

2.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORTS

(Author: RH)

Responsible Director: Russell Hopkins

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *Notes the activities of the Advisory Committees identified in this report, during 2021, and thanks all members for their time and contributions.*
2. *Notes the resignation of:
Mr Raghav Baheti, Ms Shreeya Kalagotla and Mr Jonathan Lee as members from the Monash Youth Committee; and
Smrity Bagga from the Disability Advisory Committee;*
3. *Endorses the appointment of Mr Justin Leung and Ms Joyce Hu to the Monash Youth Committee.*

INTRODUCTION

At its Meeting on 24 September 2019, Council resolved that its Advisory Committees provide annual updates. This report provides an update of the activities associated with a number of Council's Advisory Committees during 2021.

BACKGROUND

Council convenes and supports a range of Advisory Committees which provide expertise and advice, and share information on issues related to their particular areas of interest as required by their Terms of Reference. Council representatives to each Committee are nominated on an annual basis.

This report provides an update on the activities of a number of these Advisory Committees during 2021, including the:

- Disability Advisory Committee
- Gender Equity Advisory Committee
- LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee
- Junior Advisory Group
- Multicultural Advisory Committee
- Oakleigh Activity Centre Advisory Committee
- Positive Ageing Reference Group
- Positive Ageing Network Forum
- Monash Youth Committee

It should be noted that some scheduled meetings were cancelled during 2021 due the impacts of COVID-19, although many were able to be held virtually.

- The contribution of time, experience and expertise by many community members through their membership of these Committees and forums is valuable in ensuring that Council hears directly from its most important stakeholders in relation to a range of social and community issues. A key contribution made by many members during 2021 was the participation in the joint workshop for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Engagement with the community on matters of importance to them is a key responsibility of Local Government, and Advisory Committees are one way of establishing formal mechanisms to share information and seek input and advice from the community.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The operation of Council's Advisory Committees ensures that many community members have the opportunity to engage with Council on matters of importance to them, consistent with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* in relation to the right to take part in public life.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

An outline of the activities and achievements of many of Council's Advisory Committees is included in this report for Council's information.

Disability Advisory Committee

Purpose

The aim of the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) is to provide Council with advice on issues relating to the needs of people with a disability, their carers and families. Scope of the committee's key functions include:

- Identify barriers and issues that impact on people with a disability
- Advocate on behalf of people with a disability and their carers
- Provide advice to Council on the Equitable Access Program
- Consider and provide advice to Council on key Government initiatives, programs and reviews
- Assist Council to promote access and inclusion as this relates to people with a disability
- Identify needs and opportunities as they may arise.

Appointments to the Disability Advisory Committee are for a two-year term and members may continue for an additional two-year term only.

Committee Membership

The DAC membership will consist of up to 17 members. The 2021 membership of the DAC included:

Councillors:

- Cr Shane McCluskey (Chair)
- Cr Nicky Luo

Resident Representatives:

- Helen Houghton
- Wanda Egerton
- Smrity Bagga
- Zoe Broomhead
- Ian Cunningham
- Michael Embury
- Caterina Kasiaras
- Helen Haughton
- Harini Guddanti
- Mona Singh
- Sue Rees
- Heather Miller
- Peter Hocking
- Linda Teng
- Tess Marotta

Organisational representatives:

- Marian Jacobs (representing Waverley Help Mates)
- Sharon Roxby (representing OC Connections)

Smrity Bagga has resigned from the Committee, and a replacement shall be sought.

All DAC positions are voluntary positions. The DAC is convened by Council's Access & Inclusion Community Development Officer.

Summary of 2021 Meetings

The committee meets bi-monthly, on the third Thursday of the month for a duration of two hours. The expectation is that each member attends a minimum of 60% of all meetings, exemptions may apply.

The challenges presented by COVID-19 and members' accessibility to attend meetings via Zoom has impacted on some members' ability to attend. Officers have provided ongoing support and guidance to committee members to encourage them to join online meetings. While agenda items have still been in keeping with the purpose of the committee, it is accepted that meetings were less formal but still an excellent way to continue to maintain regular connect with committee members and their networks throughout the pandemic.

Meeting Date	Attendees	Topics discussed
18 February Online via Zoom	No formal meeting was held due to a large number of apologies, informal meeting was held.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Jake McMinn insideEDGE Sport and Leisure Planning about Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy • How is everyone doing (welfare check in with members)? • Advocacy & Information Sharing
15 April Online via Zoom	<p>ATTENDANCE: Harini Guddanti, Mona Singh, Sue Rees, Heather Miller, Peter Hocking, Linda Teng, Tess Marotta, Marian Jacobs, Sharon Roxby, Helen Haughton, Wanda Egerton.</p> <p>COUNCILLORS: Cr Nicky Luo</p> <p>OFFICERS: Barb Wallace, Siobhan Wood.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming and appointment of new members to Disability Advisory Committee • Snap Send and Solve presentation • Advocacy & Information Sharing

