

COUNCIL PLAN ACTION PLAN 2023-2024 PROGRESS REPORT Q4



INTRODUCTION

Welcome

Guiding the way Council delivers its services and plans for the future is the 2021–25 Council Plan. This plan was developed following the most recent election and revised in 2023-24. The plan outlines the objectives and aims of Council over its four-year term. Development of the plan included significant community consultation at community forums and social media.

Council has committed to four directions that will guide our actions and resources for a period of four years:

1. Vibrant, Respectful and Connected – making sure our community is one where all our people are valued, and no one is left behind
2. Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing – building on Darebin’s strengths in relation to business, services and industry, and creating a city where all services and facilities to support a balanced, healthy life are easily accessible to our residents
3. Climate, Green and Sustainable – ensuring Darebin is a leader in responding to the climate emergency, and our natural environment is protected and enhanced
4. Responsible, Transparent and Responsive – recognising we are here to serve our community, in all its diversity, and that we govern transparently and accountably.

For more detail on the Council Plan, go to www.darebin.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Council-structure-and-performance/Council-plan

Supporting the Council Plan is an annual Action Plan which sets out our work for the financial year to ensure that the objectives of the Council Plan are implemented.

We invite you to read on to see what we’ve done to implement the Council Plan in the fourth quarter of the 2023-24 financial year.

INTRODUCTION

How to Read This Report

This document outlines our progress in completing the 2023-24 Council Plan Action Plan.

There are four sections to this report:

Section one provides an overview of the 10 Big Action themes.

Section two provides the quarter four action commentary and progress status for the 80 actions from the 2023-24 Council Plan Action Plan. The actions are arranged by Council Plan strategic direction/objective and have commentary that outlines the progress against that action as at 30 June 2024.

Section three is the Capital Works Portfolio Status Report for Quarter Four which provides the status and progress of all programs and major projects.

Section four is the status of Council Resolutions report which provides a summary of the organisation's progress in implementing Council's decisions for the 2023-24 financial year.

Darebin at a Glance

The City of Darebin is located between five and fifteen kilometres north of Melbourne's central business district.

It has been home to the Wurundjeri people for many thousands of years.

Our city covers 53 square kilometres of land stretching from the inner northern suburbs of Northcote and Fairfield to Reservoir and Bundoora.

In 2023, our city's estimated population was 155,683 people, and this is forecast to increase to 216,417 by 2046.

We are home to one of Victoria's largest and most diverse communities in the realms of culture, language, religion, socioeconomic background, employment status, occupation and housing need. In 2021, 46,688 of our residents were born overseas; 18 per cent had arrived in Australia in the five years prior.

We have a diverse mix of properties – with 68,081 residential properties, 4,661 business properties and 531 mixed-use properties. Our largest industries are education and training, retail, manufacturing, health care and social assistance.

As a Council, we are responsible for a large part of our city's infrastructure and natural habitat. We own, manage, or maintain 333 buildings, 790 hectares of open space, 27 sports reserves, seven natural reserves, 57 playing fields/sports grounds, 130 playgrounds, 29 wetlands, 84,300 trees, 530 km of roads, 30 km of shared paths, 1,045 km of sealed footpaths, 66 road and foot bridges, 628 km of stormwater pipes, 23,194 stormwater pits, and 30 gross pollutant traps (structures that trap solid waste such as litter).

While our city's social and economic prosperity is changing, with more of our residents earning higher incomes, we still have many of our residents experiencing disadvantage.

The Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) score ranks areas based on indicators that contribute to disadvantage (including unemployment and income). In 2021, Darebin's SEIFA disadvantage score was 1018, which is the same as for Greater Melbourne.

In December 2023, our job seeker rate was 4.3 per cent. This is 0.5 percentage points higher than the unemployment rate for Greater Melbourne (3.8 per cent), and Victoria overall (also 3.8 per cent).

10 BIG ACTIONS

Big Action Number	Council Plan Strategic Action Numbers	Big Action Description
BA1	(None in 2023-24)	Build Infrastructure for the future by developing Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, redeveloping BT Connor Pavilion in Reservoir, and building Darebin Intercultural Centre in Preston.
BA2	2-2 2-3 2-6	Plan infrastructure for decades to come by redeveloping Reservoir Leisure Centre, activating Edwardes Lake Boat House in Reservoir, building new kindergarten facilities, and undertaking a feasibility study for a Global Learning Hub in Preston.
BA3	2-15 2-16 3-1 3-2 3-18	Continue to lead with our response to the climate emergency by updating our Climate Emergency Plan to set out how to best achieve zero greenhouse gas emissions for Darebin by 2030, offering solar installations and energy retrofits to pensioners and vulnerable communities, delivering new business and community power purchase partnerships, supporting a shift to a circular economy and programs aimed to improve safety for people cycling, walking and wheeling, increasing active travel which will also reduce transport emissions.
BA4	1-1 1-2 1-3 1-4	Deepen our commitment to truth and justice for First Nations communities in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples who live and work in Darebin.
BA5	2-40	Support vulnerable members of our community by providing support with COVID-19 recovery, expanding our Homelessness Assertive Outreach program, and supporting community-led programs in East Reservoir and East Preston, to achieve greater physical and mental health, and wellbeing for all.

10 BIG ACTIONS



Big Action Number	Council Plan Strategic Action Numbers	Big Action Description
BA6	2-49 2-52	Champion local business and creative industries by providing support with COVID-19 recovery, facilitating the establishment of a Darebin Chamber of Commerce, and improving the lighting and safety of our retail precincts and business activity centres.
BA7	1-6 1-7 1-10 1-12 1-13 1-14 1-19 1-35	Build a more inclusive community for all by supporting Darebin’s multicultural communities, reducing racism and discrimination, increasing access to our Council’s services and sporting assets by groups who are under-represented, developing our Disability Action Plan, to improve access for all to our services and infrastructure, and achieving Rainbow Tick accreditation (best practice in LGBTQIA+ inclusion) for our services and activities.
BA8	2-33 2-62	Improve the quality of development and work to protect all that we love about Darebin by pursuing protections for Preston Market, conducting a Planning Scheme review informed by in-depth community consultation, and reviewing to amend our Parking Permit Policy.
BA9	3-11	Protect our natural environment and biodiversity by significantly improving water quality in Edwardes Lake, increasing tree canopy coverage in our parks, residential areas and retail precincts, and enhancing understorey planting.
BA10	1-20 2-6	Expand our delivery of quality universal services across the lifespan by providing more three-year old kindergarten places, continuing to deliver our flagship Age Friendly Darebin Project, expanding aged care direct services, and registering to become a home care package provider.




