

Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021: Year 1 Report



Contents

Introduction	3
Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021	4
Our Vision	6
Our future outcomes	7
Outcome Area: Healthy & Well	8
Outcome Area: Safe and Secure	12
Outcome Area: Capacity to Participate	18
Outcome Area: Connected to Culture & Community	22
Outcome Area: Liveable	26
What's coming up in the next 12 months	28



Introduction

Maroondah City Council is pleased to present the *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 - Year 1 Report* to the Maroondah community. A broad range of year one actions within the Plan have been successfully implemented or commenced. The Plan was completed in late 2017, and involved input from local residents, along with both partners and key stakeholders from the health and community services sectors. The initiatives highlighted in the *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021* strive to improve health and wellbeing for all Maroondah residents.

The Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 is one of Council's key strategic documents and will play a key role in delivering on health and wellbeing outcomes identified in the *Maroondah 2040 Community Vision*. It is also a statutory plan that has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*.

The actions contained within the *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021* have been captured across five outcome areas:

Healthy and well, Safe and secure, Capacity to participate, Connected to culture and community, and Liveable.

Some of Council's implementation highlights from year one of the *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021* have included:

Working towards making Ringwood Town Square and Croydon Town Square smoke-free zones;

Collaborating to raise awareness of suicide prevention, reduce alcohol-related harm across Maroondah, prevent violence against women in Maroondah, promote gender equality in sports

clubs and advocate for safe, secure and affordable housing;

Finalising new Council policies on affordable and social housing, gender equity and gambling;

Receiving significant Victorian Government funding to further the Maroondah Plus 10 schools project

Preparing to implement the 'Healthy Choices' framework at the HE Parker Multi-Sports Complex

Developing the Domestic Wastewater Management Strategy 2017-2021

Upgrading and extending the CCTV network at Croydon Town Centre was upgraded and extended

Implementing facilitated playgroups to supporting vulnerable families and supporting families with children under 24 months with severe developmental delay

Up-skilling Council employees to further assist individuals over the age of 65 who require intensive short term case management

Council is pleased to partner with a broad range of organisations across the service sector in implementing this Plan. Council will continue to work with the Maroondah Partners in Community Wellbeing Committee and the Maroondah community to implement and evaluate the Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021.

For more information on the *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021*, please call the Council and Community Planning team on 1300 88 22 33.

Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021

The *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021* is a strategic plan that describes how Council and partners will work towards achieving maximum health and wellbeing for our community. It describes our vision, goal, outcome domains and objectives for health and wellbeing in Maroondah. It also identifies a range of key partners which Council will work with to enhance Maroondah's liveability, sustainability, inclusiveness, safety, connectivity and prosperity.

Our *Maroondah 2040 Community Vision* is to be a vibrant and diverse City with a healthy and active community, living in green and leafy neighbourhoods which are connected to thriving and accessible activity centres contributing to a prosperous economy within a safe, inclusive and sustainable environment.

The *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021* aligns most closely with the 'safe healthy and active' and 'inclusive and diverse' outcome areas in Maroondah 2040. These outcomes strive to:

- Make Maroondah a safe, healthy and active community with local opportunities provided for people of all ages and abilities to have high levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.
- Promote an inclusive community where social connections are strong across generations and diversity is embraced and celebrated.

The actions contained within the *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021* are designed to work towards achieving the *Maroondah 2040 Community Vision* and have been captured across five outcome areas and eight focus areas as follows:

2040 Outcome Area	MHWP Outcome Areas	Focus Areas
Safe healthy & active	Healthy & well	Alcohol, other drugs & tobacco
		Mental, physical & sexual health
	Safe & secure	Social & affordable housing
		Prevention of violence against women (PVAW), gender equity & elder abuse
Prosperous & learning Well governed & empowered	Capacity to participate	Gambling
Inclusive & diverse Vibrant & culturally rich	Connected to culture & community	Education, lifelong learning & employment
Accessible & connected Clean, green & sustainable Attractive thriving & well built	Liveable	Inclusivity, diversity & access
		Environment, climate change & infrastructure

The relationship between the Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 and other Council strategic documents is illustrated in the Integrated Planning Framework in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Integrated Planning Framework

The *Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021* is a statutory plan that is prepared using the requirements set out in the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*. This Act requires Council to prepare a community health and wellbeing plan every four years, within 12 months of general council elections.

