

Community Priorities Community Focus Group

The City of Whittlesea invites Expressions of Interest from residents to join this year's Community Priorities Community Focus Group. The group will meet three times (nine hours in total) over a six-month period between September 2026 and March 2027 to provide valuable insights and feedback that will help inform the 2027-2028 Budget and Community Action Plan.

Participation in the Community Priorities Community Focus Group will be capped at 30 people and participants will be chosen to reflect the diversity of the City of Whittlesea community. This diversity will include age, gender, abilities, cultural background, suburb and household structure.

Community focus group participants will be required to undertake pre-reading and attend all three in-person focus group sessions. Each session will go for up to three hours and participants will receive a participatory gift voucher for their time after the final session.

The sessions are:

- Tuesday 8 September 2026, 6pm - 9pm
- Tuesday 1 December 2026, 6pm - 9pm
- Tuesday 23 February 2027, 6pm - 9pm

Eligibility

To be eligible to be a member of the community focus group you will need to:

- be a resident of the City of Whittlesea
- be willing and able to complete any pre-session reading, assistance can be organised for those requiring it
- declare membership of any special interest group, community groups, networks such as sporting clubs, craft and hobby groups, seniors' groups, schools etc.
- not be a current staff member, contractor or Councillor of the City of Whittlesea.

If a participant believes that they may have a financial interest in any of the projects discussed during the focus groups, they must discuss that interest with the facilitator. Should the facilitator decide that the financial interest gives rise to a conflict, the participant will not be permitted to contribute to discussions regarding that project.

All applications must be received by midnight on 30 August 2026

Applications can be submitted:

- **ONLINE** at engage.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/cp2027
- **BY EMAIL** to engagement@whittlesea.vic.gov.au.
- **IN PERSON** at City of Whittlesea Customer Service Centre at 25 Ferres Blvd, South Morang
- **BY MAIL** to City of Whittlesea, Locked Bag 1, Bundoora MDC VIC 3083.

Please ensure your application is marked **Expression of Interest Community Priorities Community Focus Group** and includes a completed application form.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more information about the Expression of Interest, please contact City of Whittlesea on 9217 2170.

Community Priorities Community Focus Group – Expression of Interest

Name: _____

Contact number: _____

Email: _____

Residential address: _____

My age range is:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ☐ 15-17 | ☐ 45-54 |
| ☐ 18-24 | ☐ 55-64 |
| ☐ 25-34 | ☐ 65-74 |
| ☐ 35-44 | ☐ 75 and over |

My gender identity is

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Non binary
- ☐ I/they use a different term
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Do you identify as a member of the LGBTIQA+ community?

- ☐ Yes,
- ☐ No

Do you speak a language other than English at home?

- ☐ Yes, please specify language spoken _____
- ☐ No

Where were you born?

- ☐ Australia
- ☐ Overseas, please specify which Country _____

Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

- ☐ Yes, Aboriginal
- ☐ Yes, Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Yes, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ No

Which of the following applies to you?

- ☐ Person with a disability
- ☐ Unpaid carer of a person with a disability
- ☐ Unpaid carer of an older person
- ☐ None of the above

Which of the following best describes your household structure?

- ☐ Single
- ☐ Married/ De facto with no children
- ☐ Couple with children youngest under 10
- ☐ Couple with children youngest 10-17
- ☐ Couple with children youngest 18+
- ☐ One parent family with children youngest under 10
- ☐ One parent family with children youngest 10 – 17
- ☐ One parent family with children youngest 18+
- ☐ Multi-generational (Grandparents, parents, children)
- ☐ Group household/shared household

What is your connection to the City of Whittlesea?

- ☐ Ratepayer
- ☐ Resident renter
- ☐ None-resident ratepayer
- ☐ Work
- ☐ Study
- ☐ Own a business
- ☐ Visit family/friends
- ☐ Attend activities (i.e.: sports, recreation)

Tell us why you'd like to be a part of the Community Priorities Community Focus Group

Please list any special interest groups, memberships or local networks you are involved in?

Do you commit to attending all three focus group sessions and completing any required pre-reading (assistance can be organised for those requiring it)?

- ☐ Yes