

Recommendation Response

Future Wyndham Deliberation

2025



Introduction

As part of the Future Wyndham Deliberative Engagement Process the Future Wyndham Community Panel provided fourteen recommendations to help inform the development of the Council Plan (*incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan*), Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Plan.

At the start of the deliberative engagement process we committed to the Future Wyndham Panel the following:

- ✓ Listen to what people say.
- ✓ Report back on what we have heard.
- ✓ Document and record all inputs.
- ✓ Demonstrate that we have understood your concerns and priorities.
- ✓ Identify where the Council can't incorporate a recommendation and clearly explain why.
- ✓ Base our decisions on the Panel's recommendations to the greatest extent possible.
- ✓ Make the Panel report available publicly upon completion.

This following provides Council's response to the Future Wyndham Panel's recommendations.

FUTURE WYNDHAM – COMMUNITY PANEL TASK

Wyndham City Council can't afford to do everything.



How does the council balance its resources to make it fair for all?



How can council better balance its budget and still deliver on what is important to the community?

**INFORM OUR
FINANCIAL
STRATEGY**



How can council better spend its money between the building of new assets and the maintenance of its growing asset base?

**MANAGE OUR
ASSETS**



Should council deliver on a wide range of services or a smaller targeted range of services over the next four years?

**DETERMINE OUR
FOCUS FOR THE NEXT
FOUR YEARS**

Recommendation 1

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council and Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan
Heading	Stronger Advocacy
Description & Rationale	Stronger Advocacy is required because Wyndham is a growing municipality that requires a long-term relationship with the State/ Federal Government. The current contributions from the State/Federal Government is not sufficient to meet Wyndham’s growing needs, such as Public Transport, roads, medical facilities, education, employment opportunities and recreational facilities. A means to measure achievements and outcomes to create transparency for the community. Further advocacy for safety measures like crime prevention.
Why is this important to this community?	To get maximum benefits from the State/ Federal Government for minimum expenditure. Strengthen the relationship between the Local, State and Federal Governments. It upholds a sense of community safety.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan 2025-29 (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) Strategic Area 4 - Delivering for the community
Council Plan - We Will Statement	4.5 Ensure the needs of the community are well represented through effective community engagement and advocacy practices that focus on improved transport connections, local job opportunities, safer communities, and better health services.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	4.4 Deliver an updated Advocacy Strategy. Development of a refreshed Advocacy Strategy, with a key focus on maximising investment in the City in the lead up to the 2026 state election. 2.16 Commence work to advance advocacy efforts on two State-managed roads, including the development of detailed design for the intersection upgrade at Hogans and Derrimut and concepts for Sayers Road Duplication to assist with advocacy efforts.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	Advocacy Strategy 2024-2026
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	Council has a responsibility to advocate on behalf of ratepayers and the community, and where possible, improve process to ensure success in our engagement with government. Council holds recurrent engagement with Members of Parliament in a bipartisan manner, advancing interest in our priorities and plans with our elected representatives Regionally, Wyndham works closely with neighbouring Councils such as Geelong City Council and City of Melton, to further promote regionally specific priorities. A formal MoU will be signed with Geelong City to be united on advocacy to maximise interest, awareness and investment. Recently, Council has played important roles in the Werribee by-election 2025 and the Federal Election 2025. This included the hosting of a community forum at Council, developing electorate-specific priority documents for candidates, and providing questionnaires to candidates. This ensured community awareness around our work and demonstrated the serious nature of our advocacy. This work sets the foundation leading into the State Election 2026, which will reflect another key opportunity to demonstrate our advocacy through issue-specific campaigns, promotion of our projects and priorities and importantly, display our commitment to the needs of our community.

Recommendation 2

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Asset Plan
Heading	Investment into higher quality assets
Description & Rationale	Council should prioritise the construction and purchase of higher quality assets which can be more economically maintained in the future. If assets are created with the intention of minimizing future maintenance needs, council can save money in the long-term and provide assets which have more longevity. This makes assets more sustainable as they are built to a high enough standard requiring minimal upkeep, prolonging their lifespan.
Why is this important to this community?	Higher asset quality leads to longer asset lifespans, enabling the community of Wyndham to enjoy assets which function more efficiently for a longer duration of time. The low cost over time enables money to go into other services and assets which benefit the community.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Asset Plan 2025-2035 <i>Reflected in the Asset Investment Principles in relation to asset quality and a key component of Asset Policy to be developed.</i> Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 4 - Delivering for the community
Council Plan - We Will Statement	4.2. Apply longer-term integrated planning approaches that allow it to better define and prioritise what it will deliver and invest in to meet community needs.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	Draft Wyndham's Long-Term Financial Plan 2025–2035 Draft Annual Plan and Budget 2025–2026 Road Management Plan 2021-2025 (Refresh 2025-29 in progress)
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	Council is strengthening its approach to asset planning and investment by establishing a Strategic Asset Steering Committee and Strategic Asset Working Group, which will implement an Asset Management Framework focused on long-term value, sustainability and meeting community needs. As part of this, Council is developing an Asset Improvement Plan to guide continuous improvement, capability uplift, and alignment with best-practice asset management. Council is also currently drafting an Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Policy to establish a clear and consistent approach to asset decision-making, embedding principles of value-based planning, service level alignment and lifecycle optimisation across asset classes.

