job as a result of COVID-19. The most reliable data on unemployment is based on the 2016 population census. In 2016, approximately 5,479 Darebin residents were unemployed compared with 4,242 in 2011. Suburbs with lower SEIFA scores had higher rates of unemployment than those with higher SEIFA scores. Preston (East) had the highest number of unemployed residents and Bundoora-Macleod had the highest proportion, which was also the case in 2011.

Unemployment rates have increased in Darebin between December 2019 and December 2020, the rate of unemployment is higher for both periods, in comparison to Greater Melbourne, Victoria and Australia. Table 8b shows the unemployment data for Darebin.

Table 8b: Unemployment in Darebin, Greater Melbourne, Victoria and Australia, comparisons from December 2019 to December 2020

Area	Unemployed people Dec 2019	Unemployed people Dec 2020	Unemployment rate 2019	Unemployment rate 2020
City of Darebin	4,780	6,848	5.1	7.2
Greater Melbourne	-	-	4.9	6.9
Victoria	-	-	4.7	6.5
Australia	-	-	5.2	6.5

Source: Id Consulting

Table 8c: Employment status in Darebin, Northern Region, Greater Melbourne, Victoria and Australia 2016

Suburb	Employed	Employed full-time	Employed part-time	Unemployed (Unemployment rate)	Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work
Alphington	95.5	56.6	37.9	4.5	1.3	3.2
Bundoora-Macleod	86.9	45.9	38.1	13.1	3.0	10.1
Fairfield	94.2	58.3	34.4	5.8	2.9	2.9
Kingsbury	86.7	44.1	39.6	13.3	4.9	8.4
Northcote (East)	95.4	59.4	34.6	4.6	2.4	2.2
Northcote (West)	95.2	59.7	34.0	4.8	2.2	2.5
Preston (East)	91.9	54.7	35.3	8.1	4.6	3.5
Preston (West)	93.5	56.3	35.6	6.5	3.4	3.0
Reservoir (Cheddar)	91.2	56.1	33.2	8.8	5.3	3.5
Reservoir (Edwardes Lake)	92.0	57.7	32.4	8.0	4.5	3.5
Reservoir (Merrilands)	92.6	55.6	34.3	7.4	4.4	3.1
Reservoir (Oakhill)	91.2	53.2	35.7	8.8	4.6	4.2

Thornbury (East)	94.2	57.9	34.9	5.8	2.8	3.0
Thornbury (West)	95.1	56.5	37.4	4.9	2.4	2.5
City of Darebin	92.8	56.0	35.0	7.2	3.6	3.5
Northern Region	93.2	57.9	33.5	6.8	3.6	3.1
Greater Melbourne	93.2	58.0	33.5	6.8	3.5	3.3
Victoria	93.4	57.0	34.6	6.6	3.5	3.1
Australia	93.1	57.7	33.7	6.9	3.9	3.0

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id Consulting

The unemployment rates for youth aged 15-24 years showed that Bundoora-Macleod had the highest number of unemployed young people. Bundoora-Macleod and Kingsbury had the highest proportions of unemployed young people, but it should be noted that these suburbs are close to Latrobe University and home to a large number of students. Individuals and families reliant on income support are at risk of disadvantage. Table 8d below shows a snapshot of the type of Centrelink payment and the number of Darebin residents who accessed it in June 2019.²⁹

Table 8d: Centrelink payment types in Darebin, June 2019

Centrelink payment type	Number of Darebin recipients
ABSTUDY (+ living allowance)	71
Age Pension	14,866
Carer allowance	4,281
Disability support pension	5,002
Low income card	2,685
Newstart allowance	3,915
Youth allowance (student, apprentice and other)	2,530
Commonwealth rent assistance	7,602

Source: City of Greater Dandenong

Household income is another indicator of disadvantage and low socio-economic status. Table 9 below shows the number of low-income households by suburb in Darebin. In 2016, the ABS classified a low-income household as earning less than \$650 per week.

Table 9: Low-income households, Darebin, Northern Region, Greater Melbourne, Victoria and Australia 2016 (enumerated count)

Suburb	Number of low-income households	Total households	%
Alphington	133	1,106	12.0
Bundoora-Macleod	383	2,035	18.8
Fairfield	343	2,261	15.2
Kingsbury	319	1,306	24.4
Northcote (East)	850	5,595	15.2
Northcote (West)	524	3,706	14.2
Preston (East)	1,371	6,390	21.5
Preston (West)	1,060	5,922	17.9
Reservoir (Cheddar)	1,255	5,279	23.8
Reservoir (Edwardes Lake)	997	5,213	19.1

²⁹City of Greater Dandenong 2020. Statistical Data for Victorian Communities viewed on 11th March 2021 Available <https://greaterdandenong.com/document/18464/statistical-data-for-victorian-communities>

Reservoir (Merrilands)	718	3,364	21.4
Reservoir (Oakhill)	1,277	4,789	26.7
Thornbury (East)	776	4,354	17.8
Thornbury (West)	492	3,088	15.9
City of Darebin	10,636	55,229	19.3
Northern Region	56,207	342,710	16.4
Greater Melbourne	264,804	1,589,875	16.7
Victoria	390,468	2,137,444	18.3
Australia	1,514,250	8,434,530	18.0

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id Consulting

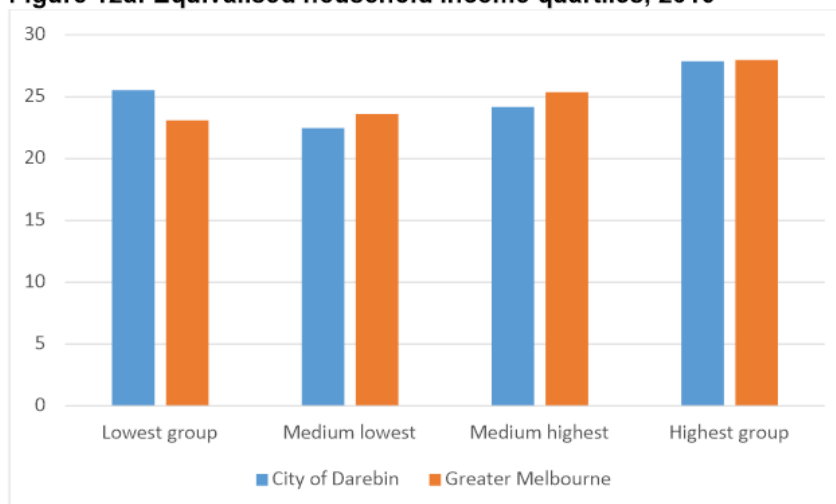
In 2016, 10,636 Darebin households had an income of less than \$650 per week. The highest proportion of these households was in Reservoir (Oakhill) at 26.7 per cent. This area also has the highest proportion of social housing in Darebin (9.5 per cent). Preston (East) had the highest number of low-income households in Darebin.

While household income is a useful measure, it is difficult to determine whether changes over time and between geographic areas are due to actual changes in income levels, or changes in household size and composition. For example, an increase in low-income households in an area could be due to job losses in key economic sectors, or to decreasing household sizes as adult children leave home.

Equivalised Household Income puts all households on an equal footing independent of household size and composition to enable a true comparison between areas over time. It is an indicator of the income resource available to a household of standard size and is the best measure of the changing economic fortunes of households in the City of Darebin.

Figure 12a below shows the 2016 equivalised household income for Darebin and Greater Melbourne. Darebin has a larger proportion of houses in the 'lowest' quartile and a lesser proportion in the 'medium lowest' and 'medium highest' quartiles than Greater Melbourne.

Figure 12a: Equivalised household income quartiles, 2016

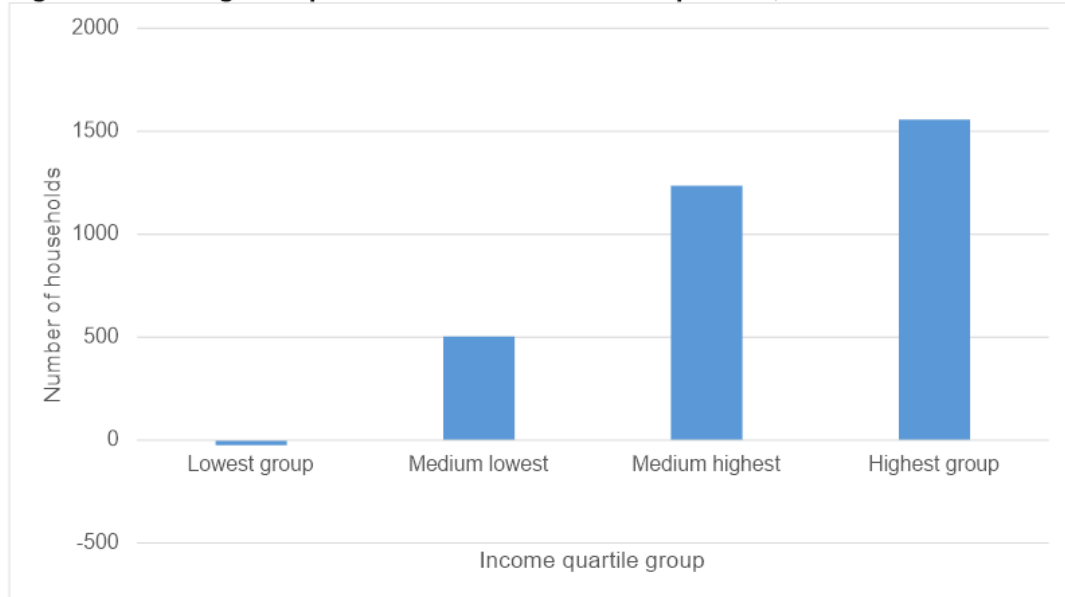


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2016 (Enumerated data). Compiled and presented by profile.id consulting

When compared to the 2011 Census data (Figure 12b) it is evident that the largest change is an increase in the 'highest' group. There is also a slight decline in the number of households

in the 'lowest' group. This could be directly related to the gentrification of Darebin and does not necessarily indicate that there is less disadvantage. While the proportion of households in the 'highest' group has increased from 2011, the households in the 'lowest' group remained relatively stable and accounted for approximately 25% of all households in Darebin.

Figure 12b: Change in equivalised household income quartiles, 2011 to 2016



Source: Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 and 2016 (Enumerated data). Compiled and presented by profile.id

In early 2020, the Federal government introduced the JobKeeper Payment Scheme to support businesses significantly affected by coronavirus. The scheme provided income support to employees who would have otherwise lost their jobs.³⁰ The Federal Government also increased the Jobseeker payment - the social security payment for individuals and households, received by those who are not working³¹. In Darebin, 4329 people were seeking jobseeker payment in March 2020, the number rose to 9816 by October 2020.³²

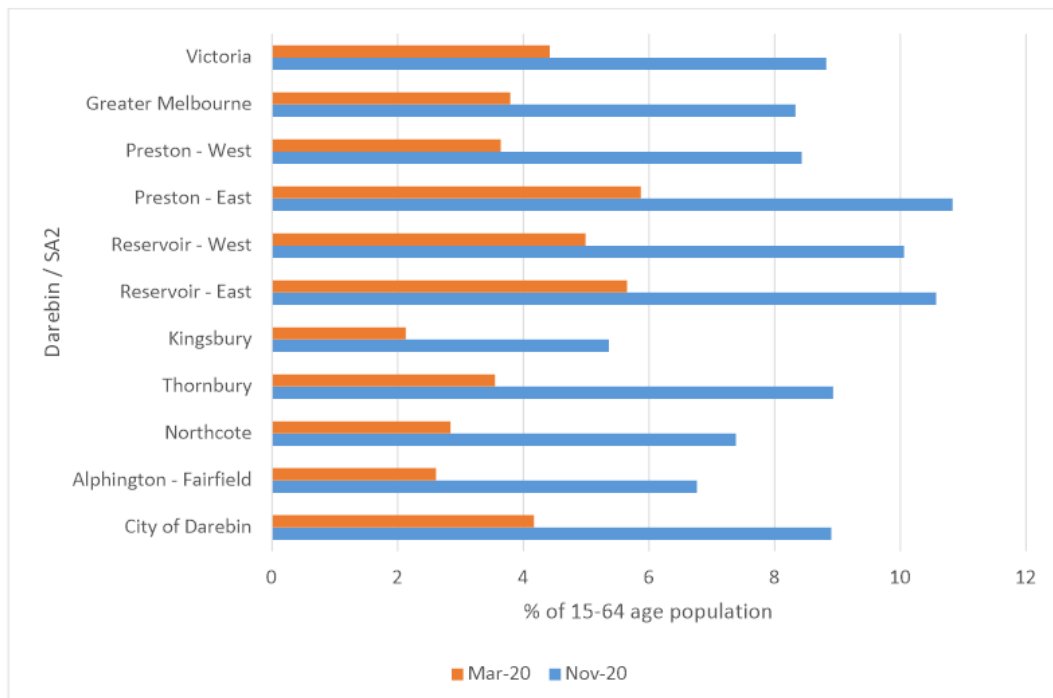
There is a clear correlation both pre-and-post pandemic, of higher rates of unemployment in lower socio-economic areas – but in relative terms the higher socio-economic areas have had a larger increase in Jobseeker recipients (see figure 12c below).

Figure 12c: Job seeker March-November 2020

³⁰ Australian Government. 2021. Jobkeeper payment. Accessed 25 March 2021 <https://business.gov.au/risk-management/emergency-management/coronavirus-information-and-support-for-business/jobkeeper-payment>

³¹ Australian Government 2021. Economic Response to the Coronavirus Increased income support. Accessed 25 March 2021 <https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/households/increased-income-support>

³² Australian Government 2020, Jobseeker payments and youth allowance. Accessed 25 March 2021 <https://data.gov.au/data/dataset/jobseeker-payment-and-youth-allowance-recipients-monthly-profile>



Source: Department of Social Services – JobSeeker and Youth Allowance recipients- monthly profile via data.gov.au. Compiled by Id Consulting

According to ABS, 5,667 organisations in Darebin started receiving the JobKeeper payments in early 2020. This number increased to 6,826 by August 2020.³³ A recent study suggest that these payments have contributed to significant reduction in poverty and housing stress among Australian population.³⁴

Homelessness

The number of people experiencing homelessness in Darebin is of growing concern. There are many different pathways into homelessness but people who are socially or economically disadvantaged are more vulnerable and homelessness is often a direct result of compounding disadvantage. There are many risk factors that may lead to people experiencing homelessness, including a lack of suitable housing, financial issues, escaping family violence, mental or physical health problems or addiction.³⁵ Other reported pathways into homelessness include incarceration, release from psychiatric facilities, loss of public housing, living in insecure accommodation such as rooming houses and loss of housing due to problem gambling.³⁶

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) define homelessness as a lack of one or more of the elements that represent ‘home’. These elements may include ‘a sense of security, stability, privacy, safety and the ability to control living space’.

³³Australian Government (2020). The economic response to Coronavirus, JobKeeper postcode data: Accessed 11 March 2021 <https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/jobkeeper/data>

³⁴Phillips, B., Gray, M. and Biddle, N. (2020). COVID-19 JobKeeper and JobSeeker Impacts on Poverty and Housing Stress Under Current and Alternative Economic and Policy Scenarios. ANU Centre for Social Research & Methods.

³⁵ Council for Homeless Persons 2018, CHP analysis of AIHW, Specialist Homelessness Services Collection, 2017-18.

³⁶ Nielszen OB, Stone, W, Jones, NM, Challis, S, Nielszen, A, Elliot, G, Burns, N, Rogoz, A, Cooper, L and Large, M 2018, ‘Characteristics of people attending psychiatric clinics in inner Sydney homeless hostels’, *Medical Journal of Australia*, 208(4), pp. 169-173.

When a person does not have suitable accommodation alternatives, they are considered homeless if their current living arrangement:

- is in a dwelling that is inadequate;
- has no tenure, or if their initial tenure is short and not extendable; or
- does not allow them to have control of, and access to, space for social relations.

Homelessness is one of the most severe forms of disadvantage and social exclusion that a person can experience. People experiencing homelessness are often excluded from participating in social, recreational, cultural and economic opportunities in their community. It is harder for people experiencing homelessness to engage in educational opportunities and they are more likely to be unemployed and to interact with the criminal justice system.³⁷ Health issues such as poor nutrition, poor dental health, mental health issues, chronic health conditions and substance misuse can be exacerbated by or be a consequence of homelessness.

Although a slightly larger number of people of all genders experience homelessness, it is a deeply gendered issue. The Council to Homeless Persons reported in 2019 that 61 per cent of clients needing homeless help were women. Women are more financially at risk as they often earn less than men. Family violence also contributes to women becoming homeless, with 40 per cent of women citing this as their reason for seeking homelessness assistance.³⁸ There is evidence to suggest that women over the age of 55 are increasingly experiencing homelessness due to compounding experiences of discrimination and financial inequality over their lifetime. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are overrepresented in this group, with one in four women accessing homeless help being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

In 2016, there were 966 people who experienced homelessness in Darebin (see Table 10 below). A street count conducted by the Launch Housing Assertive Outreach team estimated that there are approximately 80 people sleeping rough in Darebin on any given night. The vast majority of these people were living in supported accommodation for people experiencing homelessness. It is important to note that the most 'visible' homelessness, those sleeping rough or in improvised dwellings, accounted for the smallest percentage of people experiencing homelessness.

Table 10: Homelessness in Darebin 2016

Accommodation type	Number
Persons living in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out	6
Persons in supported accommodation for the homeless	436
Persons staying temporarily with other households	95

³⁷ Zaretsky, K, Flatau, P, Clear, A 2013, *The cost of homelessness and the net benefit of homeless programs: a national study*, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, Melbourne.

³⁸ Council for Homeless Persons. 2018. CHP analysis of AIHW, Specialist Homelessness Services Collection, 2017-18.

Persons living in boarding houses	125
Persons in other temporary lodgings	9
Persons living in severely crowded dwellings	295
All homeless persons	966

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id Consulting

Homeless people are by definition the most exposed to weather conditions and the social and economic problems caused by extreme weather and climate change and variability.³⁹

There is a growing field of evidence that people experiencing homelessness are disproportionately impacted by natural disasters due to factors such as exposure to the elements, lack of resources and services, as well as disenfranchisement, and stigma associated with homelessness, all while experiencing greater occurrences of environmental injustice.⁴⁰

Food Security and emergency relief

Food security is 'the state in which all persons can obtain nutritionally adequate, culturally acceptable, safe foods through non-emergency sources' (VicHealth 2005). Lack of sufficient quantity of affordable and nutritious food has a negative impact on health and wellbeing outcomes.

While the majority of households in Darebin are food secure, there is consistently around five per cent of households who have run out of food and not been able to buy more, worried about running out of food, or cut down the size of meals because there was not enough food at least once in a 12-month period. This means that approximately 3,000 of Darebin's 58,417 households experience food insecurity each year. Table 11 below shows the percentage frequency of food security in Darebin.

Table 11: Frequency of food security concerns in Darebin, 2015

Situation	Every month (%)	Every few months (%)	Once or twice (%)	Never (%)
Run out of food and not had enough money to buy more.	0.6	1.8	3.5	94.1
Worried about whether your food would run out before you get money to buy more.	0.7	3.7	5.3	90.4
Cut the size of your meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money to buy more food.	0.3	1.1	5.7	92.9

Source: Darebin City Council⁴¹

³⁹ Kidd, S.A., Greco, S. & McKenzie, K. 2021. Global Climate Implications for Homelessness: A Scoping Review. *J Urban Health* 98: pp. 385–393.

⁴⁰ Gibson, A. 2019 Climate Change for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness: Recommendations for Improving Policy, Research, and Services. *Environmental Justice* 12 (4): pp.159-163

⁴¹ Darebin City Council. 2015. Food and Nutrition Survey. Accessed 15 November 2020 www.darebin.vic.gov.au

The number of households that reported that they had run out of food and not had enough money to buy more, worried about running out of food, or cut the size of meals because there was not enough food every month in the City of Darebin is concerning. These households will likely experience the compounding effects of disadvantage and require additional support.

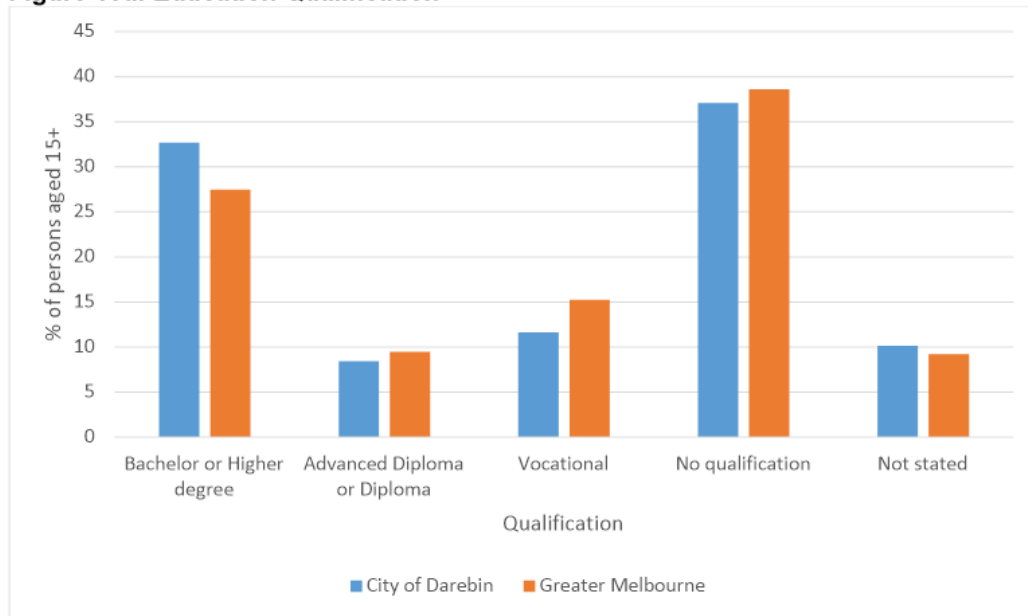
Demand for emergency food relief is growing in Darebin. The Darebin Information Volunteer Resource Service (DIVRS) is a community organisation supported by Council to provide emergency relief to the Darebin community. DIVRS supports between 30 and 50 families per day seeking emergency relief. The 2019 annual community survey conducted by DIVRS revealed that the community-ranked top three contributors to food insecurity are rent, utility bills and medical expenses. There has been a significant increase in households that require emergency food relief as a result of COVID 19. The impacts of climate change are likely to increase food and water insecurity and lead to increases in the cost of food, further compounding issues of food security for this cohort.⁴²

Backyard food production can significantly increase access to fresh, affordable and culturally appropriate produce, especially for low-income residents. For those without access to home gardens to grow food, community gardens offer an opportunity to make food growing accessible. Community gardens can also encourage the intergenerational and intercultural sharing of knowledge and skills, foster social connections and reduce social isolation.⁴³ Increasing opportunities for new community gardens in Darebin can therefore help to realise multiple outcomes relating to health and wellbeing in addition to food security.

Education

Education and participation in learning can influence the types of industries and occupations in which Darebin residents are employed. Figure 13a below shows education qualification across Darebin.

Figure 13a: Education Qualification



⁴² Deloitte Insights – Climate Change 101 for Business Leaders. Accessed 4 June 2021

<https://www2.deloitte.com/global/en/insights/topics/strategy/economic-impact-climate-change.html>

⁴³ Donati, K. & Rose, N. (2020). 'Every seed I plant is a wish for tomorrow' Findings and Action Agenda from the 2020 National Pandemic Gardening Survey. Melbourne, Victoria: Sustain: The Australian Food Network. Accessed 16 June 2021 https://sustain.org.au/media/documents/SUSTAIN_Pandemic-Gardening-Report_WEB.pdf

Source: Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2016 (Usual residence data). Compiled and presented by profile.id

Compared to Greater Melbourne, Darebin had a higher proportion of people holding formal qualifications (Bachelor or higher degree; Advanced Diploma or Diploma; or Vocational qualifications), and a lower proportion of people with no formal qualifications. Overall, 52.7% of the population aged 15 and over in Darebin held educational qualifications, and 37.1% had no qualifications, compared with 52.2% and 38.6% respectively for Greater Melbourne.

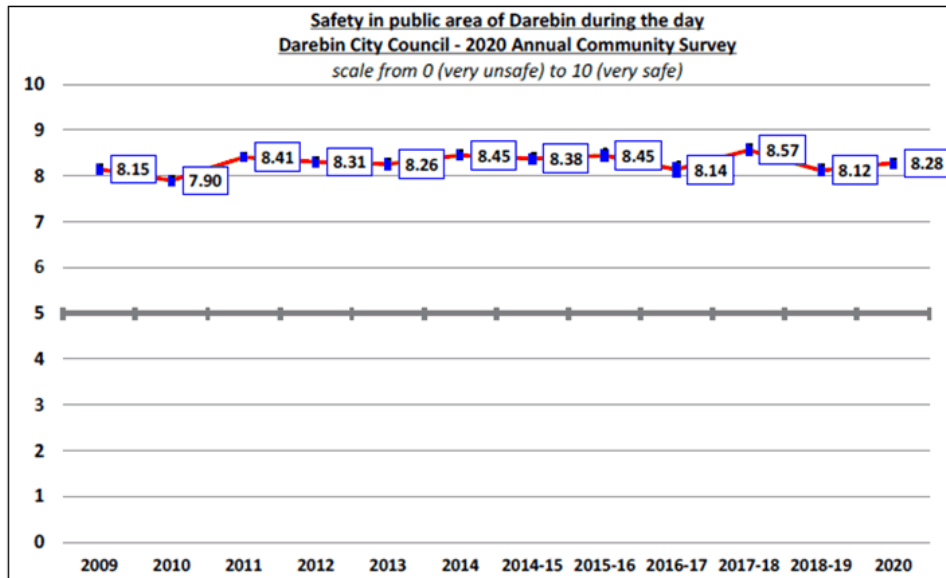
The Darebin Library and Learning Strategy 2020-2024⁴⁴ guides Councils actions of providing a range of lifelong learning opportunities for Darebin residents. This improves social inclusion, community engagement, personal development and employability.

Perceptions of safety

Neighbourhoods which are perceived as safe foster community participation and encourage physical activity, and community connectedness. This contributes to better health and wellbeing outcomes for local residents and visitors. The 2020 Darebin Annual Community Survey reported that perception of safety in the public areas during the day has remained relatively stable since 2009 (see Figure 13b below).

Figure 13b: Perceptions of safety during the day

⁴⁴ Darebin City Council. 2020. Darebin Library and Learning Strategy 2020-2024. Accessed 17 November 2020 www.darebin.vic.gov.au



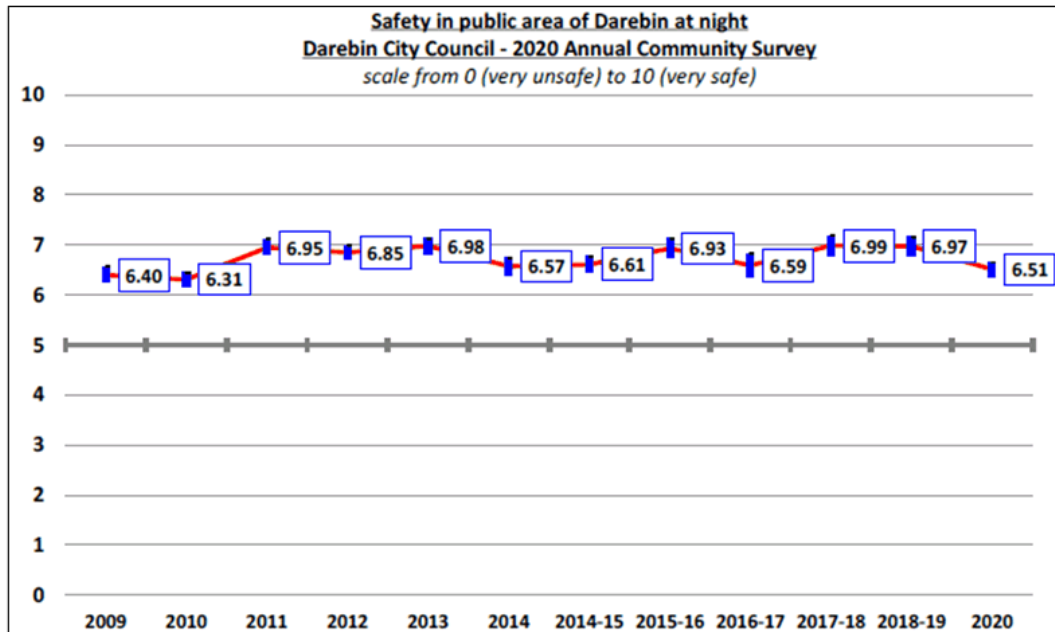
Source: Source: Darebin City Council⁴⁵

In addition, the Survey reported that:

- The perception of safety tends to decline with the respondents' age, from a high of 9.10 for adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years) to a low of 7.94 for middle aged adults (aged 45 to 59 years).
- Female respondents felt measurably and significantly (4.3%) less safe in the public areas of the municipality during the day than male respondents.
- Respondents from multi-lingual households felt measurably (2.7%) less safe than respondents from English speaking households.
- Respondents from households with a member with a disability felt somewhat, albeit not measurably, less safe than other respondents.
- According to the Survey, perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night declined measurably and significantly in 2020. This is the lowest perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin recorded in a decade (see Figure 14 below).

