

Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-2023





Contents

Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-2023	4
Mayor's message	5
A strategy for liveability, wellbeing and resilience in Maroondah	6
Healthy lifestyles	8
Liveable neighbourhoods	12
Safe communities	16
Social inclusion	20
Embracing diversity	24
Social harms	28
Key Directions and proposed actions	30

Acknowledgment of Country

We, in the spirit of Reconciliation, acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation as Traditional Custodians of the land now known as the City of Maroondah, where Indigenous Australians have performed age old ceremonies. We acknowledge and respect their unique ability to care for Country and their deep spiritual connection to it. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-2023

The *Maroondah Liveability Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy 2021-2031* adopted on 18 October 2021 is Council's key social environment strategic plan that describes how Council and partners will work towards achieving enhanced community wellbeing, liveability and resilience over the next 10 years.

The strategy outlines a vision for the future social environment of the municipality supporting the desired outcomes and key directions within *Maroondah 2040 - Our future together*. Through this Strategy and supporting action plans, Council and its partners will work towards a common agenda that is evidence informed and community driven.

To articulate the specific actions of Council in working towards the key directions in this strategy, a number of integrated action plans will be developed/reviewed and implemented.

These associated action plans will highlight the short-medium priorities of Council in working towards the Strategy and be reviewed regularly during the lifespan of the Strategy to ensure they are responsive to community needs.

The *Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-2023* outlines the priority actions and other related initiatives that Council will undertake to work towards many of the health and wellbeing outcomes of the *Maroondah Liveability Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy 2021-2031* during the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years.



A message from our Councillors

On behalf of Maroondah City Council, we are pleased to present the *Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-2023*.

The *Maroondah Liveability Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy 2021-2031* provides a clear framework and common agenda for Council and its partners to collectively work towards over the next 10 years to enhance the liveability, wellbeing and resilience of our community.

The *Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-2023* outlines the priority actions and other related initiatives that Council will undertake to work towards many of the health and wellbeing outcomes of the *Maroondah Liveability Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy 2021-2031* from 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years.

The key directions and priority actions are grouped under the six focus areas of the *Maroondah Liveability, Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy 2021-2031* and provide the structure for the *Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-2023*. Significant projects identified for delivery include:

- Lead and deliver collaborative mental health initiatives such as Mental Health First Aid training, mental health awareness and coping skills workshops and the Maroondah Hoarding and Squalor Partnership, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to equip the community to prepare for mental health challenges associated with future emergencies and disruptions.
- Provide a public immunisation program that offers all vaccines covered on the National and Victorian Immunisation Programs including Maroondah's enhanced Immunisation Program for hard to reach/vulnerable community members, and support the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in partnership with EACH and Eastern Health.
- Work in partnership to support community-based organisations to build their capacity to recover and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the re-engagement and development of volunteers, rebuilding membership and supporting good governance.
- Work in partnership to support primary prevention initiatives that address alcohol related harm.



(L-R) BACK: Cr Tony Dib OAM JP; Cr Suzy Stojanovic; Cr Paul Macdonald; Cr Nora Lamont; Cr Rob Steane; (L-R) FRONT: Cr Tasa Damante; Cr Marijke Graham; Cr Mike Symon; and Cr Kylie Spears

- Work in partnership with a broad range of service providers and agencies, to develop and deliver services and cultural experiences in the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct.
- Design and construct sporting infrastructure upgrades at Jubilee, Proclamation, Cheong and Ainslie Parks, and at Dorset Recreation and JW Manson Reserves.
- Support the removal of three level crossings and upgrades to Croydon and Ringwood East railway stations.
- Work in partnership to implement the Reimagining Tarralla Creek project and seek external funding for future stages of the project.
- Implement the Greening the Greyfields project to facilitate a sustainable approach to urban redevelopment in identified residential precincts.
- Complete a Maroondah shopping centre strategic review to plan and implement infrastructure and amenity improvements that align with Council's Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development and 20-Minute Neighbourhood principles for thriving and sustainable centres.
- Implement a Maroondah Environmentally Sustainable Design Local Planning Policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme.
- Support the implementation of the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, including Council's Gender Equality Plan.
- Celebrate and recognise Indigenous culture through a diverse range of cultural activities and arts expressions and through events such as Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week.
- Work in partnership with local emergency service organisations and agencies to ensure Maroondah's municipal emergency response, relief and recovery plans can be activated in the event of an emergency, including ongoing community engagement to ensure services continue to meet community needs.



A strategy for liveability, wellbeing and resilience in Maroondah

Our Vision

From the background research, community engagement and stakeholder input, the long term vision for community wellbeing liveability and resilience in Maroondah is:

In 2031, Maroondah will be a liveable, healthy and resilient community where everyone can belong, thrive and grow.

Our key focus areas

To deliver this vision and support the overall vision of *Maroondah 2040 - Our future together*, six focus areas have been identified that will create a framework for key directions and priority actions that Council will undertake to achieve this vision.

Our focus areas and priorities





Healthy lifestyles

Our vision: In 2031, Maroondah will be a healthy and active community where all people are physically and mentally well.

Our priorities

We will work towards healthy lifestyles in Maroondah by prioritising:

- Physical health and activity
- Gendered health outcomes
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Public health
- Healthy eating
- Connection to nature
- Cultural participation

Major initiatives during 2021-2023 period

Area of priority	Major initiatives
Physical health and activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and redevelop the Maroondah Sport Demand Analysis 2022 and develop an Indoor Sporting Facilities Strategy. Work with sporting clubs and schools to offer and promote entry pathways, non-competitive opportunities to participants of all ages. Design and construct sporting infrastructure upgrades at Jubilee, Proclamation, Cheong and Ainslie Parks, and at Dorset Recreation and JW Manson Reserves. Develop a Maroondah Play Strategy and Action Plan. Review Council's Physical Activity Strategy. Design and construct a dog park in Ringwood North. Provide and/or promote opportunities for community members to re-engage into sport and informal recreation and physical health activities, following the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as provide support and guidance for Sporting Clubs and Associations to facilitate Return to Sport in a COVID-Safe manner.
Gendered health outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to implement the Sons of the West Program to promote men's mental and physical health, social inclusion and healthy masculinities. Work in partnership to support the mental and physical wellbeing of women through targeted programs and initiatives, including Women on the Go, International Women's Day.
Mental health and wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead and deliver collaborative mental health initiatives such as Mental Health First Aid training, mental health awareness and coping skills workshops and the Maroondah Hoarding and Squalor Partnership, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to equip the community to prepare for mental health challenges associated with future emergencies and disruptions. Implement a series of mental wellbeing promotion activities for the Maroondah community, including the Be Kind Maroondah program to facilitate community connections, reduce isolation, enhance mental wellbeing and connect with vulnerable residents. Partner with Communities of Wellbeing Inc to identify and progress positive psychology initiatives including building resilience, wellbeing literacy and community leadership capacity in Maroondah.
Public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a public immunisation program that offers all vaccines covered on the National and Victorian Immunisation Programs including Maroondah's enhanced Immunisation Program for hard to reach/vulnerable community members, and support the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in partnership with EACH and Eastern Health. Continue to provide information to the community and businesses to ensure COVID safe measures are understood. Provide information that is accessible, repeated, includes translations and is provided in different formats. Work in partnership with the Eastern Alliance Greenhouse Action to continue participation in the Solar Savers Project.
Healthy eating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to work towards policies and implementation plans that enhance the range of healthy options offered within Council owned and operated facilities. Continue to offer healthy eating modules to help teach residents important yet simple, practical ways on how to improve wellbeing and independence through better nutrition. Deliver the Glen Park Oaks Community Garden Volunteer Program.

Area of priority	Major initiatives
Connection to nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and strengthen a community culture of caring for the natural environment through the promotion of activities that connect people and nature such as providing guided bushland walks, tree planting initiatives and supporting bushland volunteers.
Cultural participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present and support engaging arts and cultural experiences in non traditional spaces such as parks and open spaces and the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct. • Encourage the recovery of the arts and creative industries and participation of the community, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes increased opportunities for Maroondah artists and creatives, and working with arts, community and creative industry stakeholders to further identify priorities for arts and cultural recovery.

Please see the full list of initiatives for the 2021-2023 period at the end of the Action Plan document

Case Study: Healthy Options



Council continues to implement the Victorian Government’s Healthy Choices framework (Healthy Options) in selected Council owned and operated facilities. Healthy Options aims to improve the availability and promotion of healthier foods and drinks in community settings, and sport and recreation centres.

In 2021, Maroondah Golf introduced a new Healthy Options menu range for drinks and food and will continue to improve the menu offering to ensure a range of options are provided.

For each facility implementing Healthy Options; the current food and drink options, sponsorships and fundraising available at leisure facilities are assessed, healthier options that fit under the Healthy Options policy are explored, current leasing agreements of Council leisure facilities are reviewed and consultation and engagement with employees at leisure facilities on the need for Healthy Choices is undertaken.