	<p>APOLOGIES: Cr Shane McCluskey, Fee Harrison, Zoe Broomfield, Michael Embury, Iain Cunningham, Cathy Kasiaras and Smrity Bagga.</p>	
<p>17 June</p> <p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>ATTENDANCE: Harini Guddanti, Sue Rees, Heather Miller, Peter Hocking, Linda Teng, Tess Marotta, Marian Jacobs, Helen Haughton, Wanda Egerton, Iain Cunningham, Sharon Roxby</p> <p>COUNCILLORS: Cr Nicky Luo</p> <p>OFFICERS: Barb Wallace, Kerry Jansons, Ross Goeman</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Cr Shane McCluskey, Fee Harrison, Zoe Broomfield, Mona Singh Michael Embury, Cathy Kasiaras</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Integrated Planning Project (Ross Goeman Manager Corporate Performance) • General discussion on QR codes • Car parking at the Glen Shopping Centre • Advocacy & Information Sharing
<p>19 August</p> <p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>ATTENDANCE: Harini Guddanti, Sue Rees, Heather Miller, Peter Hocking, Tess Marotta, Linda Teng, Zoe Broomfield Marian Jacobs, Sharon Roxby, Helen Haughton, Wanda Egerton, Michelle Read (presenter)</p> <p>COUNCILLORS: Cr Shane McCluskey</p> <p>OFFICERS: Barb Wallace, Kerry Jansons</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Cr Nicky Luo, Fee Harrison, Mona Singh Michael Embury, Cathy Kasiaras, Iain Cunningham</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Library consultation • Conflict of Interest for Advisory Committees Policy (Policy) • Consultations • Research into mobility challenged travel – Travel aid survey • Pedestrian crossings needing more time to cross • Stories to promote an inclusive Monash • Advocacy & Information Sharing

<p>21 October</p> <p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>ATTENDANCE: Harini Guddanti, Sue Rees, Heather Miller, Peter Hocking, Linda Teng, Tess Marotta, Marian Jacobs, Helen Haughton, Wanda Egerton, Iain Cunningham, Sharon Roxby</p> <p>COUNCILLORS: Cr Shane McCluskey Cr Nicky Luo</p> <p>OFFICERS: Barb Wallace, Kerryn Jansons</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Fee Harrison, Zoe Broomfield, Mona Singh Michael Embury, Cathy Kasiaras</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Promoting Vaccinations in Monash • Promoting Accessibility in Monash • Advocacy around accessible communication in emergencies – Barb • Terms of Reference Review • Community Safety Concern • Snap Send Solve reports • Advocacy & Information Sharing
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Gender Equity Advisory Committee

Purpose

The aim of the Gender Equity Advisory Committee is to provide Council with advice on improving gender equity within the Monash community to actively encourage women's full and equal participation in community life, and the implementation of Council's Gender Equity Strategy.

Committee Responsibilities

- Advocate for gender equity within the Monash community and beyond
- Provide feedback and advice to Council on the gender equity implications of its policies, plans and services
- Consider funding and other opportunities as they may arise
- Provide advice to Council on gender equity issues
- Contribute to the promotion of Council and community collaborations that support and promote gender equity and the prevention of violence against women.

Committee Composition

The GEAC membership consists of:

- Up to three Councillors
- Fourteen community representatives including:
 - Up to 12 community members living or working in Monash.
 - Up to four community organisations, agencies and service providers who have a focus on gender equity and/or women's health and wellbeing.

All GEAC positions are voluntary positions.

From time to time, GEAC may establish working groups, and may co-opt additional members, including Council officers, if it is considered that additional skills and experience would benefit a specific project or add value to the general performance of the Committee. Non-Council members currently appointed to other Council Advisory Committees will be ineligible for GEAC membership.

In 2021 the GEAC membership consisted of:

- Cr Rebecca Paterson (Chair)
- Cr Stuart James
- Cr Anjalee de Silva
- Jasmine Howlett
- Fiona Marshall
- Diana Hansen

- Tania Rose
- Debbie Lee
- Shamiso Murambi
- Alex Mills
- Bailey Webb
- Kirsty Kain
- Emily Pham
- Christopher Unwin
- Jade McNamara
- Nandini Sengupta
- Prabha Arachchige

Baily Webb has now concluded his two-year term on the Committee.

Frequency of Meeting

The GEAC meets bi-monthly for a duration of two hours. It is expected that each member attends a minimum of 60% of all meetings. Additional meetings can be called as required, and the GEAC may establish Working Groups/Parties to address specific issues as they arise.

Key matters discussed over the past 12 months

Meeting Date	Attendees	Topics Discussed
8 February Online via Zoom	Attendees: Cr Rebecca Paterson (Chair) Anjalee de Silva Cr Stuart James Alex Mills Kirsty Kain Tania Rose Debbie Lee Shami Murambi Diana Hansen Fiona Marshall Jazzy Howlett Bailey Webb Council Staff: Tracey Egan Fee Harrison Apologies: Nil Guest presenters:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: A Strategy for Equality: Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health in Melbourne’s East 2020 – 2025 by Laura Riccardi, Women’s Health East • Consultation: Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy by Jake McMin from insideEDGE Sport and Leisure Planning • Membership recruitment • Membership survey

	Laura Riccardi (Women's Health East) Jake McMinn (insideEDGE Sport and Leisure Planning).	
12 April In person at the Civic Centre	Attendees: Cr Rebecca Paterson (Chair) Cr Stuart James Kirsty Kain Diana Hansen Emily Pham Christopher Unwin Nandini Sungupta Prabha Arachchige Bailey Webb Jazzy Howlett Fiona Marshall Council staff: Fee Harrison Tracey Egan Apologies: Cr Anjalee De Silva Jade McNamara Alex Mills Tania Rose Debbie Lee Shamiso Murambi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome to new members • Presentation: Gender Equity at Monash, the GEAC and the Gender Equality Act 2020. • Debrief on International Women's Day • Gender Equity Walk in Ashwood • Pathways to Equality mural consultation • Key changes to the Terms of Reference • Public Toilet Strategy Consultation
7 June Online via Zoom	Attendees: Cr Rebecca Paterson (Chair) Cr Stuart James Cr Anjalee De Silva Jade McNamara Alex Mills Tania Rose Debbie Lee Kirsty Kain Diana Hansen Emily Pham Christopher Unwin Nandini Sungupta Prabha Arachchige Bailey Webb Council staff:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation: Integrated Plans (Council Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, Asset Plan) • GEAC membership survey results • Presentation: Design of a Zero Net Women's refuge by the Monash Solar Decathlon Team at Monash University • Upcoming Consultations: CCTV community consultation in Oakleigh • Council Projects: YourGround in partnership with Monash University's XYX Lab