COUNCIL PLAN

Council Plan




1.0: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected




1.1: We will prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-1] In consultation with the Traditional Owners, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities develop and commence implementation of a three-year Aboriginal Action Plan Key elements of this Plan, in addition to items mentioned in the Council Plan, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop partnerships with local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to enhance our work towards mutual goals A meaningful and comprehensive response to the six key requests of DAAC's Our Black Lives Matter statement to Council Continue to implement and expand our Aboriginal Employment Strategy and Aboriginal Action Plan Begin discussions with Traditional Owners to understand 	In consultation with the Traditional Owners, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities develop and commence implementation of a three-year Aboriginal Action Plan. Key elements of this Plan, in addition to items mentioned in the Council Plan, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop partnerships with local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to enhance our work towards mutual goals A meaningful and comprehensive response to the six key requests of DAAC's Our Black Lives Matter statement to Council Continue to implement and expand our Aboriginal Employment 	The development of the Aboriginal Action Plan is continuing. This quarter the focus was on consultation with members of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee. Internal stakeholder consultation is currently in progress, along with preparation and scheduling of external consultation with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations. This action will continue in 24/25.		Not Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred



COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management	Strategy and Aboriginal Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin discussions with Traditional Owners to understand the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management 			
	[1-2] Progress a partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and continue to progress “decolonising” Bundoora Park	Progress a partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and continue to progress “decolonising” Bundoora Park	This work has continued, in particular the delivery of the Wurundjeri Garden at Bundoora Park. Given the complexity of the work, this is an ongoing action.		Not Completed
	[1-3] Deliver initiatives that support truth telling, and provide opportunities for culturally diverse communities, and our broader Darebin community, to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history	Deliver initiatives that support truth telling, and provide opportunities for culturally diverse communities, and our broader Darebin community, to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history	The second stage truth telling space at Bundoora Farm has progressed. Throughout the process Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders have been consulted. This work will continue and will support the 7th annual School Yarning Conference scheduled for late 2024.		Completed
	[1-4] Increase support to Aboriginal community-controlled organisations by incorporating a specific funding stream into our Community Grants Program	Establish an appropriate grant stream, subject to guidance from the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee	A new grant stream was created after consultation with Aboriginal Organisations and Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee in 2023. This grant round was launched on March 4 and closes on April 30, 2024. https://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Darebin-grants/Aboriginal-and-Torres-Strait-Islander-Grants		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred





COUNCIL PLAN




1.2: We will develop partnerships with organisations from across our city, to value and include people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-6] Support and promote a significant increase in participation in Darebin's sports clubs, in particular, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities	Support and promote a significant increase in participation in Darebin's sports clubs, in particular, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities	Total of 11,017 participants registered in sporting clubs during the 23-24 Financial year registering an increase of 5.45% over 22-23 financial year numbers. Participation of girls and women increased by 4.9% (3043). There was a 15.4% (276) increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation. Participation also included 2098 from CALD backgrounds, 647 all abilities and 1156 from low socio-economic backgrounds. Council is supporting a range of events to increase participation by communities at risk of exclusion, including programs catering specially for Aboriginal and First Nations People, like Mums and Dads swimming, Gym sessions, Men's Golf and Elders line dancing. Also, approximately 250 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and 1450 from CALD backgrounds participated in casually organised events.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred





COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-7] Encourage and reward sporting and leisure groups/sporting teams that use Council's recreation spaces, by reducing user fees to those that demonstrate inclusion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities	Encourage and reward sporting and leisure groups/sporting teams that use Council's recreation spaces, by reducing user fees to those that demonstrate inclusion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities	Formal evaluation of Council's Performance Subsidy Program has commenced including benchmarking and a club survey. The current program incentivises participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and those from a diverse and multicultural background. Forty clubs applied to the program in 2023-24 with 18 clubs achieving Gold status, seven 7 Silver and 9 Bronze which results in various discounts applied to their fees.		Completed
	[1-9] Partner with Bowel Cancer Screening, Cancer Council Victoria and local community organisations to increase awareness of bowel cancer and improve community understanding, including for Aboriginal and culturally and linguistically diverse communities, of the benefits of screening, with a particular focus on underrepresented groups undertaking bowel cancer screening	Partner with Bowel Cancer Screening, Cancer Council Victoria and local community organisations to increase awareness of bowel cancer and improve community understanding, including for Aboriginal and culturally and linguistically diverse communities, of the benefits of screening, with a particular focus on underrepresented groups undertaking bowel cancer screening	In partnership with the Cancer Council, key messages were conveyed through key communications channels and a social media campaign was held in January and May to raise awareness of Bowel Cancer in the community.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred



COUNCIL PLAN




1.3: We will help to build an inclusive and empowered community, where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-10] Develop the Disability Action Plan to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors	Develop an implementation plan for the Disability Action Plan to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors	The Disability Action Plan 2023 - 2025 continues to be implemented by teams from across the organisation. This year there is a strong focus on accessible and inclusive communications. Some excellent access and inclusion outcomes have recently been achieved including a number of disability events taking place in Darebin Libraries, consultations for a new disability category in the Darebin Community Awards, and the endorsement of a new Outdoor Dining and Trading Policy with improved accessibility requirements. The planning of activities for community and staff to celebrate the International Day of People with Disability are progressing well, with a new partnership with Darebin Libraries increasing available funding for groups.		Completed
	[1-12] Develop and deliver a program to support middle years students (later primary school, and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on systemic racism issues together, to support student voices	Evaluate the completed pilot program to support middle years students to connect with each other, and take action on systemic racism issues together, to support student voices and provide findings to Department of Education and Training for consideration in any future programs they may choose to run	Survey results have been obtained from Victoria University (Darebin + Merri-Bek cluster) and base line data has been established. Anti-racism focus groups and a Community Forum were delivered. The evaluation of the pilot program included recommended actions for implementation by the Education Department.		Completed

 Completed  Not Completed  Deferred





COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-13] Develop a Cultural Diversity Action Plan to improve access, participation and engagement of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds including:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to venues and encourage participation in Council services where participation is low • Work with our sporting and recreation clubs to increase participation • Identify creative opportunities to reflect Darebin's different cultures in the built environment across our city • Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities 	Develop a Cultural Diversity Action Plan to improve access, participation and engagement of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds including:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to venues and encourage participation in Council services where participation is low • Work with our sporting and recreation clubs to increase participation • Identify creative opportunities to reflect Darebin's different cultures in the built environment across our city • Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities 	The development of the Cultural Diversity Action Plan continued. This quarter a workshop with councillors was delivered by the Interational Organisation of Migration and the Victorian Multicultural Commission on terminology and concepts. A requested report on the sociodemographic profiles of Darebin's migrant community commenced. This work continued to be delayed given the complexity in addition to other unplanned work and service delivery priorities that have arisen during this year. This action will continue in 24/25.		Not Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN





1.4: We will embrace diversity and ensure everyone is included in our society, and no one is left behind - by combating discrimination, and championing equity, inclusivity and diversity




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-14] Continue to become more LGBTIQ+ inclusive across Council's services and activities including work towards Rainbow Tick accreditation for several services	Continue to become more LGBTIQ+ inclusive across Council's services and activities including work towards Rainbow Tick accreditation for several services	Evidence to meet the Rainbow Tick Accreditation across six standards was submitted on 13 June. Preparation for an on-site assessment team to visit in-scope sites in early July is underway and will include interviews with staff, volunteers, consumers, and stakeholders. The findings of the Accreditation will be received in 24/25 and progress will continue on this action in the coming financial year.		Not Completed
	[1-19] Develop a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia	Develop a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan to support the inclusion, rights, and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia	The focus this quarter has been on finalising documentation for Rainbow Tick accreditation. Improvements from the accreditation will help to inform the development of the LGBTIQ+ Action Plan. The Community Engagement Findings Report has been completed. The Plan will be developed and presented to Council for endorsement in FY2024-25.		Not Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred



COUNCIL PLAN




1.5: We will increase social connection to reduce isolation and loneliness, and support positive mental health

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-20] Deliver Age Friendly Darebin and implement aged care reforms	Deliver Age Friendly Darebin and implement aged care reforms	<p>Deliver Age Friendly Darebin: Embedding an age friendly lens across the organisation remains a priority with older people including the Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee providing input into the Council projects, services, and initiatives.</p> <p>Aged care reforms: Project continuing to progress preparation for aged care reforms. Current work focused on preparing for introduction of new Aged Care Standards and Aged Care Act as of July 1, 2025. Delays by the Commonwealth, including constant changes to Age Care Reform timelines, have impacted the capacity to meet project timelines.</p>		Not Completed
	[1-22] Review opportunities through Council services, and in partnership with others, to address the digital divide for public housing and high-risk accommodation residents, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and other excluded groups	Review opportunities through Council services, and in partnership with others, to address the digital divide for public housing and high-risk accommodation residents, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and other excluded groups	East Preston Community Centre continued to deliver weekly digital support sessions and a 'computers for older adults' course. These sessions provide one-on-one digital support to help connect residents to services, friends, and family. These sessions have also provided a space to connect, share information and support one another face-to-face, thereby addressing social isolation. We were also able to run a six-week digital safety course for the local community. Topics included how to create and manage passwords and how to identify online threats.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred




COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-23] Provide grants, and deliver and facilitate programs, services, and events that address loneliness, through supporting social connectedness and positive mental health	Provide grants, and deliver and facilitate programs, services, and events that address loneliness, through supporting social connectedness and positive mental health	There were 116 community grants awarded in 2023-24. 102 (87%) focused on activities supporting events that address loneliness through supporting social connectedness and positive mental health.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN

1.6: We will ensure our festivals, events and functions are inclusive and respond equitably to, and value the diverse needs and aspirations of, our community




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-28] Deliver an annual cultural diversity and social cohesion oration as part of the FUSE festival	Deliver a new annual cultural diversity and social cohesion oration	The IC Oration was delivered on 21 May and featured renowned author and journalist George Megalogenis and Anthea Hancocks, CEO of the Scanlon Foundation. Over 100 people attended the talk presented by George Megalogenis, which focused on his research on cultural diversity and social cohesion. In his talk, he traversed the national and regional to the urban and local demographics of the City of Darebin. Music by Gamelan Dananda and refreshments followed and gave the audience an opportunity to mingle and discuss the contents of the Oration.		Completed
	[1-29] Deliver a signature cultural event as part of the FUSE festival in and around the grounds of the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre that showcases culturally diverse artists, music, food, participatory workshops and performances.	Deliver a signature cultural event as part of the FUSE festival in and around the grounds of the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre that showcases culturally diverse artists, music, food, participatory workshops and performances	A one-day festival event called 'Meet the Makers Picnic' was delivered in Q3.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN



1.7: We will continue to be a local government leader in the prevention of violence against women, and gender equity




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-30] Implement and extend our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach	Implement and extend our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach	Council continued to implement the Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach. The focus this quarter has been the design of the Free From Violence (FFV) grant program, including undertaking a baseline Health Check activity with 25 teams across Council to commence the FFV program Health Check activity, and the recruitment of a Free From Violence Cultural Inclusion Officer.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred





COUNCIL PLAN




1.8: We will work towards a discrimination-free, and systemic racism-free Darebin, and reduce the impact of poverty and disadvantage

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-34] Address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised by implementing our Towards Equality Framework	Address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised by implementing our Towards Equality Framework	The Towards Equality Framework has continued to be implemented mostly through the application of the Equity Impact Assessment (EIA), incorporating the legally mandated Gender Impact Assessment (GIA). In this fourth quarter, eight EIAs were undertaken on a range of plans, including the Cultural Diversity Action Plan, Darebin Housing Strategy, and the Corporate Writing Style Guide. The Equity Impact Assessment Panel provided support and advice on an additional seven pieces of work that contributed towards Council implementation of the Towards Equality Framework.		Completed
	[1-35] Work with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, our community, and local organisations, to foster respect and address systemic racism	Work with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, our community, and local organisations, to foster respect and address systemic racism	Council is working towards a renewed Memorandum of Understanding with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council (DECC). A draft version has been shared with DECC. A forum which brought together community members and stakeholders to share lived experiences of racism was delivered and officers supported community activities to foster respect and address racism.		Completed

 Completed  Not Completed  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[1-36] Continue to implement the Welcoming Cities Standard, with the aim of becoming a 'Mentoring' level Council	Continue to implement the Welcoming Cities Standard, with the aim of becoming a 'Mentoring' level Council	The Council's submission to Excelling level accreditation with Welcoming Cities Standards has been completed, including all the evidence across Council's business area that showcases Council's response to 60 indicators of the 6 categories of the Standards at each of policy, internal and external levels. A final step to complete the accreditation process is a Focus Group session by the Welcoming Cities Assessors with selected internal and community stakeholders. This focus group is an opportunity that will further support the evidence submitted.		Completed
	[1-38] Mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of our disadvantaged communities	Through the development and implementation of the Climate Emergency Plan mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of our disadvantaged communities	There are many actions in the draft Climate Emergency Plan that support community members experiencing disadvantage. Consultation on the draft Plan was designed to reach our diverse community, including people living with a disability, Aboriginal people, and community groups across Darebin, including people from Vietnamese, Greek, Italian and Chinese communities. The final new Climate Emergency Plan will be complete in July 2024.		Not Completed




 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN


2.0: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing




2.1: We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-2] Redevelop Reservoir Leisure Centre, incorporating opportunities to enhance health, wellbeing and socioeconomic outcomes	Undertake minor renewal works while commencing scoping for the longer-term options for the redevelopment and rebuilding of the centre to enhance health, wellbeing, and socioeconomic outcomes	<p>The roof renewal works were completed by end of May 2024.</p> <p>RLC Scoping Study procurement activities are complete, and governance established. Kick-off meetings will commence in July 2024 and continue in 24/25.</p>		Not Completed
	[2-3] Invest in the Edwardes Lake Boathouse in Reservoir to support a long-term lease arrangement	Continue to advocate to the descendants of the original owner to remove the restrictive covenants so appropriate renewal works of the boat house can occur	A process is underway to have this restriction amended or removed (via UK lawyers). This process is continuing and will take some time. Irrespective of whether this is completed in time, Council plans to seek a tenant for the site via an Expression of Interest process in early 2025.		Not Completed





 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred




COUNCIL PLAN

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-6] Expand funded 3-year-old kindergarten	Expand funded 3-year-old kindergarten	Council and the Department of Education signed a Building Blocks Partnership Memorandum of Understanding in April 2024, outlining a joint commitment to invest in the expansion of kindergarten capacity in Darebin over coming years. Two projects are included in the initial agreement - the expansion of Merri Community Child Care and Kindergarten (commenced June 2024, expected to be complete September 2024) and the expansion of Maryborough Avenue Kindergarten (expected to commence January 2025, subject to confirmation of Council budget allocation). The expansion of funded three-year-old kindergarten is an ongoing Council priority, with funding allocated in Council's Capital Works Plan over the next three financial years to continue delivery of this priority.		Completed
	[2-9] Redevelop KP Hardiman Pavilion in Kingsbury	Continue pavilion design and commence construction	We received the CHMP draft report, revised cost plan, and resubmitted the ESD to the Council ESD officer. An ongoing PCG meeting was held, and procurement provided the CT number. KP Hardiman has two years of construction remaining		Not Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred





COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-10] Redevelop the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre	Complete construction of the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre	The redevelopment of the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre is complete for practical purposes. The Centre was officially re-opened in November 2023 and is now fully accessible to the public. Minor defects are being rectified during this current stage with 100% completion to be achieved at the end of the defects period		Completed
	[2-11] Develop an Integrated Families, Youth and Children Strategy	Develop an Integrated Families, Youth and Children Strategy	Council approved the draft Families, Youth and Children Strategy to go to Stage 2 Community Engagement in May 2024. Stage 2 Community Engagement ran from 29 May to 23 June to give the Darebin community the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft strategy and help Council finalise the Strategy. After consideration of this feedback, the strategy will be put to Council in August 2024. Following adoption of the strategy, a two-year action plan will be developed to lay out how Council and our partners will work together to deliver the strategy and improve outcomes for children, young people, and their families.		Not Completed
	[2-13] Plan for the redevelopment of John Hall pavilion and public toilet in Kingsbury	Continue pavilion design and commence construction	The redevelopment of John Hall Reserve Pavilion is on schedule and within adopted budget. Council adopted the recommendation to appoint a contractor at the April 2024 meeting. The contract is currently in the process of being executed. Works are scheduled to commence early in the new financial year.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred





COUNCIL PLAN




2.2: We will design and create public spaces where our people feel safe, welcome, and respected, including improving lighting and safety for people walking, wheeling, cycling and driving

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-15] Improve road safety, and the cycling, walking and wheeling network, by constructing high priority improvements	Improve road safety, and the cycling, walking and wheeling network, by constructing high priority improvements	Detailed engineering designs have been completed for all projects, which will be built in July and August. Delays were experienced because more time was needed to ensure the design outcome was fit for purpose, and diversion routes for buses were possible to allow nearby major repair works at the intersection of Massey Avenue and Amery Street. The Projects are a signalised pedestrian crossing of Miller Street at Devon Street in Thornbury, road safety treatments along Radford Road between MacKenzie Street and Amery Street, and a raised crossing on Davidson Street, both in Reservoir.		Not Completed
	[2-16] Investigate and prioritise road safety, accessibility, cycling, walking and wheeling improvements across Darebin by using a Local Area Placemaking approach - where one third of the city is reviewed, with community involvement, each year	Investigate and prioritise road safety, accessibility, cycling, walking, and wheeling improvements across Darebin by using a Local Area Placemaking approach - where one third of the city is reviewed, with community involvement, each year	Council endorsed the priority list of projects, including area speed reductions, in June 2024. This completes the Your Street, Your Say project for Group B (Alphington, Bundoora, Fairfield, Macleod, Northcote East, and Thornbury East). These projects will now be considered for delivery funding through Council's annual budget cycle.		Completed





 Completed  Not Completed  Deferred




COUNCIL PLAN

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-17] Develop and implement a Community Safety Framework	Develop a Community Safety Framework	Council has continued to develop a Community Safety Framework, and work will continue in 24/25. This work was delayed given the complexity of the work in addition to other unplanned work and service delivery priorities that have arisen during this period. In this quarter, a review of Councils policies and responses to community safety activities was undertaken.		Not Completed
	[2-19] With State Government approval, reduce the speed limit in more local streets across our city	With State Government approval, reduce the speed limit in more local streets across our city	The Department of Transport and Planning has approved two speed limit reductions applications. They are, the extension of the existing 40 km/h speed limit on Gilbert Road to Kendall Street and the area bordered by Gilbert Road, Bell Street, Murray Road & Elizabeth Street. The speed limit changes at these locations will be made in July.		Not Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred




COUNCIL PLAN

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-21] Develop a Community Infrastructure Plan to inform Council's decision making on the future of our assets, based on service needs across our city for the next 10 years	Continue to develop a Community Infrastructure Plan, including an implementation plan	Council continued to develop a draft of the Community Infrastructure Plan throughout the year. This included a high-level assessment of community infrastructure needs over the next 10 years, as well an audit tool to gather information about the use and configuration of existing Council facilities and whether they are fit-for-purpose given projected community needs. Audits of existing Council facilities are continuing, as is the development of a set of principles to guide community infrastructure provision. A draft of the community infrastructure plan, and associated implementation plan is anticipated for completion by April 2025.		Completed
	[2-23] Update flood risk assessments across Darebin, and incorporate them into our Darebin Planning Scheme	Commence work on planning scheme amendment to introduce updated flood levels into Darebin Planning Scheme	The new flood mapping is being finalised by Melbourne Water, In the meantime, Council has progressed background work for the preparation of draft planning scheme provisions.		Not Completed
	[2-24] Continue our Traffic Blackspot Design and Construction Program	Continue our Traffic Blackspot Design and Construction Program	Construction completed at Belgrove & Ovando intersection. Design is continuing for future Blackspot projects. The Mitchell/Victoria design is being updated and awaiting DTP approval following the scope change.		Not Completed
	[2-27] Actively participate in the Reservoir Revitalisation Board to improve outcomes for the Reservoir community	Actively participate in the Reservoir Revitalisation Board to improve outcomes for the Reservoir community	The Rezza Rocks On & Ramp Up Reservoir final acquittal reports to be finalised. Reservoir Revitalisation Board held their final meeting on June 24.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred



COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-30] Undertake a review of the General Local law	Undertake a review of the General Local law	A strategic assessment has been completed, including an assessment of requirements, strengths and areas for improvements, alignment to Council policies and goals, and mega-trends that regulatory services may need to respond to. Community engagement is planned for early 2025.		Not Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred



COUNCIL PLAN




2.3: We will facilitate more affordable, social and public housing in Darebin, to meet our community’s needs

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-31] Enable and facilitate more affordable and social housing across our city	Facilitate more crisis, affordable and social housing across our city through development of the Property Strategy and the Advocacy Strategy	Council has several sites currently leased for temporary and/or community housing purposes. Council is testing feasibility of a site with a view to offering it for temporary housing via an Expression of Interest process in early 2025. Council's Property Strategy (currently in development) and Council's Strategic Property Plan will identify longer term opportunities for redevelopment of land for housing.		Not Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-32] Partner with the State Government to ensure its social and public housing investment meets our community's needs, and creates liveable, connected communities through appropriate design and construction	Partner with the State Government to ensure its crisis, housing first, social and public housing, and its consideration of private development, meets our community's needs and creates liveable, connected communities through design and construction	As a result of the Victorian Government's Housing Statement, developments that will be assessed via the Development Facilitation Program are required to include a 10% affordable housing contribution. Council will work with the Victorian Government and developers to facilitate the provision of this housing. Council also successfully advocated for the inclusion of a mandatory affordable housing contribution as part of the Preston Market controls introduced by the Minister for Planning. Council is advocating for significant social housing to be achieved through the Preston Central activity centre. A draft of a new housing supply strategy has been prepared and is scheduled for consultation in August 2024. In line with its resolution of February 2024, Council has written to the Minister for Housing calling for a range of actions to address the housing crisis.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN

2.4: We will foster local urban streetscapes and activity centres that connect our community, support economic recovery, and encourage people to live, work and play locally




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-33] Review to amend the Parking Permit Policy to: (i) to improve access for people with special needs (ii) to allow owners of single lot dwellings that exist on their own Torrens title, the option to have an additional residential parking permit at the same price as current parking permits (iii) to allow single lot dwellings built after December 2004 that are greater than 300sqm property with three or more bedrooms and that exist on their own Torrens title (even if the property was previously subdivided), to have the same entitlements to parking permits as dwellings built before December 2004 (iv) to ensure that renovations of a property that is still a single lot on its own Torrens title and is greater than 300sqm with three or more bedrooms are still entitled to parking permits	Finalise the new Parking Permit Policy	A new Parking Permit Policy was adopted by Council on 27 November 2023.		Not Completed
	[2-36] Develop a policy setting the basis for how Council may permit commercial or private Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure on our public streets	Run an Expression of Interest process to identify potential EV charging partners	An expression of interest (EOI) process is underway to identify Electric Vehicle charging partners to expand the public charging network in Darebin, The EOI will be open until 5 July 2024.		Not Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN



2.5: We will invest in services and the built environment to improve access for our residents and visitors




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-39] Create additional accessible car parking spaces in our city	Create additional accessible car parking spaces in our city	Design almost complete for second space near Penders Park. Will be completed by end of June. Construction early next financial year subject to funding. There is no dedicated CW number for this action, design or works in 23/24.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN

2.6: We will support the human rights, housing and wellbeing needs of our people experiencing homelessness




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-40] Deliver programs that support people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness including Assertive Outreach and advocate for funding for Towards Zero	Advocate for funding to initiate the Towards Zero approach to support people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness	During the period officers continued exploring ways to progress the project in 2024/25 and discussed options with Councillors as part of the development of the 2024/25 Council Plan and Budget. This work was delayed given the complexity of the work in addition to other unplanned work and service delivery priorities that have arisen during this period.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN


2.8: We will advocate to reduce the harm associated with electronic machine gambling, alcohol, and tobacco




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-47] Support partner and local community organisations, groups, and clubs, to deliver initiatives that encourage the cessation of vaping and smoking	Support partner and local community organisations, groups, and clubs, to deliver initiatives that encourage the cessation of vaping and smoking	In partnership with Banyule Council, Merri-bek Council, Whittlesea Council and Your Community Health, Darebin made an application for the VicHealth vaping prevention grant. The project aims to encourage cessation of vaping and smoking among young people. Outcome of the successful grant recipients is yet to announced.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN




2.9: We will leverage investment, partnerships, and advocacy to drive Darebin’s growth and sustainability and ensure Darebin is a great place to do business

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-49] Invest in economic reactivation and recovery initiatives to support existing and new industries, to ensure Darebin's economy is robust and resilient	Invest in economic reactivation and recovery initiatives to support existing and new industries, to ensure Darebin's economy is robust and resilient	The sustainable business initiatives (Light\$mart, Energy\$mart, Solar Saver, Sustainable Leaders Program) continue to support the recovery of Darebin's Business community through investing in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and waste avoidance to reduce energy and waste bills. The Greening our Business tool - a cross-Council and NAGA (Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action) project - is progressing and is on track. A new wave of sustainable business videos has been completed and added to Council's YouTube Sustainability Playlist. A Sustainability Matters event was held in Thornbury Theatre on 4 June with good community attendance.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred




COUNCIL PLAN

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-50] Continue to implement our Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy to increase the engagement of Aboriginal-led businesses, and focus on job creation for culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, and young people	Host supplier forums, connecting with Aboriginal-led businesses in the Darebin community at least every two months to provide tailored information regarding upcoming procurement	<p>Council has renewed its Platinum Partnership Agreement with Kinaway Chamber of Commerce until March 2025. Ongoing meetings and discussion with the dedicated relationship manager provides a pipeline of forecast and preliminary awareness of procurement and Indigenous supplier opportunities. Recent contract for the redevelopment of John Hall pavilion resulted in the principal contractor engaging local Indigenous sub-contractors and suppliers.</p> <p>As we commence planning for new procurements in 2024/25FY, new opportunities will be promoted including networking and inviting Kinaway relationship manager to promote and connect with contract managers and suppliers.</p>		Completed
	[2-51] Build partnerships across all levels of government and the private sector, to attract new industries and investment into Darebin, to support its future growth	Build partnerships across government and the private sector, to attract new industries and investment into Darebin, to support its future growth	<p>A Draft Northern Innovation and Sustainability Precinct investment opportunity statement document has recently been finalised. This document was prepared in partnership with Banyule Council, La Trobe Uni and Northlink. Planning has commenced for a launch event in August 2024. Banyule is commencing work on the collaborative grant application with the support of Darebin staff. Planning for Darebin advocacy with local MPs will be undertaken in July 24/25.</p>		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred


COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-52] Undertake consultation with industry and other key stakeholders to help inform the future development of an Economic Development Strategy and interest in partnering with Council on ways industry and business can connect, network and influence for the benefit of the Darebin community	Undertake consultation with industry and other key stakeholders to help inform the future development of an Economic Development Strategy and interest in partnering with Council on ways industry and business can connect, network and influence for the benefit of the Darebin community	The Economic Summit series was delivered successfully during October and November. Over 240 people, representing 14 different business sectors within the Darebin business community, participated in six Round Table engagement forums and one large-scale Economic Summit conference event. High level statistics include: 6 Round Tables, 1 Summit conference, 7 Darebin venues, 793 individual comments gathered, 1108 votes cast, and multiple new partnerships established between business community members. This valuable feedback pool provides a robust engagement knowledge-base to underpin Economic Strategy development.		Completed
	[2-53] Catalyse new jobs at scale in Darebin with businesses, new industry attraction and our partners - including Jobs Victoria Advocates - focusing on jobseekers facing multiple employment barriers including culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, young people, women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	Catalyse new jobs in Darebin with businesses, new industry attraction and our partners - including Jobs Victoria Advocates - focusing on jobseekers facing multiple employment barriers including culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, young people, women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	Action has been on hold due to the reallocation of resources to Economic Framework development and Notice of Motion reports. This action will continue in 23/24.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN


2.10: We will ensure major changes in our city achieve significant improvements in our City




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-62] Protect Preston Market, including advocating Council's position to the State Government during its planning consultation process, and working with our community to advocate for the strongest possible planning controls and Protections	Continue efforts to protect the Preston Market through participating in the strategic and statutory planning processes and supporting traders through existing programs	Council welcomed the news that Preston Market traders will have their leases extended for five years from January 2024, providing much needed security. This news comes after more than five years of advocacy that Council is proud to have been a part of alongside our passionate community. This included working alongside community groups to gather over 30,000 petition signatures and writing on multiple occasions to the Minister for Planning, calling for the protection of the Preston Market, and advocating strongly to the Standing Advisory Committee for stronger planning controls. This advocacy culminated in approval by the Minister for Planning of Amendment C182dare in August 2023.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred


COUNCIL PLAN




2.11: We will improve the sustainability, accessibility, and design of development on private land in our city