Over the next two years, Council will continue to work towards policies and associated implementation plans that enhance the range of healthy options offered within Council owned and operated facilities. This will include participation in the *Promoting CHANGE* partnership project with Deakin University and the inclusion of healthy options requirements as part of new lease agreements at Council’s leisure and aquatic facilities.



HART

HART

Barbara



Liveable neighbourhoods

Our vision: In 2031, Maroondah will be a network of liveable neighbourhoods with a range of opportunities to live, work and play locally.

Our priorities

We will work towards liveable neighbourhoods in Maroondah by prioritising:

- Social and Community Housing
- Affordable Housing
- 20-Minute Neighbourhoods
- Walkability and bike-friendly networks
- Transport networks
- Open spaces
- Continuous learning
- Employment pathways
- Climate change

Major initiatives during 2021-2023 period

Area of priority	Major initiatives
Social and Community Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work in partnership to address the urgent need for increased social housing and advocate for a more effective homelessness service system through the regional Local Government Homelessness and Social Housing Charter.
Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate to the Victorian and Australian Governments through the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance for increases in social and affordable housing supply, finance and housing subsidies. Implement the Greening the Greyfields project to facilitate a sustainable approach to urban redevelopment in identified residential precincts.
Living locally/ 20-Minute Neighbourhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a Maroondah shopping centre strategic review to plan and implement infrastructure and amenity improvements that align with Council's Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development and 20-Minute Neighbourhood principles for thriving and sustainable centres. Identify new localities for 20-Minute Neighbourhood planning and activations and develop a methodology for neighbourhood planning and enhancements across the municipality.
Walkability/ Bike-friendly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake active travel enhancement plans of local activity centres to identify priorities that will have the greatest place and movement impacts and continue to use this information to prioritise footpath construction in the Principle Pedestrian Network. Work in collaboration towards the implementation of the Eastern Regional Trails Strategy, including the Ringwood to Croydon shared user path.
Transport network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the removal of level crossings (Bedford Road, Dublin Road, Coolstore Road in Croydon) and upgrades to Croydon and Ringwood East railway stations. Design and construct activity centre carparks in Croydon, Ringwood and Heathmont; and at Heatherdale station.
Continuous learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to undertake municipal-level kindergarten planning including the rollout of funded three-year-old kindergarten. Work in partnership to deliver education seminars that build resilience and capacity, including financial support programs, waste education, parent support and mental health and wellbeing.
Open spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to implement the Reimagining Tarralla Creek project and seek external funding for future stages of the project. Advocate for major investment into restoring natural and cultural waterways and their surrounds to improve habitat corridor function and passive recreational access and use, including the Mullum Mullum Creek.
Employment pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to develop and implement the <i>Bayswater Business Precinct Transformation Strategy</i> and investigate and implement opportunities to enhance business capability, digital connection, skill development, employment and education pathways for the manufacturing sector. Continue to provide business support to established and emerging businesses as well as the opportunity to learn from industry leaders, including the annual BizWeek, to enhance local economic recovery and employment opportunities.

Area of priority	Major initiatives
Climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, update and implement Council's <i>Climate Change Risk and Adaptation Strategy</i>. • Implement a Maroondah Environmentally Sustainable Design Local Planning Policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme. • Continue membership within the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action and participate in the Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap review. • Continue to be a member of the Eastern Alliance of Sustainable Learning to boost education about sustainability, environment and indigenous culture in education settings and foster leadership and citizenship by children and young people.

Please see the full list of initiatives for the 2021-2023 period at the end of the Action Plan document

Case Study: 20-Minute Neighbourhood program



The 20-Minute Neighbourhood Pilot Program focuses on creating places where everything we need is within a 20-minute walk, bike ride or public transport journey. The initiative provides places for the local community to come together, connect to one another, and support local business. Over the last three years, Council has worked in partnership with the Victorian Government to test the implementation of a 20-Minute Neighbourhood in Croydon South and identify opportunities to improve liveability. Place activation is an integral aspect of 20-Minute Neighbourhoods with activities and transformations occurring in Croydon South. Activation in 2020/21 included vibrant pop-up spaces and activities at the Eastfield Shopping Centre in Croydon South, as well as revitalised public amenities, with increased activities, events, and opportunities for play.

Over the next two years, Council will complete a Maroondah shopping centre strategic review to plan and implement infrastructure and amenity improvements that align with Council's Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development and 20-Minute Neighbourhood principles for thriving and sustainable centres. Council will also identify new localities for 20-Minute Neighbourhood planning and activations and develop a methodology for neighbourhood planning and enhancements across the municipality.





Safe communities

Our vision: In 2031, Maroondah will be an accountable community where all people feel and are safe.

Our priorities

We will work towards safe communities in Maroondah by prioritising:

- Community safety
- Promoting gender equality and preventing violence
- Elder abuse
- Child protection
- Road safety
- Emergency management
- Digital safety

Major initiatives during 2021-2023 period

Area of priority	Major initiatives
Community safety/ perception of safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a review and update the general amenity Local Law Number 11 that addresses public safety. Continue to implement Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles which include enhanced lighting, improved infrastructure, responsive removal of graffiti, landscape modification and activating public spaces. Deliver the EV's Hangout drop-in program to provide a safe and inclusive space for young people to socialise, connect with youth workers and access support services throughout the year. Work in partnership with peak sporting bodies, recreation facilities, allied health and sporting clubs to deliver positive cultural change initiatives including the VicHealth Raise the Bar Project.
Promoting gender equality and preventing family and gender-based violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the implementation of the <i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i>, including Council's Gender Equality Plan. Work with partners of Together for Equality and Respect (TFER): A Strategy to Prevent Violence Against Women in Melbourne East to develop and implement primary prevention initiatives that address gender-based violence and promote gender equality. Develop methodology to conduct Gender Impact Assessments on policies, programs and services, and build the capacity of employees to undertake assessments.
Elder abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to deliver a range of programs and initiatives that aim to promote community awareness about elder abuse.
Child protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of Council's commitment to the Victorian Child Safe Standards, ensure there is a clear process in place to meet all legislative requirements.
Road safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to coordinate road safety initiatives with community houses through the RoadSafe Eastern Metro Network.
Emergency management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence a review of Maroondah's emergency management planning arrangements and explore the development of resilience-based practices to enhance community cohesion and emergency preparedness. Continue partnerships with Red Cross, Victoria Police and other emergency services to implement local processes for identification of, emergency planning with, and potential referral of vulnerable people not receiving services. Work in partnership with local emergency service organisations and agencies to ensure Maroondah's municipal emergency response, relief and recovery plans can be activated in the event of an emergency, including ongoing community engagement to ensure services continue to meet community needs.
Digital safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to deliver Porn is not the Norm project which supports young people with autism, their families, carers and professionals to understand the intersection between pornography and autism.

Please see the full list of initiatives for the 2021-2023 period at the end of the Action Plan document

Case Study: Together for Equality and Respect: A Strategy to Prevent Violence Against Women in Melbourne’s East



Council is a member of Together for Equality and Respect (TFER) which provides a platform for organisations in the Eastern Metropolitan Region (EMR) to prioritise and work together on the primary prevention of men’s violence against women.

TFER provides sustained opportunities to build intersectional practice, collaborate, share skills, knowledge and resources, avoid duplication and strengthen the capacity of the EMR to enable gender equality and equal and respectful relationships between women and men.

Since 2012, the TFER Partnership and Strategy have strengthened the Region’s ability to prevent violence against women, by supporting a shared vision and aligned mutually reinforcing initiatives over time.

Over the next two years, Council will continue to work with TFER partners toward the vision of ‘A society where women live free from men’s violence – where every girl and boy grows up to be equally valued, heard and respected, and with equal access to opportunities’.

#16daysofactivism







Social inclusion

Our vision: In 2031, Maroondah will be an inclusive, accessible and equitable community where all people can participate, feel connected and experience a sense of belonging.

Our priorities

We will work towards social inclusion in Maroondah by prioritising:

- Accessibility
- Equity
- Community participation
- Sense of belonging
- Community infrastructure
- Vulnerable communities
- Homelessness
- Volunteering
- Digital inclusion

Major initiatives during 2021-2023 period

Area of priority	Major initiatives
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to incorporate universal design principles into infrastructure planning, upgrades and maintenance to promote mobility and accessibility. Continue to provide the MaroondahConnect helpline to actively assist people to connect to practical and psychosocial supports and services relevant to their individual needs.
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to require that Community Sports Infrastructure Fund applications include a gender self-assessment tool and action plan.
Community participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop inclusive intergenerational activities, exhibitions and creative projects, spaces and events to enhance wellbeing through engagement in meaningful social inclusion opportunities, including GenConnect, Intergenerational Story Telling and Pickleball. Undertake a review of Council's Community Engagement Toolkit to continue to inform and engage the effective practice in seeking community input in Council activities.
Sense of belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to explore opportunities to connect residents within local neighbourhoods including Let's Get Neighbourly, Maroondah and Know Your Neighbour initiatives.
Community infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership with a broad range of service providers and agencies, to develop and deliver services and cultural experiences in the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct. Implement place activation; including installations, events, parklets and pop-up parks, to improve amenity and commercial viability, add vitality and create local places for people to be, enjoy and connect.
Vulnerable communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support community relief agencies through the Maroondah Emergency Relief Network and undertake initiatives to meet the needs of vulnerable community members, including in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
Volunteering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to support community-based organisations to build their capacity to recover and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the re-engagement and development of volunteers, rebuilding membership and supporting good governance and developing volunteers. Work in partnership to facilitate volunteerism and create and promote meaningful and accessible volunteer opportunities, including supporting services provided by Eastern Volunteers.
Digital inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure Council's communication channels share reputable sources of information. Expand online learning opportunities for older residents to encourage confident participation in digital social technology.
Homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the Protocol for Assisting People Sleeping Rough in Public Places, ensuring a human rights focus.

