## City of Whittlesea

# DRAFT COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

2025 - 2026





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## Acknowledgement

We 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.

The lands along the Birrarung River and its tributaries -the Merri, Edgars and Darebin Creeks and the Plenty River were home to the Wurundjeri Willum and Taungurung Peoples. These lands offered more than just sustenance; they provided fresh water, food, shelter and a thriving environment rich with fish and birdlife.

For countless generations, these lands and waterways were not only places of living, but of gathering. Cultural ceremonies, trade and important business were conducted at sacred sites -places that continue to hold deep cultural and spiritual significance today. More than seventy of these sites remain in the City of Whittlesea, along with many scarred trees, standing as living testaments to an enduring connection to Country.

In acknowledging this heritage, we honour the knowledge, resilience and custodianship of the Traditional Owners, whose care for this land stretches back tens of thousands of years and continues today.

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## **About this plan**

The Community Action Plan 2025–26 (CAP) sets out the actions Council will focus on delivering in the first year of the Community Plan 2025–29. The Community Action Plan 2025–26 is the first annual supplement to the Community Plan 2025–29. It articulates the community and internal facing outcomes that set our strategic direction and these actions are prioritised for delivery in the financial year 2025–26. The Action Plan plays a pivotal role in working towards the vision and strategic direction embedded in Whittlesea 2040 and the Community Plan 2025–29.



## Council's roles



## Deliverer/provider/partner:

Council directly delivers services and infrastructure, either on its own, or in partnership with other levels of government, the community or private organisations.



#### Funder/enabler:

Council provides financial and/or in-kind support to organisations that are better positioned to manage or deliver specific services or infrastructure.



#### Planner:

Council develops and implements plans that ensure sustainable, well-organised and quality growth and change in the community. This includes land use, housing, transport, town centres, business precincts and community facilities.



## Regulator/statutory authority/monitor:

Council enforces laws, policies and regulations that maintain public safety, health and wellbeing.



#### **Facilitator:**

Council facilitates partnerships, connects stakeholders and ensures that local needs are heard and addressed.



#### **Advocate:**

Council represents the interests of the community to other levels of government or other stakeholders. This could involve making the case and negotiating funding, policy changes or programs that benefit the local community.

**DRAFT Community Action Plan** 



## Connected Community



#### **KEY DIRECTION 1**

### A socially cohesive community

Actions						
Outcome: All memb	pers of our community feel that they belong, are valued and respected					
Strategic priority 17:	Deliver Council's Fair Access Policy to ensure women and girls can equally use local sports facilities and feel supported to get involved in sport and recreation.	HP DAP				
Action 1:	Deliver education modules to sports clubs and undertake an Expression of Interest for usage of the Regional Sports Precinct as part of the implementation of Council's Fair Access Policy.					
Strategic priority 44:	Support service providers to expand initiatives that promote inclusion and participation of people with disabilities in community life, employment and education	DAP				
Action 2:	Support service providers to develop a work readiness program that will engage local employers and community organisations to build awareness and capacity to create viable work and volunteer opportunities for young people with disability.					
Outcome: Our com	munity strengthens connections between diverse cultures					
Strategic priority 4:	Deliver and facilitate culturally safe services and programs for First Peoples children and their families, suited to local needs.					
Action 3:	Provide First Peoples children and their families with culturally responsive local family engagement opportunities.					
Outcome: Our com	munity shares stories and learns from one another					
Strategic priority 49:	Partner with other Councils to renew the regional Library Services Agreement and to transition the service to a new entity as required by the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .	HP DAP				
Action 4:	Continue to consider the future arrangements for the delivery of Library Services, including opportunities for collaboration with other Councils.					
Outcome: Our com	munity values and respects First Peoples peoples and celebrates their rich, diverse	cultures				
Strategic priority 39:	Partner with First Peoples communities to co-design and deliver programs and activities at the Aboriginal Gathering Place throughout the municipality that support social, physical, cultural, emotional and wellbeing needs.	HP DAP				
Action 5:	Partner with First Peoples communities to co-design and establish programs and activities at the Aboriginal Gathering Place.					

