Executive Summary - Footpath Trading Guidelines Review
Whitehorse City Council is reviewing its footpath trading framework to ensure it continues to support local businesses, outdoor dining and vibrant activity centres while maintaining safe, accessible and welcoming public spaces.

This review brings together the following documents:

- Whitehorse City Council Footpath Trading Guidelines
- Footpath Trading Guidelines Annexure for Carrington Road, Box Hill
- Real Estate Advertising Guidelines
- In-Ground Footpath Furniture Sockets Guidelines

Together, these documents set out the requirements for using Council-managed footpaths and public land for activities such as:

- Outdoor dining
- Goods displays
- A-frame signage
- Planter boxes
- Umbrellas, screens and awnings
- Real estate advertising
- Associated footpath trading infrastructure

The review provides an opportunity to:

- Assess whether the current guidelines remain clear, practical and fit for purpose.
- Review existing permit types, requirements and trading options.
- Ensure footpaths remain safe, accessible and unobstructed for all users.
- Support attractive and vibrant shopping, dining and activity centre precincts.
- Consider whether the current fee structure remains fair and equitable.
- Identify opportunities to simplify processes and improve consistency across permit types.

A key focus of the review is ensuring public spaces work well for both businesses and the wider community. This includes consideration of:

- Accessibility and inclusion
- Pedestrian safety and movement
- Outdoor dining opportunities
- Streetscape amenity
- Business needs
- Fair and equitable permit fees

Council is seeking feedback from businesses, residents, visitors and other users of public space to understand how the current framework is working in practice and where improvements may be needed.

Feedback will help inform any future changes to the guidelines, permit requirements and fees, ensuring they continue to meet community needs while supporting safe, accessible and vibrant activity centres.