Figure 14: Perceptions of safety at night

⁴⁵ Darebin City Council 2020. Annual Community Survey. Accessed 15 November 2020 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Discover-Darebin/Darebin-Overview/Community-Satisfaction-Survey>



Source: Darebin City Council⁴⁶

The Survey also noted that there was measurable and significant variation in the perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years) felt measurably safer than the average, whilst middle-aged adults (aged 45 to 59 years) felt measurably less safe.
- women felt measurably and significantly (14.2%) less safe in the public areas of the municipality during the day than male respondents.
- respondents from households with a member with a disability felt somewhat, albeit not measurably, less safe than other respondents.

Finally, the survey noted that there was measurable and significant variation in the perception of safety in the public areas of the municipality at night observed across the municipality, as follows:

- *Northcote* – respondents felt measurably and significantly safer in public areas at night than the municipal average.
- *Reservoir East* – respondents felt measurably and significantly less safe in public areas at night than the municipal average.

Gambling

In Darebin, gambling through Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) continues to be directly associated with the greatest harms to individuals, their families and the general community with over \$80M lost every year. Between 23 March 2020 and 10 November 2020—a period when pokies venues were closed on due to COVID-19—Darebin community saved approximately \$51 million from being spent on poker machines.⁴⁷ Table 12 below shows how much money community members lost to pokies between July 2018 and June 2021.

⁴⁶ Darebin City Council 2020. Annual Community Survey. Accessed 15 November 2020 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Discover-Darebin/Darebin-Overview/Community-Satisfaction-Survey>

⁴⁷ This figure is based on modelling done by the Alliance for Gambling Reform (AGR)

Table 12: Gambling loss in Darebin between July 2018 and June 2021

MONTH	2020 / 2021			2019 / 2020			2018 / 2019		
	Loss (\$)	No of Egms	No of Venues	Loss (\$)	No of Egms	No of Venues	Loss (\$)	No of Egms	No of Venues
JUL	-	0	0	6,735,639	744	12	7,675,768	738	12
AUG	-	0	0	7,050,338	744	12	7,490,612	743	12
SEP	-	0	0	6,697,325	744	12	6,917,211	744	12
OCT	-	0	0	6,765,747	743	12	6,869,215	744	12
NOV	2,950,392	733	12	6,611,147	744	12	6,839,956	744	12
Dec	7,442,628	740	12	6,497,950	744	12	7,216,881	744	12
JAN	7,472,953	740	12	6,421,432	744	12	6,195,777	744	12
FEB	5,524,480	738	12	6,036,500	743	12	6,123,031	744	12
MAR	7,383,967	742	12	4,126,219	743	12	6,704,323	738	12
APR	6,818,664	743	12	-	0	0	6,284,091	744	12
MAY	6,098,337	736	12	-	0	0	6,619,053	744	12
JUN	-	0	0	-	0	0	6,640,191	744	12
TOTAL:	43,691,421			56,942,296			81,576,110		

Source: Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation⁴⁸

Gambling on EGMs is widely considered a public health issue in Australia. Besides losing money, pokie users are more likely to report poor health – self-reported poor health, severe psychological distress, past-year smoking, clinical alcohol abuse – and also more likely to report poor social capital.⁴⁹ An emerging body of research has also documented association between gambling and family violence. For example, a recent study in Australia reported a statistically significant correlation between poker machine density and police-recorded family violence rates.⁵⁰ The Darebin Electronic Gaming (EGM) Policy 2018-2022⁵¹ guides Councils actions in reducing harm caused by EGMs.

⁴⁸ Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation. 2021. Current gaming expenditure by LGA – monthly. Accessed 1 July 2021 <https://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au/resources/data-and-research/gambling-data/gaming-expenditure-local-area>

⁴⁹ Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation. 2014. The Victorian gambling study; a longitudinal study of gambling and health in Victoria 2008-2012. http://www.responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/10016/A-LONGITUDINAL-STUDY-OF-GAMBLING-AND-HEALTH-IN-VICTORIA-20082012.pdf

⁵⁰ Markham, F., Doran, B. and Young, M. (2016). The relationship between electronic gaming machine accessibility and police-recorded domestic violence: A spatio-temporal analysis of 654 postcodes in Victoria, Australia, 2005-2014. *Social Science & Medicine* pp: 106-114.

⁵¹ Darebin City Council. 2018. Darebin Electronic Gaming Machine Policy and Action Plan 2018-2022. Accessed 16 November 2020 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/>

Gender inequality, family violence and violence against women

Gender inequality is the root cause of violence against women.⁵² Violence against women⁵³ is the biggest contributor to ill health, disability and premature death in women aged 15–44 in Victoria.⁵⁴ This has profound social, economic and health impacts on women, their families and the society.⁵⁵ In addition, children who experience family violence⁵⁶ have poor health and wellbeing outcomes that affect their development and schooling.⁵⁷ Therefore, addressing gender inequality and preventing family violence, and violence against women is critical in promoting the health and wellbeing of women, their families and the community. Figure 15 below shows family violence incidents reports in Darebin.

⁵² Our Watch 2015. Change the Story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women and their children in Australia. Accessed 10 October 2020 <https://www.ourwatch.org.au/what-we-do/national-primary-prevention-framework>

⁵³ Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life. This includes, but is not limited to, "physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family". (United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women)

⁵⁴ VicHealth. 2004. The health costs of violence: Measuring the burden of disease caused by intimate partner violence. Melbourne: VicHealth.

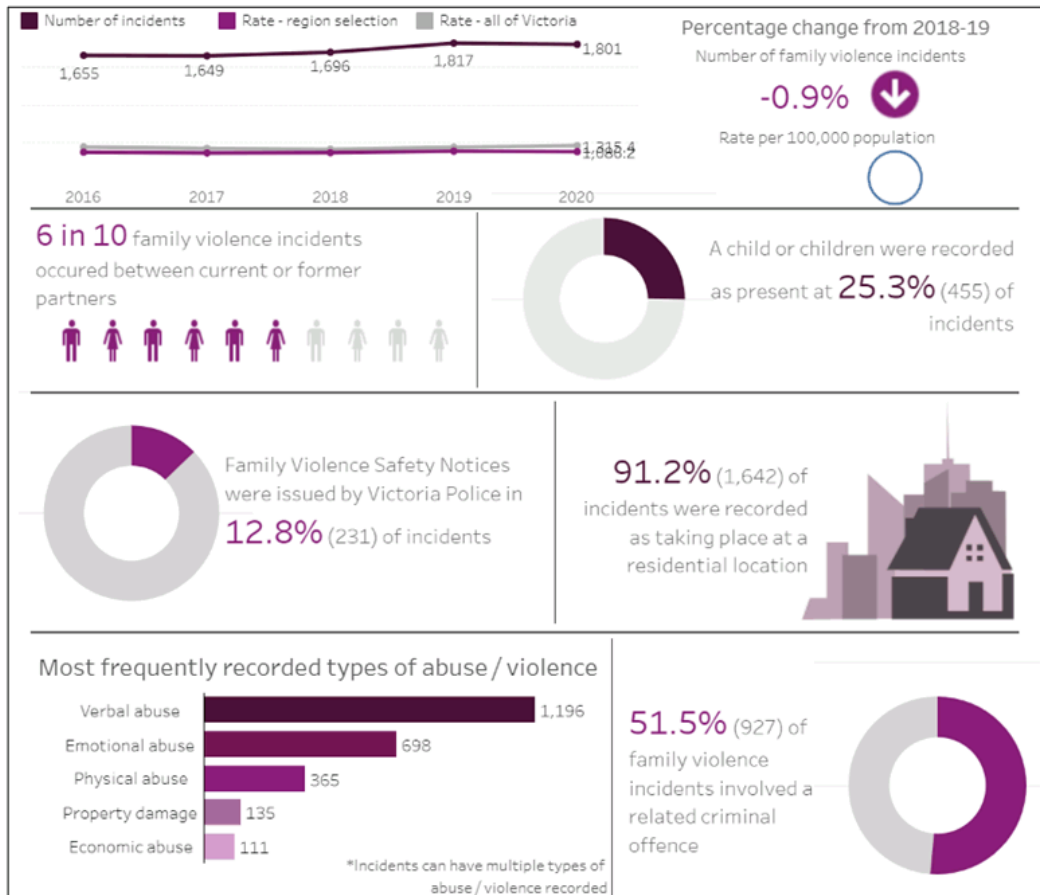
⁵⁵ VicHealth. 2011. Preventing Violence Against Women in Australia Research Summary: Addressing the social and economic determinants of mental and physical health. Accessed 20 May 2021

https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/~media/ResourceCentre/PublicationsandResources/PVAW/VH_VAW%20Research%20Summary_Nov2011.pdf?la=en&hash=92361D52E7501C26C90E75644DA3F7B8C1073DF7

⁵⁶ (a) Behaviour by a person towards a family member of that person if that behaviour: (i) is physically or sexually abusive; or (ii) is emotionally or psychologically abusive; or (iii) is economically abusive; or (iv) is threatening; or (v) is coercive; or (vi) in any other way controls or dominates the family member and causes that family member to feel fear for the safety or wellbeing of that family member or another person; or (b) Behaviour by a person that causes a child to hear or witness, or otherwise be exposed to the effects of, behaviour referred to in paragraph (a). (Victoria's Family Violence Protection Act, 2008).

⁵⁷ Commonwealth of Australia. 2015. Children's exposure to domestic and family violence Key issues and responses. Accessed 19 November 2020 <https://aifs.gov.au/cfca/sites/default/files/publication-documents/cfca-36-children-exposure-fdv.pdf>; Monica Campo 2015: 'Children's exposure to domestic and family violence – Key issues and responses. Child Family Community Australia CFCA Practitioner Resource. CFCA Paper No. 36, December 2015, Australian Institute of Family Studies. Accessed 19 November 2020 <https://aifs.gov.au/cfca/publications/childrens-exposure-domestic-and-family-violence>

Figure 15: Police reported family violence incidents between 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020



Source: Crime Statistics Agency^{58**}

The Darebin Gender Equity and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019-2023⁵⁹ seeks to address the root causes of violence against women and improve gender equity. It also seeks to address the social and cultural conditions that enable violence against women and all forms of gender-based violence to persist. The Action Plan recognises that some groups of woman experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination based on structural violence and entrenched practices of discrimination that can limit access to the family violence response system.

** Family violence is a vastly underreported crime. Of women who had experienced violence from a current partner, 39% had never sought advice or support and 80% had never contacted the police (Our Watch, 2015)⁶⁰.

Racism

⁵⁸ Crime Statistics Agency. 2020. Police reported family violence incidents occurring in Darebin. Accessed 19 November 2020 <https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/family-violence-data-portal>

⁵⁹ Darebin City Council. 2019. Gender Equity and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019-2023. Accessed 16 November 2020 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/>

⁶⁰ Our Watch, ANROWS, & VicHealth. (2015). Change the Story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women and their children in Australia. Melbourne: Our Watch, Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety, & VicHealth.

Racial discrimination is considered as a key social determinant of health and key contributor to health inequities. Several studies have linked racism with poorer health outcomes related to mental health with reduced access to healthcare and poorer patient experiences.⁶¹

In June 2019, the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission created the Community Reporting Tool (CRT) – an online form through which people can report about racism, discrimination, hate speech, religious vilification and breaches of their human rights.⁶² Between June 2019-June 2020, 133 incidents of racism were reported by the CRT. Five of these reports came from Darebin. The CRT revealed that there was three times increase of reports during COVID-19 pandemic. Approximately 64% incidents were reported in metropolitan locations. According to CRT, the highest proportion of incidents (23.8%) occurred at the shopping centres.

Darebin City Council is working towards a racism-free Darebin where all community's cultural diversity is valued, celebrated, respected, embraced, and leveraged. Council's Towards Equality- Equity, Inclusion, and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 provides an overarching framework towards council's commitment towards anti-racism.⁶³ In addition, council's website provides a link to the CRT to make reporting easier for Darebin community members.

Discrimination against the LGBTIQ+ community

Discrimination due to sexuality and gender identity also has a significant impact on health and wellbeing. Research from LGBTIQ Health Australia shows that a disproportionate number of LGBTIQ+ people experience poorer mental health outcomes and have higher risk of suicidal behaviours than their peers. These health outcomes are directly related to experiences of stigma, prejudice, discrimination and abuse on the basis of being LGBTIQ+.⁶⁴

Council is committed to upholding and advocating for the rights, inclusion and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ people and communities. Council is working towards equality for residents. Our aim is to strengthen the participation and rights of all in Darebin, regardless of sexuality, or sex or gender identity.

Disability

According to the Australian Census of Population and Housing,⁶⁵ approximately 8,774 people in Darebin reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to a disability in 2016. This equates to 6.0% of the population. Both the total number and the proportion of people with disability have increased over the last ten years. The number grew from 7,143 people in 2006 to 8,050 in 2011 and 8,774 in 2016. The proportion of the total population with disability increased, from 5.6% in 2006, to 5.9% in 2011 and 6.0% in 2016. The representation of females and males in these numbers has remained relatively similar over the years with more females in need of assistance than males (see Figure 16 below).

Figure 16: Total number of people with need for assistance due to disability split by sex, Darebin, 2006-2016.

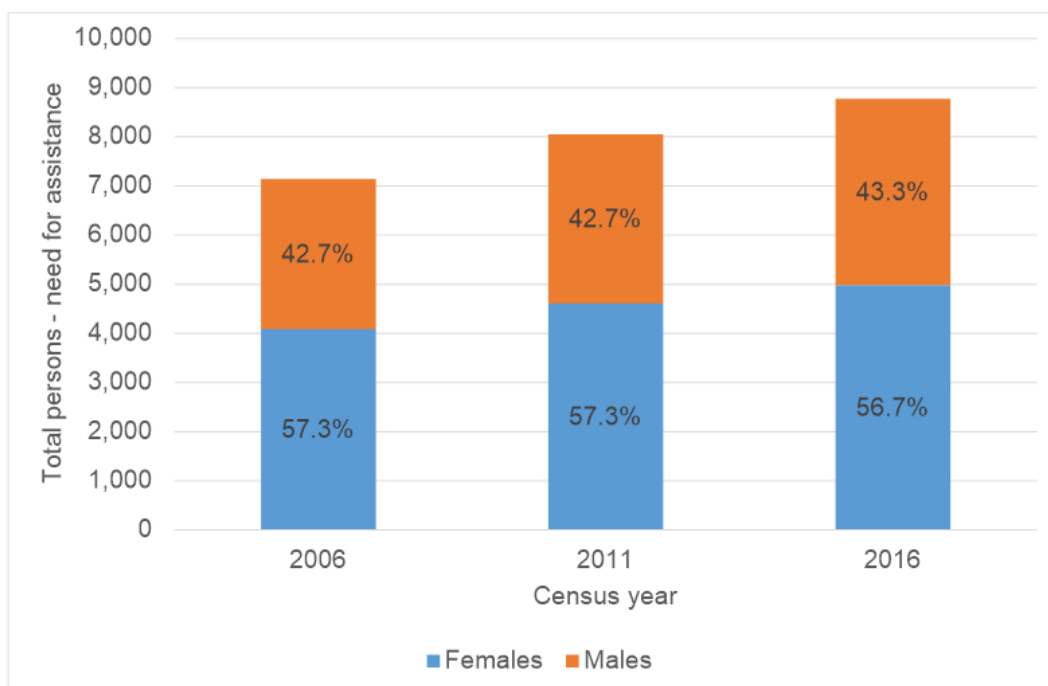
⁶¹ Stanley, J., Harris, R., and Cormack, D. et al. 2019. The impact of racism on the future health of adults: protocol for a prospective cohort study. *BMC Public Health* 19 pp: 1-10

⁶² Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission. 2020. Community Reporting Tool. Accessed 16 May 2021 <https://www.humanrights.vic.gov.au/get-help/community-reporting-tool/>

⁶³ Darebin City Council 2020. Diversity. Accessed 15 May 2021 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Darebin-Living/Community-support/Diversity#Gender-Equity-in-the-Early-Years>

⁶⁴ LGBTIQ+ Health Australia <https://www.lgbtiqhealth.org.au/statistics>

⁶⁵ ID Consulting 2020. Darebin City Council – Demographic analysis for the “Disability Access and Inclusion Plan”



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2016 (Usual residence data). Compiled by profile.id

Table 13 below shows distribution of people with a need for assistance across Darebin suburbs. Changes at a local level can reveal that some areas have experienced more significant change than others.

Table 13: spatial distribution of people with a need for assistance

Suburb	2006 total	2006 % of pop	2016 total	2016 % of pop	Change 2006-2016	Change in 2006-2016
Alphington	116	4.2%	129	4.1%	13	-0.1%
Bundoora and Macleod	158	3.0%	200	2.6%	42	-0.4%
Fairfield	193	3.9%	243	4.3%	50	0.4%
Kingsbury	139	4.4%	184	5.0%	45	0.6%
Northcote	1,070	5.0%	1,179	4.8%	109	-0.2%
Preston	1,648	5.7%	1,898	5.7%	250	0.0%
Reservoir	3,009	6.7%	3,814	7.6%	805	0.9%
Thornbury	828	4.9%	1,117	6.0%	289	1.1%
Total- Darebin	7,143	5.6%	8,774	6.0%	1,631	0.4%

Source: Id Consulting

The table indicates that the largest increases in the proportion of the population with a disability between 2006 and 2016 were in Thornbury (+1.1%), Reservoir (+0.9%), Kingsbury (+0.6%) and Fairfield (+0.4). Preston retained the same proportion of the population who identified as needing assistance due to disability in 2016 as in 2006 (5.7%) and three suburbs experienced declines in the proportion of people with disability – Alphington (-0.1%), Northcote (-0.2%), Bundoora and Macleod (-0.4%). Some changes at the local level can be due to the opening or expansion of institutions for aged care or disability service providers.

Internet access

Digital inclusion has been a key issue for many disadvantaged families and individuals in Darebin. According to the 2016 ABS population census, 16.9% of households in Darebin did not have any person (within the household) accessing internet— either on a mobile or a home internet connection. This figure is higher above the Victorian average (see Table 14 below)

Table 14: Dwelling internet connection

Dwelling Internet Connection	Darebin (C)	%	Victoria	%
Internet not accessed from dwelling	9,227	16.9	287,506	13.6
Internet accessed from dwelling	43,886	80.2	1,768,050	83.7
Not stated	1,620	3.0	57,157	2.7

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id Consulting

Using the internet has become an integral part of daily life. Now, more than ever, many people use the internet for a large range reasons including finding information, connecting with friends and family members, accessing health services, banking and paying bills, entertainment etc. Consequently, people unable to access internet experience digital disadvantage since they cannot perform online activities.

According to the Australian Digital Inclusion Index⁶⁶ the following groups of people are more likely to experience digital exclusion: people in households with a low income (particularly households with an annual income under \$35,000), those with mobile phone internet access only, older people, (particularly those aged 65+years), people with a low level of education (particularly those with less than secondary education), people living with disability, people not in the labour force, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Culturally and linguistically diverse migrants who have recently arrived in Australia, and people living in regional and country Victoria (compared to those living in Melbourne). Darebin Council will continue working with its stakeholders to improve digital inclusion among these vulnerable population groups.

Climate change

Climate change has been linked to increased intensity and frequency of heatwaves, fires, flood events and solar radiation.⁶⁷ Globally, the number of weather-related natural disasters has more than tripled since the 1960s.⁶⁸ These weather conditions have potential to cause poor health outcomes for individuals.

The current and expected health impacts of climate change include:

⁶⁶ Thomas J, Barraket J, Wilson CK, Rennie E, Ewing S, MacDonald T. *Measuring Australia's Digital Divide: The Australian Digital Inclusion Index 2019*. RMIT University and Swinburne University of Technology for Telstra; 2019. Accessed 03 May 2020 <https://doi.org/10.25916/5d6478f373869>

⁶⁷ Victoria State Government, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2015). *Climate-Ready Victoria: How climate change will affect the Greater Melbourne region and how you can be climate-ready*. Accessed 20 February 2020 <http://www.eucentre.unimelb.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Climate-Ready-Brochure-for-Greater-Melbourne.pdf>

⁶⁸ United Nations. 2018. UN Factsheet – climate change and health. Accessed 8 June 2021 <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/climate-change-and-health>

- Injury, illness or death due to extreme weather events, including bushfires, heatwaves, storms and floods;
- An increase in cardiovascular and respiratory diseases due to increased aeroallergens and air pollution;
- Food and water insecurity due to reduced crop yields and poor-quality water sources, resulting from changing weather patterns;
- An increase in vector-borne diseases (e.g. dengue fever), as a result of warmer weather and changing rainfall patterns
- Mental health impacts from extreme weather events and/or changing environments as well as their associated social and economic impacts.⁶⁹

In addition, system and power outages as a result of extreme weather events such as heatwaves, bushfires, storms or floods can impact on people's access to emergency services, communications and transport, and cause food spoilage, water contamination and impact people's access to medications particularly where they require refrigeration.

Heatwaves can trigger heat strokes and dehydration in children, the older people and people with chronic diseases.⁷⁰ The Climate Council of Australia has found that major heatwaves have caused more deaths since 1890 than bushfires, cyclones, earthquakes, floods and severe storms combined.⁷¹ A recent international study calculated that, 37% of warm-season heat-related deaths can be attributed to climate change.⁷² In addition, the rise in extreme heat increases irritability and psychological stress. Hot weather affects patterns in domestic violence, interrupts sleep patterns and reduces capacity and willingness to exercise. All carry broad ramifications, such as increased accident risk, sedentary lifestyle-induced diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.⁷³

The *Recent Feeling the Heat Report*⁷⁴ by VCOSS explores the impacts of extreme heat on Victorians and outlines the risk factors that exacerbate heat vulnerability. It finds that those most at risk of heat-related impacts include:

- Older people
- People with chronic health conditions
- People with disabilities
- People from low income households or who live in public housing
- Recently-arrived refugees or asylum seekers, and those who aren't able to access health advice in their language

⁶⁹ Horsburgh, N., Armstrong, F. and Mulvenna, V. 2017. Framework for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia. Accessed 16 June 2021

https://d3n8a8pro7vwmx.cloudfront.net/caha/pages/40/attachments/original/1498008324/CAHA_Framework_for_a_National_Strategy_on_Climate_Health_and_Well-being_v05_SCREEN_%28Full_Report%29.pdf?1498008324.

⁷⁰ Bi P, Williams S, Loughnan M, Lloyd G, Hansen A, Kjellstrom T, Dear K, Saniotis A. 2011. The effects of extreme heat on human mortality and morbidity in Australia: implications for public health. *Asia Pac J Public Health*. Mar;23(2 Suppl):pp 27-36.

⁷¹ McDonald D & Havens, C. 2021. Linking Climate Change and Health Impacts Social research exploring awareness among Victorians and our healthcare professionals of the health effects of climate change. Accessed 4 June 2021 Available at

<https://assets.sustainability.vic.gov.au/susvic/Report-Linking-climate-change-and-health-impacts-Research-Snapshot-2020.pdf>

⁷² Vicedo-Cabrera, A. M., N. Scovronick, F. Sera, D. Royé, R. Schneider, A. Tobias, C. Astrom, Y. Guo, Y. Honda, D. M. Hondula, R. Abrutzky, S. Tong, M. de Sousa Zanotti Stagliorio Coelho, P. H. Nascimento Saidiva, E. Lavigne, P. Matus Correa, N. Valdes Ortega, H. Kan, S. Osorio, J. Kysej, A. Urban, H. Orru, E. Indermitte, J. J. K. Jaakkola, N. Ryt, M. Pascal, A. Schneider, K. Katsouyanni, E. Samoli, F. Mayvaneh, A. Entezari, P. Goodman, A. Zeka, P. Michelozzi, F. de'Donato, M. Hashizume, B. Alahmad, M. Hurtado Diaz, C. De La Cruz Valencia, A. Overcenco, D. Houthuijs, C. Ameling, S. Rao, F. Di Ruscio, G. Carrasco-Escobar, X. Seposo, S. Silva, J. Madureira, I. H. Holobaca, S. Fratianni, F. Acquaotta, H. Kim, W. Lee, C. Iniguez, B. Forsberg, M. S. Ragettli, Y. L. L. Guo, B. Y. Chen, S. Li, B. Armstrong, A. Aleman, A. Zanobetti, J. Schwartz, T. N. Dang, D. V. Dung, N. Gillett, A. Haines, M. Mengel, V. Huber and A. Gasparini. 2021. *The burden of heat-related mortality attributable to recent human-induced climate change* Nature climate change 11: pp 492–500

⁷³ HeatWatch Extreme heat in Western Sydney - The Australia Institute Mark Ogge Bill Browne Travis Hughes November 2018 available at <https://australianinstitute.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Western-Sydney-Heatwatch-WEB.pdf> accessed 9 June 2021

⁷⁴ Victorian Council of Social Services, 2021, *Feeling the Heat*. Accessed 16 June 2021 <https://vcoss.org.au/policy/library/2021/06/feelingtheheat/>.

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning identifies Preston and Reservoir and some of Melbourne most at risk suburbs to heat vulnerability vegetation cover, land surface temperature and the urban heat vulnerability assessment.

The built environment also influences behaviours that encourage active living and physical exercises. Active travel, for example, increases physical activity and helps individuals to maintain better health. Active transport also reduces noise and greenhouse gas emissions, and improves air quality, all of which lead to better health outcomes of a population.⁷⁵ The city of Darebin has a wealth of natural beauty in our parks, creeks and streetscapes, which make up over 790 hectares of public open space. This includes including local and district parks, nature reserves, creek corridors, community gardens, large regional parks and sporting reserves (see Figure 17 below).

Figure 17: Existing open space network in Darebin.



Source: Darebin City Council

⁷⁵ Commonwealth of Australia. 2013. Walking, Riding and Access to Public Transport supporting active travel in Australian communities. Viewed on 16 June 2021. Accessed 16 June 2021 https://infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure/pab/active_transport/files/infra1874_mcu_active_travel_report_final.pdf

Temperature data collected by Viewbank weather station (closet to Darebin) suggest that, over last two decades, the average maximum temperature of Darebin and surrounding areas have increased by approximately 1.5-degree Celsius (see Figure 18 below).

Figure 18: Average maximum temperature data from Viewbank station

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
1999											33.0	24.9	
2000	25.4	30.5	26.4	22.1	16.2	13.9	13.9	15.3	17.2	18.5	23.7	26.5	20.8
2001	30.3	29.7	25.2	20.6	16.8	15.3	14.2	15.0	18.8	18.6	20.6	21.6	20.6
2002	25.6	25.3	24.3	22.0	18.1	15.1	14.9	15.5	18.1	20.5	24.0	25.4	20.7
2003	28.3	27.0	24.3	20.8	18.2	14.6	14.1	14.2	16.5	16.9	23.3	27.1	20.4
2004	25.1	26.5	24.2	21.2	16.4	14.2	13.1	15.5	16.4	20.3	21.8	24.5	19.9
2005	27.0	23.8	23.5	24.1	18.0	15.8	14.3	15.6	17.5	20.9	24.0	27.4	21.0
2006	28.6	25.7	26.6	18.7	15.7	13.4	13.8	15.9	19.0	21.7	23.3	26.0	20.7
2007	28.4	30.5	25.9	22.9	19.1	13.1	13.1	16.4	18.2	21.6	25.1	27.1	21.8
2008	28.9	25.4	27.8	20.7	16.4	14.9	13.4	13.6	18.7	21.8	22.8	23.3	20.6
2009	29.6	28.4	24.5	20.5	17.2	14.7	14.4	16.1	17.9	19.6	27.8	25.9	21.4
2010	27.6	28.7	26.0	22.3	17.4	13.6	13.6	13.6	15.5	20.2	23.0	24.6	20.5
2011	26.5	24.9	22.9	20.5	15.4	14.8	13.8	16.4	18.5	20.3	23.8	24.9	20.2
2012	27.7	27.8	23.3	21.7	16.1	13.8	14.1	14.4	17.8	20.5	23.7	26.4	20.6
2013	28.6	30.2	27.4	20.8	17.6	14.5	15.1	15.6	19.5	19.0	21.8	25.0	21.3
2014	29.7	29.7	26.2	20.9	18.7	15.0	13.9	15.3	18.5	22.2	24.6	25.7	21.7
2015	27.3	28.6	23.9	19.7	16.8	13.9	12.8	13.7	17.3	25.2	24.2	29.8	21.1
2016	27.9	27.6	26.2	22.8	18.4	13.8	14.1	15.4	16.4	19.0	21.6	27.2	20.9
2017	28.1	26.9	28.6	21.0	17.0	14.4	14.4	14.5	17.6	21.6	27.2	26.3	21.5
2018	29.1	28.7	26.2	23.3	17.6	14.2	14.5	14.9	17.3	22.2	22.7	26.9	21.5
2019	31.4	28.0	26.6	22.7	17.8	14.8	14.3	14.0	17.8	21.8	22.8	26.9	21.6
2020	28.5	25.6	23.2	19.1	16.1	14.7	13.6	14.8	18.2	19.5	25.0	24.4	20.2
2021	27.0												

Source: Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Darebin Council’s breathing Space⁷⁶—The Darebin Open Space Strategy—provides the overarching framework and strategic direction for public open space in the City of Darebin. The Strategy’s vision is that the future of Darebin will be a green one with more and better open spaces that respond to the climate emergency. The Strategy will contribute to better health and wellbeing health of Darebin residents, create better connected communities, and deliver a positive contribution to the character of neighbourhoods.