Please see the full list of initiatives for the 2021-2023 period at the end of the Action Plan document

Case Study: Intergenerational activities



Council continues to develop and deliver activities and events aimed to enhance wellbeing through meaningful social inclusion opportunities. Initiatives such as GenConnect and Walking Sports offer free or low-cost opportunities for older residents to participate in physical and social activities.

Maroondah's walking sports program has been developed to cater to changing abilities as people get older. Walking netball, walking cricket, walking football and pickleball are low impact physical activities which are important for improving mental health, maintaining muscle mass and flexibility and are ways to make new social connections. The age of Maroondah's pickleball participants has ranged from seven to 77 years old. GenConnect is an intergenerational program that connects Maroondah senior residents and preschool children through interactive activities. Intergenerational programs have many positive benefits including an improved sense of belonging, wellbeing, connection, self-esteem and independence.

Over the next two years, Council will continue to offer inclusive intergenerational activities, spaces and events to enhance wellbeing through engagement in meaningful social inclusion opportunities.





Embracing diversity

Our vision: In 2031, Maroondah will be a harmonious community that celebrates and embraces diversity where all people are respected and valued.

Our priorities

We will work towards embracing diversity in Maroondah in Maroondah by prioritising:

- Intersectionality
- Disability
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities
- Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander peoples
- LGBTIQA+ communities
- Gender identity
- Needs of different age groups

Major initiatives during 2021-2023 period

Area of priority	Major initiatives
Intersectionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to support and promote a range of awareness events that reflect the intersectional needs, diversity and priorities of our community, involving input from people with lived experiences, allies and local champions.
Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to develop initiatives that improve community inclusion and participation for people with a disability and their carers to help address social isolation. Develop and implement the <i>Disability Action Plan 2021-2025</i>.
Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership with culturally and linguistically diverse key stakeholders to identify, develop and deliver targeted culturally appropriate initiatives that address specific needs and builds a sense of belonging, inclusion and connection. Work in partnership with agencies and community leaders to support COVID-19 translation services for CALD groups, understand local challenges and ensure distribution of key information to local communities.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate and recognise Indigenous culture through a diverse range of cultural activities and arts expressions through events such as Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week and services for children and young people. Develop and implement a new Maroondah Reconciliation Plan.
LGBTIQA+ communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commemorate IDAHOBIT Day (International Day Against Homophobia, Biophobia, Interphobia and Transphobia), which both celebrates the LGBTIQA+ people around the world and acknowledges the work that still needs to be done to ensure true inclusion and acceptance within the community.
Gender identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop LGBTIQA+ inclusive education opportunities for parents and carers engaged with Maroondah's Maternal and Child Health service around challenging gender stereotypes and talking to children about gender and rainbow families.
Needs of different age groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide universal access to safe, high quality and inclusive Maternal and Child Health services for all Maroondah children from birth to school age, to support parent and carer capacity to nurture and achieve optimal health, development and wellbeing. Develop an implementation plan to establish Maroondah as a Child Friendly City and Community, where the voices, needs, priorities and rights of children and young people are an integral part of public policies, programs and decisions. Continue to deliver the Maroondah Youth Wellbeing Advocates program to promote genuine engagement between Council and Maroondah's young people on matters that affect them and their communities, with a focus on youth wellbeing. Deliver the Junior and Senior SWAT (Student Wellbeing Action Teams) programs to upskill and empower young people to be able to create meaningful change and increase the wellbeing of other young people in Maroondah. Deliver initiatives to support social connection, mental health and wellbeing as well as physical health, for older community members. Facilitate programs to provide opportunities for new skills development, reablement or capacity building of seniors to maximise safe independence at home and in their community. Explore a collaborative all-ages Ageism program to address negative stereotyping and showcase 'any age' messages.

Please see the full list of initiatives for the 2021-2023 period at the end of the Action Plan document

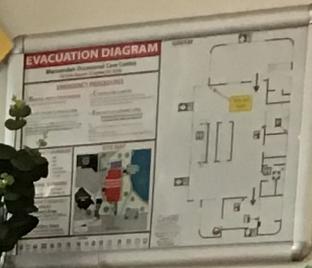
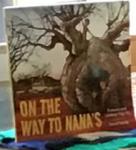
Case study: Junior and Senior SWAT (Student Wellbeing Action Teams) Programs



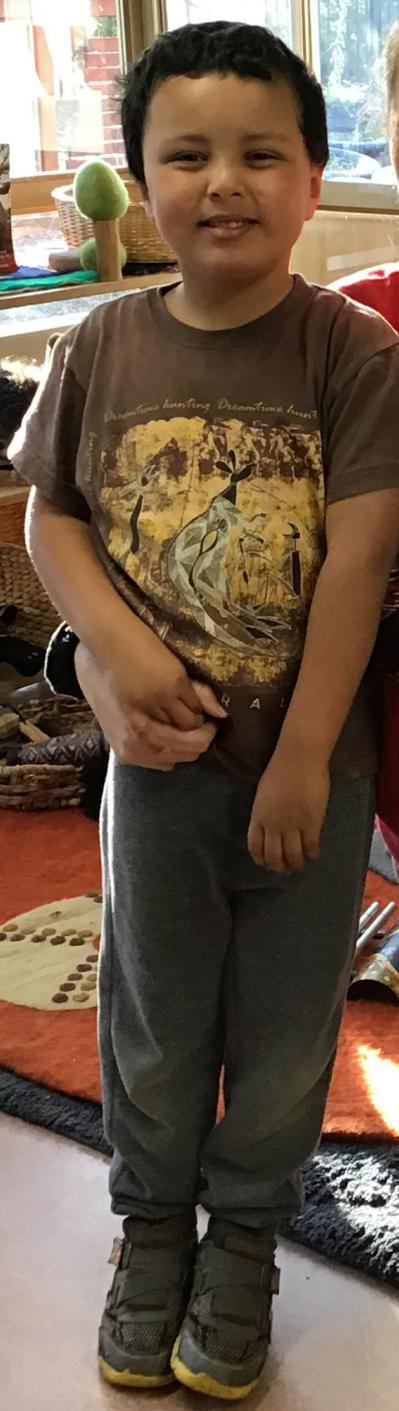
Student Wellbeing Action Teams (SWAT) programs are supported by the Victorian Government and are an immersive experience for young people who want to improve their leadership skills. The SWAT program aims to provide young people with the skills, confidence and self-awareness to empower them to identify their strengths and create positive change. SWAT also assists students to uncover and develop new skills to increase wellbeing in their schools. The Senior SWAT program is available to Year 10 students and the Junior SWAT program is open to grade 5 students.

In 2021, 13 primary schools across Maroondah participated in Junior SWAT and six secondary schools in Senior SWAT. Positive outcomes from the program include participants reporting overall increased wellbeing awareness and knowledge as well as the development of wellbeing projects to address mental/physical health and wellbeing concerns in schools.

Over the next two years, Council will continue to deliver the Junior and Senior SWAT programs to upskill and empower young people to be able to create meaningful change and increase the wellbeing of other young people in Maroondah.



EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS





Social harms

Our vision: In 2031, Maroondah will be a socially responsible community that inspires positive choices and reduces impacts from harmful social behaviours.

Our priorities

We will work towards addressing social harms in Maroondah by prioritising:

- Gambling
- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Illicit drugs
- Excessive screen use

Major initiatives during 2021-2023 period

Area of priority	Major initiatives
Gambling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work in partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform to advocate for minimising harm from gambling.
Alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership to support primary prevention initiatives that address alcohol related harm.
Tobacco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider an expansion of smoke-free areas during the review of Local Law Number 11.
Illicit drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support organisations to provide outreach services or facilitate research, or education opportunities that works towards minimising illicit drug related harm in the local community.
Excessive screen use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a range of high quality, innovative education programs and sessions that meet local community need, including technology use.

