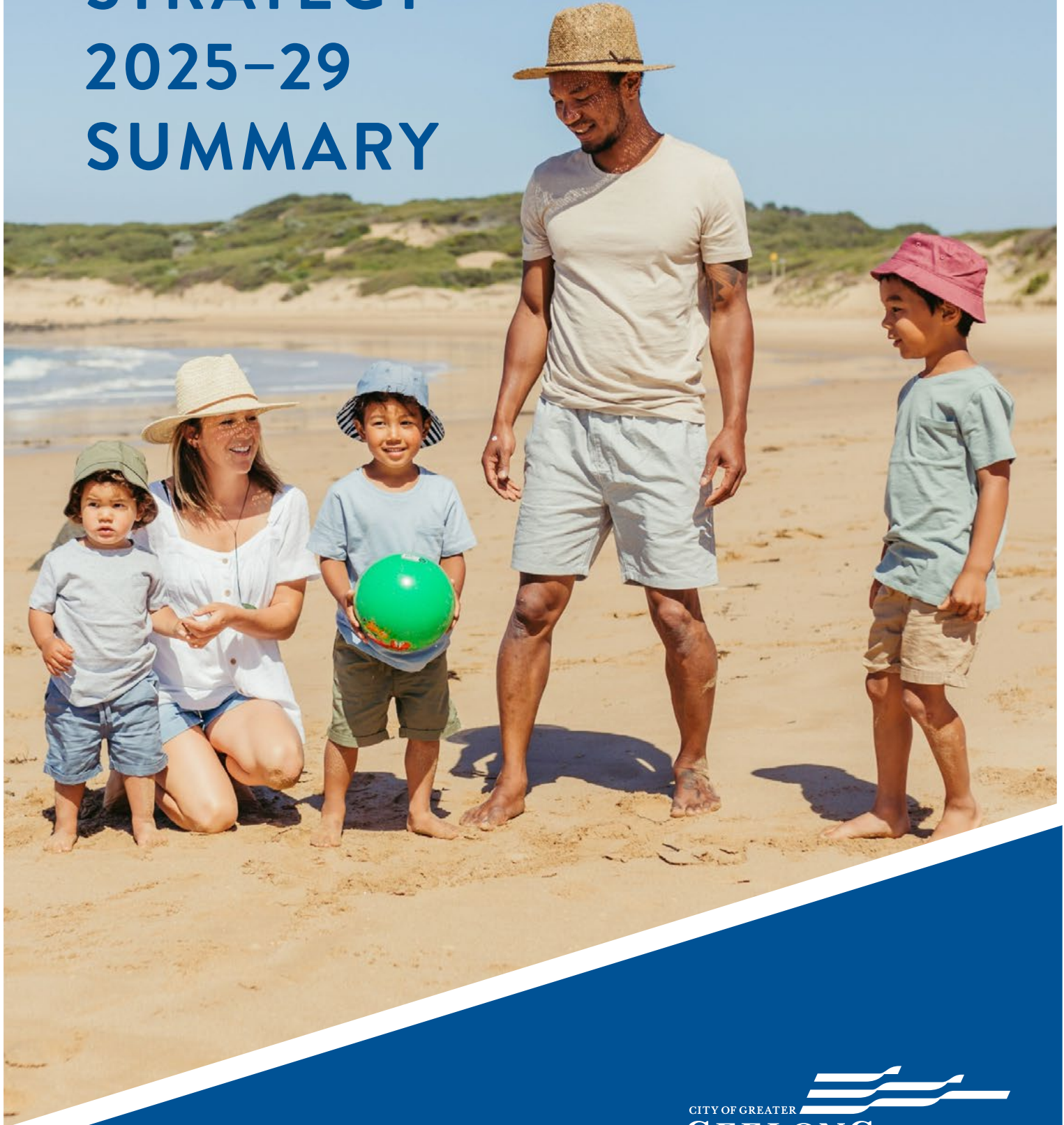


THE CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY 2025–29 SUMMARY



We Acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We Acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

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OVERVIEW

The Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2025-2029 is a key strategic roadmap to enhance the health and wellbeing of the Greater Geelong community over the next four years.

INTRODUCTION

The Strategy outlines the health and wellbeing priorities for the City of Greater Geelong, aiming to improve public health at a local level. It recognises the pivotal role of local government in shaping the social, environmental, and economic factors that influence health, known as the social determinants of health.

The Strategy aligns with several legislative requirements, including the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008, Climate Change Act 2017, and Gender Equality Act 2020. It is also consistent with the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027 and the Council Plan 2025-2029.