Council will also continue implementing the Darebin Climate Emergency Plan⁷⁷ that aims to:

- provide maximum protection for the community of Darebin and for people, civilisation and species globally, especially the most vulnerable
- restore a safe climate at emergency speed by eliminating greenhouse gas emissions and enabling drawdown of excess carbon dioxide in the air
- encourage research to find safe ways to protect people, species and civilisation from near-term dangerous temperatures, while zero emission and carbon dioxide drawdown strategies are being enacted
- enable our community to be resilient in the face of any unavoidable dangerous climate impacts to engage, empower and mobilise governments, communities and

⁷⁶ Darebin City Council. 2019. Breathing Space: Darebin Open Space Strategy. Accessed 19 November 2020 www.darebin.vic.gov.au

⁷⁷ Darebin City Council. 2017. Climate Emergency Plan 2017-2022. Accessed 18 March 2021 www.darebin.vic.gov.au

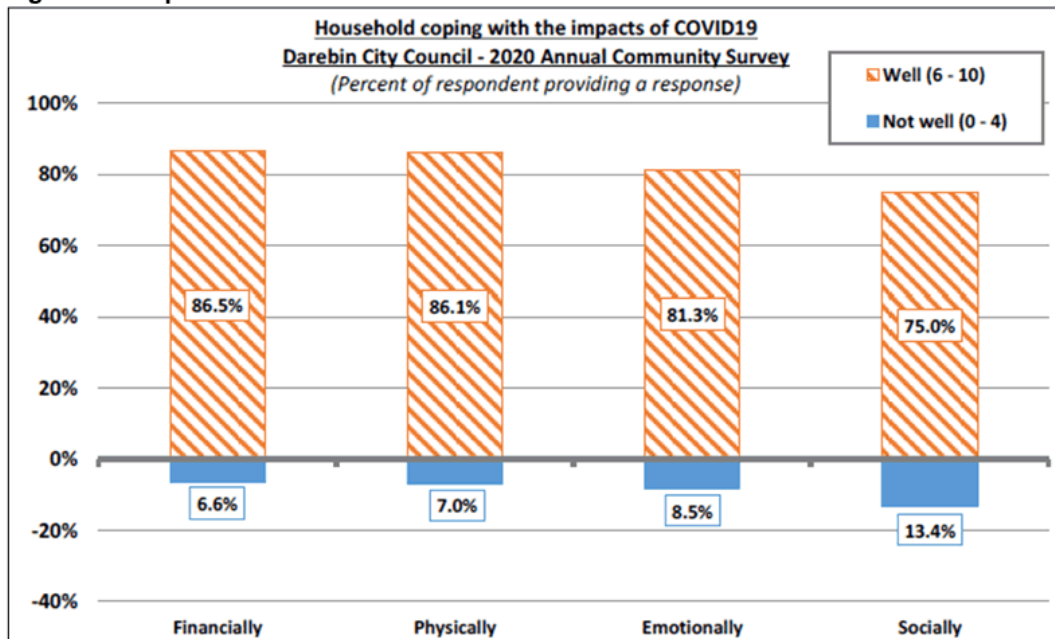
organisations to take action on and achieve these goals with certainty and at emergency speed.

Impact of COVID-19

Households coping with the impact

The 2020 Darebin Annual Community Survey⁷⁸ assessed how well Darebin households were coping with COVID-19 pandemic, including the impact of the pandemic on their health and wellbeing. Most respondents reported that they were coping relatively well with the pandemic, financially (7.55), physically (7.22), emotionally (6.96), and socially (6.60). Only 13.4% of respondents did not feel they were coping well with the pandemic socially (see Figure 19 below).

Figure 19: Impact of COVID 19 on household



Source: Darebin City Council⁷⁹

There was measurable and significant variation in how well the respondent household was coping financially observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Coping better than the municipal average** – includes adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years) and senior citizens (aged 75 years and over) and respondents from English speaking households.
- **Coping less well than the municipal average** – includes adults and middle-aged adults (aged 35 to 54 years), and respondents from multi-lingual households.

⁷⁸ Darebin City Council 2020. Annual Community Survey. Accessed 15 November 2020 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Discover-Darebin/Darebin-Overview/Community-Satisfaction-Survey>

⁷⁹ Darebin City Council 2020. Annual Community Survey. Accessed 15 November 2020 <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Discover-Darebin/Darebin-Overview/Community-Satisfaction-Survey>

There was also measurable variation in how well the respondent household was coping in terms of their physical health and wellbeing observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Coping better than the municipal average** – includes adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years), male respondents, and respondents from English speaking households.
- **Coping less well than the municipal average** – includes young adults (aged 20 to 34 years), female respondents, and respondents from multi-lingual households.

There was measurable variation in how well the respondent household was coping emotionally observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Coping better than the municipal average** – includes adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years) and male respondents.
- **Coping less well than the municipal average** – includes adults (aged 35 to 44 years) and female respondents.

There was relatively little variation in how well the respondent household was coping with the COVID-19 pandemic emotionally observed by respondent profile, as follows:

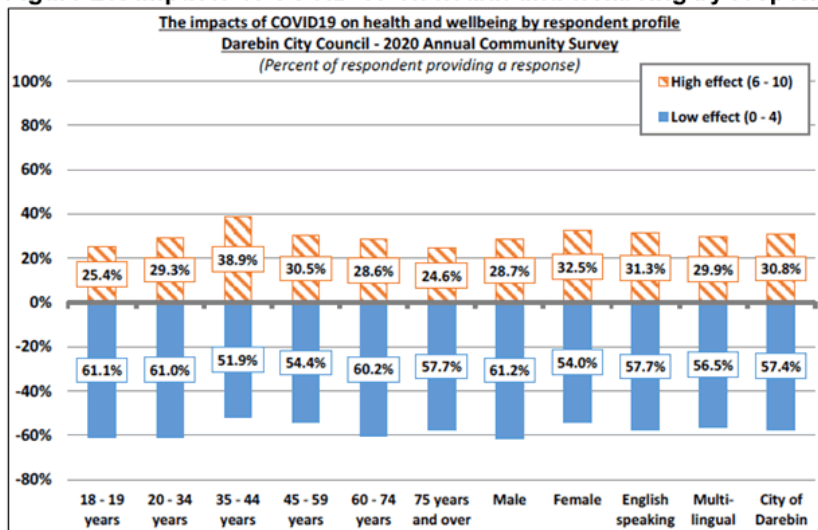
- **Coping better than the municipal average** – includes adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years) and senior citizens (aged 75 years and over) and male respondents.
- **Coping less well than the municipal average** – includes young adults (aged 20 to 34 years), and female respondents.

Impact on health and wellbeing

On average, respondents rated the effect of COVID-19 on their personal health and wellbeing at 4.19 out of a potential 10. Figure 20 below shows there was measurable variation in this result observed by respondent profile, including age structure, gender, and language spoken at home as follows:

- **Adults (aged 35 to 44 years)** – respondents rated the impact of COVID-19 on their personal health and wellbeing measurably higher than the municipal average. More than one-third (38.9%) of these adults rated the impact as high (i.e. six or more).
- **Female** – respondents rated the impact somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than male respondents.

Figure 20: Impacts of COVID-19 on health and wellbeing by respondent profile

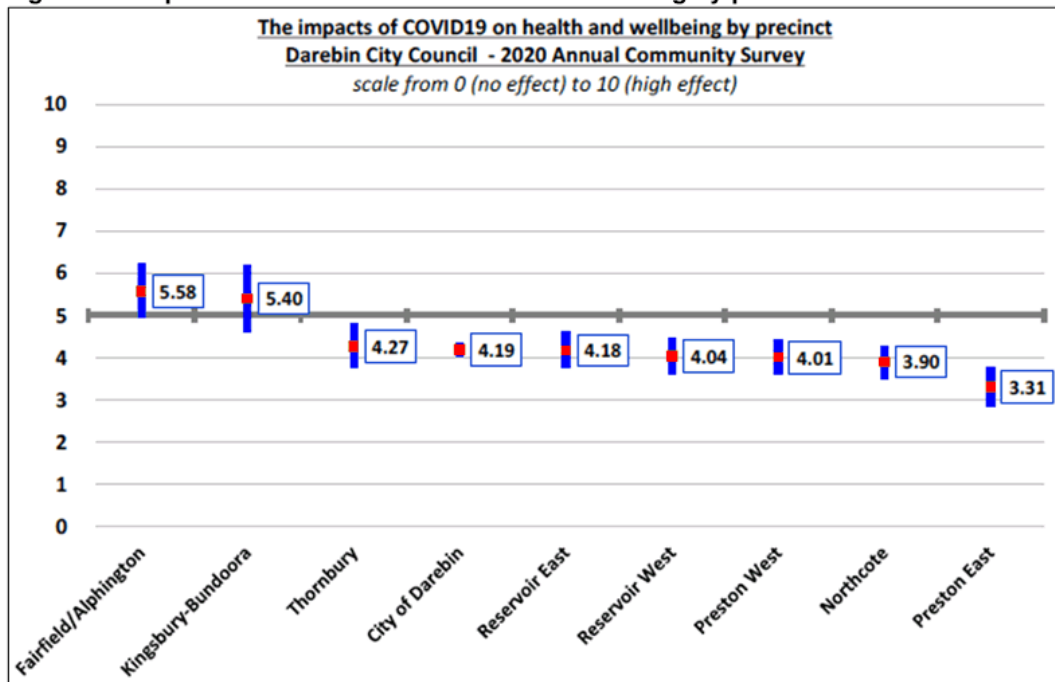


Source: Darebin City Council

Figure 21 below shows there was measurable and significant variation in the perceived impacts of COVID-19 on health and wellbeing observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Fairfield-Alphington and Kingsbury-Bundoora** – respondents reported a measurably higher impact than the municipal average.
- **Preston East** – respondents reported a measurably lower impact than the municipal average.

Figure 21: Impacts of COVID-19 on health and wellbeing by precinct



Source: Darebin City Council

The most common reasons why respondents considered that COVID-19 was impacting on their health and wellbeing related to a lack of physical exercise due to gyms being closed and being inside at home. There were a range of other responses provided, namely: stress, having children at home away from their usual routine and activities, interruption of health treatments, and the impacts on social interaction and activities.

Edible gardening during the pandemic

The 2020 National Pandemic Gardening Survey was conducted by Sustain: The Australian Food Network to understand the impact of edible gardening on mental and physical health during COVID-19. The survey found that time spent growing food, and in the garden generally, has multiple benefits on physical health by diversifying diets, encouraging consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables and providing opportunities for physical activity outdoors. It also found that edible gardening contributed to improving mental health by reducing stress and anxiety and increasing feelings of social connectedness with family and neighbours through positive interactions and food sharing. Hundreds of comments were received about the importance of food gardening during lockdown, with examples such as: “putting my hands in the soil each day redirected my fear and anxiety about our future” and

“there is a future when you garden.”⁸⁰ These benefits to health and wellbeing make a strong case for increased resourcing and support for edible gardening.

Social isolation and loneliness

Social isolation and loneliness can influence health and risk of mortality.⁸¹ Social isolation is the state of having minimal contact with others while loneliness is defined as the subjective state of negative feelings about having a lower level of social contact than desired.⁸² Studies show that loneliness can lead to poorer health behaviours such as smoking, physical inactivity, and poorer sleep.⁸³ Although it is difficult to find local data, an Australian study shows that loneliness tends to be more common in young adults, males, those living alone and those with children, either singly or in a couple.⁸⁴

Risk factors to loneliness include living alone and not being in a relationship with a partner,⁸⁵ disconnection from community, unemployment and receiving income support⁸⁶ and lack of satisfaction with the financial situation.⁸⁷

In Darebin household are composed of a lone person.⁸⁸The 2016 ABS census showed that the City of Darebin had a higher proportion of lone person households (26.2%). Table 15 below shows that this proportion also varied across the City.

Table 15: Proportion of lone household

Suburb	Proportion of lone household
Bundoora-Macleod	16.4%
Thornbury	29.7%
Fairfield	30.2%
Reservoir (Oakhill)	31.4%
Thornbury (East)	30.4%
Northland Activity Area	32.7%

Source: ID Consulting

One of the major adverse effects of COVID-19 pandemic is that it has led to increased social isolation and loneliness. Since March 2020, Victorians experienced extended lock down enforced by the State Government to contain the spread of the virus. Addressing social isolation and loneliness will remain a key priority in improving the health and wellbeing outcome of Darebin residents as the community recovers from the impact of COVID-19.

⁸⁰ Donati, K. & Rose, N. 2020. 'Every seed I plant is a wish for tomorrow' Findings and Action Agenda from the 2020 National Pandemic Gardening Survey. Melbourne, Victoria: Sustain - The Australian Food Network. Accessed 15 November 2020 https://sustain.org.au/media/documents/SUSTAIN_Pandemic-Gardening-Report_WEB.pdf

⁸¹ Holt-Lunstad, J. et al. 2015. Loneliness and Social Isolation as Risk Factors for Mortality: A Meta-Analytic Review. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, Vol. 10(2) 227–237.

⁸² Scottish Public Health Network. 2017. Social Isolation & Loneliness: What is the Scope for Public Health Action? Available Accessed 15 November 2020 https://www.scotphn.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/2017_05_16-Loneliness-Scoping-Note-Final-formatted.pdf

⁸³ Theeke, L. A. 2010. Sociodemographic and health-related risks for loneliness and outcome differences by loneliness status in a sample of U.S. older adults. *Research in Gerontological Nursing*, 3, pp.113–125; Hawkey, L. C., Thisted, R. A., & Cacioppo, J. T. 2009. Loneliness predicts reduced physical activity: Cross-sectional & longitudinal analyses. *Health Psychology*, 28, pp.354–363.

⁸⁴ Relationships Australia 2018. Is Australia experiencing an epidemic of loneliness? Findings from 16 waves of the Household Income and Labour Dynamics. Accessed 20 November 2020 <https://www.relationships.org.au/what-we-do/research/an-epidemic-of-loneliness-2001-2017..>

⁸⁵ Flood M 2005. Mapping loneliness in Australia. Accessed 20 November 2020 <https://www.eurekastreet.com.au/Uploads/File/611/15mappinglonelinessPDF.pdf>; Relationships Australia 2011. Issues and concerns for Australian relationships today: Relationships Indicators Survey 2011. Accessed 20 November 2020 <https://www.relationships.org.au/what-we-do/research/australian-relationships-indicators/relationships-indicator-2011>

⁸⁶ Relationships Australia 2018. Is Australia experiencing an epidemic of loneliness? Findings from 16 waves of the Household Income and Labour Dynamics. Accessed 20 November 2020 <https://www.relationships.org.au/what-we-do/research/an-epidemic-of-loneliness-2001-2017>

⁸⁷ Baker D 2012. All the lonely people: Loneliness in Australia, 2001–2009. Accessed 20 November 2020 <https://www.tai.org.au/node/1866>

⁸⁸ ID Consulting 2020 City of Darebin. Households. Accessed 22 March 2021 Accessed <https://profile.id.com.au/darebin>

Literature often uses volunteering as an indicator of social isolation. In Darebin, 16.7% of the population reported that they were engaged in volunteer work. This rate is slightly lower than that of greater Melbourne (17.6%). In addition, the rate of volunteering varies significantly between suburbs with some rate as high as 28% (Alphington) and others as low as 12% (Reservoir Oakhill). Table 16 below shows the number of Darebin volunteers across all suburbs according to 2016 census.⁸⁹

Table 16: The number of Darebin volunteers across all suburbs according to 2016 census.

Suburb	Volunteers
Alphington	751
Bundoora-Macleod	1278
Fairfield	1100
Kingsbury	471
Northcote (East)	2842
Northcote (West)	1884
Preston (East)	2115
Preston (West)	2252
Reservoir (Cheddar)	1361
Reservoir (Edwardes Lake)	1491
Reservoir (Merrilands)	759
Reservoir (Oakhill)	1319
Thornbury (East)	1613
Thornbury (West)	1340
City of Darebin	20,578

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016, compiled by Id. Consulting

Studies show multiple health and wellbeing benefits to volunteering, with people who volunteer finding it meaningful and enjoyable.⁹⁰ Volunteering also increases satisfaction with life and helps tackle social isolation by giving an opportunity to engage with the wider community.⁹¹ Studies also show that volunteering improves mental health and emotional wellbeing⁹² and gives people a sense of achievement and purpose that can help to improve self-esteem and confidence.⁹³ Therefore, increasing the rate of volunteering in Darebin will likely help decrease social isolation, by enabling people to stay connected within their social circles, and therefore improve their mental health and wellbeing.

Discussion

There is a significant and growing gap between the least disadvantaged and most disadvantaged residents in the City of Darebin and this report provides a detailed overview of

⁸⁹ ID consulting 2020 City of Darebin. Unpaid work. Accessed 22 March 2021 <https://profile.id.com.au/darebin>

⁹⁰ Borgonovi, F. 2008, 'Doing well by doing good: the relationship between formal volunteering and self-reported health and happiness', *Social Science & Medicine*, vol. 66(11), pp. 2321-2334.

⁹¹ Lum, TY & Lightfoot, E. 2005. 'The effects of volunteering on the physical and mental health of older people', *Research on Ageing*, vol. 27(1), pp. 31-55.

⁹² Watson S. Volunteering may be good for body and mind [Internet]. Boston: Harvard Health Blog; 2013. Accessed 20 November 2020 <https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/volunteering-may-be-good-for-body-and-mind-201306266428>

⁹³ Van Willigen, M 2000. 'Differential benefits of volunteering across the life course', *The Journals of Gerontology Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*, vol. 55(5), pp. S308-S318.

what disadvantage looks like in the municipality. This includes what it is, where it is located, how it is changing over time, and which population groups are most likely to be experiencing it. The report also illustrates the complexity of experiences of disadvantage—that it is sometimes generational or entrenched, that there are complex barriers to breaking out of disadvantage, and that there is a persistent risk of falling into further disadvantage.

The report provides an evidence base that will guide Council's actions to respond to disadvantage among the most vulnerable population groups in the municipality. The responsibility to act on this information is reinforced by Council's local, state, federal and international policy commitments and obligations to look after our most vulnerable residents.

Priorities

Analysis of local data and findings from engagement with the community and partner organisations show the need to continue addressing modifiable health risks and working to improve determinants of health in order to lift the health and wellbeing outcome of Darebin residents. Key modifiable health risks for Darebin community include:

- sedentary lifestyle
- risky alcohol consumption
- smoking
- mental health
- bowel cancer screening for those aged 50-74 years.

In addition, the following determinants of health require more attention:

- loneliness and social isolation
- racism and discrimination
- unemployment
- food security
- harm associated with gambling
- homelessness
- gender inequality, family violence and violence against women
- community safety
- health impacts of climate change

Besides analysing the local data, Councils are required to have regard to the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 in identifying health and wellbeing priorities. The Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023⁹⁴ outlines the following 10 priorities: Tackling climate change and its impact on health, reducing injury, preventing all forms of violence, increasing healthy eating, decreasing the risk of drug-resistant infections in the community, increasing active living, improving mental wellbeing, improving sexual and reproductive health, reducing tobacco related harm, and reducing harmful alcohol and drug use. To drive targeted, collective and coordinated action across the sector, the State government has identified the following four focus areas: tackling climate change and its impact on health, increasing healthy eating, increasing active living and reducing tobacco-related harm. These State Government priorities together with local priorities identified in this profile report will inform development of the Council Plan (integrating the municipal public health and wellbeing plan).

Our approach

Council will continue to build on previous work, learnings, successes and partnerships with community and stakeholders to lift the health and wellbeing outcome of Darebin residents. Council's health and wellbeing planning will continue to be informed by two distinct but

⁹⁴ State of Victoria 2019. Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019–2023. Available <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/policiesandguidelines/victorian-public-health-wellbeing-plan-2019-2023> Accessed 9 September 2020

interrelated approaches. This is in recognition that one approach is not comprehensive to improve the health and wellbeing outcome in recognition that of the community and individuals. These approaches are:

- 1) **Health Equity approach:** Health equity is defined as the absence of unfair and avoidable or remediable differences in health among population groups defined socially, economically, demographically or geographically. Council recognises that good mental and social health and wellbeing cannot be achieved without equity and inclusion. Health equity means that everyone should have a fair opportunity to attain their full health potential. Because health inequalities mostly result from social and economic inequalities, they are largely preventable. To counter health inequalities, we need to work on the social determinants of health that influence individuals' and communities' health and wellbeing.
- 2) **Environments for Health approach:** The Environments for Health approach recognises that many of the factors contributing to health inequalities and ill health lie in the complex social, economic, physical and natural environments in which people live (see Table 17 below). Therefore, working to improve the determinants of health – conditions in which people are born, grow up, live, work, and age – is one of the best ways to create environments that facilitate and enhance better health and wellbeing outcomes.

Table 17: Environmental dimensions and corresponding Council Action Areas

Environmental Dimensions	Components	Characteristics	Council Action Areas- Examples
Build/Physical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport • Roads • Urban planning outcomes, such as housing • Build form • Amenities: parks, street lighting, footpaths, shops • Permeable neighbourhoods • Recreation facilities: playgrounds, sports facilities, community gardens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • liveable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use planning • Industrial development • Transportation Traffic management Housing • Recreation • MSS, EES, works approvals
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographics • Gender • Ethnicity • Language • Sense of place and belonging • Art and culture • Sense of community • Participatory democracy • Social capital Community facilities • Social support • Perceptions of safety • Social inclusion or isolation • Globalisation • Lifelong learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equitable • Convivial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community support services • Community safety • Art and cultural development • Library services • Adult education services • Neighbourhood houses • Recreation programs
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalising economy • Employment • Economic policy • Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment • Income distribution

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial development 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community economic development EES, works approvals Access and equity
Natural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Ozone layer Geography Impact on food production Air quality Farming practices Natural disasters Water quality Global climate change Native vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality Waste management Energy consumption

Source: Department of Human Services⁹⁵

The Environments for Health approach acknowledges that improvement in health and wellbeing outcomes for communities is informed by the social model of health. This model takes into account the many social, cultural, environmental, biological, political and economic determinants of health and implies that interventions must be made to change those aspects of the environment that are promoting ill health across the lifespan.

Conclusion

This report will inform the health and wellbeing priorities of the 2021-2025 Council Plan (embedding Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan). The two key approaches proposed in this report will assist the Council to identify appropriate strategies and actions to protect, promote and improve the health and wellbeing of Darebin residents over the next four years. This report will also assist community and health organisations in Darebin to identify the health and wellbeing priorities of their 2021-2025 integrated health promotion plans.

⁹⁵ Department of Human Services. 2011. Environments for Health: Municipal Public Health Planning Framework. Accessed 20 November 2020 https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/getfile/?sc_itemid=%7BC5A714BA-B5A4-4D08-81E8-90FED76F10E2%7D

Appendices

Appendix 1: Legislative and Policy Context

Acts

The Public Health and Wellbeing Act, section 26 specifies that:

Municipal public health and wellbeing plans

(1) Unless section 27 applies, a Council must, in consultation with the Secretary, prepare a municipal public health and wellbeing plan within the period of 12 months after each general election of the Council.

(2) A municipal public health and wellbeing plan must—

(a) include an examination of data about health status and health determinants in the municipal district;

(b) identify goals and strategies based on available evidence for creating a local community in which people can achieve maximum health and wellbeing;

S. 26(2)(ba) inserted by No. 19/2017 s. 60(1).

(ba) specify measures to prevent family violence and respond to the needs of victims of family violence in the local community;

(c) provide for the involvement of people in the local community in the development, implementation and evaluation of the public health and wellbeing plan;

(d) specify how the Council will work in partnership with the Department and other agencies undertaking public health initiatives, projects and programs to accomplish the goals and strategies identified in the public health and wellbeing plan;

S. 26(2)(e) amended by No. 9/2020 s. 390(Sch. 1 item 82.3), substituted by No. 12/2021 s. 61.

(e) be consistent with the Council Plan prepared under section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020 .

(3) In preparing a municipal public health and wellbeing plan, a Council must have regard to the State Public Health and Wellbeing Plan prepared under section 49.

(4) A Council must review its municipal public health and wellbeing plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the municipal public health and wellbeing plan.

S. 26(4A) inserted by No. 19/2017 s. 60(2).

(4A) An annual review must include a review of the measures referred to in subsection (2)(ba).

(5) Despite subsection (2)(c), a Council is not required to provide for the involvement of people in the local community when reviewing or amending a municipal public health and wellbeing plan under subsection (4).

6) A Council must give a copy of the current municipal public health and wellbeing plan to the Secretary.

S. 26(6A) inserted by No. 19/2017 s. 60(3).

(6A) A Council must report to the Secretary on the measures referred to in subsection (2)(ba) at the intervals specified by the Secretary by notice in writing.

S. 26(7) amended by No. 9/2020 s. 390(Sch. 1 item 82.4).

(7) A copy of the current municipal public health and wellbeing plan must be available for inspection by members of the public at the places at which the current Council Plan must be available under section 90(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 .

Section 27 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act specifies that:

- (1) A Council is not required to comply with section 26 if—
 - (a) the Council complies with this section; and
 - (b) the Secretary grants the Council an exemption from complying with section 26.
- (2) If a Council intends to comply with this section, the Council must—

S. 27(2)(a) amended by No. 9/2020 s. 390(Sch. 1 item 82.3).

 - (a) address the matters specified in section 26(2) in the Council Plan to be prepared under section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020 or in a Strategic Plan prepared and approved by the Council;

S. 27(2)(b) amended by No. 9/2020 s. 390(Sch. 1 item 82.5).

 - (b) if the matters specified in section 26(2) are included in the Council Plan, review the Council Plan in accordance with section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020 ;
 - (c) if the matters specified in section 26(2) are included in a Strategic Plan, review the Strategic Plan annually.
- (3) A Council may apply to the Secretary for an exemption from complying with section 26 by submitting a draft of the Council Plan or Strategic Plan which addresses the matters specified in section 26(2).
- (4) If the Secretary is satisfied that the draft Council Plan or Strategic Plan adequately addresses the matters specified in section 26(2), the Secretary must grant the Council an exemption from complying with section 26.
- (5) If the Secretary is not satisfied that the draft Council Plan or Strategic Plan adequately addresses the matters specified in section 26(2), the Secretary must—
 - (a) refuse to grant an exemption from complying with section 26(2); and
 - (b) advise the Council in writing—
 - (i) of the reasons for refusing to do so; and
 - (ii) as to the changes that should be made to the draft Council Plan or Strategic Plan.
- (6) If a Council has been granted an exemption from complying with section 26, the Council must give a copy of the current Council Plan or Strategic Plan to the Secretary if a change is made to the Council Plan or Strategic Plan which relates to the matters specified in section 26(2).