#### **KEY DIRECTION 2**

### A healthy and safe community

#### **Actions** Outcome: Our community is healthy, well and physically active Strategic priority 19: Deliver and operate the Regional Sports Precinct in Mernda consisting of an indoor stadium with multi-purpose courts, lit outdoor netball courts, a netball pavilion, car parking, pathways, lighting, landscaping and wetlands. Action 6: Continue construction of Stage 2 of the Regional Sports Precinct including the indoor stadium and outdoor netball courts. Strategic priority 20: Deliver the new Wollert Sports Reserve consisting of playing fields with lighting, HP DAP multi-purpose sporting spaces, playground, car parking and a community pavilion. Action 7: Commence the design of a new sports reserve in Wollert (Edgars Creek). Strategic priority 21: Deliver the Huskisson Reserve Multi-Purpose Facility in Lalor consisting of new multi-purpose community pavilion and redevelopment of the existing tennis courts into new courts with lighting, car parking, pathways and landscaping. Action 8: Commence the redevelopment of the Huskisson Recreation Reserve sports facilities with fencing and lighting, a new community sports pavilion, additional car parking, connecting paths and landscaping. Strategic priority 22: Deliver the new Edgars Creek Recreation Reserve in Wollert consisting of a new multi-purpose HP DAP community pavilion, an additional oval, outdoor sport courts, open space and a recreation area and car parking. Action 9: Complete design of a natural turf sports oval and synthetic cricket wicket with lighting, netball courts with fencing and lighting, community sports pavilion, additional car parking, connecting paths, passive open space and landscaping. Strategic priority 23: Deliver the new Ashley Park Recreation Reserve in Doreen consisting of playing fields HP DAP with lighting, a new multi-purpose community pavilion, playground and car parking. Action 10: Complete design of soccer pitches with lighting, community sports pavilion, playground, additional car parking, connecting paths, passive open space and landscaping. Strategic priority 42: Facilitate local services to improve access to fresh, healthy, affordable, culturally appropriate food; respond to food insecurity and promote healthy eating. Action 11: Advocate and partner for better access to fresh, healthy, safe, affordable and culturally appropriate food systems to increase healthy eating. Outcome: Our children and young people are supported to thrive Strategic priority 3: Partner with the Victorian Government and stakeholders to implement the Best Start, HP DAP Best Life Reform, including free kindergarten for 3- and 4-year-old children and extending kindergarten hours. Action 12: Develop a Kindergarten Position Paper for Council endorsement that outlines Council's future role in implementing the Victorian Government's Best Start, Best Life Reform. Strategic priority 5: Advocate for funding from other levels of government to establish a dedicated youth hub HP DAP and create additional youth-friendly spaces where young people can thrive. Action 13: Advocate for funding to develop a dedicated youth hub and youth-friendly spaces for middle years and young people, providing access to services, programs and support.







