

2021-2025

Wyndham Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan

Annual Report 2021/2022





Introduction

The Wyndham Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021-25 (Health Plan) sets out the public health and wellbeing priorities for Council to pursue over the life of the plan. Health equity guides our plan. We take the long-term view to support improvements in health, safety, education, and environmental outcomes. Improving amenity and health and wellbeing is our primary objective.

Our community's wellbeing is one of Wyndham's greatest assets. The pandemic demonstrates just how important health is to our quality of life and overall wellbeing. We developed the Health Plan together with our community through the Help Shape Wyndham's Future project to ensure their aspirations for our City are delivered.

Four interrelated domains are tied together in the Wyndham health Plan- *Thriving, Liveable, Safe, Healthy* - each essential to promote health and wellbeing, and respond to pandemic impacts. The emergency measures, which were vital to stop the spread of the virus, adversely impacted individual and community wellbeing in the plan's first year. The importance of maintaining mental wellbeing came to the fore during the pandemic and remains an ongoing pressing issue for everyone in our community.



Acknowledgement of Country

Wyndham City Council acknowledges the Bunurong and Wadawurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the lands along either side of the Werribee Yulluk (River) and across Wyndham. We recognise their care and connection to land, water and community over the past 60,000+ years. We pay respect to Elders who always have, and always will, care for Country and community today and for future generations.



Contents

Introduction	2
Protecting Public Health	4
Measuring Wellbeing	5
Thriving Wyndham	6
Opportunity, Equity and Inclusion	6
Connected Community	7
Continuous Learning	8
Mental Wellbeing	9
Gender Equality	10
Liveable Wyndham	11
Accessible Services	11
Climate Change Health Impacts	13
Safe Wyndham	16
Community Safety	16
Healthy Wyndham	18
Healthy Eating	18
Appendices	21
Wyndham City COVID-19 Impact Monitoring January 2022	21
Wyndham demographics	23
Long Term health Conditions 2021	24



Protecting Public Health

The Health Plan was adopted by Council on 26 October 2021, five days after Melbourne's fifth COVID lockdown ended on 21 October 2021.

Implementation has involved close engagement with partner organisations including IPC Health, Mercy Health, Western Health, Co Health, North West Melbourne PHN, Victoria Police and Anglicare. Priorities in this first year, as we emerged from two years of almost continuous lockdowns, included mental wellbeing, alcohol and other drug misuse, immunisation take up and smoking cessation.

The impacts of COVID-19 are far reaching and are likely to continue to impact our community for the foreseeable future. Challenges therefore include equitable access to services and the increased and increasing demand for mental health services. Positive efforts are underway to address these including a local social prescribing program conducted by IPC Health and the proposed establishment of local mental health services in Wyndham within the next twelve months.

In keeping with our Health Plan priorities feedback from residents demonstrates that the following Council services have been particularly valuable this year: maternal and child health, managed kindergartens, library services, community support services (food relief, Community Connectors), the provision of immunisation services, and local sporting and outdoor recreation facilities. These services all rated higher-than-average importance for our community in this past year.

Measuring Wellbeing

The primary aim of the Health Plan is to improve the health and wellbeing of our community. To help us measure and monitor improvements we are using a flexible framework based on the outcomes that matter for health and wellbeing.

The ‘outcomes’ are our end goals, the change we are working towards with our internal and external partners throughout the life of the plan. Wellbeing is a measure of our social progress and in framing outcomes, we set the goals to help us measure progress. Through these outcomes we will determine where we are having an impact and whether changes in health and wellbeing are shared.

Our outcomes are high-level aspirational statements that reflect what the community and other stakeholders have told us is important. These outcomes set the parameters for our health and wellbeing priorities and our monitoring and evaluation activities. This also means that during the life of this Health Plan we can fine-tune our activities (services, programs and policies) to better meet the desired outcomes.

About this report

Advances towards outcomes will follow the schedule listed below which illustrates the Health Plan Domains, Themes and Outcomes.

Health and Wellbeing Domains and Outcomes		
DOMAIN	THEME	OUTCOME
THRIVING	Opportunity, equity and inclusion	1. We have equal opportunity to contribute to our community including through strong employment opportunities
		2. We can access formal or informal learning opportunities
	Mental wellbeing	3. We are a cohesive and inclusive society socially connected and able to ask for help when we need it
	Gender Equality	4. We enjoy formal and substantive equality
LIVEABLE	Accessible services	5. We can access safe and culturally appropriate services
		6. We are a resilient community and adapt to changing conditions
	Climate change health impacts	7. We are a zero carbon community consuming locally and responsibly
Housing and built environment	8. We can meet our housing needs	
	9. We enjoy our neighbourhoods	
SAFE	Community safety	10. Our neighbourhoods are safe and inclusive
	Safe spaces	11. Local spaces are age-friendly and promote independence
	Family violence	12. We are safe at home
HEALTHY	Healthy eating	13. We can make healthy food choices and have food security
	Active living	14. We can access open space and participate in recreational opportunities
	Tobacco use	15. We support smokers and e-cigarette users who want to quit





Opportunity, Equity and Inclusion

Outcome 1. We have equal opportunity to contribute to our community including through strong employment opportunities.