Recommendation 3

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Simplify communication and consultation with community
Description & Rationale	Council should maintain and develop new means of two-way communication between council and community. These should be user friendly, accessible, quick and direct. It should cater for differences in language and technical literacy across the community. Examples: Keeping phone and in person customer service functions. Keep sending the newsletter. Ensure important communications are translated into other languages. Adding short QR code surveys to facilitate immediate feedback. Choice to opt-in for a physical or digital newsletter Council should consider better leveraging community groups and leaders to disseminate messages and channel feedback.
Why is this important to this community?	The current systems of giving feedback are cumbersome, slow and difficult to navigate. It can take a long time to get quality feedback on assets and services from residents. There are also groups of disengaged residents who currently don't provide feedback at all. Providing new means of receiving feedback would provide transparency, efficiency and community driven ideas and solutions to the dilemmas. This information allows the council to be agile in building/maintaining assets and providing services. Choice to opt-in for a physical or digital newsletter allows reduction in unnecessary expenditure on physical newsletter, making it environmental-friendly.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 4 – Delivering for the community
Council Plan - We Will Statement	4.4 Strive to deliver quality customer experiences and to communicate clearly and consistently.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	Customer Charter Community Engagement Policy 2021-25 (2025-29 in draft)
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	Council is developing a new Communication and Marketing Plan, with a focus on unified messaging about Council services across the organisation, benefits to ratepayers, and being proactive in messaging. The plan will also focus on prioritising messaging to ensure the community gets the information it needs to know in a timely manner. A new Community Engagement Policy is being developed. Due for adoption in June 2025. The Loop is Council's online tool for community engagement. Each project collects feedback in line with opportunities for the Community to influence the project and a community engagement report is prepared to provide evidence and data to key decision makers. It is a space where we shape Wyndham together.

Recommendation 4

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Long Term Financial Plan
Heading	Self-sustainable revenue generation and strategic financial management
Description & Rationale	This will be a two-pronged approach with a focus on optimising existing assets, services and investing in the development of new revenue streams. Review current financial positions and leverage additional funding sources to invest in projects that generate strong returns and long-term community benefits. By strategically utilising available capital, the council can drive growth, improve services, and enhance financial sustainability without placing unnecessary strain on resources. Borrowing or using additional funding resources should be done strategically, focused on investments that generate a return rather than creating debt without a clear benefit. Optimise existing assets and services. Focus to be placed on strategic financial partnerships between council and private commercial organisations. Development of new revenue streams. Invest in the development of new revenue streams not currently utilised by the council.
Why is this important to this community?	It ensures that Council can invest in infrastructure, services and projects that improve residents' quality of life. Leverage additional funding sources wisely then Council can drive economic growth, create jobs and enhance public amenities without relying solely on rate increases. This approach supports long-term sustainability. The Council should not be reliant on just existing revenue streams to keep up with the maintenance and development of current, future assets and services.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Annual Plan and Budget 2025.26 Long Term Financial Plan Council Plan (<i>incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan</i>) 2025-29 Strategic Area 4 - Delivering for the community
Council Plan - We Will Statement	4.1 Responsibly manage Council's annual budgets and it's long -term financial sustainability.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	4.1 Develop a plan to bring the organisation back to underlying operating surplus by the end of the Council term. 4.2. Apply longer-term integrated planning approaches that allow it to better define and prioritise what it will deliver and invest in to meet community needs.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	To address this, Council is making changes to meet our target budgets and return to surplus. This is through the development of a specific plan. Preliminary steps include interrogating our revenue and expenses, and better allocating resources, and maximising our alternate revenue potential by centralising our Federal and State Government grant streams to ensure we maximise our grant revenue potential. Council has three operational strategic objectives that the organisation is focused on: 1. Financial Sustainability 2. Longer term integrated planning 3. Organisational capability, accountability and performance