Our Vision

Maroondah will be a vibrant and diverse city with a healthy and active community, living in green and leafy neighbourhoods which are connected to thriving and accessible activity centres contributing to a prosperous economy within a safe, inclusive and sustainable environment.



Our future outcomes

Over a two year period, Council worked with the community to develop a vision for the future of Maroondah which was adopted in June 2014. *Maroondah 2040: Our future together* identifies a range of preferred outcomes for the community looking ahead to the year 2040. The community's future vision is:

A safe, healthy and active community

In 2040, Maroondah is a safe, healthy and active community with local opportunities provided for people of all ages and abilities to have high levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

A prosperous and learning community

In 2040, Maroondah is a thriving centre of economic activity and opportunity within the eastern region where the sustainability and growth of local businesses is supported. All community members, groups, education providers and local businesses have access to a wide range of quality learning resources and facilities.

A vibrant and culturally rich community

In 2040, Maroondah is a creative cosmopolitan community recognised for its celebration and promotion of arts and culture. There are a broad range of engaging entertainment options, diverse cultural activities and the creation and display of contemporary and traditional forms of art.

A clean, green and sustainable community

In 2040, Maroondah is a leafy green community with high levels of waste diversion and sustainable approaches to infrastructure development, urban design and management of natural resources. Our community is resilient and has the knowledge, capacity and resources to make sustainable lifestyle choices.

An accessible and connected community

In 2040, Maroondah is an accessible community for all ages and abilities with walkable neighbourhoods, effective on and off-road transport networks, and access to a range of sustainable transport options.

An attractive, thriving and well built community

In 2040, Maroondah is an attractive community with high quality urban form and infrastructure that meets the needs and aspirations of all ages and abilities. A diverse range of housing options are available and thriving activity centres provide a broad range of facilities and services to meet community needs. The character of local neighbourhoods continues to be maintained while also accommodating population growth.

An inclusive and diverse community

In 2040, Maroondah is an inclusive community where social connections are strong across generations and diversity is embraced and celebrated.

A well governed and empowered community

In 2040, Maroondah is an effectively empowered community that is actively engaged in Council decision making through processes that ensure their voice is heard and considered. Council provides strong and responsive leadership, ensures transparent processes and works with the community to advocate and champion their needs.



Outcome Area: Healthy & Well

Focus Area: Alcohol, Other Drugs & Tobacco

We are working in partnership to reduce alcohol-related harm across Maroondah



In December 2017, Council elected to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning for a Group Council Planning Scheme Amendment. The eight participating Councils comprise Cardinia, Casey, Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Kingston, Knox, Maroondah and Mornington Peninsula.

In May 2018, the group was successful in gaining authorisation from the Minister for Planning to proceed with the Group Councils Amendment to their respective Planning Schemes. Once enacted, the amendment will enable these Councils to take social and health impacts into consideration when assessing planning applications for packaged liquor licenses. The amendment process is expected to commence in 2018/19.

Council continues to participate in the Eastern Metropolitan Region (EMR) Alcohol Flagship collaboration. New partners such as Turning Point, Eastern Health and Inspiro have added strength to this group. A regional Action Plan has been prepared that identifies five key priority areas, including prevention, mobilising community, supporting the South East Melbourne Councils Alcohol (SEMCA) Density Project and good governance.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action items:

- 1.1.1 Continue participation in the South East Melbourne Councils Alcohol (SEMCA) Density Project to work towards influencing planning controls relating to density of packaged liquor suppliers within LGA's
- 1.1.2 Continue participation in the EMR Alcohol Flagship and its identified annual work plans

Did you know?

Approximately 90% of people consulted said Ringwood Town Square should be smoke-free

We are working towards making Ringwood Town Square and Croydon Town Square smoke-free zones



In 2017, the Victorian Government introduced new laws that ban smoking in outdoor dining areas. This means that smoking is now not allowed in outdoor dining areas at Ringwood Town Square. Council consulted almost 1600 people to gauge public opinion on whether Ringwood Town Square should become a permanent smoke-free zone. Approximately 90% of people said Ringwood Town Square should be smoke-free. Similar consultation has been conducted on making the new Croydon Town Square a smoke-free area when it opens.