## KEY DIRECTION 2

## A healthy and safe community

Outcome: Our child	ren and young people are supported to thrive								
Strategic priority 50:	Deliver the West Wollert Community Centre providing kindergarten/early years rooms, maternal child health consulting rooms, a community hall, lounge and library space, meeting rooms and a community garden.								
Action 14:	Continue construction of the West Wollert Community Centre.								
Strategic priority 51:	Deliver the Murnong Community Centre in Donnybrook providing kindergarten/early years rooms, maternal child health consulting rooms, a community hall, lounge and mini-branch library space and meeting rooms.	HP DAP							
Action 15:	Complete the construction of the Murnong Community Centre and commence operations of the new community facility including a library.								
Outcome: Our com	munity experiences financial wellbeing								
Strategic priority 40:	Facilitate increased awareness and advocate about the risks of gambling harm in the City of Whittlesea.	HP DAP							
Action 16:	Partner with health providers to develop local awareness about gambling harm.								
Strategic priority 41:	Advocate for and facilitate the expansion of local services for individuals experiencing homelessness and those at risk.	HP DAP							
Action 17:	Partner with external agencies to pilot a homelessness outreach program.								
Outcome: Our comi	munity feels safe and supported								
Strategic priority 43:	Advocate for and facilitate improved access to mental health services and partner to raise awareness and deliver preventative programs.	HP DAP							
Action 18:	Partner with local organisations to increase access to services that are culturally safe, inclusive and accessible to diverse communities including marginalised groups.								
Strategic priority 48:	Deliver accessible precincts for people living with a significant disability and their carers, including enhanced facilities, sensory spaces and greater flexibility in utilising community facilities.	DAP							
Action 19:	Deliver a feasibility study on the development of an accessible neighbourhood pilot project to better meet the needs for people living with a significant disability and their carers.								
Outcome: Our comi and family violence	munity experiences healthy, equal and respectful relationships and live free from a	abuse							
Strategic priority 30:	Advocate for equality and partner on initiatives that build a safe, respectful community with zero tolerance for all forms of violence, including family, gender-based, racial, faith-based and LGBTIQA+ violence.	HP DAP							
Action 20:	Partner with local health services to pilot a program that engages men to help stop gender-based violence and promote gender equity.								
Outcome: Our comi	munity is prepared and able to respond and recover from emergencies								
Strategic priority 29:	Partner with external emergency and welfare services to explore the feasibility of a Safer Neighbourhoods Expo to enhance community education and awareness of available services.	HP DAP							
Action 21:	Deliver a feasibility assessment for a Safer Neighbourhoods Expo to enhance community education and awareness of available services.								









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## Liveable Neighbourhoods



#### **KEY DIRECTION 1**

## Smart, connected transport network

Actions									
Outcome: Our community has options to easily travel where they need to go									
Strategic priority 6:	Deliver the Yan Yean Pipe Track and Edgars Creek Trail shared paths to increase recreation opportunities and sustainable transport options in line with the City of Whittlesea Walking and Cycling Plan and Northern Trails Strategy.	HP DAP							
Action 22:	Complete design for Edgars Creek Shared Path from Main Street to Kingsway Drive, Lalor.								
Action 23:	Commence construction of the Yan Yean Shared Path from Childs Road to Centenary Drive, Mill Park.								
Strategic priority 8:	Advocate for expanded transportation options and improvements to the transport network, including road upgrades, enhanced shared pathways and increased public transport, such as the Wollert Rail.	HP DAP							
Action 24:	Commence the signalisation of the intersection of Findon Road and The Great Eastern Way to improve safety, ease congestion and improve local access to surrounding community facilities.								