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	<p>[2-65] Complete major planning reform work to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce an open space levy to fund open spaces in our city • Introduce a Developer Contributions Scheme to help fund infrastructure for our growing population • Establish Heidelberg Road Corridor controls • Establish Thornbury Park Heritage Estate controls 	<p>Progress a planning scheme amendment to deliver an interim 5% Open Space Levy</p>	<p>Planning Scheme Amendment C210dare was exhibited from 22 February to 22 March. The amendment proposes to enable up to 5% open space contributions from subdivision, in place of the existing sliding scale which limits contributions to 2, 3 or 4% for subdivisions creating less than 5 additional lots. Council will consider all submissions received as the amendment further progresses in 2024-25.</p>		<p>Completed</p>

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN







H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[2-66] Complete our Central Preston Structure Plan	Complete our Central Preston Structure Plan	<p>Council adopted the draft Preston Structure Plan and Activity Centre Zone schedules at its meeting on 18 December 2023 and requested that the Minister for Planning authorise the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C218dare to the Darebin Planning Scheme to implement the new provisions. This effectively completed the Council-led component of planning for Central Preston.</p> <p>In line with the Victorian Government's Housing Statement, the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) and the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) are now responsible for planning the Preston (High Street) Activity Centre under their Activity Centres Program. They are conducting technical assessments with support from Council officers. A Community Reference Group (CRG) was established, chaired by the State MP for Preston, and deputised by Darebin's Mayor. Council is continuing to support the VPA and DTP in delivering this program.</p>		Completed




 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN

3.0: Climate, Green and Sustainable


3.1: We will adapt to climate change and build the resilience of our community, infrastructure, and the built environment, with a focus on our vulnerable communities at risk of fuel poverty, and flooding




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[3-1] Through our Solar Saver 4-year program, support solar installation and energy efficiency retrofits for our vulnerable households, including public and social housing, and renters	Install up to 150 systems and undertake a service review to inform future directions	There were 99 solar systems installed using a special charge. A further 89 solar systems were installed through Council's Bulk Buy contract. The Solar Saver program service review was approved at Council in June, which increased the household income eligibility, maximum system cost and introduced hot water heat pumps to the list of products available.		Completed
	[3-2] Review our Climate Emergency Plan, including in- depth engagement with our community	Finalise the Climate Emergency Plan and consider the options for future actions that accelerate progress toward net zero, including options for reducing household and business reliance on gas and options for the future of the solar saver program	The second round of community consultation on the Climate Emergency Plan was completed in April and the final Plan will be considered by Council in July 2024.		Not Completed
	[3-3] Support our community members experiencing fuel poverty, to prevent heating and freezing	Incorporate fuel poverty into the development and implementation of the new Climate Emergency Plan	Fuel poverty is considered in the draft Climate Emergency Plan where there is a focus on supporting people experiencing disadvantage. The draft Plan includes actions that could reduce energy bills, improve home safety in extreme weather events and establishing a renewed approach that focuses on active travel for mobility. The Plan will be finalised by July 2024.		Not Completed

 Completed  Not Completed  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN


3.2: Aim to achieve 12% canopy cover on Council owned and managed land by 2025, prioritising catchment biodiversity and shopping areas




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[3-8] Acquire land to create new parks	Finalise the acquisition of the three parcels of land at Clements Reserve	Council is continuing to work towards this; however, the order of work has been adjusted with remediation works now planned to occur prior to acquisition. The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) which is currently owner of a major parcel of land to be acquired by Council are currently working on a land contamination survey of the site. Following that remediation works are expected to be undertaken and Council would then complete the purchase of the three properties.		Deferred

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN



3.3: We will drive significant improvements in water quality and biodiversity across Darebin, designating Edwardes Lake as a flagship project to demonstrate water recreation (in the long term)




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[3-11] Establish and adequately resource the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to significantly improve the water quality and amenity of Edwardes Lake in Reservoir	Continue to monitor the health of the lake and invest in activities that improve water quality (as recommended by the taskforce)	<p>Monthly monitoring has occurred each month by members of the Edgars Creek and Edwardes Lake Task Force in April, May, and June. Data has been collected at 10 different monitoring location along the Edgars Creek and at the Lake. The last of the monitoring for the financial year was carried out on 9 June.</p> <p>The Edgars Creek and Edwardes Lake Task met in May to continue to work on water quality projects including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * revegetation of the creek corridor * renaturalisation of the old GPT on Edgars Creek * pollution prevention programs 		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN

3.5: We will reduce waste and stimulate a local circular economy, where waste resources are re-used rather than discarded

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[3-16] Develop a plan to respond to new State Government requirements for contaminated land	Finalise and implement the Contaminated Land Framework	The Contaminated Land Management Framework project is progressing. The project is likely to be completed later in 2024.		Not Completed
	[3-18] Undertake waste reform and take action towards establishing a circular economy	Undertake community engagement to inform future kerbside waste services for residents	Community consultation about future kerbside waste services was completed between 7 August and 11 September 2023.		Completed




 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN


4.0: Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

4.1: We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future



H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[4-2] Develop and implement an Advocacy Framework and four year Advocacy Plan, informed by our Council Plan priorities, aimed at influencing public policy change and attracting support and funding for our priorities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services Dedicated sexual and reproductive health service in the Northern region Key transport priorities Increased funding for road safety infrastructure, driver behaviour and law enforcement Towards Zero approach to address homelessness Local Economic Development priorities Protection of Strathallan as public land Community and business use of energy efficiency initiatives Higher and mandatory Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) standards in building and planning controls 	Develop and implement an annual statement of advocacy priorities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services Dedicated sexual and reproductive health service in the Northern region Key transport priorities Increased funding for road safety infrastructure, driver behaviour and law enforcement Towards Zero approach to address homelessness Local Economic Development priorities Protection of Strathallan as public land Community and business use of energy efficiency initiatives Higher and mandatory Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) standards in building and planning controls 	A first draft of advocacy priorities was completed, and feedback has been received. Consultation across the various Council business units, such as Transport, Sports, Climate and Environment, City Futures and Economic Development, has been completed.		Not Completed




 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN






H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[4-4] Review our 10-year Financial Plan to ensure a level of revenue and expenditure that maintains a balance between service delivery, asset maintenance and renewal, and provides a strong, sustainable base for the future	Implement the action plan provided to the Minister for Local Government in response to the Monitor's Report	Actions contained in the Good Governance Action Plan have been completed.		Completed




4.2: We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[4-5] Review our Asset Portfolio, to ensure maximum benefit for our community is being realised, including the occupancy of unused and under-utilised Council buildings	Establish a Lease and Licensing Policy, with consideration to the inputs provided through deliberative engagement to inform the Council Plan.	Council has consulted on a draft Leasing and Licensing Policy. Strong community feedback was received in relation to a couple of key issues and Council has made a decision to establish a key policy principle in relation to this matter. There was limited community feedback received on other aspects of the Policy and Council will need to consider if further community engagement should be undertaken. Currently work on the draft Policy is continuing.		Not Completed
		Establish the Property Strategy	This work has been delayed, however foundational data has been collected including completion of Building Asset data collection, Community Infrastructure needs analysis and verification of Council's property register and map.		Not Completed



