

Areas of Alignment with

Victorian Health and Wellbeing Priority Areas 2023-2027

Supplement to the Integrated Council Plan 2025-2029

Victorian Priority Area	Victorian profile	Whitehorse profile	Examples of Local Government roles	Local Strategic Alignment
<p>Reducing harm from tobacco and e-cigarette use*</p> <p>*Precautionary Principle: Where a health risk poses a serious threat, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason to postpone measures to prevent or control the health risk.</p>	<p>In 2020 16.4 per cent of the Victorian population were daily smokers and 10.1 per cent of people living in Metropolitan Melbourne smoked daily.</p> <p>Rates of smoking are disproportionally higher in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and people who have a mental health condition.</p> <p>Use of e-cigarettes has doubled from 3.0 per cent to 6.1 per cent over three and a half years (2018-19 to 2022) in Victoria. There is a strong association between the use of e-cigarettes by non-smoking youth and future smoking.</p> <p>Males vape and smoke at higher rates than females, however use of e-cigarettes by females aged 18-24 has increased more than 5-fold from 2018-19 to 2022 in Australia.</p>	<p>In 2020 8.2 per cent of people in Whitehorse identify as daily smokers. This is significantly <i>lower</i> than the Victorian average of 16.4 per cent and lower than the Metropolitan Melbourne average of 10.1 per cent.</p> <p>The rate of e-cigarette use in Whitehorse is not known.</p> <p>A post-pandemic consultation by Whitehorse City Council in March to May 2023 with a total of 720 young people aged 12-25 living in Whitehorse found that young people are concerned about the peer pressure associated with vaping.</p>	<p>Educate retailers and enforce regulations pertaining to sale of cigarettes and e-cigarettes.</p> <p>Youth services to support social connections and mental wellbeing of young people.</p> <p>Waste management and environmental protection.</p> <p>Coordination of collaborative approach to public health, health promotion response.</p> <p>Develop and implement policies aimed at reducing exposure of children to harmful products.</p> <p>Promote alternatives (healthy activities),</p>	<p>Whitehorse Waste Management Strategy 2018-2028</p> <p>healthAbility health promotion strategic priorities (partner organisation)</p> <p>Other Eastern Metro Region (EMR) LGAs</p>

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	Waste from e-cigarettes is harmful to the environment and may cause fires.		supports for quitting and influencing attitudes through social marketing messaging in collaboration with stakeholders.	
Improving wellbeing (mental health)	<p>Anxiety and depression are the most frequent forms of mental illness in Australia.</p> <p>Diagnosed long term mental health conditions (which include anxiety and depression) are experienced by 8.8 per cent of Victorians and 8.1 per cent of people living in Metropolitan Melbourne. 8.9 per cent are female and 5.8 per cent are male.</p> <p>In Victoria, the proportion of adults who experienced high or very high levels of psychological distress significantly increased from 18.1% pre-pandemic in 2019</p>	<p>In Whitehorse in 2017, 20.6 per cent of people experienced anxiety or depression; 23.6 per cent were female and 17.2 per cent were male.</p> <p>Diagnosed long term mental health conditions (which include anxiety and depression) are experienced by 7.4 per cent of people living in Whitehorse, compared to 8.8 per cent of Victorians and 8.1 per cent of people living in Metropolitan Melbourne.</p> <p>The number of hospital admissions in 2018, where it was</p>	<p>Advise Council through the advisory groups and networks</p> <p>Support and strengthen broad community and targeted cohorts through supporting organisations to apply for funding and initiatives</p> <p>Plan and provide accessible arts/culture, leisure/recreation facilities, programs and services</p>	<p>Arts & Cultural Strategy 2014-2022</p> <p>Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015–2024</p> <p>Other EMR LGAs</p>

