

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting

Monday 5 February 2024 at 6:00 pm

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

Youth Councillors

Angelica Banquil

Esha Serai

Dean Connelly-Carpenter

Tanya Sharma

Bavleen Kaur

Sandy Tran

Mustafa Khraim

Emily Tricarico

Zachary Melvaine

Kaynat Virk

Angela Rolevska

Sophie Winter

Masina Salesa

Officers

Agata Chmielewski

Director Community Wellbeing

Bobbie-Lea Bright

Acting Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

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1 Opening

1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions

The Director Community Wellbeing opened the meeting at 6:01pm.

“Welcome to this Youth Council Meeting of 5 February 2024 which is being held in person in the Council Chamber at Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang.

I would like to introduce the Youth Councillors in attendance today:

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

We also have the following officers in attendance:

Bobbie-Lea Bright, Unit Manager Governance.”

1.2 Apologies

Masina Salesa

1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement

The Director Community Wellbeing 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 acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging.”

1.4 Youth Council Charter

The Director Community Wellbeing read the following statement:

“We, the members of the Youth Council for the City of Whittlesea, hereby agree to respect one another’s identities, perspectives and boundaries, in order to work together as a diverse team. We will ensure a safe space for all, free of judgement, to participate in healthy, constructive collaboration, as we work together to represent the young people within the City of Whittlesea Council Community. We seek to be a voice of the youth in our community now as we prepare for the future. We commit to values of responsibility, dignity, courage and kindness as we work together, united for a common good.”

1.5 Acknowledgements

The Director Community Wellbeing made the following acknowledgement:

Inaugural Youth Council

We are thrilled to welcome the City of Whittlesea’s first Youth Council, comprised of 13 outstanding young people. Today, they bring their enthusiasm and perspective to the table, providing valuable advice to Council on matters that affect young people in our community. We look forward to seeing how this group develops and grows during their tenure and the value they will add to our Council and to our community.

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations.

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s

There were no Minutes of the preceding meeting as circulated, to be confirmed

4 Officers' Reports

4.1 Meeting Agenda Pack

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

Report Author: Coordinator Governance Administration

In Attendance: Councillor Support Officer

Executive Summary

The Youth Council meetings will be held monthly on the first Monday of the month in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre. The Thursday prior to the meeting an agenda will be produced and a link to the agenda will be sent via email to all Youth Councillors for review prior to meeting.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council agree to the agenda being circulated via a link to Docs on Tap the Thursday before each Youth Council Meeting and that it allows sufficient time to read the entire agenda prior to the meeting.

MOTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur</i>

THAT the Youth Council agree to the agenda being circulated via a link to Docs on Tap the Thursday before each Youth Council Meeting and that it allows sufficient time to read the entire agenda prior to the meeting.

YOUTH COUNCILLORS WHO SPOKE TO THE MOTION

No Youth Councillors spoke to this Motion.

AMENDMENT

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur</i>

THAT the Youth Council agree to the agenda being circulated via a link to Docs on Tap the **Monday** before each Youth Council Meeting and that it allows sufficient time to read the entire agenda prior to the meeting.

YOUTH COUNCILLORS WHO SPOKE TO THE AMENDMENT

Youth Councillor Esha Serai

VOTING ON THE AMENDMENT

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

YOUTH COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur</i>

THAT the Youth Council agree to the agenda being circulated via a link to Docs on Tap the **Monday** before each Youth Council Meeting and that it allows sufficient time to read the entire agenda prior to the meeting.

CARRIED

4.2 Youth Council Areas of Focus for 2024

Director/Executive Manager: Director Community Wellbeing

Report Author: Youth Development Coordinator

In Attendance: Youth Development Coordinator

Executive Summary

Discussion will take place at the 5 February 2024 Youth Council Meeting to brainstorm Areas of Focus for the Youth Councillors 2024-2025 term.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council agree to determining a minimum of 3 (three) and maximum of 5 (five) Areas of Focus for 2024 for the Youth Council for 2024.

MOTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Esha Serai</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk</i>

THAT the Youth Council agree to determining a minimum of 3 (three) and maximum of 5 (five) Areas of Focus for 2024 for the Youth Council for 2024.

