

THEME 7:

I want to feel physically, culturally and psychologically safe in my community. What will you do to keep me free from harm and promote responsible and respectful behaviour?

Our ongoing work

We work with the community to build a culture of safety, equality and respect.

- Advocate gender equity and help the community recognise, prevent, and seek support for all forms of violence.
- Advocate an inclusive, safe and respectful environment in all council facilities and services for the LGBTIQ+ community.
- Partner with external groups to create and deliver programs that address gender inequity and prevent violence against women and provide a comprehensive response to family violence.
- Partner with local service providers to enhance support and referral pathways for families experiencing family violence and associated legal concerns.
- Promote equity and inclusion, raising community awareness on the harm of racism with information on how to report it as well as how to access relevant support services.
- Support and partner with external stakeholders to deliver initiatives that focus on increasing understanding of culture and diversity, building positive relationships and empowering community-led responses.

We enforce Victorian Government legislation and Council's Community Local Law to ensure the whole community can live well and feel secure.

- Partner with Victoria Police, Liquor Control Victoria and Emergency Management Victoria to ensure a holistic approach to community safety.
- Enforce planning laws and policies to ensure buildings and developments are in appropriate areas, are well-designed and protect environmental values and heritage.
- Deliver the management of parking across the municipality to support safe, accessible and welcoming neighbourhood streets, as well as ensuring access to services and local town centres to help boost local business.
- Facilitate safe driving and parking practices around schools to ensure safety for children and reduce traffic congestion.
- Continue to deliver a fine appeal process for the community in line with Victorian legislation and Fines Victoria guidelines.
- Deliver event permits to ensure events adhere to local laws and are managed effectively, responsibly and safely.
- Deliver further awareness of Council's Community Local Law and how they help support local communities.
- Deliver regular audits of Bushfire Management Overlays to help reduce the risk to people and property.

We monitor and regulate businesses and activities that can affect the safety and health of people and neighbourhoods.

- Deliver public health services and education on topics including food safety, tobacco control, registered businesses, accommodation, aquatic facilities, septic tanks, emergency management and communicable disease management in high-risk settings.

We help the community to be prepared and safe during unexpected events such as natural disasters, health emergencies or accidents.

- Maintain community reserves including planned burns to reduce fire risks.
- Partner with emergency response agencies and other groups to prepare for, respond to and manage emergencies quickly and effectively.
- Deliver and support education campaigns to help the community prepare for emergencies, including the Municipal Fire Prevention Inspection program and responsible land management.
- Provide relief centres for our community in the event of an emergency.

We undertake local animal management to support the safety, wellbeing and harmony of the community and its animals.

- Deliver the services of the wat djerring Animal Facility to align with Council's municipal Domestic Animal Management Plan.
- Deliver animal management services including pet registration, addressing complaints regarding potentially dangerous animals, promoting responsible pet ownership and ensuring responsible management of animals in urban and rural settings.

We monitor and enhance the safety of Council-owned facilities, parks, streets and neighbourhoods.

- Monitor new housing developments to ensure they are designed well, including consideration of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles.
- Facilitate the delivery of aquatic education programs to improve water safety and ensure people feel more comfortable in and around water.

Community quote:

"I feel more confident walking through the reserve and use the path more at night due to the solar lighting."



Strategic Priority

SP27	Deliver improved lighting of shared paths to provide the community with extended hours for exercise and recreation, enhance perceptions of safety and provide increased sustainable transport options.	HP	DAP
SP28	Deliver the Suburb Place Frameworks to enhance the municipality’s distinct character, improve safety, enhance public spaces and upgrade infrastructure.	HP	DAP
SP29	Partner with external emergency and welfare services to explore the feasibility of a Safer Neighbourhoods Expo to enhance community education and awareness of available services.	HP	DAP
SP30	Advocate for equality and partner on initiatives that build a safe, respectful community with zero tolerance for all forms of violence, including family, gender-based, racial, faith-based and LGBTIQ+ violence.	HP	DAP



Health Plan



Disability Action Plan

Responsibility of others

Service or program by others	Who
Noise, air and light pollution coming from private property	Environmental Protection Authority Victoria
Enforcing crimes and criminal behaviour	Victoria Police
Enforcing anti-social behaviour such as hoon driving and speed observation	Victoria Police
Maintaining private property from dumped rubbish, graffiti or long grass	Various
Setting policy and enforcement capabilities in regard to public health issues including alcohol and other drugs, gambling, smoking and vaping	Victorian Government
Provision of Public Intoxication Response Service in line with decriminalisation of public intoxication.	Victorian Government
Management and enforcement of registered infringement notices and court-ordered fines	Fines Victoria
Animal welfare enforcement	RSPCA