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	<p>to 23.4% in 2020 during the first year of the pandemic. This was significantly higher in the younger age groups—35.0% of adults aged 18-24 years and 27.8% of adults aged 25-34 years.</p> <p>Women, incl. pregnant and postpartum women, people who had been hospitalised with COVID-19, children and young people, carers, people who became unemployed owing to the pandemic, international students and those with pre-existing psychiatric conditions had a higher risk of adverse mental health consequences during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.</p> <p>Risk factors for elder abuse that increased during the pandemic response include increased ageism, social isolation, less access to health care and exercise, more</p>	<p>determined that the injury or poisoning was purposely self-inflicted, per 1,000 persons in Whitehorse was 1.30 female and 0.86 male, higher than the Metropolitan East rates of 1.2 female and 0.6 male.</p> <p>A post-pandemic consultation by Whitehorse City Council in March to May 2023 with a 720 young people aged 12-25 living in Whitehorse found young people aged 12-25 are concerned about their mental health in general, the effects of (cyber) bullying, the peer pressure associated with vaping, being socially isolated and feeling overwhelmed by the information generated by social media. A sense of having no free time where there is no pressure and of pessimism about the future gives further insight to</p>	<p>Plan and provide family, children and youth services, and navigation and support for older people.</p> <p>Collaborate and partner with stakeholder organisations to promote wellbeing for broad population and targeted cohorts through community education and information, promote healthy activities, and influencing attitudes through social marketing messaging.</p> <p>Advocate for accessible services to support mental health and wellbeing</p> <p>Local prevention and health promotion</p>	

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	<p>reliance on the use of technology, financial stress, and carer stress.</p> <p>Carers have the lowest wellbeing of any large group measured by the Australian Unity Wellbeing index. They are 40 per cent more likely to suffer from a chronic health condition. Back problems, anxiety and depression are directly linked to caring.</p>	<p>how young people in Whitehorse are feeling.</p> <p>[Findings of the Positive Ageing Survey will inform the health and wellbeing needs of people aged over 55 in Whitehorse.]</p> <p>Because of the ageing population profile, between 2016 and 2050 the prevalence of dementia in Whitehorse is expected to almost double from 3,767 to 7,444.</p>	<p>initiatives, e.g. in community settings, in collaboration with regional projects.</p> <p>In future Local Government will likely be funded to establish and coordinate a Social Inclusion Action Groups (SIAGs) as a sector change arising from the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System.</p>	
Increasing healthy eating	<p>In 2017, 56.8 per cent of Victorians did not meet the vegetable consumption guidelines, 15.3 per cent of Victorians consumed take-away food more than once a week and 10.1 per cent of Victorians consume sweetened drinks daily. Men were less likely to meet the</p>	<p>In 2017, 57.4 per cent of people in Whitehorse did not meet the vegetable consumption guidelines which is similar to all Victorians at 56.8 per cent. In Whitehorse 17.3 per cent of people consumed take-away food more than once a week, more</p>	<p>Promote healthy eating for broad population and targeted cohorts through community education and information, promote healthy activities, and influencing attitudes</p>	<p>healthAbility health promotion strategic priorities (partner organisation)</p>

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	<p>dietary guidelines for healthy eating than women.</p> <p>36 per cent of Australian households experienced moderate to severe food insecurity and a further 23 per cent are severely 'food insecure'.</p>	<p>than the 15.3 per cent of Victorians. 6.1 per cent of people consume sweetened drinks daily in Whitehorse, compared to 10.1 per cent of Victorians. Men were less likely to meet the dietary guidelines for healthy eating than women</p> <p>Local charities observe and respond to a considerable increase in need for food relief in the Whitehorse area.</p> <p>In Whitehorse, residents are well serviced by access to fresh food, with less distance to travel on average than to access fast food. The average distance to the closest healthy food outlet (supermarket or greengrocer) is 1046 m, slightly less than the average distance to the closest fast-food outlet, 1105 m.</p>	<p>through social marketing messaging.</p> <p>Develop and implement policies aimed at reducing exposure of children to harmful products.</p> <p>Partner or lead local healthy eating initiatives, e.g. in community settings, in collaboration with regional projects.</p> <p>Develop healthy catering policy for Council meetings and events.</p> <p>Advocate for nutritious food options as easy choices in Council facilities.</p> <p>Plan the urban environment and transport to promote</p>	<p>Other EMR LGAs</p> <p>NEPHU Catchment Plan</p>