Please see the full list of initiatives for the 2021-2023 period at the end of the Action Plan document

Case Study: Partnerships to minimise alcohol-related harm



Council continues to work in partnership with diverse stakeholders to minimise alcohol-related harm in the community through joint advocacy, education and promoting safer alcohol cultures and environments. Council is actively involved in a range of initiatives aimed at preventing harm from alcohol including through collaborative approaches to Liquor Licensing with Victoria Police, Maroondah Liquor Accord and responsible service of alcohol training to members of Maroondah sporting clubs.

Over the next two years, Council will continue to strengthen partnerships and undertake initiatives to support primary prevention initiatives that address alcohol related harm. Council will continue to provide responses to liquor licence applications to ensure appropriate density and ensure that during the review of Local Law Number 11, liquor consumption in public places is updated to reflect current community expectations.

Key Directions and proposed actions



Healthy Lifestyles

Physical health and activity

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 1.1	
Work in partnership to promote physical health, through the delivery of accessible initiatives, programs and services.	
1.1.1 Review and redevelop the Maroondah Sport Demand Analysis 2022 and develop an Indoor Sporting Facilities Strategy.	•
1.1.2 Work with sporting clubs and schools to offer and promote entry pathways, non-competitive opportunities to participants of all ages.	•
1.1.3 Coordinate a series of physical activity events such as Maroondah NightRun, Run Maroondah and Tri Maroondah.	
1.1.4 Facilitate ongoing development and increased community use of the Maroondah Leisure app to encourage members and the broader community to keep active from home, particularly during COVID-19 restrictions.	
1.1.5 Undertake a review of Maroondah's Leisure membership structure and implementation of new membership opportunities.	
1.1.6 Seek funding opportunities to implement the recommendations from the Aquahub Gymnastics Feasibility Study.	
Key Direction 1.2	
Provide and enhance accessible active and passive open spaces, active travel infrastructure, sporting precincts and integrated recreation facilities, to increase opportunities for and participation in physical activity.	
1.2.1 Design and construct sporting infrastructure upgrades at Jubilee, Proclamation, Cheong and Ainslie Parks, and at Dorset Recreation and JW Manson Reserves.	•
1.2.2 Develop a Maroondah Play Strategy and Action Plan.	•
1.2.3 Review Council's Physical Activity Strategy.	•
1.2.4 Design and construct a dog park in Ringwood North.	•
1.2.5 Continue to develop an Extreme Sports on Council Land Strategy to provide Council direction around extreme sports usage on Council land.	
1.2.6 Design and implement playspace renewal in local parks including McAlpin and Yarrunga reserves.	
1.2.7 Implement Council's annual sportsfield improvement program, including Town Park.	
1.2.8 Seek funding to improve sportsfield lighting at sites such as East Ringwood Reserve and Jubilee Park (soccer and oval 1) to improve safety for players, cater for increased demand and night matches.	

Physical health and activity

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 1.3	
Work in partnership to provide safe, inclusive and accessible environments and opportunities for all community members to undertake physical activity.	
1.3.1 Provide and/or promote opportunities for community members to re-engage into sport and informal recreation and physical health activities, following the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as provide support and guidance for Sporting Clubs and Associations to facilitate Return to Sport in a COVID-Safe manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
1.3.2 Encourage female participation in physical activity by implementing actions from the Equally Active Strategy.	
1.3.3 Work in partnership to encourage the active participation of Maroondah's senior residents, including supporting the promotion, availability and uptake of Physical Activity Come and Try Day, Walking Sports, sporting clubs and leisure facilities, activity expo of local groups as well as the CALD Seniors Activity Program.	
1.3.4 Provide a range of accessible services and activities that develop the physical health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families, in Maroondah.	
1.3.5 Deliver inclusive and accessible health and fitness programs, products and services including personal training, small group training, active adults, teen gym, group fitness and exercise prescription.	
1.3.6 Develop a Maroondah Public Toilet Strategy and Action Plan.	
1.3.7 Explore funding opportunities to provide support for vulnerable people to access leisure facilities.	

Gendered health outcomes

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 1.4	
Work in partnership to provide services and initiatives that support gendered health outcomes including known health risks, heart disease, cancer, physical activity, maternal health, parenting, healthy masculinities, reducing stigma and supporting those experiencing vulnerability.	
1.4.1 Work in partnership to implement the Sons of the West Program to promote men's mental and physical health, social inclusion and healthy masculinities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
1.4.2 Work in partnership to support the mental and physical wellbeing of women through targeted programs and initiatives, including Women on the Go, International Women's Day.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
1.4.3 Work in partnership to continue to support, educate and engage fathers with maternal and child health services by encouraging and supporting fathers to attend appointments, new parent groups, sleep and settling programs, as well as providing material and education specific to fathers.	
1.4.4 Work in partnership to improve maternal and infant mental health outcomes.	

Mental health and wellbeing

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 1.5</p> <p>Work in partnership to promote awareness of mental health, build the capacity of the community to navigate mental health challenges, and advocate for and support at-risk community members to access services.</p>	
<p>1.5.1 Lead and deliver collaborative mental health initiatives such as Mental Health First Aid training, mental health awareness and coping skills workshops and the Maroondah Hoarding and Squalor Partnership, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to equip the community to prepare for mental health challenges associated with future emergencies and disruptions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.5.2 Work in partnership with key stakeholders to explore and respond to the findings of the Royal Commission into Mental Health at a local level.</p>	
<p>1.5.3 Facilitate the Maroondah Community Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee to provide advice and input to Council on a range of issues and projects.</p>	
<p>1.5.4 Support the mental health of vulnerable communities through targeted initiatives and training sessions.</p>	
<p>Key Direction 1.6</p> <p>Work in partnership to promote awareness of mental wellbeing and using prevention and strength-based approaches to build the resilience of the community and enhance their wellbeing.</p>	
<p>1.6.1 Implement a series of mental wellbeing promotion activities for the Maroondah community, including the Be Kind Maroondah program to facilitate community connections, reduce isolation, enhance mental wellbeing and connect with vulnerable residents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.6.2 Partner with Communities of Wellbeing Inc to identify and progress positive psychology initiatives including building resilience, wellbeing literacy and community leadership capacity in Maroondah.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.6.3 Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to deliver the Maroondah Positive Education Network, which aims to raise student, staff and community wellbeing, engagement and achievement.</p>	

Public health

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 1.7</p> <p>Work in partnership to implement a preventative approach to addressing current and emerging public health issues, including communicable diseases and drug-resistant infections, and chronic diseases.</p>	
<p>1.7.1 Provide a public immunisation program that offers all vaccines covered on the National and Victorian Immunisation Programs including Maroondah's enhanced Immunisation Program for hard to reach/vulnerable community members, and support the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in partnership with EACH and Eastern Health.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.7.2 Continue to provide information to the community and businesses to ensure COVID safe measures are understood. Provide information that is accessible, repeated, includes translations and is provided in different formats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.7.3 Support community and business through educational programs about communicable diseases, including Food Safety training, one on one discussions, newsletters and customer access to information through the Maroondah website and social media channels.</p>	
<p>1.7.4 Consider how climate change will affect environmental health teams and services (including the delivery of disease surveillance and investigation, regulatory and emergency management functions).</p>	
<p>1.7.5 Continue to prevent the transmission of communicable disease through the provision of a free sharps disposal service.</p>	
<p>Key Direction 1.8</p> <p>Work in partnership to advocate for and support the community to minimise the health impacts of climate change, with a focus on vulnerable groups.</p>	
<p>1.8.1 Work in partnership with the Eastern Alliance Greenhouse Action to continue participation in the Solar Savers Project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.8.2 Continue to partner with local emergency services and agencies to raise community awareness of climate change impacts on health.</p>	

Healthy eating

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 1.9</p> <p>Provide leadership in healthy eating through the promotion of healthier food and drink options for Council facilities, events, spaces and places.</p>	
<p>1.9.1 Work in partnership to work towards policies and implementation plans that enhance the range of healthy options offered within Council owned and operated facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Healthy eating

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 1.10</p> <p>Work in partnership to promote healthy eating through community education, initiatives and service delivery.</p>	
<p>1.10.1 Continue to offer healthy eating modules to help teach residents important yet simple, practical ways on how to improve wellbeing and independence through better nutrition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.10.2 Work in partnership to deliver seminars that illustrate the relationship between nutrition and mental wellbeing.</p>	
<p>1.10.3 Continue to work in partnership to deliver nutritionally sound meals to the community, including residents who receive Commonwealth Home Support and vulnerable communities.</p>	
<p>Key Direction 1.11</p> <p>Encourage and promote sustainably grown local produce, enhanced food security and facilitate social inclusion.</p>	
<p>1.11.1 Deliver the Glen Park Oaks Community Garden Volunteer Program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.11.2 Provide support to community gardens located on Council land across Maroondah.</p>	

