mosaicLAB

City of Melton

Facilitation of engagement sessions for Melton City Council key strategic documents

PROCESS REPORT

May 2021

LIMITATIONS OF USE

This report has been prepared by MosaicLab on behalf of and for the exclusive use of Melton City Council.

The sole purpose of this report is to provide a report of the methodology and process undertaken for Melton City Council.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the scope of services set out by Melton City Council for MosaicLab as their facilitation consultants. Melton City Council can choose to share and distribute this report as they see fit. MosaicLab accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever for or in respect of any use of or reliance upon this report by any third party.

MosaicLab is a team of engagement practitioners and facilitators based in Victoria. We work with government agencies, community groups, industry and commercial organisations and support them to have meaningful conversations that lead to action. Our processes bring diverse people together to solve complex problems and make a positive difference to decision-making.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Melton City Council (MCC) showed commitment to developing a community vision and long-term strategies that reflect the aspirations of the City of Melton community as they plan for the next four years and through to 2041. Council plans included as part of the engagement were Community Vision 2041, Financial Plan (10 years), Asset Plan (10 years), Council and Wellbeing Plan (4 years). MosaicLab was chosen to facilitate all internal and community workshop sessions.

The engagement process that was designed was intended to not just fulfil the requirements of the Local Government Act but to offer opportunities for greater dialogue between Councillors, Council staff, and community. The engagement activities included eight workshops with Councillors, staff, management, and the community (City of Melton Community Panel). The sequencing of the workshops aimed to be iterative, with each conversation building on those held previously. MosaicLab facilitated the majority of workshops, excluding the second and third Councillor workshops which were conducted inhouse.

Melton City Council internal workshops

Three Councillor workshops *(approx. 2.5 hours each)*	One Executive and managers workshop *(approx. 2 hours)*	Two workshops with Council staff *(approx. 3 hours each)*

City of Melton Community Panel

A community welcome and context setting information session *(Maximum 90 mins)*	Two community workshops *(approx. 4 hours each)*

Because of the uncertainty of the situation surrounding COVID-19, it was determined that all workshops would be delivered as online workshops, except for the second and third Councillor workshops.

REMIT

What are our aspirations for the growing City of Melton in 2041 and how should we prioritise and resource in order to get there?

CITY OF MELTON COMMUNITY PANEL

From February to April 2021, 40 randomly selected community members, who were representative of the City of Melton, were selected to be members of the City of Melton Community Panel.

The panel had the task to:

- Update the Community Vision 2041, which outlined the long-term aspirations of the City of Melton community.
- Provide community feedback (principles and/or priorities) for the development of the Council & Wellbeing Plan 2021-25, Financial Plan 2021-31, and Asset Plan 2021-31, which will help realise the aspirations outlined in the Community Vision 2041.

COUNCIL STAFF AND COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT

Operating alongside the community panel was an engagement process with the Mayor, Councillors and staff to develop a set of strategies for the Council and Wellbeing Plan that supported the community's long-term vision for City of Melton.

This report outlines the community panel process and summarises the design and implementation of the deliberative engagement process, in section 1. This report also contains a summary of the process undertaken with Councillors and staff in section 2.

THE ROADMAP (PROCESS OVERVIEW)

The roadmap below provides an overview of the *City of Melton* engagement process:

PHASE 1

NOV 2020 – FEB 2021

PLANNING AND PREPARATION

OBJECTIVES

- Codesign session with project team and decision makers
- Strategic Engagement Plan developed
- Independent recruiter appointed and recruitment plan finalised
- Councillor and executive engagement and sign-off

DATA IN

- Project Proposal

DATA OUT

- Strategic Engagement Plan
- Panel Recruitment Plan

PHASE 2

FEB 2021

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVATION AND PANEL RECRUITMENT

OBJECTIVES

- Recruitment process initiated and invitations sent to random addresses
- Expressions of Interest received and random stratification undertaken by independent recruiter
- Background materials prepared for Community Panel to pre-read

DATA IN

- Strategic Engagement Plan
- Panel Recruitment Plan

DATA OUT

- Background materials
- Draft Community Vision 2041

PHASE 3

FEB – APR 2021

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES (internal workshops and Community Panel)

OBJECTIVES

- 40-member Community Panel recruited
- Community Panel: Meet & Greet, 2 x 4hr workshops to provide recommendations
- Council workshops (in between Community Panel sessions), 2 x staff workshops, 1x management and executive workshop
- 2 x Councillor workshops to consider community and staff input and finalise

  Council & Wellbeing Plan

DATA IN

- Draft Community Vision 2041
- Background materials
- Survey data from broad community engagement

DATA OUT

- Community Panel demographics
- Reports of what was said at each workshop
- Consultant Management Report from all workshops including Panel recommendations

PHASE 4

MAY – AUG 2021

FINALISING COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLANS

OBJECTIVES

- Community Vision 2041 updated and put on public exhibition
- Council & Wellbeing Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan developed and put on public exhibition

DATA IN

- Consultant Management Report from all workshops including Community Panel recommendations

DATA OUT

- Draft Community Vision 2041
- Draft Council & Wellbeing Plan
- Draft Financial Plan
- Draft Asset Plan
- Wider Engagement Report

PHASE 5

SEPT – NOV 2021

REPORTING AND FEEDBACK

OBJECTIVES

- Communication with Community Panel members about what was included and not included in the final plans.
- All Council strategic plans adopted.