Other state legislations that influence health and wellbeing planning include:

- *Victorian Public and Wellbeing Health Act 2008*
- *Climate Change Act 2017*
- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- *Food Act 1984*
- *Tobacco Act 1987*
- *Sport and Recreation Act 1972*
- *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006*
- *Mental Health Act 2014*
- *Gender Equality Act 2020*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010*

Relevant policies include:

- Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023
- Victorian Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017-2020
- Victoria's 10-year Mental Health Plan 2015-2025
- Victorian Health Priorities Framework 2012-2022: Metropolitan Health Plan

- Safe and strong: A Victorian Gender Equality Strategy (2016) Korin Korin Balit-Djak:
Aboriginal health, wellbeing and safety strategic plan 2017–2027

Appendix 2: Councils strategies and plans

- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan 2017-2021](#)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2027 - July 2017](#)
- [Active Healthy Ageing Strategy 2011-2021](#)
- [Breathing Space - Darebin Open Space Strategy - September 2019](#)
- [Climate Emergency Plan 2017-2022 - August 2017](#)
- [Creative and Cultural Infrastructure Framework - March 2018](#)
- [Creative Darebin - Darebin Arts Strategy 2014-2020 - December 2013](#)
- [Early Years Strategy 2011-2021](#)
- [Electronic Gaming Machine Policy 2018-2022 - December 2018](#)
- [Food Security and Nutrition Action Plan 2016-2020 - September 2016](#)
- [Gender Equity and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019-2023 - June 2019](#)
- [Graffiti Management Strategy 2019-2023 - December 2019](#)
- [Greenstreets Streetscape Strategy 2012-2020 - December 2013 \(includes Nature Strip Policy\)](#)
- [Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 – December 2017](#)
- [Integrated Weed Management Strategy 2019-2023 - December 2019](#)
- [Leisure Strategy - August 2010-2020](#)
- [Safe Travel Strategy 2018-2028 – November 2018](#)
- [Towards Equality - Equity Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 - December 2019](#)
- [Transport Strategy October 2007-2027](#)
- [Transport Strategy October 2007-2027 Review - Appendix 1 - December 2015](#)
- [Urban Forest Strategy - December 2013-2028](#)
- [Walking Strategy 2018-2028 - November 2018](#)
- [Watershed: Towards A Water Sensitive Darebin Whole of Water Cycle Management Strategy 2015-2025 - June 2015](#)
- [Youth Services Strategy 2019-2021 - May 2019](#)

Appendix 3: Summary results Reservoir East and Preston East Health and Wellbeing Survey (April 2015)

Indicator	Vic	Darebin	Reservoir (East)	Preston (East)
Subjective wellbeing (range 0-100)	77.5 ¹	76.1 ¹	75.1	79.1
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & RECREATION				
Sedentary behaviour (sitting ≥7 hours per day)	32.6 ¹	40.2 ¹	43.8	31.0
Percentage of persons who <u>do not</u> meet physical activity guidelines (*moderate/vigorous)	32.1 ² 27.4 ¹	33.6 ² 26.3 ¹	*17.8/38.3	*22.6/58.7
Percentage of females who <u>do not</u> meet physical activity guidelines (*moderate/vigorous)	33.6 ² 27.2 ¹	39.0 ² 29.7 ¹	*20.7/48.3	
Percentage of males who <u>do not</u> meet physical activity guidelines (*moderate/vigorous)	30.4 ² 27.5 ¹	28.3 ² 21.4 ¹	*18.9/43.3	
ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & OTHER DRUGS				
Purchased alcohol in the last 7 days	36.3 ¹	35.1 ¹	41.7	35.9
Percentage of persons 18+ who are current smokers	15.7 ² 19.1 ¹	21.9 ² 23.5 ¹	22.4	30.1
Percentage of females 18+ who are current smokers	12.9 ² 16.9 ¹	16.2 ² 19.3 ¹	16.2	
Percentage of males 18+ who are current smokers	18.5 ² 21.4 ¹	28.0 ² 27.3 ¹	31.6	
NUTRITION				
Daily soft drink consumption	15.9 ² 12.4 ¹	14.9 ² 6.4 ¹	11.5	19.4
Percentage of persons who <u>do not</u> meet fruit dietary guidelines	54.7 ³	50.7 ³	44.3	51.1
Percentage of persons who <u>do not</u> meet vegetable dietary guidelines	92.8 ³	94.0 ³	89.1	92.4
Percentage of females who <u>do not</u> meet fruit and vegetable dietary guidelines	45.5 ² 41.9 ¹	44.5 ² 41.4 ¹	40.5/87.6 (f/v)	
Percentage of males who <u>do not</u> meet fruit and vegetable dietary guidelines	56.9 ² 54.8 ¹	56.2 ² 58.1 ¹	50.5/91.8 (f/v)	
FAMILY & SOCIAL LIFE				
Lack time for friends/family	27.4 ¹	26.7 ¹	37.3	53.3
Share a meal with family (≥ 5 days per week)	66.3 ¹	66.1 ¹	59.6	36.8
Can get help from friends/family and neighbours when needed	91.7 ¹	89.3 ¹	95.2	94.2
Can raise \$2,000 in 2 days in an emergency	85.6 ¹	80.2 ¹	95.0	95.7
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION				
Volunteering (≥ once per month)*	34.3 ¹	22.6 ¹	20.3	12.6
Community acceptance of diverse cultures	50.6 ¹	54.8 ¹	32.4	34.7
Prepared to intervene in a situation of domestic violence	93.1 ¹	89.9 ¹	78.9	90.3
Feels valued by society	54.4 ¹	48.3 ¹	35.7	24.4

SAFETY

Percentage of residents who feel safe walking alone during day	97.0 ¹	95.9 ¹	88.2	93.5
Percentage of residents who feel safe walking alone during night*	70.3 ¹	60.9 ¹	36.5	60.9
ENVIRONMENT				
Good facilities and services like shops, childcare, schools, libraries	79.3 ¹	89.9 ¹	67.7	83.3
Pleasant environment, nice streets, well planned, open spaces	83.1 ¹	71.2 ¹	55.7	72.5

¹ 2010 Local Government Area Profiles, Department of Health, 2012
<www.health.vic.gov.au/modelling/planning/lga.htm>

² 2013 Local government area profiles, Department of Health, 2014
<<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/modelling/planning/lga.htm>>

³ Department of Health and Human Services Victorian Population Health Survey 2011-12: Survey findings, <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/getfile//?sc_itemid={604DCF4F-A8B2-41B3-ABFF-CAECF30C2B3F}>

Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22

Incorporating the
Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan



These are the actions we will be undertaking over 2021-22 to meet our Council Plan targets. We will report progress against the Council Plan Action Plan quarterly throughout the year. The Council Plan Action Plan will be updated annually, with new actions as our work toward the Council Plan priorities progresses.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land and waters we now call Darebin and affirms that Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have lived on this land for millennia, practising their customs and ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal.

Council acknowledges that Elders past, present and emerging are central to the cohesion, intergenerational wellbeing and ongoing self-determination of Aboriginal communities. They have played and continue to play a pivotal role in maintaining and transmitting culture, history and language.

Council respects and recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities' values, living culture and practices, including their continuing spiritual connection to the land and waters and their right to self-determination. Council also recognises the diversity within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities have had and continue to play a unique role in the life of the Darebin municipality. Council recognises and values this ongoing contribution and its significant value for our city and Australian society more broadly.

Extract from Darebin City Council's Statement of commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 2019.

Darebin's Diversity Statement

Situated on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, the City of Darebin is now home to a diverse community of people with different socio-economic status, gender, age, ability, race, culture, ethnicity, language, sexuality, sex characteristics, gender identity, beliefs, occupations, income, education, carer status and household type. The Darebin community cherishes this diversity and values it as an important civic asset.

Darebin City Council acknowledges the history and contributions of the various communities, migrants and refugees who have made the municipality their home. Their endeavours have enriched the economic, social, cultural, artistic, community and civic character of the city, and created a cosmopolitan locality where variety and difference are welcomed and encouraged.

Council also acknowledges that who we are today as a municipality rests on the history of loss and dispossession inflicted upon Aboriginal people, past and present, despite their strengths, resilience and continued contributions to our city.

How to read the Action Plan

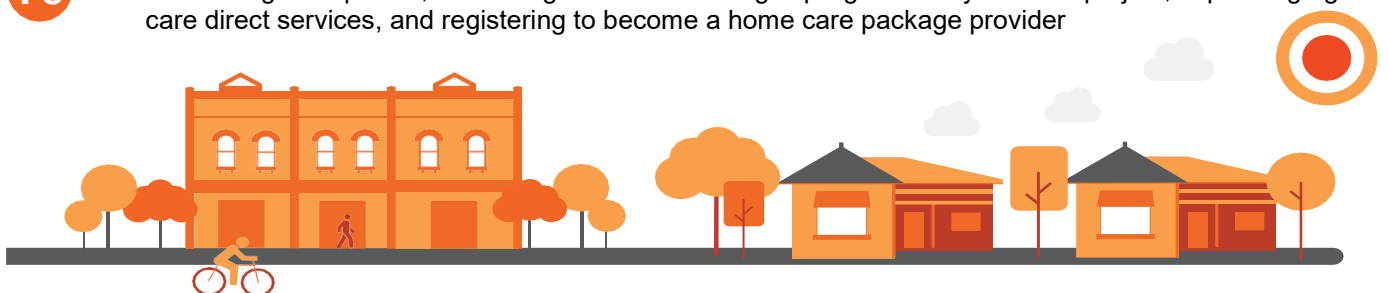
- Strategic Actions are those contained in the Council Plan
- Year 1 actions are those planned in 21/22, the 1st year of the Council Plan
- Actions related to Health and Wellbeing Priorities are identified with this symbol -



Darebin 2021-25 Council Plan

Our 10 Big Actions

- 1 Build infrastructure for the future** by redeveloping Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, redeveloping BT Connor Pavilion in Reservoir, and building Darebin Intercultural Centre in Preston
- 2 Plan infrastructure for decades to come** by redeveloping Reservoir Leisure Centre, activating Edwardes Lake Boat House in Reservoir, building new kindergarten facilities, and undertaking a feasibility study for a Global Learning Hub in Preston
- 3 Continue to lead with our response to the climate emergency** by updating our Climate Emergency Plan to set out how to best achieve zero greenhouse gas emissions for Darebin by 2030, offering solar installations and energy retrofits to pensioners and vulnerable communities, delivering new business and community power purchase partnerships, supporting a shift to a circular economy and massively reducing our waste going to landfill, and delivering projects and programs aimed to improve safety for people cycling, walking and wheeling, increasing active travel which will also reduce transport emissions
- 4 Deepen our commitment to truth and justice for First Nations communities** in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples who live and work in Darebin
- 5 Support vulnerable members of our community** by providing support with COVID-19 recovery, expanding our homelessness Assertive Outreach program, and supporting community-led programs in East Reservoir and East Preston, to achieve greater physical and mental health, and wellbeing for all
- 6 Champion local business and creative industries** by providing support with COVID-19 recovery, facilitating the establishment of a Darebin Chamber of Commerce, and improving the lighting and safety of our retail precincts and business activity centres
- 7 Build a more inclusive community for all** by supporting Darebin's multicultural communities, reducing racism and discrimination, increasing access to our Council's services and sporting assets by groups who are under-represented, developing our Disability Action Plan to improve access for all to our services and infrastructure, and achieving Rainbow Tick accreditation (best practice in LGBTQIA+ inclusion) for our services and activities
- 8 Improve the quality of development** and work to protect all that we love about Darebin by pursuing protections for Preston Market, conducting a Planning Scheme review informed by in-depth community consultation, and reviewing to amend our Parking Permit Policy
- 9 Protect our natural environment and biodiversity** by significantly improving water quality in Edwardes Lake, increasing tree canopy coverage in our parks, residential areas and retail precincts, and enhancing understorey planting
- 10 Expand our delivery of quality universal services** across the lifespan by providing more three-year-old kindergarten places, continuing to deliver our flagship Age Friendly Darebin project, expanding aged care direct services, and registering to become a home care package provider



Darebin 2041 Community Vision

Darebin is an equitable, vibrant and connected community.

Darebin respects and supports First Nations People, values country, our diverse communities and places.

Darebin commits to mitigating the climate emergency, creating prosperity for current and future generations.

Supporting this Vision, are the pillars of:



Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

- Celebrating all diverse communities and uplifting different voices in places of power
- Connection to, and preservation of, local history acknowledging past harm and trauma
- Vibrant and dynamic spaces, amenities and events
- Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander values, living culture and connection to country
- One Darebin, no suburb left behind

Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

- Encouraging and incentivising business investment and growth in the sustainability sector
- Creating equitable and diverse opportunities for employment and volunteering
- Being a 20-minute city with access to amenities and services close to our homes
- Sustaining community ownership of services and maintaining the health and wellbeing of all, across all life stages
- Making Darebin a Victorian centre for creative industry and the arts
- Ensuring development and the built environment are designed for liveability and sustainability

Climate, Green and Sustainable

- Taking urgent action on the climate emergency, leading and educating communities and businesses
- Making decisions that are community driven, transparent, socially and equitably just and equitable
- Providing and promoting safe and sustainable transport
- Regenerating, enhancing and protecting ecosystems and biodiversity
- Integrating ecological solutions in the built environment, promoting sustainable development and retrofitting practices, which protect natural assets and strive for zero carbon emissions

Strategic Direction 1:

Vibrant, Respectful and Connected



Strategic Objective

1.1 We will develop partnerships with organisations from across our city, to value and include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
1-1	Develop a partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria to deliver artistic opportunities for Darebin's communities 🇺🇦	Review and update the partnership agreement with Multicultural Arts Victoria, to benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds
1-2	Support and promote a significant increase in participation in Darebin's sports clubs, in particular, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities 🇺🇦	<p>Gather baseline data of current diversity of participation rates in Darebin's sports clubs</p> <p>Support sports clubs to develop and deliver a Diversity Action Plan</p> <p>Apply an Equity Impact Assessment to all sporting infrastructure projects in 21/22 Capital Work Plan</p>
1-3	Encourage and reward sporting and leisure groups/sporting teams that use Council's recreation spaces, by reducing user fees to those that demonstrate inclusion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities 🇺🇦	Develop a Plan for implementation in 2022/2023 (Year 2), in consultation with sporting clubs, to reward sporting and leisure groups/sporting teams that demonstrate inclusion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities
1-4	Develop a memorandum of understanding with Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) 🇺🇦	Collaborate with Aboriginal Housing Victoria to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with Council
1-5	Work with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to progress "decolonising" Bundoora Park, including the farm and homestead 🇺🇦	Develop a Plan of initiatives to decolonise Bundoora Park, in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation for Bundoora Park
1-6	Develop partnerships with local Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to enhance our work towards mutual goals 🇺🇦	Identify opportunities and establish partnerships with local Aboriginal community-controlled organisations with mutual goals
1-7	Work with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC), the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, and local Aboriginal organisations, to respond meaningfully and comprehensively to the six key requests of DAAC's Our Black Lives Matter statement to Council 🇺🇦	Develop a Response Plan to the six key requests of Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee's Our Black Lives Matter statement to Council, in partnership with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, and local Aboriginal organisations
1-8	Partner with Bowel Cancer Screening, Cancer Council Victoria and local community organisations to increase awareness of bowel cancer and improve community understanding, including for Aboriginal and culturally and	Identify local partners and support the delivery of two initiatives to increase awareness of bowel cancer and improve community understanding of the benefits of screening, with a particular focus on underrepresented groups undertaking bowel cancer screening





	linguistically diverse communities, of the benefits of screening, with a particular focus on underrepresented groups undertaking bowel cancer screening 🏡	
Strategic Objective		
1.2 We will help to build an inclusive and empowered community, where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
1-9	Develop the Disability Action Plan to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors 🏡	Establish the Disability Action Plan, to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors Commence actions towards Implementation of the Disability Action Plan
1-10	Develop programs to support international students living in Darebin 🏡	Develop a Project Plan to implement programs to support international students living in Darebin
1-11	Develop a program to support middle years students (later primary school, and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on systemic racism issues together, to support student voices 🏡	Develop a four-year Program to support middle years students from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on systemic racism issues together
1-12	Develop a Cultural Diversity Action Plan to significantly improve access to services and infrastructure for multicultural communities 🏡	Develop the Cultural Diversity Action Plan, including an implementation plan for 2022-25, to significantly improve access to services and infrastructure for multicultural communities
Strategic Objective		
1.3 We will embrace diversity and ensure everyone is included in our society, and no one is left behind – by combating discrimination, and championing equity, inclusivity and diversity		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
1-13	Work towards the Rainbow Tick accreditation (best practice in LGBTQIA+ inclusion) for Council's services and activities 🏡	Develop a Project Plan to achieve Rainbow Tick accreditation for Council's services and activities Commence actions towards Rainbow Tick accreditation
1-14	Offer co-working spaces at our arts centres in Darebin	Identify and implement co-working spaces at our arts centres, through licenced spaces and artistic residences
1-15	Support social enterprises that wish to work in our city, and with our Council – one per year	Support at least one social enterprise to establish in, or re-locate to, Darebin
1-16	Provide financial and in-kind support to neighbourhood houses that bring our diverse people together 🏡	Provide funding and in-kind support against key deliverables - designed in partnership with neighbourhood houses
1-17	Launch Council's new website, with improved access functionality for people from diverse communities	Develop and implement a Project Plan for the launch of Council's new website, highlighting improved access functionality for people from diverse communities.
1-18	Develop a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of LGBTQIA+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia 🏡	Develop a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan (including an implementation plan), to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of LGBTQIA+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia

Strategic Objective		
1.4 We will increase social connection to reduce isolation and loneliness, and support positive mental health		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
1-19	Deliver Age Friendly Darebin, expand aged care direct services, and register Council to become a home care package provider 📍	Undertake a Feasibility Study to inform the planning for Council becoming a home care package provider, including the model to be implemented.
1-20	Facilitate and support volunteer opportunities with Council across our diverse communities, to strengthen community connection and skills development 📍	Develop a Four Year Volunteer Program to facilitate an increase in connectedness of our diverse communities and to provide opportunities for participants to develop new skills Deliver a pilot project to increase community volunteering in East Preston and East Reservoir and to inform future year activities
1-21	Increase the access of culturally and linguistically diverse and diverse communities to Council venues, and encourage participation in Council services (where participation rates are low) 📍	Collect demographic data to establish a baseline data set of the current user groups of Council venues Identify and implement initiatives to increase the number of culturally and linguistically diverse people using Council services and venues
1-22	Work in partnership to address the digital divide for public housing and high-risk accommodation residents, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and other excluded groups, including those impacted by COVID-19 📍	Conduct a pilot Digital Divide Program to increase inclusion, and address the digital divide, of public housing and high-risk accommodation residents, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and other excluded groups, including those impacted by COVID-19, in the East Preston area
1-23	Provide grants, and deliver and facilitate programs, services, and events that address loneliness, through supporting social connectedness and positive mental health 📍	Design and deliver two projects, and two service partnerships, to provide programs and services that support mental wellbeing and address social isolation
1-24	Work with our sporting and recreation clubs to increase access and participation of people from culturally diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds 📍	Gather baseline data of current participation rates in sporting and recreational clubs Support sporting and recreational clubs to implement initiatives to increase access and participation of people from culturally diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds
1-25	Increase the opening hours of Reservoir Library to include Sundays (to align with the opening hours of Northcote and Preston libraries) 📍	Implement the Library and Learning Strategy to extend the opening hours at Reservoir Library to include Sundays
1-26	Provide the Libraries After Dark program at Reservoir and Preston libraries 📍	Deliver the Libraries After Dark program at Reservoir and Preston libraries
1-27	Provide sports grants to encourage increased participation of women, girls, people of all abilities, multicultural and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, in community sports 📍	Implement the new sports grants as part of Council's Annual Grants Program
1-28	Advocate to state and federal governments to increase investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services 📍	Develop and deliver three advocacy initiatives, with partner organisations, to state and federal governments to increase investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services with partner organisations

1-29	Work with other organisations to provide health information to communities on health and wellbeing issues including alcohol and other drugs, gambling, mental health support, and family violence 	Identify partner organisations and support the delivery of two initiatives provide health information to communities
1-30	Work in partnership to deliver initiatives that reduce the stigma associated with mental ill-health, through awareness and education 	Identify partners and support the delivery of two initiatives that reduce the stigma associated with mental ill-health, through awareness and education


Strategic Objective








1.5 We will prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
1-31	In consultation with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee, continue to implement and expand our Aboriginal Employment Strategy and Aboriginal Action Plan 	Continue to implement the existing initiatives in our Aboriginal Employment Strategy and Aboriginal Action Plan Consult with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee to identify new opportunities to support pathways to employment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the municipality
1-32	Develop a partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to support the delivery of mutual goals 	Initiate, and jointly design, a respectful partnership engagement approach with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation. Work with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to determine resources and support to enable its independent engagement with potential partners
1-33	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, begin discussions with Traditional Owners to understand the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management 	Initiate, and jointly design, a respectful partnership engagement approach with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, to understand the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management
1-34	Deliver initiatives that support truth telling, and provide opportunities for culturally diverse communities, and our broader Darebin community, to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history 	Deliver two events to support truth telling, and provides opportunities for our culturally-diverse, and broader, community to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history, including the annual Ganbu Guilin One Mob project Deliver the Schools' Yarning Conference

Strategic Objective

1.6 We will ensure our festivals, events and functions are inclusive and respond equitably to, and value the diverse needs and aspirations of, our community

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
1-36	Initiate an annual cultural diversity and social cohesion oration as part of the FUSE festival 	Deliver a Cultural Diversity and Social Cohesion Oration as part of the FUSE festival
1-37	In Partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV), deliver a closing event for the Spring FUSE Festival at Edwardes Lake Park that showcases culturally diverse artists, music and performances	In Partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria, deliver a closing event for the Spring FUSE Festival at Edwardes Lake Par

Strategic Objective		
1.7 We will continue to be a local government leader in the prevention of violence against women, and gender equity		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
1-38	Continue to implement and evolve our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach 	Implement and expand our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach
1-39	Implement our responsibilities under the <i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i> 	Develop a Gender Equality Action Plan to respond to our responsibilities under the <i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i>
		Establish a method to develop capability for completing the Gender Impact Assessment
		Identify key policies, programs and services to undertake a Gender Impact Assessment
		Implement the Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan
1-40	Apply a Gender Impact Assessment to our Council policies and programs, as part of the Towards Equality Framework, and continue to gather data about gendered experience in public spaces, and use this to inform community safety initiatives 	Continue to gather data about gendered experience in public spaces and use this to inform community safety initiatives
		Incorporate the Gender Impact Assessment into the Equity Impact Assessment
1-41	Identify opportunities to support the economic participation of women, as part of Council's COVID-19 recovery initiatives 	Deliver two initiatives that focus on empowering and celebrating the economic participation of women, as part of Council's COVID-19 recovery initiatives
1-42	Continue to support regional work to promote women's sexual and reproductive health, and advocate for a dedicated sexual and reproductive health service in the Northern region 	Deliver three advocacy initiatives and support one regional project in line with Women's Health In the North's (WHIN) regional strategy, to promote women's sexual and reproductive health
Strategic Objective		
1.8 We will work towards a discrimination-free, and systemic racism-free Darebin, and reduce the impact of poverty and disadvantage		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
1-43	Continue to implement our Towards Equality Framework and Equity Impact Assessment to address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised 	Review and update the Equity Impact Assessment into a three-tiered approach
		Continue to implement Equity Impact Assessments for applicable projects and policies, to address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised
1-44	Work with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, our community, and local organisations, to create projects twice a year that foster respect and address systemic racism 	Develop a baseline data set regarding the experience of racism in Darebin
		Design a four-year program to address systemic racism and discrimination
		Design and implement four Council-led events to directly target the building of respect, and addressing systemic racism

1-45	Continue to implement the Welcoming Cities Standard, with the aim of becoming a 'Mentoring' level Council 📍	<p>Take actions towards achieving the Welcoming Cities Standard 'mentoring' level by June 2022</p> <p>Establish design principles to:</p> <p>a) ensure Council buildings and facilities meet the needs of culturally diverse communities by June 2022, and</p> <p>b) implement for all future and where possible current Council buildings</p> <p>Deliver two new projects that respond to the Welcoming Cities Standard</p>
1-46	Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities 📍	Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities
1-47	Through our Youth Strategy, develop and implement programs to support the participation and leadership of young people from disadvantaged, and culturally diverse backgrounds 📍	<p>Support 20 young people to develop their leadership skills through Darebin Speak</p> <p>Deliver two, formal leadership programs during school holidays, targeted at disadvantaged and culturally diverse young people, as part of our Youth Training and Development Program</p>
1-48	Mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of our disadvantaged communities 📍	<p>Identify and deliver initiatives to raise awareness of the health impact of heatwaves in the community, with a focus on vulnerable population groups</p> <p>Deliver two initiatives to reduce heat vulnerability and build resilience in communities and areas identified as 'high risk'</p>
1-49	Partner with our community organisations to support Welcoming Community meals 📍	Deliver monthly Welcoming Community meals in East Preston and East Reservoir, in partnership with local emergency relief and social support services

Strategic Direction 2:





Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

Strategic Objective

2.1 We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well



Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-1	Complete construction, and commence operation of the Multi Sport Stadium in Thornbury 📍	Conduct a public tender for the operational management of the Narrandjeri Stadium (Multi Sports Stadium) and set performance targets in line with Council's performance principles.
		Complete construction of Narrandjeri Stadium (Multi Sports Stadium)
2-2	Redevelop Reservoir Leisure Centre, incorporating opportunities to enhance health, wellbeing and socioeconomic outcomes 📍	Undertake planning and the first year of implementation of the Reservoir Leisure Centre redevelopment, incorporating changes to the infrastructure and operations to support health, wellbeing and socio-economic outcomes for our community
2-3	Invest in the Edwardes Lake Boathouse in Reservoir to support a long-term lease arrangement	Invest in the renewal of the Edwardes Lake Boathouse to attract a long-term tenant
		Establish an Edwardes Lake Precinct Task Force
		Undertake works to improve water quality and increase biodiversity across the Edwardes Lake precinct
2-4	Undertake community consultation about the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land	Undertake community consultation about the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land and present a future options report to Council
2-5	Establish the new Ruthven Playspace in Reservoir	Construct a nature-based Ruthven Playspace in line with the design developed (in 2020-2021) through community consultation
2-6	Expand funded 3-year-old kindergarten	Develop an Early Years Infrastructure Plan
		Work with the State Government to determine a pipeline of projects to expand our city's kindergarten capacity
		Complete investigation, feasibility assessment, consultation and concept designs for potential extensions of kindergarten/child care sites in our city
		Provide change management support to early years services in Darebin, to support the expansion of 3-year-old kindergarten programs
2-7	Improve physical access for our residents and visitors to Council-owned community buildings – at least five buildings per year 📍	Deliver approximately five building renewal projects (as part of our Capital Works programs) to improve physical access for our residents and visitors
2-8	Commence design work for the construction of Darebin Creek Bridge at Bundoora Park	Deliver a detailed design for a new bridge over Darebin Creek at Bundoora Park
2-9	Redevelop BT Connor Pavilion in Reservoir	Construct a new senior soccer pavilion at BT Connor Reserve
2-11	Redevelop the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre 📍	Appoint a contractor to begin the construction of the new aquatic and recreation centre
2-12	Develop an Integrated Families, Youth and Children Strategy	Develop an Integrated Families, Youth and Children Strategy (to supersede the current Youth Services Strategy and Early Years Strategy), including an implementation plan

