



**Merri-bek**  
City Council

# **Merri-bek Council Action Plan**

## **2025-26**

### **Quarter Third Report**



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#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Merri-bek City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways in the area now known as Merri-bek. We pay respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging, as well as to all First Nations communities who significantly contribute to the life of the area.

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## Executive Summary

This report demonstrates Council's ongoing commitment to the sustainable, equitable, and transparent management of funds on behalf of Merri-bek ratepayers, key stakeholders, and the broader community.

In accordance with sections 88 and 90 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council adopted the revised Community Vision 2025–2035 and Council Plan 2025–2029 on 10 September 2025.

The Council Action Plan 2025–26 outlines the specific actions to be undertaken during the first financial year to implement the Council Plan. All actions in the Action Plan are resourced through the 2025–26 Annual Budget, which forms part of the broader 2025–2029 Budget.

This Third Quarter Performance Report provides an update on the delivery of the Council Action Plan 2025–26.

In summary, the status of the 79 actions in the plan is as follows:

| Number | Percentage | Status      | Definition                      | Traffic Light                                                                         |
|--------|------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5      | 6%         | Achieved    | Completed, achieved             |    |
| 71     | 90%        | In Progress | On track                        |    |
| 1      | 1%         | Off Track   | Behind Target                   |   |
| 0      | 0%         | Critical    | Action is significantly delayed |  |
| 2      | 3%         | Withdrawn   | On hold or removed              |  |

The rest of this report below provides a detailed progress update for each action below including:

- A description of the action
- The percentage complete against what was planned for this financial year
- The status in the form of a traffic light (see table above); an
- Relevant officer commentary.

## Theme 1: Care for nature and climate resilience

**Strategic Objective 1: To create a flourishing and climate resilient Merri-bek by improving wildlife and nature connectivity, greening and cooling for healthier streets and public realm, and engaging the community in meaningful climate action.**