	<p>Fee Harrison Tracey Egan</p> <p>Apologies: Shamiso Murambi Jazzy Howlett Fiona Marshall</p> <p>Guest Presenters: Ross Goeman Russell Hopkins</p> <p>Shiyen Perera, Jamali Kigotho, Tanzania Matotek, Grace Tully, Anusha Thirumlavan, Savith Suraweera and Krishan Fernando, Monash Solar Decathlon Team, Monash University</p>	
<p>9 August</p> <p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Rebecca Paterson (Chair) Cr Stuart James Cr Anjalee De Silva Jade McNamara Alex Mills Tania Rose Kirsty Kain Emily Pham Christopher Unwin Nandini Sungupta Prabha Arachchige Shamiso Murambi Jazzy Howlett</p> <p>Council staff: Tracey Egan Kerryn Jansons (on behalf of Fee Harrison)</p> <p>Apologies: Fiona Marshall Bailey Webb Diana Hansen Debbie Lee</p> <p>Guest Presenter:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on sports infrastructure spending by gender at the City of Monash by Tony Oulton, Manager of Active Monash • Consultation: Monash Public Library Service consultation • Presentation: Migrant's 'skill' mismatch: non-English speaking highly skilled migrant women's experiences of negotiating skills, qualifications, and experiences in Australia by Prabha Arachchige • Family violence support information to be shared on Council's social media pages during lockdown

	Tony Oulton	
11 October Online via Zoom	<p>Attendees:</p> <p>Cr Rebecca Paterson (Chair)</p> <p>Cr Stuart James</p> <p>Cr Anjalee De Silva</p> <p>Alex Mills</p> <p>Kirsty Kain</p> <p>Emily Pham</p> <p>Christopher Unwin</p> <p>Nandini Sungupta</p> <p>Prabha Arachchige</p> <p>Jazzy Howlett</p> <p>Fiona Marshall</p> <p>Bailey Webb</p> <p>Diana Hansen</p> <p>Debbie Lee</p> <p>Council staff:</p> <p>Tracey Egan</p> <p>Fee Harrison</p> <p>Liz Fitzgerald</p> <p>Alyssa Huxtable</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Shamiso Murambi</p> <p>Jade McNamara</p> <p>Tania Rose</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised Terms of Reference in line with the new Policy for Advisory Committees and Governance Rules for Advisory Committees • Consultation: Draft Gender Equity Framework workshop • 16 Days of Activism planning • International Women’s Day planning

Achievements 2021

- Five GEAC members were panel members for Council’s 2021 International Women’s Day event
- Provided written submissions on a number of Council’s plans to ensure they are providing a gender lens over the documents including:
 - Draft Active Recreation Strategy
 - Draft Public Toilet Strategy
- Key stakeholders in the development of Council’s draft Gender Equity Framework
- Participated in the intersectionality workshop for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Provided a gender lens to a number of Council’s new Plans and Strategies including the Council Plan and Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Provided expert advice to the Pathways to Equal Mural Project
- Leading Council’s social media campaign for the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence

- Supported Council to conduct over 20 Gender Impact Assessments as part of the Gender Equality Act
- Provided key advice for Council's projects including ensuring more awareness of family violence services on social media during the COVID-19 lockdowns.

LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee

Purpose

Council endorsed the new LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee at the 15 December 2020 Council meeting as part of its ongoing commitment to better recognise, represent and connecting with members of Monash's lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex, queer and asexual communities (LGBTIQA+).

The role of this Committee is to provide Council with advice on strengthening the representation and inclusion of people who identify as LGBTIQA+ within the Monash community and to contribute to the development and implementation of Council's LGBTIQA+ Action Plan.

Committee Responsibilities

- Advocate for equality and inclusion for the LGBTIQA+ community in Monash
- Provide feedback and advice to Council on the impact of its policies, plans and services on the LGBTIQA+ community
- Consider funding and other opportunities as they arise
- Support Council to engage and consult with local LGBTIQA+ groups and communities
- Provide advice to Council on issues and barriers that affect people who identify as LGBTIQA+
- Contribute to the promotion of Council and community collaborations that support and promote the inclusion of people who identify as LGBTIQA+

Committee Composition

The LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee membership consists of:

- Up to three Councillors
- Fourteen community representatives including:
 - Up to twelve community members living or working in Monash representing the diversity of the Monash LGBTIQA+ community and allies.
 - Up to four Community organisations, agencies and service providers who have a focus on providing services to the Monash LGBTIQA+ community.

All LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee positions are voluntary positions. From time to time, the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee may establish working groups, and may co-opt additional members, including Council officers, if it is considered that additional skills and experience would benefit a specific project or add value to the general performance of the Committee. Non-Council members currently appointed to other Council Advisory Committees will be ineligible for LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee membership.