The Strategy has also been informed by the data and evidence contained in the following companion documents available on our website:

- Health and Wellbeing Profile – Companion Document 1
- Policy and Legislative Context – Companion Document 2
- Consultation Report – Companion Document 3

The strategy was developed through extensive stakeholder and community consultation, including a deliberative engagement process with a panel of community members.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING PRIORITIES

The strategy identifies six key health and wellbeing priorities:

1. Mental Wellbeing and Social Inclusion: Promoting mental health and fostering social connections.
2. Equitable Access to Safe, Healthy, and Sustainable Food: Ensuring all community members have access to nutritious food.
3. Physical Activity and Active Living: Encouraging active lifestyles to improve physical health.
4. Gender Equity and Prevention of Violence: Promoting gender equity and preventing violence.
5. Climate Change and Health Impacts: Addressing the health impacts of climate change.
6. Harm Minimisation: Reducing harm associated with tobacco, vaping, alcohol misuse, and gambling.

IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION

The strategy will be implemented through annual action plans and reviews to track progress. Collaboration with community groups, organisations, and other agencies is essential for effective implementation. A monitoring and evaluation framework will ensure the strategy remains responsive, adaptable and effective.

CONCLUSION

The Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2025-2029 provides a clear framework for improving health and wellbeing in Greater Geelong. It emphasises collaboration, community engagement, and strategic alignment to achieve long-term health outcomes.

This summary captures the essence of the Strategy, highlighting its priorities and alignment with broader legislative and policy frameworks. The following pages provide detail about the long-term outcomes, measures, strategic objectives and strategic actions within each health and wellbeing priority area.

HEALTH EQUITY

Health inequities are unfair and avoidable differences in health status within and between population groups.

Placing equity at the heart of everything we do, means we will build a healthy, thriving community where everyone is welcomed and valued.

There are population groups within Greater Geelong who experience health inequities, and some of these population groups are outlined in the diagram below.

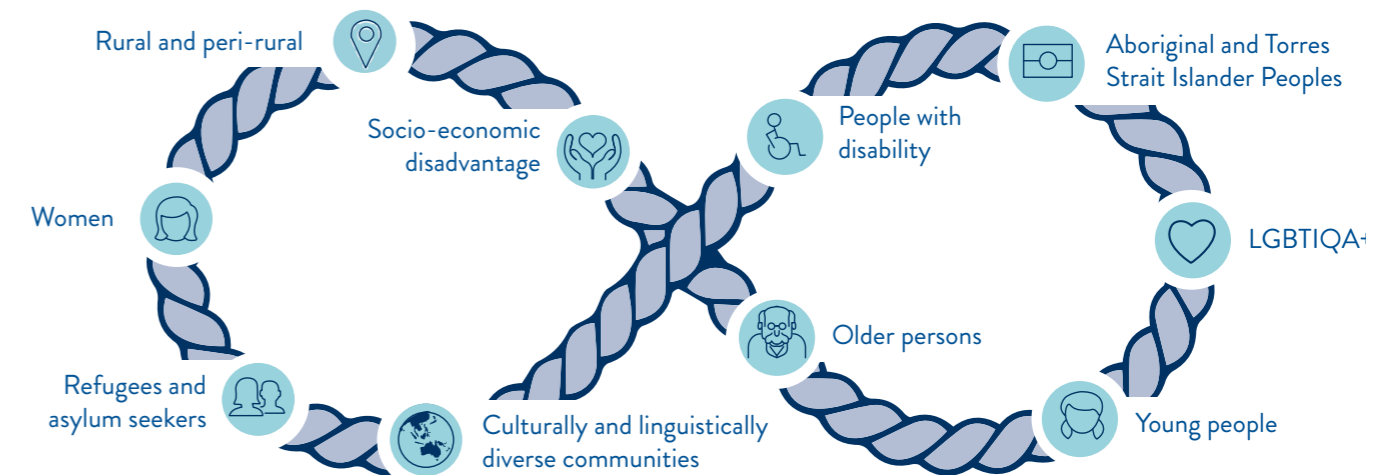


Figure 2: Intersectionality (Social Equity Framework 2022-25)

The City strives towards an equitable approach to health and wellbeing. This means greater attention is given to the needs of people who identify with one or more of the above population groups.

For a full health and wellbeing profile of the Greater Geelong community, please refer to the **Health and Wellbeing Profile – Companion Document 1** available on the City's website.

