

COUNCIL PLAN ACTION PLAN

2024-25

Incorporating the
Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan



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.

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 commencing scoping for the redevelopment of Reservoir Leisure Centre, activating Edwardes Lake Boat House in Reservoir, building new kindergarten facilities.
- 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, undertaking engagement to inform the future development of an Economic Development Strategy, 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 developing a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of our LGBTIQ+ communities, including Rainbow Tick Accreditation for several services

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, implementing aged care reforms, 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

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 Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected



1.1: We will prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	<p>[1-1] In consultation with the Traditional Owners, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities develop and commence implementation of a three-year Aboriginal Action Plan</p> <p>Key elements of this Plan, in addition to items mentioned in the Council Plan, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop partnerships with local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to enhance our work towards mutual goals • A meaningful and comprehensive response to the six key requests of DAAC's Our Black Lives Matter statement to Council • Continue to implement and expand our Aboriginal Employment Strategy and Aboriginal Action Plan • Begin discussions with Traditional Owners to understand the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management 	<p>Finalise and commence implementation of the Aboriginal Action Plan.</p>
	<p>[1-2] Progress a partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi- wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and continue to progress “decolonising” Bundoora Park</p>	<p>Progress a partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi- wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and continue to progress “decolonising” Bundoora Park</p>
	<p>[1-3] 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</p>	<p>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</p>
	<p>[1-4] Increase support to Aboriginal community-controlled organisations by incorporating a specific funding stream into our Community Grants Program</p>	<p>Implement the Aboriginal community-controlled Grants stream which was established in 2023-24</p>

1.2: We will develop partnerships with organisations from across our city, to value and include people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds


H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[1-6] 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	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
	[1-7] 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	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
	[1-9] 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	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

1.3: We will help to build an inclusive and empowered community, where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered



H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[1-10] Develop the Disability Action Plan to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors	Implement the Disability Action Plan to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors
	[1-12] Develop and deliver 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	Undertake advocacy to seek funding to deliver anti-racism programs

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	<p>[1-13] Develop a Cultural Diversity Action Plan to improve access, participation and engagement of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to venues and encourage participation in Council services where participation is low • Work with our sporting and recreation clubs to increase participation • Identify creative opportunities to reflect Darebin's different cultures in the built environment across our city • Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities 	<p>Finalise a Cultural Diversity Action Plan to improve access, participation and engagement of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to venues and encourage participation in Council services where participation is low • Work with our sporting and recreation clubs to increase participation • Identify creative opportunities to reflect Darebin's different cultures in the built environment across our city • Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities


1.4: 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

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	<p>[1-14] Continue to become more LGBTIQ+ inclusive across Council's services and activities including work towards Rainbow Tick accreditation for several services</p>	<p>Continue to become more LGBTIQ+ inclusive across Council's services and activities including work towards Rainbow Tick accreditation for several services</p>
	<p>[1-19] 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</p>	<p>Finalise and commence implementation of an LGBTIQ+ Action Plan to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia</p>


1.5: We will increase social connection to reduce isolation and loneliness, and support positive mental health

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	<p>[1-20] Deliver Age Friendly Darebin and implement aged care reforms</p>	<p>Deliver Age Friendly Darebin and implement aged care reforms</p>
	<p>[1-23] Provide grants, and deliver and facilitate programs, services, and events that address loneliness, through supporting social connectedness and positive mental health</p>	<p>Provide grants, and deliver and facilitate programs, services, and events that address loneliness, through supporting social connectedness and positive mental health</p>


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

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[1-28] Deliver an annual cultural diversity and social cohesion oration as part of the FUSE festival	Deliver Molly Hadfield cultural diversity and social cohesion oration.
		Deliver new multicultural oration
	[1-29] Deliver a signature cultural event as part of the FUSE festival in and around the grounds of the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre that showcases culturally diverse artists, music, food, participatory workshops and performances.	Deliver annual FUSE Festival model

1.7: We will continue to be a local government leader in the prevention of violence against women, and gender equity

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[1-30] Implement and extend our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach	Extend the implementation of our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach

1.8: We will work towards a discrimination-free, and systemic racism-free Darebin, and reduce the impact of poverty and disadvantage

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[1-34] Address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised by implementing our Towards Equality Framework	Address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised by implementing our Towards Equality Framework
	[1-35] Work with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, our community, and local organisations, to foster respect and address systemic racism	Work with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, our community, and local organisations, to foster respect and address systemic racism
	[1-36] Continue to implement the Welcoming Cities Standard, with the aim of becoming a 'Mentoring' level Council	Monitor the progress of improvement actions from the Welcoming Cities evaluation report
	[1-38] Mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of our disadvantaged communities	Through the implementation of the year 1 actions of the Climate Emergency Plan, mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of our disadvantaged communities



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 Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing



2.1: We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-2] Redevelop Reservoir Leisure Centre, incorporating opportunities to enhance health, wellbeing and socioeconomic outcomes	Undertake minor renewal works while continuing scoping for the longer-term redevelopment of the Reservoir Leisure Centre to enhance health, wellbeing and socioeconomic outcomes
	[2-3] Invest in the Edwardes Lake Boathouse in Reservoir to support a long-term lease arrangement	Continue to advocate to the descendants of the original owner to remove the restrictive covenants so appropriate renewal works of the boat house can occur
		Undertake a broad Expression of Interest process to identify interested parties and proposed uses (commercial, community or recreational) for the facility and provide an opportunity for the community to provide feedback about the uses they would like to see and any issues for Council to consider.
	[2-6] Expand funded 3-year-old kindergarten	Expand kindergarten places in areas of greatest unmet demand; including work in partnership with State Government to deliver additional Kindergartens on School Sites (KOSS)
	[2-9] Redevelop KP Hardiman Pavilion in Kingsbury	Commence construction of the KP Hardiman Pavilion
	[2-11] Develop an Integrated Families, Youth and Children Strategy	Complete the Integrated Families Youth and Children Strategy and present to Council for adoption
	[2-13] Plan for the redevelopment of John Hall pavilion and public toilet in Kingsbury	Complete construction of the John Hall Pavilion

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

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-15] Improve road safety, and the cycling, walking and wheeling network, by constructing high priority improvements	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	Investigate and prioritise road safety and strategic transport 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] Develop and implement a Community Safety Framework	Finalise and commence implementation of the Community Safety Framework
	[2-19] With State Government approval, reduce the speed limit in more local streets across our city	With State Government approval, reduce the speed limit in more local streets across our city
	[2-21] 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	Finalise the draft Community Infrastructure Plan
	[2-23] Update flood risk assessments across Darebin, and incorporate them into our Darebin Planning Scheme	Continue to work with Melbourne Water to implement and apply the updated flood mapping for Darebin, including incorporation into the planning scheme
	[2-24] Continue our Traffic Blackspot Design and Construction Program	Develop at least two scoping reports for submission to the Federal Blackspot program targeting places with history of crashes
	[2-30] Undertake a review of the General Local law	Complete the review of Darebin's General Local Law and present to Council for adoption


2.3: We will facilitate more affordable, social and public housing in Darebin, to meet our community's needs

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-31] Enable and facilitate more affordable and social housing across our city	Complete the Housing Strategy and report to Council on opportunities for more affordable and social housing
	[2-32] 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	Continue to negotiate with developers for the inclusion of social and public housing as part of major developments


2.5: We will invest in services and the built environment to improve access for our residents and visitors

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-39] Create additional accessible car parking spaces in our city	Construct at least two accessible car parking spaces

2.6: We will support the human rights, housing and wellbeing needs of our people experiencing homelessness


H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-40] Deliver programs that support people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness including Assertive Outreach and advocate for funding for Towards Zero	Deliver programs that support people sleeping rough and commence the establishment of a Towards Zero program for Darebin

2.8: We will advocate to reduce the harm associated with electronic machine gambling, alcohol and tobacco


H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-47] Support partner and local community organisations, groups, and clubs, to deliver initiatives that encourage the cessation of vaping and smoking	Support partner and local community organisations, groups, and clubs, to deliver initiatives that encourage the cessation of vaping and smoking

2.9: We will leverage investment, partnerships and advocacy to drive Darebin's growth and sustainability and ensure Darebin is a great place to do business

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-48] 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	Undertake further consultation and engagement on the Economic Development Framework Present Economic Development Strategy to Council for adoption. Commence delivery
	[2-49] Invest in economic reactivation and recovery initiatives to support existing and new industries, to ensure Darebin's economy is robust and resilient	Plan for place revitalisation of Darebin's key activity centres and review of Council's Active Spaces program to ensure Darebin's economy is robust and resilient
	[2-50] 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	Review, amend and adopt 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
	[2-51] Build partnerships across all levels of government and the private sector, to attract new industries and investment into Darebin, to support its future growth	Build partnerships across government and the private sector, to attract new industries and investment into Darebin, to support its future growth

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-53] 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	Catalyse new jobs at scale in Darebin with businesses, new industry attraction and our partners focusing on jobseekers facing multiple employment barriers including culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, young people, women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

2.11: We will improve the sustainability, accessibility, and design of development on private land in our city

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[2-64] Review our Housing Strategy and planning zones including engaging with our community on where housing and development should be, and strengthening neighbourhood character provisions	Commence a planning scheme amendment to implement the recommendations of the Darebin Housing Supply and Demand and Neighbourhood Character Study.
	<p>[2-65] Complete major planning reform work to:</p> <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 a planning scheme amendment to deliver an interim 5% Open Space Levy
	[2-66] Complete our Central Preston Structure Plan	Work with the State Government to finalise a Central Preston Structure Plan