In 2021 the GEAC membership consisted of:

- Cr Stuart James (Chair)
- Cr Josh Fergeus
- Cr Rebecca Paterson
- Andrew Paolucci
- Asher Cameron
- Brett Hayhoe
- Caitlin Frost
- Christine Minto
- Emily Griffith
- Gregory Storer
- John Tzimas
- Mark Hao
- Nicole Flynn
- Pierce Soulsby
- Tess Marotta
- Thanura Tyler Ediri
- Yohana Jury

Frequency of Meeting

The LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee meets bi-monthly for a duration of two hours.

It is expected that each member attends a minimum of 60% of all meetings.

Additional meetings can be called as required, and the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee may establish Working Groups/Parties to address specific issues as they arise.

Key matters discussed over the past 12 months (Committee commenced in May 2021)

Meeting Date	Attendees	Topics Discussed
<p>24 May</p> <p>In person at the Civic Centre</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Stuart James (Chair) Cr Josh Fergeus Cr Rebecca Paterson Andrew Paolucci Asher Cameron Brett Hayhoe Caitlin Frost Christine Minto Emily Griffith Gregory Storer John Tzimas Mark Hao Nicole Flynn Pierce Soulsby Tess Marotta Thanura Tyler Ediri Yohana Jury</p> <p>Council Staff: Tracey Egan Fee Harrison Kerryn Jansons</p> <p>Apologies: Nil</p> <p>Guest presenter: Ross Goeman</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members introduced themselves. • Consultation: <i>Integrated Plans (Council Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, Asset Plan)</i> by Ross Goeman, Manager of Corporate Services • Council has endorsed a new category in the Sir John Monash awards for LGBTIQA+ Community Leadership • Consultation: Monash Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025 by Kerryn Jansons, Community Strengthening • Terms of Reference were passed
<p>28 June</p> <p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Stuart James (Chair) Cr Josh Fergeus Asher Cameron Brett Hayhoe Christine Minto Emily Griffith Gregory Storer John Tzimas Mark Hao Nicole Flynn Pierce Soulsby Tess Marotta Thanura Tyler Ediri Yohana Jury</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Consultation:</i> Active Monash inclusive practices and Pride Night, Active Monash representatives • Revisited the name of the committee and confirmed it will stay as LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee • Presentation: Setting the scene for LGBTIQA+ work at Monash over the past few years • Key focus areas of the advisory committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council wide (Rainbow Tick)

	<p>Council staff: Fee Harrison Tracey Egan</p> <p>Apologies: Cr Rebecca Paterson Caitlin Frost Andrew Paolucci</p> <p>Guest Presenters (Active Monash): Matthew Haanappel Shannon Stabb</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community wide (defining focus areas)
<p>26 July</p> <p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Stuart James (Chair) Cr Josh Fergeus Cr Rebecca Paterson Andrew Paolucci Asher Cameron Brett Hayhoe Caitlin Frost Christine Minto Emily Griffith Gregory Storer John Tzimas Mark Hao Nicole Flynn Pierce Soulsby Tess Marotta Thanura Tyler Ediri</p> <p>Council Staff: Tracey Egan Fee Harrison</p> <p>Apologies: Yohana Jury</p> <p>Guest Presenters: Anouska Phizacklea, David Rosetzky Michelle Read</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Presentation and Discussion: Monash Gallery of Art (MGA)</i> Portrait of Monash: the ties that bind ● <i>Consultation:</i> Monash Public Library Service (MPLS) consultation ● Sir John Monash Awards – LGBTIQ+ Community Leadership. The Volunteer judges for this category were nominated. ● Rainbow Tick Accreditation proposed process ● Budget bid successful to employ a part time LGBTIQ+ Partnerships Officer to support this committee and the other LGBTIQ+ work of Council. ● Parklife Program in Partnership with Proud2Play in Mulgrave
<p>27 September</p> <p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Stuart James (Chair) Cr Rebecca Paterson Andrew Paolucci Asher Cameron Brett Hayhoe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation by Nevo Zisin on creating brave and inclusive spaces ● LGBTIQ+ Partnerships Officer advertised

	<p>Caitlin Frost Christine Minto Emily Griffith Gregory Storer John Tzimas Nicole Flynn Pierce Soulsby Tess Marotta Thanura Tyler Ediri</p> <p>Council Staff: Tracey Egan Fee Harrison</p> <p>Apologies: Cr Josh Fergeus Yohana Jury Mark Hao</p> <p>Guest Presenter: Nevo Zisin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council’s upcoming LGBTIQ+ events and forums
<p>22 November</p> <p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Stuart James (Chair) Cr Josh Fergeus Asher Cameron Christine Minto Emily Griffith Gregory Storer John Tzimas Nicole Flynn Tess Marotta Thanura Tyler Ediri Caitlin Frost Yohana Jury Mark Hao</p> <p>Council Staff: Fee Harrison Tracey Egan Alyssa Huxtable Rebecca Walton</p> <p>Apologies: Cr Rebecca Paterson Brett Hayhoe Andrew Paolucci Pierce Soulsby</p> <p>Guest Presenter: Jac Tomlins</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation and Discussion:</i> Jac Tomlins on Rainbow Tick accreditation • <i>Consultation:</i> Gender Equity Framework • LGBTIQ+ Partnerships Officer introduced • Recap Council Rainbow Tick accreditation • <i>Upcoming events/ partnership opportunities:</i> Midsumma Pride March, 2022 Rainbow Local Government Conference, Clayton Festival, JoyFm

Achievements 2021

- Establishment of the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee and recruitment of a rich and diverse committee.
- Provided LGBTIQ+ inclusion expertise on a number of Council's Plans and Strategies including the Council Plan, Health & Wellbeing Plan and library service.
- Establishment of the Sir John Monash Award – LGBTIQ+ Community Leadership category and provide support with assessing nominations.
- LGBTIQ+ Partnerships Officer recruited to support the Committee and Council's LGBTIQ+ work.
- Ideas generated for events and services to be more LGBTIQ+ inclusive
- Provided expert advice for Active Monash's future Pride Night events.
- Provided experience on the endorsed Rainbow Tick Accreditation process for Council.