DATA IN

- Panel Recommendations Report
- Consultant Management Report

DATA OUT

- Community Vision 2041
- Financial Plan 2021-31
- Asset Plan 2021-31
- Council & Wellbeing Plan 2021-25

2. BACKGROUND TO PROJECT

WIDER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council has legislative requirements under the Local Government Act and Public Health and Wellbeing Act to deliver a new Council and Wellbeing Plan for 2021-2025. Alongside this process Council is also required to update its Community Vision, which was first established in 2017. One of the legislated requirements is that the Community Vision is required to be updated at the beginning of each Council term and must inform the development of the Council Plan.

An update of the Community Vision began in March 2020 and provided broad community feedback on the themes of the Community Vision 2036. This feedback, along with some preliminary feedback for the new Council and Wellbeing Plan, was presented to the outgoing Council in September 2020. This feedback was used to formulate the themes for the Community Vision 2041.

In early 2021, the City of Melton Conversations page went live with a public survey about priorities for the Council and Wellbeing Plan to inform its development. The survey was framed by the themes of the draft Community Vision 2041.

More about this wider engagement process can be found here

https://conversations.melton.vic.gov.au/help-shape-city-melton

This data was presented to the Community Panel to take into consideration for the final refinement of the Community Vision 2041.

3. WHAT IS A COMMUNITY PANEL?

A community panel is a name for a deliberative forum. These deliberative engagement processes work on the premise that people can deliver smart, long-term decisions which earn public trust if they are given enough information and time to weigh up the pros and cons and consider the trade-offs associated with an issue.

Deliberation is built around several core principles including that:

- participants are selected randomly and are descriptively representative of the broader community affected by the decision
- participants have access to a range of in-depth information from multiple, diverse sources
- the group's report has a high level of influence over outcomes or decisions.

Expert facilitation is a vital element to foster vibrant deliberative dialogue and a supportive, open environment. Facilitators in a deliberative process work to:

- design a process that is participatory and engaging, enables the group to meet their remit, and builds in key elements such as relationship building, critical thinking, information sharing and group agreement
- encourage active participation from all group members
- ensure no one individual dominates
- encourage participants to express themselves freely
- protect process integrity, transparency and independence
- keep the group moving through the process at an adequate pace in order to deliver a report during the time allocated.

4. *CITY OF MELTON* COMMUNITY PANEL

OVERVIEW

This deliberative engagement process saw 42 randomly selected participants from the City of Melton come together to consider the question:

> ***What are our aspirations for the growing City of Melton in 2041 and how should we prioritise and resource in order to get there?***

The City of Melton community panel was independently recruited by Deliberately Engaging, an organisation that specialises in random stratified recruitment processes.

City of Melton Community Panel

- A community welcome and context setting information session (Maximum 90 mins)
- A Q&A with Council staff (1 hour)
- Two community workshops (approx. 4 hours each)

Due to COVID-19, the panel was facilitated entirely online via Zoom over three ½ days, all during the evening. The panelists got to know one another, shared experiences and ideas, and worked collaboratively using information from selected speakers, background research and their own lived experience.

The panel focused on the following tasks:

- developing a vision statement for the Community Vision
- creating a title for the Community Vision
- identifying priorities and gaps amongst the draft Council and Wellbeing Plan strategies
- developing principles that would guide decision making for the financial and asset management plans.

The process involved:

- a randomly selected group of participants
- a clear question (remit) to focus the deliberations
- access to a broad range of information from a variety of sources relevant to the remit including their own private City of Melton Conversations page fact sheets, videos and documents
- conversations with key speakers (for example staff responsible for each plan)
- time (3 evening sessions + a Q&A with Council staff)
- support from facilitators experienced in delivering deliberative processes
- a final report authored by the panellists.

Please refer to Recruitment chapter for more information about the panel demographics as well as the Community Panel Roadmap chapter for more details about the focus and process of panel sessions.