Recommendation 5

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Build an empowered, inclusive and engaged youth community
Description & Rationale	To facilitate and assist young people feeling safe, confident, and included. Greater promotion of youth-led events and activities. Supported by the community that surrounds them, ensuring young people are connected and involved in their community. Focus on disengaged and/or at-risk youth to ensure healthy community connection. Establish two-way communication between council and Wyndham youth. Foster inclusivity throughout the community to ensure an environment in which diversity can flourish (with consideration of CALD, genders, sexuality, abilities and economic background). Create opportunities for youth in the following areas: leadership, employment opportunities, education, vocational training, music, arts and sports.
Why is this important to this community?	As they are the next generation of our community, we are proactively putting our youth on the right path to ensure a great future for the City of Wyndham. This ensures the youth are well represented in the council and that their voices are being heard. Ensures youth are not segregated and encourages them to participate in community and prepares them for adulthood. Safer community for all residents. To promote positive engagement for all youth.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 1 – A Welcoming, Healthy, and Resilient City
Council Plan - We Will Statement	1.1 Plan, advocate, and build partnerships to ensure all residents have access to the services and programs they need to support and improve their health, wellbeing and sense of belonging.
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation	The budget reaffirms Council's commitment to youth services for those aged 12 to 25, to reach their full potential and shape a brighter future. This is achieved through the provision of a diverse range of early intervention and prevention programs and events which are designed to support young people to become active and engaged citizens. Council also provides youth and children Counselling programs and parenting programs to support at risk young people, children and their families. Council are passionate about creating transformative opportunities that foster well-being, growth, and meaningful connections. By collaborating closely with families, community organisations, and stakeholders, we strive to build a safe, inclusive, and uplifting environment where youth can thrive from early years through young adulthood. Council will deliver the following initiatives to enhance youth voice and promote two-way communication between Council and young people: Youth Task Force:- For aspiring young leaders that want to represent young people in their community and act as a point of reference to Council. Youth Task Force is involved with many community projects, consultations, and events within Council. Amplify:- The Amplify Program (ex-FReeZA) is designed to support young people in developing as a young leader within the community, targeted towards the music and events field. Young people within will directly shape the organisation of a multitude of events including Battle of the Bands, while participating in team building and leadership training activities.

Recommendation 5 Continued....

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation	Continued.... Youth Survey:- The Youth Survey is distributed every two years to gain an understanding of Youth Specific issues that young people 12 to 25 years from the Wyndham Community to better understand what they are experiencing. The survey has a wide distribution range resulting in 1037 responses in 2024. Feedback from the young people determines program development for the Youth Services Team. We also hold consultations and presentations on the results to a wide range of community groups. The following programs have been developed to support young people to develop leadership and advocacy skills: Youth Civic Participation Program:- The project is for Wyndham’s aspiring lawyers, policy makers and community leaders who would like to see behind the curtain of Local, State and like to see behind the curtain of Local, State and Federal politics and government. Participants will have the opportunity to speak with Councillors, senior public servants, and council staff members, about their responsibilities in government. Along with completing the program with likeminded young people, participants will visit Wyndham City Council, spend a day at Parliament House Victoria and travel to Canberra for a 4-day tour, visiting Parliament House, Museum of Australian Democracy, High Court of Australia and the Australian War Museum. The Youth Mobilisation & Response Team:- The Youth Mobilisation (YRM) Service will continue to engage with at risk youth in community places e.g.; shopping centres, skate parks & train stations. It is anticipated that the team will engage with at least 5,100 young people at our 24 Hot Spot engagements during 2025/26. The team will continue to engage in incident response work that will increase those numbers, while also factoring in typical weekly programs, the YRM team will likely hit 6000+ youth engagements over the 25/26 year. To find out more about youth services on Councils website. This includes the Holiday Action Program and the Street Surfer Bus.
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Recommendation 6