Junior Advisory Group**Purpose**

Connecting Young People with their Local Government/Councillors. This platform enables Monash students in Grades 4 to 6 to raise any concerns or questions they may have as active citizens in their community.

Composition

Eight to fourteen students and two Councillors attend each session, typically held twice per year around April/May and during Children's Week in October.

Due to extended COVID-19 restrictions, there was only one Junior Advisory Group meeting in 2021, held during a brief lockdown reprieve on Wednesday 19th May at the Civic Centre in Glen Waverley. Cr James attended with eight students from two local primary schools:

- St John Vianney's Primary School
- Oakleigh Grammar

Questions asked by the young people covered topics such as infrastructure repairs, and project organisation and coordination.

Junior Advisory Group sessions are due to resume in early 2022 in line with the recent easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

Multicultural Advisory Committee

Purpose

The aim of the Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) is to provide Council with advice on a range of multicultural issues. Scope of the committee's key functions include:

- Consult on issues affecting Monash's culturally and linguistically diverse community and provides feedback and advice to Council on its policies, plans and services that impact people of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds
- Assist Council to promote the benefits of cultural diversity within the Monash municipality and beyond and provide advice to Council with its communication, engagement and consultation with CALD communities
- Advocate on behalf of the CALD community of Monash
- Consider current needs and opportunities as they may arise

Appointments to the Multicultural Advisory Committee are for a two-year term and members may continue for an additional two-year term only.

Committee Membership

The MAC membership consists of up to 16 members. The 2021 membership of the MAC included:

Councillors

- Cr Nicky Luo
- Cr Tina Samardzija
- Cr Anjalee de Silva

Resident Representatives

- Lena Kodeljian
- Bala Balamurugan
- Jimmy Jian Min Lin
- Theresa Ssali
- May Hu
- Isata Victoria Mandoh
- Mohamed Mohideen
- Oksana King
- Rida Khan
- Dakhina Mitra
- Richard Ng

Local Organisations providing CALD communities services in Monash

- Konstantina Kouroutsidou (Pronia – Australia Greek Welfare)
- Sally Brooks (Migrant Information Centre, Eastern Region)

All MAC positions are voluntary positions.

The MAC is convened by Council's Multicultural Community Development Officer.

Summary of 2021 Meetings

The committee meets bi-monthly, on the second Thursday of the month for a duration of two hours. The expectation is that each member attends a minimum of 60% of all meetings.

Meeting Date	Attendees	MATTERS discussed
11 February Via Zoom	Attendees: Cr Nicky Luo Cr Tina Samardzija Isata (Victoria) Mandoh, Sally Brooks Jimmy Jian Min Li Bala Balamurugan Lena Kojadelian Theresa Ssali Council Staff: Siobhan Wood Pamela Kosij Apologies: Cr Anjalee de Silva May Hu Richard Ng Konstantina Kouroutsidou	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on the <i>Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy</i> for the City of Monash. Lead consultant Jake McMinn shared a presentation and led a discussion to gain members' feedback and ideas for the Active Monash team's consideration, to support the development of this new strategy. • Advocacy & Information sharing
8 April Via Zoom	Attendees: Cr Nicky Luo Isata (Victoria) Mandoh Sally Brooks Konstantina Kouroutsidou Jimmy Jian Min Li Bala Balamurugan Lena Kojadelian Theresa Ssali Oksana King Mohamed Mohideen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carer Support Program: Presentation delivered by Eliana Aguiar - Carer Support Coordinator, Southern Migrant Resource Centre. • Update on Council's work to address homelessness and influence an increase in social housing supply and State Government announcement of a \$5.3

	<p>Rida Khan Dakhina Mitra</p> <p>Council Staff: Fee Harrison Pamela Kosij</p> <p>Apologies: Cr Anjalee de Silva Cr Tina Samardzija May Hu Richard Ng Siobhan Wood</p>	<p>billion Big Housing Build project to develop more social and affordable housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Council's consultation process to shape the next Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021 – 2025. • Advocacy & Information sharing
<p>10 June Via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Tina Samardzija Cr Anjalee de Silva Isata (Victoria) Mandoh Jimmy Jian Min Li Bala Balamurugan Theresa Ssali Oksana King Dakhina Mitra May Hu Richard Ng</p> <p>Council Staff: Russell Hopkins Fee Harrison Colin Bostock Pamela Kosij</p> <p>Apologies: Cr Nicky Luo Mohamed Mohideen Rida Khan Sally Brooks Konstantina Kouroutsidou Lena Kojadelian</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCTV Consultation: Update provided by Russell Hopkins, Director Community Services • Consultation on 'Imagine Monash in 2040' seeking Committee input on what is important for the future Monash, and how council should respond, facilitated by Ross Goeman - Manager Corporate Performance. • COVID-19 Restrictions - Council Services and Facilities Update. • Advocacy & Information sharing
<p>12 August Via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Tina Samardzija Cr Anjalee de Silva Mohamed Mohideen Konstantina Kouroutsidou Jimmy Jian Min Lin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October Safety Month: Presentation by Tina Malaeb Community Safety Officer • Understanding COVID-19 Vaccines & Supporting CALD communities to