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                                 | Status                                                                              | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1          | Plant and nurture suitable trees in tricky places, parks, and streets                                                                                                                  |    | City Infrastructure   | <p>This quarter, work focused on the technical design of future greening sites and the strategic optimisation of our tree maintenance programs.</p> <p>Detailed site design is underway to integrate new tree plots and permeable surfaces into Wallace Reserve car park as part of the tricky spaces tree planting program.</p> <p>Planning and site preparation have commenced for the 2026 planting season, scheduled to begin in May. This upcoming program will predominantly focus on increasing canopy cover and shade within our parks.</p> |
| 2          | Investigate opportunities to reduce impacts of urban heat and increasing heatwaves by collaborating to get more shade trees in places like schools, retirement villages, and backyards |    | Place and Environment | Partners have been identified for the pilot of the Tree for Me program. Planning has started for community engagement and communications.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 3          | Facilitate native understorey planting trial project                                                                                                                                   |    | City Infrastructure   | All native understorey planting sites are currently being prepared and mulched prior to planting. Community planting days are planned for a selection of sites in 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 4          | Commence the biodiversity and climate change resilience top-up research grant program                                                                                                  |   | City Infrastructure   | Following an approach refinement, Council has shifted to a model in which selected universities will manage the delivery of the biodiversity and climate change resilience top-up research grant program. Universities will play a central role in administering the program and delivering research outcomes. The program is expected to launch later in 2026, following finalisation of guidelines and targeted stakeholder engagement.                                                                                                           |
| 5          | Facilitate the Lizards with bikes: revitalising the Coburg Velodrome underpass project                                                                                                 |  | City Infrastructure   | All minor landscape works have been completed in preparation for planting works, which will be coordinated as a Community Planting Day. An artist has been engaged to paint a mural on site, and interpretive signage is currently being designed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 6          | Deliver key stormwater harvesting and wetland projects as outlined in the Integrated Water Management Action Plan                                                                      |  | Place and Environment | The Upper Moonee Ponds Creek wetland detailed design is in progress, with community engagement now completed, additionally the following has been undertaken.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Status                                                                              | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                     |                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Austin Crescent ephemeral swale detailed design is in progress, with community engagement now completed.</li> <li>A feasibility study for the Martin Reserve stormwater harvesting diversion pit has been completed.</li> <li>Further refinement of the A.G. Gillon and Reaburn Reserve stormwater harvesting detailed design is underway to ensure alignment with recently updated flood modelling.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 7          | Deliver outcome-focused Integrated Water Management planning for the Coburg and Brunswick activity centres to enhance liveability, manage stormwater and flood, support water efficiency, and build climate resilience |    | Place and Environment | <p>Contribution to Integrated Water Management outcomes within Coburg and Brunswick</p> <p>Contributions to Integrated Water Management (IWM) outcomes within Coburg and Brunswick have been progressed through the following initiatives:</p> <p>The draft Integrated Water Management Roadmap has been prepared by Melbourne Water in partnership with Merri-bek, in collaboration with IWM Forum members led by Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA). Integrated Water Management considerations were incorporated into Merri-bek's submission to Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) for the Built Form Overlay for the Merri-bek cluster (Brunswick and Coburg), supporting alignment with broader water-sensitive urban design outcomes.</p> <p>Integrated Water Management principles were embedded in the Coburg Central IWM Plan as part of the 'Coburg is Here' concept, through the provision of subject matter expertise via the project working group.</p> |
| 8          | Promote and support an inclusive energy transition, including solar and thermal subsidies for low-income households                                                                                                    |  | Place and Environment | <p>Delivery partners have been appointed for Merri-bek's Home Energy Subsidy Program (solar and thermal), with 51 expressions of interest received to date, 16 households confirmed eligible, and 5 progressing to accepted quotes.</p> <p>A renters' draught-proofing workshop was delivered in March, including provision of take-home DIY packs, with a further workshop scheduled for May.</p> <p>A summer efficient electrification campaign was delivered across outdoor advertising, organic and paid social media, supported by a new video featuring a Fawkner resident. This resulted in a 1,137% increase in visits to the Go Electric landing page and 214 Solar Savers quote requests.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Status                                                                              | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| 9          | Deliver circular economy community initiatives and trial a fortnightly rubbish service                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    | Place and Environment | The Circular Economy initiatives included a Detox Your Home drop-off event in March, and zero waste workshops on cloth nappies and basic mending skills. A collaboration with Fashion Revolution Australia was initiated to host an event at Coburg Library for Mend in Public Day. Circular Campus to Community activities with RMIT were progressed, and Hands-in-Hanger weekly mending events were promoted from April. Additionally, the fortnightly rubbish trial evaluation and reporting were completed, and community engagement on the municipal-wide roll-out, subject to Council decision, commenced on 1 March.                                                   |
| 10         | Increase awareness and capacity of the Merri-bek community on heat and flood risks to support resilience building                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |    | Place and Environment | The Climate Resilience Integration Board endorsed the Climate Resilience Communications Plan. A web-based site is being prepared to consolidate climate risk information for easy public access.<br>An Urban Heat Forum, attended by around 60 participants from councils and various community groups, took place on 27 March. The Forum brought together community members, Council, researchers, government, industry and local organisations to share experiences, build a common understanding, and explore practical solutions to reduce heat and protect people and places.                                                                                            |
| 11         | Commence Oak Park Sports and Aquatic Electrification and Plant Room Renewal Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |    | Community             | Detailed design and permits completed. Works to commence at the conclusion of the summer season, 1 May 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 12         | Expand Council's practice to ensure Council buildings and infrastructure are environmentally sustainable in their planning, design, and implementation.<br><br>In the first year, focus on tangible increases to recycled content.<br>Over four years work towards new buildings and infrastructure that is 100% renewably powered, lower carbon, reflect circular economy principles, consider ways to be more climate resilient and adapted and work is prioritised to reflect greatest need. |    | City Infrastructure   | This action is proposed to be withdrawn and replaced with two more specific actions as proposed in the Year 2 Council Action Plan (2026–27) to improve clarity and strengthen intended outcomes. The proposed new actions are listed below.<br><br>NEW: Deliver climate vulnerability improvements to the following Council owned facilities; Fawkner Maternal Child Health, Yooralla Community Hub and Newlands Senior Citizens Centre.<br><br>and;<br><br>NEW: Develop and implement a whole-of-program capital works prioritisation framework that integrates asset condition, service need, climate vulnerability, and social, economic and environmental considerations. |
| 13         | Continue reducing carbon emissions of Council's fleet                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  | City Infrastructure   | Merri-bek City Council continues to reduce carbon emissions from its fleet, which includes light vehicles (passenger and commercial), heavy vehicles, major plant and minor plant.<br><br>This quarter saw the delivery of new zero-emissions light commercial vans and a                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Status | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |        |                       | <p>compact sweeper. Further work is underway to support fleet electrification, with ongoing evaluation of zero-emissions options for trucks, light commercial vehicles and minor plant.</p> <p>In addition, procurement is in progress for the replacement of the first waste compactor trucks with zero-emissions alternatives, targeting the replacement of heavily polluting vehicles nearing end of life.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 14         | Continue to advocate for Environmentally Sustainable Design outcomes in the planning scheme to State Government                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ●      | Place and Environment | <p>Merri-bek is a member of the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) and works closely with other member councils to provide feedback and undertake advocacy throughout the year. The past year has been particularly busy, with significant state reform and a strong focus on retaining Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) standards within the planning process. CASBE meets periodically with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) to advocate for these outcomes and will continue to do so as required.</p> <p>Other advocacy activities since last quarter include:</p> <p>Joint submission with Greenhouse Alliances to the Inquiry into Renewable and Affordable Energy for Apartments.</p> <p>Proactive development of advocacy relating to Clause 55 data, demonstrating a significant decline in ESD outcomes since its introduction in March 2025.</p> <p>At recent Future Focus member meetings, advocacy was identified as the top priority across all council groups for CASBE to continue progressing.</p> |
| 15         | Promote the delivery of more climate resilient, less carbon intensive and more nature-inclusive private developments through providing clearer guidance for environmentally responsive design, promoting, and negotiating improved outcomes through the planning permit application process and subsequent proactive enforcement of planning conditions | ●      | Place and Environment | <p>Environmentally sustainable development outcomes continue to be progressed in line with planning reforms. This includes on-site stormwater management measures such as rainwater tanks, raingardens and permeable paving, as well as external shading to protect north-facing windows from summer heat and support the installation of solar panels in new developments.</p> <p>The proactive enforcement program for environmentally sustainable development also continues, with a focus on improving on-site outcomes, including the delivery of larger raingardens near creeks. Officers are also exploring opportunities to improve the overall design and quality of new buildings, including sustainability outcomes, through pre-application meetings and a trial with a local developer.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |