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Asset Plan
Heading	Fostering effective Public-Private Partnerships- (Balancing Quality, Costs and Sustainability)
Description & Rationale	Explore actionable strategies to achieve a balance of responsibilities between private entities and council and avoid complete Privatization. Involve the community in the decision-making process, hold consultations this fosters transparency and build trust in partnerships. Advocate for a clear and enforceable handover policy (e.g. when developer builds a park). Set benchmarks ensuring: Durability without inflating costs in future. Establish a supplier accreditation program. Promote fair competition. Incorporate supplier rotation. Quality and sustainability Economic growth by supporting local business. Cost effective.
Why is this important to this community?	Innovative strategies, evidence-based solutions, improves service quality, encourages accountability on both private entities and councils to prioritize public interests.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Asset Plan 2025-2035 <i>Reflected in the Asset Investment Principles in relation to asset quality and a key component of Asset Policy to be developed.</i> Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 4 - Delivering for the community
Council Plan - We Will Statement	4.2. Apply longer-term integrated planning approaches that allow it to better define and prioritise what it will deliver and invest in to meet community needs.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	2.10 Commence the development of a Truganina Heritage Network Strategy which ensures the protection and interpretation of heritage places and enhances the amenity of new communities. 2.11 Preparation of the Derrimut Road Boulevard Urban Design Framework (North Leakes Road) which will guide future planning for strategic parcels of land located next to Tarneit train station and future Tarneit Major Town Centre and to facilitate Polly Parade extension. 2.14 Finalisation of the Riverwalk Community Precinct Plan, to guide the future use and development of Council land.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support implementation.	The Wyndham Plan 2023-2040 Werribee City Centre Structure Plan
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	Council has and will continue to explore opportunities for attracting private investment to maximise community infrastructure and services offerings as they arise. Some existing examples include: • Western United partnership • Our kindergarten model • Strategic development sites in the Werribee City Centre • The 2024 Werribee City Centre Structure Plan designates four Council-owned sites as ‘Strategic Development Sites’, with potential market release between 2030–2040 when conditions are ideal. The Plan also proposes transforming the Council-owned Former Picture Palais in Station Place into a boutique cinema to attract visitors and enhance the local entertainment precinct. • The Riverwalk Community Precinct Plan aims to guide future use of Council land and may involve private investment to deliver new community facilities. • A new Sponsorship Policy is in development to guide future public private partnership opportunities across Council.

Recommendation 7

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Asset Plan
Heading	Enhanced and enforced obligations for contracted developers
Description & Rationale	Council is to ensure: earlier development of community infrastructure and assets, to allow increased liveability within newly built areas. Developers use higher quality materials and workmanship, to allow longer asset life and lower maintenance costs. The value of the developer contributions is not eroded by price increases for projects that run late, for example by indexing the dollar value of the developer's contribution to the producer price index; developers are accountable to their promised undertakings, with penalties for noncompliance up to and including no longer being considered for future Wyndham Council contracts.
Why is this important to this community?	Enhanced and enforced obligations for contracted developers will generate better value for new community developments and assets.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Asset Plan 2025-2035 <i>Reflected in the Asset Investment Principles in relation to asset quality and a key component of Asset Policy to be developed.</i> Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 2 -A Liveable City
Council Plan - We Will Statement	2.1 Work with all levels of government to ensure future growth is well planned and in line with the community's Vision for the City.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	4.2. Apply longer-term integrated planning approaches that allow it to better define and prioritise what it will deliver and invest in to meet community needs.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	Continue to work in partnership with the Department of Transport and Planning on the development of new Precinct Structure Plans, with a focus on delivering community infrastructure in a timely way that meets community needs. Pipeline of PSPs as per the State Government's 10-year pipeline, released in 2024. Active monitoring of agreements with landowners/developers for development contributions works in kind projects. Enforce agreements and penalties if they are in breach.

Recommendation 8

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Optimizing facilities and services
Description & Rationale	The council should create policies, maximizing use of council facilities for multipurpose use by other external service providers and community members, so assets are more efficiently used and multiple services can be offered affordably, efficiently and with ease of access. Creating use of mobile services, for example health check for the community rather than the community coming to the services. Regularly assess the utilization of the services based on evidence and data collection to improve accessibility and effectiveness. Overseeing and strengthening collaboration with charities, volunteers, and private organisations to enhance community services, ensuring the required support is provided."
Why is this important to this community?	Provisioning multiple services within single facilities makes it easier for the community to access the services within one location and reduces cost to the Council. This recommendation makes existing services more accessible by enabling service provision closer to home. This saves the council finance, as they do not need to spend more to create and maintain separate spaces. Regularly assessing the service utilization, the council can redirect funding from less impactful services to those that deliver real benefits and ensure minority communities are continually supported. Overseeing and strengthening partnerships with charity and private organisations allows for cost saving while enhancing the services.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 1 – A Welcoming, Healthy, and Resilient City
Council Plan - We Will Statement	1.5 Work with other levels of government and key stakeholders to provide sustainable, fit for purpose community infrastructure.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	4.3 Cost recovery review: conduct a detailed review into measures and activities to support the sustainability of services funded by ratepayers.
Other Council Adopted Strategies that support implementation.	
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	The Service Planning team contribute to high level strategic planning that assess the community need for services including kindergarten, maternal and child health, youth services, libraries and community centres to determine, based on data and evidence, the most appropriate service operating models and possible infrastructure provision recommendations to meet demonstrated community need. Service Planning has also completed health services planning for Wyndham that is directly guiding a response to health service gaps. Actions will be delivered over the next four years which better attract health providers into Council and non-Council infrastructure. The Social Policy team will be focused on strengthening our collaborative efforts and partnerships across the local health and wellbeing service sector, being data and evidence driven in advocacy for services that are needed to fill gaps and working to act on opportunities to attract services to Wyndham. This will all be done through the Council’s role in health planning and the governance structures that will support the implementation of the Council Plan’s health focus areas. The work of both these teams is evolving to meet the changing operational needs of the organisation; in line with ensuring Council’s financial sustainability into the future.

