

Annual Plan 2024-25



Acknowledgment of country

Greater Dandenong City Council acknowledges and pays respects to the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation, as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters in and around Greater Dandenong.

We value and recognise local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures, heritage, and connection to land as a proud part of a shared identity for Greater Dandenong.

Greater Dandenong City Council pays respect to Elders past and present and recognises their importance in maintaining knowledge, traditions, and Culture in our Community.

Greater Dandenong City Council also respectfully acknowledges the Bunurong Land Council as the Registered Aboriginal Party responsible for managing the Aboriginal Cultural heritage of the land and waters where Greater Dandenong is situated.



Strategic Objective 1: A socially connected, safe and healthy city

1. Improve participation and access to sport and recreation activities to support active living

Actions

- Deliver programs, activities, and events within the Make Your Move Physical Activity Strategy (MYMPA)

Department

- Safe, Active and Connected Communities

2. Increase meaningful engagement and facilitate collaboration and partnerships to enhance the health, wellbeing and resilience of the Greater Dandenong community

Actions

- Continue to implement the VicHealth Local Government Partnership health promotion modules by collaborating with key internal and external stakeholders
- Increase and promote meaningful volunteering opportunities within Council and recruit, support and recognise Council volunteers

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy
- Safe, Active and Connected Communities

3. Provide support for older residents by building healthy, respectful and inclusive communities and removing barriers to participation

Actions

- Implement Council's decision on its future in aged care and disability services following the 2024 review

Department

- Community Care

4. Enhance the lives of children, young people and their families including a focus on the culturally and linguistically diverse and vulnerable 

Actions	Department
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively collaborate with the Orange Door and Southern Area Family Partnership to support vulnerable families to address/prevent family violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Wellbeing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Youth and Family Services Strategy year four and five action plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Wellbeing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Year Four of the Children’s Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Wellbeing

5. Ensure Council’s services and supports are inclusive of people with a disability and their carers 

Actions	Department
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information and support to local residents with a disability and their families to successfully find the necessary supports to assist them to actively participate in community life including employment opportunities, how to access the NDIS and support for carers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Care

6. Support the mental and physical health of children, young people and their families through preventative health initiatives and responsive interventions 

Actions	Department
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the mental and physical health of young people through the co-design of health promotion campaigns including positive body image, this girl can, youth mental health and transitions programs and service referrals to vulnerable young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Wellbeing

 Active living |  Physical health and mental wellbeing |  Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs |  Social cohesion and community safety |  Climate change and health

7. Support alliance and community initiatives to address gambling harm and promote sources of assistance 

Actions

- Work with the Alliance for Gambling Reform to implement initiatives that reduce the level of gambling harm

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

8. Support the community and work with partner agencies to address and prevent family violence 

Actions

- Promote gender equity and support and implement initiatives to address and prevent family violence within the municipality.

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

9. Deliver and support initiatives that raise community awareness of harmful alcohol, tobacco and other drugs use  

Actions

- Proactively deliver and support initiatives that raise young people’s awareness of harmful alcohol, vape/tobacco and other drugs use including social media campaigns, school and community workshops on the impacts of vaping, drugs and alcohol, and party safe.

Department

- Community Wellbeing

10. Enhance understanding of, and compliance with alcohol and tobacco regulations within the city  

Actions

- Educate and promote alcohol regulations at community based events within the city and work with Victoria Police on enforcement

Department

- Community Amenity

 Active living |  Physical health and mental wellbeing |  Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs |  Social cohesion and community safety |  Climate change and health

11. Increase emergency, crisis, transitional housing accommodation and support to address the needs of persons who are homeless in the public domain



Actions

- Increase access and availability of social housing stock in the city by activation of Council and community assets for delivery of social housing, and advocate for increased State and Federal Government provision

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

12. Provide welcoming and active community precincts that enable residents and visitors to connect, participate and celebrate



Actions

- Complete the Keysborough South Community Hub Strategy and develop an Action Plan
- Implement the Springvale Community Hub Action Plan