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			<p>easy access to fresh food outlets.</p> <p>Liaise with and support local initiatives to provide nutritious food to people who are food insecure.</p> <p>Provide locally accessible community gardens.</p>	
Increasing active living	<p>In 2017, 44.1 per cent of people in Victoria did not obtain sufficient exercise for good health, with 26.5 per cent spending seven or more hours sitting on an average weekday.</p> <p>Metropolitan Melbourne has an average Social Infrastructure Index* score of 7, with wide variation across the city.</p>	<p>In 2017, 46.6 per cent of people in Whitehorse did not obtain sufficient exercise for good health, with 29.3 per cent spending seven or more hours sitting on an average weekday. Whitehorse percentages are higher than the Victorian percentages on both measures.</p> <p>The Whitehorse Well-being Profiler Survey (2017) of 3,000 students in Whitehorse highlighted how physical activity</p>	<p>Promote physical activity for broad population and targeted cohorts through community education and information, promote healthy activities, and influencing attitudes through social marketing messaging.</p> <p>Partner or lead local physical activity initiatives, e.g. in community settings, in</p>	<p>Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015–2024</p> <p>Play Space Strategy</p> <p>Whitehorse Integrated</p>

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		<p>participation for young people declines as they progress through secondary school, particularly for girls. Of all students 58 per cent reported spending 4 hours or more each day engaging in sedentary activities at home such as watching television, doing homework, or playing games.</p> <p>People in Whitehorse have good access to transport relative to other municipalities.</p> <p>Nearly seventy per cent of dwellings in Whitehorse are within 400m of a public transport stop with a regular service at least every 30 minutes on weekdays between 7am and 7pm (71st percentile; Range from 0.0 to 100.0%).</p> <p>Whitehorse has a Social Infrastructure Index* of 7.9 (This score is in the 65th percentile;</p>	<p>collaboration with regional projects.</p> <p>Implement the Victorian Fair Access Policy Roadmap to increase access to Council sports facilities for women and girls (and other cohorts with barriers to participation).</p> <p>Support the development of non-structured physical activity.</p> <p>Provide access to recreation and leisure facilities.</p> <p>Plan the urban environment, open space, and transport to enable safe physical activity.</p> <p>Liaise with and support local initiatives to provide</p>	<p>Transport Strategy 2011</p> <p>Cycling Strategy 2016</p> <p>healthAbility health promotion strategic priorities (partner organisation)</p> <p>Other EMR LGAs</p>

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		Range from 2.3 to 13.7/16). This is a higher score than the average for Metropolitan Melbourne with a score of 7.	nutritious food to people who are food insecure.	
Reducing harm from alcohol and drug use	<p>In Victoria, the hospital admission rate for alcohol in 2021/2022 was 574 per 100,000 people and 167 per 100,000 people for pharmaceutical drugs.</p> <p>The rate of hospital admissions due to illicit substances in Victoria is 272 per 100,000 population and the Metropolitan rate is 279 per 100,000.</p>	<p>Whitehorse alcohol and pharmaceutical drug hospitalisation admission rates in 2021/2022 were 737 and 207 per 100,000 people, respectively. This highlights an increase in alcohol admission rates since 2017/2018 (when alcohol admissions were 620 and pharmaceutical drug admissions were 228 per 100,000 people). These hospital admission rates are higher than Victorian and Melbourne Metropolitan rates. ^{ccii}</p> <p>The hospital admission rate in Whitehorse for pharmaceutical drugs was higher for females compared to males (115 and 91</p>	<p>Promote alternatives to alcohol use for broad population and targeted cohorts through community education and information, promote healthy activities, and influencing attitudes through social marketing messaging.</p> <p>Develop and implement policies aimed at reducing harms from alcohol, e.g. serving of alcohol policy for Council meetings and events, hours of alcohol availability at sports clubs.</p>	Other EMR LGAs

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		<p>per 100,000 people respectively) in 2020/2021. These hospitalisations may be related to prescription drug misuse, polypharmacy, or complications with ageing.</p> <p>The rate of hospital admissions due to illicit substances in Whitehorse (290 per 100,000) is similar to the Victorian rate (272 per 100,000) and the Metropolitan rate (279 per 10,000). Males account for more admissions (158 per 100,000) than females (113 per 100,000) in Whitehorse.</p>	<p>Support local harm reduction initiatives, e.g. in community settings, in collaboration with regional projects.</p> <p>Advocate for improved access to Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) services for groups who face barriers.</p>	
Tackling climate change and its impact on health	<p>The broad social determinants of health, such as income, employment, or food security, are also affected by climate change.</p> <p>The projected number of extreme heat days in Melbourne in the</p>	The City of Whitehorse experiences temperatures greater than 35°C, on average	<p>Mitigation, response and adaptation to climate change and extreme weather events, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy 	Climate Response Strategy 2023-2030