	<p>Rida Khan Dakhina Mitra May Hu Bala Balamurugan Oksana King</p> <p>Council Staff: Colin Bostock Pamela Kosij</p> <p>Apologies: Cr Nicky Luo Lena Kojadelian Theresa Ssali Sally Brooks Victoria (Isata) Mandoh Richard Ng</p>	<p>better navigate the vaccine roll out : Presentation delivered by Mohamed Mohideen, Manager – Engagements and Partnerships / Covid-19 Response (Department of Health)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy & Information sharing
<p>14 October Via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Nicky Luo Cr Tina Samardzija Cr Anjalee de Silva Lena Kojadelian May Hu Mohamed Mohideen Jimmy Jian Min Lin Rida Khan Theresa Ssali Sally Brooks</p> <p>Council staff: Colin Bostock Pamela Kosij</p> <p>Apologies: Bala Balamurugan Victoria (Isata) Mandoh Dakhina Mitra Oksana King Konstantina Kouroutsidou Richard Ng</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on Shared Housing Accommodation Response (SHAR) supporting Monash residents living in public housing, community housing and rooming houses through COVID-19: Alex Mills, Alana Boyden, Cara Hardwick – Community Engagement Officers, Link Health and Community. • Update on the work of Council’s Community Response Team supporting community through COVID-19 pandemic: Colin Bostock, Coordinator Neighbourhood and Place Making • Advocacy & Information sharing
<p>9 December 2021 Via Zoom</p>	<p>TBC</p> <p>Attendees Council Officers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on the Gender Equity Framework: Tracey Egan – Gender Equity Coordinator

	Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy & Information sharing
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Achievements 2020/2021

- Provided a multicultural lens and strategic advice to several Council's Plans and Strategies.
- Assisted with organising in-language community information sessions on COVID-19 and vaccines with their respective communities with the support of MAC member Mohamed Mohideen, Manager – Engagements and Partnerships / Covid-19 Response (Department of Health) and newly appointed VMC Commissioner.
- Assisted with contributing to and promoting Council's multilingual campaign to increase vaccination rates across the CALD community.
- Supported the Multicultural Community Development Officer with expertise on a number of projects and events, e.g. Hello Neighbour, Refugee Week, Resilience Against Racism workshop series etc.

Oakleigh Activity Centre Advisory Group

Purpose

The Oakleigh Activity Centre Steering Committee provides oversight and co-ordination of major projects across the Oakleigh Activity Centre.

Frequency of Meeting

The Committee has not met within the last 12 months, however there remain significant projects that are current in the Oakleigh Activity Centre. The impact of COVID-19 pandemic has delayed the progress of these projects. As the State emerges from the pandemic and restrictions, it is anticipated that projects will be re-activated.

Positive Ageing Reference Group

Purpose

The purpose of PARG is to inform and advise Council on issues, barriers and aspirations of our older adult community. PARG is an inclusive group of older people, committed to ensuring Monash is an age friendly city and advocating on the issues and aspirations of our older residents. It is often invited by other departments to provide feedback and guidance to support Council to have an 'Age Friendly' lens across all policy development. PARG members are interviewed for selection and can remain on the committee for three terms (six years). Over the years there have been some founding member

who are welcome to attend meetings to support them to remain engaged and connected with their community.

PARG is currently represented by 10 community members and two Councillors. The term for the community membership is two years. Community members are appointed by Council following a public expression of interest.

The 2021 membership of the PARG included:

Councillors:

Cr Brian Little (Chair)
Cr Nicky Luo

Resident Representatives:

- Annette Anakotta
- Marlene Bottrell
- Elaine Forde
- Shi Qin Gao
- Mark Learmonth
- Constantine Mandalis
- Jennifer Sheppard
- Phil Terry
- Irene Trirouzis

Throughout the last two years of lockdown, two members have resigned (Dorothy Boysouth and Jan Goodwin) and due to COVID have not yet been replaced.

In December 2021 there are five potential new members being interviewed to recruit a full membership of 15 community representatives, and subsequently present to Council for consideration.

Key initiatives

In this current term of the committee, these are the following projects that the committee has been involved in:

Increasing Places to Rest - development of a process to map existing and additional seating across all the 32 Monash Zones. Undertook a mapping exercise that has been merged into a central spreadsheet and mapped into GIS. A submission is being put forward in Our People Place for additional funding to install new seating and undertake additional maintenance to seating as identified by the mapping process. If the submission is successful, the work will be carried out in 2022 – 2023.

Loneliness Framework – feedback provided to Community Strengthening on the impact of Ageing and Loneliness.

Feedback and Advice on Social inclusion programs - Provide feedback on the key activities and make suggestions to support council staff in the delivery of the Positive Ageing Lifestyle (PALS) program and the Monash Seniors Festival program.

Zoom Meetings – During COVID lockdown members were supported by Council staff to attend Zoom meetings, increasing confidence plus awareness and knowledge of ‘tec savvy’ skills.

Positive Ageing Directory – Review and provide feedback on the newly developed Positive Ageing Directory to be launched in early 2022 as a resource for older residents to connect with their community.

Monash University Initiative - Monash Council has partnered with Monash University in their bid for an Industrial Transformation Training Centre in Optimal Ageing. The bid was successful and members of PARG will be invited to be on the Monash University Optimising Ageing Centre focus group.

Feedback and advice –

- Provide advice/feedback and ideas on social inclusion opportunities to be planned and organised in the Positive Ageing Lifestyle Program – PALS.
- Support with the evaluation of the Age Friendly Action in the Integrated Health Plan.
- Provided feedback on the Loneliness Framework in relation to older residents.