## Theme 2: Healthy and inclusive communities

**Strategic Objective 2: To support accessible facilities, programs, services, housing that promote community wellbeing, and connection for all ages, abilities, genders, and cultures, fostering a safe, inclusive, and thriving Merri-bek community.**

| Action No. | Action                                                                                         | Status                                                                              | Directorate | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| 16         | Investigate possibility for renewal of Pascoe Vale Outdoor Pool                                |    | Community   | This action forms part of the broader Aquatic and Leisure Strategy 2018-2038 review, which is currently underway. Consultant engagement and high-level costing options are being undertaken.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 17         | Review progress of the 20 years Aquatic and Leisure Strategy                                   |    | Community   | Further information to be collected, analysed and presented to Council following the conclusion of the summer season to inform ongoing investment required to maintain Council's six aquatic and leisure centres and to inform future capital works budgets.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 18         | Facilitate support for the Youth Holistic Outreach Program                                     |    | Community   | The program is being delivered in line with the funding agreement, and relevant targets are being met.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 19         | Challenging gender-based violence through youth led initiatives                                |    | Community   | <p>Over the past five weeks, a group of Coburg High School students engaged in the Take the Lead program, examining gender roles, stereotypes, the causes of violence against women, warning signs in relationships, characteristics of respectful relationships, and help-seeking options. Twelve students attended all five sessions.</p> <p>A key part of the program has been co-designing an online campaign together, with students creating posters and social media tiles to promote women's empowerment and challenge gendered stereotypes and roles. This has been a great way to build their confidence and ensure their perspectives are reflected in the messaging.</p> |
| 20         | Scope options to provide additional free third spaces for children, young people, and families |  | Community   | Preliminary scoping of potential additional third spaces is occurring, and planning to expand the drop-in program for young people in Fawkner is occurring. A project plan and service model for Family Engagement has been developed and will be implemented in the new financial year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 21         | Progress the development of the Brunswick Early Years Hub                                      |  | Community   | The tender process to appoint a builder has been completed. A report is being prepared for the May Council meeting seeking approval to appoint the builder.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 22         | Increase awareness of library early literacy programming through partnership with MCH          |  | Community   | Initial stakeholder meetings have been undertaken to progress this initiative. Planning is underway to develop a bookmark for Maternal and Child Health nurses to distribute to new parents, increasing awareness of library early literacy programming through partnership with Maternal and Child Health.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                       | Status                                                                              | Directorate | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| 23         | Deliver and extend outdoor help program for seniors for 2025/26                                                                              |    | Community   | <p>The Outdoor Garden Help Program has completed 74 jobs so far in the third quarter, with a further 51 jobs approved and ready for delivery by contractors.</p> <p>Analysis of participants to date identified that some groups were underrepresented compared to Merri-bek's older population. In response, the project team implemented targeted, in-language promotion through senior's groups, community connectors, neighbourhood houses, libraries, the Living and Ageing Well e-newsletter, and social media. This has led to an increase in enquiries from these groups and greater diversity in program participation.</p>                                                            |
| 24         | Deliver the ageing well navigation support program to older residents                                                                        |    | Community   | <p>The Age Well team has supported 56 people through one-on-one assistance during the third quarter and reached a further 146 people through 14 outreach activities, including pop-up sessions, presentations, and information sessions delivered in partnership with community organisations, an assessment agency, and a retirement village.</p> <p>The team is also liaising with medical professionals, charities, food banks, and essential services, and has increased promotion both within Council and externally, including an article in Community News and an expanded social media presence. A schedule of monthly themed information sessions is planned through to June 2026.</p> |
| 25         | Deliver programs addressing food security through local markets, referral, and voucher systems, strengthening local procurement and logistic |    | Community   | <p>As part of the VicHealth-funded Merri-bek Food Alliance project, implementation has commenced and the project plan is in place. The four project areas include: Merri Food Hub weekly fresh food markets in Glenroy and Fawkner; Fawkner Food Bowls growing culturally diverse food for the markets; a voucher program providing Community Information and Support Merri-bek clients with access to subsidised Merri Food Hub produce; and engagement and outreach through Open Table's community meals program. A Designing Your Garden workshop was also delivered through the My Smart Garden program.</p>                                                                                |
| 26         | Review and implement Social Cohesion Plan                                                                                                    |  | Community   | <p>During the reporting period, Council progressed a range of initiatives aligned with the Social Cohesion Plan to strengthen inclusion, connection and community understanding.</p> <p>In February, Council partnered with the Merri-bek Interfaith Network to deliver a World Interfaith Harmony Week event in Fawkner. The event brought together faith leaders and community members for shared reflection, dialogue and cultural exchange. Two Peace Poles were unveiled, symbolising unity and reinforcing commitments to respectful relationships across faiths.</p> <p>On 12 March, Council participated in a joint Places of Worship Bus Tour with</p>                                 |