Department

- Community Arts, Culture and Libraries
- Community Arts, Culture and Libraries

13. Work with key partners to increase and support community access to affordable, healthy and culturally appropriate services, especially for vulnerable groups



Actions

- Improve the lives of those experiencing poverty in our community through implementation of Council's Anti-Poverty Strategy and the 'Poverty is everyone's business' advocacy campaign
- Work with strategic partners and key stakeholders including the Department of Health, Monash Health and the South East Public Health Unit to address Victorian and local health priorities

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy
- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

14. Increase space activation and social inclusiveness to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the public realm



Actions

- Create safer spaces and improve actual and perceived levels of community safety within the municipality.
- Develop the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-29
- Update Council's Local Law to ensure adequate management of community safety and public amenity issues

Department

- Safe, Active and Connected Communities
- Community Amenity
- Community Amenity

Active living | Physical health and mental wellbeing | Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs | Social cohesion and community safety | Climate change and health



A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts

1. Deliver a range of festivals, events and programs across the city which celebrate the diversity of cultures within our community

Actions

- Deliver a range of major festivals, events and programs across the City which celebrate the diversity of cultures within our community including New Years Eve, Snow Fest and Keysborough Big Picnic

Department

- Community Wellbeing

2. Promote a socially cohesive, respectful and harmonious community

Actions

- Support and promote LGBTQIA+, anti-racism and gender equitable initiatives throughout the community.

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

3. Advocate for and assist People Seeking Asylum and Refugees living in the community

Actions

- Support and advocate for the rights of people seeking asylum and refugees as part of the 'Back Your Neighbour' campaign

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

4. Advance the process of reconciliation and embed across policy, business and community structures

Actions

- Promote reconciliation by continuing ongoing consultation with Bunurong Land Council and the wider local Aboriginal community to develop Council's next Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and begin implementation of its actions.

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2 | A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts

5. Provide facilities and infrastructure to meet the community's needs now and into the future



Actions

- Develop a municipal wide Community Infrastructure and Service Plan aligned with Council's Strategy Framework
- Complete construction of the Keysborough South Community Hub

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy
- Major Projects

6. Provide local and meaningful opportunities for creative and cultural participation, learning, enjoyment and expression



Actions

- Implement the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-26

Department

- Community Arts, Culture and Libraries

7. Record, protect, and promote community understanding of local history and heritage



Actions

- Undertake the Heritage Overlay Planning Scheme Amendment

Department

- Strategic and Environmental Planning

8. Support community health and wellbeing through providing opportunities to connect and access programs and resources through welcoming library spaces, online and outreach services



Actions

- Implement the Greater Dandenong Libraries Strategy 2022-26

Department

- Community Arts, Culture and Libraries

Active living | Physical health and mental wellbeing | Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs | Social cohesion and community safety | Climate change and health

A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods

1. Promote and strengthen Greater Dandenong as a tourist and food destination

Actions

- Support the Dandenong Market in the delivery of its annual food events program

Department

- Business and Investment

2. Improve access to quality infrastructure and spaces that enhance community participation, encourage visitors and deliver positive health outcomes for current and future generations

Actions

- Undertake the five year review of the Dog Off Leash Strategy

Department

- Strategic and Environmental Planning

3. Advocate for affordable quality housing and legislated change including the operation of rooming houses

Actions

- Commence development of a revised Housing Strategy

Department

- Strategic and Environmental Planning

4. Ensure an appropriate mix of housing, industrial and commercial development across the city

Actions

- Progress the Environmentally Sustainable Design 2.0 Planning Scheme Amendment in partnership with CASBE
- Support the DTP to complete the Sandown Racecourse Planning Scheme Amendment

Department

- Strategic and Environmental Planning
- Strategic and Environmental Planning

 Active living |  Physical health and mental wellbeing |  Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs |  Social cohesion and community safety |  Climate change and health

5. Create safe, inclusive and well-designed public spaces which encourage community participation



Actions

- Prepare a Dandenong Market Precinct Masterplan to facilitate Council led and private sector developments and activate public spaces and places.
- Commence the Neighbourhood Character Study review
- Activate and promote safe and accessible public spaces for young people and families