 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred




COUNCIL PLAN

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[4-6] Explore opportunities for Council owned and managed land (including airspace) to be used as temporary housing for people at risk or who are experiencing homelessness	Incorporate the consideration of temporary housing opportunities for people at risk or who are experiencing homelessness into the development of the Property Strategy for Council owned land	Council already has several sites leased for temporary and/or community housing purposes. Council's Property Strategy (currently in development) and Property Plan (to be developed) will incorporate opportunities to facilitate more affordable social and public housing within Council's existing property portfolio.		Not Completed
	[4-8] Improve delivery of our services to our community by developing an Asset Management Plan for Open Space, establishing a level of service for each class of our assets, and collecting data on our drainage assets	Undertake drainage asset condition inspections to support the early detection of damage and deterioration and to inform the Drainage Asset Management Plan	The condition survey of 5% of the drainage network has been completed as planned. Work to assess the full drainage network is planned over several years and will continue.		Completed
		Complete the review of the Drainage Asset Management Plan	The first draft Drainage Asset Management Plan is currently under review by internal stakeholders. This first draft substantively completed the action and provides much needed data and analysis for forward planning of maintenance and renewal work.		Completed
		Complete the review of the ICT Asset Management Plan	Asset renewal data is in hand and has been used for Council asset renewal planning. This data and analysis is sufficient for completing development of the Asset Plan for the whole of Council which is required in the 2024-25 year. As such, a formal Information and Communications Technology (ICT) asset management plan is not planned.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred




COUNCIL PLAN




H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
		Complete the establishment of the Arts and Cultural Collection Asset Management Plan	The Art and Cultural Collection Asset Management Plan (AMP) has been completed.		Completed
		Complete the review of the Plant and Fleet Asset Management Plan	The Plant and Fleet asset management plan has been completed.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred




COUNCIL PLAN




4.3: We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging, and future needs of our community

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[4-10] Transform our models of service delivery through the development of service profiles and conduct service reviews, to improve and ensure accessibility, inclusivity for under-represented groups and consistency of our customer experience	Transform our models of service delivery through the development of service profiles and conduct service reviews, to improve and ensure accessibility, inclusivity for under-represented groups and consistency of our customer experience	The program for 2023/2024 has finished one significant review and is close to completing two additional major reviews. One major review is on hold. Over 15 smaller process improvements have also been concluded. Outcomes include improved customer access, faster and more efficient processing times. The major reviews have focused on addressing impediments to diversity and inclusion and improved environmental outcomes. The prioritisation approach for 24/25 reviews is being prepared for roll out.		Completed
	[4-12] Develop and implement a new 4 year Organisational Strategy to deliver on Council Plan Strategic Direction 4 and other organisational improvement priorities in an integrated and efficient way	Through the development of an Organisational Strategy the following will be integrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer Service, Technology, and Innovation • Engagement, Governance and Risk • Long Term Financial Sustainability, Asset Management and Project Delivery • Leadership, People and Culture 	Implementation of the four-year program has occurred, with many actions crossing multiple years. Review of Governance model is under way. Programs are building momentum with key Project Control Groups (PCGs) in place, reporting monthly and key changes and variations being managed. Review of the 24/25 action plan has been completed.		Completed
	[4-13] Establish a long-term investment in IT systems to improve our customer experience, enable our people and deliver effective governance, compliance,	Progress Council approval of this investment in 2023-24.	Council adopted an Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Digital Strategy, including the investment in Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), in March 2024.		Completed

 Completed  Not Completed  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN


H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	improved data and cyber risk management	Integrate this work with our Customer Experience strategy and our People and Culture Plan	An Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Digital strategy and a People Strategy have been developed with extensive engagement and consultation across all departments, including the Customer Experience area. The strategy was endorsed and adopted by Council on 25 March 2024.		Completed
		Develop detailed business requirements for systems replacement and test the open market for available options	This action has been deferred to commence in the next financial year.		Deferred
		Develop a detailed Benefits Realisation Plan	The first iteration of the detailed Benefits Realisation Plan for the Enterprise Resource Plan (ERP) solution has been completed. This plan incorporates sector best practice and was developed through engagement with all key stakeholder departments. This plan will be reviewed and updated once the technology partner and delivery partner are identified in the first stage (procurement) of the ERP project.		Completed




 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
		Develop and incorporate a Governance Platform and standards into the overall ICT Governance Framework and Architecture	Council's ICT Governance Framework, including project governance, has been developed and is currently under review by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the Audit and Risk Committee for formal adoption. The incorporation of a Governance Platform and standards is a crucial part of this framework, aimed at ensuring robust and consistent governance across all ICT activities.		Not Completed




4.4: We will improve the effective governance and public accountability of Council

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
	[4-14] Improve effective governance and accountability of Council	Deliver a professional development program for Councillors and continue to promote external professional development opportunities available to Councillors	Professional development continues to be provided through the Good Governance Action Plan. Some Councillors are either enrolled in or have completed a Company Directors course. Professional development will continue to be offered to all councillors.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

COUNCIL PLAN

H&W	Strategic Action	Action	Comments	Status	Status Explanation
		Provide regular reporting to Council to improve transparency on matters including: the status of Council resolutions, the number of Notices of Motion, training undertaken by Councillors, the number of complaints received - customer complaints and complaints about Councillors, matters referred to or received from integrity agencies and the cost of Councillor Conduct matters.	All reports referred to are in place and are reported as required.		Completed
		Promote the 2024 Council election to raise awareness for potential Councillor candidates across the municipality	The 2024 Election Project Plan is progressing, and information has begun being published for candidates including social media posts regarding the MAV Stand for Council program. Further communications will be published in due course. As the 2024 local government elections will be held in October 2024, this action will continue over into 24/25 as a new action.		Completed

 Completed
  Not Completed
  Deferred

CAPITAL WORKS

Project by Asset Class	Delivery Due Date	Status	Project Status Comments
Buildings			
John Hall Pavilion Design	Multi-year Project	●	The John Hall Reserve Pavilion design has been completed. Construction will start in the financial year 2024-25.
Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre	30-Sep-23	●	Project is completed.
Workplace office accommodation	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
DRRC asset renewal	Multi-year Project	●	Project design is completed. Construction will start in the financial year 2024-25
Funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten	Multi-year Program	●	A number of projects site within the Funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten Program includes: Feasibility study for future expansion at JS Grey completed. Feasibility study for four other sites commenced. Raleigh Street Kindergarten Compliance Works in progress. Merri Community Child Care & Kindergarten expansion design completed and works commenced.
Building Renewal Program	Multi-year Program	●	The majority of the projects allocated within the Building Renewal Program (BRP) were delivered throughout the 2023-24 financial year. Key projects included various security related access control and alarm system upgrades, air conditioning improvements, electrical supply upgrades, roof renewals and gas appliance changeovers to electric power at various sites across council. The remaining projects within this program will be completed within the 2024 calendar year.
Drainage			
Drainage System Renewal and Upgrade Program including WSUD and Reactive Works and stormwater pipe relining	30-Jun-24	●	Except one all projects within the program are completed. The remaining work will be completed within first quarter of the financial year 2024-25.
Sportsground Sub-Surface Drainage	30-Jun-24	●	This project was merged with the WH Robinson Oval Renewal project to deliver better outcomes for the overall use and functionality of the reserve - Including irrigation upgrades and improved sub-surface drainage.
Pit lid renewal program	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.