Connection to nature

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 1.12</p> <p>Enhance Maroondah’s canopy vegetation, habitat corridors, parklands, bushlands and waterways to promote mental wellbeing, facilitate physical activity, encourage social connection and build community connection to the natural environment.</p>	
<p>1.12.1 Develop and strengthen a community culture of caring for the natural environment through the promotion of activities that connect people and nature such as providing guided bushland walks, tree planting initiatives and supporting bushland volunteers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.12.2 Promote the value of nature play and key local places suitable for fostering nature play.</p>	
<p>1.12.3 Work in partnership to maintain bushland reserves including native planting, investigating tree decline, as well as conducting works to maintain and promote biodiversity.</p>	
<p>1.12.4 Seek funding to participate in citizen science activities such as the City Nature Challenge and Great Southern Bioblitz.</p>	
<p>1.12.5 Explore opportunities for new lighting installations in reserves which are sensitive to the surrounding natural environment.</p>	
<p>1.12.6 Identify key locations for providing additional liveability benefits from vegetation, especially in areas of heat vulnerability, health precincts, schools, nature play spaces, local flooding, key walk/ride routes and other locations where people congregate, and prioritise these locations for new street tree, car park and open space plantings.</p>	

Cultural participation

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 1.13</p> <p>Work in partnership to curate arts and cultural activities, installations and activations to promote health and wellbeing and encourage social connection.</p>	
<p>1.13.1 Present and support engaging arts and cultural experiences in non traditional spaces such as parks and open spaces and the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.13.2 Encourage the recovery of the arts and creative industries and participation of the community, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes increased opportunities for Maroondah artists and creatives, and working with arts, community and creative industry stakeholders to further identify priorities for arts and cultural recovery.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>1.13.3 Offer low-cost and accessible participatory arts and cultural experiential opportunities, supporting enhanced mental and physical health and wellbeing, as well as surprising, challenging and high-quality contemporary arts opportunities to engage community members of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.</p>	
<p>1.13.4 Continue to support those who are experiencing isolation or anxiety to re-engage and share their experiences through creative expression including writing, storytelling, songwriting, visual and performing arts.</p>	
<p>1.13.5 Develop and extend the arts trail strategy including the Maroondah Art Trail and the Ringwood Urban Art Tour, and introduce a Croydon public art and heritage trail to promote local artists and showcase the unique character of areas within Maroondah, their communities and heritage.</p>	
<p>1.13.6 Further develop existing key exhibition, performance and arts programs at Wyreena Community Arts Centre, Karralyka Centre, Maroondah Federation Estate and Realm.</p>	



Liveable Neighbourhoods

Social and Community Housing

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 2.1	
Work in partnership to increase investment in accessible, high-quality, safe and well-located social and community housing.	
2.1.1 Continue to work in partnership to address the urgent need for increased social housing and advocate for a more effective homelessness service system through the regional Local Government Homelessness and Social Housing Charter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2.1.2 Work in partnership to support and facilitate modern, affordable and safe housing in Maroondah as part of the planning permit process, including housing as part of the Victorian Government Big Housing Build program.	
2.1.3 Support Abbeyfield Australia to provide safe, secure, assisted independent living for adults aged 55 plus in Maroondah.	

Affordable Housing

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 2.2	
Advocate and promote a diverse range of high-quality, innovative and affordable housing options to meet the needs of all income levels and life-stage requirements.	
2.2.1 Advocate to the Victorian and Australian Governments through the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance for increases in social and affordable housing supply, finance and housing subsidies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2.2.2 Implement the Greening the Greyfields project to facilitate a sustainable approach to urban redevelopment in identified residential precincts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2.2.3 Undertake a review of the Housing Strategy and develop a Residential Development Framework.	

Living locally/20-Minute Neighbourhoods

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 2.3 Facilitate an integrated network of thriving local neighbourhoods across Maroondah that facilitate a sense of belonging, healthy lifestyles, that also enable access to key services and amenities; and education and employment opportunities; and places of connection.	
2.3.1 Complete a Maroondah shopping centre strategic review to plan and implement infrastructure and amenity improvements that align with Council's Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development and 20-Minute Neighbourhood principles for thriving and sustainable centres.	•
2.3.2 Identify new localities for 20-Minute Neighbourhood planning and activations and develop a methodology for neighbourhood planning and enhancements across the municipality.	•
2.3.3 Deliver place activation and capital improvement to neighbourhood activity centres aligned with the 20-Minute Neighbourhood principles.	
2.3.4 Develop a new Croydon Structure Plan and prepare a planning scheme amendment to incorporate the policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme.	
2.3.5 Undertake a review of the Maroondah Planning Scheme, including the Local Planning Policy Framework.	
2.3.6 Facilitate the Maroondah Heritage Reference Group with a view to implement the Heritage Action Plan.	

Walkability/Bike-friendly

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 2.4 Work in partnership to facilitate local neighbourhood networks that are walkable and bike-friendly, and promote active travel of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.	
2.4.1 Undertake active travel enhancement plans of local activity centres to identify priorities that will have the greatest place and movement impacts and continue to use this information to prioritise footpath construction in the Principle Pedestrian Network.	•
2.4.2 Work in collaboration towards the implementation of the Eastern Regional Trails Strategy, including the Ringwood to Croydon shared user path.	•
2.4.3 Work in partnership to undertake renewal works on the Mullum Mullum Creek shared trail.	
2.4.4 Collaborate with schools to offer an active travel program and deliver initiatives that educate and encourage school communities to be confident to undertake more trips to school by public and active transport.	
2.4.5 Continue to construct and improve walking and cycling connections that connect community facilities such as schools, shops, parks and transport hubs.	
2.4.6 Develop a Transport Action Plan that collates existing transport actions for the next four years and undertake annual implementation reviews.	

Transport network

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 2.5</p>	
<p>Advocate and work in partnership to enable an integrated network of safe, accessible and efficient transport options, including public transport, that meet the needs of people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.</p>	
<p>2.5.1 Support the removal of level crossings (Bedford Road, Dublin Road, Coolstore Road in Croydon) and upgrades to Croydon and Ringwood East railway stations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>2.5.2 Design and construct activity centre carparks in Croydon, Ringwood and Heathmont; and at Heatherdale station.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>2.5.3 Participate in the Eastern Transport Coalition to ensure Maroondah’s priority public transport projects are included in the advocacy campaigns for public transport network enhancements for Melbourne’s East.</p>	
<p>2.5.4 With consideration to Maroondah’s Parking Framework, consolidate Maroondah’s multiple parking permit policies and processes into a single Council parking permit policy.</p>	
<p>2.5.5 Continue to advocate to the Australian and Victorian Governments for provision of new and upgraded transportation infrastructure in Maroondah, including public transport enhancements, accessibility and safety improvements.</p>	

Continuous learning

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 2.6</p>	
<p>Plan, advocate and facilitate improved access and opportunities for continuous learning for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.</p>	
<p>2.6.1 Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to undertake municipal-level kindergarten planning including the rollout of funded three-year-old kindergarten.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>2.6.2 Work in partnership to deliver education seminars that build resilience and capacity, including financial support programs, waste education, parent support and mental health and wellbeing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>2.6.3 Work with key stakeholders to explore and implement strategies to improve outcomes during key life stage transitions, including from kindergarten to primary school, primary school to secondary school, education to workforce and workforce to retirement.</p>	
<p>2.6.4 Provide support to Maroondah’s community houses and collaborate on lifelong learning initiatives.</p>	
<p>2.6.5 Provide high quality and inclusive early childhood education and care services that address the identified needs of the Maroondah community in an affordable and flexible way.</p>	
<p>2.6.6 Encourage opportunities amongst senior residents for lifelong learning including understanding and using technology.</p>	
<p>2.6.7 Work in partnership to enhance the capacity of the Eastern Metropolitan Region aged care sector to deliver high quality services to senior residents.</p>	

Open spaces

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 2.7	
Promote and enhance Maroondah’s active and passive open spaces to provide opportunities for connection, exercise, play and enjoyment for all people.	
2.7.1 Work in partnership to implement the Reimagining Tarralla Creek project and seek external funding for future stages of the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2.7.2 Advocate for major investment into restoring the condition of natural and cultural waterways and their surrounds to improve habitat corridor function and passive recreational access and use, including the Mullum Mullum Creek.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2.7.3 Develop the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre (RMAC) Open Space Strategy.	
2.7.4 Identify the top 10 walk/ride routes most needing addition of vegetation (mainly shade trees and adding nature interest) and aligning priorities with street tree planting program.	

Employment pathways

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 2.8	
Work in partnership to facilitate local employment pathways with a focus on young people, people with a disability, along with people experiencing mid-career transition and seeking to re-enter the workforce.	
2.8.1 Work in partnership to develop and implement the <i>Bayswater Business Precinct Transformation Strategy</i> and investigate and implement opportunities to enhance business capability, digital connection, skill development, employment and education pathways for the manufacturing sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2.8.2 Continue to provide business support to established and emerging businesses as well as the opportunity to learn from industry leaders, including the annual BizWeek, to enhance local economic recovery and employment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2.8.3 Partner with key stakeholders to help connect young people and their families to reliable information and opportunities around education, training, career planning and employment, and help them to be ‘work ready’ - with a particular focus on young people that are facing barriers to employment.	
2.8.4 Continue to develop partnerships with a focus on strengthening local business and job creation, including partnerships with education providers and business to enhance local employment pathways.	
2.8.5 Identify and explore opportunities that support diverse employment for people with disabilities between the business sector and community organisations.	
2.8.6 Encourage local businesses to consider volunteer positions/work placement for people with disabilities to create a learning employment pathway.	
2.8.7 Facilitate co-working opportunities and spaces in Maroondah to enable collaboration, local innovation, flexible working and work locations close to home.	