Council are working towards the development of a new Local Law to ban smoking in Ringwood Town Square and the new Croydon Town Square. The draft Local Law will undergo further community consultation and statutory processes to be progressed.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

- 1.1.5 Develop a Tobacco Control Strategy that includes legislative requirements and health promotion activities such as investigating the feasibility of localised smoking bans in public places

Focus Area: Mental, Physical & Sexual Health

We are collaborating to raise awareness of suicide prevention



The Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network (EMPHN) has partnered with the Department of Health and Human Services to deliver a suicide prevention trial project in Maroondah. Council has participated in a series of stakeholder workshops to formulate the strategy for the trial, and supported several initiatives to partner with the EMPHN in delivering the first 12 months of the Maroondah place based suicide prevention initiative.

The EMPHN supported Council's Night of Light event in Ringwood Town Square in October 2017 aimed at creating a positive ripple effect in our community by promoting mental health awareness and suicide prevention. The EMPHN has also joined the Communities of Wellbeing Steering Group, with the aim of pursuing collaborative activities in 2018/19.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action items:

- 1.2.1 Identify and undertake annual collaborative suicide prevention initiatives
- 1.2.2 Collaborate with the Eastern Melbourne Public Health Network on the Maroondah Place Based Suicide Prevention Initiative

Our Maroondah Plus 10 schools project will receive significant Victorian Government funding to further progress the initiative



The Maroondah Plus 10 schools project is a collaborative partnership between Youth and Children's Services and all Maroondah public schools, which aims to raise the wellbeing and lift the educational outcomes of students in Maroondah. The partnership now includes the Institute of Positive Education at Geelong Grammar School, and the University of Melbourne. This year, substantial investment was made by the Victorian Government including \$890,000 in project funding over the next two years, and \$5.5 million to build a wellbeing centre, and an 'annex' of the Institute of Positive Education at Heathmont College.

This funding boost will assist the partnership to move forward and provides unprecedented opportunity to achieve Council's vision of young people flourishing as part of a healthy and thriving community. It also adds significant value to the work of the Maroondah Communities of Wellbeing initiative, which Council supports, bringing world class expertise in positive psychology into Maroondah.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action items:

- 1.2.4 Support the Maroondah Communities of Wellbeing Project via participating in the project Steering Committee and identified initiatives
- 1.2.5 Coordinate Maroondah Plus 10 Schools, which aims to increase the wellbeing and educational outcomes of students in Maroondah through the implementation of Positive Education and targeted wellbeing initiatives

A comprehensive walking campaign was offered to Maroondah residents



Council developed a comprehensive 2017/18 walking campaign for Maroondah residents. Events included a Seniors Walk at Werribee Mansion, as well as a Pram Walk, which saw close to 75 people attend. These included parents, babies, Maternal and Child Health (MCH) nurses and Council staff. Council also invited Maroondah residents to participate in the Pedometer Challenge to increase the number of steps they take each day. Other campaign activities included 'Come Walk with Us', which offered free guided walking sessions around Croydon Athletics Track, as well as Maroondah Ranger Activity Sheets, which invited families to visit bushland areas in Maroondah to look for native Maroondah wildlife.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

- 1.2.6 Develop a comprehensive 'Get Walking' promotional strategy and program initiative to assist residents to prioritise walking as part of everyday

The Victorian Government has committed \$890,000 to support the Maroondah Plus 10 Schools Project and \$5.5 million to build a wellbeing centre and an 'annex' of the Institute of Positive Education at Heathmont College

We will be implementing the 'Healthy Choices' framework at the HE Parker Multi-Sports Complex



Council is implementing the Victorian Government's 'Healthy Choices' framework and standards as part of the funding agreement for the upgraded HE Parker Multi Sports Complex, which will be completed in 2019. 'Healthy Choices' is a framework for improving availability and promotion of healthier foods and drinks in community settings. Using the 'Healthy Choices' framework, sport and recreation centres can provide consistent health promotion messages whereby the foods and drinks available through the centre reinforce positive messages about the importance of physical activity for good health. Council is investigating the implementation of the 'Healthy Choices' framework at other Council facilities.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action items:

- 1.2.7 Investigate opportunities for enhancing the range of healthy options offered by caterers within Council owned and operated facilities
- 1.2.8 Implementation of components of the DHHS Healthy Choices: Policy Guidelines for Sport and Recreation Centres at selected MCC leisure facilities

An additional social support group for residents with early onset dementia was created



In April 2018, Council established an additional Social Support Group for residents with early onset dementia at the Kerabee Centre. Council also support people caring for people with dementia through the Dementia Carers' Support Group. The group offers those who are caring for a loved one with a diagnosis of dementia and provides the opportunity to have a chat over morning tea, listen to guest speakers or attend an outing. In partnership with Donwood and EACH, Council has organised information sessions for people caring for someone living with dementia to further support and educate both carers and professionals.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

- 1.2.11 Develop and implement programs to address the increasing number of Maroondah residents with early onset dementia



Outcome Area: Safe and Secure

Focus Area: Social & Affordable Housing

A new Maroondah Affordable and Social Housing Policy was endorsed



Council adopted a new *Maroondah Affordable and Social Housing Policy* in August 2018.