Recommendation 9

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Support and increase volunteering through community involvement
Description & Rationale	Supporting and increasing volunteering through community led volunteer groups and council led initiatives . This will: Increase sense of community and pride, supplement existing services to add value and increase quality (do not replace staff with volunteers),raise council advocacy to minimise obstacles and promote awareness of volunteer opportunities, increase pathways for further education, employment opportunities and local investment more community engagement helps to improve mental health and wellbeing. Youth volunteering provides opportunities to engage them in community work and giving them the opportunity to work with different age groups and divert their energy constructively. This will result in reduction of crime.
Why is this important to this community?	Brings community connectivity and a sense of ownership - it turns residents into custodians. It's the tide that raises all ships - a good community full of volunteers strengthens and enhances every aspect of society. Relieves financial pressure from council and redirects expenditure.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 1 – A Welcoming, Healthy, and Resilient City
Council Plan - We Will Statement	1.1 Plan, advocate, and build partnerships to ensure all residents have access to the services and programs they need to support and improve their health, wellbeing and sense of belonging.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation	
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation	Council delivers the Social and Economic Inclusion service which work towards addressing systemic barriers to social and economic inclusion and participation in the community. A key function of this service is to support best practice in the lifecycle of volunteers in Wyndham to build a strong, sustainable and accessible volunteer community. Council is committed to delivering this service and has dedicated resources allocated in the Annual Plan and Budget. Council have a variety of volunteer programs and roles. Council also support a network of organisations in our community that have volunteer opportunities, from small community groups to large not-for-profit organisations. Council provide a calendar of training opportunities suited for Wyndham community members, volunteers, community groups and non-profit organisations. To support the volunteer network, Council produce a ‘Community Matters’ e-newsletter to enrich community participation, and communicate any training, events or activity in the community. One key event is the annual Wyndham Volunteer Expo delivered by Council.

Recommendation 10

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Streamline council operation with technology and innovation whilst maintaining the human interactions with community members.
Description & Rationale	Improving efficiency and productivity across all sectors using technology. Implementation of advanced technology, AI, and tech-powered insight for smarter decision making and budget optimization, enhanced public sector efficiency, and improvement of service delivery. Driving more efficient forecasting through a tech-enabled solution in Wyndham. Ensure all technology and innovations provide data security. Ensure to provide ways to inform community members how to respond to any technological advancements involving their interactions with Council services.
Why is this important to this community?	Improved public services Cost saving for ratepayers. Data-driven decision making. Increased transparency and accountability. Sustainability, long-term planning, and advocacy.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 4 – Delivering for the community
Council Plan - We Will Statement	4.3 Invest in the development of its workforce to continuously improve Council’s processes and systems to drive operational efficiencies.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	4.4 Deliver release 2 of the Digital Twin which will capture additional data allowing Council to make data driven decisions.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	Council has successfully implemented phase two of our new Enterprise Resource Planning system (Technology One). Council is now focused on building internal plans to support efficiencies across the organisation. They include: Technology Strategy: This internal strategy will focus on AI transformation, IT financial sustainability and ensure Council is cyber resilient Digital and Data Strategy: This internal strategy is to support <i>customer experience</i>, with a focus on personalisation and the optimisation of the customer journey. The aim is to provide a consistent and seamless experience across all interactions whether they are online, in person or via other touch point. <i>IT services and infrastructure</i> (emerging technologies, security and compliance). And how Council can better handle and use <i>data for analysis</i>. Council will also continue to implement its CX Strategy.