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	<p>2050s under a high emissions scenario is between 13 and 21 days on average, or between 10 to 16 days with medium emissions.</p> <p>A Victorian study exploring data from 2010 to 2022 explored whether changes to morbidity occurred during or directly after these heat health alerts, and how this differed for certain population groups. The study found an increase in heat-related ED presentations with the greatest impact on people aged 65 years and older, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and those living in the most disadvantaged areas were groups more likely to record heat-related presentations and admissions. People living in public housing are at increased risk of heat related morbidity due to poor thermal capability of housing stock. State-wide research in 2019</p>	<p>11 days per year. This is predicted to increase to 16 days per year, on average, by 2050</p> <p>In Whitehorse urban heat temperatures are higher in denser residential and industrial areas of the municipality and lower in areas such as Blackburn Lake Sanctuary, Morack Public Golf Course, Mullum-Mullum Creek, and surrounds, and along Gardiners Creek.</p> <p>1,410 households in Whitehorse comprise people renting public housing.</p> <p>In Whitehorse, 19.9 per cent of the adult population have been diagnosed with asthma at some time in their life.</p> <p>Whitehorse has a significant population of people of Asian or Indian background, who may be at higher risk of future</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community education and incentives for action Urban design Asset management and building design Emergency management Reduce travel by car Increase canopy cover Reduce emissions Waste management Water management Open space management 	<p>Urban Forest Strategy 2021-2031</p> <p>Whitehorse Waste Management Strategy 2018-2028</p> <p>Integrated Water Management Strategy 2022 – 2042</p> <p>Open Space Strategy 2023 – 2037</p> <p>Cycling Strategy 2016</p> <p>Whitehorse</p>

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	<p>found that more than half of all Victorians in public housing were too hot last summer or too cold last winter and that as a result, 45 per cent of residents had to leave their home. In Victoria climate changes will cause an overall decrease in total rainfall, contributing to longer and more severe droughts; however, individual rainfall events and storms will become more intense with a greater risk of flash flooding.</p> <p>Climate change is likely to be a factor in thunderstorm asthma events. An unprecedented thunderstorm event in Melbourne in November 2016 caused an exceptionally large number of emergency department admissions and hospitalisations for respiratory-related presentations, especially individuals of Indian or</p>	thunderstorm asthma hospital admissions.		<p>Integrated Transport Strategy 2011</p> <p>Other EMR LGAs</p>

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	Sri Lankan birth and south-east Asian birth. Ten individuals died; of these six were of south-east Asian birth or Indian birth.			
Preventing all forms of violence	<p>Violence is a gendered issue. Community and family violence is mostly perpetrated by men.</p> <p>The rate of <i>recorded</i> crimes against the person in Victoria in 2022/23 was 987.5 per 100,000 people.</p> <p>Violence is a gendered issue. Community and family violence is mostly perpetrated by men. ^{cxlii}</p>	<p>The rate of <i>recorded</i> crimes against the person in Whitehorse in 2022/23 was 573.8 per 100,000 people, lower than Victoria as a whole (987.5/100,000).</p> <p>The rate of <i>recorded</i> family violence incidents in Whitehorse in 2022/23 was 839 per 100,000 population. The City of Whitehorse has almost half the rate of recorded family violence <i>incidents</i> for Victoria. However, there were still 1,470 family violence incidents reported in 2022/2023: an average of 28 incidents every week. It is estimated that only 25 per cent of family violence incidents are</p>	<p>Local governments are required to include measures to respond to and prevent Family Violence in the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.</p> <p>Educate Council Staff to respond to family violence (FV) including customer services and outside workers.</p> <p>Train Maternal Child Health services in MARAM framework and practice to respond to</p>	<p>EMR Together for Equality and Respect Strategy (signatory)</p> <p>Regional Family Violence Partnership (member)</p> <p>healthAbility health promotion strategic priorities</p>