STRATEGY ROADMAP

The health and wellbeing priorities below are of equal importance and are not ranked in any particular order.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY					
Priority 1: Mental wellbeing and social inclusion	Priority 2: Equitable access to safe, healthy, and sustainable food	Priority 3: Physical activity and active living	Priority 4: Gender Equity and prevention of violence	Priority 5: Climate change and health impacts	Priority 6: Harm minimisation
<p>Goals:</p> <p>The community experiences lower levels of psychological distress.</p> <p>All community members feel connected and included in community life and have appropriate access to community facilities and services.</p> <p>All community members have access to housing that is affordable and in a community that is stable, supportive, and safe.</p>	<p>Goals:</p> <p>The community has equitable access to safe, healthy, and sustainable food, and the food system is more resilient to shocks and emergencies.</p> <p>There are higher rates of breastfeeding and healthy eating among the community.</p>	<p>Goals:</p> <p>There are more opportunities for the community to be physically active.</p> <p>The community reports higher levels of physical activity and lower levels of sedentary behaviour.</p> <p>There are more liveable neighbourhoods which provide access to every day needs such as food, jobs, places for community interaction and open space.</p>	<p>Goal:</p> <p>People of all genders feel safe and live a life free from violence and discrimination.</p>	<p>Goals:</p> <p>The community is equipped to adapt to the adverse health effects of climate change and is capable of bouncing back from climate-related challenges.</p> <p>We encourage well designed public realm and public spaces which create a cooler, greener more liveable city.</p>	<p>Goal:</p> <p>The harm associated with alcohol and tobacco use, vaping, and gambling is reduced.</p>
<p>Goals: The population health and wellbeing outcomes we are striving towards beyond the life of this strategy.</p>					
<p>Strategic Objectives: Our role in the health and wellbeing priority area over the next four years.</p>					
<p>Strategic Actions: Commitments to areas of focus over the next four years</p>					
<p>Annual Action Plans: Evidence-based projects and initiatives that deliver on the strategic actions, objectives, and work towards progress in the six health and wellbeing priority areas. These will be developed annually, and progress reported to the community each year.</p>					