#### **KEY DIRECTION 2**

## Well designed neighbourhoods and vibrant town centres

Outcome: Our neigl	nbourhoods are attractive and desirable places to live, work and play						
Strategic priority 18:	<b>.8:</b> Deliver the Granite Hills Major Community Park featuring an adventure park and playground, open-air pavilion, public barbecues, giant slides, nature and water play and public toilets with a Changing Places facility.						
Action 25:	Complete the Granite Hills Playground featuring an adventure park and playground, open-air pavilion, public barbecues, giant slides, nature and water play, boardwalks and connecting paths, landscaping and public toilets with a Changing Places facility.						
Strategic priority 28:	Deliver the Suburb Place Frameworks to enhance the municipality's distinct character, improve safety, enhance public spaces and upgrade infrastructure.	HP DAP					
Action 26:	Complete the Mill Park Place Framework identifying opportunities to address the distinct needs for the area, including safer streets, enhanced public places and improved infrastructure and develop an implementation action plan.						
Strategic priority 31:	Deliver revitalised and upgraded neighbourhood streetscapes and shopping precincts to enhance accessibility, local character and support local spending.	HP DAP					
Action 27:	Commence the upgrade of The Boulevard Shops in Thomastown including tree planting, garden beds, improved pedestrian footpaths, reconfigured car parking, raised pedestrian crossings, road resurfacing and improved drainage.						
Strategic priority 32:	Deliver a review of the Whittlesea Planning Scheme to ensure planning policies and controls achieve high quality design and sustainable development outcomes.	HP DAP					
Action 28:	Commence a review of the Whittlesea Planning Scheme to ensure planning policies and controls continue to deliver high quality design and sustainable development outcomes.						
Outcome: Our neigl	nbourhoods are well-designed and enable all people to connect						
Strategic priority 24:	Deliver the staged construction of VR Michael Reserve Master Plan in Lalor providing an upgraded dog off leash area, central lawn, circuit paths, toilet facilities, exercise fitness station and car parking.	HP DAP					
Action 29:	Commence the design of dog off-leash area, playground and picnic facilities, new public toilet, lighting, upgraded access road and car park, connecting paths, passive open space and landscaping at VR Michael Reserve.						
Strategic priority 25:	Deliver the staged construction of Whittlesea Park Master Plan in Whittlesea Township providing trees, play spaces, circuit paths, bridges and car parking.	HP DAP					
Action 30:	Continue upgrading pedestrian bridges over the Plenty River and the construction of connecting paths.						
Strategic priority 26:	Deliver the staged construction of Lalor Recreation Reserve Master Plan in Lalor, Lowalde Master Plan in Epping, Nick Ascenzo Reserve in Thomastown, Whittlesea Public Gardens in Lalor and Mernda Recreation Reserve Master Plan in Mernda.	HP DAP					
Action 31:							





DAP Disability Action Plan

## KEY DIRECTION 3

## Housing for diverse needs

Actions									
Outcome: Our community has the right mix and supply of housing to provide choices for all									
Strategic priority 33:	Deliver an affordable housing plan which defines Council's role as well as future projects that deliver diverse housing opportunities for our community.	HP DAP							
Action 32:	Deliver an affordable housing plan which defines Council's role and identifies associated actions over the short, medium and longer term that deliver diverse housing opportunities for our community.								
Strategic priority 34:	Deliver the Ashline Street Affordable Housing Project in Wollert, partnering with a community housing organisation to provide affordable homes and a community park.	HP DAP							
Action 33:	Commence construction of Ashline Street Affordable Housing Project in Wollert, providing affordable homes and a community pocket park.								
Strategic priority 35:	Deliver the Johnsons Road residential development in Mernda, comprising at least 35 homes, including affordable housing, open spaces and pathways linking to the Plenty River.	HP DAP							
Action 34:	Complete the design and commence the construction of the Johnsons Road residential development in Mernda, including affordable housing.								



DAP Disability Action Plan





## **Strong Local Economy**



#### **KEY DIRECTION 1**

#### Increased local employment

#### Actions

Outcome: Our municipality attracts investment to provide more local jobs to match population growth

Strategic priority 38: Advocate for the creation of local jobs and other community benefits as outcomes from



the planning and development of the Intermodal Freight Precinct in Beveridge, which on completion will be the largest intermodal precinct in Australia transforming the nation's supply chain and providing economic benefits to the region.

Advocate as part of the planning for the Intermodal Freight Precinct in Beveridge, led by Action 35:

the Federal Government, including for enhanced environmental outcomes, accessible open space, protection of heritage assets, upgrades to the road network and increased employment land supply.

Outcome: Our economy is inclusive and accessible for all

Strategic priority 45: Deliver a campaign to attract major festivals and events to the region to increase visibility and promote social cohesion.





Action 36: Develop an industry prospectus to promote local function and event spaces through

tourism networks and support PRACC to position itself as a venue of choice for the performing arts and creative industries.