ROLES

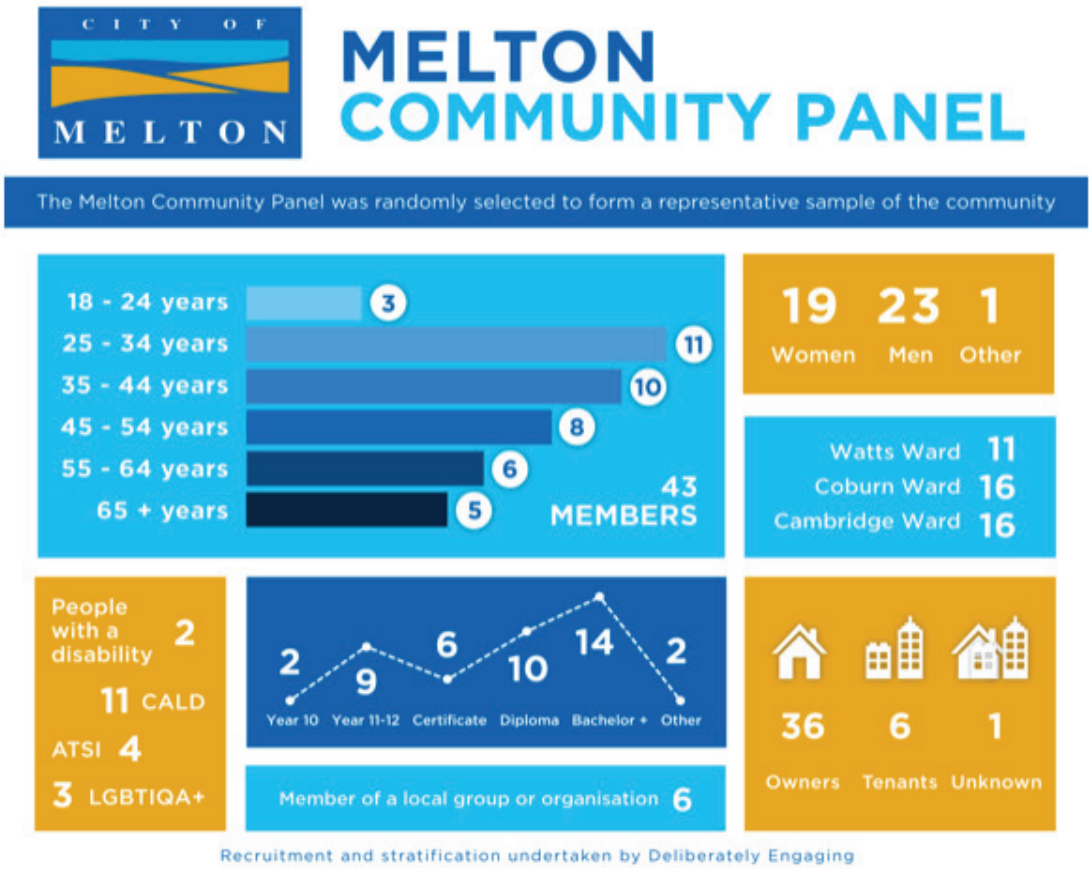
Several groups were involved in this project, as outlined in the table below.

Panellists	*Randomly selected community members*	To work together to support the aspirations for the City of Melton and prioritise how Council gets there.
Melton City Council	*Host*	To support and host the process, prepare the background paper, provide expertise and knowledge as requested by the panel, observe the process, answer specific questions directed to them, and respond to the panel's final report.
MosaicLab facilitators	*Independent facilitators*	To provide a supportive, inclusive and productive space that enabled panellists to deliberate, respond to their remit and make recommendations within the time available.
Deliberately Engaging	*Independent recruiters*	To manage the recruitment process (including random selection and stratification) and ensure it was fair and unbiased. To manage panellist attendance where required and provide support to panellists as needed to ensure they could get to panel sessions.

PANEL RECRUITMENT

Deliberately Engaging recruited a 42-person panel and worked directly with MCC to manage the recruitment process (including random selection and stratification) and ensure it was fair and unbiased. Deliberately Engaging continued to work with MCC to support the panelists throughout the process with communications ensuring that they had the necessary information to attend all sessions.

At the outset the demographics of the community panel were as follows:



Panel numbers dropped between each session. At the Welcome and Information session 42 panel members were in attendance, 34 members in the first workshop and 21 members at the final workshop. Many members cited personal and work reasons for not being able to attend all sessions.

COMMUNITY PANEL DETAILED ROADMAP

MEET AND GREET

7.00pm – 8.30pm

FEBRUARY 23

Welcome and introduction

Getting to know each other

Working agreements

About the Melton Panel

Panel 1 - What to expect

DATA IN

Background Fact Sheets and videos

Draft Community Vision 2041

DATA OUT

Community Panel demographics

PANEL MEETING 1

5.00pm – 9.00pm

MARCH 3

Discuss project context & background

Learn about draft vision

Community Vision –gaps and writing the vision statement

Financial and Asset Plans – drafting guiding principles

DATA IN

Melton 2041 Community Vision draft ·

Background materials ·

Slides about Asset and financial planning and fact sheets

DATA OUT

Panel Recommendations for community vision, gaps and draft ideas for financial/asset principles

Q&A SESSION

12.00pm – 1.00pm

MARCH 10

Question and answer session with Melton City Council staff on the Community Panel task.

DATA IN

Questions for staff

DATA OUT

Video recording of Q&A session

COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

MARCH 18 - 31

Council and Wellbeing Plan focus

Councillor workshops

Staff workshops

Executive and manager workshop

DATA IN

Previous Council and Wellbeing Plan

DATA OUT

Draft Council & Wellbeing Plan – Vision, mission, themes, objectives and strategies

PANEL MEETING 2

5.00pm – 9.00pm

APRIL 21

Review & refine guiding principles for Financial and Asset Plans

Drafting Council and Wellbeing Plan priorities

Thank you with Mayor and CEO

DATA IN

Draft ideas for financial/asset principles

Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 strategies

DATA OUT

Principles for financial and asset decisions

Priorities and gaps for Council Plan

5. WHAT THE COMMUNITY PANEL ACHIEVED

The panel focused on the following tasks:

- developing a vision statement for the Community Vision
- creating a title for the Community Vision
- identifying priorities and gaps amongst the draft Council and Wellbeing Plan strategies
- developing principles that would guide decision making for the financial and asset management plans.