2-13	Rejuvenate and beautify Cheddar Road in Reservoir, in collaboration with stakeholders	In collaboration with Melbourne Water, begin the re-wilding of Cheddar Road to improve biodiversity and amenity outcomes
2-14	Plan for the redevelopment of John Hall pavilion and public toilet in Kingsbury	Develop a plan for the renewal of the John Hall pavilion
Strategic Objective		
2.2 We will design and create public spaces where our people feel safe, welcome, and respected, including improving lighting and safety for people walking, wheeling, cycling and driving		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-15	Improve road safety, and the cycling, walking and wheeling network, by constructing high priority improvements 📍	Construct projects in the Safe Travel, Walking and Cycling Improvements programs, to improve the safety of the road environment. Undertake a minimum of four community safety audits, and use recommendations to inform upgrades and improvements
2-16	Investigate and prioritise road safety, accessibility, cycling, walking and wheeling improvements across Darebin by using a Local Area Placemaking approach - where one third of the city is reviewed, with community involvement, each year 📍	Conduct a review of transport improvement priorities (road, safety, accessibility, cycling, walking and wheeling) across one third of the municipality, in consultation with the community Provide a report to Council for consideration of implementation of the priorities identified in the 2022/23 financial year
2-17	Conduct a community advocacy campaign on key transport priorities, including new bus routes, walking, wheeling and cycling improvements, extension to Tram 11, accessible stops, and the suburban rail loop	Develop an Advocacy Plan for transport priorities, including new bus routes, walking, wheeling and cycling improvements, extension to Tram 11, accessible stops, and the suburban rail loop Implement Year 1 actions of the Advocacy Plan
2-18	Develop and implement a Community Safety Framework 📍	Develop a Community Safety Framework in consultation with the community Develop an Implementation Plan for Community Safety Framework (for Council Plan years 2-4 actions)
2-19	Improve disability access at Bundoora Park Farm	Construct a shared path at the Bundoora Park Farm
2-20	With State Government approval, reduce the speed limit in more local streets across our city 📍	Develop an Advocacy Plan for speed reduction in more local streets across Darebin Implement Year 1 actions of the Advocacy Plan Implement speed reductions in areas that achieve State Government approval Apply for further speed reductions arising from investigations of traffic safety in a third of the city, as part of our Local Area Placemaking Program Apply for further speed reductions arising from investigations of traffic safety in a third of the city, as part of our Local Area Placemaking Program
2-21	Continue to implement our Graffiti Management Strategy to prevent, remove and reduce the reoccurrence of illegal graffiti, and support the launch of a graffiti tag app 📍	Investigate graffiti removal partnerships for State assets in Darebin, such as rail corridors Continue to implement crime prevention measures - through Environmental Design Principles Safer Design Guidelines - into the design of the public realm, Council projects and planning schemes Undertake actions to prevent, remove and reduce the recurrence of illegal graffiti Support the launch and implementation of a graffiti tag app
2-22	Identify creative opportunities to reflect Darebin's different cultures in	Deliver two creative projects that reflect Darebin's different cultures

	the built environment across our city 	Support community organisations funded to deliver public events that celebrate culture Deliver two public cultural events including a Cultural Diversity and Social Cohesion Oration as part of the FUSE festival
2-23	Consider the development of a Global Learning Hub in the Preston Civic Precinct that incorporates library and community spaces, and looks at options to include social housing 	Develop options for Council to consider how to best progress the development of a Global Learning Hub in the Preston Civic Precinct - a significant, multi-year project
2-24	Significantly increase funding to our Roundabout Renewal program across our city	Implement the renewing roundabouts program to provide better amenity, including planting
2-25	Develop a Community Infrastructure Plan to inform Council's decision making on the future of our assets, based on service needs across our city for the next 10 years	Establish a Community Infrastructure Plan, including implementation plan
2-26	Build new Intercultural Centre at Preston Civic Precinct	Commence construction of the new Intercultural Centre
		Collaborate with user groups and key stakeholders to co-create the Intercultural Centre's programming
2-27	Update flood risk assessments across Darebin, and incorporate them into our Darebin Planning Scheme	Undertake flood modelling across Darebin, in partnership with Melbourne Water
		Undertake specialist technical analysis to update flood modelling and mapping related to private land in our city, to account for updated future rainfall forecasts
2-28	Continue our Traffic Blackspot Design and Construction Program	Design and construct any successful project applications for several sites across Darebin, based on safety priority
2-29	Install new lighting at GH Mott Reserve in Preston	Deliver the lighting improvement project at GH Mott Reserve
2-30	Review our Transport Strategy and refresh our Bicycle Strategy	Review the Darebin Transport Strategy to refresh it in context of the pandemic and emerging technologies, and to integrate cycling.
		Update the Darebin Bicycle Strategy Network Plan
2-31	Implement the Reservoir Revitalisation Project 	Implement actions as per the Reservoir Revitalisation Project
2-32	Establish an Asset Management Plan for shopping precincts' infrastructure and cleaning	Review and finalise service levels for shopping precincts' infrastructure and cleaning
		Develop an Asset Management Plan for shopping precincts' infrastructure and cleaning
2-33	Advocate to the State Government to increase annual funding for road safety infrastructure, driver behaviour campaigns, and law enforcement, and work collaboratively with other local governments to implement the Victorian Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030	Delivery of advocacy actions relating to road safety
		Work with State Government to advocate to provide a safe pedestrian crossing with traffic lights, at the corner of Wingrove Street and Station Street in Fairfield.
2-34	Work in partnership to deliver initiatives that improve perceptions of safety and reduce the opportunity for crime 	Identify partners, and support the delivery of two initiatives that improve perceptions of safety and reduce the opportunity for crime



Strategic Objective

2.3 We will facilitate more affordable, social and public housing in Darebin to meet our community's needs

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-35	Enable and facilitate more affordable and social housing across our city 	Commence preliminary assessment to identify one or more Council-owned sites suitable for social housing, including progressing actions through the formal Council process for use of land and seeking partners
		Progress Town Hall Ave social housing development via lease and commence Pre-construction phase.
		Establish a 'fast track' stream that prioritises social housing planning permits and development proposals in Darebin
		Progress opportunities for more social housing on Council-owned and managed land, in partnership with Aboriginal Housing Victoria
2-36	Partner with the State Government to ensure its social and public housing investment meets our community's needs, and creates liveable, connected communities through appropriate design and construction 	Develop a Plan for how Council and the State Government will work in partnership to achieve shared social and public housing goals over the next four years

Strategic Objective

2.4 We will foster local urban streetscapes and activity centres that connect our community, support economic recovery, and encourage people to live, work and play locally

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-37	Review to amend the Parking Permit Policy to: (i) to improve access for people with special needs (ii) to allow owners of single lot dwellings that exist on their own Torrens title, the option to have an additional residential parking permit at the same price as current parking permits (iii) to allow single lot dwellings built after December 2004 that are greater than 300sqm property with three or more bedrooms and that exist on their own Torrens title (even if the property was previously subdivided), to have the same entitlements to parking permits as dwellings built before December 2004 (iv) to ensure that renovations of a property that is still a single lot on its own Torrens title and is greater than 300sqm with three or more bedrooms are still entitled to parking permits	Undertake community engagement to inform a review and amendment to the Parking Permit Policy
2-38	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, increase shade in our business activity centres to support footpath trading 	Update footpath trading communications and guidelines, to encourage shade in our business activity centres to support footpath trading
		Identify opportunities for additional trees to provide shade in our business activity centres Develop a Shade Policy
2-39	Keep our business activity centres clean and well maintained, with a focus on reducing cigarette litter 	Provide an ongoing Council cleaning and maintenance program for our business activity centres, including responding to community reports

		Assist businesses to educate customers, and provide bins and signage, to increase the correct disposal of cigarette butts litter in activity centres
2-40	Develop a policy setting the basis for how Council may permit commercial or private Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure on our public streets	Develop a policy for how Council may permit commercial or private Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure on our public streets.
2-41	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, improve streetscapes to support COVID-19 recovery 🏡	Implement street tree planting, planter boxes, and renewed and replanted garden beds.
2-42	Continue to implement our Street Furniture and Equipment Renewal Program	Deliver street furniture improvements across our city, including bins, seats, bike hoops, and other street asset improvements.

Strategic Objective

2.5 We will invest in services and the built environment to improve access for our residents and visitors

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-43	Create two additional accessible car parking spaces in our city each year 🏡	Create two additional accessible car parking spaces

Strategic Objective



2.6 We will support the human rights, housing and wellbeing needs of our people experiencing homelessness

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-44	Expand our Assertive Outreach Program to support people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness 🏡	Expand our Assertive Outreach Program to support people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness.
2-45	Expand our Shower Access Program and support access to Council services and programs for people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness 🏡	Expand our Shower Access Program and support access to Council services and programs for people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness
2-46	Continue to support the High Risk Accommodation Response (HRAR), focusing on the coordination, support and funding of high risk accommodation settings and the emergency relief sector 🏡	Continue to support the High Risk Accommodation Response (HRAR) through coordination, support and funding, focusing on high risk accommodation settings and the emergency relief sector

Strategic Objective



2.7 We will work in partnership to address place-based socio-economic disadvantage and health inequity in East Preston and East Reservoir

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-47	In partnership with the community, deliver four place-based projects each year that respond to local community issues and need 🏡	Implement four place-based projects, co-created with the community, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address low perceptions of safety, and improve amenity • Encourage active living and physical activity • Encourage community participation (social connection and volunteering) • Lift the health and wellbeing of residents
2-48	Transition the East Preston Community Centre to a community	Undertake an Expression of Interest process to transition the East Preston Community Centre to a community

	organisation-led model, to support the needs of the surrounding community 	organisation-led model, to support the needs of the surrounding community
2-49	Identify opportunities to increase access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir 	Collect baseline data on access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir
		Set targets for increased access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir
		Identify partnerships and implement two initiatives to increase access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir


Strategic Objective

2.8 We will advocate to reduce the harm associated with electronic machine gambling, alcohol and tobacco

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-50	Implement public health approaches to address problematic public drinking, including advocating to the State Government to prioritise health and wellbeing impacts in planning applications, to reduce the saturation of packaged liquor outlets in our city 	Undertake three advocacy actions to the State Government, to prioritise health and wellbeing impacts in planning applications, to reduce the saturation of packaged liquor outlets in our city
		Conduct a Health and Social Impact Assessment for all applications for packaged liquor outlets in Darebin
2-51	Support partner and local community organisations, groups, and clubs, to deliver initiatives that encourage smoking cessation 	Identify partners and support the delivery of two initiatives that encourage smoking cessation

Strategic Objective





2.9 We will focus on our economic assets and recovery to ensure Darebin is a great place to do business

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-52	Develop an Economic Development Strategy, based on the principles of a circular economy, food, health, renewables, creative and digital industries, jobs of the future, and leveraging partnerships	Deliver an economic summit to understand the diversity, strengths and needs of our business and to inform the development of an Economic Development Strategy
		Develop an Economic Development Strategy in consultation with Traditional Owners, businesses, industry, industry leaders, government and partners, that incorporates the identification of new opportunities, with a focus on food, health, renewables, creative, circular economy and digital industries
2-53	Increase our investment in economic reactivation and recovery initiatives to support existing and new industries, to ensure Darebin's economy is robust and resilient 	Provide \$1 million of business support and grants to assist with COVID recovery, focusing on sectors most in need
		Continue to provide COVID business information and support in key community languages

Strategic Objective

2.10 We will leverage investment, partnerships and advocacy to drive Darebin's growth and sustainability

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
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2-54	<p>Develop and implement an advocacy strategy to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the minimum wage, and increase Job Seeker payments • Partner with other levels of government to lift their commitment to the sustainable economy, particularly in sustainable transport and sustainable skill development • Encourage federal and state governments to invest in the sustainable economy, as major generator of jobs • Secure manufacturing investment in Darebin through the North and West Melbourne City Deal Plan 2020-2040 	Develop and implement an Advocacy Plan for increasing the minimum wage and increasing Job Seeker payments,
		Develop an Advocacy Plan to lobby other levels of government to lift their commitment to the green economy, particularly in the areas of green transport, green skill development, and investment in the green economy as major creator of jobs, and implement Year 1 actions
		Develop an Advocacy Plan for manufacturing investment within Darebin, and implement Year 1 actions
2-55	Establish a regional alliance of government, business and community organisations, to drive economic outcomes, including local, social, sustainable procurement	Form a regional alliance to increase procurement spend in Darebin through a compact, involving partners signing onto Council's Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy
2-56	Continue to implement our Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy to increase the engagement of Aboriginal-led businesses, and focus on job creation for culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, and young people 	Promote and support Aboriginal-led businesses in the Darebin community as part of the Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy
		Drive procurement outcomes that increase local employment opportunities for culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, and young people
2-57	Promote to Darebin businesses the benefits of voluntary adoption of our Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy 	Promote to, and educate Darebin businesses about the benefits of Council's Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy
2-58	Build partnerships across all levels of government and the private sector, to attract new industries and investment into Darebin, to support its future growth	Develop partnerships with other governments and business, to advocate for investment in Darebin's priority industries
		Identify key industries to attract, to inform the Economic Development Strategy's future actions
2-59	Establish a Darebin Chamber of Commerce (or an equivalent body) to strengthen and support our business community	Establish a Darebin Chamber of Commerce and Industry
2-60	Catalyse new jobs at scale in Darebin with businesses, new industry attraction and our partners - including Jobs Victoria Advocates – focusing on jobseekers facing multiple employment barriers including culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, young people, women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 	Hold a minimum of two employment forums focusing on opportunities for job seekers
		Map support services offered to employers and job seekers in Darebin
		Deliver, with partners, a minimum of one industry-based employment and training pilot program
		Develop a jobs target to inform the Economic Development Strategy's future actions (using external evidence)
2-61	Implement measures to increase digital capability for our businesses, including local, regional and global connectivity	Develop a Smart City Strategy for Darebin.
		Commence the establishment of the Internet of Things (IOT) network across Darebin.
		Survey businesses to identify digital capability issues and opportunities, to inform the development the Economic Development Strategy's future actions

		Undertake a demonstration project, in partnership with Education and Industry, to showcase the benefits of new technology
Strategic Objective		
2.11 We will support, promote, and attract diverse local businesses and industries		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
2-62	Deliver programs and services to build skills and resilience across a range of industries	Provide a business concierge service to assist businesses with minor permits Develop a welcome kit provided to businesses, that includes information about Council support in key community languages
2-63	Promote, support, and market Darebin's diverse business community and precincts, including our multicultural businesses and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses 🍷	Develop a Promotion Plan and support Darebin's diverse business community and precincts, including culturally diverse, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, businesses Identify the unique characteristics and experiences of individual shopping centres across our city
2-64	Attract and support innovation businesses, entrepreneurship, creative industries, and the tech start up ecosystem	Undertake research to understand, attract and support Darebin's entrepreneurial ecosystem, to inform the Economic Development Strategy's future actions
2-65	Implement a Destination Marketing campaign to position Darebin as a natural, cultural and event destination, and including an annual city-wide calendar of events	Develop a four-year Destination Marketing Plan to inform the Economic Development Strategy's future actions Deliver one city-wide marketing campaign and support two precinct marketing campaigns Develop a calendar to showcase events and festivals held in Darebin
2-66	Deliver an expanded Activity Centres-focused program that leverages State Government funding to shape our city of the future, including revitalisation, outdoor dining and parklets, shade, cleanliness, pride, place activations and programs, and thriving retail centres 🍷	Develop and commence implementation of a plan for an expanded Activity Centres-focused program, identifying the priority areas for roll-out based on evidence such as percentage of shop vacancies and socio-economic need Continue support for outdoor dining and expand the active spaces program
2-67	Finalise Service Level Agreements with Darebin's four main traders associations to partner in the management of graffiti, maintenance and weeding.	Finalise Service Level Agreements with Darebin's four main traders associations to partner in the management of graffiti, maintenance and weeding
2-68	Create a portal for our business community to use to connect with each other, collaborate and promote their offerings.	Undertake research, including business engagement, to develop an online portal for our business community to use to connect with each other, collaborate and promote their offerings
2-69	Support our businesses to leverage the sustainable economy, including providing education for businesses and customers, and assisting businesses to set and achieve sustainability targets.	Support and promote businesses to take advantage of, and leverage, the sustainable and circular economy Educate businesses and consumers to allow them to leverage the sustainable economy Deliver events and education to encourage businesses and community to support the circular economy
2-70	Provide financial relief initiatives for our community by extending deferral	Extend deferral of rate payments for our residents for 12 months (until June 2022)





of rate payments for our residents for 12 months (until June 2022) 📍	Provide Shop Local vouchers - \$30 vouchers for residential property owners and \$50 vouchers for pensioner property owners
	Waive food and health business registration renewals for three months
	Provide a Job Seeking Voucher Reimbursement Scheme
	Waive footpath trading permits for 12 months
	Provide a discount on pet registration fees
	Defer any rates increases until end of June 2022
	Provide vouchers and discounts to our leisure and recreation facilities

Strategic Direction 3:

Climate, Green and Sustainable

Strategic Objective

3.1 We will adapt to climate change and build the resilience of our community, infrastructure and the built environment, with a focus on our vulnerable communities at risk of fuel poverty, and flooding

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
3-1	Through our Solar Saver 4-year program, support solar installation and energy efficiency retrofits for our vulnerable households, including public and social housing, and renters 	Establish supply contract for Solar Saver program
		Install solar panels or other energy efficiency installs (through Special Charge) for 100 households
		Achieve 100 bulk buy customers
		10 social housing upgrades completed
3-2	Review our Climate Emergency Plan, including in-depth engagement with our community 	Undertake community engagement to inform the review of our Climate Emergency Plan
		Review our Climate Emergency Plan
		Develop and implement a communications and consultation strategy on the review of the Climate Emergency Plan
		Climate Action Plan that has clear pathway to zero emissions developed
3-3	Support our community members experiencing fuel poverty, to prevent heating and freezing 	Identify priority needs of community members experiencing energy poverty, to support the development of initiatives to prevent heating and freezing
3-4	Assess the current and future climate risks facing our community, and identify actions Council and other levels of government can take to provide maximum protection for people, property and the natural environment, in response to the assessed climate risks	Undertake an assessment of current and future climate risks facing the Darebin community
3-5	Develop a program to support middle-years students (later primary school and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on climate and waste issues together, to support student voices 	Co-design an Education Program aimed at middle-years students (later primary school and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on climate and waste issues together
		Implement pilot program activities
3-6	Undertake a whole of Council review of existing policies and practices to identify where climate emergency outcomes could be achieved in the areas of mitigation, resilience, education and advocacy	Undertake an initial Council-wide assessment, and complete detailed review for at least one service area
		A whole of Council review of existing policies and practices to identify where climate emergency outcomes could be achieved in the areas of mitigation, resilience, education and advocacy

Strategic Objective

3.2 Aim to achieve 12% canopy cover on Council owned and managed land by 2025, prioritising catchment biodiversity and shopping areas

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
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3-7	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, continue to deliver the Street Tree Planting Program, prioritising areas without coverage, areas with people experiencing disadvantage, and business activity centres 🍷	Continue to deliver the Street Tree Planting Program, prioritising areas without coverage, areas with people experiencing disadvantage, and business activity centres
3-8	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, create a roadmap to reach 40 per cent canopy cover of the city by 2050 (prioritising areas with poor coverage), and develop a Community Planting Guide in partnership with the Darebin Nature Trust 🍷	Create a roadmap to reach 40 per cent canopy cover of the city by 2050 (prioritising areas with poor coverage)
		Develop a Community Planting Guide in partnership with the Darebin Nature Trust
3-9	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, prioritise rehabilitating existing grasslands with cool burns	Continue Council's cool burn practice with partners including Merri Creek Management Committee
3-12	Acquire land to create new parks	Undertake a strategic review of our city to confirm areas where land is required for new parks
		Commence acquisition any appropriate land parcels

Strategic Objective

3.3 We will drive significant improvements in water quality and biodiversity across Darebin, designating Edwardes Lake as a flagship project to demonstrate water recreation (in the long term)

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
3-13	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, establish partnerships to improve the Edwardes Lake Park precinct in Reservoir, including water quality, and the quality of water across our city	Establish the Edwardes Lake Taskforce, to begin improving the water quality of the lake
		Develop Advocacy Strategy to Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
3-14	Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, rehabilitate Edwardes Lake and re-forest Edgars Creek in Reservoir, to achieve significant and measurable improvements in biodiversity by 2025 🍷	Successfully partner with Melbourne Water to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out weed management and revegetation works in Edgars Creek Extend public access through the Melbourne Water-owned reaches of Edgars Creek
		Plant 10,000 indigenous, aquatic and riparian plants in Edgars Creek on Council-owned land, by December 2022.
3-15	Establish and adequately resource the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to significantly improve the water quality and amenity of Edwardes Lake in Reservoir	Establish and adequately resource the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to advise Council on how the water quality of Edwardes Lake can be improved
		Support the Taskforce to meet four times a year
3-16	Advocate with Melbourne Water to secure funding to improve the water quality of Edwardes Lake in Reservoir	Continue Council's successful relationship with Melbourne Water on mutual goals, including improvements to the water quality at Edwardes Lake
		Council submits grant applications as they arise, to improve water quality outcomes at Edwardes Lake
		Align Council's advocacy efforts on Edwardes Lake to advocate with Melbourne Water to secure funding to support Dole Wetlands Project in Reservoir
3-17	Partner with our community and stakeholders to advocate to ensure the protection of Strathallan as public land for the long term, and to enable	Develop and commence implementation of an Advocacy Plan for the protection of Strathallan as public land for the long term, and to enable better management of the kangaroos population

	better management of the kangaroo population	
Strategic Objective		
3.4 We will reduce carbon emissions by switching to renewable energy on a large scale for Council buildings and through community focused initiatives		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
3-18	Progressively install solar panels and batteries, and introduce other energy efficiency initiatives, into our Council buildings	Commence new electricity contract for 100% renewables Increase solar power installed on Council facilities Improve energy efficiency of Council buildings
3-19	Develop and offer to our businesses a Group Power Purchase Agreement	Commence the establishment of a buyers group of Darebin businesses for a Group Power Purchase Agreement Conduct a market sounding process to identify potential suppliers for a Group Power Purchase Agreement
3-20	Develop an advocacy strategy to drive community and business use of solar panels and batteries, and other energy efficiency initiatives 🍏	Develop an Advocacy Plan to drive community and business use of solar panels and batteries, and other energy efficiency initiatives Advocacy Strategy Year 1 actions implemented
3-21	Investigate and establish programs to achieve an increase in the uptake of renewable energy sources by our community and businesses 🍏	Investigate programs to achieve an increase in the uptake of renewable energy sources by our community and businesses - including the establishment of community batteries, a virtual power plant, facilitation of solar on large roofs, and opportunities for 'off-grid' renewable power networks
Strategic Objective		
3.5 We will reduce waste and stimulate a local circular economy, where waste resources are re-used rather than discarded		
Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
3-22	Develop a plan to respond to new State Government requirements for contaminated land	Develop a Management Plan to respond to new State Government requirements for contaminated land
3-23	Increase food waste recycling through Council's food and garden waste service	Develop actions to increase food waste recycling through Council's food and garden waste service
3-24	Undertake waste reform and take action towards establishing a circular economy 🍏	Develop a new Education and Communications campaign about our Food Organic and Garden Organics (FOGO) service, including how to use it Develop Food Organic and Garden Organics (FOGO) options for MUDs
3-25	Undertake waste charge reform in response to changing legislation and future operational requirements	Develop a program and consultation plan for undertaking Waste Charge Reform Consult with community on the approach to Waste Charge Reform Provide a Waste Charge Reform proposal to Council for consideration Implement Waste Charge Reform outcomes as determined by Council
3-26	Reduce the impact of illegal dumping in our city	Review Council's illegal dumping service to identify opportunities to improve effectiveness

Strategic Direction 4:

Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

Strategic Objective

4.1 We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
4-1	Plan for adjustments in waste services due to the landfill levy and landfill gate fee increases (from 1 July 2021)	Plan for adjustments in waste services due to the landfill levy and landfill gate fee increases
4-2	Develop and implement an Advocacy Framework and four year Advocacy Plan, informed by our Council Plan priorities, aimed at influencing public policy change and attracting support and funding for our priorities	Develop an Advocacy Framework
		Map Council's stakeholders and relationship leads, and identify gaps in stakeholder management and relationship
		Develop a four year Advocacy Plan for each Advocacy Priority included in Council Plan
		Identify events and opportunities that align to the Advocacy Plan

Strategic Objective


4.2 We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
4-5	Review our Asset Portfolio, to ensure maximum benefit for our community is being realised, including the occupancy of unused and under-utilised Council buildings 🏠	Develop a Property Strategy that sets a roadmap of action for our property portfolio
		Secure tenant occupancy and use of the Edwardes Lake Boathouse
		Establish the future direction of the former Reservoir Police Station at 25 Edwardes Street, Reservoir
		Establish the future direction of the former Reservoir Library site
		Undertake an Equity Impact Assessment process in line with our Council's policy and commitments to equity, human rights and diversity
		Collect baseline data on the usage of Council spaces and services, with a focus on improving access to, and participation of, under-represented and disadvantaged communities
		Identify options for buildings to be offered to community groups that promote the diversity of our community, and undertake an Expression of Interest process
4-6	Explore opportunities for Council owned and managed land (including airspace) to be used as temporary housing for people at risk or who are experiencing homelessness 🏠	Conduct an audit of the users of Council spaces and services.
4-7	Conduct an audit of the users of Council spaces and services, and develop strategies to increase the participation of underrepresented groups in our community 🏠	Conduct an audit of the users of Council spaces and services
		Develop a Strategic Plan to increase the participation of underrepresented groups in our community
4-8		Design and implement an audit of services

	Develop specific strategies to increase the participation of under-represented groups and develop responses to support greater inclusion where audit data collected indicates low participation rates	Establish a baseline data set of participation Identify gaps in representation, to design strategies to increase participation of under-represented groups Develop an Action Plan to increase participation of under-represented groups
4-9	Explore the opportunities to offer a Council building space each year to one community group or organisation, to promote cultural diversity and diversity	Identify and offer spaces to community group or organisation
4-10	Improve delivery of our services to our community by developing an Asset Management Plan for Open Space, establishing a level of service for each class of our assets, and collecting data on our drainage assets	Establish service levels for each class of asset Develop an Asset Management Plan for Open Space, informed by consultation Collect and analyse drainage data for Council's drainage assets
4-11	Develop a 10 year Asset Plan in compliance with <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> requirements	Develop a 10-year Asset Plan

Strategic Objective

4.3 We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging and future needs of our community

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
4-12	Transform our models of service delivery through service reviews, to improve and ensure accessibility and consistency of our customer experience	Develop a Plan for a three year program of service reviews, to be undertaken in Years 2-4 of this Council Plan
4-13	Develop a Communications Strategy that ensures our printed and digital publications feature images of people that reflect the diversity of our community, and that our Darebin Community News includes a diverse mix of language and cultural content 	Develop a four year Communications Strategy that ensures strategic planning of effective and reflective communications across our diverse community Commence implementation of the Communications Strategy
4-14	Review and develop a new Domestic Animal Management Plan	Review, consult and develop a new Domestic Animal Management Plan, in accordance with State Government timeline requirements
4-15	Develop a Leisure Strategy for our city	Develop a Leisure Strategy for our city, informed by community consultation and engagement with key community stakeholders
4-16	Undertake a review of the General Local Law	Develop proposal for improvements to the General Local Law including consultation with community.

Strategic Objective

4.4 We will ensure major changes in our city achieve significant improvements in our City

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
4-17	Support our community and businesses during the construction phase of the Preston Level Crossing project	Support our community and businesses during the construction phase of the Preston Level Crossing project, including support for businesses to attract customers during disruption, helping continue to make the area accessible, and facilitating increased support from the State Government

4-18	Protect Preston Market, including advocating Council's position to the State Government during its planning consultation process, and working with our community to advocate for the strongest possible planning controls and Protections 🏡	Represent Council through the formal planning process for Preston Market, including at the State Government's standing advisory committee
		Undertaking communications with our community on what Council is advocating for, and how they can participate in any State Government consultation

Strategic Objective

4.5 We will improve the sustainability, accessibility, and design of development on private land in our city

Council Plan Reference	Strategic Action (Council Plan)	Year 1 Actions
4-19	Progressively improve our Darebin Planning Scheme, establishing a new Municipal Planning Strategy and undertake two new major planning reform projects	Draft a new Municipal Planning Strategy update
		Long term program of planning scheme reform priorities developed.
4-20	Review our Housing Strategy and planning zones including engaging with our community on where housing and development should be, and strengthening neighbourhood character provisions 🏡	Undertake Neighbourhood Character Study across our city
		Undertake community engagement on housing growth and development
4-21	Advocate for higher and mandatory Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) standards in building and planning controls	Review proposed changes to the State Government's ESD policy (expected to be released in late 2021) and advocate for stronger controls, if needed
		Advocate for stronger building controls to increase the requirements from 6 star energy efficiency to 7 or higher
		Advocate for minimum energy efficiency standards for all rental properties
4-22	Complete major planning reform work to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce an open space levy to fund open spaces in our city • Introduce a Developer Contributions Scheme to help fund infrastructure for our growing population • Establish Heidelberg Road Corridor controls • Establish Thornbury Park Heritage Estate controls 	Progress major planning reform work to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce an open space levy to fund open spaces in our city • Introduce a Developer Contributions Scheme to help fund infrastructure for our growing population • Establish Heidelberg Road Corridor controls • Establish Thornbury Park Heritage Estate controls
		Represent Council at planning panels for the four reforms
4-23	Complete our Central Preston Structure Plan	Complete drafting of a built form layout for our Central Preston Structure Plan
		Consult with the planning, growth and development community to inform our Central Preston Structure Plan

8.9 PROPERTY MATTERS REPORT**Author:** Senior Property Services Officer**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks Council approval to commence statutory procedures into the proposed sale of three separate parcels of land from previously discontinued rights of way/roads, specifically:

- (1) Discontinued road adjoining 31 Home Street and 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir
- (2) Discontinued road adjoining 4 Margtmary Avenue and 9 Fitzroy Street, Preston
- (3) Discontinued road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir

Officer Recommendation

Recommendation 1:**Discontinued road adjoining 31 Home Street and 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir****1. That Council:**

Commences the statutory procedures under section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* to;

- (a) Sell the land from the discontinued road adjoining the rear of 31 Home Street and 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir shown as Lot 4 on Title Plan TP018457Q in **Appendix A** to the owners of 31 Home Street, Reservoir, in accordance with Council Policy.
- (b) Gives notice of its intention to sell the land on Council's website and in such notice states that Council proposes to sell the land from the former road to the owners of 31 Home Street, Reservoir by private treaty and transfer to itself any land not sold, in accordance with Council policy.
- (c) As part of its community engagement process, Council invites both written and verbal submissions on the proposed sale and deal with any submissions received in line with the principles set out in section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
- (d) That any submissions received be considered by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee.