This new Policy has been prepared to help Council better understand affordable and social housing issues, establish closer relationships and ongoing sharing of information with the local service sector, and clarify Council's policy position in responding to these issues. This policy sets out a strategic framework and the role of Council in addressing affordable and social housing issues in Maroondah. Development of the policy was led by expert consultants and involved consideration of evidence relating to current challenges and detailed consultation with key stakeholders.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.1.1 Develop and implement a Maroondah Affordable and Social Housing Policy

Did you know?

Only 2.5% of Maroondah housing stock is allocated for social housing, which is far below the 10% target

Council is working in collaboration to advocate for safe, secure and affordable housing



Maroondah is part of the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance, which is a collaboration between six Local Government Areas (LGAs) located in Melbourne's EMR. The Alliance advocates that the most disadvantaged people in the EMR can access safe, secure, affordable housing, with a view to better health outcomes and higher quality of life for all. The Alliance works to create enabling environments for increased investment by government and non-government stakeholders in social and affordable dwellings. 'Zone In' is the Alliance's advocacy campaign in the lead up to the 2018 Victorian State Election, which asks political parties to commit to initiatives to help provide a steady supply of new social and affordable housing across the state.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.1.2 Continue membership of and participation in the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance

Focus Area: Prevention of Violence Against Women (PVAW), Gender Equity & Elder Abuse

We adopted a Gender Equity Policy aimed at preventing violence against women



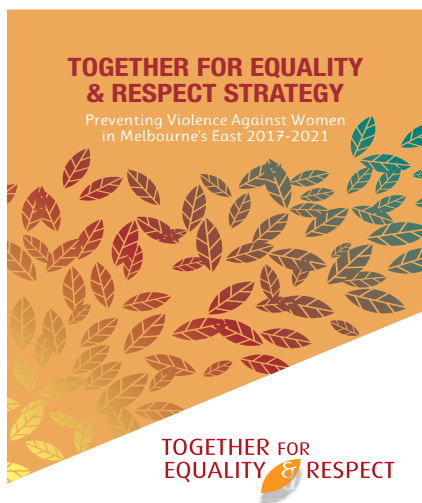
An internal *Gender Equity Policy* was adopted by Council's corporate management team in 2018. This Policy is aimed at supporting Council in its work to prevent violence against women in our community by demonstrating leadership in relation to gender equity. Gender inequality is one of the main contributors to violence against women.

The Policy outlines two key principles to further support Council's work in preventing all forms of violence and identifies a range of commitments for Council that seek to advance both culture and practice in promoting gender equity through its workforce and service delivery. The Policy will help to ensure that Council services are delivered in ways that are accessible, inclusive, respectful and equitable. The Policy was informed by background research and employee engagement including two gender equity workshops and an employee survey.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.2.1 Develop a Maroondah City Council Gender Equity Policy / Statement

Council continues to be an active partner of Together for Equality and Respect (TFER) to prevent violence against women in Maroondah



Council has continued to be an active partner in the implementation of the *TFER Strategy: Preventing Violence Against Women in Melbourne's East 2017-2021* and delivered a range of Maroondah-specific and partnership initiatives. During 2017/18, Council participated in a series of workshops to support development of the TFER Strategy 2017-2021 and evaluate actions delivered during the 2014-2017 period. The Strategy outlines the case for action, the current evidence on how to prevent violence against women and provides a framework for action in the EMR.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.2.2 Work with partners of Together for Equality and Respect (TFER): A Strategy to Prevent Violence Against Women in Melbourne East to prevent violence against women in Maroondah

We worked in partnership with neighbouring Councils to promote gender equality in sports clubs



Council worked with Knox and Yarra Ranges Councils and Inspiro Community Health Service in partnership with nine local sporting clubs across the three municipalities on the Our Codes Our Clubs project.