VISION STATEMENT

The Community Panel developed two versions of a vision statement to give to Council Staff to merge offline. The following was the version that combined both panel contributions.

In 2041, our community is VIBRANT and WELCOMING.

We are PROGRESSIVE in promoting LIVEABILITY and SUSTAINABILITY, we NURTURE our natural environment, and we MANAGE our growth in a way that fosters CONNECTION, INCLUSION and TRUST.

We are known as a learning City and for our PIONEERING INNOVATION that delivers abundant local employment opportunities. We are a healthy community with ACCESS to a state-of-the-art hospital and local health services.

We are ACTIVELY ENGAGED in our community, we VALUE each other and create a sense of BELONGING that celebrates our diverse and evolving City together.

COMMUNITY VISION – GAPS

The Community Panel spent time looking across the draft Community Vision themes and identified a range of ideas/gaps for Council to consider. These ideas were provided to Council's project team to consider when refining the Community Vision 2041.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR FINANCIAL AND ASSET DECISION MAKING

The community panel spent time in both workshop sessions learning about financial and asset plans and Council's current status in these areas. The panel spent time exploring ideas, grouping similar ideas, writing draft principles, providing feedback to each other's work and finally drafting their final version. The focus of each principle is listed below.

1. Public transport and upgrade future road infrastructure network.
2. Maintain existing assets in world class condition, and invest in new, safe and viable assets for the long-term benefit of the community.
3. Facilities and Services for the safety and wellbeing of the community (Health Services (GP's, clinics etc.) & education
4. Subsidies to make new business formation easier and attract new businesses.
5. Ensure sustainability (people, planet and profit).
6. An inclusive community for all
7. Outdoor activities and enjoyment

FEEDBACK ON GAPS AND PRIORITIES OF DRAFT COUNCIL AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025

The community panel were presented with all of the draft strategies of the Council and Wellbeing Plan and were asked to work together to provide feedback on gaps and which ones were a priority. This work was completed in several rounds across all of the 90+ strategies. The panel's written feedback was recorded in their final report and provided to the Mayor and CEO at the final workshop.

MELTON CITY COUNCIL INTERNAL WORKSHOPS

Operating alongside the community panel was an engagement process with the Mayor, Councillors, executive and staff to develop he direction and content for the Council and Wellbeing Plan that supported the community's long-term vision for the City of Melton. Each session was designed to build from the last and keeping refining the content of the Council and Wellbeing Plan. These internal sessions were also designed to integrate the work from the Community Panel to inform the Council and Wellbeing Plan direction.

The internal workshops were highly interactive and participatory and included:

Three Councillor workshops *(approx. 2.5 hours each)*	One Executive and managers workshop *(approx. 2 hours)*	Two workshops with Council staff *(approx. 3 hours each)*

More details of the sessions can be found in the following roadmap. It should be noted that an additional Councillor workshop was held immediately following the first Councillor workshop that was not in the original plan. This additional workshop was held face-to-face, as was the third Councillor workshop. The second and third Councillor workshops were facilitated by Council staff.

INTERNAL WORKSHOPS_A ROADMAP

Councillor Workshop 1 and 2

Council and Wellbeing Plan

18 and 22 March 2021
6.30pm-9pm
(2 x 2.5 hours)

FOCUS

Council and Wellbeing Plan

Use recommendations from the Community Panel, to inform the development of the Mission, Vision and Objectives for the Council and Wellbeing Plan

DATA IN

Panel Recommendations for vision and principles

DATA OUT

Draft mission, vision and objectives for the Council and Wellbeing Plan

Staff Workshop 1

Council and Wellbeing Plan

24 March
9.30-12.30pm
(3 hours)

FOCUS

Council and Wellbeing Plan

Propose strategies for the Council and Wellbeing Plan in response to all previous inputs from Councillors and Community Panel

DATA IN

Draft mission, vision and objectives for the Council and Wellbeing Plan

DATA OUT

Draft strategies for the Council and Wellbeing Plan to meet the mission, vision and objectives

Staff Workshop 2

Council and Wellbeing Plan

29 March 2021
1.30pm-4.30pm
(3 hours)

FOCUS

Council and Wellbeing Plan

Propose strategies for the Council and Wellbeing Plan in response to Councillor and Community Panel workshops

DATA IN

Draft mission, vision and objectives for the Council and Wellbeing Plan

DATA OUT

Draft strategies for the Council and Wellbeing Plan to meet the mission, vision and objectives

Executive & Managers Workshop

Council and Wellbeing Plan

31 March 2021
2pm-4pm
(2 hours)

FOCUS

Council and Wellbeing Plan

Assess viability of proposed strategies for the Council and Wellbeing Plan in response to Councillor, staff and Community Panel workshops

DATA IN

· Draft mission, vision and objectives for the Council and Wellbeing Plan

· Draft strategies for the Council and Wellbeing Plan

DATA OUT

Draft strategies for the Council and Wellbeing Plan to meet the mission, vision and objectives

Councillor Workshop 2

Council and Wellbeing Plan

27 April
6.30pm-8.30pm
(2 hours)

FOCUS

Council and Wellbeing Plan

Considering all recommendations received, finalise Council and Wellbeing Plan's themes, objectives and strategies.