Recommendation 2:**Discontinued road adjoining 4 Margtmary Avenue and 9 Fitzroy Street, Preston****2. That Council:**

Commences the statutory procedures under section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* to:

- (a) Sell the land from the discontinued road adjoining the rear of 4 and 5 Margtmary Avenue and 9 Fitzroy Street, Preston, shown as Lot 11 on TP020678K in **Appendix A** to the owner of 4 Margtmary Avenue, Preston, in accordance with Council Policy.

- (b) Gives notice of its intention to sell the land on Council's website and in such notice states that Council proposes to sell the land from the former road to the owner of 4 Margtmary Avenue, Preston, by private treaty and transfer to itself any land not sold, in accordance with Council policy.
- (c) As part of its community engagement process Council invites both written and verbal submissions on the proposed sale and deal with any submissions received in line with the principles set out in section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
- (d) That any submissions received be considered by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee.

Recommendation 3:**Discontinued road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir****3. That Council:**

Commences the statutory procedures under section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 to;

- (a) Sell the land from the discontinued road adjoining the rear of 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir, shown as Lot 15 on Title Plan TP884494Y in **Appendix A** to the owner of 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir, by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy.
- (b) Gives notice of its intention to sell the land on Council's website and in such notice states that Council proposes to sell the land from the former road to the owners of 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir by private treaty and transfer to itself any land not sold, in accordance with Council policy.
- (c) As part of its community engagement process, Council invites both written and verbal submissions on the proposed sale and deal with any submissions received in line with the principles set out in section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.
- (d) That any submissions received be considered by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Council is required to consider a range of property matters for decision. These include matters such as property acquisitions and disposals, statutory naming processes, Right of Way disposals and proposed Road declarations. In this case the matters specifically relate to the commencement of statutory procedures into the proposed sale of three separate parcels of land from previously discontinued rights of way/roads.

In accordance with best practice and good governance principles reporting of property matters has been consolidated into one single standing report.

Local Government Act

Section 189 (Restriction on power to sell land) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Act) was revoked on 1 July 2021 and replaced by Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is similar to section 189, however the exemption from compliance with section 223 (the right to make a submission) has been removed.

Because section 223 does not apply under the 2020 Act, from 1 July 2021, any sale of land from a discontinued road must first comply with the community engagement provisions of Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Accordingly, from 1 July 2021 Council will be required to undertake a 2 staged process of first resolving to discontinue a road and sell the land under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Act and then propose the sale of the land under section 114 of the 2020 Act

The statutory procedures under section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that Council publish a notice of its intention to sell the Land on the Council's website and undertake a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy.

In contrast to the now repealed s. 189 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* does not require Council to publish a public notice in a newspaper circulated within the municipality nor provide for the lodgement of submissions to Council and the consideration of those submissions, pursuant to section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Nevertheless, in order to provide a mechanism for feedback from interested parties as part of Council's community engagement process, it is recommended that Council invite both written and verbal submissions on the proposal, and deal with any submissions received, in line with the principles set out in section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Under the principles, the notice of intention to sell the Land will afford affected parties the right to lodge a written submission with Council. Submitters may request to be heard by Council prior to a decision being made to proceed or otherwise with the proposal. Any verbal submissions received will be considered by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

As outlined.

ANALYSIS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability considerations.

Climate Emergency

There are no factors in this report which impact upon climate emergency.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

There are no factors in this report that impact upon equity, inclusion and wellbeing considerations.

Cultural Considerations

There are no factors in this report that impact upon cultural considerations.

Economic Development Considerations

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development considerations.

Financial and Resource Implications

This work will be undertaken within current budget parameters.

Legal and Risk Implications

Any legal or risks and governance implications associated with the items will be documented in the options provided to Council.

DISCUSSION

Council's property portfolio must meet current service needs while providing the flexibility to meet future requirements. Roads, reserves, revenge strips and other pieces of land of unusual shape and limited usefulness that are less than 200m² in area (collectively referred to as minor Council property assets) were originally set aside in early plans of subdivision for a particular purpose, such as access or drainage. In many cases these parcels of land are still required for and need to remain open and available to the public. In situations where a minor Council property asset is no longer reasonably required for that purpose or any other strategic purposes it may be considered surplus and suitable for sale.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

•As outlined in **Attachment A**.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Timeline

It is expected that all relevant actions will be affected within three months of this report

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Road Management Act 2004*
- Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy

Attachments

- Summary of Information (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

SUMMARY INFORMATION ON PROPERTY DISPOSALS

ITEM 1

Discontinued road adjoining 31 Home Street and 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir

To contextualise this property matter:

- The Victorian Government Gazette notice is shown as Figure 1.
- The Title Plan is shown as Figure 2.
- the Site Plan is shown in Figure 3.
- the Aerial view is shown in Figure 4.

Figure 1 - Victorian Government Gazette notice Discontinued road adjoining 31 Home Street and 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir

Victoria Government Gazette G 13 29 March 2001 529

DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL
Road Discontinuance

Pursuant to section 206 and schedule 10, clause 3 of the Local Government Act 1989, the Darebin City Council at its ordinary meeting held on 5 March 2001, formed the opinion that the road at the rear of 12 to 22 Doolan Street, rear 8 to 12 Wilkinson Street and rear 25 to 39 Home Street, Reservoir, and shown hatched on the plan below, is not reasonably required as a road for public use and resolved to discontinue the road and to sell the land from the road by private treaty to the abutting property owners.

The section of the road shown cross-hatched on the plan below is to be sold subject to the right, power or interest held by Yarra Valley Water Limited in the road in connection with any sewers, drains or pipes under the control of that authority in or near the road.

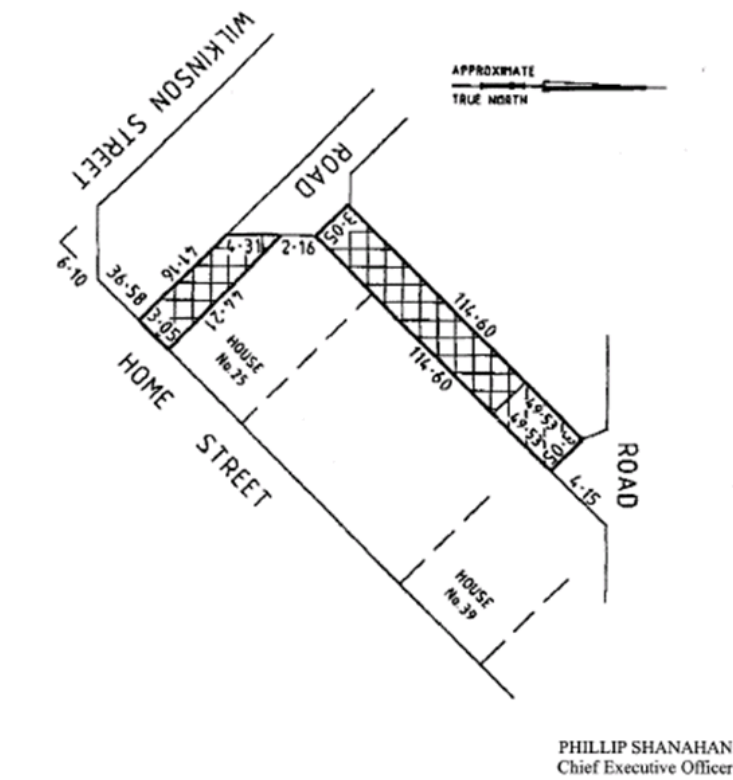


Figure 2 - Title Plan Discontinued road adjoining 31 Home Street and 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir

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TITLE PLAN		EDITION 6		LV USE ONLY	PLAN NUMBER TP018457Q
LOCATION OF LAND PARISH JIKA JIKA TOWNSHIP - SECTION - CROWN ALLOTMENT - CROWN PORTION 146 (PART) LV BASE RECORD CHART 223A (2796) LAST PLAN REFERENCE LP7991 DEPTH LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY PARENT TITLE REFERENCE VOL 4630 FOL 939 AMG CO-ORDINATES E 325 310 ZONE 55 (APPROX CENTRE OF LAND IN PLAN) N 5 822 540				WARNING THIS PLAN REPRESENTS AN EXPECTED DIVISION OF LAND. ANY ONE LOT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN CREATED. CHECK THE LOT/PLAN INDEX FOR CURRENT INFORMATION. NOTATIONS LOT 1 IS COMPRISED OF TWO (2) PARTS. THIS PLAN IS NOT BASED ON SURVEY	
EASEMENT INFORMATION					
LEGEND A - APPURTENANT EASEMENT E - ENCUMBERING EASEMENT R - ENCUMBERING EASEMENT (ROAD)					THIS PLAN HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR LAND VICTORIA FOR TITLE DIAGRAM PURPOSES
EASEMENT REFERENCE	PURPOSE	WIDTH (METRES)	ORIGIN	LAND BENEFITED/IN FAVOUR OF	CHECKED BY  DATE 7/10/01 ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OF TITLES
LOTS 1 TO 4 AND E-1 LOT 2 Lot 5 Lot 6 Lot 8 Lot 9 LOT 7	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SEC.207C LGA 1989 DRAINAGE Drainage Drainage Drainage DRAINAGE	3.05 3.05 See diag See diag See Diag SEE DIAG	SEC.207C LGA 1989 X664497G AC355007Q AC355052K AE914139Q AE914221G AE996788M	YARRA VALLEY WATER LTD. DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL Darebin City Council Darebin City Council Darebin City Council Darebin City Council DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL	
SEE SHEET 2 FOR DIAGRAM.					
BARKER MONAHAN A.C.N. 005 394 845 SURVEYORS, DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTANTS 181 GILBERT RD WEST PRESTON 3072 P.O. BOX 208 PRESTON, VIC 3072 TELEPHONE 9478 4133 FAX 9478 5189		LICENSED SURVEYOR DAVID JOHN MONAHAN SIGNATURE DATE / / REF. 10865 COMPUTER FILE: 0865TP1DWG		FILE NO : X664496K GAZ 29/3/01 P.529 DEALING CODE : LGA SHEET 1 OF 2 SHEETS ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3	

Figure 3 - Site Plan Discontinued road adjoining 31 Home Street and 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir

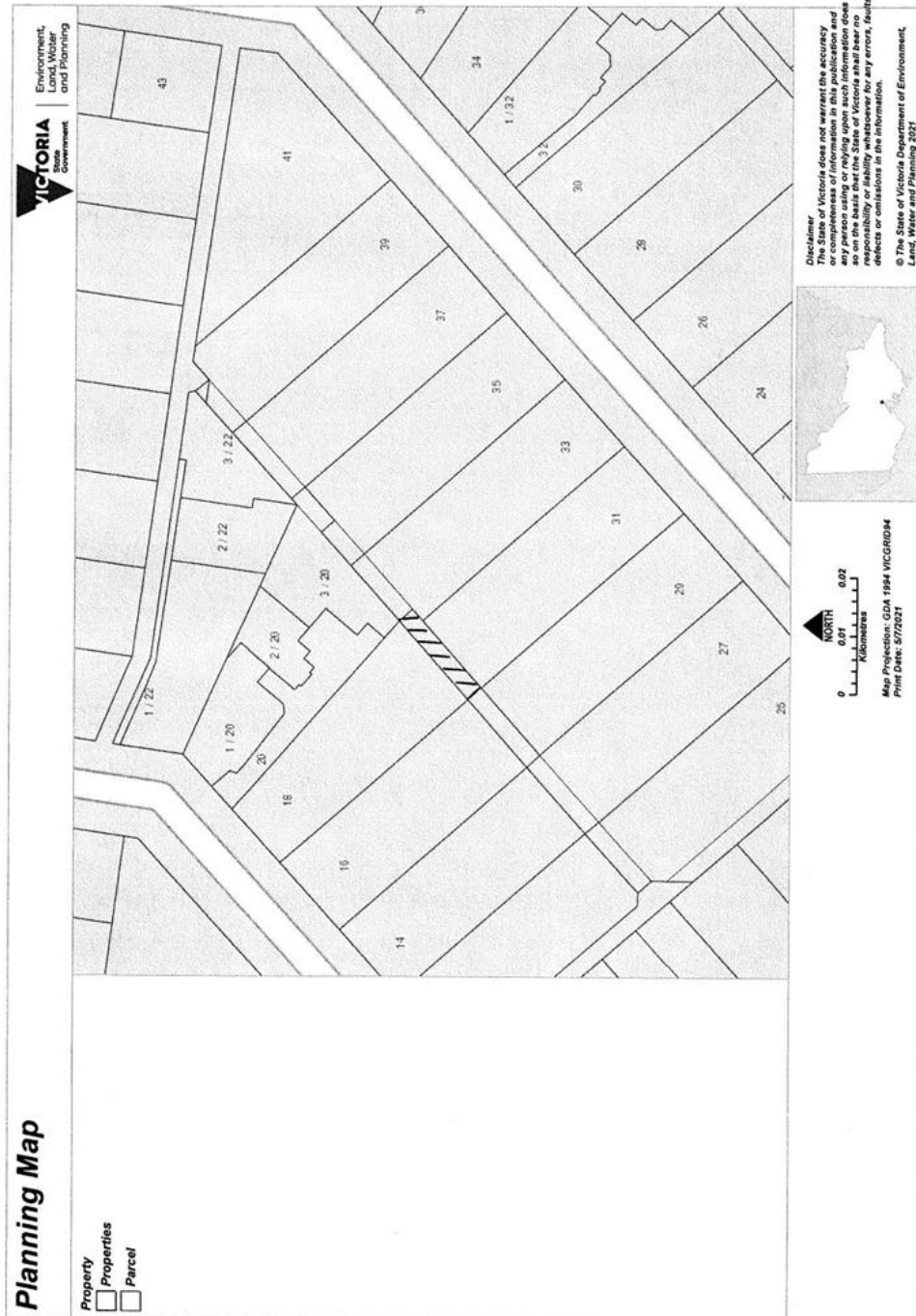


Figure 4 – Aerial View Discontinued road adjoining 31 Home Street and 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir



Background information

On 5 March 2001, Council resolved to discontinue the road adjoining 12 to 22 Doolan Street, 25 to 39 Home Street and 8 to 12 Wilkinson Street, Reservoir, and to sell the land by private treaty in accordance with Council policy. However not all parcels of land were sold at the time, with the unsold parcels of land continuing to vest in Council. The discontinuance was gazetted in the Victoria Government Gazette on 29 March 2001, shown in **Figure 1**.

In February 2021, Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner at 31 Home Street, Reservoir, looking to purchase the land at the rear of that property, being part of the unsold land from the discontinued road. The land is known as Lot 4 on Title Plan TP018457Q in **Figure 2**.

Investigations revealed that the parcel of land, shown hatched in the site plan in **Figure 3** remains unsold. The land appears to have been enclosed within the adjoining property at 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir for many years, as shown in the aerial view in **Figure 4**.

Whilst the owner of 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir initially expressed some interest in the land and was provided with all the details relating to the possible purchase, no further response was received by them. Several more attempts and further correspondence was sent to the owner of 18 Doolan Street since that time however they remained silent. On 10 May 2021, Councils Lawyers wrote to the owner of 18 Doolan Street again advising them of the proposal, including the terms & conditions of sale and provided them with a Letter of Offer for part of the land. Again, no response was received.

The owners of 31 Home Street, Reservoir have agreed, in principle, to purchase the land adjoining their property at market value as well as meeting all reasonable costs associated with the statutory process, should Council resolve to sell the land. Council will transfer to itself and land that remains unsold, protecting its interest in the land.

Should Council resolve to sell the land, Macquarie Local Government Lawyers will undertake further consultation as part of the statutory procedures.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

All immediate adjoining property owners were consulted regarding the proposal and no objections were received. The owner of 18 Doolan Street, Reservoir, who appears to have been in occupation of the land for many years, initially expressed some interest in the land. At that time, the owner was provided with all the details of the possible purchase, however no further response was received by them. Several more attempts to make contact and further correspondence was sent to the owner of 18 Doolan Street since that time however they have remained silent. On 10 May 2021, Councils Lawyers wrote to the owner of 18 Doolan Street again advising them of the proposal, including the terms & conditions of sale and provided them with a Letter of Offer for part of the land. Again, no response was received.

The owners of 31 Home Street, Reservoir have confirmed an interest in acquiring the land shown as Lot 4 on Title Plan TP018457Q in Appendix A at current market value, as well as agreeing to meet all of the reasonable costs associated with Council selling the land.

Internal Council departments and Service Authorities were consulted when the road was discontinued in 2001. Yarra Valley Water has a sewer in the Land and an easement was saved over the Land in favour of Yarra Valley Water at that time. Council currently does not have

any assets within the land, however an easement for drainage purposes in favour of Council will be created over the land to cater for the installation of drainage in the future.

In addition to the notice on Council's website, all abutting property owners will be advised of the proposal in writing and informed of their right to make a submission.

At the conclusion of the above consultation, a further report will be presented to Council for a decision whether to sell the Land, part of the Land or not to sell the Land and whether or not to take title to any of the Land.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matters. This option would mean that the land would continue to remain vested in Council and with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy the land. Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other parcels of land within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to recommence the statutory process for the sale of the land.

Option 2 – Commence the Statutory Procedures (Recommended)

Council could resolve to commence the statutory procedures to potentially sell the land. This would extend the consultation to the wider community and enable all affected property owners a formal opportunity to make a submission. This option would assist Council in obtaining further insight into the overall consensus of surrounding property owners and the community in relation to the sale. It would also enable Council to make an informed assessment on the proposed sale of the land from the former road. Benefits of commencing the statutory procedures, depend on Council's decision on the proposed sale, could result in receipt of revenue from the sale of the land that is no longer required for its original purpose.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

- Commence statutory process by giving notice of Council's intentions to sell the land on Council's website and written notification to adjoining property owners and occupiers.
- Report back to Council on the outcome of statutory process.

ITEM 2

Discontinued road adjoining 4 Margtmary Avenue and 9 Fitzroy Street, Preston

To contextualise this property matter:

- The Victorian Government Gazette notice is shown as **Figure 5**.
- The Title Plan is shown as **Figure 6**.
- the Site Plan is shown in **Figure 7**.
- the Aerial view is shown in **Figure 8**.

Figure 5 - Victorian Government Gazette notice road adjoining 4 Margtmary Avenue and 9 Fitzroy Street, Preston

Victoria Government Gazette G 20 17 May 2001 905

GOVERNMENT AND OUTER BUDGET SECTOR AGENCIES NOTICES

South Gippsland Shire Council ROAD DISCONTINUANCE OFF GRAND RIDGE ROAD Part Crown Allotment 79 Parish of Allambee East

Under Section 206 and Schedule 10, Clause 3 of the Local Government Act 1989 the South Gippsland Shire Council at its ordinary meeting held on 2 May 2001 formed the opinion that the road shown on the plan below is not reasonably required as a road for public use and resolved to discontinue the road and sell the land from the road to the abutting owners.

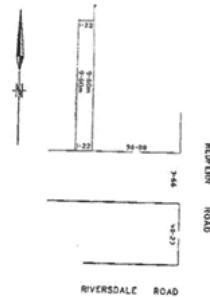


PETER BULL Chief Executive Officer

CITY OF BOROONDARA Road Discontinuance - Hawthorn East Pursuant to section 206 and Schedule 10, Clause 3 of the Local Government Act 1989, the City of Boroondara formed the opinion that

the road shown on the plan below is not reasonably required as a road for public use and resolved to discontinue the road and to sell the land from the road to the abutting owner.

Notwithstanding such discontinuance, the City of Boroondara shall continue to have and possess the same right, title power, authority or interest in relation to the land shown hatched on the said plan as it had possessed prior to such discontinuance.



JOHN NEVINS Director Works and Governance

DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL Road Discontinuance

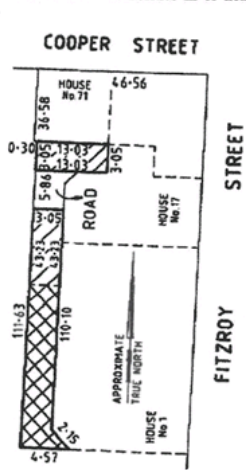
Under Section 206 and Schedule 10, Clause 3 of the Local Government Act 1989, the Darebin City Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on 15 May 2000, formed the opinion that the road shown hatched and cross-hatched on the plan below is not reasonably required as a road for public use and has resolved to discontinue the road and to sell the land from the road by private treaty subject to any right, power or interest held in the road by the Melbourne Water Corporation (Yarra Valley Water Ltd) in respect to the sections shown hatched and

906 G 20 17 May 2001

Victoria Government Gazette

cross-hatched on the plan and the Darebin City Council in respect to the section shown cross-hatched on the plan in connection with any sewers, drains, pipes, wires or cables under the control of those authorities in or near the road.

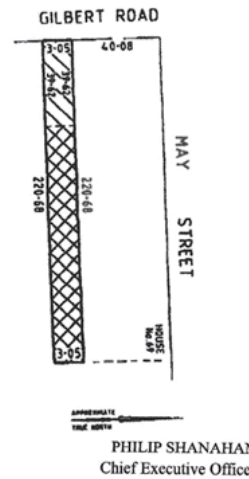
in connection with any sewers, drains, pipes, wires or cables under the control of that authority in or near the road.



PHILIP SHANAHAN
Chief Executive Officer

DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL
Road Discontinuance

Under Section 206 and Schedule 10, Clause 3 of the Local Government Act 1989, the Darebin City Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on 3 July 2000, formed the opinion that the road shown hatched and cross-hatched on the plan below is not reasonably required as a road for public use and has resolved to discontinue the road and to sell the land from the road by private treaty subject to any right, power or interest held in the road by the Melbourne Water Corporation (Yarra Valley Water Ltd) in respect to the section shown cross-hatched on the plan



PHILIP SHANAHAN
Chief Executive Officer

MORELAND CITY COUNCIL
Road Discontinuance

Under Section 206 and Schedule 10, Clause 3 of the Local Government Act 1989, the Moreland City Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on 13 March 2001, formed the opinion that the road shown hatched and cross-hatched on the plan below is not reasonably required as a road for public use and has resolved to discontinue the road and to sell the land from the road by private treaty subject to any right, power or interest held in the road in respect to the cross-hatched section of land by the Melbourne Water Corporation (Yarra Valley Water Ltd) in connection with any sewers, drains, pipes, wires or cables under the control of that authority in or near the road.

Figure 7 – Site Plan road adjoining 4 Margtmary Avenue and 9 Fitzroy Street, Preston

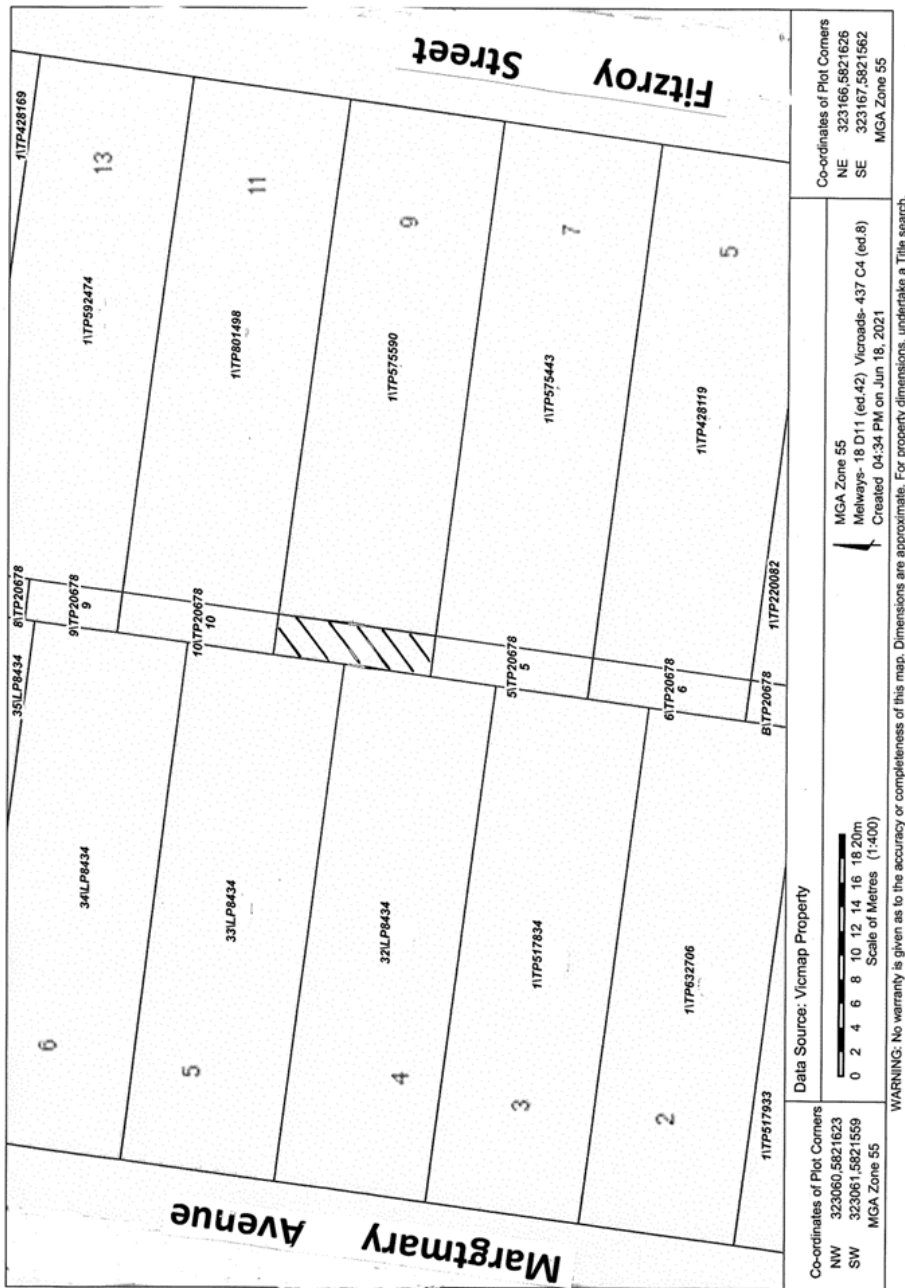


Figure 8 – Aerial View road adjoining 4 Margtmary Avenue and 9 Fitzroy Street, Preston



Background information

On 17 May 2001, Council resolved to discontinue the road at the rear of Margtmary Avenue, Fitzroy Street and Cooper Street, Preston, and to sell the land by private treaty in accordance with Council policy. However not all parcels of land were sold at the time, with the unsold parcels of land continuing to vest in Council. The discontinuance was gazetted in the Victoria Government Gazette on 17 May 2001, shown in **Figure 5**.

In September 2020, Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner at 4 Margtmary Avenue, Preston, looking to purchase the land at the rear of that property, being part of the unsold land from the discontinued road. The land is known as Lot 11 on Title Plan TP020678K in **Figure 6**.

Investigations revealed that the parcel of land, shown hatched in the site plan in **Figure 7** remains unsold. The land appears to have been enclosed within the adjoining properties at 4 and 5 Margtmary Avenue, Preston, for many years, as shown in the aerial view in **Figure 8**.

The owner of 4 Margtmary Avenue, Preston, has agreed, in principle, to purchase the land adjoining that property at market value as well as meeting all reasonable costs associated with the statutory process, should Council resolve to sell the land. Consultation with the owners of the adjoining properties at 5 Margtmary Avenue and 9 Fitzroy Street, Preston, has revealed that none of the owners are interested in acquiring the land from the former road. Council will transfer to itself any land that remains unsold, protecting its interest in the land.

Should Council resolve to sell the land, Macquarie Local Government Lawyers will undertake further consultation as part of the statutory procedures.

that none of the owners are interested in acquiring the land from the former road. Council will transfer to itself any land that remains unsold, protecting its interest in the land.

Should Council resolve to sell the land, Macquarie Local Government Lawyers will undertake further consultation as part of the statutory procedures.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

All immediate adjoining property owners were consulted regarding the proposal and no objections were received. The owner of 4 Margtmary Avenue, Preston, has confirmed an

interest in acquiring the land shown as Lot 11 on Title Plan TP020678K in Appendix B at current market value, as well as agreeing to meet all of the reasonable costs associated with Council selling the land.

Internal Council departments and Service Authorities were consulted when the road was discontinued in 2001. Yarra Valley Water has a sewer in the Land and an easement was saved over the Land in favour of Yarra Valley Water at that time. Additionally, Council also have an asset within the Land and an easement will be created in favour of Council for drainage purposes.

In addition to the notice on Council's website, all abutting property owners will be advised of the proposal in writing and informed of their right to make a submission.

At the conclusion of the above consultation, a further report will be presented to Council for a decision whether to sell the Land, part of the Land or not to sell the Land and whether or not to take title to any of the Land.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matters. This option would mean that the land would continue to remain vested in Council and with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy the land. Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other parcels of land within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to recommence the statutory process for the sale of the land.

