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The actions that have been selected to feature in the 2025/26 Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Action Plan directly support the key Health and Wellbeing Objectives outlined in the four-year Integrated Council Plan and align with the 2025/26 Budget. This alignment maintains focus and line of sight in achieving long-term community outcomes.

Community feedback received through Shaping Whitehorse community engagement, input from Council's Health and Wellbeing Partners, along with Councillor support, has helped to shape these actions.

	2025/26 MPHWP Actions
Strategic Direction 1: Community	
Objective 1.1 An involved and connected community	Plan and develop an **Intergenerational Social Connections Program** whereby young and older people come together to work on shared interests, encouraging social support and meaningful connections **Lead organisation:** healthAbility (community health service) **Supporting organisations:** FVREE (specialist family violence service), Eastern Health
	Implement and evaluate the **Women in Sport Program** in collaboration with Deakin University to fosters inclusive and diverse leadership at every level of community involvement **Lead organisation:** Council **Supporting organisations:** Deakin University
	Increase the **Migrant Learn to Swim Program** to learn how to swim, reducing risk of drowning **Lead organisation:** Council **Supporting organisations:** Migrant Information Centre, Surrey Park Swim Club, Nunawading Swim Club
	Deliver initial phases of the **North Eastern Local Food System Collective Project** to leverage existing structures, functions and commitment to strengthening food systems **Lead organisation:** North Eastern Public Health Unit **Supporting organisations:** healthAbility

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	2025/26 MPHWP Actions
Strategic Direction 1: Community	
1.3: A healthy and active community	Deliver local initiatives in support of the **National Dementia Action Plan 2024-2034** to reduce the stigma, minimise risks and support carers. **Lead organisation:** Council **Supporting organisations:** healthAbility, dementia specialist organisations
	Create new **Outdoor Fitness Equipment** spaces to support people of all ages to exercise outdoors **Lead organisation:** Council **Supporting organisations:** U3A Nunawading
	Contribute to the planning and achievement of **Together for Equality and Respect Strategy** priority initiatives to implement collaborative projects relevant to the Whitehorse community **Lead organisation:** Women's Health East **Supporting organisations:** CAN4PVAW members (list)
	Deliver the **Maternal Child Health Fathers Inclusion Program** to build on existing service developments to further engage fathers in the MCH service **Lead organisation:** Council **Supporting organisations:** healthAbility

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	2025/26 MPHWP Actions
Strategic Direction 1: Community	
1.3: A healthy and active community	Initiate, co-design and deliver **initiatives to counter ageism and prevent elder abuse** **Lead organisation:** Eastern Community Legal Centre **Supporting organisations:** Seniors Rights Victoria
	Build a **Mental Health Champions Program** to increase the capacity of community members to identify and respond to others facing mental wellbeing challenges **Lead organisation:** healthAbility (community health service) **Supporting organisations:** MIND

	2025/26 MPHWP Actions
Strategic Direction 4: Natural	
4.2 An environmentally sustainable and climate resilient City	Investigate a **Water Sensitive Urban Design developer offset scheme** to address compliance shortfalls and implement if feasible. **Lead organisation:** Council

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Monitoring and Reporting

To facilitate transparency and accountability, the actions listed in this annual action plan will be reported back to the Community on a quarterly basis in the Whitehorse Quarterly Performance Report. This report is made available on Council's website after being presented to Council for each quarter of the financial year. You can find all of Councils Quarterly Performance Reports here: https://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/what-we-do/publications/corporate-documents/performance-reports

To support the development and evaluation of the MPHWP Action Plan, Council has established a MPHWP Steering Committee that will meet twice yearly and guide the implementation of collaborative health and wellbeing initiatives for Whitehorse specifically for the MPHWP Action Plan. Membership includes organisations we partner with to implement the MPHWP.

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Whitehorse Health and Wellbeing Steering Committee 2025-2029

Organisation	Name	Role
AMES	Maria Tsopanis	Acting General Manager Social Participation
EACH	Debbie Stanley	Child, Youth and Family Wellbeing Director
Eastern Health - Consumers, Diversity-Equity-Inclusion, Family Violence	Verity Speed	Director Consumer Participation and Experience
FVREE (family violence service)	Anna Matina	General Manager – Prevention and Early Intervention
HealthAbility (community health service)	Rosalyn Sandwell (Roz)	Manager Wellbeing and Prevention
Migrant Information Centre	Rachna Muddagouni	Chief Executive Officer
Neighbourhood and Community Houses	Rebecca Rhodes	Manager, Vermont South Neighbourhood House
North-Eastern Public Health Unit (NEPHU)	Melanie Chisholm	Senior Manager, Population Health
The University of Melbourne - Melbourne Climate Futures, Melbourne Law School and Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences	Dr Annabelle Workman (Belle)	Research Fellow
Women's Health East	Catherine D'Arcy	Manager - Prevention of Violence Against Women
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Organisation	Name	Role
Communities, Engagement and Integrated Planning (Chair)	Zoe Quinn	Manager
Health and Family Services	Alan Foster	Manager
Leisure and Recreation Services	Tim Gledhill	Manager
Arts and Cultural Services	Shayne Price	Manager
City Services	Simon Kinsey	Manager
Communications, Advocacy and Investment	Fran Nolan	Manager
Whitehorse Manningham Library	Katie Norton	Manager Collections & Information Services

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