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		<p>reported to the police so the true annual number of family violence incidents in Whitehorse may be closer to greater than 5,880 per year, equating to 113 incidents per week.</p> <p>The rate of crimes against the person which were family <i>offences</i> in Whitehorse in which women were victims is higher for women than for men.</p>	<p>clients at risk or experiencing FV.</p> <p>Prevent gender-based violence through implementation of Gender Equality Act (undertaking Gender Impact Assessments to polities, programs and services).</p> <p>Lead local prevention and health promotion initiatives, e.g. in community settings, in collaboration with regional projects.</p> <p>Fund community organisations through grants.</p>	<p>(partner organisation)</p> <p>Other EMR LGAs</p> <p>Whitehorse GEAP</p>
Reducing injury	The rate of hospital admissions due to falls by people who live in	The rate of hospital admissions due to falls by people who live in	<p>Injury in the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban design 	Whitehorse Integrated

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	<p>Victoria in 2020/2021 was 846 per 100,000 for Victoria. Most falls occur in the home.</p> <p>Falls are related to both gender and age. In the 65 years and older group, females accounted for more hospital admissions and emergency department presentations than males.</p> <p>Falls were the leading cause of injury among hospital admissions (36.7%) and emergency department presentations (48.4%) for unintentional injury in Victoria in 2021/2022.</p> <p>Hospitalisations due to transport injury for people in Victorian occur at a rate of 220 per 100,000).</p>	<p>Whitehorse in 2020/2021 was 856 per 100,000, higher than 846 per 100,000 for Victoria. The rate of admissions for females (1056/100,000) was significantly higher than for males (709/10,000).</p> <p>Hospitalisations due to transport injury for residents of Whitehorse in 2020 occur at a rate of 158 per 100,000 people, lower than the Victorian rate of 220/100,000. 38.4 per cent of hospitalisations are for Whitehorse residents who are car occupants, 35.1 per cent for cyclists, 11.6 per cent for motorcyclists and 8.3 per cent for residents who are pedestrians. The rate for males is higher (at 194/100,000) than for females (122/100,000).</p> <p>In Whitehorse during the period 2014-2018 pedestrian fatalities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road maintenance Community education <p>Falls in the home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service navigation and support Provide accessible facilities and programs for strength and balance training. Collaborate with service sector organisations for community-based positive ageing programs, community awareness and education. Influence attitudes about ageing through 	<p>Transport Strategy 2011</p> <p>Age Friendly Cities</p>

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		and injuries were most common in people aged 18-25 years	social marketing messaging.	

*The Social Infrastructure Index (SII) developed by the Australian Urban Observatory measures 16 individual service types including Community Centres, Culture and Leisure, Early Years, Education, Health and Social Services and Sport and Recreation which were used to calculate the presence of service mix within a threshold distance. A maximum score of 16 represents the highest mix of social infrastructure with all service types present.

Detail about other priority areas

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Access to affordable housing	<p>Housing plays a critical role in ensuring individuals can fully engage in community life, both economically and socially, and is becoming less affordable across the whole of Melbourne. In September 2023, only 1.1 per cent of rental housing in Whitehorse was considered affordable, in comparison to the Victorian average of 8.8 per cent.</p> <p>The proportion of renters in housing stress in Whitehorse has increased from 30.9 per cent in 2016, to 32.6 per cent in 2021, above the Victorian average of 30.9 per cent.</p> <p>Rental housing stress is highest in Box Hill, accounting for 44.4 per cent of all renters. This is followed by Burwood and Blackburn South, both accounting for 35.3 per cent of renters.</p> <p>In September 2023, the percentage of available affordable lettings in Whitehorse was just 1.1 per cent; significantly lower than Victoria at 8.8 per cent and Metropolitan Melbourne at 4.5 per cent. In the year previous, Whitehorse only had 2.3 per cent affordable lettings.</p> <p>Whitehorse has a higher proportion of mortgage holders in housing stress (19.7 per cent) when compared to Victoria (15.5 per cent). Mortgage stress is greatest in Box Hill and Burwood East, accounting for 28.9 and 25.4 of mortgagees.</p> <p>Although Whitehorse is overall a relatively affluent community enjoying good health, the municipality has greater social disparity with</p>	<p>Partner with LGAs to advocate for accessible, affordable housing through relevant networks</p> <p>Apply gender lens to implementation of Affordable Housing Policies</p>	<p>Whitehorse Affordable Housing Policy 2023</p> <p>Eastern Region Group of Councils</p> <p>Other EMR LGAs</p>