Social Inclusion

Reconciliation Action Plan 2023 -2025

Wyndham's second Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2023-2025 was initiated and developed during 2021-22. The RAP Management Group was re-established, and members recruited for the second Wyndham Reconciliation Advisory Committee. The Plan has received approval from Reconciliation Australia and is nearing completion.

Support for Carers

Council is a provider of the Victorian Support for Carers Program for carers. The program helps carers to maintain their own health and wellbeing, adding to their quality of life through respite, increased opportunities for social connection, and social and/or physical activities. The program assisted 20 Wyndham carers on a regular basis in 2021-2022.

Home and Community Care Program for Younger People

Council's Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACC-PYP) supports eligible residents living with physical and/or psychosocial functional impairment, chronic illness and short-term health needs who have difficulty with daily activities (due to related disability for which they are not eligible for the NDIS). The program assists individuals, their families and carers to maintain and/or be more independent at home and in the community.

Wyndham Volunteer Expo

On 14 May 2022, the Expo was held at Encore Events Centre attracting 44 stallholders (local volunteer-involving groups and organisations) and 375 attendees. The Expo was an opportunity to connect residents with organisations, educate and inform. The event included a prior information session with opportunities for networking and information on becoming 'volunteer ready'. Over 100 volunteers were recruited as a direct result of the Expo.

Connected Community

Wyndham Together

The Wyndham Together website delivered community information to help people to engage with and access Council programs and updates and enable service continuity during the pandemic and COVID lockdowns in 2021. Content has now transferred to the What's On section of Council's website.

Building Blocks Community Leadership program 2022

Resilient Wyndham, Stronger Together Theme is a free program provided by Council for people who live, work, study, volunteer or play in Wyndham and who are interested in working collaboratively with others to develop and strengthen their community leadership and participation skills. The program ran successfully in 2022.

Tuning in to Teens Parenting program and parent information sessions

Youth Services provided an eight week parenting program to the Epiphany Church community, many of African backgrounds who were facing difficulties in connecting with their teenage children. Participating parents reported that engagement with the program supported positive household change. Running of the program also led to strong connections between Council officers and our multicultural communities. There are plans to expand the program to other cultural groups.

Youth Services provides family information sessions once each term with topics picked in consultation including via the Wyndham Youth Survey. Average attendance is 20-40 parents who engaged online and face-to-face whenever possible.

Wyndham Learning Festival 2021

The Wyndham Learning Festival is Wyndham's largest annual learning event, focused on promoting learning across the lifespan. With the theme of 'Re-emerge, Connect & Thrive', the 2021 festival provided a celebration for the community, living through a challenging time and offered hope for re-emerging brighter and better into the future. Led by the Wyndham Community and Education Centre with support from Wyndham City Council the festival provided opportunities for learning and promoted the far-reaching social, economic, environmental, and cultural benefits of lifelong learning.

Global Learning Festival 2021

Co-hosted by Wyndham and Melton Councils, along with over 20 learning communities around the world, the 2nd Global Learning Festival wrapped up in November 2021. Over 95 live and recorded events were delivered from across Australia, the USA, the U.K, Israel, Northern Ireland, Taiwan, Canada, Bangladesh, Kenya, Benin, Colombia, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, and Turkey. The 2021 festival truly represented global learning, aiming to bring unity and connection to communities around the world, and to give learners a firsthand experience of the benefits that lifelong learning can bring, particularly during uncertain and challenging times.

First Time Parent Groups

In 2021-2022, 700 families participated in First-Time Parent Groups (Department of Health funded) with the overall aim of increasing parental confidence. The program assists in enhancing parent's emotional well-being and parent-child interaction, and provides opportunities for first-time parents to establish informal networks and social supports Council provided the program face-to-face and online throughout the pandemic and ongoing.

Bump Baby and Beyond Parenting program

Young and expecting parents involved in Bump Baby and Beyond program had the opportunity to connect with one another in a weekly program held at the youth resource centre. The program includes quarterly outings and educational training and instruction such as First Aid.

