

Operational Supplement: Health and wellbeing activities 2021-25

Highlights from year one

The Operational Supplement: Health and Wellbeing Activities (OSHWA) is Council's annual response to the Initiatives in the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (embedded in the Council Plan 21 - 25).

The OSHWA is guided by six focus themes:

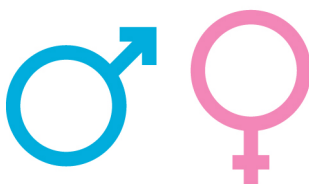
Theme 1

Assisting to reduce the harms from tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, and gambling



Theme 2

Promoting gender equality and reducing gendered violence



Theme 3

Promoting physical wellbeing



Theme 4

Promoting community safety



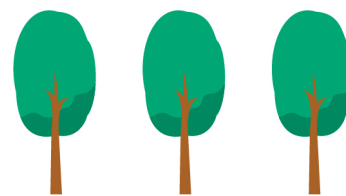
Theme 5

Promoting mental wellbeing



Theme 6

Assisting to reduce the harms from climate change



This highlights document showcases selected outcomes in the first year of Yarra's OSHWA.

There are many more outcomes and details provided in the full report, available on [Council's website](#).

Theme 1

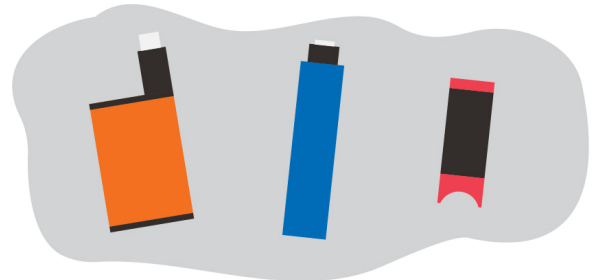
Assisting to reduce the harms from tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, and gambling



Engaging with tobacco and e-cigarette retailers to reduce tobacco related harms



Conducted an engagement with junior team sporting clubs to reinforce no smoking requirements



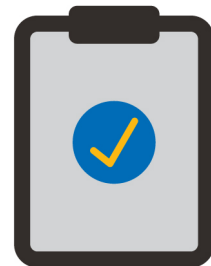
Conducted an engagement with cafes, restaurants, pubs and bars to reinforce requirements around e-cigarettes

411



Visits to retailers and premises with drinking and dining areas

94%



Compliance rate with the Tobacco Act 1987 and Tobacco Regulations 2017

Reducing harm related to alcohol consumption via the Yarra Liquor Forum

4



Forums were hosted with an average number of 33 attendees

250



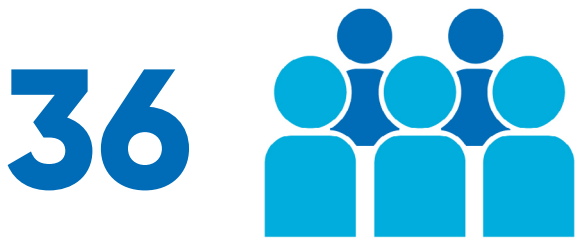
Members received regular e-newsletters

Theme 2

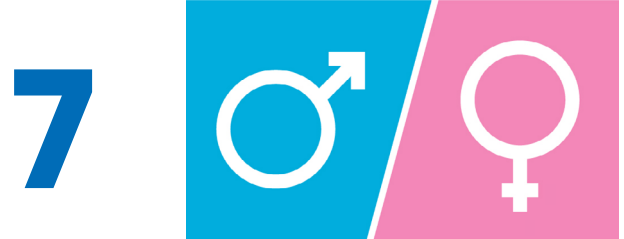
Promoting gender equality and reducing gendered violence



Assessed gender equality in our organisation and planned for improvements



Staff members from the Executive and Senior Management teams participated in a Gender Impact Assessment workshop



Gender Impact Assessment presentations were delivered at divisional meetings

Created Child Safe Action Plans to embed child safety into Council systems and practices



Aboriginal Children and Young People Cultural Safety Survey



Maintenance of Child Safe Contact Officer Program



Developed a new child safety and trauma-informed practice staff training program

Theme 3

Promoting physical wellbeing



Delivering social sports programs for young people including:



Weekly swimming program at Fitzroy Pool & Richmond Leisure Centre



Weekly soccer program at Atherton Gardens



Several one-off activities through the school holiday program, including dodgeball, traditional games, archery and indoor rock-climbing

Yarra Communities that Care is supporting the healthy development of children and young people in Yarra



Delivered online and in-person 'Tuning into Teens' programs



Delivered a parenting education session for Yarra parents

Identified sites for growing food and provided training on growing, harvesting and preserving food

37



New planter boxes delivered through the Community Growing Spaces program

10



Workshops delivered to over 220 people on topics including small space gardening, bees and beneficial bugs

Theme 4

Promoting community safety and connection



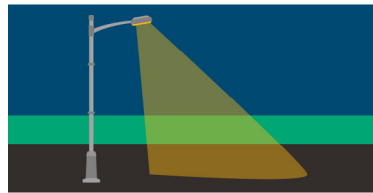
Investigated perceptions of community safety for women and gender-diverse people through the YourGround project

More than 450 submissions were made about Yarra sites.

The top three factors Yarra respondents gave for feeling less safe were:



The anti-social behaviour of others



Inadequate lighting



Isolated locations

Promotion of the findings included:



Web news item



Councillor briefing



All staff presentation as part of 16 days of activism

Supporting volunteers in building strong, inclusive and resilient communities



Providing new opportunities for the community to volunteer in council programs, including Library outreach activities and L2P and Future Pathways program



Celebrated volunteers in Yarra for National Volunteer Week with a thank you video, volunteer's dinner, showcase via social media and certificates of appreciation from the Mayor

Theme 5

Promoting mental wellbeing



Supporting Yarra’s Neighbourhood Houses to deliver their programs, services and events

Yarra’s Neighbourhood Houses are places for community members to seek support, education, social interaction, to learn new skills and to make new friends



Provided annual funding to Neighbourhood Houses to deliver their programs and services



Developed a new partnership strategy between Neighbourhood Houses and Council, which will continue to be developed into 2022/23

Theme 6

Assisting to reduce the harms from climate change



Reducing the health harms from climate change



50%



Council supports vulnerable people to retrofit their homes to improve energy performance, thermal comfort and create healthier homes

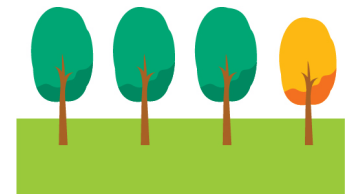
Energy retrofits of vulnerable households in the project have been completed, with the rest scheduled for completion soon

Planting trees to increase tree canopy cover, diversity and climate resilience of Yarra's urban forest.

1,026



719



Trees planted

Trees were new, while the remainder were replacements for trees removed due to damage or disease

25,435



Total community tree stock managed by Council, increased from 24,716 in 2020/21