Climate change

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 2.9	
Foster liveable places and spaces for our community that are capable of adapting to climate change and responding to current and future risks.	
2.9.1 Review, update and implement Council's <i>Climate Change Risk and Adaptation Strategy</i> .	•
2.9.2 Implement a Maroondah Environmentally Sustainable Design Local Planning Policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme.	•
2.9.3 Continue to use the Built Environment Sustainability Scorecard (BESS) to improve sustainability outcomes in future residential development.	
2.9.4 Review, update and implement Council's Sustainability Strategy.	
2.9.5 Review, update and implement Council's Water Sensitive Cities Strategy.	
2.9.6 Research appropriate tree and vegetation species mixes for Maroondah that can provide the desired biodiversity and liveability services tailored to different locations and are suited for the predicted future climate.	
2.9.7 Prepare and implement a Maroondah Habitat Connectivity Action Plan.	
Key Direction 2.10	
Work in partnership to reduce Maroondah's greenhouse gas emissions and foster a culture of sustainable living within the community.	
2.10.1 Continue membership within the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action and participate in the Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap review.	•
2.10.2 Continue to be a member of the Eastern Alliance of Sustainable Learning to boost education about sustainability, environment and indigenous culture in education settings and foster leadership and citizenship by children and young people.	•
2.10.3 Develop and implement Council's <i>Waste, Litter and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-2030</i>	
2.10.4 Review, update and implement Council's Carbon Neutral Strategy.	
2.10.5 Continue to rollout the installation of energy efficient street lights across Maroondah.	
2.10.6 Promote opportunities to assist Maroondah businesses to switch to renewable energy sources through programs such as group power purchasing agreements and solar PV installation, as well as implementing energy, water and waste efficiency programs.	
2.10.7 Continue to transition to renewable energy for Council-owned infrastructure through The Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO) project.	





Safe Communities

Community safety/perception of safety

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 3.1</p>	
<p>Work in partnership to promote community safety and implement initiatives and practices aimed at improving the actual and perceived safety of the community.</p>	
<p>3.1.1 Undertake a review and update the general amenity Local Law Number 11 that addresses public safety.</p>	<p>•</p>
<p>3.1.2 Facilitate the Maroondah Liveability Safety and Amenity Advisory Committee and Croydon Partners in Safety Committee to provide advice and input to Council on a range of issues and projects.</p>	
<p>3.1.3 Work in partnership to implement women’s safety walks to inform planning for land use structure plans and enhancements to Council’s public spaces.</p>	
<p>3.1.4 Continue to partner with Victoria Police and other agencies on crime prevention initiatives and responses to community safety issues across the municipality.</p>	
<p>Key Direction 3.2</p>	
<p>Plan and advocate for the application of crime prevention and community safety principles that facilitate safe places and spaces.</p>	
<p>3.2.1 Continue to implement Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles which include enhanced lighting, improved infrastructure, responsive removal of graffiti, landscape modification and activating public spaces.</p>	<p>•</p>
<p>3.2.2 Continue the installation of additional street lighting in accordance with the Public Lighting Policy to improve lighting in local streets.</p>	
<p>Key Direction 3.3</p>	
<p>Promote and facilitate safer cultures, spaces and settings relating to issues of gambling, alcohol and other drugs.</p>	
<p>3.3.1 Deliver the EV’s Hangout drop-in program to provide a safe and inclusive space for young people to socialise, connect with youth workers and access support services throughout the year.</p>	<p>•</p>
<p>3.3.2 Work in partnership with peak sporting bodies, recreation facilities, allied health and sporting clubs to deliver positive cultural change initiatives including the VicHealth Raise the Bar Project.</p>	<p>•</p>
<p>3.3.3 Identify funding opportunities to deliver a neighbourhood development pilot program in the Ringwood MAC to promote community safety, social inclusion and sense of community.</p>	
<p>3.3.4 Offer support opportunities for residents affected by hoarding behaviours and are motivated to implement change.</p>	

Promoting gender equality and preventing family and gender-based violence

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 3.4	
Work in partnership to promote gender equality and inclusion in Maroondah to facilitate fairness of opportunity, safe environments and respectful relationships that reduce all forms of family and gender-based violence and discrimination.	
3.4.1 Support the implementation of the <i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i> , including Council's Gender Equality Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
3.4.2 Work with partners of Together for Equality and Respect (TFER): A Strategy to Prevent Violence Against Women in Melbourne East to develop and implement primary prevention initiatives that address gender-based violence and promote gender equality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
3.4.3 Develop methodology to conduct Gender Impact Assessments on policies, programs and services, and build the capacity of employees to undertake assessments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
3.4.4 In partnership with Eastern Community Legal Centre and partners, provide opportunities for early intervention for people with children experiencing family violence.	
3.4.5 Share information about how to identify abusive relationships and access help, particularly during isolation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	
3.4.6 Work in partnership to support the successful implementation of Orange Door to Croydon, which will provide families across Maroondah, Knox and Yarra Ranges with centralised access to family violence and child wellbeing support services.	
3.4.7 Work in partnership with key stakeholders to explore and respond to the findings of the Royal Commission into Family Violence at a local level.	

Elder abuse

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 3.5	
Advocate and support initiatives for the prevention of all forms of elder abuse.	
3.5.1 Work in partnership to deliver a range of programs and initiatives that aim to promote community awareness about elder abuse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
3.5.2 Continue to ensure Council staff are trained in recognising signs of elder abuse and can respond appropriately.	

Child protection

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 3.6</p> <p>Promote a culture of child safety that is prevention focussed and proactive, encourages the empowerment of children and young people, and supports all people in the community to safely disclose risks of harm to children and young people, and to respond effectively to allegations of child abuse.</p>	
<p>3.6.1 As part of Council's commitment to the Victorian Child Safe Standards, ensure there is a clear process in place to meet all legislative requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>3.6.2 Work in partnership to provide the 'body safety education for parents and carers' seminar to parents.</p>	

Road safety

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 3.7</p> <p>Work in partnership to advocate for road safety infrastructure and promote road safety through education and training.</p>	
<p>3.7.1 Work in partnership to coordinate road safety initiatives with community houses through the RoadSafe Eastern Metro Network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Emergency management

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 3.8</p> <p>Work in partnership to utilise existing community resources and strengths to build resilience and preparedness and reduce vulnerability.</p>	
<p>3.8.1 Commence a review of Maroondah's emergency management planning arrangements and explore the development of resilience-based practices to enhance community cohesion and emergency preparedness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>3.8.2 Continue partnerships with Red Cross, Victoria Police and other emergency services to implement local processes for identification of, emergency planning with, and potential referral of vulnerable people not receiving services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>3.8.3 Continue to participate in the Local Government Victoria Councils and Emergencies Capability and Capacity Project that aims to build safe, more resilient communities.</p>	
<p>3.8.4 Identify and advocate for external funding to undertake research to better equip Council with the knowledge and tools to build disaster resilience.</p>	
<p>3.8.5 Continue to maintain membership with the Eastern Metropolitan Councils Emergency Management Partnership to work together to meet the emergency management needs of the community.</p>	

Emergency management

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 3.9</p> <p>Provide leadership in community-centred response, relief, recovery and regeneration arising from disruptions and emergencies, including those resulting from climate change.</p>	
3.9.1 Work in partnership with local emergency service organisations and agencies to ensure Maroondah's municipal emergency response, relief and recovery plans can be activated in the event of an emergency, including ongoing community engagement to ensure services continue to meet community needs.	•
3.9.2 Continue to advocate on behalf of the local community and service sector on emergency relief needs to regional coordination bodies and other levels of government, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.	
3.9.3 Provide enhanced support to community relief agencies through the Maroondah Emergency Relief Network in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and explore opportunities to improve future relief and recovery efforts.	
3.9.4 Continue to undertake continuous learning and after-action debriefs to inform our responses to be better prepared for the future.	
3.9.5 Ensure Council incorporates best practice approaches to community-centred relief and recovery planning.	

Digital safety

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 3.10</p> <p>Work in partnership to raise awareness of digital safety to minimise harm and promote safe online behaviours and interactions.</p>	
3.10.1 Work in partnership to deliver Porn is not the Norm project which supports young people with autism, their families, carers and professionals to understand the intersection between pornography and autism.	•
3.10.2 Work in partnership to deliver community education sessions for women to increase their online safety and privacy.	
3.10.3 Investigate partnership opportunities to provide digital safety education and raise awareness of cyber security scams.	