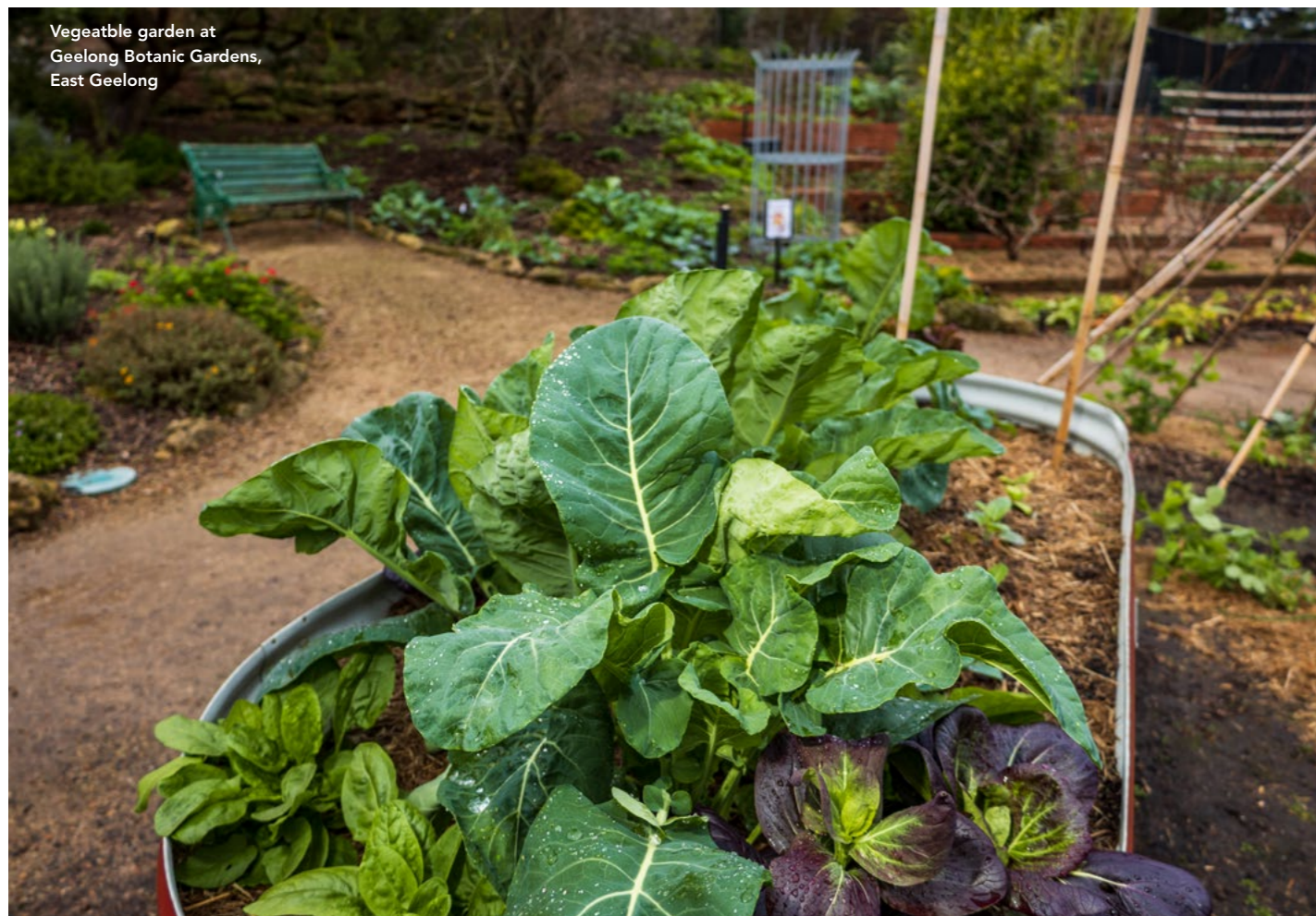
1. MENTAL WELLBEING AND SOCIAL INCLUSION			
OUR GOALS:	OUR COMMITMENTS:		POLICY AND EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDANCE FOR TAKING ACTION:
<p>The community experiences lower levels of psychological distress.</p> <p>All community members feel connected and included in community life and have appropriate access to community facilities and services.</p> <p>All community members have access to housing that is affordable and in a community that is stable, supportive, and safe.</p> <p>COMMUNITY INDICATORS:</p> <p>Psychological distress:</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members experiencing moderate to high levels of psychological distress (GPHS)</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members with a mental health condition (GPHS)</p> <p>Incidence of hospital admissions for self- harm and suicide (Hospital data; GPHS)</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members accessing mental health services (Hospital data)</p> <p>Loneliness</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members experiencing loneliness (GPHS)</p> <p>Ability to call on someone outside the household in an emergency (GPHS)</p>	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Actions	<p>National Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Plan</p> <p>National Children's Mental Health Strategy</p> <p>National Quality Standards (Element 6.2)</p> <p>Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (Outcome 1, 2 and 3)</p> <p>Victorian Child Safe Standards</p> <p>Suicide Prevention and Response Strategy 2024-2034</p> <p>G21 2050 Regional Plan</p> <p>City of Greater Geelong:</p> <p>Advocacy Framework 2024-27</p> <p>Arts and Culture Strategy 2021-31</p> <p>Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-28</p> <p>Geelong on the Rise: A Clever and Creative International City 2024-2034</p> <p>Greater Geelong Planning Scheme</p> <p>Public Realm Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47</p> <p>Open Space Strategy (under development)</p>
	<p>1.1 Provide access to initiatives and infrastructure that create opportunities for social connection.</p>	<p>1.1.1 Provide a variety of community grants to support local initiatives that respond to community needs.</p> <p>1.1.2 Provide residencies and spaces to help local creatives grow and share their craft with the community.</p> <p>1.1.3 In partnership with cultural industries, ensure the community have free or low- cost access to creative events and programs.</p> <p>1.1.4 Build the capability of community members to create resilient and connected communities that can address and advocate for their own needs.</p> <p>1.1.5 Provide opportunities for priority population groups to have shared experiences through events, festivals, arts, and culture.</p> <p>1.1.6 Establish and facilitate the Social Inclusion Action Group and associated social investment fund with both First Nations and mainstream funding streams.</p> <p>1.1.7 Partner with businesses, training providers, and social enterprises to create inclusive job opportunities for diverse community members, including First Nations, young people, older people, and people with disabilities.</p> <p>1.1.8 Support social enterprises and inclusive hiring.</p> <p>1.1.9 Support families to connect with other families in their local community</p> <p>1.1.10 Work with neighbourhood houses, libraries and community centres to provide opportunities for social connection.</p>	

1. MENTAL WELLBEING AND SOCIAL INCLUSION			
OUR GOALS:	OUR COMMITMENTS:		POLICY AND EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDANCE FOR TAKING ACTION:
<p>Homelessness:</p> <p>Number of community members estimated to be experiencing homelessness (ABS Census)</p> <p>OUR MEASURES:</p> <p>Advocacy through submissions and grant applications.</p> <p>Participation in Council run programs.</p> <p>Number of grants provided to the community.</p> <p>Provision of Council assets in line with the City's Social Infrastructure Planning and Investment Policy.</p> <p>Monitor employment rates for priority population groups.</p> <p>Number of local businesses attending capacity building sessions and engaging with social procurement initiatives.</p> <p>Strength of partnerships with stakeholders (e.g. Homelessness Working Group).</p>	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Actions	<p>Rainbow Action Plan 2025–29</p> <p>Settlement Strategy 2020</p> <p>Social Equity Framework 2022-25</p> <p>Social Housing Plan 2021–41</p> <p>Social Infrastructure Planning and Investment Policy</p> <p>Social and Environmental Procurement Policy (under development)</p>
	1.2 Encourage and provide well designed and located buildings, public realm, and open spaces.	<p>1.2.1 Plan for housing close to transport and services in line with our Settlement Strategy.</p> <p>1.2.2 Provide and maintain social infrastructure in line with the Social Infrastructure Planning and Investment Policy.</p>	
	1.3 Increase opportunity for social and affordable housing access for lower income households in the community.	<p>1.3.1 Use City-owned land which is identified as surplus, for social housing.</p> <p>1.3.2 Negotiate with private developers for the inclusion of affordable housing in new private developments.</p> <p>1.3.3 Work with our partners to coordinate responses to homelessness in the City.</p>	
	1.4. Support advocacy to improve the protective factors for mental wellbeing	<p>1.4.1 Encourage community members from diverse backgrounds to provide advice to Council through our advisory committees and reference groups.</p> <p>1.4.2 Advocate for the reorientation of services towards prevention.</p> <p>1.4.3 Advocate for and amplify the voices of priority population groups.</p>	
	1.5 Support reconciliation outcomes for First Nations communities.	<p>1.5.1 Strengthen partnerships with Reconciliation Australia, and local First Nations organisations</p> <p>1.5.2 Foster a deeper appreciation of First Nations culture in the Greater Geelong community.</p>	

