



**City of
Whittlesea**

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting
Monday 3 March 2025 at 6pm

Council Chamber at Civic Centre,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

Youth Councillors

Angelica Banquil

Dean Connelly-Carpenter

Bavleen Kaur

Mustafa Khraim

Zachary Melvaine

Angela Rolevska

Tanya Sharma

Sandy Tran

Emily Tricarico

Elly Watson

Kaynat Virk

Sophie Winter

Officers

Jacinta Stevens

Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

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1 Opening

1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 6pm.

“Welcome to this Youth Council Meeting of 3 March 2025 which is being held in person in the Council Chamber at Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang.

I am Jacinta Stevens, Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO and I would like to introduce the Youth Councillors in attendance tonight:

Angelica Banquil
Dean Connelly-Carpenter
Bavleen Kaur
Mustafa Khraim
Zachary Melvaine
Angela Rolevska
Tanya Sharma
Sandy Tran
Emily Tricarico
Elly Watson
Sophie Winter
Kaynat Virk.”

1.2 Apologies

Nil

1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement

The Chairperson read the following statement:

“On behalf of Council, I recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.

I would also like to personally acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging.”

1.4 Acknowledgements

The Chairperson made the following acknowledgements:

Community Focus Group attended by Deputy Youth Mayor, Kaynat

Our Deputy Youth Mayor, Kaynat, recently attended a Community Focus Group that was run by Council, seeking feedback on what our community’s top priorities are. The feedback from these focus group sessions, along with feedback received in a range of other engagement activities, will help inform a number of important strategic Council documents, including the 2025-26 Budget, Council Plan 2025-29, Asset Plan 2026-35 and others.

Meet your Councillor, Cr Stow attended by Youth Councillor Sophie

Youth Councillor Sophie recently attended the Meet your Councillor event with Cr Christine Stow in Whittlesea township, and chatted to Cr Stow about young people in our municipality.

Community Awards Open for Nominations

A reminder that our Community Awards are now open for nominations. I would encourage everyone to think about those in the community who are going above and beyond and nominate them. Nominations close this Wednesday, 5 March. You can find all the details on Council's website.

Acknowledgement to outgoing Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor

At tonight's meeting, we will be electing a new Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor. I would like to thank Zachary for his commitment over the past 12 months in holding the position of our first Youth Mayor. I would like to also thank Deputy Youth Mayor, Kaynat for the support over the past 12 months.

I wish the incoming Youth Mayor and Deputy Mayor all the best in their term.

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations.

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s

COUNCIL RESOLUTION	
Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>

THAT the following Minutes of the preceding meeting as circulated, be confirmed:

Youth Council Meeting held on 3 February 2025.

CARRIED

4 Officers' Reports

4.1 Youth Mayoral Election 2025-2026

Director/Executive Manager: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Report Author: Councillor Support Officer

In Attendance: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Executive Summary

The election of the Youth Mayor will be conducted in accordance with the City of Whittlesea Youth Council Terms of Reference (TOR).

Section 7 of the TOR prescribes that the Youth Council will receive nominations for and vote on a Youth Mayor at the second meeting of the term.

Elections will be, by way of a silent ballot with nominations submitted via an Expression of Interest form prior to the meeting.

The term of the Youth Mayor is for one year.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council conducts the 2025-2026 election via silent ballot for the position of Youth Mayor for a term of one year.

Nominations

Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk
Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim

NOMINEE 1

Nomination 1:	<i>Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk</i>
Seconded by :	<i>Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico</i>

Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk was invited to make a short statement as to why they would like to be elected Youth Mayor.

NOMINEE 2

Nomination 2:	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>
Seconded by :	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>

Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim was invited to make a short statement as to why they would like to be elected Youth Mayor.

VOTING – ROUND 1

Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk	11 VOTES
Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim	

Results of the Election were:

Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk: 11 Votes

In accordance with Council’s Governance Rules, the Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO declared Youth Councillor Kaynat has received an absolute majority of votes and therefore has been elected as the Youth Mayor of the City of Whittlesea for the 2025-2026 Youth Council year.

4.2 Deputy Youth Mayor Election 2025-2026

Director/Executive Manager: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Report Author: Councillor Support Officer

In Attendance: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Executive Summary

The election of the Deputy Youth Mayor will be conducted in accordance with the City of Whittlesea Youth Council Terms of Reference (TOR).

Section 7 of the TOR prescribes that the Youth Council will receive nominations for and vote on a Deputy Youth Mayor at the second meeting of the term.

Elections will be, by way of a silent ballot with nominations submitted via an Expression of Interest form prior to the meeting.