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	<p>more high-income earners and more low-income earners than other local government areas.</p> <p>In Whitehorse 30.9 per cent of households in the bottom 40 per cent of incomes spend more than 30 per cent on housing costs.</p> <p>Gender differences in working aged adults reveal distinct differences in income in Whitehorse, affecting access to housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The female median weekly income is \$648 (persons aged 15+) • The male median weekly income is \$958 (persons aged 15+) • 43.6 per cent of females are employed full-time • 64.4 per cent of males are employed full-time <p>81 per cent of lone-parent households in Whitehorse have a female head.</p> <p>Whitehorse has the second highest number of homeless people in the Eastern Metropolitan Region (1,491 people), at 0.9 per cent. In 2021-22, a total of 1,712 people received specialist homelessness services in Whitehorse. Of those receiving assistance, 986 were female (58 per cent) and 726 were male (42 per cent).</p> <p>Homelessness refers to people living in improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out, in supported accommodation for the homeless, staying temporarily with other households, in boarding houses, in other temporary lodgings, and living in severely crowded dwellings.</p>		

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Discrimination due to age, race, gender, sexual identity, ability	<p>There are systematic gender differences in material well-being regardless of an individual's socioeconomic level. Gender inequality is a characteristic of most societies, with males on average faring better in social, economic, and political hierarchies.</p> <p>The average individual weekly gross income for males in Whitehorse was \$958 while for females it was \$648. 27.7 per cent of females in Whitehorse were in the lowest Metropolitan Melbourne income quartile (earning less than \$336 per week).</p> <p>Gender inequality is perpetuated not just through unequal access to and control over material resources but also through gender norms and stereotypes which reinforce gender roles and constrain the behaviour of both women and men in ways that lead to inequality. Gender is one part of a person's identity. Intersectionality is an approach to understanding how various parts of a person's characteristics or identity intersect to diminish or magnify the experience of discrimination or disadvantage for the person or the group.</p> <p>People with disability are twice as likely as those without a disability to be unemployed (10 per cent) and have lower rates of labour force participation. Men with disability are more likely to be employed (56.1 per cent) compared to women with disability (50.7 per cent). Labour force participation declines with severity of limitation. People</p>	<p>Advise Council through relevant advisory groups and networks.</p> <p>Conduct Gender Impact Assessments, and once introduced, Disability Impact Assessments for Council policies, programs and services.</p> <p>Plan and provide accessible arts & cultural, leisure & recreation facilities, programs and services.</p> <p>Plan and provide accessible family, children and youth services, and navigation and support for older people.</p> <p>Develop and implement accessible employment programs.</p>	<p>Various Federal and State Government Acts</p> <p>Charter of Human Rights</p> <p>Arts & Cultural Strategy 2014-2022</p> <p>Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015–2024</p> <p>Whitehorse Gender Equality Action Plan, Disability Action Plan</p> <p>Other EMR LGAs</p>