Department

- Business and Investment
- Strategic and Environmental Planning
- Community Wellbeing

6. Provide an accessible transport network which caters increasingly for growth and provides a range of options



Actions

- Advocate for public transport initiatives identified in Council's Greater Dandenong Public Transport Advocacy Statement
- Advocate for, plan and deliver improved active transport networks and initiatives
- Roll-out a high priority local road program within Dandenong South, including the Dandenong South Industrial Area Extension Structure Plan's Transport Network

Department

- Transport and Civil Development
- Strategic Growth and Advocacy
- Transport and Civil Development
- Transport and Civil Development

7. Provide quality community infrastructure to support the delivery of early years services to children and their families



Actions

- Review the Municipal Early Years Infrastructure Plan to continue the delivery of three and four-year-old kindergarten at 15 hours working to 30 hours by 2030

Department

- Community Wellbeing

Active living | Physical health and mental wellbeing | Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs | Social cohesion and community safety | Climate change and health

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3 | A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods

8. Reduce the occurrence of casualty accidents on roads throughout Greater Dandenong

Actions

- In collaboration with local school education programs, advocate for, and deliver, transport safety improvements and initiatives to improve road safety awareness and to mitigate road safety risks
- Continue to deliver various road pedestrian safety projects funded by Federal and State Governments

Department

- Transport and Civil Development
- Major Projects

9. Deliver improved amenity and a range of quality streetscapes and public places that build pride, respond to and respect the unique qualities of the activity centres and meet current and future needs

Actions

- Implement the Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan to improve the physical and social environment to enhance the quality of life for residents, workers and visitors
- Develop and implement the Noble Park Revitalisation program to enhance the quality of life for residents, workers and visitors

Department

- Business and Investment
- Business and Investment

10. Encourage investment and infrastructure improvements through a collaborative approach to creating, enhancing and managing great people focused places

Actions

- Facilitate the Development Victoria/Capital Alliance investment project in the Revitalising Central Dandenong Foster Street precinct
- Advocate to Government, Agencies and other influential stakeholders, to identify, support, and deliver targeted renewal initiatives for improved economic and social outcomes in Central Dandenong

Department

- Business and Investment
- Business and Investment
- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

 Active living |  Physical health and mental wellbeing |  Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs |  Social cohesion and community safety |  Climate change and health

A green city committed to a sustainable future

1. Work in partnership with the State Government to minimise waste and maximise resource recovery

Actions

- Finalise review and update the Waste and Litter Strategy
- Investigate advanced waste opportunities for Council as an alternative to landfill

Department

- Infrastructure Services
- Infrastructure Services

2. Raise community awareness about the importance of tree canopy cover on private land

Actions

- Implement the Urban Forest Strategy and Green Wedge Management Plan

Department

- Strategic and Environmental Planning

3. Improve knowledge and participation in protecting biodiversity values within Greater Dandenong and protect and enhance the ecological value of the land

Actions

- Implement the Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-26

Department

- Infrastructure Services

4. Increase the quantity and quality of diverse and accessible open spaces across the city

Actions

- Complete Council's plan for new and improved playgrounds
- Implement the Open Space Strategy

Department

- Strategic and Environmental Planning
- Strategic and Environmental Planning

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4 | A green city committed to a sustainable future

5. Promote a healthy, green and resilient urban forest that is well managed, protected and provides benefits to the community

Actions

- Implement year seven of the Greening Our City: Urban Tree Strategy 2018-28

Department

- Infrastructure Services

6. Actively support community action to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and build environmental resilience

Actions

- Implement the Electric Vehicle Transition Plan
- Work with partners and key stakeholders to support increased community awareness of climate change risks and their ability to respond

Department

- Infrastructure Services
- Strategic and Environmental Planning

7. Become a resilient, net zero carbon emission city with an active community prepared for the challenge of a changing climate