Option 2 – Commence the Statutory Procedures (Recommended)

Council could resolve to commence the statutory procedures to potentially sell the land. This would extend the consultation to the wider community and enable all affected property owners a formal opportunity to make a submission. This option would assist Council in obtaining further insight into the overall consensus of surrounding property owners and the community in relation to the sale. It would also enable Council to make an informed assessment on the proposed sale of the land from the former road. Benefits of commencing the statutory procedures, depend on Council's decision on the proposed sale, could result in receipt of revenue from the sale of the land that is no longer required for its original purpose.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

- Commence statutory process by giving notice of Council's intentions to sell the land on Council's website and written notification to adjoining property owners and occupiers.

Report back to Council on the outcome of statutory process

ITEM 3**Discontinued road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir**

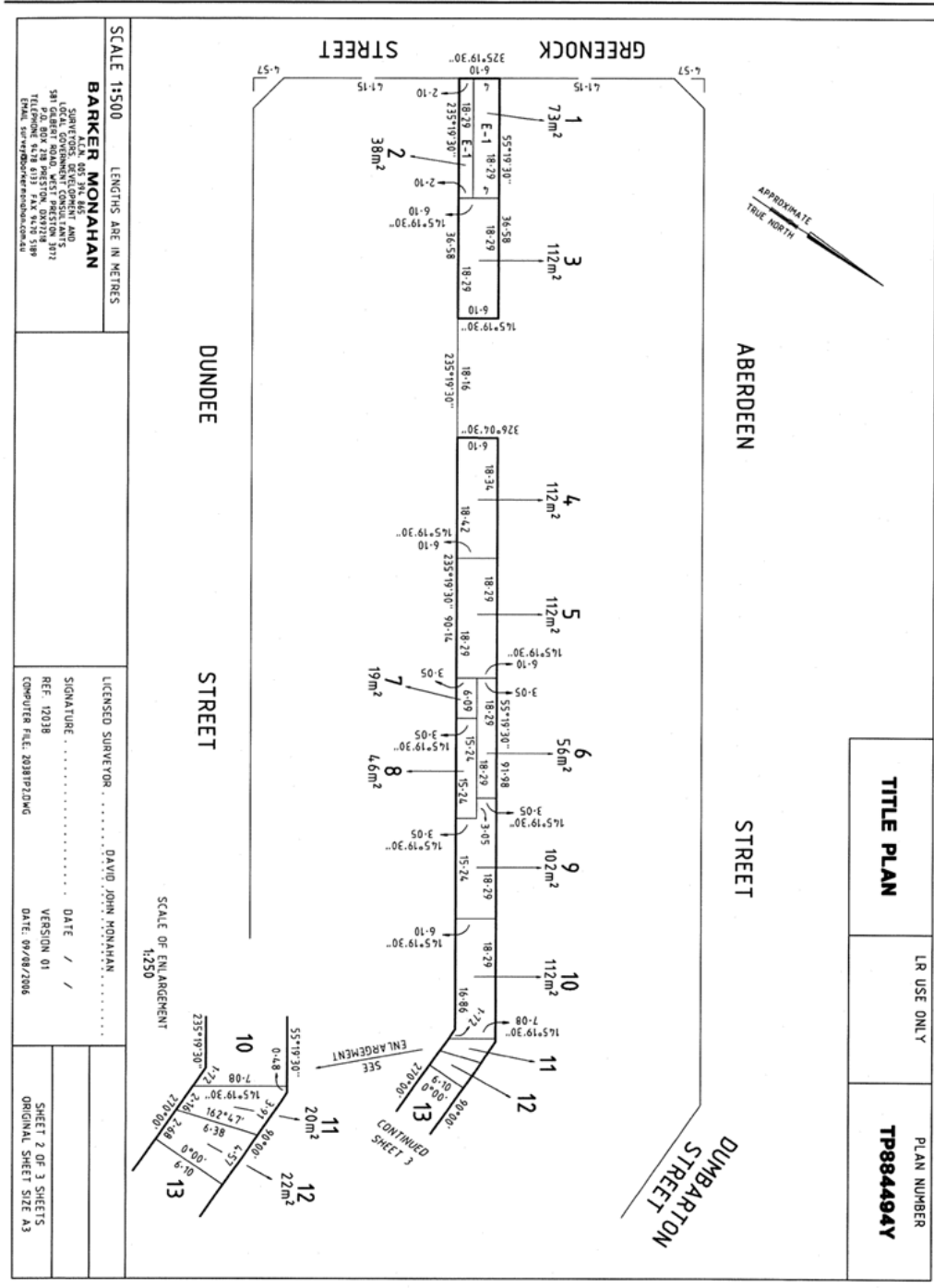
To contextualise this property matter:

- The Victorian Government Gazette notice is shown as **Figure 9**.
- The Title Plan is shown as **Figure 10**.
- the Site Plan is shown in **Figure 11**.
- the Aerial view is shown in **Figure 12**.

Figure 10 – Title Plan road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir

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TITLE PLAN		LR USE ONLY EDITION 5		PLAN NUMBER TP884494Y	
LOCATION OF LAND PARISH KEELBUNDORA TOWNSHIP - SECTION - CROWN ALLOTMENT - CROWN PORTION 14 (PART) LAST PLAN REFERENCE LP10498 DEPTH LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY PARENT TITLE REFERENCE VOL 5622 FOL 243 MGA CO-ORDINATES E 325 750 N 5 825 420 ZONE 55 (APPROX. CENTRE OF LAND IN PLAN)				WARNING THIS PLAN REPRESENTS AN EXPECTED DIVISION OF LAND ANY ONE LOT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN CREATED. CHECK THE LOT/PLAN INDEX FOR CURRENT INFORMATION	
				NOTATIONS	
EASEMENT INFORMATION					
LEGEND A - APPURTENANT EASEMENT E - ENCUMBERING EASEMENT R - ENCUMBERING EASEMENT (ROAD)				THIS PLAN HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR LAND REGISTRY FOR TITLE DIAGRAM PURPOSES. CHECKED BY A.M.B. DATE 27 / 06 / 2007 ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OF TITLES	
EASEMENT REFERENCE	PURPOSE	WIDTH (METRES)	ORIGIN	LAND BENEFITED/IN FAVOUR OF	
ALL THE LAND IN THIS PLAN	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SEC.207C LGA 1989	6-10	SEC.207C LGA 1989	YARRA VALLEY WATER LTD.	
E-1	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SEC.207C LGA 1989	6-10	SEC.207C LGA 1989	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 9	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135416Y	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 10	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135448K	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 14	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135468D	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 19	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135544P	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 20	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135565F	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 18	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135638E	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 17	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF187476L	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 8	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF187584H	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 6	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF187617U	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 3	DRAINAGE	6.10	AH953463J	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 4	DRAINAGE	6.10	AH953492B	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 5	DRAINAGE	6.10	AJ64241S	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 11	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AL572551A	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 12	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AL572551A	CITY OF DAREBIN	
LOT 13	DRAINAGE	6.10	AL572551A	CITY OF DAREBIN	
SEE SHEETS 2 & 3 FOR DIAGRAM					
BARKER MONAHAN <small>A.C.N. 005 194 885 SURVEYORS, DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTANTS 581 GILBERT ROAD, WEST PRESTON 3072 P.O. BOX 218 PRESTON, VIC 3072 TELEPHONE 9478 6133 FAX 9470 5189 EMAIL survey@barkermonahan.com.au</small>		GOVT. GAZ. NO.13 29/03/2007 PAGE 533 LICENSED SURVEYOR DAVID JOHN MONAHAN SIGNATURE DATE / / REF. 12038 VERSION 01 COMPUTER FILE: 2038TP1.DWG DATE: 09/08/2006		FILE NO : AF135415B DEALING CODE : 207D SHEET 1 OF 3 SHEETS ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3	



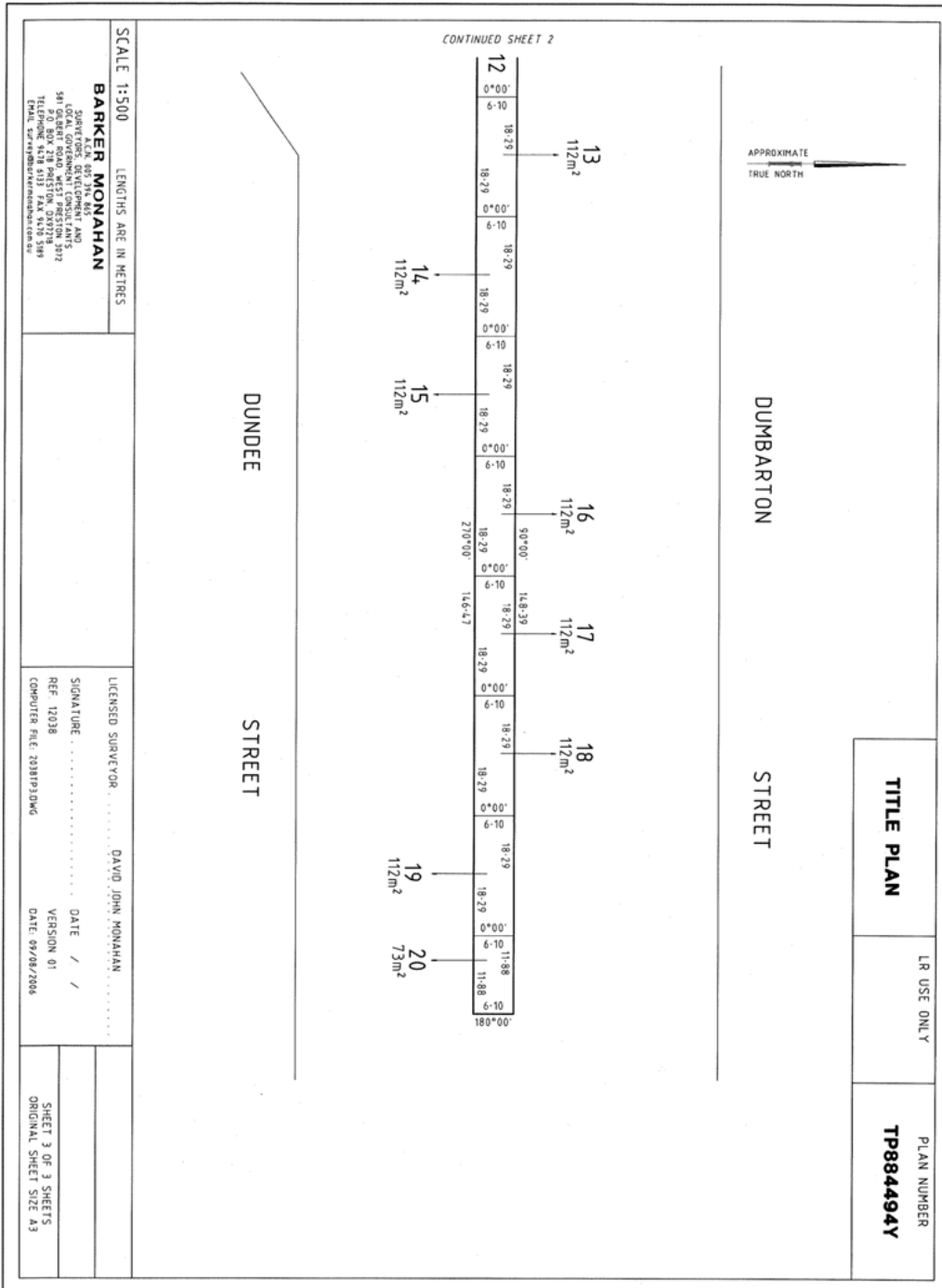


Figure 11 – Site Plan road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir



Figure 12 – Aerial View road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir



Background information

On 19 March 2007, Council resolved to discontinue the road the rear of 22 and 24 to 29 Aberdeen Street, 1 to 17 Dumbarton Street, 37, 39 and 43 to 65 Dundee Street and adjacent 14 Greenock Street, Reservoir and to sell the land by private treaty in accordance with Council policy. The discontinuance was gazetted in the Victoria Government Gazette on 29 March 2007, shown in **Figure 9**.

In April 2021 Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner at 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir looking to purchase the land at the rear of that property, being part of the

unsold land from the discontinued road. The land is known as Lot 15 on Title Plan TP884494Y in **Figure 10**.

Investigations revealed that the parcel of land, shown hatched in the site plan in **Figure 11** remains unsold. The Land appears to have been enclosed within the adjoining property at 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir for many years, as shown in the aerial view in **Figure 12**.

Whilst numerous letters have been forwarded to the owner of 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir they have chosen not to respond and have remained silent. A further attempt to elicit a response will occur as part of the formal statutory procedures.

The owner of 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir has agreed, in principle, to purchase the Land adjoining that property at market value as well as meeting all reasonable costs associated with the statutory process, should Council resolve to sell the Land. Council will transfer to itself any land that remains unsold, protecting its interest in the Land.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

All immediate adjoining property owners were consulted regarding the proposal and no objections were received.

The owner of 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir has confirmed an interest in acquiring the Land shown as Lot 15 on Title Plan TP884494Y in Appendix C at current market value, as well as agreeing to meet all of the reasonable costs associated with Council selling the Land.

Whilst a number of letters have been forwarded to the owner of 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir they have chosen not to respond. A further attempt to elicit a response will occur as part of the formal statutory procedures.

Internal Council departments and Service Authorities were consulted when the road was discontinued in 2007. Yarra Valley Water has a sewer in the Land and an easement was saved over the Land in favour of Yarra Valley Water at that time. Whilst Council currently does not have any assets within the Land, an easement for drainage purposes in favour of Council will be created over the Land to cater for the installation of drainage in the future.

In addition to the notice on Council's website, all abutting property owners will be advised of the proposal in writing and informed of their right to make a submission.

At the conclusion of the above consultation, a further report will be presented to Council for a decision whether to sell the Land, part of the Land or not to sell the Land and whether or not to take title to any of the Land.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matters. This option would mean that the land would continue to remain vested in Council and with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy the land. Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other parcels of land within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to recommence the statutory process for the sale of the land.

Option 2 – Commence the Statutory Procedures (Recommended)

Council could resolve to commence the statutory procedures to potentially sell the land. This would extend the consultation to the wider community and enable all affected property owners a formal opportunity to make a submission. This option would assist Council in obtaining further insight into the overall consensus of surrounding property owners and the community in relation to the sale. It would also enable Council to make an informed assessment on the proposed sale of the land from the former road. Benefits of commencing the statutory procedures, depend on Council's decision on the proposed sale, could result in receipt of revenue from the sale of the land that is no longer required for its original purpose.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**Details**

- Commence statutory process by giving notice of Council's intentions to sell the land on Council's website and written notification to adjoining property owners and occupiers.
- Report back to Council on the outcome of statutory process.

8.10 GOVERNANCE REPORT - JULY 2021**Author:** Senior Council Business Officer**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The matters covered under the Governance Report for the month of July 2021 are:

- Summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefing and other informal meetings of Councillors;
- Reports by Mayor and Councillors;
- Responses to the questions taken on notice during Public Question Time at the Council Meeting held on 28 June 2021;
- Community Advisory Committees six-month progress report

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Governance Report – July 2021
 - (2) Notes the summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefings and other Informal Meetings of Councillors at **Appendix A** to this report, for incorporation in the minutes of this meeting.
 - (3) Notes that reports by Mayors and Councillors submitted prior to the meeting and circulated to Councillors, will be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.
 - (4) Notes the six-month progress update from the Community Advisory Committees for the period December 2020 to May 2021 at **Appendix B** to this Report.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules 2020, the agenda for each Ordinary Meeting is required to list certain governance / administrative matters in addition to other specified items. These include the Reports of Standing Committees (for example the Hearing of Submissions Committee), Summary of Meetings (for example Briefings, Advisory Committee), Responses to Public Questions taken on notice and reports by Mayor and Councillors

Instead of having multiple reports for these governance / administrative matters on each agenda, it is considered appropriate to consolidate these matters in one single standing report to provide a single reporting mechanism for a range of statutory compliance, transparency and governance matters.

This is in accordance with best practice, good governance principles, transparent and accountable reporting of governance activities and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act, Council's Governance Rules and related regulations. This report additionally incorporates matters including but not limited to reporting of advisory committees, items relating to the delegation of Council powers, policy and strategy reporting, and the reporting on Councillors expenses.

ANALYSIS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

Nil

Climate Emergency

Nil

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

Nil

Cultural Considerations

Nil

Economic Development Considerations

Nil

Financial and Resource Implications

Nil

Legal and Risk Implications

This report fulfils legislative governance obligations, to provide transparent and accountable reporting of governance activity.

DISCUSSION

The matters covered under Governance Report for the month of July 2021 are:

Summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefing and other informal meetings of Councillors

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules 2020 for any meeting of an Advisory Committee established by Council attended by at least one Councillor or a scheduled or planned meeting to discuss the business of Council or to brief Councillors, and which is attended by at least half of the Councillors and one member of Council staff and which is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a summary of the meeting is:-

- a) Tabled at the next convenient Council meeting; and
- b) Recorded in the minutes of that Council meeting.

The summary of the meeting should include a) the time, date and location of the meeting, b) the Councillors in attendance, c) the topics discussed, d) the positions of Council officers in attendance, e) the organisation that any attendees external to council are representing and f) any conflicts of interest declared, including the reason.

A Summary of the following Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefings or other Informal Meetings of Councillors are attached at **Appendix A** to this Report:

- Darebin Interfaith Council Advisory Committee – 24 June 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 5 July 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 12 July 2021
- Darebin Art & Heritage Advisory Panel Meeting – 13 July 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 19 July 2021

Reports by Mayor and Councillors

The Mayor and Councillors submit their monthly report by 4.00pm on the day of each Ordinary Council Meeting, detailing their attendance at various functions and activities since the last Council Meeting. Reports submitted by Mayor and Councillors will be recorded in the minutes of this meeting.

Responses to Public Questions taken On Notice – Council meeting 28 June 2021

Pursuant to the Councils Governance Rules the response to a question from the public taken on notice must be recorded in the minutes of the next Ordinary Council meeting.

No questions were taken on notice at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 28 June 2021.

Community Advisory Committees six- month progress report

The purpose of this report is to provide a six-month progress update from December 2020 to May 2021 on the activities of following Community Advisory Committees.

Every committee has its own particular outcomes and challenges, which are outlined in the individual reports. The Community Advisory Committees Progress Update Report attached at **Appendix B** provides the following information for each Community Advisory Committee:

- Committee summary
 - Progress of key issues and challenges
 - Progress of activities and outcomes
 - Future plans
1. Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee
 2. Arts and Heritage Advisory Committee
 3. Climate Emergency Darebin Advisory Committee
 4. Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee
 5. Darebin Community Awards Advisory Committee
 6. Darebin Disability Advisory Committee
 7. Darebin Education Network
 8. Darebin Interfaith Council
 9. Darebin Women's Advisory Committee
 10. Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee
 11. Welcoming Cities Community Reference Group

12. Darebin Domestic Animal Management Reference Group
13. Darebin Nature Trust

Council is requested to note the Community Advisory Committees six-month progress report for the period December 2020 to May 2021.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Nil

Attachments

- Summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefing and other informal (**Appendix A**)
[↓](#)
- Community Advisory Committee Progress Report - July 2021 (**Appendix B**) [↓](#)

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.



SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Darebin Interfaith Council Advisory Committee
	Date:	Thursday 24 June 2021
	Location:	Microsoft Teams online meeting
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Councillor Gaetano Greco
	Council Staff:	Teneille Summers, Celia Chang, James Williams
	Other:	Members of the Darebin Interfaith Council (4)Members of the Darebin Interfaith Council
APOLOGIES:		Members of the Darebin Interfaith Council (6)Record the names of Councillors who have submitted apologies for inability to attend

The Meeting commenced at 5.30pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Previous minutes, action items and updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting to workshop ideas with the Committee for the Council draft plan – update on progress • Darebin Interfaith Council Expressions of Interest for new members – update on the recruitment drive 	No disclosures were made.
2.	Introductions to Council's Emergency Management Coordinator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the role of Council's Emergency Management Coordinator and projects 	No disclosures were made.
3.	Interfaith projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the Annual Iftar Dinner • Proposed tour to places of worship (October) 	No disclosures were made.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS – PUBLIC RECORD (CONT)

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
4.	Matters of interest, challenges, feedback and support needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for Council to advocate on behalf of places to worship to State Government to raise the issues and impact of lack of funding support during COVID-19 lockdown and restrictions 	No disclosures were made.
5.	Upcoming events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment Forum (led by Council) Community education sessions in partnership with the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission 	No disclosures were made.

The Meeting concluded at 6.50pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Celia Chang
	Officer Title:	Community Development Officer - Interfaith & Multicultural

This form is to be completed by the nominated Council Officer and returned to the Council Business Team within 3 working days for inclusion the agenda of the next Council meeting and in the register available for public inspection.



SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	5 July 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Dimitriadis Cr. Greco (arrived 3.08pm) Cr. Hannan (arrived 3.04pm) Cr. McCarthy (arrived 4.02pm) Cr. Messina Cr. Newton Cr. Rennie Cr. Williams (arrived 3.14pm)
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson Kerry McGrath Jo Smale David Godden Vanessa Petrie Steve Tierney Jodie Watson (arrived 3.24pm) Phillip Mallis Vasili Nicolaidis Kevin De Leeuw Daniel Mead Anna O'Brian Stephen Mahon
APOLOGIES:		Cr. Laurence

The briefings commenced at 3.00pm

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS – PUBLIC RECORD (CONT)

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Early Years Infrastructure Plan	No disclosures of conflict were made
2	Your Street Your Say – Prioritisation and Approach	No disclosures of conflict were made
3	Bike Riding in Darebin	No disclosures of conflict were made
4	Darebin Intercultural Centre Programming Think Tank	No disclosures of conflict were made
5	General Business	No disclosures of conflict were made
6	Volunteering Victoria and Darebin Information Volunteer Resource Services Stakeholder Engagement	No disclosures of conflict were made

The briefing concluded at 6.02pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Stephen Mahon
	Officer Title:	Coordinator Council Business

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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	12 July 2021
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Greco Cr. Hannan Cr. McCarthy (arrived 4.47pm) Cr. Messina Cr. Newton Cr. Rennie Cr. Williams (arrived 5.20pm)
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson Sam Hewett Rachel Ollivier Kerry McGrath Stevie Meyer Wendy Dinning Matthew Cullen Karen Leeder Jolyon Boyle Julie Smout Quentin Mercer
APOLOGIES:		Cr. Laurence, Cr. Dimitriadis

The briefings commenced at 4.30pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Level Crossing Removal Project – Reservoir Asset Ownership and Maintenance Update and Reservoir Revitalisation	No disclosures of conflict were made
2	Planning Committee Agenda 12 July 2021 - Questions	No disclosures of conflict were made
3	General Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preston Market Update 	No disclosures of conflict were made

The briefing concluded at 6.15pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Stephen Mahon
	Officer Title:	Coordinator Council Business



SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Darebin Art & Heritage Advisory Panel Meeting
	Date:	13 July 2021, 6-8pm
	Location:	Conference Room, Darebin Council Preston Offices
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Susanne Newton
	Council Staff:	Matthew Pope, Acting Manager, Creative Culture & Events Leah Crossman, Art & Collections Coordinator Chantelle Mitchell, Acting Operations Team Leader, Bundoora Homestead Art Centre (minute-taker)
	Other:	Art & Heritage Advisory Panel community members: Lyndel Wischer Sue Thornton Diego Ramirez Bridie Mackay Sophie Cassar JD Mittmann Kirsten Matthews Jane O'Neill Ramona Barry Veronica Pardo
APOLOGIES:		Kade McDonald Sean Ryan Giovanna D'Abaco Madeleine McClelland Sarah Werkmeister

The meeting commenced at 6:00pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Electing a new community co-chair for the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel for 21/22 Financial year	No disclosures of conflict were made
2	Audience Development at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre	No disclosures of conflict were made
3	Fundraising for Bundoora Homestead Art Centre	No disclosures of conflict were made

The meeting concluded at 8.05pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Leah Crossman
	Officer Title:	Art & Collections Coordinator



SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	19 July 2021
	Location:	Held virtually on Microsoft Teams
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Messina Cr. Dimitriadis Cr. Greco Cr. Hannan Cr. Newton Cr. McCarthy (arrived 2.25 pm) Cr. Rennie Cr. Williams
	Council Staff:	Sam Hewett Shadi Hanna Rachel Ollivier Jodie Watson Steve Tierney Vanessa Petrie Philip Mallis Damian Hogan David Cecala Stephen Mahon
APOLOGIES:		Cr. Laurence

The briefings commenced at 2.03 pm

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS – PUBLIC RECORD (CONT)

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Transport and Cycling Strategy Refresh	No disclosures of conflict were made
2	Procurement Policy	No disclosures of conflict were made
3	General Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NARC • Council's Laneway Policy • Spend Local Voucher update • Council Plan Action Plan 	Cr Messina declared a material conflict of interest in the Council Plan Action Plan specifically on the Year One actions in relation to Council becoming a Home Care Package Provider due to her current employment in the Home Care Sector.

The briefing concluded at 5.47 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Stephen Mahon
	Officer Title:	Coordinator Council Business

This form is to be completed by the nominated Council Officer and returned to the Council Business Team within 3 working days for inclusion the agenda of the next Council meeting and in the register available for public inspection.



1. ACTIVE AND HEALTHY AGEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AUTHOR: Coordinator Community Participation and Development

REVIEWED BY: General Manager Community

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee (AHAAC) represents the interests of older people in Darebin. The role of the committee is to inform and assist Council in understanding how issues, policies and drivers can impact on the health and wellbeing of older residents, influence Council's planning and create an age friendly community. Members of the committee have provided input into this report.

Committee Members

- 10 community representatives
- 4 Darebin City Council Officers

Councillor Representative:

Cr Gaetano Greco (Chair)
 Cr Susan Rennie
 Cr Julie Williams

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- Aged Friendly Darebin
- Darebin Council Standard Terms of Reference
- Royal Commission into Quality and Safety of Aged Care Final Report
- Impact of COVID-19 on services and older people
- Community Engagement Policy – consultation

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- **Community Engagement Policy** – AHAAC provided input through this consultation with the focus to enhance Council's connection with older people, particularly those from diverse communities. Other feedback included: a timetable of dates and opportunities made available to community for consultation, including regular intervals for community to be updated on the status of work and projects.
 - **Aged Friendly Darebin Initiatives** – AHAAC members regularly receive updates and share their insights regarding the progress of Age Friendly Darebin Initiatives which to date have included: the Home Care Packages Trial, the BUDS Program, and The Café Meals Initiative, which is a new pilot that commenced in March 2021. Café Meals offers flexible
-



meals options for older people. In partnership with local cafés based in Darebin, Council is currently piloting this project which enables older people to access a low-cost meal in a café using a voucher that can be used to subsidise the meal. AHAAC members provided input into nominations for local cafes that was (1) value for money, (2) age friendly, and (3) accessible.

Based on feedback received from AHAAC, the reporting on Council's expenditure for Age Friendly initiatives is clearly identifiable in Council's reports.

- **Darebin Council Standard Terms of Reference (STOR)** – Council has created Standard Terms of Reference for its community advisory committees. AHAAC members were invited to participate during the consultation phase on 21 January 2021 and 8 April 2021. AHAAC members submitted an alternate STOR for AHAAC for discussion on 11 March 2021 with a member of the Governance team. This document was included as feedback during the consultation phase for this project.
- **COVID-19 Impact on services and older people– Feedback sought and updates provided** - AHAAC received updates regarding Council's work supporting community members and groups when restrictions eased for COVID-19 allowing many groups to return to their activities.
- **Royal Commission into Quality and Safety of Aged Care – Final Report** – Brief discussions held. More work will follow to understand the implications, current support and gaps to inform Council's advocacy.

Members continuously highlight the role of council to continue to provide high quality services and programs that are responsive to community needs and aspirations.

FUTURE PLANS

- Age Friendly Darebin (Including built and natural environments)
- Royal Commission – recommendations and impacts – readiness for sector changes as a result of Royal Commission and Government response.
- Review of AHAAC Terms of Reference
- Recruitment of new members

RELATED DOCUMENTS



2. ART & HERITAGE ADVISORY PANEL

AUTHOR: Art & Collections Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: General Manager Community

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Darebin Art & Heritage Advisory Panel, established in April 2020, provides expert advice and support towards achieving the visual art, public art and heritage interpretation projects, services and activities that Darebin Council provides to our community. As part of its remit, the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel provides advice and guidance on the strategic operation of Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, as well as the management of Darebin's indoor and outdoor art collections.