Williams Landing Library Lounge and Youth Hub

Located at Williams landing Shopping Centre, the Library Lounge provides a range of library programs during the day and Youth Services facilitated programs and events on some evenings across the week and weekends. Consultation via The Loop ran from 9 May to 13 June 2022, with the Library Lounge opened later in the year providing library services and programs, including free WiFi, a youth hub and event space in the evenings.



Outcome 2. We can access formal and informal learning opportunities

Continuous Learning

Tech Connect 2022

Wyndham Cultural Centre together with the Arts Centre Melbourne provided a free 10-week training program for community members in Theatre Production and Customer Service for theatres, galleries and cultural centres. Applications were sought from female-identifying young people who also identify as a First Nations person and CALD persons aged 18-30 to gain entry-level knowledge and experience.

Learning for Earning Festival 2022

Now in its second year, the festival is a collaboration of six LearnWest network councils (Wyndham, Melton, Brimbank, Hobson's Bay, Maribyrnong and Darebin) supporting improved learning and earning outcomes across the north and west. Councils' collective impact across communities considers alternative pathways to employment, gaining knowledge on starting or changing careers, and upskilling through online forums- Opportunities in the West, Meet the Major Employers in the West and Want to Work in Local Government.

Education Roundtable 2021

In 2021-2022, 46,250 residents participated in-person or online at libraries and library events, an increase of 84% since 2020-2021. Libraries provided 1,604 free activities and events to the community over the 12 month period, including through online, downloadable or in person format with 34,000 participants over all age groups. Many library programs supported social connection and health and wellbeing.

- Early Years and parents- Rhyme Time in the Park, Baby Time, Rhyme Time and Story Time, Parenting talks on Dyslexia and Managing Mealtimes. The Library also partnered with local speech pathologist Lisa Decker, delivering online Speechie Talks, aimed at increasing the awareness of speech pathology and the role of libraries in children's language and literacy development.
- 2021-2022 Q&A series with a Speech Pathologist combined with the Speechie Talk sessions (in-person) delivered across five library branches to foster children's speech, language and communication skills. With over 160 participants, this program was selected as one of a handful of case studies highlighted in the launch of the Libraries for Health and Wellbeing Strategic

Framework by State Library Victoria and Public Libraries Victoria. The Q&A attracted many parents now awaiting further appointments with a speech pathologist.

- Older children and youth – Code Club online Smarts and Craft, Girls for Science, and STEM programs for 9-13 year-olds to promote love of learning, arts and science.
- Friday Night Fiction book club to promote love of reading and literature. During 2021-2022, two additional book groups began- Inbetweeners Book Club at Point Cook Library for 9-13 year-olds and the Queer Book Club (partnership with Youth Services) for young people at Hoppers Crossing Library.
- Workshops delivered life skills promotion- informal learning included Car Maintenance and Hip Hop at Manor Lakes Library, Mock Interviews at Hoppers Crossing and Julia Gillard Libraries, and photography at Point Cook.
- The Adults English Conversation Café Program ran at all five libraries and online, providing a space for people to practise their English in a fun and relaxed environment. A presentation on RAAF Point Cook and its history attracted 360 people online. 214 more viewed the recording in the 4 weeks it was available.
- Starting a home business advice from entrepreneur and budgeting guru Jody Allen shared online.
- Regular online writing group for adult writers of all levels, with a series of professional facilitated writing workshops.
- Craft and Conversation program provided opportunities to learn new craft skills.

Skill Development for Young People

In 2021, young people involved in Council's three committees (Youth Task Force, Multicultural Committee, Freeza) were transitioned to become official volunteers within Wyndham City Council. Being offered official volunteer status assists skill recognition for future employment, and the prospect of further volunteer opportunities beyond the age of 25. Young people received volunteer training and will continue to be offered leadership and project skills training in 2022 (funded through DFFH Engage Program).





Outcome 3. We are a cohesive and inclusive society socially connected and able to ask for help when we need it.

Mental Wellbeing

Community Connectors

In the final quarter 2021, 290 residents connected with local services and support (25% increase from previous quarter). Most referrals were to the Food Bank or financial services, and to Council or other government agencies such as My Aged Care, NDIS or Centrelink.

Translated brochures advertising the service were distributed through community centres, various departments, external agencies, and at events to familiarise people with the service and support them to access the local services and programs they need. Community Connectors also resumed in-person at Community Learning Centres in Manor Lakes, Tarneit and Point Cook post lockdowns.

Mental Health First Aid Training

In December 2021, the Resilient Wyndham Strategy actioned accredited Mental Health First Aid Training with 12 community leaders completing the training. They learned to recognise the signs of common disabling mental health problems in adults, how to provide initial help, where and how to seek professional help and how to provide mental health first aid in a crisis situation. In March 2022, frontline Council staff also undertook the training with nine officers completing the course.

