



Agenda

Youth Council Meeting

Monday 7 April 2025 at 6pm

You are advised that a Youth Council Meeting will be held on Monday 7 April 2025 at 6pm for the transaction of the following business.

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber at Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang.

Youth Councillors

Kaynat Virk Youth Mayor

Emily Tricarico Deputy Youth Mayor

Angelica Banquil

Dean Connelly-Carpenter

Bavleen Kaur

Mustafa Khraim

Zachary Melvaine

Angela Rolevska

Tanya Sharma

Sandy Tran

Elly Watson

Sophie Winter

Officers

Jacinta Stevens Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Bobbie-Lea Bright Unit Manager Compliance & Governance

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**1 Opening**

**1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions**

The Youth Mayor will open the meeting and welcome everyone in attendance.

**1.2 Apologies**

**1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement**

The Youth Mayor will 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 Youth Council Charter**

The Youth Mayor will read the following statement:

*“We the members of the City of Whittlesea Youth Council, commit to advocating for and being the voice of the youth within our municipality. We ensure a safe space for all, to engage in constructive collaboration on matters affecting young people. We aim to empower and foster community connectedness in our youth so they feel valued and supported to achieve their aspirations.”*

**1.5 Acknowledgements**

**2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

**3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s**

# Recommendation

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

**Youth Council Meeting held on 3 March 2025.**

**4 Officers' Reports**

4.1 Whittlesea 2040 Vision and Community Plan 2025-26 2028-29

**4.1 Whittlesea 2040 Vision and Community Plan 2025-26 2028-29**

**Director/Executive Manager:** Director Customer & Corporate Services

**Report Author:** Unit Manager Corporate Planning

**In Attendance:** Manager ePMO & Change  
Unit Manager Corporate Planning  
Unit Manager Strategic Research & Analytics  
Senior Research Officer

# Executive Summary

The primary purpose of this report is to engage with the Youth Council in a meaningful discussion about two significant strategic Council documents: the Community Vision (Whittlesea 2040) and the Community Plan for the period 2025-26 to 2028-29.

This report aims to provide the Youth Council with a comprehensive overview of these key planning instruments, offering insight into the direction and aspirations for the community in the years to come.

Furthermore, the report seeks to inform the Youth Council about some of the important decisions and actions taken by Council in relation to these documents that are crucial in shaping the future of Whittlesea and ensuring that the goals outlined in the Community Vision and Plan are effectively realised through targeted and impactful initiatives.

# Officers’ Recommendation

**THAT Youth Council collaborate together to provide feedback to Council Officers on the Community Vision Whittlesea 2040 and the Community Plan 2025-26 2028-29.**

# Background / Key Information

**Community Vision**

A Community Vision is vital for ensuring that Council has heard and is directing efforts towards the aspirations of the community they serve. The Community Vision sets the strategic direction for the work of Council. Under Section 88 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the following stipulations are made regarding the Community Vision:

1. A Council must maintain a Community Vision that is developed with its municipal community in line with its deliberative engagement practices.
2. The scope of the Community Vision is a period of at least the next 10 financial years
3. A Community Vision must describe the municipal community’s aspirations for the future of the municipality.
4. A Council must develop or review the Community Vision in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices and adopt the Community Vision by 31 October in the year following a general election.
5. The Community Vision adopted under sub-section (4) has effect from 1 July in the year following a general election.

Currently, the City of Whittlesea has a community vision for 2040, titled *Whittlesea 2040: A Place for All*. Both the Council and the community agree that this vision, along with its goals and key directions, remains relevant and reflects the aspirations of the community.

**Community Plan**

To comply with the Local Government Act 2020 Vic (LG Act 2020) Council must prepare and adopt a Community Plan for a period of at least the next 4 financial years after a general election in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices. It must include the following:

1. Strategic direction of the Council.
2. Strategic objectives for achieving our strategic direction – our vision and 5 strategic goals and key directions.
3. Strategies for achieving the objectives for a period of at least the next 4 financial years, both strategies and strategy action plans.
4. Strategic indicators for monitoring and achieving the strategic objectives.
5. Description of Council’s initiatives and priorities for services, infrastructure and amenity.

The current structure of the Community Plan 2021-25 is a single document that encapsulates the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) and the Disability Action Plan (DAP).

The MPHWP outlines actions to enable people living in our city to achieve optimum health and wellbeing. The DAP sets out your organisation's strategy for identifying and addressing practices which might result in discrimination against people with disability and to promote the recognition of the rights of people with disability.

For our Community Plan 2025-29 (CP), we propose to continue with the current integrated structure to enhance strategic alignment of the three plans. This will simplify our internal reporting interface and will allow us to develop a single report inclusive of all three plans to generate insights for our Executive, Council and the Community.

Following the general election in October 2024, the City of Whittlesea Council needs to review the current Community Vision and draft a Community Plan for the next Council term and consult with community in line with deliberative engagement practices, refine and re-adopt by October 2025.

This will provide the foundation, directions, and strategies we need to fulfil the various functions required under the LG Act 2020 and other legislations. It is also a legislative requirement of the LG Act 2020 that every Council in Victoria develops a Community Vision for at least the next ten years.

# Implementation Strategy

Communication

The community is regularly engaged regarding service delivery, performance and budget development as part of Council’s integrated engagement program.

Critical Dates

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting/Engagement type** | **Item** | **Date** |
| Community engagement | Consultation for the Vision | 3 and 5 April 2025 |
| Youth Council | Engagement Vision and Community Plan | 7 April 2025 |
| Council Meeting | Vision and Plan Draft for Consultation | 17 June 2025 |
| Consultation period | Community consultation | 4 weeks (June/July) |
| Council Meeting | Vision and Plan adoption | 21 October 2025 |

# Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Under Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers providing advice to Council are required to disclose any conflict of interest they have in a matter and explain the nature of the conflict.

The Responsible 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.

# Attachments

Nil

4.2 Youth Council's Involvement at CoW's 2025 Community Festival - Youth Precinct

**4.2 Youth Council Submission - Youth Council's Involvement at CoW's 2025 Community Festival - Youth Precinct**

**Director/Executive Manager:** Director Community Wellbeing

**Report Author:** Youth Development Officer

**Key Highlights**

The purpose of this report is to note the Youth Council submission provided to the Youth Development team in relation to the City of Whittlesea’s 2025 Community Festival.

# 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.**

**Attachments**

1. Completed Submission Form item 4.2 [**4.2.1** - 2 pages]

**5 Notices of Motion**

No Notices of Motion

**6 General / Urgent Business**

**7 Closure**