Committee Members

- 14 community members
- 1 organisational member: Multicultural Arts Victoria

Councillor Representative:

- Cr. Susanne Newton (delegate)
- Mayor Lina Messina (proxy)

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- The panel has advised on the ongoing matter of guerrilla public art in Darebin that emerged in 2020 with the appearance of the Gold Head statue in All Nations Park.
- The panel provided support and consultation on a range of risk management strategies for creative projects in Darebin, including the Fuse Festival public art commission series 'Stimulus Package' in March 2021 and the 'Multiverse' group exhibition at Bundoora Homestead art Centre in January 2021.

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- Officers submitted a report to Council in December 2020 seeking endorsement of 8 new community members to the panel. In January 2021, the 8 newly appointed community members were inducted to the panel and met with the 6 existing panel members. Additionally, an organisational position was added to the panel membership for Multicultural Arts Victoria.
 - The panel met three times over this period: 31 January, 16 February and 27 April 2021.
 - The panel provided consultation on a range of public art projects for Darebin including: the integration of public art as part of the new Multi-Sports Stadium in Thornbury, the Gold Head Guerrilla Art series, and the Fuse Festival 'Stimulus Package' project.
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- The panel reviewed and provided feedback on the draft Guerrilla Public Art Policy Addendum which is in development.
 - The panel provided advice on how best to support First Nations Artists and Audiences to feel safe and included at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, and to ensure equal opportunities for CALD communities were designed into arts programming and services.
 - A robust discussion was held to determine priority setting for the Art & Heritage Advisory panel for the 21/22 financial year. Key priorities for Darebin as determined by the panel include: recognition of institutional privilege, caring for artists, audience development and a curatorial framework for Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, public art in Darebin, and arts partnerships.

FUTURE PLANS

- A key focus for the panel will be supporting Bundoora Homestead Art Centre to continue to rebuild its audience and arts service delivery post-COVID with a refreshed and more agile approach.
- The panel will support Council officers in the development of a guerrilla public art policy addendum and the initiation of a Public Art sub-committee to advise on specific public art projects within Darebin.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Art & Heritage Advisory Panel Terms of Reference (March 2020)
- Appendix A: Darebin Art & Heritage Advisory Panel Review of New Governance Model (June 2021)

APPENDIX A

DAREBIN ART & HERITAGE ADVISORY PANEL: REVIEW OF NEW GOVERNANCE MODEL**AUTHOR:** Coordinator Art & Collections**REVIEWED BY:** General Manager Community**PURPOSE**

To provide Council with report on the success measures of the 12 months of the Darebin Art and Heritage Advisory Panel, since its transition from its previous governance model as a section 86 Special Committee, formerly known as the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Bundoora Homestead Board of Management was a Special Committee appointed pursuant to section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989 to manage the operation of Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, the public art gallery within the City of Darebin.

In early 2020 a report was tabled at Council with proposed changes to the governance structure of the Board of Management. This report was responding to amendments to the Local Government Act, and Council's concurrent review of its advisory committee model.

On 6 April 2020, Council endorsed the recommendation to discontinue the Bundoora Homestead Board and reform this group as an Art & Heritage Advisory Panel, with existing Board members endorsed as the inaugural Panel members. Council tasked officers to deliver an Expression of Interest process to fill vacant positions within the new Art & Heritage Advisory Panel. Additionally, Council tasked officers to review the new Advisory Committee arrangements within 12 months of the first meeting of the Panel.

The Darebin Art & Heritage Advisory Panel held its first meeting under this new governance model in July 2020. The panel provides expert advice and support towards achieving the visual art, public art and heritage interpretation projects, services and activities that Darebin Council provides to our community. As part of its remit, the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel provides advice and guidance on the strategic service delivery at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre.

An expressions of interest process was undertaken for new Panel members in 2020. In December Council endorsed the appointment of 8 new community members to the Panel's membership, as well as an organisational member position for Multicultural Arts Victoria.

REVIEW OF NEW GOVERNANCE MODEL**Key changes**

- The significant change to the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel that resulted from this change of governance model has been the extended remit of the Panel beyond the walls of Bundoora Homestead Art Centre. The Panel now also advises on visual arts projects and policy across the municipality, as well as the management of Darebin Council's indoor and outdoor art collections
- Unlike the Section 86 Board of Management, the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel no longer has oversight of financial operational matters at Bundoora Homestead Art

Centre, however it still provides support and guidance on the strategic creative priorities and outcomes for the centre.

Key successes

The new governance model for the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel has resulted in a significant number of improvements or new opportunities, including:

- **Number of panel meetings:** Since its inception in July 2021, the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel has held 5 panel meetings and 1 informal panel gathering over a 12-month period. In the previous 12 months of the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management, the Board managed to hold only one board meeting and 2 informal board workshops.
- **Development of strategic priorities:** The panel determined a set of key priority areas for it to focus on in the year ahead, including: recognition of institutional privilege, caring for artists, audience development and a curatorial framework for Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, public art in Darebin, and arts partnerships.
- **Breadth of expertise:** With the appointment of 8 new community members and one organisational member to the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel, this committee now has a breadth of expertise that covers areas as diverse as access & inclusion, fundraising, audience development, First Nations engagement, CALD community engagement, collections management, public art, curation, contemporary art, heritage, arts marketing, artist advocacy, craft and 'maker' industries, cultural tourism, and much more.
- **Number of creative projects advised on:** In the first 12 months of its operation, the panel has advised on 6 major visual arts projects across Darebin, including 3 public art projects, 2 exhibitions at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, and the development of 1 new piece of draft arts policy.
- **The development of a public art sub-committee:** In response to the volume of public art projects and ideas that have been supported by the Art & Collections unit in the past year, the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel has agreed to form a sub-committee working group to advise exclusively on Public Art projects going forward. This sub-committee will commence in July 2021.

CONCLUSION

The advantages of the change of governance model from a section 86 Board of Management to an Advisory Committee have become evident in the first 12 months of the Art & Heritage Panel's operations. The change to quorum protocols, extension of the remit of the panel, and recruitment of new community and organisation members has resulted in a robust, engaged and extremely passionate body of local experts who are dedicated to supporting the visual art outcomes for Darebin Council.



3. CLIMATE EMERGENCY DAREBIN

AUTHOR: Senior Environment Programs Officer – Climate Emergency

REVIEWED BY: City Sustainability and Strategy

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

Climate Emergency Darebin's role is to provide advice and feedback to Council in the implementation of Council's Climate Emergency Plan.

Committee Members

3 community members (Originally 6; 3 have resigned)

Councillor Representative:

Cr Susan Rennie and Cr Trent McCarthy

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

The Committee has been on hiatus during this period due to the resignation of 3 of its members.

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

While the Committee been in hiatus due to the resignation of members, its earlier work in helping to establish Climate Emergency Australia continues to drive climate advocacy, as the new group forms national advocacy positions that will support local communities to transition to a renewable, zero carbon future and thrive.

FUTURE PLANS

Council will advertise to fill positions on the Climate Emergency Darebin Committee, to achieve a range of relevant skills and committee members who represent the diversity of the Darebin community. The Committee will play an important role in supporting Council to deliver its climate agenda set out in the 2021 – 25 Council Plan. A key focus in 2021-22 will be the review of the Climate Emergency Plan, developing a Business Power Purchase Agreement and assessing community climate risk.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Climate Emergency Darebin Terms of Reference
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4. DAREBIN ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AUTHOR: Aboriginal Partnerships Officer

REVIEWED BY: General Manager Community

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The purpose of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC) is to provide Council with cultural advice, direction and strategic opportunity and representation on behalf of the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and its' organisations. DAAC also provides strategic input into Council's projects, initiatives and oversees delivery of the Council Plan (2017-2021) Goal 5.3 through the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan (2017-2012) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy (2017-2027) and the Towards Framework (2019-2029). This work is underpinned by the Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal People (2019) and further informed by the DAAC "Our Black Lives Matter" Statement (2020).

Committee Members

- 5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members

Councillor Representative:

- Mayor Cr Lina Messina (Chairperson)
- Cr Gaetano Greco
- Cr Susan Rennie (proxy)
- Cr Tim Laurence (proxy)

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- One meeting was held during this period, plus additional consultation for the Council Plan and Community Vision
- Treaty, Our Black Lives Matter, Truth Telling & Frontier wars continued to be a key focus
- Governance input into the review of the redrafting Terms of Reference

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- DAAC provided key input and participation in the Ganbu Gulin film project documenting the Aboriginal story of Darebin and January 26 decision – control and creative direction of film reflects Council's commitment to self-determination and truth telling respecting DAAC's voice in the process.
 - The Committee contributed to the following consultations:
 - 2021-25 Council Plan and Community Vision
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- Darebin Multipurpose Women's Sports Stadium
 - Bundoora precinct - Parks and Natural Environment – Traditional Owners and cultural overlay commenced discussions regarding decolonising the Bundoora Parklands space with further engagement with Traditional owner groups and DAAC/Darebin Aboriginal communities to continue in 2021
 - Monitoring outcomes of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action plan.
 - The period saw appointment of a new DAAC Co-Chair.

FUTURE PLANS

- Induction of seven new DAAC members in July 2021
- Engagement in the delivery of the 2021-25 Council Plan and other strategic plans
- Strengthened voice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Council decision making
- Implementation of new standard terms of reference and endorsement of DAAC specific addendum
- DAAC sub-groups or nominees to be enabled to work with Council on identified projects.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy
- Towards Equality Framework
- Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal People (2019)
- DAAC "Our Black Lives Matter" Statement (2020)

5. DAREBIN COMMUNITY AWARDS SELECTION PANEL

AUTHOR: Manager Creative Culture and Events

REVIEWED BY: General Manager Community

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Darebin Community Awards recognise the achievement of our community members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Darebin community.

In August 2017, as part of a Council resolution, the 26 January Awards were reviewed and, in collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders, new categories were introduced that recognise and celebrate the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live, work, study or volunteer in Darebin.

In December 2020, Council resolved to create two additional award categories to celebrate the achievements of Darebin's culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. A total number of nine categories now make up the Darebin Community Awards.

The Darebin Community Awards Selection Panel assesses nominations for Community Awards and recommends award winners.

Committee Members

Current membership of Darebin Community Awards Selection Panel is made up of:

- Two members of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Representation from Darebin Ethnic Communities Council
- Four Community Representatives
- Four Former Award Recipients
- One Council officer, and others as required

Councillor Representative:

- Mayor Cr Lina Messina (Chairperson)

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 30 May 2021

In December 2020 Council endorsed the creation of two new award categories which recognise outstanding achievement in CALD leaders in Darebin.

The two new categories are:

- CALD Elder Community Leader of the year.
- CALD Emerging Leader of the year (under 21 years)

The introduction of these two categories brings the total number of community awards each year to nine. The remaining seven categories are as follows:

- Citizen of the Year
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Leader of the Year
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Emerging Young Community Leader of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Group of the Year
- Sustainability Award (awarded to an individual, educational group or community group new category for 2019)
- Lifetime Achievement Award (awarded to an individual new category for 2019).

Awards are presented to recipients of the Darebin Community Awards at an annual event.

Given restrictions on public gatherings experienced in 2020 as a result of COVID-19, the Darebin Community Awards for 2020 were delayed, and were presented as part of Darebin's FUSE Autumn Festival program on 18 March 2021 at the Darebin Arts Centre at a COVID restricted event.

FUTURE PLANS

- Marketing and Communications Plan for 2021 awards will commence in July 2021.
- Recruitment for new selection panel members to commence once Council has endorsed the standard Terms of Reference.
- Review of Nomination form and collateral for Darebin Community Awards July 2021.
- Darebin Community Award nominations will open in September 2021.
- A Darebin Community Awards presentation event will be held during FUSE Festival in Autumn of 2022.

With the importance of the Awards clearly established, we will develop the Award Presentation Night as an annual feature of Darebin's FUSE Festival programming. We will find new ways to contemporise the process of nomination, selection and presentation, to ensure the awards remain fresh, relevant and of interest as broadly within our community as possible. This aligns with the intention and the goals of FUSE.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Darebin Community Awards Terms of Reference



6. DAREBIN DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AUTHOR: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER ACCESS AND INCLUSION

REVIEWED BY: AGED AND DISABILITY MANAGER

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Darebin Disability Advisory Committee (DDAC) provides advice to Council on issues relating to access and inclusion for people with disabilities and carers living, working, studying or visiting Darebin.

The purpose of DDAC is to promote and advocate for improved access and equity within Council and the wider community, irrespective of age, type of disability, gender, culture, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background and linguistic background.

The Committee also monitors the implementation of the Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan.

Committee Members

- 5 x community members
- 3 x carers
- 1 x service provider (Melbourne Polytechnic)

Councillor Representative:

- Cr. Julie Williams (Chair)
- Cr. Tim Laurence (Proxy)

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 January 2021 to 23 June 2021

- Ongoing pandemic and lack of certainty and ability to plan long-term impacts on community members and their participation
- Access to COVID-19 vaccines for community members with disabilities creates uncertainty
- Ongoing NDIS reforms.

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 January 2021 to 23 June 2021

- Online meeting agenda in March included:
 - Level Crossing Removal Project in Darebin
 - DDAC Recruitment update
 - Standard Terms of Reference for Council Advisory Committees update
 - Online meeting agenda in June included:
 - Level Crossing Removal Authority presentation regarding Preston projects
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- Alignment of the DDAC ToR to Standard Terms of Reference for Council Advisory Committees

FUTURE PLANS

- Recruitment of new members under the new standard Terms of Reference when endorsed by Council
- Continued monitoring of Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan activities
- Hybrid meetings with members attending either in person or online

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Darebin Disability Advisory Committee Terms of Reference



7. DAREBIN EDUCATION NETWORK

AUTHOR: Community Development Officer

REVIEWED BY: General Manager - Community

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The aim of the Darebin Education network is to promote quality and equitable education for all children, with a focus on students and schools where there is significant educational disadvantage. It provides an important opportunity for schools across all sectors (public, Catholic and independent) to meet and work together with Council on mutual priorities.

Committee Members

- 15 Darebin Schools
- Three Department of Education and Training (DET) representatives
- Four Council officers

Councillor Representative:

- Cr. Susan Rennie

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

Key issues for this period include:

- Ongoing impact of lockdowns 2020 and 2021 on wellbeing of students, families and teachers.
- Postponement of second Darebin Education Network meeting on the key theme of *'How are schools teaching intercultural capabilities and addressing racism'* to ensure this topic could take place in a face to face format.
- Postponement of follow-up program with two schools on key priorities arising from project *'Children's Voices on COVID.'*
- Impact of COVID and diminished capacity of schools to participate in programs supported by Council, participation in whole-of-school professional development with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Corporation has reduced to two schools.

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- The first meeting of 2021 hosted a guest presentation by General Manager of the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association (VAEAI) on *'Aboriginal student disengagement from school during 2020 – lessons learnt and positive strategies for re-engagement.'*
 - The film and report *'Children's voices on COVID'*, produced by Council and Polyglot Theatre with four primary schools has been distributed to all schools and shown for
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discussion in various platforms, which centres the experiences of children during the 2020 lockdown. Follow-up community development programs with two schools are planned, including the launch of the film, and various school-based wellbeing initiatives.

- The Berry Street Education Model (BSEM) partnership has resulted in ongoing refresher program for educators of one school and take up by one new school of the whole-of-school trauma-informed positive education model. Over the past four years, thirteen schools have committed to the BSEM, 12 of which Council has directly facilitated. School specific parent education sessions on '*Supporting Children through stressful times*' for at least five schools have been planned.
- Planning for 2021 Darebin Schools' NAIDOC Yarning Conference Heal Country! has commenced, with 12 schools involved actively in the Working Group to plan and develop the Conference.
- A successful 'Darebin Careers Tour' for 11 First Nations students from one secondary school was held, in partnership with the Darebin Youth Hub.
- Four schools, two primary and two secondary have taken up the opportunity for Creative Art Therapy program for their students, this program is a recipient of Council's Community Recovery Grants.

FUTURE PLANS

- Give continuity to programs that have been postponed or deferred, including the meetings of the Darebin Education Network, the promotion of the insights by children '*Children's voices on COVID*' and wellbeing initiatives.
- Promote collaboration with and between schools on '*Student voice, student engagement and action*'.
- Coordinate, collaborate and promote the fourth Darebin Schools' NAIDOC Yarning Conference, both the pre-Conference learning activities and the actual program of the Conference.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Education Committee Terms of Reference 2015



8. DAREBIN INTERFAITH COUNCIL

AUTHOR: Community Development Officer – Interfaith and Multicultural

REVIEWED BY: General Manager Community

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Darebin Interfaith Council (DIFC) was established in 2005 to promote activities that foster social cohesion through interfaith dialogue and collaboration relevant to faith communities within the municipality of Darebin.

Committee Members

- 10 Community members
- Two Victoria Police representatives
- Two Council officers

Councillor Representative:

- Cr. Gaetano Greco (Chair)

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

The committee met once in February 2021. The May meeting was postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Key issues for this period include:

- Members provided feedback on the challenges experienced by their community due to COVID-19 to explore support from Council; this included employment, mental health, support for young people, family violence and access to information (translated and hard copies) by community.
- An update was provided on the relocation of the Intercultural Centre project, including building design and facilities and timeline of completion.
- Members were invited to submit an Expression of Interest for the Design Your Darebin 2041 deliberative panel.
- Members participated in a workshop to provide feedback on the 2021-25 Council plan.
- Council and the Darebin Interfaith Council partnered with Victoria Police and East Preston Islamic College on the annual Iftar dinner in May.

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- The “Stand Together, Safe and Equal” online forum was delivered on 3 December during “16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence”, in collaboration with Hume City Council. A representative from Preston Mosque was on the guest speaker panel. Guest speakers spoke about their work with the Muslim, Hindu and Sikh communities, as well as Victoria Police’s responses to support community. Suggestions for future forums include
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inviting women from different faiths to speak about the status of women in their religion. There is also the challenge of fatigue in the community with online events.

- The World Interfaith Harmony Week morning tea in partnership with Northern Community Church of Christ was held on 10 February. Many community members providing feedback that they were appreciative of Council for organising a face to face event.
- Information sharing – Family Violence training for faith communities, Council's support for asylum seekers released from the Mantra Bell Hotel.
- Information sharing and engagement with members have continued through the Darebin Interfaith and Multicultural monthly emailing list.

FUTURE PLANS

- Expression of Interest for new members for the Darebin Interfaith Council following council endorsement of the standard Terms of Reference.
- Planning for a range of annual multicultural and interfaith events and celebrations across Darebin
- Annual Darebin Interfaith Tour – planned for October 2021 as part of National Unity Week.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Interfaith Council Terms of Reference



9. DAREBIN WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**AUTHOR:** Gender Equity Officer**REVIEWED BY:** General Manager Community**COMMITTEE SUMMARY:**

The Darebin Women's Advisory Committee (DWAC) acts as a conduit between women of Darebin and Council. The committee advises Council on issues and barriers to equality affecting women in Darebin, notably by providing a gender lens on issues, policies, services or programs.

Committee Members

- 9 community members
- Council officers

Councillor Representative:

- Cr Emily Dimitriadis

PROGRESS REPORT**Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021**

- One meeting took place during this period and the current members concluded their term.
- New Intercultural Centre plan: members received an update about the new Intercultural Centre and were provided the opportunity to provide a gendered analysis.
- The Gender Equality Act (2020): legislative changes were discussed in addition to the role of the Darebin Women's Advisory Committee in the implementation of the Act.
- End of Advisory Committee term wrap up and discussion occurred.

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- Committee members provided feedback to Council officers in relation to the new Intercultural Centre plan and also provided feedback and ideas for improvement for the Darebin Women's Advisory Committee.

FUTURE PLANS

- Supporting the ongoing implementation of the Gender Equality Act (2020) by providing a gendered analysis on policies, programs and services.
 - Supporting gender-sensitive design of public places and community safety initiatives.
 - Undertaking an EOI process for the new Committee members once the Standard Terms of Reference are approved by Council.
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RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Women's Advisory Committee Terms of Reference



10. DAREBIN SEXUALITY, SEX AND GENDER DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AUTHOR: Human Rights Lead

REVIEWED BY: General Manager Community

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee (SSGDAC) supports Darebin City Council's commitment to social inclusion by recognising sexual orientation and sex and gender diversity as significant aspects of community diversity. The committee also enhances Council's capacity to address barriers to access and inclusion that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) residents face.

Committee Members

- 7 community members

Councillor Representative:

- Cr. Susanne Newton

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- Provision of local level information on impacts of Covid-19 and specifically the extended lock down on the health, wellbeing and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ people in Darebin.
- Information sharing on new and emerging local level responses including social support, mental health support, material aid.
- Consideration of upcoming opportunities in the State Government's new Equality Strategy.

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- Feedback on proposed Midsumma Festival activities 2021, specifically Carnival and Pride March.
 - Planning for IDAHOBT activities 2021.
 - Staff from Your Community Health presented on new Rainbow Village initiative including the project model and objectives and the proposed 2021 program – for information, discussion and feedback.
 - Four members of the SSGDAC who had come to the end of their membership term were farewelled and their contributions, time and energy acknowledged.
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FUTURE PLANS

- Continue to monitor and provide feedback on the local level impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and specifically the extended lock-down on the inclusion, wellbeing and participation of LGBTIQ+ people connected to Darebin.
- Ensure Council's participation in Midsumma Festival and IDAHOBIT reflects and fulfils community aspirations/expectations.
- Consider the opportunities in the new Council Plan 2021-2025 for LGBTIQ+ people connected to Darebin
- Undertake an expression of interest process for new members for existing vacancies to commence mid- 2021 once the new standard Terms of Reference have been confirmed at Council.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.



11. WELCOMING CITIES REFERENCE GROUP

AUTHOR: Multicultural and Diversity Project Officer

REVIEWED BY: General Manager Community

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Welcoming Cities Community Reference Group (Reference Group) was established to support Council to meet its commitment to be a Welcoming City.

The Reference Group facilitates and monitors Council's progress towards achieving the principles and criteria in the Welcoming Cities Standard.

Committee Members

- Darebin Councillor
- Four community members
- Three members from existing committees, representative from each of: Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Darebin Interfaith Council
- Three representatives from community and migrant support agencies in the City of Darebin; AMES, Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre and Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC)
- Traditional Owner representative

Councillor Representative:

- Cr Gaetano Greco

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021:

The Reference Group has met once in the reporting period and then concluded its two-year term as per the current Terms of Reference. Recruitment of new members commenced but what put on hold until the standard terms of reference is endorsed by Council.

Council Officers have continued to engage with previous members and involve them in consultation processes for key Council's initiatives such as the Community Engagement Policy and the draft 2021-25 Council plan, as well as progressing key actions and partnerships under Welcoming Cities Action Plan.

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021:

- Finalising the new Action Plan and priorities, considering the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Conducting an evaluation for the two years term of the Reference Group.
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- Ongoing engagement with Victoria Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC) to support, promote and use VEOHRC Community Reporting Tool (CRT), with a focus on emerging incidents of racism, including incidents of discrimination during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Submissions with Welcoming Australia and 3KND to the State Government Anti-Racism Grants.
 - Progressing employment support opportunities including an entrepreneur training program exclusively for refugees and people seeking asylum and an employment forum with a focus on multicultural communities which is now planned for mid-July 2021.
 - Continue advocating for the rights and supporting the wellbeing of Medevac refugees, including those who have been released from detentions and those who are still held in detention. This included access to Council services and programs, advocacy to the federal government and endorsing joint letters/statements from the Local Mayoral Task Force for People Seeking Asylum and Northsiders for Refugees and Refugee Action Collective (Vic).

FUTURE PLANS

- Recruitment of new reference group members through an EOI process.
- Consideration of the Reference purpose and council as aligned to the new 2015-21 Council Plan.
- Updating Welcoming Cities Action Plan for the next two years term to align to the Council Plan, with a focus on antiracism initiatives, employment and programs and advocacy supporting refugees and people seeking asylum.
- Finalising the application and submission to accreditation to progress to the 'Excelling level' of the Welcoming Cities Standard.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Welcoming Cities Community Reference Group Terms of Reference.
- Welcoming Cities Action Plan.



12. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT REFERENCE GROUP

AUTHOR: Manager Community Safety & Compliance

REVIEWED BY: General Manager CS&S

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Darebin Domestic Animal Management Reference Group (DDAMRG) was formed approximately five years ago to provide advice on issues relating to the reduction of euthanasia of dogs and cats

Committee Members

There are currently 25 members of the committee, including 3 community representatives and representatives from the following organisations:

- City of Darebin
- RSPCA Victoria
- Maneki Neko Cat Rescue
- Forever Friends Animal Rescue
- Getting 2 Zero
- Urban Cat Welfare Collective
- Cat Protection Society
- Reservoir Vet Clinic

Councillor Representative:

- Cr Julie Williams

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Issues and Challenges for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- During this time only one committee meeting was held due to COVID-19

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

- Consultation with the community and key stakeholders in preparation for the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan
- Monitoring of community feedback following implementation of cat curfew.

FUTURE PLANS

- Creation of revised committee Terms of Reference following endorsement of template at Council
 - Recruitment of new Committee members
 - Discussions regarding draft and subsequent finalising of new Domestic Animal Management Plan
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- Continued exploration of Best Practice cat and dog management

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Domestic Animal Management Terms of Reference
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021



13. DAREBIN NATURE TRUST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AUTHOR: Senior Environment Officer – Biodiversity

REVIEWED BY: General Manager City Sustainability & Strategy

COMMITTEE SUMMARY:

The Darebin Nature Trust was established by Council in 2017 to see a group of Darebin community members, who are experts in the field of biodiversity, open space, urban liveability and community engagement, advise Council on protecting and enhancing biodiversity and open space management.

Committee Members

9 x Community Members / Specialists in biodiversity, ecology, open space management, urban design, community engagement and advocacy.

Councillor Representative:

The following Councillors are delegates to the Darebin Nature Trust. This appointment will be valid until December 2021.

- Cr. Gaetano Greco
- Cr. Tom Hannan
- Cr. Tim Laurence
- Cr. Trent McCarthy (Chair)

PROGRESS REPORT

Key Activities / Outcomes for 1 December 2020 to 31 May 2021

A highlight for this year was contribution to Council's launch of Darebin's Gardens for Wildlife program. The program will support biodiversity in home gardens by providing encouragement and guidance on how to provide habitat for wildlife. DNT provided critical technical advice and in developing and reviewing program content.

DNT also provided expert advice for many priority projects, including:

- Breathing Space Draft Implementation Plan and Open Space Enhancement Plan for Open Space Levy
 - development a strategy template for engaging Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people in the work of Darebin Nature Trust
 - advocating for the protection of Dumbarton Street Grasslands threatened ecological community
 - Darebin's Standard Terms of Reference for Advisory Committees
 - draft Darebin Council Plan 2021-2025 and draft Budget 2021-22
 - Darebin Good Design Guide for Landscaping on private property.
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FUTURE PLANS

Looking to 2021-22, DNT will continue to support critical biodiversity programs with expert advice, including:

- improvements at Edwardes Lake and the development of the Edwardes Lake Water Quality Taskforce.
- Rewilding Darebin 2021 program, Bushland Biodiversity Assessment Tool, the Biodiversity Management Plan and newly proposed Darebin Nature Plan.
- advocacy for rewilding and the growling grass frog habitat corridor (Beenak Wetland)
- community engagement such as Gardens for Wildlife and Community Conference Day “Celebrating Darebin’s Nature.”
- Input into significant planning and projects such as future shared use of Northcote Golf Course, biodiversity enhancement for the Level Crossing Removal Project and options for more tree planting for road reconstruction programs.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Nature Trust Revised Terms of Reference (temporarily endorsed on 22 February)
- Council Meeting Minutes – 22 February 2021

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

9.1 REVIEW OF LANEWAY POLICY

Councillor: Tim LAURENCE

NoM No.: 19/21

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 26 July 2021, it is my intention to move:

***That** Council officers report back to Council in September on the feasibility of undertaking a review of council's laneway policy with the view to include:*

- (1) Social justice measures for laneway transfers that factor in annual incomes;*
- (2) Sliding valuations based on 'future open space use' caveats;*
- (3) An environmental criteria' to maximise the preservation of green private open space when laneways are transferred and to ensure 'no net loss of green open space' from the disposal of discontinued laneways.*

Rationale

Our current Laneway Policy is mainly based on land values and has resulted in an unintended loss of vegetation and private open space when residents cannot afford to offer Council the asking price. In contrast adjoining developers can afford to buy Laneway land at a fraction the residential land value and leverage this to increase their unit yields. This fiscal imbalance is quite high in the north of the city where blocks are large and has the potential to lead to the permanent loss of significant future private open space. Council's Laneway Policy needs to put the improvement of our openspace amenity first so as to better align with our Community vision goals on social inclusion and sustainability.

Notice Received: 7 July 2021

Notice Given to Councillors 7 July 2021

Date of Meeting: 26 July 2021

Attachments

Nil

10. URGENT BUSINESS

11. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL


12. CLOSE OF MEETING

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