Library Community Programs

Social connection and improved mental wellbeing were key outcomes in evaluation of library programs. First time parents with babies born during COVID lockdowns found community programs invaluable. Community feedback included:

- Rhyme Time in the Park (25 Nov 2021); one participant said the online programs had sustained her and her child during 18 months of lockdowns.
- Baby Time; first time parents feeling overwhelmed with new parenthood said that learning songs and other activities for baby helped them get through the first months.
- Arndell park Library Pop Up outreach; rhyme time provided valuable first socialising activity for mother and baby born during COVID lockdowns.
- Craft and Conversation; one participant reported sharing a craft idea with her Emergency Department colleagues at Mercy Hospital to promote mental wellbeing in a stressful work environment.

Youth and Children Counselling Services

Children and Young people aged 8-25, as well as their families can access free counselling support in Wyndham. In 2021 the counselling team provided 1317 counselling sessions to support children, young people and their families.

Current significant waiting periods for mental health services across the region also impact Council services with youth counselling experiencing similar difficulties. Over 50 children and young people are on waitlists.

Outcome 4. We enjoy formal and substantive equality

Gender Equality

Gender equality

Council provides community leadership with a commitment to apply a gender lens to all policies, services and programs. Council continues to work towards a gender equitable organisation and community. A gender lens is applied across all programs, initiatives and planning documents (Chair and member of Women of the West Action Plan).

Gender Equality in Sports

The Go Girls Soccer Program continued in 2021-2022, including delivery of the Football Victoria Girls Coaching Course and planning for girl's and women's Cricket Come and Try Days.

In 2021-2022, the following capital works were completed to better facilitate girls and women in sports:

- Completed Galvin Park Soccer Pavilion redevelopment- outdated pavilion demolished and new compliant pavilion with female friendly change rooms constructed.
- Cambridge Tennis Pavilion Redevelopment completed with more modern design.
- Galvin Park Football and Cricket Pavilion redesign providing modern female friendly facilities.

Capacity Building

Increased participation of women and girls in sport and recreation, including addressing cultural barriers to participation. Successful courses included:

- beginners running course
- support for Go Girls Soccer program
- Active Tarneit Girls & Women's Fitness sessions, Bhangra workout (48 sessions, 745 attendees)
- Active Holidays Program activities – 52% of attendances were by girls
- 100% attendance by women at beginners cycling course





Accessible Services

Outcome 5. We can access safe and culturally appropriate services

121 Transport Services

This Council service continued operations throughout COVID lockdowns adapting to support eligible older residents and those unable to drive or use public transport due to an illness or disability with door-to-door transport to medical appointments.

Pop-up Library Van

Introduction of a new library programs van in Term 3, visiting community centres and Council events across Wyndham, delivering programs for all ages and offering a small collection of books to browse and borrow directly from the van. Residents informed the types of programs and items available, as well as preferred van locations.

Dianella Community Centre

Opened 23 Nov 2021 servicing the Tarneit West community, the Centre supports residents, community leaders, associations and groups to run activities, programs and events for the wider neighbourhood. The centre hosts a suite of regular activities including Maternal & Child Health Services, Kindergarten, Live Life Get Active, Communi-tea Coffee Hour, Courtside Basketball Education & Training, playgroups, Youth Programs, Cultural Groups, Faith Based Groups, Markets & Events, and community gatherings.

Stepping Out – Reducing Harm from Gambling (Short Film)

Collaboration between Council (Community Strengthening), Gambler’s Help and IPC Health to reduce gambling harm. The project involved a video (Stepping Out!) and workshops. The video provided information on gambling harm and its consequences, including lived experience stories. It also suggested ideas for seniors activities in Wyndham that don’t involve gambling or gaming venues.

Maternal Child Health (MCH) Recovery Project

A key challenge facing Wyndham City (and other LGAs) in 2021-2022 has been attracting and retaining MCH nursing staff due to rising birth rates and a shrinking workforce. Appointments were being prioritised for babies under eight weeks and some MCH services were limited due to the strain on the system.

However, an improved MCH triage process is in place. Council worked with IPC Health to refine referral pathways and explore opportunities to increase delivery of alternative nursing support and allied health programs to complement the MCH service, including the introduction of lactation consultants and promotion of local early parenting support programs delivered by local service providers. Council is also developing an interactive video series on key early parenting topics.

New graduate nurses are also being recruited, retired nurses offered casual employment and planned implementation of a scholarship program. The recovery project is contracting services from other LGAs as appropriate including development of a Western Region Model to facilitate redeployment of staff across the Region.