| Action No. | Action                                                                                             | Status | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            |                                                                                                    |        |                       | <p>Darebin, Hume, Merri-bek and Whittlesea Councils. The tour engaged 50 community members from diverse faith and cultural backgrounds, visiting four places of worship across the northern region. Participant feedback identified positive outcomes in building understanding, trust and interfaith connections. Council also advanced the Hume-Merri-bek Anti-Racism Support Network, progressing community-led initiatives informed by the 2023 Victoria University research. Key activities included stakeholder engagement, convening the first network meeting, delivering capacity-building workshops and distributing anti-racism resources.</p> <p>Additionally, Council continued collaboration with women in Fawkner to co-design a Women in Business Empowerment Project with SisterWorks, and commenced promotion of Democracy Lab 2026 to engage under-represented groups in civic leadership and local decision-making.</p> |
| 27         | Evaluation and development of a human rights policy                                                | ●      | Community             | Evaluation has been completed, and findings are being used to inform the development of a new Human Rights Policy. Planning for engagement on this policy is now underway.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 28         | Create Library of Things plan for Merri-bek libraries                                              | ●      | Community             | Members of the Library of Things Working Group attended a conference and met with other library staff to exchange ideas. Library staff also met with the President and Board Secretary of the Brunswick Tool Library to explore opportunities for collaboration. Opportunities for library involvement in the Merri-bek e-bike lending scheme are also being investigated.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 29         | Deliver the Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan including Functional Zero and Assertive outreach | ●      | Community             | Work undertaken in the previous quarter includes the extension of the Assertive Outreach Program until June 2026, continuing to support people sleeping rough to engage with specialist homelessness and other essential services.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 30         | Advocate for systemic changes to enable a socially just and climate resilient Merri-bek.           | ●      | Place and Environment | <p>This quarter, submissions were made to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry on Waste to Energy (March 2026) and the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into renewable and affordable energy for apartments.</p> <p>Council also continued to support advocacy led by the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances, in collaboration with the Australian Council of Social Service, to the Federal Government for \$72.5 million in funding for a scalable home energy upgrade program inclusive of vulnerable and low-income households.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 31         | Embed library social worker program                                                                | ●      | Community             | Two part-time Library Social Workers were engaged in February 2026. The Library Social Workers have reviewed recommendations from the pilot program                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Status | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |        |                       | and are now establishing how the ongoing Library Social Work Program will be delivered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 32         | Explore, including through partnership arrangements, ways to improve health, access and inclusiveness in public & private spaces for people in precarious housing such as access to toilets and bathrooms, seating under shelter, showers, lockers and a place to heat food as well as improved access to services | ●      | Community             | The Community Safety and Partnerships officer is progressing a review and forward planning of strategic initiatives with relevant partners. This includes exploring, including through partnership arrangements, opportunities to improve health, access and inclusiveness in public and private spaces for people experiencing precarious housing, such as access to toilets and bathrooms, sheltered seating, showers, lockers, facilities to heat food, and improved access to support services.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 33         | Develop and implement Gender Equality and Family Violence Action Plan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | ●      | Community             | <p>Input was provided to Council's Progress Report (1 July 2023 - 30 June 2025) to the Commission for Gender Equality, outlining 18 completed Gender Impact Assessments and associated actions taken.</p> <p>In addition, two well-attended community forums were delivered:</p> <p>Women's Safety Forum (12 February), which focused on increasing knowledge of and trust in family violence support services, and reducing barriers to access. Speakers included Victoria Police, Northern Community Legal Centre, Men's Referral Service and Sisters 4 Sisters.</p> <p>Balance the Scales International Women's Day event (26 March), which promoted services supporting women and gender-diverse people in employment and workplace rights, sexual and reproductive health, and financial independence.</p> |
| 34         | Deliver an annual Tobacco education and enforcement program                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ●      | Place and Environment | Progress towards delivering the annual tobacco education and enforcement program is underway. The Municipal Association of Victoria target is currently 57 per cent complete, with plans in place to ensure the target is met by the end of the fourth quarter.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 35         | Develop and implement First Peoples self-determination strategy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ●      | Community             | <p>Council hosted a successful 26 January Day of Mourning ceremony at Coburg Civic Centre, attended by more than 300 community members. The event provided space for truth-telling, reflection, and recognition of the ongoing impacts of colonisation.</p> <p>The First Peoples Advisory Committee met twice this quarter. The committee comprises nine Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members, including Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders and representatives from Aboriginal Community Elders Services and the Victorian Aboriginal Housing Corporation. Matters considered included the First Peoples Strategy development process,</p>                                                                                                                                                                 |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Status                                                                              | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                     |                       | <p>Council's budget processes, progress against the First Nations Procurement Target, the proposed Memorandum of Understanding with Aboriginal Housing Victoria, a briefing on the draft Partnership Agreement with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, and updates on key projects including Ballerit Mooroop, the Victorian Treaty process, and the First Peoples Employment Plan.</p> <p>Merri-bek Libraries hosted more than 50 community members at a Treaty Information Session at Brunswick Library on 18 March, delivered by the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria. Council also convened the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country Local Government Group, bringing together more than 10 councils to streamline communication with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.</p> |
| 36         | Partner with the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service to investigate options, locations and co-design culturally safe programs and services that promote and improve access to Councils Aquatic and Leisure Centres addressing a range of barriers for Aboriginal Victorians |    | Community             | The program has commenced, with Elders from the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service attending an introductory session at Coburg Leisure Centre. Ongoing discussions between service providers are supporting program delivery.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 38         | Progress plans and projects to revitalise and improve central Coburg                                                                                                                                                                                                        |    | Place and Environment | The Concept for Coburg and Framework Plan Engagement Report was published, summarising community feedback from a six-week public engagement program held from November to December 2025. Work is underway to update the Central Coburg Framework Plan, incorporating feedback received through this engagement process.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 39         | Deliver the Merri-bek Affordable Housing Action Plan                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  | Place and Environment | <p>This action is on track. Work continues with government and housing providers to progress accessible and inclusive housing opportunities, including First Peoples housing on Council land.</p> <p>Key outcomes include the granting of a planning permit for 106 affordable homes to be delivered as part of the Coburg Health Hub by community housing provider HousingFirst. Ongoing advocacy for increased public and community housing also includes support for the RMIT University report Barkly Street Public Housing - Future Visions, published in January.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 40         | Support the development of Ballerit Mooroop site/community hub with engagement of local First Peoples communities and Traditional                                                                                                                                           |  | Community             | Council is providing support to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation as invited to participate by the organisation. Wurundjeri is leading the development of an Aboriginal Gathering Place at Ballerit                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