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	<p>with autism are less likely (40.8 per cent) to participate in the workforce, when compared to people with no reported disability.</p> <p>Thirty-five per cent of people in Australia aged 55-65 years have experienced some form of age discrimination, and for those aged 65+ the percentage is 43 per cent. The most common types of age-related discrimination, experienced by over 50 per cent of older Australians, are being turned down from a position, being treated with disrespect and being subjected to jokes about ageing. Age discrimination can affect workers' ability to remain in the workforce: one third (33%) of people who had been discriminated against gave up looking for work because of experiencing age discrimination. Whitehorse has an increasingly ageing population. Currently more than 18.5 per cent of people are over the age of 65, and between 2024 and 2041, the number of people aged over 65 will increase by approximately 6,920 people.</p> <p>Despite increasing acceptance of LGBTIQ+ people in Australian they are still more likely than the general population to experience discrimination, prejudice, violence, and abuse in everyday life. Fifty-eight per cent of LGBTQ+ Victorians have faced unfair treatment based on sexual orientation, while 77.7 per cent of trans and gender diverse Victorians have faced unfair treatment based on their gender identity. It is estimated there is a total of 9,830 people who identify as LGBTIQ+ residing in Whitehorse.</p>	<p>Implement the Victorian Fair Access Policy Roadmap to increase access to Council sports facilities for women and girls (and other cohorts with barriers to participation).</p> <p>Fund community organisations through grants to support local initiatives, in line with strategic priorities.</p> <p>Implement the Gender Equality Act (undertaking Gender Impact Assessments to polities, programs and services)</p> <p>Influence attitudes about gender and sexuality diversity, disability, cultural differences, and</p>	

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	<p>While the numbers of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people are comparatively small in the City of Whitehorse, there exist longstanding inequalities in health and life chances between Aboriginal and non-aboriginal Australians.</p> <p>People with lower levels of digital access risk missing essential information and access to beneficial services and supports. Senior people report the expectation that everyone has access to information technology as a form of discrimination.</p>	ageing through social marketing messaging.	
Social inclusion and connection	<p>Socioeconomic disadvantage is considered the greatest cause of health inequality in Victoria as in other parts of world.</p> <p>Substantial numbers of Australians continue to experience affordability stress when it comes to internet access, meaning they would need to pay more than 5 per cent of household income to maintain quality, reliable connectivity. These include people with disability (55.1 per cent), people living in public housing (64.1 per cent), people over the age of 75 (65.2 per cent), and people who are currently unemployed (69.4 per cent). People with lower levels of digital access risk missing essential information and access to beneficial services and supports.</p> <p>Over one in six people with disability experience social isolation.</p> <p>People with disability are less likely to participate in sporting activities or physical recreation, attend cultural events or venues than people</p>	<p>Plan and provide accessible arts & cultural, leisure & recreation facilities, programs and services</p> <p>Plan and provide accessible family, children and youth services, and navigation and support for older people.</p> <p>Support and strengthen the broad community and targeted cohorts for</p>	<p>Arts & Cultural Strategy 2014-2022</p> <p>Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015–2024</p> <p>Social Enterprise Policy 2023</p>

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	<p>without disability. Also, people with disability were less likely to have had daily face-to-face contact with family or friends living outside the household than a person without a disability, more likely to have cared for a person with a disability, long term health condition or old age in the last four weeks, more likely to experience some form of discrimination and more likely to assess their health as poor or fair.</p> <p>The rate of caring for others usually increases with age where we see the highest proportion of 19.7 per cent of people aged 55 to 64 years. Overall, women were 2.5 times more likely than men to be a primary carer (5.0 per cent compared with 2.0 per cent), the average age of a primary carer was 54 years.</p> <p>People from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds, particularly new migrants, and refugees, are at greater risk of poorer quality health care, service delivery and poorer health outcomes compared with other Australians due to language barriers, lower health literacy, and experience difficulties navigating an unfamiliar health and welfare system.</p> <p>A sizeable number of international students study in the City of Whitehorse and many also reside in the municipality. These students are particularly vulnerable to a number of health and wellbeing risk factors, including lack of access to health care and social support services, social isolation, increased risk of assault, housing insecurity,</p>	<p>increased social cohesion and connection through Community Development funding and initiatives.</p> <p>Collaborate and partner with stakeholder organisations to promote social cohesion and connection through community education and information, promote social activities, and influencing attitudes through social marketing messaging.</p> <p>Lead local initiatives that build social infrastructure.</p> <p>Negotiate Social Enterprise initiatives.</p> <p>Implement the Accessible Employment Program</p>	

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	<p>exposure to scams, gambling, and unemployment and/or mistreatment whilst in employment.</p>	<p>Promote the availability of local services, including Council, to international students in Whitehorse.</p> <p>In future Local Governments will likely be funded to establish and coordinate a Social Inclusion Action Groups (SIAGs) as a sector change arising from the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System.</p>	