● Completed
 ● Not Completed
 ● At Risk
 ● On hold/deferred
 ● Discontinued

CAPITAL WORKS

Project by Asset Class	Delivery Due Date	Status	Project Status Comments
Buildings			
Footpath Renewal Program	30-Jun-24	●	All projects within the program are completed.
Transport Safety Projects Design	30-Jun-24	●	Transport safety design projects that were progressed this year include: Boldrewood/McMahon intersection changes to remove the roundabout and install a raised intersection with zebra crossings, Regent Station Car Park entry raised crossing at Robinson Road, including a zebra crossing on Robinson Road. Davidson Street in Reservoir, raised zebra crossing, Radford Road speed humps between McKenzie Street and Amery Street and functional design for road safety improvements at the Broadhurst and Massey Avenue intersection.
Transport Safety Projects Construct	Multi-year Project	●	A number of projects were completed including the Davidson Street Reservoir Raised Safety Platform and the Belgrove Ovando Intersection upgrades. The remaining work will be completed within first quarter of the financial year 2024-25.
Computers & Telecommunications			
IT Improvement Program	30-Jun-24	●	All planned projects under IT improvement Program are completed.
IT Infrastructure Upgrade Program	30-Jun-24	●	All projects within the program are completed except hardware replacement program.
Land			
Land Acquisition to Create New Parks	30-Jun-24	●	Project is on hold. Council has endorsed a resolution to proceed with the purchase of three parcels of land at Clements Reserve. However, progress has been delayed due to a recent Environmental Action Notice issued by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) on a major parcel of land to be acquired by Council.
Contaminated Land Remediation	Multi-year Project	●	Work was completed to investigate options for remediation at Darebin Parklands and feasibility study of fuel tank operations.
Irrigation Upgrades and Renewals Program	30-Jun-24	●	All projects within the program are completed.
Oval and Sportsground Renewal and Upgrade Program	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Synthetic Cricket Wicket Installation	30-Nov-23	●	Project is completed.

● Completed
 ● Not Completed
 ● At Risk
 ● On hold/deferred
 ● Discontinued

CAPITAL WORKS

Project by Asset Class	Delivery Due Date	Status	Project Status Comments
Buildings			
Library Collections	30-Jun-24	●	Purchasing is completed
Parks, Open Space & Streetscapes			
John Cain Memorial Park and Preston City Oval Lighting Design	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Preston City Oval Cricket Nets	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Park Asset Renewal Program including drinking fountains and swing at Susan Walsh	01-May-24	●	All projects within the program are completed.
Street lighting safety renewal program -High St Preston and Gillies St car park	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Street Furniture and Equipment Renewal Program	24-May-24	●	All projects within the program are completed.
McDonnell Precinct Upgrades	Multi-year Project	●	Stage 1 works are completed, and Stage 2 work has commenced.
Street Lighting BT Connor surrounding - Scope	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Play Space Renewal Program	30-Jun-24	●	All projects within the program are completed.
Open Space Improvements Program	30-Jun-24	●	All projects within the program are completed.
Plant, Machinery and Equipment			
Replacement of Mobile Garbage, Green Waste and Recycling Bins	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Vehicular Plant Replacement - Heavy Vehicle	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Vehicular Plant Replacement - Light Vehicle	30-Jun-24	●	Majority of the program has been delivered. Small component will be completed in the first quarter of the financial year 24-25.

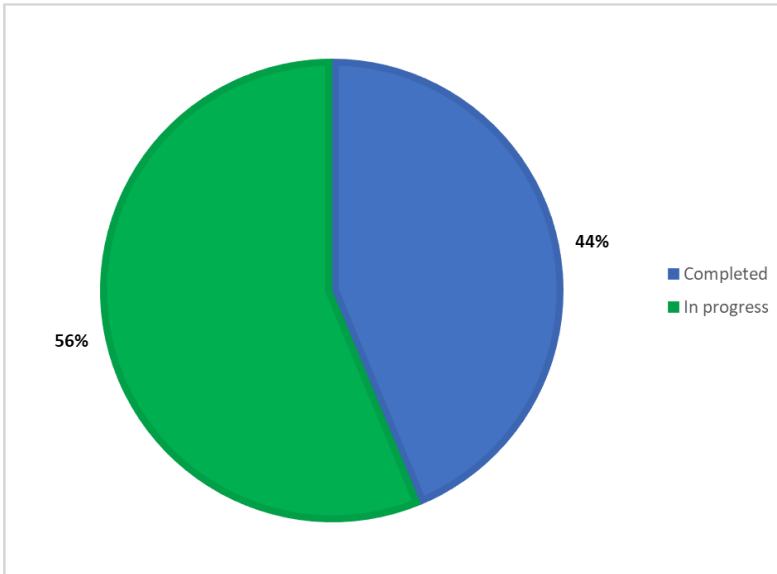
● Completed
 ● Not Completed
 ● At Risk
 ● On hold/deferred
 ● Discontinued

CAPITAL WORKS

Project by Asset Class	Delivery Due Date	Status	Project Status Comments
Buildings			
Youth Services Asset Renewal Program	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Art Collection Acquisitions - Bundoora Homestead Art Centre	31-May-24	●	Project is completed.
Reservoir Leisure Centre Gym Equipment and Group Exercise Equipment	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Darebin Furniture Purchases including libraries	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Arts Venues Asset and Equipment Renewal	30-Jun-24	●	Project is completed.
Direction signage to country of origin	30-Jun-24	●	There is a requirement to establish a more detailed cultural engagement process that impacts the timeframes for this project. Completion date now planned for November 2024.
Migration Monument - Scope	Multi-year Project	●	Shortlisted applicants are currently working on their artistic concepts and will be presented to Community Reference Group in July 2024.
Recreation, Leisure & Community Facilities			
Reservoir Leisure Centre	30-Jun-24	●	Roof repair work project is completed. Preparation for community consultation is underway for the Reservoir Leisure Centre Scoping Study with engagement activities to be undertaken in 2024-25.
Roads			
Kerb and Channel Renewal Program	30-Jun-24	●	All projects within the program are completed.
Road Resurfacing Program	30-Jun-24	●	All projects within the program are completed.
Asset Management Road Survey		●	Project is funded via Operational budget and therefore discontinued from Capital Works Portfolio.
Road Rehabilitation Design	30-Jun-24	●	Except one all projects within the program are completed. The remaining work will be completed within first quarter of the financial year 2024-25.

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

There were 38 Council resolutions in the fourth quarter of the 2023-24 financial year, 14 have been completed and 24 resolutions are in progress. 26 of these were adopted as per the officer recommendation and 15 were adopted by Council with an alternate resolution. This includes 8 Notices of Motion, 2 Petitions, 0 Notices of Recission and 0 Urgent Business items. Of the 38 resolutions, 2 items were referred to Budget and 5 requested a further report or briefing.



Due to the complexity of some of the resolutions, they may span multiple years and can be superseded or updated as the initiatives progress.

The status of actions arising from Council resolutions in each quarter is shown in the table below.

2023-24	In Progress	Completed	Total
Q1 (July – Sept 2023)	22	10	32
Q2 (Oct – Dec 2023)	30	15	45
Q3 (Jan-March 2024)	27	21	48
Q4 (April – June 2024)	24	14	38
Total YTD	103	60	163

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