Social Inclusion

Accessibility

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 4.1	
Promote, provide and improve community infrastructure, services and events that are accessible for all people.	
4.1.1 Continue to incorporate universal design principles into infrastructure planning, upgrades and maintenance to promote mobility and accessibility.	•
4.1.2 Continue to provide the MaroondahConnect helpline to actively assist people to connect to practical and psychosocial supports and services relevant to their individual needs.	•
4.1.3 Facilitate the Maroondah Access Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee to provide advice and input to Council on a range of issues and projects.	
4.1.4 Review the inclusivity and accessibility of Council in-person and online services for children aged 0-12 years and their families and implement strategies to improve this, particularly for those who identify as LGBTIQ+, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, culturally and linguistically diverse, or who are living with a disability or experiencing vulnerability or disadvantage	
4.1.5 Continue to consider multipurpose built sports pavilions with spaces that can be used for non-sporting activities and cultural groups, including the new multipurpose hub at Dorset Recreation Reserve that will be home to Maroondah’s Myanmar communities.	
4.1.6 Increase Council’s print and online communications to ensure our community is informed and engaged.	
4.1.7 Explore effective ways of increasing access and affordability for arts and cultural groups to develop and present work in Council’s Cultural Facilities, in particular in response to the impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the creative community.	
4.1.8 Continue to advise and support diverse local artists and organisations to develop and promote their arts and cultural activities/programs in Maroondah.	
4.1.9 Ensure Council partners with reputable and appropriate community and commercial organisations to provide effective leadership and responses to health and wellbeing.	

Equity

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 4.2	
Promote and create opportunities for equity across all abilities, ages, cultures, genders, languages, religions, sexualities and socio-economic groups.	
4.2.1 Continue to require that Community Sports Infrastructure Fund applications include a gender self-assessment tool and action plan.	•
4.2.2 Strengthen collaboration with diverse communities to ensure that all older people can participate in healthy ageing opportunities.	
4.2.3 Continue to promote gender equity, encourage diversity in representation and participation; and women’s active citizenship as a signatory to the Local Government Women’s Charter.	

Community participation

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 4.3	
Work in partnership to create opportunities for community participation and social connection for all people.	
4.3.1 Develop inclusive intergenerational activities, exhibitions and creative projects, spaces and events to enhance wellbeing through engagement in meaningful social inclusion opportunities, including GenConnect, Intergenerational Story Telling and Pickleball.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
4.3.2 Undertake a review of Council's Community Engagement Toolkit to continue to inform and engage the effective practice in seeking community input in Council activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
4.3.3 Facilitate the delivery of events and activities for children, young people and their families that promote community connection and a sense of belonging, including Children's Week, Youth Week and FReeZA events.	
4.3.4 Coordinate a series of community events that bring the community together with a diverse program of entertainment and activities for people of all ages and interests, including Maroondah Festival, Celebrate Maroondah, Australia Day and Carols.	
4.3.5 Explore opportunities to support the community to engage or re-engage into organised activities.	
4.3.6 Develop and rollout a social capital toolkit to facilitate the building of social connection and lead to improved community resilience.	
4.3.7 Coordinate the Community Development Grants Scheme as part of Council's annual Community Grants Funding Program.	
4.3.8 Increase public access and engagement with Maroondah arts and cultural activities including through digital technologies and public display.	
4.3.9 Encourage senior residents to remain active and engage meaningfully in their community through the Growing Older Living Dangerously (GOLD) events and social outings programs.	

Sense of belonging

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 4.4	
Encourage and promote opportunities for all people to develop a strong sense of belonging to their local community.	
4.4.1 Work in partnership to explore opportunities to connect residents within local neighbourhoods including Let's Get Neighbourly, Maroondah and Know Your Neighbour initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
4.4.2 Continue to foster a sense of place in commercial centres by improving amenity, facilitating activation and promotion.	
4.4.3 Explore, celebrate and promote local histories, cultural heritage and connection to place across Maroondah.	
4.4.4 Investigate social neighbourhood planning as part of 20-Minute Neighbourhoods.	
4.4.5 Continue to develop and deliver Notes of Kindness projects to highlight local community experiences and promote resilience through creative responses to coronavirus (COVID-19) impacts.	

Community Infrastructure

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 4.5	
Plan, provide and promote opportunities and places for social connection and cultural vibrancy through community infrastructure and activation across Maroondah.	
4.5.1 Work in partnership with a broad range of service providers and agencies, to develop and deliver services and cultural experiences in the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct.	•
4.5.2 Implement place activation; including installations, events, parklets and pop-up parks, to improve amenity and commercial viability, add vitality and create local places for people to be, enjoy and connect.	•
4.5.3 Work in partnership to undertake the staged redevelopment of the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct to deliver new community hubs that meet the needs of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.	
4.5.4 Provide safe and accessible community infrastructure to promote centre activation through enhanced outdoor dining opportunities.	
4.5.5 Incorporate public art and creative elements into key infrastructure developments such as childrens and families infrastucture, public transport infrastructure and multi-level carparks.	
4.5.6 Seek funding opportunities and partnerships to support activation of empty spaces and regeneration of disused and derelict spaces.	

Vulnerable communities

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 4.6	
Work in partnership to advocate for and support vulnerable and disadvantaged communities and community members.	
4.6.1 Support community relief agencies through the Maroondah Emergency Relief Network and undertake initiatives to meet the needs of vulnerable community members, including in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.	•
4.6.2 Identify opportunities to improve outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and families through greater service integration, collaboration, service innovation and capacity building.	
4.6.3 Explore and develop initiatives that address marginalisation and social exclusion of groups within the Maroondah community.	
4.6.4 Coordinate the Emergency Relief Grants Scheme as part of Council's annual Community Grants Funding Program.	
4.6.5 Continue to work with Maroondah Community Assist to support vulnerable community members	

Volunteering

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Directions 4.7	
Work in partnership to support, empower and connect organisations and groups that involve volunteers.	
4.7.1 Work in partnership to support community-based organisations to build their capacity to recover and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the re-engagement and development of volunteers, rebuilding membership and supporting good governance and developing volunteers.	•
4.7.2 Coordinate the Small Equipment Grants Scheme as part of Council's annual Community Grants Funding Program to support not-for-profit community groups and organisations.	

Volunteering

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 4.8	
Promote diverse and attractive opportunities and empower local volunteers.	
4.8.1 Work in partnership to facilitate volunteerism and create and promote meaningful and accessible volunteer opportunities, including supporting services provided by Eastern Volunteers.	•
4.8.2 Facilitate a series of volunteer recognition events and activities to recognise Council volunteers and volunteers in community organisations.	
4.8.3 Explore opportunities for more volunteering positions within Council and support Council volunteers to re-engage with volunteering in light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.	
4.8.4 Explore opportunities to implement recommendations from the external review of Council's current Volunteer and Placements processes.	

Digital inclusion

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Directions 4.9	
Work in partnership to enable access to digital environments and build confidence in digital literacy.	
4.9.1 Ensure Council's communication channels share reputable sources of information.	•
4.9.2 Expand online learning opportunities for older residents to encourage confident participation in digital social technology.	•
4.9.3 Collaborate with local secondary schools on the Intergenerational IT mentoring project to expand the social technology training of senior residents.	
4.9.4 Encourage Kerrabee clients to participate in a Social Technology Project, to loan technology devices and learn how to connect with Kerrabee's online Virtual Engagement Recreation Activity (VERA) programs from home.	
4.9.5 Work in partnership with Eastern Regional Libraries to explore delivering digital literacy programs to senior residents.	

Homelessness

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Directions 4.10	
Work in partnership to support community members experiencing or at risk of homelessness, and promote pathways out of homelessness.	
4.10.1 Review the Protocol for Assisting People Sleeping Rough in Public Places, ensuring a human rights focus.	•
4.10.2 Continue to work with and support local agencies that assist people experiencing homelessness in Maroonah.	
4.10.3 Advocate for external funding to deliver a pilot program providing access to personal grooming services for homeless or highly vulnerable people.	



Embracing Diversity

Intersectionality

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 5.1	
Understand, respond to and advocate for intersectional needs of all communities, with a focus on reducing discrimination and barriers; promoting equality and respect, and inclusive service delivery.	
5.1.1 Work in partnership to support and promote a range of awareness events that reflect the intersectional needs, diversity and priorities of our community, involving input from people with lived experiences, allies and local champions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
5.1.2 Consider intersectionality needs of the community through Council policy and strategy development.	

Disability

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 5.2	
Facilitate and advocate equal opportunity for people of all abilities, their families and their carers to actively and fully participate in the life of our community.	
5.2.1 Work in partnership to develop initiatives that improve community inclusion and participation for people with a disability and their carers to help address social isolation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
5.2.2 Develop and implement the <i>Disability Action Plan 2021-2025</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
5.2.3 Support Maroondah residents to understand and navigate the NDIS through Council's dedicated NDIS Coordinator.	