| Action No. | Action | Status | Directorate | Comments                                                                                                                       |
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|            | Owners |        |             | Mooroop. The land is currently zoned as Education use and will need to be re-zoned, a process that could take up to 18 months. |

### Theme 3: Beautiful and liveable city

**Strategic Objective 3: Create safe, accessible streets and public spaces that support vibrant communities, active travel, rest and relaxation, and community pride, while ensuring development and growth are well managed and local character is celebrated, ensuring Merri-bek is a welcoming, liveable, and connected place for all.**

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                       | Status                                                                              | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| 41         | Facilitate additional public toilets in parks & reserves                                                                                                                     |    | City Infrastructure   | Two locations have been identified for design and engagement activities in the 2025-26 financial year. Construction is expected to occur in the 2026-27 financial year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 42         | Deliver Park priorities                                                                                                                                                      |    | City Infrastructure   | <p>Construction has been completed for park upgrades at HM Dowd Reserve and Esslemont Reserve in Pascoe Vale and Gervase Avenue Reserve, Glenroy.</p> <p>Construction is underway on park upgrades at McCleery Reserve, Coburg and Tate Park, Pascoe Vale.</p> <p>Design and consultation in progress on park upgrades at Loyola Pitt Pocket Park, Brunswick, Calder Reserve Coburg, Middle Street, Hadfield, James Reserve, Pascoe Vale and Methven Park Brunswick (minor playground replacement).</p> <p>In March 2026, Council endorsed the schematic design for the new Park Close to Home at 568 Sydney Road t. The project will now move into the concept design phase, which will be presented to the community for further feedback later in 2026.</p> |
| 43         | Deliver increased shade in Victoria Mall                                                                                                                                     |    | Place and Environment | Council is progressing plans to enhance shade within Victoria Mall. Engagement with local businesses is underway to seek feedback on the proposed design and coordinate the timing of installation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 44         | Implement hooning prevention measures in reserve carparks in Glenroy                                                                                                         |  | City Infrastructure   | Implementation of hooning prevention measures across identified reserve carparks in Glenroy is progressing well, with treatments delivered at the majority of priority sites. At Wallace Reserve, initial measures have been installed and further refinement has been required following damage to the treatments. Officers are currently exploring alternative design approaches and materials to enhance durability and support a more sustainable long-term outcome for this location.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 45         | Implement the outcomes of the community engagement for the Stage 1 Pilot - Dog Walking in Merri-bek initiatives at 8 different reserves, including improving Gilpin dog park |  | City Infrastructure   | Council at it's April 2026 meeting endorsed the recommendations arising from the six-month pilot program across seven of eight identified parks including interventions for improved amenities and signage. Council committed funding to implement the recommended changes at the seven of the eight pilot parks, including the Improving Gilpin Dog Park community budget project. The Tate Reserve pilot has been deferred to enable specific site issues to be resolved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                       | Status | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| 46         | Engage the community in the review of and update of the Domestic Animal Management Plan                                                                      | ✓      | City Infrastructure   | This action was achieved in the previous quarter.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 47         | Engage the community in the review of and update of the Local Law                                                                                            | ●      | City Infrastructure   | The Local Law review process is progressing on schedule. The engagement period with the community commenced 8 April - 6 May. This includes proposed changes to the Local Law identified through earlier internal engagement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 48         | Adopt a new Road Management Plan and implement the changes resulting from its review                                                                         | ✓      | City Infrastructure   | The Road Management Plan was reviewed in time to meet the statutory deadline of 31 October and was subsequently endorsed by Council at the October Council meeting. The changes have now been implemented and embedded into ongoing operations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 49         | Deliver the Streets for People Plan priority projects                                                                                                        | ●      | Place and Environment | Breese Street concept designs were presented to the March Council meeting for endorsement. Hope Street concept designs were tested with key stakeholders and were scheduled for endorsement at the May Council meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 50         | Deliver sustainable transport initiatives that improve options for people walking and riding throughout Merri-bek                                            | ●      | Place and Environment | Progress has been made on the Streets for People corridor projects. Several projects have completed the design phase, including Breese Street, while others are nearing the construction phase, including Victoria Street.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 51         | Deliver the Ride & Stride behaviour change program plus priority infrastructure upgrades around schools, to foster safe and active travel to and from school | ●      | Place and Environment | <p>The Ride &amp; Stride program continues to work with participating schools. Open Streets is being delivered regularly at five local schools across the municipality in 2026, and Ride2School Day celebrations were promoted and held at multiple schools in March.</p> <p>The School Transport Precincts Officer is developing a new Schools Plan to support integrated behaviour change and infrastructure upgrades in school precincts. Design works are scheduled to commence with the first Ride &amp; Stride school before the end of June 2026.</p> |
| 52         | Support the expansion of the Electric Vehicle (EV) charging network across Merri-bek                                                                         | ●      | Place and Environment | <p>Projects contributing to the expansion of the Merri-bek electric vehicle charging network include:</p> <p>Home to Street electric vehicle charging trial - 15 installations have been completed, with valuable feedback received.</p> <p>Installation of an alternating current dual charger at Coburg Civic Centre has been completed, and procurement is underway for an additional unit at The Grove.</p>                                                                                                                                              |



| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                              | Status                                                                              | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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|            |                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                       | Community consultation has commenced to identify potential sites for an on-street charging trial (pole-mounted chargers).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 53         | Deliver the Wheatsheaf Road Glenroy streetscape improvement project (over two years)                                                                                |    | Place and Environment | This action has been placed on hold for the remainder of the financial year, with Council endorsing this position at the February 2026 Council meeting, due to external factors impacting delivery. As a multi-year initiative, timing and delivery will be reviewed as part of the development of the Year 2 Council Action Plan 2026–27                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 54         | Ensure Council is well briefed to support the best possible design outcomes from major planning applications                                                        |    | Place and Environment | <p>Most major planning proposals are determined by Council resolution at Planning and Related Matters (PARM) meetings. Generally, proposals that exceed structure plan height limits or are referred to Council by the Minister for Planning are considered by Councillors.</p> <p>All major planning applications undergo a review process with expert input from Council's urban design, environmentally sustainable development, and heritage advisory teams. To date, the following major proposals have been considered at PARM meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 253-259 Brunswick Road, Brunswick - six storeys</li> <li>- 2 Florence Street, Coburg - seven storeys</li> <li>- 278-282 Albert Street, Brunswick - nine storeys</li> <li>- 932 Sydney Road, Coburg North - mixed-use development including warehouse, service station and convenience restaurant</li> <li>- 90 Bell Street, Coburg - Coburg Health Hub</li> </ul> |
| 55         | Reporting on Ministerial planning permit decision-making through the Quarterly Planning Permit Activity Reporting to the Planning & Related Matters Council Meeting |  | Place and Environment | <p>The City Development Activity Report includes details of Ministerial applications, which are reported quarterly to the Planning and Related Matters Council meeting.</p> <p>In the 2025-26 financial year, one Ministerial application has been lodged: MIN/2025/7 - 50-52 Breese Street and 655-661 Sydney Road, Brunswick, for 43 townhouses. This application was reported to the March 2026 meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 56         | Ensure the review of the Merri-bek Planning Scheme leads to a framework that supports great housing, employment, and liveability in Merri-bek                       |  | Place and Environment | This action is on track. Work is underway to ensure the Merri-bek Planning Scheme continues to provide a clear and effective framework of local policies and controls to guide the type and location of housing growth.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

## Theme 4: Thriving economy and culture

**Strategic Objective 4: A lively and inclusive Merri-bek where the economy supports local business and industry growth, celebrates artistic and creative expression, and connects the community through vibrant cultural experiences.**