MCH – Sleep and Settling

The MCH Sleep and Settling Care Model assisted 100 families through evidenced-based informed support for parents and caregivers with sleep and settling concerns. The program supports delivery of consistent and high-quality MCH services for all Wyndham children and families.

MCH - Immunisation

Council implemented an online service for scheduling and managing immunisation bookings with appointments scheduled up to 5 weeks in advance and facility for appointments to be rescheduled for any reason including illness.

MCH – Lactation Consultants

This service was re-established in 2022 to provide support to breastfeeding mothers, working to reduce complications and increase rates of successful long-term breastfeeding and to promote breastfeeding across Wyndham.

Outcome 6 – We are a resilient community and adapt to changing conditions

Drug Resistant Infections

Pop-Up Vaccination Hubs

Council supported community access to vaccinations including the facilitation of pop-up vaccination hubs. Examples include the Children’s Vaccination Hub at Dianella Community Centre in February 2022. Children could be registered at the Department of Health website or via the Coronavirus Hotline.

In Sep-Oct 2021, IPC Health held a pop-up vaccination hub at Arndell Park Community Centre in conjunction with the local Ethiopian community. The pop-up managed bookings of 150 per day and walk-ins in partitioned booths set up in the community rooms.

Saltwater Community Centre also ran fortnightly GP-run vaccination sessions at the beginning of 2022.

In June 2022, Seniors Club vaccinations were facilitated at Penrose Community Centre; a community-led initiative of the Tarneit Indian community.

United Seniors Club leaders connected with IPC Health whose nurses were on hand to provide free vaccinations to any users of the centre and surrounding community, including a bi-lingual nurse (speaking Hindi). 52 people were vaccinated on the day.

On 21 July 2022, in partnership with Western Health the Werribee Vaccination Hub was opened located at One Tree Werribee West Kindergarten, 37 Ballan Road, Werribee.

Pandemic Recovery

In July 2022, in partnership with State Government, Council provided 7,500 masks to the most vulnerable residents in a further bid to help reduce cases and infection across the city. Council provided cloth masks to the Libraries, Foodbanks, Community support agencies and through Youth Services.





Climate Change Health Impacts

Outcome 7. We are a zero carbon community consuming locally and responsibly

Climate Change Climate change risk assessment - Council Facilities

Early in 2022 Council conducted a ‘climate vulnerability assessment’ to consider the vulnerability of Wyndham’s key systems and sub-systems in relation to the health impacts of climate change. The assessment identified the most vulnerable systems related to Council owned and operated buildings and the natural environment. Further work is being done on these two systems to prioritise climate risks and identify additional controls and adaptation solutions.

Greening the pipeline

In a collaborative alliance with Melbourne Water, Greater Western Water, Victorian Govt (DELWP & Transport) and Traditional Owners, Wyndham City supported Greening the West, a project to transform 27 kms of heritage-listed Main Outfall Sewer reserve into continuous parkland.

Council’s vision is to create a vibrant space that will connect communities and provide a unique place to meet, play and relax. Council is working with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation to ensure Traditional Owner interests and values are embedded into park design and creation.

Mobilising climate just and resilient communities in Melbourne’s West

Council participated in this project during 2021-2022 as a member of the steering committee to promote better understanding of how the Community Health and Social Services sector could work together to support and mobilise climate justice. Funded by the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation (LMCF), this project will be delivered by Jesuit Social Services’ Centre for Just Places, in partnership with Wyndham, Maribyrnong, Brimbank, Melton and Hobsons Bay Councils supporting health and wellbeing.

The project involved mapping organisations and networks, identifying opportunities and needs, identifying shared goals and priorities and developing strategic actions. The first stage of the project is complete with completion of the collaborative action plan. Scale-up funding is being sought from the LMCF to sustain the project and begin to action the project outcomes.

Outcome 8. We can meet our housing needs

Housing and Built Environment

Affordable Housing Development

Planning policy in the Werribee City Centre supported two medium-density housing apartment developments, located close to public transport and amenities. Unison completed a two-storey affordable housing development in Market Rd, Werribee and construction began on a seven-storey affordable housing development in Cottrell Street, Werribee.

Council continues working with Community Housing providers. New providers are Haven Home Safe, Housing All Australians and Homes Victoria. These providers will be added to the group of providers for future developments in Wyndham.

Wyndham Affordable Housing Strategy 2022-2025

Council adopted its first Affordable Housing Strategy in June 2022. In pandemic recovery Council will use the Strategy to build back better for social and economic recovery and inclusion through improved and equitable service and support outcomes, including through collaboration with the H3 Alliance and other Councils.