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 5.3</p> <p>Work in partnership to understand and support the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse communities to actively and fully participate in the life of our community, including refugees, new arrivals, migrants and interfaith communities.</p>	
<p>5.3.1 Work in partnership with culturally and linguistically diverse key stakeholders to identify, develop and deliver targeted culturally appropriate initiatives that address specific needs and builds a sense of belonging, inclusion and connection.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>5.3.2 Work in partnership with agencies and community leaders to support COVID-19 translation services for CALD groups, understand local challenges and ensure distribution of key information to local communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>5.3.3 Contribute to community connectedness through support for inter-generational and inter-cultural activities and projects.</p>	
<p>5.3.4 Continue to work in partnership to support people experiencing racism.</p>	
<p>5.3.5 Work in partnership to continue providing a mother and infant support education parent group and playgroup for refugee and migrant families in Maroondah, and provide support to families accessing Early Start Kindergarten.</p>	
<p>5.3.6 Develop and deliver a program for CALD young people where they can practice their conversation-based English language skills with a matched volunteer and build connections with their peers and community.</p>	

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Actions	Major initiatives
<p>Key Direction 5.4</p> <p>Work collaboratively to celebrate, promote, recognise and integrate the culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to facilitate equity, respect, understanding and reconciliation.</p>	
<p>5.4.1 Celebrate and recognise Indigenous culture through a diverse range of cultural activities and arts expressions through events such as Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week and services for children and young people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>5.4.2 Develop and implement a new Maroondah Reconciliation Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>5.4.3 Partner with Traditional Owner groups, Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, artists and cultural leaders to develop and promote projects and initiatives which increase awareness and valuing of Indigenous heritage and culture.</p>	
<p>5.4.4 Continue to acknowledge, recognise and promote respect for Traditional Owner culture and history in Maroondah.</p>	
<p>5.4.5 Continue to partner with Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place to deliver a range of programs and support the health and wellbeing of local communities.</p>	
<p>5.4.6 Continue to develop partnerships and enhance engagement for Aboriginal and CALD families/children in out of home care, children experiencing family violence trauma.</p>	

LGBTIQA+ communities

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 5.5	
Advocate and promote equity, safety, inclusion and wellbeing for community members of all sexualities.	
5.5.1 Commemorate IDAHOBIT Day (International Day Against Homophobia, Biophobia, Interphobia & Transphobia), which both celebrates the LGBTIQA+ people around the world and acknowledges the work that still needs to be done to ensure true inclusion and acceptance within the community.	•
5.5.2 Continue to work with the LGBTIQA+ community and stakeholders to explore and deliver initiatives that best support and promote inclusive practice.	
5.5.3 Continue to be an LGBTIQA+ inclusive organisation including providing access to resources and supports.	

Gender identity

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 5.6	
Advocate and promote equity, safety, inclusion and wellbeing for community members of all genders and gender identities.	
5.6.1 Develop LGBTIQA+ inclusive education opportunities for parents and carers engaged with Maroondah’s Maternal and Child Health service around challenging gender stereotypes and talking to children about gender and rainbow families.	•
5.6.2 Raise awareness of the importance of gender inclusion such as providing access to resources and support options.	
5.6.3 Implement Gender Inclusive Language guidelines to promote gender inclusiveness and challenge gender stereotypes.	

Needs of different age groups

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 5.7	
Children and families – Work in partnership to facilitate the health and wellbeing of all children and their families through meaningful engagement, proactive advocacy, opportunities for participation and access to inclusive local services and spaces.	
5.7.1 Provide universal access to safe, high quality and inclusive Maternal and Child Health services for all Maroondah children from birth to school age, to support parent and carer capacity to nurture and achieve optimal health, development and wellbeing.	•
5.7.2 Develop an implementation plan to establish Maroondah as a Child Friendly City and Community, where the voices, needs, priorities and rights of children and young people are an integral part of public policies, programs and decisions.	•
5.7.3 Provide a range of high quality, innovative education programs and sessions for parents and carers that meet local community need.	
5.7.4 Deliver mental health and wellbeing programs to increase the knowledge and capabilities of children, young people, families and educators, in managing mental health and wellbeing.	
5.7.5 Collaborate with local sports clubs to promote initiatives which encourage parents and carers to participate with their children.	
5.7.6 Explore new initiatives and opportunities to actively increase the profile of children aged 0-12 years as valued and equal members of the Maroondah community.	

Needs of different age groups

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 5.8	
Young people - Work in partnership to raise the wellbeing of Maroondah's young people to be healthy, connected, engaged and prepared.	
5.8.1 Continue to deliver the Maroondah Youth Wellbeing Advocates program to promote genuine engagement between Council and Maroondah's young people on matters that affect them and their communities, with a focus on youth wellbeing.	•
5.8.2 Deliver the Junior and Senior SWAT (Student Wellbeing Action Teams) programs to upskill and empower young people to be able to create meaningful change and increase the wellbeing of other young people in Maroondah.	•
5.8.3 Work in partnership to deliver the Walk and Talk program to support young people managing mental health issues and create connections with their peers and other support services while promoting physical wellbeing in the process.	
5.8.4 Provide targeted information and personal development opportunities on key life and living skills for young people to help prepare them as they transition to adulthood and independence.	
5.8.5 Support young people to build their knowledge and capabilities regarding mental health, wellbeing and resilience particularly in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.	
5.8.6 Facilitate professional networking opportunities for youth service providers and school staff to help them to connect, share information and collectively improve outcomes for young people in Maroondah.	
5.8.7 Provide a range of engaging and interactive online services and resources to support young people and their families to easily access and engage with information, services, and opportunities such as ConnectUs online service directory.	
5.8.8 Develop and improve MCH services including supported playgroups and parent groups for young parents under 25 years to enhance engagement and develop better outcomes for children 0-5 years and their families.	
5.8.9 Establish a Middle Years Working Group for schools and services in the Maroondah child and youth sectors, to explore how they can work together to support children and young people in the middle years (8-12-year old).	
5.8.10 Advocate for high quality, accessible youth mental health services to be physically located in Maroondah.	
Key Direction 5.9	
Older residents/seniors - Work in partnership to encourage positive ageing by optimising opportunities for participation, health and security to enhance the quality of life as people age in our community.	
5.9.1 Deliver initiatives to support social connection, mental health and wellbeing as well as physical health, for older community members.	•
5.9.2 Facilitate programs to provide opportunities for new skills development, reablement or capacity building of seniors to maximise safe independence at home and in their community.	•
5.9.3 Explore a collaborative all-ages Ageism program to address negative stereotyping and showcase 'any age' messages.	•
5.9.4 Facilitate programs that are aimed at improving the actual and perceived safety of Maroondah's ageing population such as the Maroondah Police Seniors Register.	
5.9.5 Provide advocacy and support to residents to navigate relevant aged care support systems.	
5.9.6 Continue to maintain accreditation in the World Health Organisation Global Network of Age-friendly Cities to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to healthy ageing.	



Social Harms

Gambling

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 6.1	
Work in partnership to prevent and minimise gambling-related harm in the community through collective advocacy, health promotion and raising awareness around the impacts of harmful gambling behaviours.	
6.1.1 Continue to work in partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform to advocate for minimising harm from gambling.	•
6.1.2 Work in partnership to undertake health promotion activities focused on gambling related harm, including promoting Gambling Harm Awareness Week.	
6.1.3 Continue to review electronic gaming machine (EGM) applications in order to ensure the social and economic impacts are considered.	

Alcohol

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 6.2	
Work in partnership to prevent and minimise alcohol-related harm in the community through joint advocacy, education and promoting safer alcohol cultures and environments.	
6.2.1 Work in partnership to support primary prevention initiatives that address alcohol related harm.	•
6.2.2 Ensure that during the review of Local Law Number 11 that liquor consumption in public places is updated to reflect current community expectations.	
6.2.3 Develop a Community Facilities Alcohol Policy to support the creation of family-friendly environments at Council owned facilities.	
6.2.4 Continue to provide responses to liquor licence applications in Maroondah to ensure appropriate licence types and density.	

Tobacco

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 6.3	
Work in partnership to de-normalise smoking behaviours and reduce smoking-related harm through education, community awareness, regulation and increasing smoke-free public spaces.	
6.3.1 Consider an expansion of smoke-free areas during the review of Local Law Number 11.	•
6.3.2 Continue to undertake the Cigarette Sales to Minors test purchasing and education program.	

Illicit drugs

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 6.4	
Work in partnership to minimise illicit drug-related harm in the community through advocacy, education, and facilitating safer cultures, spaces and places.	
6.4.1 Support organisations to provide outreach services or facilitate research, or education opportunities that works towards minimising illicit drug related harm in the local community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Excessive screen use

Actions	Major initiatives
Key Direction 6.5	
Work in partnership to raise awareness of the health impacts of excessive screen use and promote safe and healthy screen behaviours and interactions.	
6.5.1 Provide a range of high quality, innovative education programs and sessions that meet local community need, including technology use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

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Translating and Interpreter Service

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