The project highlighted the positive work that local clubs are doing to encourage equal access to opportunities in sport. The collaboration developed an online resource that outlines the practical actions which can be taken by sporting club committees to promote gender equality and highlights the benefits for clubs in creating a more inclusive environment. To complement the resource, a short film was produced with representatives of local clubs sharing their experiences in increasing opportunities for females to be involved in sport and the benefits this brings, including helping to prevent violence against women.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.2.3 Work in partnership with the outer-east municipalities and local sporting clubs to deliver the 'Our Codes, Our Clubs' gender equity and cultural change program

We are focused on increasing female participation in sport



Council's *Physical Activity Strategy 2015-2020* highlighted the need to help improve the physical activity of females within Maroondah. To provide a comprehensive assessment of the current opportunities, and develop a coordinated approach, a Female Participation Strategy is being developed. A situational analysis has been completed and consultation continues to be undertaken to inform the finalisation of actions for the Strategy.

To further support female participation, Council is undertaking several initiatives to increase or modify its existing change room facilities and sporting pavilions to cater for increased female participation. A female friendly upgrade to the changerooms has been completed at Dorset Soccer Pavilion and conceptual designs have been developed for the redevelopment of pavilions at HE Parker Reserve, Silcock Reserve and Springfield Reserve. There are also proposed upgrades to sporting pavilions at Jubilee Park, Quambee Reserve and Croydon Park, along with planned modifications to Benson Pavilion.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.2.4 Development of a Female Sports Participation Strategy

Facilitated playgroups are supporting vulnerable families



To support families, Council received Victorian Government funding in 2018 to facilitate five supported playgroups for vulnerable families. There are strict inclusion criteria and eligible families have usually received assistance from Enhanced MCH nurses. Playgroups commenced in Term 3, 2018 and there were over 60 referrals to the playgroups within a few weeks. Supported playgroups provide an opportunity for children to learn through play, and for parents to spend time with their children in a fun environment. Qualified facilitators use evidence-based practice to help mothers build their self-confidence and skills, develop relationships with their children and other parents and create a positive home learning environment.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.2.5 Partnership program with Eastern Community Legal Centre to develop a playgroup for children and their parents experiencing family violence

The CCTV network in the Croydon Town Centre was upgraded and extended



Council received \$435,000 in funding from the Australian Government to upgrade and extend the existing CCTV network within the Croydon Town Centre precinct.

The project was completed in April 2018 and included upgrading 14 existing CCTV cameras with WiFi technology; and the installation of an additional seven CCTV cameras at designated priority areas within the Croydon Town Centre. In addition, new hardware was installed at Croydon Police Station, to provide a live feed from all cameras. The additional cameras will assist in providing the community with greater peace of mind when visiting the Croydon Town Centre and provides improved pedestrian safety along an established route, from Croydon Station through Main Street and into Croydon Park.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.2.7 Work in partnership to address community safety issues via installation of CCTV, with a focus on activity centres, public spaces, roads and public transport

Focus Area: Gambling

Council endorsed a new Gambling Policy and will now seek to amend the Maroondah Planning Scheme accordingly



Following extensive consultation, a new *Maroondah Gambling Policy* was endorsed by Council in September 2018. To develop the policy, Council sought the views of key stakeholders, local venues and the broader Maroondah community on gambling patterns and attitudes to gambling. The Policy seeks to advance and strengthen Council policy statements and planning controls in relation to electronic gaming machines in Maroondah. The Policy sets out a strategic framework aimed at reducing the prevalence, incidence and extent of gambling-related harm in the Maroondah community. Council will now commence preparing documentation for a future planning scheme amendment to implement the Policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

2.3.1 Complete a new Maroondah City Council Gambling Policy and commence preparations of a Planning Scheme amendment to incorporate the Policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme

Did you know?

Council received \$435,000 in funding to upgrade and extend the CCTV network within the Croydon Town Centre precinct





Outcome Area: Capacity to Participate

Focus Area: Education, Lifelong Learning & Employment

Our MCH nurses have helped support families with children under 24 months with severe developmental delay



Partnering with Specialist Children's Services, Maroondah's MCH nurses have supported families with children under the age of 24 months who have severe developmental delay. Referred through MCH nurses, physiotherapists and occupational therapists provide education and support to families in a group setting. MCH nurses also attend these sessions to support families and provide ongoing guidance.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

3.1.5 Undertake a collaborative program with Specialist Children's Services to develop a structured co-facilitated program for families with children who have ongoing developmental delay

We are committed to supporting local businesses and jobs



To support more than 8,500 small businesses in Maroondah, Council provided over 700 small business training hours in 2017/18 and held Maroondah BizWeek in August 2017 and again in May 2018. More than 1000 people attended the annual programs of events and workshops designed to provide opportunities for businesses to gain new skills; grow their contacts; and build success.