2.0 EQUITABLE ACCESS TO SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD			
OUR GOALS:	OUR COMMITMENTS:		POLICY AND EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDANCE FOR TAKING ACTION:
<p>The community has equitable access to safe, healthy, and sustainable food, and the food system is more resilient to shocks and emergencies.</p> <p>There are higher rates of breastfeeding and healthy eating among the community.</p> <p>COMMUNITY INDICATORS:</p> <p>Food security and food systems</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members experiencing food insecurity (GPHS)</p> <p>Average distance to healthy and unhealthy food retail outlets (AUO)</p> <p>Amount of food waste diverted from landfill (Waste)</p> <p>Healthy eating</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members meeting fruit and vegetable guidelines (GPHS)</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members consuming sugar sweetened drinks every day (GPHS)</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members who eat takeaway meals or snacks (GPHS)</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of infants breastfeeding at 6 months of age (MCH)</p>	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Actions	<p>WHO Action Framework for Public Food Procurement and Service Policies</p> <p>NHMRC Australian Dietary Guidelines</p> <p>National Quality Standards (Elements 2.1.3, 6.1 and 7)</p> <p>Victorian Government Healthy Choices Guidelines</p> <p>City of Greater Geelong:</p> <p>Catering Policy</p> <p>Food Policy (Under review)</p> <p>Social and Environmental Procurement Policy (under development)</p> <p>Social Infrastructure Plan</p> <p>Social Infrastructure Planning and Investment Policy</p>
	2.1 Strengthen the City's leadership on equitable access to healthy and sustainable food	<p>2.1.1 Develop a policy framework and action plan that embeds equitable access to safe, healthy and sustainable food across Council operations, guided by internal governance mechanisms.</p> <p>2.1.2 Implement healthy and sustainable food procurement practices across Council-operated services, programs and events.</p> <p>2.1.3 Partner with private and community leaseholders to adopt healthy and sustainable food procurement in Council-owned facilities and venues.</p>	
	2.2 Design built and service environments that support healthy and sustainable food access	<p>2.2.1 Incorporate features into Council infrastructure that promote healthy food access (e.g. community kitchens, breastfeeding facilities, community gardens, edible landscaping).</p> <p>2.2.2 Support early childhood services to provide nutritious meals and educate families on healthy food choices.</p> <p>2.2.3 Promote breastfeeding and healthy eating from infancy.</p> <p>2.2.4 Monitor and support food safety compliance across Greater Geelong.</p>	

2.0 EQUITABLE ACCESS TO SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD

OUR GOALS:	OUR COMMITMENTS:	POLICY AND EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDANCE FOR TAKING ACTION:
<p>OUR MEASURES:</p> <p>Compliance with Management Procedure Strategy/policies endorsed by Council.</p> <p>Participation in early years services where healthy eating is prioritised and part of funded breakfast clubs.</p> <p>Number of facilities and services compliant with Healthy Choices guidelines</p>	<p>Strategic Objectives</p> <p>2.3 Enable collective action to build a healthy, sustainable and fair local food system</p>	<p>Strategic Actions</p> <p>2.3.1 Build and maintain partnerships to strengthen the local food system through a collective impact approach.</p> <p>2.3.2 Strengthen the capacity and coordination of the food relief sector.</p> <p>2.3.3 Support community-led initiatives that address food insecurity and build food literacy.</p> <p>2.3.4 Collaborate with Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative to support access to culturally appropriate, healthy food and strengthen food knowledge systems.</p>