Recommendation 11

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Health & Wellness
Description & Rationale	We recommend the creation and implementation of a comprehensive Health and Wellness Program within our community. This program will focus on promoting physical activity through recreational activities and sports, aiming to enhance the well-being of all residents and create a more active, engaged, and healthy community. Some examples are: • Walking/Running Groups: Organizing regular walking or running sessions for community members of all ages. • Stress Reduction Workshops: Techniques like breathing exercises, time management, and relaxation methods. • Wellness Newsletters: Regularly sharing tips on healthy living, mental well-being, and fitness.
Why is this important to this community?	The increasing rates of sedentary lifestyles, obesity, and related health concerns within our community highlight the need for structured intervention. Physical activity is not only crucial for maintaining physical health but also for improving mental well-being, reducing stress, and fostering social connections. Furthermore, recreational activities and sports will be accessible to individuals of all ages and abilities, making them an ideal avenue for encouraging broader participation in health and wellness. This could also help to foster better prevention for drugs and alcohol use, since improved physical health can work to create healthier habits.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 1 – A Welcoming, Healthy, and Resilient City
Council Plan - We Will Statement	Strategic Area 1: Wyndham is an inclusive and equitable place which provides what residents need to maintain good health and wellbeing. The legislated Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan has been integrated into the Council Plan. Health focus areas are outlined in the Plan as Council's commitment.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	1.1 Delivery of Jamieson Way (Point Cook) Masterplan implementation Stage 2, building and landscape. 1.2 Delivery of sportsground lighting projects to expand the hours of community use, including projects at Glen Orden Reserve (Werribee) and Williams Landing Tennis Club (Williams Landing). 1.3 Delivery of the Wootton Rd Reserve (Tarneit) tennis court renewal. 1.4 Completion of the Polly Parade Reserve (Tarneit North). 1.5 Complete the Athletics Track, playground and landscape works at Fortitude Drive Reserve (Truganina) and commence delivery of the pavilion. 1.6 Commence the design phase for the Tarneit Town Centre Community Centre. 1.7 Delivery of the design phase for the Riverwalk Level 2 Multi-Purpose Community Centre. 1.8 Delivery of the design phase for the upgrade of Soldiers Reserve Pavilion (Werribee). 1.9 Delivery of concept designs for the upgrade of Hogans Road Reserve (Hoppers Crossing).
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	Active Wyndham Strategy 2019-2024 (Refresh for 2025-2029 in progress) Sports Facility User Guide 2021-2025
	SEE next slide for additional work

Recommendation 11 Continued....

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	<i>Continued....</i> • Review and update the Active Wyndham Strategy which sets Council’s overall priorities for supporting the community to be active. • Review and update the Sports Facility User Guide which guides how Council will manage and allocate use of sporting facilities. The aim is to ensure facility allocation supports the community to participate in a range of different activities in a range of different ways. • Planning and delivery of the annual capital works program, within any funding constraints. Aim is to increase the number and carrying capacity of spaces which support the community to be active. • Sustain the suite of physical activity programs delivered under the ‘Active Wyndham’ banner – these include Active Kids, Active Kinders, Active Holidays and Beginner Running Groups. • Pursue opportunities where Council can work alongside other organisations to connect with residents to increase participation opportunities for residents (examples could include – encouraging more schools to open up their facilities for community use, attracting a State Sport Association to deliver new programs in Wyndham). • Wyndham recently completed a Health Status Assessment. Ongoing priorities for this work will include: • Use our role as responsible authority for leading health and wellbeing planning to act on opportunities to attract services to Wyndham • Advocacy for improving the health needs of Wyndham residents, though our Health Focus areas. • Continue to partner with Western Health in the development of the future Point Cook Hospital. • Strengthen the partnership with North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network to share data and collaborate on joint priorities to strengthen health service attraction in Wyndham. • Continue to work with the Wyndham Health Advisory Committee to drive and inform the work of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
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Recommendation 12