DATA IN

Draft Council and Wellbeing Plan mission, vision, strategies and objectives

DATA OUT

Draft Melton Council & Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025

6. WHAT THE INTERNAL WORKSHOPS ACHIEVED

The internal workshops focused on the following tasks:

- Developing the vision, mission, themes and objectives for the Council & Wellbeing Plan and reviewing the strategies (Councillors only)
- Proposing strategies to meet the objectives (staff and executive only)

Attendees for all internal workshops included the following

- 8-9 Councillors attended each of their workshops and were supported by MosaicLab and/or Council staff
- 72 Council Staff members attended either of the two staff workshops from across the whole organisation
- 22 Managers and Executive participated in the Executive workshop
- Integrated Planning Project team attended all workshops

COUNCIL AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025

Vision: A vibrant, safe and liveable City accessible to all

Mission: Council will nurture the aspirations of the community, promote respectful relationships and support growth through engagement, excellence and inclusion

6 Strategic Themes

A safe City that is socially and culturally connected	A vibrant, healthy and natural environment	A fast growing, innovative and well-planned City
A City that promotes greater education and employment	A community that is actively engaged in the City	A high performing organisation that demonstrates civic leadership and organisational excellence

29 supporting objectives were also developed with over 90 strategies proposed to meet those objectives. These strategies were presented to the Community Panel to prioritise in their final workshop. All Council and Wellbeing Plan strategies were provided to Councillors for final discussion and endorsement in May 2021.

City of Melton

Draft Community Panel Report

21 April 2021

Community Vision 2041

In 2041, our community is VIBRANT and WELCOMING.

We are PROGRESSIVE in promoting LIVEABILITY and SUSTAINABILITY, we NURTURE our natural environment, and we MANAGE our growth in a way that fosters CONNECTION, INCLUSION and TRUST.

We are known as a learning City and for our PIONEERING INNOVATION that delivers abundant local employment opportunities. We are a healthy community with ACCESS to a state of the art hospital and local health services.

We are ACTIVELY ENGAGED in our community, we VALUE each other and create a sense of BELONGING that celebrates our diverse and evolving City together.

Guiding principles for financial and asset decisions

Principle 1

Heading Public transport and upgrade future road infrastructure network.
Short Description (what is the intent of this) Provide supporting infrastructure for the public transport facilities to encourage people to use public transport connections which inturn reduces cars on the road which will result in a reduction in the maintenance fund for road infrastructure and can be reallocated to upgrades and expansions to the road network. Interconnecting roads with adjacent bike and walking paths, without interference onto merging road traffic, while connecting safely to existing vline and metro stations.
Rationale (why is it important to the community) For the longevity of the community network it is important for the transport and road infrastructure to be planned for the growth of the community in a safe and accessible manner. We suggest a review of current and future public infrastructure highlighting specifically lighting, multi level carpark, accessibility.
Guestbook comments (PRINCIPLE 2 - Suggestions to improve this principle) • Providing access to public transport which connects people to businesses and facilities • Build new facilities closer to bus stops and train stations and encourage active transport

Principle 2

Heading Maintain existing assets in world class condition, and invest in new, safe and viable assets for the long term benefit of the community.
Short Description (what is the intent of this) Be guided by a world class 'asset quality' assessment criterion and invest in new, safe and viable assets, which eliminates the need to re-invest after a short while, due to wrong investment decisions. Existing assets (sports arenas for youth) to be maintained at a safe and world class level, to the benefit of the community.
Rationale (why is it important to the community) Melton being one of the fast growing communities, safety of the assets and re-investment in new assets is of paramount importance.
Guestbook comments (PRINCIPLE 2 - Suggestions to improve this principle) • Ensuring the sustainable creation, maintenance and longevity of assets

Principle 3

Heading Facilities and Services for the safety and wellbeing of the community (Health Services (GP's, clinics etc.) & Education)
Short Description (what is the intent of this) To improve the access to, and the safety around, all types of services such as health (physical as well as psychological health), public transport and educational services for all Melton Council residents.
Rationale (why is it important to the community) A healthy and safe community benefits the council both in the short term and long term. Easy access to services (all of the above) improves the physical and mental health of residents, which will mean a safe and healthy council for everyone's benefit. Safer transport options (interconnecting footpaths, bike paths etc.) will further improve the council populations health and safety (by removing the risk of traffic accidents involving pedestrians and cyclists/other road users). Further (primary, secondary as well as adult) education options for local and external students mean that Melton Council will benefit from the talent retained within the community.
Guestbook comments (PRINCIPLE 2 - Suggestions to improve this principle) • Use of the natural environment to promote health such as filtered air, CO2 absorption and shade from trees

Principle 4

Heading

Subsidies to make new business formation easier and attract new businesses.

Short Description (what is the intent of this)

- Incentives to keep jobs in local community
- Create a geographical business Hub.
- Financially subsidize rents for business and public transport for workers to and within the hub
- Give reasons to create business communities
- Council more active within the business communities.
- Local transport for disabled workers to get to business hubs for work.
- Council planning to help with expenses to make buildings with disabled access
- Council should be inclusive, welcoming and encouraging local businesses. People from diverse backgrounds should be encouraged to start their own businesses within Melton. Locally sourcing Melton residents
- Facilities similar to Western Base be either more widespread across community or advertised better.