3.0 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND ACTIVE LIVING

OUR GOALS:	OUR COMMITMENTS:	POLICY AND EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDANCE FOR TAKING ACTION:								
<p>There are more opportunities for the community to be physically active.</p> <p>The community reports higher levels of physical activity and lower levels of sedentary behaviour.</p> <p>There are more liveable neighbourhoods which provide access to every day needs such as food, jobs, places for community interaction and open space.</p> <p>COMMUNITY INDICATORS:</p> <p>Active transport:</p> <p>Modes of travel, walkability, distance to public transport (AUO)</p> <p>Physical activity:</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of community members across all age groups meeting physical activity guidelines (GPHS)</p> <p>Sedentary behaviour:</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of adults who are sedentary (GPHS)</p> <p>OUR MEASURES:</p> <p>Participation in / attendance at programs for priority populations</p> <p>New membership tiers for priority populations in the City's Leisure facilities</p> <p>Number of partnership initiatives for physical activity</p> <p>Progress towards 50 per cent of trips to work being made by active travel and public transport by 2047.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Strategic Objectives</th> <th>Strategic Actions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <p>3.1 Design liveable, walkable neighbourhoods that promote active living.</p> </td> <td> <p>3.1.1 Invest in and upgrade infrastructure to promote active living for all ages and abilities.</p> <p>3.1.2 Promote and encourage safe, active travel by providing appropriate infrastructure and facilities, and connecting residential areas to key destinations.</p> <p>3.1.3 Increase opportunities for passive recreation and incidental exercise in our streetscapes and open spaces.</p> <p>3.1.4 Encourage a diversity of housing close to everyday needs.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>3.2 Increase and promote opportunities for active living</p> </td> <td> <p>3.2.1 Design play spaces and programs that encourage physical activity for children of all abilities.</p> <p>3.2.2 Support major sporting and community events that encourage community participation.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>3.3 Increase participation in sport and recreation, especially for groups who face barriers.</p> </td> <td> <p>3.3.1 Provide equitable access and targeted programming for priority population groups at the City's aquatic, leisure and recreation facilities.</p> <p>3.3.2 Work with our partners to promote inclusive and all abilities participation in sport and recreation.</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Actions	<p>3.1 Design liveable, walkable neighbourhoods that promote active living.</p>	<p>3.1.1 Invest in and upgrade infrastructure to promote active living for all ages and abilities.</p> <p>3.1.2 Promote and encourage safe, active travel by providing appropriate infrastructure and facilities, and connecting residential areas to key destinations.</p> <p>3.1.3 Increase opportunities for passive recreation and incidental exercise in our streetscapes and open spaces.</p> <p>3.1.4 Encourage a diversity of housing close to everyday needs.</p>	<p>3.2 Increase and promote opportunities for active living</p>	<p>3.2.1 Design play spaces and programs that encourage physical activity for children of all abilities.</p> <p>3.2.2 Support major sporting and community events that encourage community participation.</p>	<p>3.3 Increase participation in sport and recreation, especially for groups who face barriers.</p>	<p>3.3.1 Provide equitable access and targeted programming for priority population groups at the City's aquatic, leisure and recreation facilities.</p> <p>3.3.2 Work with our partners to promote inclusive and all abilities participation in sport and recreation.</p>	<p>Australian Physical Activity Guidelines</p> <p>Sport 2030 National Sports Plan</p> <p>National Quality Standards (Element 2.1.3)</p> <p>Urban Design Guidelines for Victoria</p> <p>Active Victoria 2022-2026</p> <p>Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018-2028</p> <p>G21 2050 Regional Plan</p> <p>Vision Zero Geelong: Safe Local Travel 2022-2027</p> <p>City of Greater Geelong:</p> <p>Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-28</p> <p>Fair Play Strategy</p> <p>Fair Access Policy</p> <p>Geelong Major Events Strategy 2024-29</p> <p>Greater Geelong Planning Scheme</p> <p>Integrated Transport Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Open Space Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Plan for Nature (under development)</p> <p>Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47</p> <p>Public Realm Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Shared Trails Masterplan</p> <p>Social Infrastructure Planning and Investment Policy</p>
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4.0 GENDER EQUITY AND PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE

OUR GOALS:	OUR COMMITMENTS:		POLICY AND EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDANCE FOR TAKING ACTION:
	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Actions	
<p>People of all genders feel safe and live a life free from violence and discrimination.</p> <p>COMMUNITY INDICATORS:</p> <p>Family Violence:</p> <p>Family violence incidents reported to the Police (Victoria Police).</p> <p>Feelings of Safety:</p> <p>Feelings of safety in the local area, and no significant difference is detected based on gender (GPHS).</p> <p>OUR MEASURES:</p> <p>Number of community events which promote gender equity.</p> <p>Strength of partnerships with stakeholders (e.g. Respect 2040).</p> <p>Confidence of staff to identify family violence in the community.</p> <p>Gender equity assessments are completed for all significant recreation infrastructure design projects as per the Gender Equality Act, 2020.</p> <p>Number of women and trans and gender diverse people nominating for Council elections.</p> <p>Equal gender split in senior leadership positions.</p>	<p>4.1 Promote gender equity and equality within the community.</p>	<p>4.1.1 Raise awareness of gender equity and violence prevention within the community.</p> <p>4.1.2 Implement programs that educate young children about gender equity and respectful relationships.</p>	<p>National Quality Standards (Element 5.1.1 and 5.1.2)</p> <p>Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (Outcome 1)</p> <p>Victorian Child Safe Standards</p> <p>Our Equal State: Victoria's Gender Equality Strategy and Action Plan 2023-27</p> <p>Free from Violence: Victoria's Strategy to prevent family violence and all forms of violence against women</p> <p>G21 2050 Regional Plan</p> <p>Respect 2040 Regional Partnership</p> <p>City of Greater Geelong:</p> <p>Community Safety Framework 2022- 26</p> <p>Fair Access Policy 2024</p> <p>Gambling Harm Minimisation Policy</p> <p>Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-25</p> <p>Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2024</p> <p>Open Space Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47</p> <p>Public Realm Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Rainbow Action Plan 2025-29</p> <p>Smart Cities Strategic Framework and Implementation Action Plan</p>
	<p>4.2 Increase opportunities for prevention of violence.</p>	<p>4.2.1 Support inclusion for the LGBTIQ+ community.</p> <p>4.2.2 Build capability for our community-facing workforce to identify and respond to incidents of family violence.</p> <p>4.2.3 Work with our regional partners to prevent violence against women.</p>	
	<p>4.3. Foster gender inclusive leadership, policies, and workforce development.</p>	<p>4.3.1 Work to improve gender balance in Community Services workforces that are predominately dominated by one gender.</p> <p>4.3.2 Develop and implement the Gender Equality Action Plan 2026-29.</p>	
	<p>4.4. Ensure the community feels safe in public places.</p>	<p>4.4.1 Work with our partners to promote community safety initiatives and monitor local hot spots.</p> <p>4.4.2 Embed gender equity principles into infrastructure planning, masterplans, and urban design frameworks.</p> <p>4.4.3 Design and activate public spaces to promote community safety (e.g., lighting, passive surveillance).</p>	

5.0 CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH IMPACTS

OUR GOALS:	OUR COMMITMENTS:		POLICY AND EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDANCE FOR TAKING ACTION:
	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Actions	
<p>The community is equipped to adapt to the adverse health effects of climate change and is capable of bouncing back from climate-related challenges.</p> <p>The City encourages well designed public realm and public spaces which create a cooler, greener more liveable city.</p> <p>COMMUNITY INDICATORS:</p> <p>Community attitudes:</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of residents concerned about the impact of climate change on their health (GPHS)</p> <p>Community resilience:</p> <p>Proportion (per cent) of homes where the temperature is always uncomfortable (GPHS)</p> <p>Vulnerability:</p> <p>Lower incidence of heat related illness (Hospital data)</p> <p>Lower incidence of thunderstorm asthma (Hospital data)</p> <p>OUR MEASURES:</p> <p>Progress towards planting one million new trees in Greater Geelong by 2030.</p> <p>Progress towards 50 per cent of work trips being made by active travel or public transport by 2047.</p>	<p>5.1. Foster improved access to green spaces and the natural environment.</p>	<p>5.1.1 Promote Greater Geelong's natural assets to the community, highlighting the health and wellbeing benefits of being in nature.</p> <p>5.1.2 Increase tree canopy cover and create shady pedestrian streetscapes to reduce urban heat island effects and UV exposure.</p> <p>5.2. Increase community resilience to the health impacts of climate change and extreme weather events.</p> <p>5.2.1 Develop a communications strategy to raise awareness of the health impacts of climate change and promote climate actions that improve health.</p> <p>5.2.2 Raise community awareness of the risks associated with the increase in frequency and severity of extreme weather events.</p> <p>5.2.3 Identify opportunities to create climate resilient local food systems.</p> <p>5.2.4 Support partnerships and programs that engage the community in environmentally sustainable initiatives.</p> <p>5.2.5 Build multi agency partnerships to effectively respond to emergency events and support community recovery.</p>	<p>National Health and Climate Strategy Implementation Plan 2024-28</p> <p>National Quality Standards (Element 3.2.3)</p> <p>Victoria's Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Victorian State Emergency Management Plan (SEMP)</p> <p>Victorian Emergency Management Planning Toolkit for People most at risk</p> <p>G21 2050 Regional Plan</p> <p>Barwon Southwest Regional Climate Adaptation Strategy 2020-25</p> <p>City of Greater Geelong:</p> <p>Climate Change Response Plan 2024-28</p> <p>Environment Strategy 2020-30</p> <p>Integrated Transport Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Mosquito Management Program</p> <p>Municipal Emergency Management Plan</p> <p>Open Space Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Plan for Nature (under development)</p> <p>Public Realm Strategy (under development)</p> <p>Urban Forest Strategy 2015-25</p> <p>Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-30</p>