#### **KEY DIRECTION 3**

#### Successful, innovative local businesses

#### **Actions**

Outcome: Our economy has a diverse base that fosters small business development

Strategic priority 37: Develop and implement a new Strong Local Economy Strategy to support the growth of the local business community, promote investment, local employment and education opportunities, enhancing social connections and economic sustainability.





Action 37: Develop a new Strong Local Economy Strategy.

Action 38: Develop a night-time economy plan to respond to current and continued growth in

the municipality.



(HP) Health Plan





**DRAFT Community Action Plan DRAFT Community Action Plan** 

## Sustainable **Environment**



#### **KEY DIRECTION 1**

## Valued natural landscapes and biodiversity

#### Actions

Outcome: Our landscapes, waters and species are protected, improved and valued

Strategic priority 16: Deliver the revitalisation of Peter Hopper Lake in Mill Park to improve water quality and habitat for flora and fauna and enhance local area.



Action 39: Complete the rehabilitation of Peter Hopper Lake and commence the refilling of the lake.

#### **KEY DIRECTION 2**

## **Climate ready**

#### **Actions**

Outcome: Our city's green cover is enhanced to reduce the risk of extreme heat

**Strategic priority 11:** Deliver the City Forest program, planting more than 60,000 trees and working towards a target of an additional tree per resident across the municipality, to increase canopy cover, decrease urban heat and enhance biodiversity.



Action 40:

Deliver the annual tree planting programs for main roads, residential streets, parks, creek corridors and conservation reserves.

#### **KEY DIRECTION 3**

#### Leaders in clean sustainable living

Actions							
Outcome: Our city l	pecomes a net zero emissions municipality						
Strategic priority 9:	Deliver and advocate for initiatives that help people and businesses make homes and workplaces more comfortable, energy-efficient and environmentally friendly.	HP DAF					
Action 41:	Partner with providers to deliver a pilot household program for energy upgrades.						
Strategic priority 10:	trategic priority 10: Provide additional opportunities to generate local carbon offsets on Council owned and private land to help reduce municipal wide carbon emissions.						
Action 42:	Commence the bunjil nganga Parkland (Quarry Hills) tree planting program.						
Outcome: Our city i	s low waste and transitions to a circular economy						
Strategic priority 13:	Deliver a targeted program to eliminate rubbish dumping, including stronger enforcement, shorter wait times for collection and community education on waste minimisation, illegal dumping and recycling.	HP DAI					
Action 43:	Enhance the hard waste collection service including the trial of a home collection service for whitegoods, e-waste, clothing and small household items.						



# High Performing Organisation



### KEY DIRECTION 1

## Driving better community outcomes

Actions		
Outcome: Our com	munity finds it easy to interact with Council	
Strategic priority 52:	Deliver innovative and technology-driven solutions to continually enhance customer experience and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Council's operations.	HP DAP
Action 44:	Increase our digital offering to enable self-service and make it easier for our community to interact with us online.	

### **KEY DIRECTION 2**

### More informed council decisions

Actions		
Outcome: Our com	munities engage with us on issues and activities that affect them	
Strategic priority 53:	Facilitate the reduction, removal and prevention of barriers for marginalised and at risk groups to contribute to Council decisions.	HP DAP
Action 45:	Establish a Disability Advisory Committee to facilitate communication and consultation between people with disabilities and Council on matters that affect their lives.	

### **KEY DIRECTION 3**

### More cost-effective investment and engaged workforce

Actions		
Outcome: Our com	munity is confident that City of Whittlesea can fund community needs in the future	
Strategic priority 54:	Deliver service and innovation reviews to identify ways to improve efficiency, investing in technology like artificial intelligence to boost productivity, optimise resource use and lower costs.	DAP
Action 46:	Commence the review of Council Fees and Charges, in accordance with Council's Pricing policy to ensure Council services are financially sustainable.	
Action 47:	Begin a review of Council services that considers financial sustainability and alignment with Council priorities.	