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Embrace and promote local tourism and landmarks
Description & Rationale	Utilise and showcase local talent to promote what our region has naturally that enhances civic pride, embrace local produce. Celebrate heritage and landmarks, whilst preserving heritage buildings, sites, cultural and environmental areas. Identify appropriate areas for tourism development as well as identifying existing tourism attractions and protect them. Expand walking and bike trails to encourage healthy sustainable tourism options.
Why is this important to this community?	Tourism is an important part of Wyndham, we have rich heritage and cultural sites as well as strong tourism attractions like the Werribee Zoo open range, mansion, rose garden, winery, Werribee River and culturally significant sites that need to be protected and taken advantage and to increase interest in Wyndham and bring more people to spend money to support local businesses.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 2 – A Liveable City
Council Plan - We Will Statement	Strategic Area 2 ‘Wyndham is a great place to live, work, visit and invest in.’
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation.	2.8 Development of a ‘Placemaking and Activation Framework’ that will guide initiatives across Wyndham’s activity centres that support business and boost the local economy. 2.12 Refresh of the Festivals and Events Framework to support Council’s delivery, decision-making and support for a fresh and inclusive festivals and events program that aligns with best practices and meets changing community needs.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	Wyndham Visitor Economy Strategy 2024-2028 <i>Council will continue implementing key actions from the Visitor Economy Strategy to attract more visitors, raise awareness of the wide range of local attractions, and encourage longer stays and increased local spending.</i>
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	Key activities for 2025/26 include: • Ongoing delivery of the “Delightful ‘lil Detour” tourism campaign (Action 3.3.1) • Development of tailored itineraries and packages for key occasions and major events, promoted through our dedicated tourism channels visitwerribee.com (Action 3.3.2) • Permanent rollout of the pilot hop-on, hop-off shuttle bus service to connect visitors with accommodation, attractions, Werribee Station, and key locations (Action 3.2.1) • Focus on engaging residents by encouraging them to host visiting friends and family, (Action 4.4.1)supported through: • Pop-up satellite visitor information centres at Pacific Werribee • Roving ambassadors and presence at major events • Promotion via Council's communication channels • Continue our role as the peak body for delivering destination marketing for tourism operators to ensure a sustainable and prosperous local visitor economy.

Recommendation 13

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Business Growth and Innovation
Description & Rationale	Position Wyndham as a hub for industry, business, and innovation by adopting strategies that fuel economic growth and sustainability. This can be achieved through the following: • Boost manufacturing by leveraging advancements in technology and AI to modernize and enhance the manufacturing sector. • Enhancing food security through agritech and fostering the promotion of local businesses through Farm to Fork initiatives such as weekend farming markets. • Develop more co-working spaces like the Spark Hub to drive startup ecosystem, business and innovation. Go beyond co-working spaces to include funding, education and training and networking. • Enter into Public Private Partnerships to generate revenue for Council and also drive economic growth.
Why is this important to this community?	This comprehensive approach underscores commitment to innovation, collaboration, and sustainable development, ensuring a thriving future for Wyndham.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 2 – A Liveable City
Council Plan - We Will Statement	Strategic Area 2 ‘Wyndham is a great place to live, work, visit and invest in.’ 2.3 Attract and retain investment that grows the Wyndham economy and creates more local jobs.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	2.8 Development of a ‘Placemaking and Activation Framework’ that will guide initiatives across Wyndham’s activity centres that support business and boost the local economy.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 The next iteration of the Economic Development strategy will be developed in 2025-26 for implementation 2026-30.
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	The SPARK Business & Innovation Hub continues to evolve to support the increasing demand and growth of Wyndham’s entrepreneurial ecosystem including new strategic partnerships and future programs to foster innovation. Wyndham AI for Business in partnership with RMIT University will be launching in June 2025. This new bespoke program and dedicated studio at SPARK will provide Wyndham businesses affordable access to advanced training, consulting, and resources in Artificial Intelligence (AI). This collaboration intends to foster critical skills uplift and innovation within the local business community through staged initiatives. The program will focus on key industries including manufacturing for a future-focused economy. An Agribusiness Framework is in development under the current Economic Development Strategy’s investment goals to support the growth, sustainability, and innovation of Wyndham’s agribusiness sector. A new Sponsorship Policy is in development to guide future public private partnership opportunities across Council.