Actions

- Implement the Climate Emergency Strategy, Sustainability Strategy, climate emergency declaration, and updated Plastics Policy
- Deliver the 2025 Sustainability Festival
- Review and update the Sustainable Buildings Policy

Department

- Strategic and Environmental Planning
- Strategic and Environmental Planning
- Strategic and Environmental Planning

 Active living |  Physical health and mental wellbeing |  Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs |  Social cohesion and community safety |  Climate change and health

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4 | A green city committed to a sustainable future

8. Work with key partners to increase the community's awareness of, and preparation for, the social, environmental and health impacts of climate change

Actions

- Working with key internal and external partners provide our older residents and residents with a disability with information on the impacts of climate change and possible ways to mitigate these impacts

Department

- Community Care

9. In partnership with State Government agencies continue to protect the health of our community from industrial uses impacting our air and water quality

Actions

- Advocate to the EPA to improve the quality of Greater Dandenong's waterways

Department

- Building and Compliance

 Active living |  Physical health and mental wellbeing |  Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs |  Social cohesion and community safety |  Climate change and health



A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes

1. Support engagement in learning, skill development and employment pathways to improve social, economic and environmental outcomes

Actions

- Develop a new Economic and Place Strategy
- Successfully deliver an annual Business Education Program targeted to local entrepreneurs or established businesses
- Manage, support and deliver activities that strengthen the capability and capacity of jobseekers in our community facing multiple barriers to employment.

Department

- Business and Investment
- Business and Investment
- Business and Investment

2. Facilitate the active participation of young people in the community to enhance leadership and personal development opportunities

Actions

- Deliver youth programs and initiatives that promote youth voice, build leadership capability and skills that enhance employment

Department

- Community Wellbeing

3. Promote and support the strong manufacturing presence within the city to secure the economy and maintain future employment opportunities

Actions

- Maintain support, collaboration and board participation of the South East Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA)

Department

- Business and Investment

 Active living |  Physical health and mental wellbeing |  Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs |  Social cohesion and community safety |  Climate change and health

4. Deliver networks and activities that enhance the capability and competitiveness of the manufacturing sector locally and globally

Actions

- Deliver a range of networks, common interest groups and targeted activities that have relevance and impact for local manufacturers, including exposure to global issues and international opportunities

Department

- Business and Investment

5. Deliver activities that support and strengthen the personal and professional development of women in business

Actions

- Deliver key events that showcase women in business including International Women’s Day and facilitate a Women in Business Network, that is inclusive to all women in business in CGD
- Review the Family Day Care Business and Marketing Plans to maintain market share and community expectation

Department

- Business and Investment
- Community Wellbeing

6. Contribute to the development of a more resilient and capable workforce through a continued focus on collaborative partnerships, work readiness and promoting local jobs for local people

Actions

- Guide the ‘collective impact’ phase of CR #2: GameChange towards a community-led jobs and skills system, strengthening pathways to economic participation (SPEP)
- Facilitate Playgroup Training Vocational Pathways for local community members

Department

- Business and Investment
- Community Wellbeing

7. Deliver key events which provide an opportunity for business and education providers to support vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the community



Actions

- Deliver initiatives in partnership with local schools, industry and SELLEN, that provide opportunities for young people to gain skills and experience that enhance their employment opportunities
- Support the Market Street Child Care Centre with a sustainable business model to expand market share and community expectation

Department

- Business and Investment
- Community Wellbeing

8. Work with partners to facilitate engaged local business and industry taking action to increase resilience and transition to a net zero economy



Actions

- Support local business efforts to respond to their climate change risks and transition to a net zero economy by informing them of relevant State and Federal Government policies and programs

Department

- Business and Investment

9. Continue to advocate for and pursue the policy and implementation of decentralisation for government and corporate offices to attract white collar workers to Dandenong and the Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) region to provide for economic growth



Actions

- Participate in the GSEM Jobs and Skills Summit

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community

1. Increase the use of smarter technologies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of managing Council's assets and resources to ensure they meet the community's current and future needs