## **Appendix 4:** Linkages to the Municipality Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and Disability Action Plan

ID	Strategic Priority			He	alth Plan				D/	<b>NP</b>	
		Climate change	Family violence	Social connection	Healthy eating	Active living	Homelessness	Goods	Employment	Inclusion	Discrimination
SP1	Deliver and facilitate expansion of programs and services that keep older residents independent, connected and supported close to home.			~		~					
SP2	Deliver the commencement of Home Care Packages to help older residents stay in their own homes, live independently and enjoy a high quality of life as their needs change.			~		~					
SP3	Partner with the Victorian Government and stakeholders to implement the Best Start, Best Life Reform, including free kindergarten for 3- and 4-year-old children and extending kindergarten hours.		~	~				<b>✓</b>		~	
SP4	Deliver and facilitate culturally safe services and programs for First Peoples children and their families, suited to local needs.			~	~	~		<b>✓</b>		~	
SP5	Advocate for funding from other levels of government to establish a dedicated youth hub and create additional youth-friendly spaces where young people can thrive.		~	~	~	~	~	<b>✓</b>	~	~	~
SP6	Deliver the Yan Yean Pipe Track and Edgars Creek Trail shared paths to increase recreation opportunities and sustainable transport options in line with the City of Whittlesea Walking and Cycling Plan and Northern Trails Strategy.	~		~		~		<b>✓</b>		~	
SP7	Deliver a Parking Policy to manage the allocation and regulation of parking, balancing the needs of all users while supporting Council's safety, efficiency and environmental sustainability goals.							<b>✓</b>		~	
SP8	Advocate for expanded transportation options and improvements to the transport network, including road upgrades, enhanced shared pathways and increased public transport, such as the Wollert Rail.	~				~		<b>✓</b>		~	
SP9	Deliver and advocate for initiatives that help people and businesses make homes and workplaces more comfortable, energy-efficient and environmentally friendly.	~		~		~			~	~	
SP10	Provide additional opportunities to generate local carbon offsets on Council owned and private land to help reduce municipal wide carbon emissions.	~		~		~			~	<b>✓</b>	
SP11	Deliver the City Forest program, planting more than 60,000 trees and working towards a target of an additional tree per resident across the municipality, to increase canopy cover, decrease urban heat and enhance biodiversity.	~		~		<b>✓</b>				<b>✓</b>	
SP12	Deliver new stormwater harvesting at Council-owned sports fields and facilities to reduce potable water reliance, enhance water conservation and generate savings.	~		~		~		<b>✓</b>			
SP13	Deliver a targeted program to eliminate rubbish dumping, including stronger enforcement, shorter wait times for collection and community education on waste minimisation, illegal dumping and recycling.	~		~				<b>✓</b>		~	
SP14	Deliver the food and garden waste service to all households in the municipality and trial new waste and recycling collection services for waste such as soft plastics.	~									
SP15	Deliver increased reuse and repurposing of materials in Council's asset maintenance and renewal programs.	/									
SP16	Deliver the revitalisation of Peter Hopper Lake in Mill Park to improve water quality and habitat for flora and fauna and enhance local area.	~				~				~	
SP17	Deliver Council's Fair Access Policy to ensure women and girls can equally use local sports facilities and feel supported to get involved in sport and recreation.		~	~	~	<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>		~	<b>✓</b>
SP18	Deliver the Granite Hills Major Community Park featuring an adventure park and playground, open-air pavilion, public barbecues, giant slides, nature and water play and public toilets with a Changing Places facility.	~	~	~		~		<b>✓</b>		~	<b>~</b>