<p>11 February</p> <p>Via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees:</p> <p>Councillors: Cr. Brian Little. Cr. Nicky Luo</p> <p>Officer/s Sallenna Skye, Stacey Faletose, Carol Syer, Andrea La Greca and Vicki Chisholm</p> <p>Members: Phil Terry, Mark Learmonth, Qin Shi Gao, Janet Goodwin and Annette Anakotta.</p>	<p>Draft Survey for 2021 Age Friendly Working on Survey. Ageism & racism main issues. Using 2014 survey as template for 2021 Survey and will send draft for comment. Will meet at Halcyon Centre on 2 March to go through Survey document. Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy – Jake McMinn (Guest Speaker)</p>
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	Guests: Jake McMinn (inside EDGE Sport & Leisure Planning)	Jake McMinn from insideEDGE Sport and Leisure Planning showed a presentation “Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy”
8 April In Person (Function Room)	Attendees: Cr. Brian Little Officer/s Sallenna Skye, Carol Syer, and Vicki Chisholm Members: Andrea Whitty, Mark Learmonth, Phil Terry, Con Mandalis, Jennifer Sheppard, Elaine Forde, Qin Shi Gao. Apologies: Marlene Bottrell, Pat West, Andrea La Greca, Carolyn Court, Stacey Faletese, Cr Nicky Lou	Age Friendly Survey and engagement update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey is available online. • Sallenna is visiting groups and distributing survey forms. • Telephone service also. • Spreadsheet of calendar invites to groups has been sent to PARG Members. • 1,000 random selection of PALS participants have been sent a survey via mail. • Home Caterers will also distribute survey forms to clients. • Mid-May survey will be data entered and feed to Health Plan. <p>Meals on Wheels back to using Volunteers to deliver the meals.</p> <p>Mayor’s afternoon tea. Two dates to help with social distancing. 18th & 25th May to coincide with National Volunteer week. Invitations to go out this week. Venue: Huntingdale Golf Club</p>
18 June	Attendees: Cr. Brian Little.	Imagine Monash in 2040

In Person (Halcyon)	<p>Officer/s: Sallenna Skye, Stacey Faletese, Ross Goeman, Sherry Hopkins and Vicki Chisholm</p> <p>Members: Elaine Forde, Phil Terry, Jennifer Sheppard, Mark Learmonth, Andrea Whitty, Constantine Mandalis, Annette Anakotta and Qin Shi Gao.</p> <p>Apologies: Marlene Bottrell (medical), Carolyn Court, Carol Syer, Andrea La Greca and Cr. Nicky Luo.</p>	<p>Guest Speaker: Ross Goeman – Manager Corporate Performance, City of Monash.</p> <p>Monash Boulevard Guest Speakers: Sherry Hopkins – Coordinator Strategic Planning, City of Monash</p> <p>Age Friendly Survey and engagement update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,000 surveys were posted to a random group of PALS participants. • 500 surveys were distributed via Home Care. • 1200 surveys were returned. • The data from the returned surveys will be sent to a company for data analysis and results will be linked into Health Plan.
5 August Halcyon & via Zoom	<p>Attendees: Cr Brian Little & Cr Nicky Luo</p> <p>Officer/s: Sallenna Skye, Stacey Faletese, Michelle Jones (teams) & Vicki Chisholm</p> <p>Members: Mark Learmonth, Irene Triroulis, Marlene Bottrell, Jennifer Shepherd, Constantine Mandalis, Elaine Forde, Qin Shi Gao, Annette Anakotta, Phil Terry and</p>	<p>Guest Speaker: Michelle Read (Planning for Communities)</p> <p>Michelle spoke to the Committee regarding the results of consultation and engagement with the Monash Library Service.</p>

	<p>Andrea Whitty (via phone).</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Michelle Read (Planning for Communities).</p> <p>Apologies: Carolyn Court & Carol Syer.</p>	
<p>23 September</p> <p>Via Zoom</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Brian Little</p> <p>Officer/s: Sallenna Skye, Stacey Faletese, Vicki Chisholm, Carol Syer, Bill Kendall and David Crowe.</p> <p>Members: Jennifer Sheppard, Mark Learmonth, Qin Shi Gao and Phil Terry.</p> <p>Apologies: Marlene Bottrell, Annette Anakotta, Costa Mandalis, Irene Triroulis and Carolyn Court, Nicky Luo</p>	<p>Seniors Festival – Program posted out – however new Lockdown has impacted all events and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Face to Face event in October now cancelled • All events to be re-schedules in the 2022 PALS programs <p>Survey, Place to Rest, New Health Plan actions 2021 - 2025</p> <p>Still waiting on 1300 survey update from company re report.</p>
<p>25 November</p> <p>Face to Face (ORC)</p>	<p>Attendees: Cr Brian Little</p> <p>Officer/s: Sallenna Skye, Stacey Faletese, Carol Syer, Jenny Hiscock, Sue Corless</p> <p>Members: Mark Learmonth, Qin Shi Gao, Phil Terry, Costa Mandalis, Elaine Forde,</p>	<p>Main topics discussed:</p> <p>Tour of Oakleigh Recreation Centre.</p> <p>Resuming social inclusion programs and planning 2022.</p> <p>Following COVID safe plans and procedures.</p>

	<p>Andrea Greco, Andrea Whitty.</p> <p>Apologies: Marlene Bottrell, Annette Anakotta, Irene Trikoulis, Carolyn Court, Jennifer Shepherd.</p>	<p>Interviewing five potential new members in December for joining PARG in 2022.</p>
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Positive Ageing Network Forum

Purpose

This Forum provides an opportunity for any committee member of a seniors group and staff from local not for profit service providers (i.e. South East Volunteer, Neighbourhood House) to attend to find out the latest news from Council on matters such as Community Grants, Halls management and maintenance, Age Friendly update and opportunities to be involved and Council initiatives. The purpose of the Positive Ageing Seniors Network Forum is to provide the opportunity for seniors group representatives to meet with key Council staff from various departments to be informed by Council on various issues that may be relevant to their group/club.