6.0 HARM MINIMISATION

OUR GOALS:	OUR COMMITMENTS:	POLICY AND EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDANCE FOR TAKING ACTION:
<p>The harm associated with alcohol and tobacco use, vaping, and gambling is reduced.</p> <p>COMMUNITY INDICATORS:</p> <p>Alcohol harm:</p> <p>Fewer community members are at increased risk from alcohol use, and no significant difference is detected by gender (GPHS)</p> <p>Vaping prevalence:</p> <p>Decrease in proportion (%) of residents who vape (GPHS)</p> <p>OUR MEASURES:</p> <p>Number of Electronic Gaming Machines (EGM) applications opposed.</p> <p>Positive outcomes from enforcement activities.</p> <p>Strength of partnerships with stakeholders (e.g. Victoria Police).</p>	<p>Strategic Objectives</p> <p>6.1 Collaborate with partner organisations to increase opportunities for prevention.</p>	<p><i>6.1.1 Increase community awareness of the harms associated with alcohol and tobacco use, vaping, and gambling.</i></p> <p><i>6.1.2 Explore partnership opportunities to identify and promote smoke/vape-free areas within Greater Geelong.</i></p>
	<p>6.2 Create supportive environments for health promoting behaviours.</p>	<p><i>6.2.1 Actively support community or sporting clubs, groups, or organisations to divest themselves of Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs).</i></p> <p><i>6.2.2 Monitor the sale of tobacco and the provision of smoke free dining areas.</i></p> <p><i>6.2.3 Promote community safety by monitoring alcohol free and smoke free areas.</i></p> <p><i>6.2.4 Provide support for families to create smoke-free and safe home environments.</i></p>
		<p><i>National Alcohol Strategy 2019-28</i></p> <p><i>National Drug Strategy 2017-26</i></p> <p><i>National Tobacco Strategy 2023-30</i></p> <p><i>Victorian Tobacco Act 1987</i></p> <p><i>G21 2050 Regional Plan</i></p> <p>City of Greater Geelong:</p> <p><i>Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2024</i></p> <p><i>Community Safety Framework 2022-26</i></p> <p><i>Gambling Harm Minimisation Policy</i></p>

IMPLEMENTATION, EVALUATION, GOVERNANCE

IMPLEMENTATION

Partnerships

We recognise that achieving our health and wellbeing goals requires strong partnerships. We will work closely with community groups, organisations, and other agencies to leverage their expertise and resources. Key partners include local health services, educational institutions, and non-profit organisations. We will continue to seek out new opportunities for collaboration to address our priority areas.

Our health and wellbeing partners network offers essential guidance to help us achieve our shared objectives. Our current partners include Barwon Health, Barwon South West Local Public Health Unit, Bellarine Community Health, Cultura, Deakin University, Department of Education, Department of Health, Geelong Foodshare, Geelong Regional Libraries Corporation, Leisure Networks, Meli, Sexual Assault and Family Violence Centre, Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative, Western Victoria Primary Health Network and Women's Health and Wellbeing Barwon South West.

Our sport and recreation network is a partnership between us and 12 sport and recreation associations. The network aims to work closely and collaboratively with the governing body of each sport to review sporting operations, align strategic planning and maximise the use of council owned or managed facilities to generate health and wellbeing outcomes in alignment with our policies and strategies. We also undertakes an annual Sport and Recreation Census which is designed to collect annual utilisation and participation data from over 200 sporting clubs to support strategic planning for the future.

We are also involved in many other networks and partnerships to share information, learn from others and collaborate to achieve our goals.

Annual Action Plan

Each financial year, an annual action plan will highlight the projects and initiatives to be implemented over the next 12 months which make progress towards the strategic actions, objectives and health and wellbeing priority areas of this strategy.

The progress of the annual action plan will be monitored quarterly.

EVALUATION

An evaluation framework will be developed to accompany this strategy which will provide for the following opportunities for review and learning.

Annual Review

Our health and wellbeing priorities will be reviewed annually with key staff, our partners and community. This will help ensure our priorities are relevant to emerging community needs.

An annual report will be prepared for Councillors and the community which provides an update on the progress of the annual action plan. This will include data collected against our measures for each health and wellbeing priority area.

We commit to establishing intermediate indicators with our partners to measure collective impact.

Mid-point review

The health and wellbeing profile will be updated with new data from the 2026 Census and any other new data available.

Final review

Population health indicators from the Geelong Preventative Health Survey will be benchmarked every four years to track progress towards improved health and wellbeing outcomes for the Greater Geelong community.

GOVERNANCE

Health and Wellbeing Internal Governance Group

A group of key representatives from across the organisation will be established to monitor implementation of the strategy and participate in the annual review process.

This group will enable information sharing and collaboration across different departments with responsibilities for community health and wellbeing outcomes.

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