ID	Strategic Priority	Health Plan DAP									
		Climate change	Family violence	Social connection	Healthy eating	Active living	Homelessness	Goods	Employment	Inclusion	Discrimination
SP19	Deliver and operate the Regional Sports Precinct in Mernda consisting of an indoor stadium with multi-purpose courts, lit outdoor netball courts, a netball pavilion, car parking, pathways, lighting, landscaping and wetlands.	~	~	~		<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>		~	<b>/</b>
SP20	Deliver the new Wollert Sports Reserve consisting of playing fields with lighting, multi-purpose sporting spaces, playground, car parking and a community pavilion.	~	~	~	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>		~	<b>/</b>
SP21	Deliver the Huskisson Reserve Multi-Purpose Facility in Lalor consisting of a new multi-purpose community pavilion, redevelopment of the existing tennis courts into new courts with lighting, car parking, pathways and landscaping.	~	~	~	<b>~</b>	<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>		~	<b>/</b>
SP22	Deliver the new Edgars Creek Recreation Reserve in Wollert consisting of a new multi-purpose community pavilion, an additional oval, outdoor sport courts, open space and a recreation area and car parking.	~	~	<b>~</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>&gt;</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	<b>✓</b>
SP23	Deliver the new Ashley Park Recreation Reserve in Doreen consisting of playing fields with lighting, a new multi-purpose community pavilion, playground and car parking.	~	~	<b>/</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	<b>~</b>
SP24	Deliver the staged construction of VR Michael Reserve Master Plan in Lalor providing an upgraded dog off leash area, central lawn, circuit paths, toilet facilities, exercise fitness station and car parking.	~	~	<b>/</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	<b>~</b>
SP25	Deliver the staged construction of Whittlesea Park Master Plan in Whittlesea Township providing trees, play spaces, circuit paths, bridges and car parking.	~	~	<b>/</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>
SP26	Deliver the staged construction of Lalor Recreation Reserve Master Plan in Lalor, Lowalde Recreation Reserve Master Plan in Epping, Nick Ascenzo Reserve in Thomastown, Whittlesea Public Gardens in Lalor and Mernda Recreation Reserve Master Plan in Mernda.	~	~	<b>✓</b>		~		~		~	<b>/</b>
SP27	Deliver improved lighting of shared paths to provide the community with extended hours for exercise and recreation, enhance perceptions of safety and provide increased sustainable transport options.		~	~		>		<b>&gt;</b>		<b>/</b>	
SP28	Deliver the Suburb Place Frameworks to enhance the municipality's distinct character, improve safety, enhance public spaces and upgrade infrastructure.	~	~	<b>/</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	
SP29	Partner with external emergency and welfare services to explore the feasibility of a Safer Neighbourhoods Expo to enhance community education and awareness of available services.		~	<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	
SP30	Advocate for equality and partner on initiatives that build a safe, respectful community with zero tolerance for all forms of violence, including family, gender-based, racial, faith-based and LGBTIQA+ violence.		~	<b>/</b>				<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	<b>~</b>
SP31	Deliver revitalised and upgraded neighbourhood streetscapes and shopping precincts to enhance accessibility and local character and support local spending.	~	~	<b>/</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	
SP32	Deliver a review of the Whittlesea Planning Scheme to ensure planning policies and controls achieve high quality design and sustainable development outcomes.	~						<b>✓</b>	~	~	<b>/</b>
SP33	Deliver an affordable housing plan which defines Council's role and proposes future projects that deliver diverse housing opportunities for our community.			~		<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>	~	~	<b>/</b>
SP34	Deliver the Ashline Street Affordable Housing Project in Wollert, partnering with a community housing organisation to provide affordable homes and a community park.			~		<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>	~	~	~
SP35	Deliver the Johnsons Road residential development in Mernda, comprising at least 35 homes, including affordable housing, open spaces and pathways linking to the Plenty River.			~		<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>	~	~	<b>/</b>
SP36	Deliver feasibility assessments for key future infrastructure for our growing community.	~	~	~		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>	~	~	<b>~</b>