Numbers and groups that are represented at each forum meeting are varied depending on availability. There is no term for the community membership to attend and no appointment of community members by Council.

The Councillor representatives for the Positive Ageing Seniors Network Forum for 2021 were Cr Rebecca Paterson and Cr Tina Samardzija.

Discussion

The Positive Ageing Network Forum met four times during 2021, however during COVID lockdown all meetings were moved to Zoom. Meetings took place on Monday 1 March, Thursday 13 May, Wednesday 18 August & the last meeting was rescheduled from Monday 15 November to Thursday 9 December due to Covid restrictions.

Agenda items included:

- Community Grants update
- Community Halls Update
- Age Friendly Update
- Positive Ageing Lifestyle, Seniors Festival and Social Inclusion Update
- Councillor Update
- Group updates

- Other Business

Monash Youth Committee

Purpose

The Monash Youth Committee (MYC) is an inclusive group of young people, committed to creating greater connections between young people and Monash Council. MYC discuss and take action on issues affecting young people living in the City of Monash.

The Committee has two broad objectives:

- To function as a consultation panel of young people that provides input into the development of Council policy and planning frameworks.
- To act as a conduit for the positive promotion of young people's ideas and achievements.

Achievements for 2021

The MYC continued to meet monthly during 2021, all meeting excluding one were via video conferencing platforms. This provided both an opportunity for Council and other organisations to consult with the committee on various topics as well as an opportunity for the members to develop their skills and have a voice about the issues important to the young people in Monash.

See below for dates and Councillor attendance. Councillors McCluskey and Luo were the Council representatives for 2021.

20 January 2021	Cr Luo
11 February 2021	Cr Luo
10 March 2021	Cr Luo
14 April 2021	Cr McCluskey
12 May 2021	Crs Luo and McCluskey
09 June 2021	Cr McCluskey
14 July 2021	Crs Luo and McCluskey
11 August 2021	Cr McCluskey
08 September 2021	Cr McCluskey
13 October 2021	Crs Luo and McCluskey
10 November 2021	Cr McCluskey
December 2020	No formal meeting

In 2021, the MYC has undertaken the following:

MYC sent a letter to local Federal Members of Parliament in late 2020 raising its concerns in regard to changes made to the Higher Education Support Amendment (Job-Ready Graduates and Supporting Regional and Remote

Students). In early 2021 members met with Clare O'Neil, Federal Member for Hotham to discuss their concerns.

In collaboration with Monash Council's sustainability team MYC Facilitated a youth Sustainability workshop online for Monash young people as a part of Clayton Festival.

Provided written feedback to Council in regard to the draft Monash Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing plan 2021 – 2025. A couple of the issues MYC raised were in regard to addressing healthy eating and potential addictions, promoting the use of green spaces to those who typically do not utilise them and having improved measurable outcomes for council climate change goals.

MYC Undertook training further developing their skills in advocacy through The Workshop Melbourne.

In the September school holidays MYC organised Mandy Money to deliver an online Financial Management workshop for young people aged 15-25 years. Topics covered included university loans, spending traps, budgeting, tax, investing and superannuation. The workshop was very popular with 124 young people attending the ninety-minute session. Monash Youth Committee has identified that there should be greater emphasis placed on financial management in secondary school curriculum and will be raising this issue with State Members of Parliament.

The MYC wrote to both State and Federal Members of Parliament requesting a meeting with them to discuss issues affecting young people in the City of Monash and to understand what each government are doing to help young people within the City of Monash. Issues of importance relating to Federal Government are: Treasury Laws Amendment (Your Future, Your Super) Bill 2021, Impacts of recent amendment to the Higher Education Support Amendment (Job-Ready Graduates and Supporting Regional and Remote Students) Bill 2020, Fair Work Amendment (Supporting Australia's Jobs and Economic Recovery) Bill 2021 and Wage increases for young people under the age of 21 years to ensure young people are not living below the poverty line. Issues of importance relating to State Government are: Victorian Governments electric vehicle policy, Secure Work Pilot Scheme, Housing Affordability and Secondary School Curriculum embedding financial literacy. MYC committee have currently met with Bruce Atkinson MP, Steve Dimopoulos MP, Meng Heang Tak MP, Matt Fregon MP and Will Fowles MP.

Members for endorsement or reappointment

MYC received three resignations, predominately related to committee members increasing work, school or university commitments. These members have been active and valuable representatives of young people

through their involvement in and contribution to MYC: Mr Raghav Baheti, Ms Shreeya Kalagotla and Mr Jonathan Lee.

To fill vacancies, the MYC continually seeks membership from young people aged 15 – 25 who live, go to school, or work in the City of Monash. Mr Justin Leung and Ms Joyce Hu were successful in their application for MYC subject to Council's endorsement.

As a result of the resignations and appointments in this report the group will have 20 endorsed members of young people. Currently, there is one place available for new MYC members in 2021. We expect more resignations from MYC at the end of the year.