Rationale (why is it important to the community)

Generates jobs, Cash, spirits the economy.

Guestbook comments (PRINCIPLE 2 - Suggestions to improve this principle)

- Providing and encouraging skills in young people to support businesses in the area

Principle 5

Heading Ensure sustainability (people, planet and profit).
Short Description (what is the intent of this) Ensure council's practices are environmentally conscious, long term focused and socially attuned.
Rationale (why is it important to the community) Environmentally conscious - Minimising the impact on the environment through efficient resource extraction, production, use and disposal of assets. Long term focus - investment decisions cognisant of long-term economic impact Socially attuned - Ensure residents receive value for money for rates paid and transparency on the expenditure. Facilities and infrastructure provided by the council should be timely to suit the needs of the community
Guestbook comments (PRINCIPLE 2 - Suggestions to improve this principle) • NA

Principle 6

Heading

An inclusive community for all

Short Description (what is the intent of this)

All developments need to consider the needs of our culturally diverse community and integration into the community.

When considering any developments or changes Council must ensure that these meet the needs and ensure benefits to our culturally diverse community.

The greater aspect to a good community is through the foundation of the younger generation, creating school holiday programs and festivals that promote more growth both culturally and environmentally creates a better society and a growing council

Rationale (why is it important to the community)

People need to integrate into the Australian culture, to become comfortable with the way of life in Australia

Developments/infrastructure need to consider culture, age, gender, disability, mental health as part of any future works

Council works with leaders and community groups when developing an inclusivity strategy.

Council considers the inclusivity of all and benefits to the wider community including between business and operations

Guestbook comments (PRINCIPLE 2 - Suggestions to improve this principle)

- Assets make all Melton residents feel supported and empowered

Principle 7

Heading Outdoor activities and enjoyment
Short Description (what is the intent of this) Creating natural open spaces for the community to enjoy and treasure via walking tracks, bike tracks and play equipment, to promote a healthy family orientated environment for the enjoyment of all, The areas are to include B.B.Q and picnic areas for family/social gathering. Improving lives via creating a safe environment for people to relax read a book, go for a walk to maintain mental health, and physical fitness
Rationale (why is it important to the community) To promote friendship. Healthy environment. Bring families together. Harmony with nature Preserving nature for future generations Physical and mental health benefits
Guestbook comments (PRINCIPLE 2 - Suggestions to improve this principle) • Nature is integrated and showcased within Melton assets

PART 2 Council and Wellbeing Plan Draft

THEME 1: DRAFT STRATEGIES FOR COUNCIL AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025

	THEME 1: A safe City that is socially and culturally connected				
Reference Number	Objective 1.1: A community that celebrates diversity and is inclusive of all	Objective 1.2: A safe community where people feel proud to live	Objective 1.3: Local neighbourhoods are socially and culturally connected	Objective 1.4: A City that promotes positive public health and wellbeing outcomes to our community	Objective 1.5 A City that celebrates First Nations cultures, knowledge and right to self-determination
1	Drive initiatives that promote gender equity	Improve perceptions of safety	Provide opportunities for arts participation and appreciation	Work in partnership with health and community service providers to improve community wellbeing	Provide and promote opportunities for celebration and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Straight islander history and culture
2	Contribute to a welcoming community which embraces diversity	Empower the community to strengthen civic pride, social cohesion and sense of belonging	Facilitate opportunities for social connection	Strengthen the health and community service system by attracting new services and supporting existing services to expand	Incorporate First Nations culture into the built environment
3	Contribute to reducing inequalities among people living with a disability, seniors, underrepresented cultural groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and LGBTIQA+ people	Invest in initiatives that promote road and community safety	Build community resilience through COVID recovery initiatives	Invest in the mental wellbeing, healthy eating and physical activity of our community with an emphasis on children and young people	Identification and protection of Indigenous places of significance
4	Contribute to improving participation, access, inclusion and equity for all		Facilitate community-led engagement opportunities	Deliver programs to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for all	
5	Invest in intercultural celebrations and events		Support community programs delivered by local organisations and groups	Raise community awareness of family violence and deliver programs to prevent violence against women	
6			Invest in festivals and celebrations in partnership with the community and local business		

THEME 1: DRAFT STRATEGIES - feedback

ROUND 1

What if anything is missing from this theme...	From the existing strategies, what is a priority and why?
Extending opening hours at Caroline Springs Police Station to 24 hour operation Increase staff resources within the Caroline Springs Police Station as well as throughout Melton Council, to accommodate the needs of the increasing population. 1.4 Upgrading walking/bike tracks for Mental and Physical well being. A very cynical way to phrase it. *Whoever has responded to this needs to be "Respectful" of others...* Bike/walking tracks to be well lit to ensure health and safety of the community. 2.1 Why just perceptions of Safety? Safety should be a Very high priority. This is a bizarre thing to say. Lots of missing areas around safety - how do we promote a safe community, a safe personal space and a safe environment The focus on family violence should be more on equality between all people as this is the major way to to reduce/stop violence Council makes it hard to do a cultural celebration or event through red tape and paperwork	To ensure community safety and Police availability. Due to Covid restrictions Mental health has been an ongoing issue 1.1 Gender equity 1.5 Need to promote and recognise the first Nation peoples of Australia - other countries show respect and educate the community about the extensive beliefs, stories etc. 1.1 Celebrations and event