Currently Wyndham lacks a diversity of housing especially one and two bedroom homes. To increase housing diversity and choice, Council encourages developments that include a mix of lot sizes. Encouraging urban consolidation through identifying areas for housing growth we emphasise delivery of one- and two-bedroom homes, such as apartments and townhouses, through the planning scheme.

Housing and Neighbourhood Strategy

Project officers are finalising housing change areas and are preparing for the community engagement process.

Activity Centres

Council direction is to increase diversity and densification of housing in all Activity Centres. Key Centres are Mambourin (Black Forest North PSP, UDF approved) Manor Lakes, Tarneit Major Town Centre (UDF under review), Williams Landing, Truganina, Hoppers Crossing, Werribee PSP (updating and review underway). Riversdale PSP needs initial work on Major Town Centre Planning, and Service Planning on Community Facilities.





Outcome 9. We enjoy our neighbourhoods

Urban Planning

Wyndham Cultural Centre

Forecourt development of the Wyndham Cultural Centre created a new public space, providing an inviting entry and adding space for community participation in the heart of the Werribee City Centre.

Sporting Reserves

Two new reserves were nearing completion as outcomes of the Sports Strategy- Bensonhurst Parade Reserve in Point Cook and Alcock Road Reserve in Truganina. The community informed programs, age groups, values and experiences important to them in the design.

Capital Works Upgrades

Construction commenced on greenfield Master Plans at Brookdale Road Reserve, Bensonhurst Parade Reserve and Alcock Road Reserve. Once completed (in early 2022/23) these reserves will provide more capacity to Wyndham's network of sport and recreation facilities in particular for tennis, soccer and cricket.

Over \$2M of works were undertaken across Wyndham's two aquatic facilities- AquaPulse and Werribee Outdoor Pool. Works at Werribee Outdoor Pool included renewal of the leisure pool filters with environmentally friendly filter, new public address system and a significant re-tile of the 50m and leisure pools. The AquaPulse steam room was refurbished, pool hall lighting upgraded to LED, plant room function improved and extensive re-painting throughout.

Fraser Street Park Upgrade

Major upgrade to Fraser Street Park, Hoppers Crossing 2020-2022 completed with the park opened to the public. Wyndham City provided \$550,000 and the State Government (DELWP) \$300,000 for soft landscaping and play equipment. Upgrades include new play equipment, pathways, furniture, landscaping and a public toilet facility (the latter through Federal Govt funding \$150,000).

Wyndham Plan

The long-term plan for urbanisation of Wyndham includes the concept for a City Heart and Pulse Area within the various Activity Centres in this development area. The Wyndham Plan has been presented to Council and is expected to proceed for adoption before the end of 2022.



Safe Wyndham

Outcome 10. Our neighbourhoods are safe and inclusive

Outcome 11. Local spaces are age-friendly and promote independence

Community Safety

Confident Living for seniors

In 2021, Community Connections and Care in partnership with Victoria Police visited several retirement villages and Penrose to present on Home Safety, Driver Safety, Scams, Elder Abuse, Mental Health, Support Services and ways to best connect with Victoria Police

Community Safety in Wyndham – Empowering Communities

Council received funding through the Victorian Government’s Building Safer Communities Program to develop a community partnership to design and deliver local crime prevention initiatives. Community consultation began discussions on a community partnership to co-design and deliver local crime prevention initiatives. The Empowering Communities program supports local communities to design and lead innovative initiatives to address the causes of crime and improve perceptions of safety. A local community forum is being organised as the next stage of the project.

Family Violence

Elder Abuse information

Community Connections and Care services did a mail drop with information to clients about, Seniors Victoria Advocacy and Elder Abuse describing what constitutes Elder Abuse and what to do if you are experiencing it.

Orange Door (DFFH) Werribee

The Orange Door secured premises in a new central commercial development in Werribee City Centre. Council supported The Orange Door to become operational. The Orange Door is a front line family violence services, free for adults, children and young people experiencing family violence and families who need extra support with the care of children.

Maternal Child Health Services

The universal nature of the MCH service means that MCH nurses are uniquely positioned to receive the first disclosure of family violence, offer support and strategies, assist with safety plans and refer to specialist agencies. MCH nurses screen all women for family violence at the 4-week maternal health and well-being consultation if it is safe to do so and at other times as clinically indicated.

Enhanced MCH Service

Family Violence Social Worker

A specialist social worker is partnering MCH nurses in screening for family violence, providing ongoing follow up and support to families and staff in Wyndham. There were 3800 family violence incidents reported in Wyndham from 31 March 2020 to 31 March 2021 (an increase from the previous year of 3301 incidents).