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Status                                                                              | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| 57         | Continue to develop the Brunswick Design District in partnership with RMIT University and Creative Victoria, with a focus on supporting economic opportunities and job growth in design-related businesses |    | Place and Environment | Over the past months officers worked with RMIT University and Creative Victoria to: (i) deliver the fourth in a series of Open Studio networking events; (ii) extensively plan the forthcoming 2026 Melbourne Design Week, including recruiting 12 participating studios for the event; and (iii) making updates to the Brunswick Design District website including the addition of a new page to list over 100 creative spaces within the Brunswick Design District and nearby (see: <a href="http://bdd.org.au/our-spaces">bdd.org.au/our-spaces</a> ). |
| 58         | Implement safety & amenity improvements in major activity centres including Glenroy, Brunswick, and Coburg                                                                                                 |    | Place and Environment | Key road safety projects continue to progress across the major activity centres of Glenroy, Brunswick, and Coburg, contributing to safer and more accessible environments for pedestrians, cyclists, and other road users.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 59         | Belair Street, Glenroy, on-street garden bed                                                                                                                                                               |    | Place and Environment | A preliminary design has been completed, and Council is preparing to engage with local traders. The design is being finalised to refine safety, drainage, and maintenance requirements. The project will then move into detailed design ahead of procurement for delivery.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 60         | Deliver the West Street Streetscape Renewal Project (over two years)                                                                                                                                       |    | Place and Environment | Council is progressing the upgrade of the West Street Shopping Strip to enhance the activity centre as a vibrant community destination. Construction has commenced on this streetscape upgrade, with businesses regularly updated on construction timing and staging. Council is on track to complete construction by the end of the year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 61         | Deliver priority actions from the Places for People Plan                                                                                                                                                   |  | Place and Environment | <p>During February and March, Council undertook community engagement on the draft Places for People Plan. The plan outlines opportunities to improve public spaces in Merri-bek's shopping strips and activity centres over the next 10 years.</p> <p>Council is now reviewing the feedback received and will update the draft plan where appropriate. The revised Places for People Plan will be presented to Council later this year for consideration.</p>                                                                                             |
| 62         | Develop a Public Art Policy                                                                                                                                                                                |  | Community             | The Public Art Policy was adopted by Council in February 2026, with the associated budget referred to the 2026-27 budget process.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                                                      | Status                                                                              | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| 63         | Deliver the Merri-bek Economic Development Action Plan                                                                                                                      |    | Place and Environment | <p>During the quarter, the Economic Development Unit continued to deliver Year 2 actions under the Economic Development Action Plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- delivery of four business events (bringing the year-to-date total to 30 skills workshops and business networking events).</li> <li>- progression of a major Business Friendly Council service improvement initiative (ongoing during 2026).</li> <li>- continued support to the Sydney Road Brunswick and Central Coburg business associations, including engagement regarding their proposed renewals.</li> <li>- delivery of a Shopfront Improvement project in Melville Road.</li> <li>- facilitation of nearly 50 business permit concierge processes.</li> <li>- production of a new Investment Attraction video.</li> <li>- commencement of two Multicultural Business Precinct Revitalisation projects in Coburg and Glenroy following successful state government grant funding.</li> </ul> |
| 64         | Maintain the Commercial Priority Planning Service to facilitate well prepared planning permit applications that can deliver new or increased local employment opportunities |    | Place and Environment | <p>The Urban Planning Unit continues to provide its Commercial Priority Service to support new and expanding businesses in navigating the planning process. From July 2025 to March 2026, Council received 27 commercial priority planning applications.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 65         | Deliver expanded Merri-bek murals street art program                                                                                                                        |    | Community             | <p>Murals have been delivered at Fleming Park, East Brunswick (designed as a celebration of Treaty by artist Robert Michael Young), and at Shirley Robertson Children's Centre, Coburg (co-designed with children and artist Amanda Newman).</p> <p>Murals at Oxygen Youth Space (Coburg), Union Street (Brunswick), and Glenroy Community Hub are currently in design and will be delivered in the coming months.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 66         | Scope project to activate underutilised community spaces for arts and performance                                                                                           |  | Community             | <p>A range of community venues has been investigated to inform the potential provision of performing arts infrastructure. Findings will be presented to Council later in 2026 and will inform future capital works planning and budget considerations.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 67         | Refresh festival program in line with community needs                                                                                                                       |  | Community             | <p>Councillor consultation on the proposed festival program refresh has commenced, providing an opportunity to inform the direction of the program ahead of broader community consultation.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                         | Status                                                                            | Directorate | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| 68         | Redesign grants program to support more opportunities to create, learn and connect             |  | Community   | Internal consultation of the redesigned Grants Guidelines has not yet commenced and is now scheduled to begin in June 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 69         | Develop scope for Fawkner Library redevelopment to increase opportunities to learn and connect |  | Community   | Research and planning undertaken. A draft vision has been prepared reflecting the need for flexibility, functionality and a strong community identity for the library redevelopment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 70         | Undertake design competition for the Coburg Library and Piazza concept design                  |  | Community   | <p>The design competition for the Coburg Library and Piazza has been completed, with a winning concept design selected through a two-stage process led by an independent jury of design experts.</p> <p>The competition attracted multidisciplinary design teams and resulted in a contemporary concept featuring a new four-storey library integrated with a public piazza, designed to support cultural, community, and learning activities while creating a central gathering space for Coburg.</p> <p>The endorsed concept design will inform the next stage of project development, including Council consideration and community engagement.</p> |