THEME 2: DRAFT STRATEGIES FOR COUNCIL AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025

	THEME 2: A vibrant and healthy natural and built environment			
Reference Number	Objective 2.1: A City with healthy waterways, biodiversity and ecosystems	Objective 2.2: A City resilient to the impacts of a changing environment	Objective 2.3: A City growing and developing sustainably	Objective 2.4: A City that mitigates and adapts to climate change, and is environmentally aware
1	Ensure that new waterways are developed in a way that balances biodiversity enhancement with education and leisure	Provide an integrated approach to land management that addresses risks, such as bushfire, uncontrolled weeds, flooding and storm events	Ensure land development practices minimise environmental harm/damage	Educate and engage the community in local environmental and sustainability issues and decision making
2	Ensure the maintenance and protection of waterway ecosystems	Employ the principles of climate change adaptation in Council infrastructure	Promote the efficient use of resources in the development of the City	Maximise the use of alternative water sources and reduce Council's reliance on potable water
3	Ensure biodiversity is well managed and protected, both on Council's land and on private land.	Support initiatives that promote cooling of the urban environment	Promote the use of Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) guidelines in all aspects of the development of the City	Advocate and lead in moving to a low carbon economy
4	Advocate to the State Government to complete the acquisition of the Western Grassland Reserve and other biodiversity conservation reserves	Ensure assets are adequately renewed, maintained, fit for purpose and resilient to changing climate conditions	Facilitate access to and appreciation of local natural landscapes and cultural heritage	Reduce the amount of waste being sent to landfill
5			Support the conservation and restoration of heritage places	

THEME 2: DRAFT STRATEGIES - feedback

ROUND 1

What if anything is missing from this theme...	From the existing strategies, what is a priority and why?
Promote Cost to household of using recycled water Make grey water compulsory in all new developments. *This falls under the Health Departments determination of the quality of the grey water and its suitable usage for public areas.* Council to consider mechanical disposal of waste to produce sustainable energy sources. 2.3 Council initiatives to encourage 'circular' economy, for instance availability of mulch (derived from green waste bins), provided to residents at low or no cost. 2.3 Provision of plant swap, for example once a month at the recycling centre whereby residents swap/donate any unwanted plants/greenery. This will encourage a sustainable environment. Fire management on smaller scale to protect Melton against fire vulnerability More conservation and restoration of public land in Melton Minimising the amount of wasted drinking water through the use of recycled water in certain facilities such as factories	Maximise the use of alternate water - provide an incentive to assist people to use recycled water. Reduce amount of waste Reducing the impact of land development practices to minimise environmental harm/damage Objective 2.2 • Natural hazards are addressed • Considerate of the changing environment

THEME 3: DRAFT STRATEGIES FOR COUNCIL AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025

	THEME 3: A fast growing, innovative and well planned City				
Reference Number	Objective 3.1: A City of 20 minute neighbourhoods	Objective 3.2: Health and community services accessible locally	Objective 3.3: The City has accessible infrastructure that meets the needs of all	Objective 3.4: A (integrated) transport network that enables people to move around	Objective 3.5: City that provides active transport options
1	Advocate to and work with the State Government and other Parliamentary parties in planning for the City	Advocate for and facilitate for the provision of health and community facilities to be within close proximity and safe access to public transport	Ensure infrastructure, facilities and open space are designed, built and maintained to accommodate safety, growth, diverse needs and adaptability	Advocate to the state and federal governments to ensure new and upgraded transport infrastructure, to meet the needs of our growing community	Improve accessibility, comfort and connectivity of key active transport routes
2	Investigate opportunities to enhance the connectivity and activity of existing urban areas	Plan and design facilities to accommodate growth, diverse needs, adaptability and future flexibility	Advocate and support the development of diverse and affordable housing options	Improve connectivity between existing and new communities	Support the creation of a connected and active community through the design and delivery of safe walking and cycling networks
3	Appropriately plan for future development of greenfield land and ensure linkages to existing communities and assets	Advocate and support the development and delivery of the Melton Hospital and associated services	Advocate to and work with State Government for the timely delivery of State infrastructure to service the City	Ensure road networks are adequate, safe and contribute to the wellbeing of the community	
4	Undertake integrated open space planning to ensure all neighbourhoods have access to reserves, parks, gardens, heritage places and natural assets		Design, build and maintain the public realm to enable the promotion of formal and informal physical activity		
5	Support local place making initiatives		Advocate to resource providers to ensure secure public access to essential services		

THEME 3: DRAFT STRATEGIES - feedback

ROUND 1

What if anything is missing from this theme...	From the existing strategies, what is a priority and why?

• Better road planning for new development areas and associated traffic congestion
• Incorporation of renewable energy sources, urban farming and community gardens
• More incorporation of sustainability in current urban designs and planning
• Internet connectivity is poor throughout Council - need for all businesses and working from home - innovative
• Train infrastructure missing - need for electric trains
• Public transport not available
• No safe walking areas
 	
Ensuring that “Green Belt” considerations are made between suburbs, not to be developed commercially or residentially.
 	