Infants 0-3 years

Wyndham is currently recruiting for a Social Worker to work with the Enhanced MCH service to improve outcomes for children aged 0-3 years who have been identified as experiencing a period of increased vulnerability, and who will benefit from targeted actions and interventions. The social worker will work collaboratively within the EMCH Team to provide short-term intensive support to families who have been identified as in need of additional support, to provide monitoring, follow up and short-term case management for Children in Out of Home Care and EMCH.

Youth Crisis Response Team

Position descriptions for the Youth Response and Mobilisation Team are in development with recruitment planned for the second half of 2022. Positions descriptions and workplans are being worked through with stakeholders.





Outcome 13. We can make healthy food choices and have food security

Healthy Eating

VicHealth Impact Research Grant application 2022

This research project seeks to develop a transformative social justice agenda for food system equity in Melbourne's west through local government capacity building.

The project involves councils and communities in developing one of Australia's first cross-council food systems policy and practice agenda. The research aims to further a bold and transformative social justice agenda for food system equity by building council capacity to develop more integrated, coherent and effective food system policy and program responses targeting the needs of low-income communities at risk of and/or experiencing food insecurity and health inequities.

Strengthening Equity in Healthy Eating in Local Government Policy

Council's Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025 is based on the principle of health equity. In June 2022, Council contributed to the study by the Global Obesity Centre, Institute for Health Transformation at Deakin University exploring the application of equity in Council's healthy eating policies

and programs. Challenges include application of an equity lens in policies and programs and includes resources necessary to strengthen healthy eating policies and better address health inequities. The information Council provided will contribute towards design and testing of a tool to help develop and implement equitable policy action.

Penrose Community Garden

In May 2022, Penrose Community Garden opened with the Pasifika Community of Australia as custodians of the garden. Penrose is the first of its kind in the area to bring together Pasifika communities in a space where they can grow vegetables, herbs, fruits, and flowers. Residents and groups are also welcomed to share in the community gardening experience.

Food Systems Capacity Building – Wyndham Pilot Project

Council participated in the Towards a Healthy, Regenerative and Equitable Food System in Victoria project with Sustain: The Australian Food Network. Acting in response to the unprecedented social and economic impacts of the public health response to COVID-19 causing business closures, job losses, reduced hours and reduced incomes which led to spikes in demand for emergency food relief including Wyndham residents.

The project recognised existing activities across the municipality that reflect existing community leadership and passion for healthy and sustainable food systems which will be recognised and built upon through the project, utilising an asset-based approach.

Healthy Wyndham

Outcome 14. We can access open space and participate in recreational opportunities

Active Living

Active Wyndham Strategy

Programs delivered by the Strategy were under a refreshed and consolidated Active Wyndham brand, intended to strengthen the alignment and recognition of the respective programs. Ultimately, this saw over 14,000 engagements from residents in programs aimed at supporting community members to be physically active.

Council's flagship programs 'Active Kids' and 'Active Kinders' were rolled out to over 4,800 and 3,000 children respectively, providing education within primary school and kindergarten settings on physical activity and health eating, as well as linking families with local opportunities to be active.

A family event with Football Victoria connected residents with Council's Sport and Recreation team activating the Walking Football for over 50's program. The first 12-week session was held at Manor Lakes with activities to promote positive social and physical health and well-being.

Wyndham Active Transport Strategy

Completing missing path links, the Active Transport Network program is on track to design and construct paths under the \$4m million (incl. \$1.5M in Federal funding) capital works budget in the 2021/22 financial year.

Works included completion of the shared path link along Davis Creek behind Davis Creek Primary School, and the active transport link between Wootton Road Reserve and Butterfly Boulevard. The upgrade completed a circuit on both sides of Davis Creek for residents to walk and ride as well as a more accessible path for users of wheelchairs and prams.

Active Holidays Program

In January 2022, Sport & Recreation coordinated over 20 free sports, fitness and wellness activities, for children from 18 months to older adults 55+ years with opportunities to be active. Most sessions were fully booked (457 participants) including Karate, Disc Golf, Gymnastics, and AFL Football.

Learn-to-Skate at the new Werribee skate park adjacent to Wyndham Park provided much needed local access to skate, scooter and BMX amenity in Werribee and complements the provision at Loyola Reserve (completed in 20/21) in accordance with the Skate, BMX and Bike Strategy.

In July 2022, three Active Holiday programs ran in partnership with sporting clubs offering free Come & Try sessions with clear follow-on pathways (95 sessions, 1580 attendances).