AMENDMENT

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Zachary Melvaine</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>

THAT the Youth Council **agree that the Key Focus Areas for 2024 be as follows:**

1. **Health & Wellbeing**
 - a. **Mental health**
 - b. **Vaping/substance abuse/addiction**
 - c. **Stigma surrounding mental health in general**

2. **Environment & Climate Change**
 - a. **Waste & Recycling**
 - b. **Climate action**
 - c. **Sustainability**
 - d. **Education of climate change effects**

3. **Employment & Education**
 - a. Youth Employment
 - b. Youth Mentoring
 - c. School Exam stress education/assistance
 - d. School environment – safety
 - e. School engagement/refusal

4. **Accessibility & Inclusion**
 - a. Youth Space
 - b. Increased safety
 - c. Sports & leisure events
 - d. Collaboration between schools/communities
 - e. Receiving ideas from youth
 - f. Receiving ideas from school/community leaders. Google Form/forum
 - g. Transport for youth
 - h. Catering for people with disabilities

YOUTH COUNCILLORS WHO SPOKE TO THE AMENDMENT

Youth Councillor Angelica Banquil
Youth Councillor Dean Connelly-Carpenter
Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska
Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur
Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim
Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico
Youth Councillor Zachary Melvaine
Youth Councillor Esha Serai
Youth Councillor Sandy Tran
Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk

VOTING ON THE AMENDMENT

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

YOUTH COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Zachary Melvaine</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>

THAT the Youth Council agree that the Key Focus Areas for 2024 be as follows:

1. **Health & Wellbeing**
 - a. Mental health
 - b. Vaping/substance abuse/addiction
 - c. Stigma surrounding mental health in general

2. **Environment & Climate Change**
 - a. **Waste & Recycling**
 - b. **Climate action**
 - c. **Sustainability**
 - d. **Education of climate change effects**

3. **Employment & Education**
 - a. **Youth Employment**
 - b. **Youth Mentoring**
 - c. **School Exam stress education/assistance**
 - d. **School environment – safety**
 - e. **School engagement/refusal**

4. **Accessibility & Inclusion**
 - a. **Youth Space**
 - b. **Increased safety**
 - c. **Sports & leisure events**
 - d. **Collaboration between schools/communities**
 - e. **Receiving ideas from youth**
 - f. **Receiving ideas from school/community leaders. Google Form/forum**
 - g. **Transport for youth**
 - h. **Catering for people with disabilities**

CARRIED

4.3 Administrators & Youth Councillors Meet and Greet

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

Report Author: Governance Officer

In Attendance: Councillor Support Officer

Executive Summary

In accordance with the Youth Council Terms of Reference it was determined that the Youth Council will report to and meet with Council bi-annually with the purpose of informing Council of identified issues, priorities, projects, and portfolio work undertaken by the Youth Councillors. Youth Council are required to undertake discussions with Council leaders regarding issues of importance or consequences for young people.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council agree:

1. To attend and present to Administrators at the dinner prior to the scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024 on what the agreed priorities for the Youth Council will be for the 2024-2025 term.
2. That the mode of presentation will be chosen by the Youth Council members.
3. That the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will present on behalf of the Youth Council.
4. That the Administrators have invited the Youth Council to observe the scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024.

MOTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Esha Serai</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk</i>

THAT the Youth Council agree:

1. To attend and present to Administrators at the dinner prior to the scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024 on what the agreed priorities for the Youth Council will be for the 2024-2025 term.
2. That the mode of presentation will be chosen by the Youth Council members.
3. That the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will present on behalf of the Youth Council.
4. That the Administrators have invited the Youth Council to observe the scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024.

AMENDMENT	
Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Sophie Winter</i>

THAT the Youth Council agree:

1. To attend and present to Administrators at the dinner prior to the scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024 on what the agreed priorities for the Youth Council will be for the 2024-2025 term.
2. That the mode of presentation will be chosen by the Youth Council members.
3. That the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will present on behalf of the Youth Council, **supported by the Youth Councillors.**
4. That the Administrators have invited the Youth Council to observe the scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024.

LOST

For: Youth Councillors Mustafa Khraim and Sophie Winter

Against: Youth Councillors Angelica Banquil, Dean Connelly-Carpenter, Angela Rolevska, Bavleen Kaur, Emily Tricarico, Zachary Melvaine, Esha Serai, Tanya Sharma, Sandy Tran and Kaynat Virk

YOUTH COUNCILLORS WHO SPOKE TO THE AMENDMENT

- Youth Councillor Angelica Banquil*
- Youth Councillor Dean Connelly-Carpenter*
- Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska*
- Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur*
- Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim*
- Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico*
- Youth Councillor Zachary Melvaine*
- Youth Councillor Esha Serai*
- Youth Councillor Tanya Sharma*
- Youth Councillor Sandy Tran*
- Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk*
- Youth Councillor Sophie Winter*

YOUTH COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Esha Serai</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk</i>

THAT the Youth Council agree:

- 1. To attend and present to Administrators at the dinner prior to the scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024 on what the agreed priorities for the Youth Council will be for the 2024-2025 term.**
- 2. That the mode of presentation will be chosen by the Youth Council members.**
- 3. That the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will present on behalf of the Youth Council.**
- 4. That the Administrators have invited the Youth Council to observe the scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024.**

CARRIED

5 Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion

6 General / Urgent Business

No Urgent Business

7 Closure

There being no further business the Director Community Wellbeing closed the Youth Council Meeting at 7:06pm.

Confirmed this 4th day of March 2024.

Agata Chmielewski
Chairperson