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 Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable

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

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[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	Commence implementing the new Climate Emergency Plan including supporting residents to switch to electrical equipment through the revised Solar Saver program
	[3-3] Support our community members experiencing fuel poverty, to prevent heating and freezing	Support our community by delivering the heat health and fuel poverty first year actions in the renewed Climate Emergency Plan

3.2: Aim to achieve 12% canopy cover on Council owned and managed land by 2025, prioritising catchment biodiversity and shopping areas

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[3-8] Acquire land to create new parks	Undertake site investigation works at Clements Reserve as required by the Environmental Action Notice and subsequently undertake the required remediation works to remove contamination
		Continue to progress the acquisition of the three parcels of land at Clements Reserve from the Department of Transport and Planning

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)

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[3-11] Establish and adequately resource the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to significantly improve the water quality and amenity of Edwardes Lake in Reservoir	Continue to monitor the health of the lake and invest in activities that improve water quality (as recommended by the taskforce)

3.5: We will reduce waste and stimulate a local circular economy, where waste resources are re-used rather than discarded

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[3-16] Develop a plan to respond to new State Government requirements for contaminated land	Finalise and implement the Contaminated Land Framework
	[3-18] Undertake waste reform and take action towards establishing a circular economy	Prepare for and deliver review of the kerbside waste services including glass



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 Direction 4: Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

4.1: We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	<p>[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 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services • Dedicated sexual and reproductive health service in the Northern region • Key transport priorities • Increased funding for road safety infrastructure, driver behaviour and law enforcement • Towards Zero approach to address homelessness • Local Economic Development priorities • Protection of Strathallan as public land • Community and business use of energy efficiency initiatives • Higher and mandatory Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) standards in building and planning controls 	<p>Develop and implement an annual statement of advocacy priorities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services • Dedicated sexual and reproductive health service in the Northern region • Key transport priorities • Increased funding for road safety infrastructure, driver behaviour and law enforcement • Towards Zero approach to address homelessness • Local Economic Development priorities • Protection of Strathallan as public land • Community and business use of energy efficiency initiatives • Higher and mandatory Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) standards in building and planning controls
	<p>[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</p>	<p>Review the Revenue and Rating Plan in accordance with the Local Government Act and present to Council for adoption by 30 June 2025</p>
	<p>[4-4] Review our 10 year Financial Plan to ensure a level of revenue and expenditure that maintains a balance between service delivery, asset maintenance and renewal, and provides a strong, sustainable base for the future</p>	<p>Review the 10 Year Financial Plan in accordance with the Local Government Act and present to Council for adoption by 30 June 2025</p>

4.2: We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[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	<p>Complete the Property Strategy</p> <p>Commence work on the Master Planning of the site at 2 Wingrove Street, Alphington</p> <p>Finalise a Lease and Licensing Policy, with consideration to the inputs provided through deliberative engagement to inform the Council Plan</p>
	[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	Incorporate the consideration of temporary housing opportunities for people at risk or who are experiencing homelessness into the development of the Property Strategy for Council owned land
	[4-8] 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	Continue to undertake drainage asset condition inspections to support the early detection of damage and deterioration
	[4-9] Develop a 10 year Asset Plan in compliance with Local Government Act 2020 requirements	Review and update the Asset Plan in accordance with the Local Government Act and present to Council for adoption

4.3: We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging and future needs of our community

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[4-10] Transform our models of service delivery through the development of service profiles and conduct service reviews, to improve and ensure accessibility, inclusivity for under-represented groups and consistency of our customer experience	Conduct service reviews, to improve service delivery, drive efficiencies and improve customer experience
	[4-12] Develop and implement a new 4 year Organisational Strategy to deliver on Council Plan Strategic Direction 4 and other organisational improvement priorities in an integrated and efficient way	Implement year 2 actions of the Organisational Strategy that will deliver on Council Plan Strategic Direction 4 : Responsible, Transparent and Responsive, and drive organisational performance in an integrated and efficient way
	[4-13] Establish a long-term investment in IT systems to improve our customer experience, enable our people and deliver effective governance, compliance, improved data and cyber risk management	Complete the procurement process for the ERP program and commence implementation

4.4: We will improve the effective governance and public accountability of Council

H&W	Strategic Action	Action
	[4-14] Improve effective governance and accountability of Council	<p>Provide regular reporting to Council to improve transparency on matters including: the status of Council resolutions, the number of Notices of Motion, training undertaken by Councillors, the number of complaints received - customer complaints and complaints about Councillors, matters referred to or received from integrity agencies and the cost of Councillor Conduct matters.</p> <p>Promote the 2024 Council election to raise awareness for potential Councillor candidates across the municipality</p>

CITY OF DAREBIN

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