ID	Strategic Priority	Health Plan							DAP			
		Climate change	Family violence	Social connection	Healthy eating	Active living	Homelessness	Goods	Employment	Inclusion	Discrimination	
SP37	Develop and implement a new Strong Local Economy Strategy to support the growth of the local business community, promote investment, local employment and education opportunities, enhancing social connections and economic sustainability.	~	~	~	~	~		~		~		
SP38	Advocate for the creation of local jobs and other community benefits as outcomes from the planning and development of the Intermodal Freight Precinct in Beveridge which on completion will be the largest intermodal precinct in Australia transforming the nation's supply chain and providing economic benefits to the region.								~			
SP39	Partner with First Peoples communities to co-design and deliver programs and activities at the Aboriginal Gathering Place and throughout the municipality that support social, physical, cultural, emotional and wellbeing needs.	~	~	~	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>	~	~	<b>✓</b>	
SP40	Facilitate increased awareness and advocate about the risks of gambling harm in the City of Whittlesea.		/	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		~		~			
SP41	Advocate and facilitate the expansion of local services to support individuals experiencing homelessness and those at risk.		<b>✓</b>				<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		
SP42	Facilitate local services to improve access to fresh, healthy, affordable and culturally appropriate food; respond to food insecurity and promote healthy eating.	~	~	~	~	~	<b>/</b>	<b>✓</b>				
SP43	Advocate for and facilitate improved access to mental health services and partner to raise awareness and deliver preventative programs.		~	~				<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		
SP44	Support service providers to expand initiatives that promote inclusion and participation of people with disabilities in community life, employment and education.							✓	<b>/</b>	~	<b>✓</b>	
SP45	Deliver a campaign to attract major festivals and events to the region to increase visibility and promote social cohesion.		/	<b>✓</b>				<b>✓</b>		/		
SP46	Deliver a revitalisation program for the Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre (PRACC) to enhance its role as a hub for performing arts and creative industries.			~						~		
SP47	Facilitate greater community use and activation of Council-owned facilities to encourage a broader range of uses, participation across all life stages and improved accessibility for everyone in the community.	~	~	~		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		~		
SP48	Deliver accessible precincts for people living with a significant disability and their careers, including enhanced facilities, sensory spaces and greater flexibility in utilising community facilities.							<b>✓</b>		~	<b>✓</b>	
SP49	Partner with other Councils to renew the regional Library Services Agreement and to transition the service to a new entity as required by the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .	~	~	~		~	~	<b>✓</b>	~	~	~	
SP50	Deliver the West Wollert Community Centre providing kindergarten/early years rooms, maternal child health consulting rooms, a community hall, lounge and library space, meeting rooms and a community garden.	_	~	~		~	~	<b>✓</b>		~		
SP51	Deliver the Murnong Community Centre in Donnybrook providing kindergarten/early years rooms, maternal child health consulting rooms, a community hall, lounge and mini-branch library space and meeting rooms.	~	~	~		~	~	~		~		
SP52	Deliver innovative and technology-driven solutions to continually enhance customer experience and improve the effectiveness, transparency and efficiency of Council's operations.			~				<b>✓</b>	~	~	<b>✓</b>	
SP53	Facilitate the reduction, removal and prevention of barriers for marginalised and at risk groups to contribute to Council decisions.			~				<b>✓</b>	~	~	<b>✓</b>	
SP54	Deliver service and innovation reviews to identify ways to improve efficiency, investing in technology like artificial intelligence to boost productivity, optimise resource use and lower costs.							✓	~	~		
SP55	Deliver the long-term financial sustainability of Council through the optimisation of resources, infrastructure and asset management.	~	~	~	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	~	<b>✓</b>	~	~	~	





#### **COUNCIL OFFICES**

Civic Centre 25 Ferres Boulevard South Morang VIC 3752

#### **Opening hours**

Monday – Friday, 8.30am-5pm

#### **Whittlesea Services Hub**

63 Church Street, Whittlesea VIC 3752

#### **Opening hours**

Monday – Friday, 9.30am-5pm

**Telephone** 03 9217 2170 National Relay Service 133 677 (ask for 9217 2170)

#### **Postal address**

Locked Bag 1, Bundoora MDC, VIC 3083

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