To further support local employment opportunities, the BizMatch employment portal was launched and is designed to facilitate the promotion of local employment opportunities and connect job seekers. The program is currently under review to establish the most effective local employment initiatives. Realm continues to be a hub for business development, with more than 500 community and business programs delivered at Realm and Ringwood Town Square in 2017/18.

Maroondah continues to participate in state and regional economic development forums and partnerships. Council has committed to continuing to implement the Bayswater Business Partnership with Knox and Yarra Ranges Councils. This major project has been identified as suitable for inclusion in the UN Global Compact City Partnerships model. The Partnership supports improved business growth, sustainable employment, advocacy and improved infrastructure for the 4,500 industrial businesses in Bayswater and Bayswater North.

Regional business events were hosted by Maroondah in 2017/18, including the Regional Eastern Metro Partnership business forum in June 2018, and Maroondah supported the Melbourne East Regional Economic Development Group (MEREDG) business event 'ECommerce Revolution'. Maroondah will continue to host regional events in 2018/19.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action items:

- 3.1.1 Continue to facilitate the promotion of local employment opportunities and connection of job seekers via the Maroondah BizMatch Employment Portal
- 3.1.2 Support the development of local small business and social enterprise initiatives
- 3.1.3 Collaborate with the State Government Regional Economic Development Unit (SGREDU) and Eastern Region Economic Development Group (EREDG) to determine appropriate avenues for addressing identified regional priorities of; learning, employment and business support and development
- 3.1.4 Work to maximise individual, community and business engagement with and utilisation of Realm via implementation of actions generated via the Flexible Programming Schedule, Realm Activation Group (RAG) and in response to emerging opportunities

Council has provided high quality professional development to local childhood educators



Council continued to deliver the annual Children's Services Professional Learning Program during 2017/18. This annual program provides high quality, relevant and affordable training opportunities to help child educators in Maroondah keep pace with best practice in key areas of social, health and behaviour management. Some sessions are aimed at educators who work in early childhood services, while others are for educators working with primary school aged children. Topics in 2017/18 included autism, behaviour management, indigenous culture and play-based learning.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

3.1.6 Provision of an annual Professional Learning Program targeting early years' educators working within Maroondah to increase knowledge in line with the National Quality Framework

Community Houses in Maroondah are formalising their collaborative approach



There has been a concentrated effort to develop a collaborative relationship amongst the Community Houses in Maroondah. A draft Maroondah Community House Strategic Alliance Partnership Plan is being developed, which supports collaborative planning and action from the collective of Maroondah Community Houses. The aim of the collaboration is to place the Houses in a strong, strategic position to attract further resources and increase efficiency and effectiveness within the community. Collaborative marketing, events coordination, staff relationship development and project work has commenced.

The Linking Eastern Pathways project is an example of collaboration across three Maroondah Community Houses, led by Glen Park Community Centre and supported by Yarrunga Community Centre and Japara Neighbourhood House. This project seeks to improve learning pathways and participation amongst young mothers, women who have been out of the workforce for a significant time, and women who are experiencing, or have survived, family violence. Linking Eastern Pathways has enabled project partners to develop mechanisms to respond more effectively to the needs of learners, and support them throughout their entire learning journey. To promote the project, short films were developed. Each film features a successful learner who achieved their learning pathway goals through engagement with either Glen Park Community Centre, Yarrunga Community Centre or Japara Neighbourhood House.

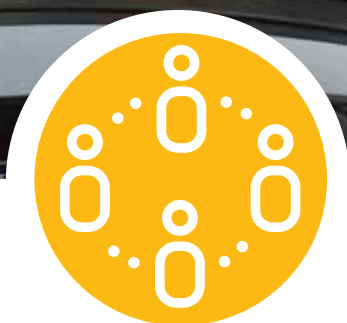
Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

3.1.8 Collaboration with the Maroondah Community House Network on identified initiatives designed to provide lifelong learning opportunities

Did you know?