The term of the Deputy Youth Mayor is for one year and is identical to the term of the Youth Mayor.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council conducts the 2025-2026 election via silent ballot for the position of Deputy Youth Mayor for a term of one year.

Nominations

Youth Councillor Mustafa Kharim

Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico

NOMINEE 1

<i>Nomination 1:</i>	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Kharim</i>
<i>Seconded by :</i>	<i>Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur</i>

Youth Councillor Mustafa Kharim was invited to make two-minute statement as to why they would like to be elected Youth Mayor.

NOMINEE 2

<i>Nomination 2:</i>	<i>Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico</i>
<i>Seconded by :</i>	<i>Youth Councillor Sophie Winter</i>

Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico was invited to make two-minute statement as to why they would like to be elected Youth Mayor.

VOTING – ROUND 1

Youth Councillor Mustafa Kharim	4 VOTES
Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico	7 VOTES

Results of the Election were:

Youth Councillor Mustafa Kharim: 4 Votes

Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico: 7 Votes

In accordance with Council’s Governance Rules, the Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO declared Youth Councillor Emily has received an absolute majority of votes and therefore has been elected as the Deputy Youth Mayor of the City of Whittlesea for the 2025-2026 Youth Council year.

4.3 Youth Mayor, Deputy Youth Mayor and Youth Councillor Addresses

Director/Executive Manager: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Report Author: Councillor Support Officer

In Attendance: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Executive Summary

The Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO will invite the newly elected Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor to present a two-minute address.

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

Youth Mayor, Kaynat Virk
Deputy Youth Mayor, Emily Tricarico
Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska
Youth Councillor Mustafa Kharim
Youth Councillor Zachary Melvaine

The newly elected Youth Mayor, Kaynat chaired the meeting from this point in the meeting.

4.5 Youth Council Submission - MPHWP & DAP - Health Priorities

Director/Executive Manager: Director Community Wellbeing

Report Author: Unit Manager Healthy & Inclusive Communities

Key Highlights

The purpose of this report is to note the Youth Council submission provided to the Healthy & Inclusive Communities Team in relation to the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) and the Disability Action Plan (DAP).

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council note the feedback provided by all Youth Councillors in collaboration following the February Youth Council Meeting at Attachment 1.

Youth Councillor Angela moved the Officer Recommendation as the motion:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico</i>

THAT the Youth Council note the feedback provided by all Youth Councillors in collaboration following the February Youth Council Meeting at Attachment 1.

CARRIED

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska

Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico

VOTING

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

4.4 Career Networking Expo - Youth Council as a Stall Holder

Director/Executive Manager: Director Community Wellbeing

Report Author: Youth Development Officer

In Attendance: Youth Development Officer

Executive Summary

Purpose

The Hume Whittlesea Local Learning and Employment Network (HWLLEN) Career Networking Expo aims to connect young people with representatives from the education, employment, and business sectors, providing them with opportunities to expand their career networks and explore future pathways. The Youth Council will participate as a stallholder, engaging with the public through interactive activities and gathering feedback on key issues affecting young people.

Background

The HWLLEN Career Networking Expo is an established annual event designed to support students in their career exploration by facilitating meaningful connections with industry professionals. Registered school groups attend tailored workshops that enhance their understanding of career networking and equip them with valuable resources. The Youth Council's involvement aligns with their mission to advocate for young people and address emerging trends.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Ensure the stall attracts and engages a diverse range of young people through interactive and relevant activities.
2. Structure activities to capture useful insights on key challenges faced by young people, such as employment barriers, education pathways, and well-being.
3. Balance engagement with raising awareness about the Youth Council's role and initiatives, ensuring young people know how to get involved.
4. Handle high traffic effectively, ensuring all visitors have a chance to participate while managing materials and information efficiently.

Youth Councillor Zachary moved the Officer Recommendation as the motion:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Mayor Zachary Melvaine</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Angelica Banquil</i>

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Ensure the stall attracts and engages a diverse range of young people through interactive and relevant activities.
2. Structure activities to capture useful insights on key challenges faced by young people, such as employment barriers, education pathways, and well-being.
3. Balance engagement with raising awareness about the Youth Council's role and initiatives, ensuring young people know how to get involved.
4. Handle high traffic effectively, ensuring all visitors have a chance to participate while managing materials and information efficiently.

CARRIED

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

VOTING

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

5 Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion

6 General / Urgent Business

Youth Mayor, Kaynat provided a General Business update in relation to other members of the Youth Council taking the opportunities to attend community focus group meetings and promote events that are important to young people within the municipality when the opportunity arises. They are advertised on Council's website.

7 Closure

There being no further business the Youth Mayor formally closed the meeting at 6:40pm.

Confirmed this 7th day of April 2025.

Kaynat Virk
Youth Mayor