Recommendation 14

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Asset Plan
Heading	Optimizing Roads and Movement for a Growing Wyndham
Description & Rationale	Advocating for the condition and capacity of state roads. Making transportation options more accessible, safe and inclusive to all members of the community either through advocacy or through implementation: bike lanes, trains, buses, walking and roads. Increasing accessibility and traffic flow through multiple movement options; therefore, decreasing demand on the road. Exploring strategic urban planning options to improve movement through areas, both in newly established and previously established areas, making them more adaptable to the growing demands of Wyndham. Emphasise maintaining transportation assets so that they are safe and suitable for use.
Why is this important to this community?	More accessibility to community facilities, services and open space. Decreases isolation in the community through movement options. Improves health benefits for the community, ensuring equitable and sustainable access.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Incorporation of recommendation into High Level Plans	Asset Plan 2025-2035 <i>Reflected in the Asset Investment Principles in relation to asset quality and a key component of Asset Policy to be developed.</i> Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29 Strategic Area 2 – A Liveable City
Council Plan - We Will Statement	2.2 Deliver and advocate for an integrated, connected, and accessible transport network that enables the community to move around the City easily.
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	2.11 Preparation of the Derrimut Road Boulevard Urban Design Framework (North Leakes Road) which will guide future planning for strategic parcels of land located next to Tarneit train station and future Tarneit Major Town Centre and to facilitate Polly Parade extension. 2.13 Refresh of the Wyndham Active Transport Strategy to support accessible and integrated active transport (e.g. walking / cycling) options to support health and wellbeing and inclusion outcomes.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	Wyndham Integrated Transport Strategy 2023-2028 Wyndham Active Transport Strategy 2020-2025 (Refresh 2025-29 in progress) Advocacy Strategy 2024-2026 Road Management Plan 2021-2025 (Refresh 2025-29 in progress) Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2032 Wyndham Plan 2023-2040
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	The Connecting Wyndham program provides a streamlined approach to road upgrades and construction by identifying sustainable funding mechanisms to support both renewal and maintenance efforts while also accommodating the infrastructure needs of a growing population. Connecting Wyndham offers a long-term, dynamic view of planned road upgrades—mapping out investment drivers, priorities, and timing. Connecting Wyndham contributes to broader objectives—such as increasing accessibility and traffic flow, reducing reliance on roads through multimodal transport planning (including cycling, public transport, and walking) and maintaining transport assets so they remain safe and fit for purpose. This holistic approach enables more adaptable and connected communities across both new and established areas of Wyndham. The drafting of the Wyndham Active Transport Strategy Refresh 2025-2029 will consider improved modes of transport, such as cycling and walking.

Minority Report 1 -

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Long Term Financial Plan
Heading	Review Council Expenditure to Identify Potential Cost Cutting Opportunities
Description & Rationale	Review Council expenditure to identify potential cuts with regards to community impact. Review asset usage and maintenance for potential cost reductions or reallocation of assets. Cut back on consultancy costs. Cut underutilised Council facilities and consolidate existing centres more efficiently.
Why is this important to this community?	To reduce low-priority expenditure and improve efficiency based on community needs.

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Aligns with High Level Plans	Annual Plan and Budget 2025.26 Long Term Financial Plan Council Plan <i>(incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)</i> 2025-29
Council Plan - We Will Statement	Strategic Area 4: Delivering for the community <i>Council is a well governed, accountable, and financially responsible organisation that delivers on what the community values most.</i>
2025.26 Draft Initiatives that support the implementation of this recommendation	4.3 Cost recovery review: Conduct a detailed review into measures and activities to support the sustainability of services funded by ratepayers.
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	

Minority Report 2 -

This is what the deliberative panel told Council

Dilemma	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)
Heading	Sustainability and Environment
Description & Rationale	Increase green space by planting more trees and having green areas. Increase the amount of parks and bike friendly traffic, i.e. segregated bike lanes so people and drivers both feel safe on the road. Education on water harvesting. Educate the residence on waste management and illegal dumping. Engage residents with sustainable practices which will reduce environmental impact.
Why is this important to this community?	Parks drastically improve mental health and well-being for the community. Increases physical activity by enabling people to go on more walks and may even impact obesity WE LOVE PARKS. Maybe even add multi-level parking spaces to train stations to encourage use; there is a lot of crowding at stations. Take a look at Wyndham vale. Illegal dumping causes expenses to the council and we can save money and use it for infrastructure. Parks will also lower overall maintenance costs to the council because they cost less to maintain than roads with major benefits

This is how Council incorporated the recommendation into our plans

Aligns with High Level Plans	Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2025-29
Council Plan - We Will Statement	Sustainability and Environment sits across all strategic areas of the Council Plan
Other Council Adopted Strategies Plans that support the implementation.	City Forest and Habitat Strategy 2017 – 2040 Coastal and Marine Management Plan 2020-2025 Open Space Strategy 2045 Wyndham Electric Vehicle Policy 2024 Tree and Urban Forest Policy: 2021 Wyndham Sustainable Infrastructure Framework (WSIF) 2025 Landscape Development Levels of Service
This is what Council will do in response to the recommendation.	Council is committed to continue our work in this area. Key programs continuing include: - Wyndham City has ambitious targets to both improve our community's recycling and waste diversion. To achieve this, Council conducts several educational programs and offerings. - Deliver the Green Living Program to increase community's sustainable practices to reduce carbon emissions/negative environmental impacts. - Deliver the My Smart Garden collaborative program to increase Council's capacity to encourage nature on private land within urban areas. - Deliver environmentally sustainable design policies, frameworks, schemes and programs to reduce the impacts of climate change within Wyndham. Waste and Recycling information Environment and Sustainability information