Actions

- Improve access to, from, and within major Activity Centres, including the management of parking, harnessing modern and smart technologies to build on existing capacity

Department

- Transport and Civil Development

2. Develop long term plans to effectively manage Council's Assets



Actions

- Conduct a comprehensive review of the 10-year Activity Centre Capital Improvement Program including evaluation of ongoing projects
- Implement Council's infrastructure renewals program
- Review the existing Road Management Plan and develop the new Road Management Plan 2025

Department

- Business and Investment
- Major Projects
- Strategic Growth and Advocacy

3. Provide meaningful engagement opportunities which capture the voices of all ages, genders and cultures within the city



Actions

- Encourage the voice of children and young people through the facilitation of the Children’s and Youth Forums and Advisory groups to inform planning and policy development
- Develop a Customer Experience Strategy, and update the Customer Service Charter
- Facilitate better community engagement across a diverse community to promote more accessible engagement
- Improve Council’s customer service and communications to our linguistically diverse community by making more effective use of translation and interpreter services
- Provide timely and accurate information and tell stories reflecting the best of our community and local economy

Department

- Community Wellbeing
- Communications and Customer Experience
- Communications and Customer Experience
- Communications and Customer Experience
- Communications and Customer Experience

4. Ensure Council decisions contribute towards building a smarter, more digitally enabled future for our community and organisation

Actions

- Implement the recommendations of the IT Service Review

Department

- Digital Technology

5. Deliver Council’s capital works program



Actions

- Enhance Council’s major projects communications, so they are timely, accurate and promote community trust; and explain project benefits effectively.
- Complete Council’s capital works program as outlined in the Annual Budget and Long Term Financial Plan

Department

- Communications and Customer Service
- Major Projects

6. Attract investment and build partnerships with key stakeholders to ensure the sustainability, viability and growth of Greater Dandenong and its major activity centres to provide jobs, housing and liveability outcomes 

Actions

- Develop an investment attraction program that facilitates appropriate investment attraction matched to the region's competitive strengths across identified target and growth industry sectors

Department

- Business and Investment

7. Maintain a safe and healthy workplace through a people centred systematic approach to risk management   

Actions

- Introduce psychosocial education and assessment programs to proactively identify and mitigate workplace risks to employee health and wellbeing
- Continue the rollout of wearable technology to prevent musculoskeletal injuries in high risk work areas

Department

- People and Change
- People and Change

8. Encourage an organisational culture of innovation and leadership 

Actions

- Implement Leadership Development programs for People Leaders incorporating innovation and change management

Department

- People and Change

 Active living |  Physical health and mental wellbeing |  Tobacco/vaping, alcohol and other drugs |  Social cohesion and community safety |  Climate change and health

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 6 | A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community

9. Ensure compliance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councillor and Staff Codes of Conduct, Council policies and all legislation relevant to Council



Actions

- Develop the new Council Plan 2025-29 in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*
- Comply with the auditing and reporting requirements of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* including the preparation for the development of a new Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP)
- Implement the recommendations of the recent Child Safe Standards Audit Review

Department

- Strategic Growth and Advocacy
- People and Change
- Governance, Legal and Risk

10. Manage Council's resources effectively and efficiently to ensure financial sustainability



Actions

- Meet budget revenue targets for all commercial properties
- Develop a structured framework to streamline the preparation of Council's Strategies
- Review Council's Long Term Financial Plan in line with the *Local Government Act 2020*
- With the community, strengthen engagement, build capacity and accessibility to Council's grants programs
- Implement the recommendations of the Procurement Review

Department

- Governance, Legal and Risk
- Strategic Growth and Advocacy
- Financial Services
- Safe, Active and Connected Communities
- Financial Services

11. Ensure all Council's emergency management responsibilities and obligations are implemented as described in the Municipal Emergency Management Plan



Actions

- Facilitate and chair at least four Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) meetings with relevant members and Emergency Service Agencies
- Review, implement and monitor progress on mitigation and response (including relief and recovery) risk strategies and actions

Department

- Safe, Active and Connected Communities
- Safe, Active and Connected Communities