Over 5,000 people use
Community Houses in
Maroondah each week





Outcome Area: Connected to Culture & Community

Focus Area: Inclusivity, Diversity & Access

We are continuing to implement our Volunteer Strategy 2015-2019



The objectives of the *Volunteer Strategy 2015-2019* include managing and supporting volunteers in accordance with National Standards, further developing volunteering opportunities within Maroondah, and improving volunteer retention across all activities and programs.

Key achievements from the strategy to date include the implementation of a centralised volunteers database for use across Council, a review of Council's annual formal Volunteers Recognition Night event, and the enhancement of the 'Volunteers' page on Maroondah's website with updated resources and contact information.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

4.1.1 Implementation of Council's Volunteer Strategy 2015-2019

Council has trained employees to further assist individuals over 65 who require intensive short term case management



In response to Australian government aged care reforms and to streamline processes and integrate functions, Council has specifically trained identified employees to provide short term case management to individuals aged over 65 during the assessment process. Regular professional development is provided to the team to facilitate capacity building in short term case management. The team has ongoing partnerships with Aged Care Assessment Services to ensure appropriate and timely referrals, as well as strong partnerships with neighbouring Councils to allow cross-boundary assessments and effective management of fluctuating referrals.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

- 4.1.3 Continue to develop and implement processes to assist individuals over 65 that require intensive short term case management and to respond to changes in service delivery through federal reform and address specific needs of Maroondah community

Our NDIS Transition Coordinator continues to support residents in their move to the NDIS



Council has a dedicated National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Transition Coordinator whose role is to support Maroondah residents in their transition to the NDIS. The transition of younger clients to the NDIS commenced in November 2017 and Council is continuing to build good working relationships with the NDIS Local Area Coordinators. The NDIS Transition Coordinator provides residents with comprehensive information around the preparation, planning and implementation process for the NDIS. They help residents understand what to expect during the NDIS process, help them navigate the system and provide an advocacy role.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

- 4.1.4 Continue to develop and implement processes to assist individuals under 65 that require assistance to respond to changes in service delivery through federal reform and address specific needs of Maroondah community

The 'Day in the Park' event promotes community safety with local refugee families



Council partnered with the Migrant Information Centre and emergency services organisations to deliver the 'Day in the Park' event for refugee families in October 2017. Education focused on fire awareness, fishing regulations, community safety and Australian bush education. Council has also worked to update the Migrant and Refugee Handbook, which will be released in 2019. Council continues to work with refugee leaders in Maroondah regarding various programs and issues that arise.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

4.1.7 Work collaboratively to identify and respond to the existing and emerging needs of Maroondah's CALD population

Council is collaborating with local community organisations and neighbouring Councils to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents



Council has commenced participation in the Outer East Regional Integrated Aboriginal Service Planning Project with Knox and Yarra Ranges Councils to develop a regional plan that addresses issues and opportunities in the Outer East. As part of this project, consultants were engaged to work with local community organisations, such as Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place to seek their input on the plan. Work on this regional project will continue in 2018/19.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

4.1.10 Investigate collaborating on the Outer East Regional Integrated Aboriginal Service Planning Project and action accordingly

Did you know?

Over 550 Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander peoples live in
Maroondah



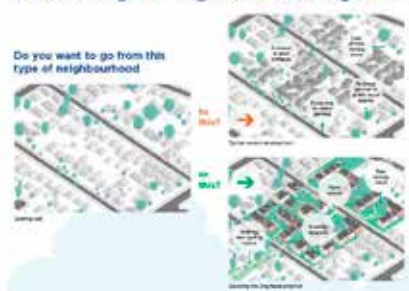


Outcome Area: Liveable

Focus Area: Environment, Climate Change & Infrastructure

Community consultation has begun on the Greening the Greyfields Project

Greening the Greyfields Transforming our neighbourhoods together



Greening the Greyfields is an Australian Government funded pilot project aimed at improving overall community outcomes. Greyfields can be defined as areas where the housing stock is near the end of its useful life and most of the asset value is in the land itself. The project aims to promote the creation of collaborative redevelopment precincts where landowners work together with Council to design better housing outcomes for their land. The project builds on the policy directions outlined in the Maroondah Housing Strategy 2016 and Victorian Government's Plan Melbourne Refresh metropolitan planning strategy released in 2017.

A Community Advisory Group has been established to provide feedback to the pilot program. Following initial community consultation in September 2018, work is continuing to consult further with the community on the project and to develop the enabling statutory planning instruments.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

- 5.1.2 Encourage high quality urban design that provides for a healthy, attractive, and desirable built form through implementation of the Greening the Greyfields Project

Did you know?