## Theme 5: Engaging and responsible council

**Strategic Objective 5: A responsive and engaged Merri-bek that prioritises excellent service, embraces engaging communication methods, advocates community needs, and continues to uphold sustainable financial management and accountable governance that builds trust and collaboration with the community.**

| Action No. | Action                                                      | Status                                                                              | Directorate             | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| 71         | Develop Customer Experience Strategy                        |    | Community               | A Customer Experience Strategy is currently in development and is scheduled for delivery by August 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 72         | Deliver advocacy activities that support council priorities |    | Business Transformation | <p>Council continued regular meetings with local State and Federal Members of Parliament and maintained collaborative advocacy with key partners, including the Northern Councils Alliance, Melbourne 9, Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment, Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action, and the Mayoral Taskforce for People Seeking Asylum. During the quarter, Council submitted motions to the Municipal Association of Victoria on bus network reform and heat-related emergency management, and to the Australian Local Government Association on heat-related emergency management and the Treaty on the Prohibition of nuclear weapons.</p> <p>Council also hosted an advocacy roundtable with the Victorian Minister for Planning, the Member of Parliament for Pascoe Vale, and key stakeholders to discuss Central Coburg. Advocacy priorities raised included social and affordable housing delivery, planning reforms, the future of Coburg Library, duplication of the Upfield Rail line, and improved accessible public transport along Sydney Road.</p> <p>In addition, Council made submissions to the Victorian Government advocating for stronger protections for live music venues, amendments to the Electric Line Clearance Regulations, and improved access to renewable and affordable energy options for apartment residents.</p> |
| 73         | Increase editions and page count for Community News         |  | Community               | This action was achieved in the previous quarter.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 74         | Continue the Merri-bek Community Connectors program         |  | Community               | <p>Council has continued to strengthen engagement with multicultural communities through the Community Connectors network, delivering high levels of participation and improving access to Council information and decision-making processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shared information on key Council projects, services and initiatives in plain English and multiple languages across a broad range of topics.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                                           | Status | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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|            |                                                                                                                                                  |        |                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delivered targeted engagement across major projects, including Community Budget Ideas 2026-27, Coburg Library and Piazza, Places for People, and key policy development.</li> <li>- Community Budget Ideas generated strong engagement: 1,945 in-language page views and 160 total submissions, with 99 submitters speaking a language other than English at home.</li> <li>- Community Connectors directly contributed to 35 submissions and 8 ideas progressing to Stage 2 community voting.</li> <li>- Post Office Place engagement reached 586 in-language page views, indicating strong multicultural community interest.</li> <li>- Delivered multiple engagement formats, including in-language webpages, pop-up sessions, workshops and "speak with us in your language" initiatives.</li> <li>- Supported participation in key events and consultations, increasing representation of multicultural communities across Council engagement activities.</li> <li>- Continued capacity building through information sessions with Council teams, strengthening Connectors' ability to share information and gather community feedback.</li> </ul> |
| 75         | Maintain the planning and building on-line booking service for improved customer convenience and freely accessible high-quality advice           | ●      | Place and Environment | The online booking system continues to operate effectively for Urban Planning and Building Services, providing improved access to services for those unable to attend Council offices for general advice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 76         | Integrate climate risk into Council processes and systems, focusing on risk management, finance, and asset management and capital works planning | ●      | Place and Environment | Council recently reviewed an operational risk relating to flood impacts on Council buildings, resulting in updated treatments and guidance for officers across business units. Council will now commence a project to assess the financial impacts of climate risk on Council assets and operations to inform future planning.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 77         | Update Merri-bek's open space and developer contribution models                                                                                  | ●      | Place and Environment | <p>Merri-bek's open space and developer contributions model update is progressing as planned.</p> <p>The new Development Contributions Plan (DCP 2.0) has been authorised by the Minister for Planning. The next step is for the amendment to be formally exhibited for public submissions.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

| Action No. | Action                                                                                                                            | Status | Directorate           | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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|            |                                                                                                                                   |        |                       | Separately, Council is awaiting the Amendment C235mbek Panel Report following the single-day panel hearing held earlier this year. Once received, Council will consider the amendment and panel report and determine whether to adopt the amendment, with or without changes. |
| 78         | Complete or commence construction of every project listed in Merri-bek's first Development Contributions Plan before 30 June 2026 | ●      | City Infrastructure   | All Development Contributions Plan-listed projects are on track, having been commenced or completed, to acquit Council's program responsibilities.                                                                                                                            |
| 79         | Finalise designs for the Breese Street precinct improvements                                                                      | ●      | Place and Environment | Council is progressing improvements to the Breese Street precinct. Following engagement with the local community, a final concept design was endorsed by Council in March 2026. The project is now progressing to the next stage of design.                                   |