Encourage existing/new agricultural operations between suburbs to ensure healthy environments around the residential areas.
 	
Higher density living arrangements (townhouses/low-rise apartment blocks) will need to be considered in order to accommodate the increasing population levels as it is not sustainable for all future 300,000 residents to build a single storey property on a block of land.
	• Objective 3.4
	• Transport
	  ○ Ensuring the current roads are sufficient for the growing amount of Melton residents
	  ○
	3.4 Road infrastructure
	3.2 Melton Hospital
	3.3 Physical activity - physical build

THEME 4: DRAFT STRATEGIES FOR COUNCIL AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025

	THEME 4: A City that promotes greater education and employment			
Reference Number	Objective 4.1: A strong local economy that attracts business growth and encourages new investment	Objective 4.2: A City with a variety of education facilities accessible locally	Objective 4.3: A City with a diversity of local job opportunities with an increasing number of residents locally employed	Objective 4.4: Lifelong learning opportunities that bring local communities together
1	Invest in programs that support local business to start, grow, connect and excel	Advocate for timely delivery of Primary, Specialist & Secondary schools	Facilitate pathways that encourage local employment in local businesses	Invest in programs and activities locally for all ages and stages of life that promote lifelong learning opportunities
2	Support initiatives that create opportunities for new business, jobs and investment in the City of Melton	Maximise the use of existing Council facilities by external providers of educational programs	Facilitate access to diverse and quality local employment opportunities	Partner with community organisations and the employment and education sectors to identify skill shortages and provide employment pathways
3	Advocate for future investment in infrastructure, with an emphasis on transport, and major projects across the City	Advocate for the delivery of TAFE and Tertiary education facilities and opportunities in the City	Advocate to State and Federal government and private industry for increased local employment opportunities	Support communities to be digitally connected
4	Plan for key employment Precinct Structure Plans and Urban Development Frameworks	Support local pathways between education, training and employment		Create a learning culture in the City through early engagement with and support for children, young people and families
5		Partner with education providers to to facilitate the early delivery of education programs		

THEME 4: DRAFT STRATEGIES - feedback

ROUND 1

What if anything is missing from this theme...	From the existing strategies, what is a priority and why?
To ensure that secondary education includes multiple trade training options (electrical, plumbing, carpentry etc.), not only academic education. To ensure that employment focus is long term, not only short term projects/incentives. Long term focus on employment and education/trade training ensures job security within the local council catchment. Develop top rank secondary school/s Attract universities into Melton to attract infrastructure and international student to contribute to local economy To encourage local business to tender for council services and projects Public transport accessibility Developer contribution towards development of employment pathways and local business employers Women not able to use the Men's Shed and women are capable and able to use saws, drills etc. Equally, men need to be supported to cook through training Support all people whether Male or Female in their interests.	4.1.3 4.3.3 4.4 Invest in programs for all ages • Educated community • Opportunity to learn • More included in community • Stay at home mums trained into the workforce • Meeting different needs of the diverse community members Advocate for Primary, Secondary and tertiary facilities within the city supported by public transport networks. Traffic management of drop off facilities around these facilities. 4.4 Better connectivity for all as Melton currently very poor services and connectivity Communication about education programs and groups to support community members to engage and be educated together

THEME 5: DRAFT STRATEGIES FOR COUNCIL AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025

	THEME 5 : A community that is actively engaged in the City		
Reference Number	Objective 5.1: Deliberative engagement and communication with the community informs planning and decision making	Objective 5.2: A range of platforms, including digital, that cater for accessible community engagement and consultation	Objective 5.3: Increased volunteerism in the City
1	Position the organisation to deliver robust deliberative engagement	Streamline customer access to Council by investing in new technology while maintaining non digital channels for people with access constraints	Invest in establishing systems and structures to enable strong volunteerism in the City
2	Invest in Council's capacity to design and conduct meaningful community engagement activities	Reduce gaps in access to information and communication technology and support digital inclusion	Establish partnerships to promote volunteerism
3	Provide opportunities for meaningful community engagement, especially with diverse and under-represented communities	Increase participation in online community engagement platforms	Promote the benefits of volunteerism

THEME 5: DRAFT STRATEGIES - feedback

ROUND 1

What if anything is missing from this theme...	From the existing strategies, what is a priority and why?
Council to push the local medium and large businesses to encourage their staff to be actively involved in local volunteering organisations Community billboard, website, social media platform to update the community on Melton on what is going on, transparency of Melton. Online presence to connect people that are geographically far but within the same council. Normal words!!!! Are definitely missing from these items If we are inclusive and connected why are there so many items around under-representative communities - The community needs to understand what this means. Is there access to Council/community buildings at low costs for groups? How do we tackle ignorance of different cultures and groups? Need programs to help us understand each other - availability of information about different cultures and groups.	5.2.1 5.2.2 5.3 Volunteering • Post covid need for socialising to reduce feelings of isolation, rise in mental health issues and rise in domestic violence • More engagement within our community Is there a list of what organisations or groups are in our City where I can volunteer?

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