An additional 12,500 dwellings will be required in Maroondah over the next 25 years to meet anticipated population growth

Council has worked in partnership to support a strong coordinated approach across the Maroondah Emergency Relief Network



Council facilitates the Maroondah Emergency Relief Network, which consists of numerous agencies that provide food parcels, vouchers, social programs, referrals, and community meals to Maroondah residents experiencing disadvantage. Council has worked in partnership to support a strong coordinated approach across agencies, including streamlining the delivery of fresh food to emergency relief agencies by establishing a central hub from which agencies can collect their orders.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

- 5.1.4 Undertake research into how Council is addressing food security and seek to engage stakeholders to develop a coordinated, systemic approach

We have developed a Domestic Wastewater Management Strategy 2017-2021



During 2017/18, Council developed a *Domestic Wastewater Management Strategy 2017-2021*. The Strategy aims to improve processes and inform environmentally sustainable decision making. It also provides the necessary actions to ensure that existing septic tank wastewater systems and any new installations are installed, maintained and monitored to protect the health of the community and the surrounding environment. The project involved development of a single database for wastewater management systems; establishing a mapping layer to enable spatial analysis; and the introduction of a new internal planning referral process. All relevant properties were inspected to determine how their wastewater system was operating and to answer any questions from the property owner.

Relevant MHWP 2017-2021 action item:

- 5.1.6 Implementation of the Domestic Waste Water Management Strategy

What's coming up in the next 12 months

Commence preparation of a Planning Scheme amendment to incorporate the Maroondah Gambling Policy into the Maroondah Planning scheme



Council adopted the new *Maroondah Gambling Policy* in September 2018. The Policy defines Council's role and responsibilities in managing gambling in the municipality and its commitment to supporting a 'harm minimisation' approach. Over the next year, work will commence to incorporate the Policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme to help positively impact the issue of gambling in the community.

Amend planning controls relating to alcohol density through participation in a regional Alcohol Density Project



Council is a partner in this regional alcohol density planning scheme amendment. This project has provided strong evidence of a correlation between the size and number of liquor outlets and an increased rate of alcohol related harm in communities. Following the Planning Minister's approval to proceed with the Group Council's Amendment in May 2018, work will continue in 2018/19 to develop a Planning Scheme amendment for each member Council to enable the social impact of a liquor licence to be taken into consideration for a Planning Scheme amendment.

Implement Council's internal Volunteer Strategy 2015-2019



The future steps of the strategy include continuing to retain volunteers and identifying additional opportunities within Council to increase participation in volunteering. Council will also seek to progress longer term actions such as the introduction of a corporate volunteering program.

Continue working with the outer-east municipalities and local sporting clubs to deliver Stage Two of the 'Our Codes, Our Clubs' gender equity and cultural change program



The focus of Stage Two of this project involves supporting clubs to assess their environment and develop specific actions to impact change. The partnership is currently planning a clubs' gender equity actions workshop in 2018/19. The project has also received funding through the Gender Equity in Victorian Sport funding program to work with the tenant clubs of Jubilee Park Pavilion to create an inclusive equitable environment for all users.

Continue to work with partners of Together for Equality and Respect (TFER) to prevent violence against women in Maroondah



Council will continue to support Women's Health East and partners in the development and implementation of the TFER Action Plan 2017-2021. It will include a range of existing and new initiatives that align with the four Strategic directions. It will also promote partnerships across sectors and ensure the coordination of regional action to prevent violence against women.

Support the implementation of the Communities of Wellbeing Strategic Business Plan



In 2018/19, the Communities of Wellbeing Committee will engage consultants to develop a Strategic Business Plan and associated Implementation Plan for the initiative. Council will continue to support this project and the implementation of the Strategic Business Plan.

Investigate the further implementation of the ‘Healthy Choices’ framework across Council



Council is implementing the Victorian Government’s ‘Healthy Choices’ framework and standards as part of the funding agreement for the HE Parker Multi Sports Complex, which will be completed in 2019. ‘Healthy Choices’ is a framework for improving availability and promotion of healthier foods and drinks in community settings. In 2018/19, Council is investigating the implementation of the ‘Healthy Choices’ framework at other Council facilities.

To contact Council

- phone 1300 88 22 33 or (03) 9298 4598
- visit our website at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au
- email maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au

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