The Active Tarneit program provided:

- 6-week Netball Beginners course partnering with a local Netball club (6 sessions, 65 participants).
- Summer Soccer program (5 sessions, 100 attendees).
- Come & Try Wyndham Suns Football Netball session (140 attendees).
- Come & Try Wyndham Tarneit Titans Football Netball session (50 attendees).

Other Activities:

- Uninterrupted opening following the end of COVID lockdowns provided the opportunity for CityMX to build momentum in its operations at Lawrie Emmins Reserve, a key initiative of the Hard to Locate Strategy, generating consistent attendances and strong engagement in school holiday and women and girls learn to ride programs.
- Active Kinders Program (125 groups, 2971 children) and Active Kinders Day (4 sessions, 155 participants).
- Footy4Fun Multicultural Program (4 sessions, 34 attendees).
- Winter season recruitment drive with 42 x Come & Try sessions shared.
- Active Wyndham Map – online directory Sport and recreation organisations (245 organisations).
- Active Kids Schools Program (8-10 yrs), 21 primary schools plus a number of sport and physical activity providers engaged 4,851 participants.
- Australian Open kids and adults Come & Try tennis sessions (13 sessions, 295 attendees).
- Cricket Fun Day (family day) in partnership with Melbourne Renegades.

Facilities Improvements

Cambridge Tennis Club, Hoppers Crossing: car park and new court lighting installed, court surface upgraded.

Active Transport Program

In line with Active Transport Audit findings, this program facilitated active travel and reduced car dependency by prioritising improvements to the current active transport network.



Tarneit Youth Cup

Wyndham Youth Services look to identify and remove barriers for sport participation. On 11 June 2022, Youth Services hosted the soccer Tarneit Youth Cup at Hummingbird Reserve. This was a culmination of the Youth Empowerment Project where young leaders received training and qualifications in Coaching, Leadership and Refereeing while participating in soccer training. 200 participants across 19 teams were supported by over 70 residents, engaging with Youth Workers, Headspace, and local Wyndham businesses.

Universal Access to Recreation and Fitness Programs

The Active Tarneit Program partnered with a number of physical activity organisations to provide free weekly sessions, including Fitness, Dance, Skateboarding and Fundamental Sports Skills for various age groups including 3-6 years, older adults and before school sports sessions (205 sessions, 4235 attendees).

Other activities included:

- Updated Active Wyndham and Sport & Recreation webpages with information on how and where to participate
- Active Wyndham Calendar and newsletter sharing free and low cost activity opportunities
- Youth team Africa and Pasifika project which engaged young people in social football and coaching and refereeing courses (24 sessions, 114 participants).
- Women's & Men's Health Week promotions and activities
- Western Region Active Holidays activity card
- Western Region Disability Week activities
- Wynopoly working with WynActive and sports clubs
- Two beginner running courses and a social running course (36 sessions, 371 attendees).
- Families week – activity session (65 participants) and promotion of 15 ways to get active as a family (14 participants).
- Improved lighting through Active LED program during Winter at six reserves offering 11 further opportunities for people to access well lit reserves for recreation.

Cycling Activities

Active Tarneit:

- two beginner adult cycling courses
- two beginner children's cycling courses
- Funding secured for 2022/3 beginner cycling courses.

Sporting Infrastructure

Point Cook: Bensonhurst Parade Reserve new multisport pavilion to include female friendly facility with changerooms, accessible bathrooms, community space, and kitchen/kiosk, providing a new base for local soccer and cricket clubs, and community celebrations and events (as part of the 2021-22 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund, the Government is investing \$800,000).

Tarneit: construction of six competition standard tennis courts, two multi-lined for tennis and netball due for completion in early to mid-2023.



Appendices

Climate Change Health Impacts

Lockdown timeline (L)	Pre-COVID19	L1 - 31 March to 12 May L2- 7 July to 22 November				L3 - 3 to 13 February	L4 – 28 May to 10 June L5- 16 July to 28 July L6 – 5 August to 19 November			
	March 2020	June 2020	September 2020	December 2020	Trend	March 2021	June 2021	September 2021	December 2021	Trend
Unemployment	5.8%	6.5%	7.2%	8.1%	↑	8.1%	8.1%	6.6%		↓
<i>Victoria</i>	5.2%	7.3%	6.7%	6.4%		6.1%	4.4%	4.8%		
JobSeeker recipients	4.1%	10.0%	9.1%	9.1%	↑	7.5%	6.3%	6.1%	5.6%	↓
<i>Victoria</i>	4.4%	8.7%	9.1%	8.4%		6.9%	6.0%	5.8%	5.4%	
JobKeeper recipients*	41% (April)	44%	48%	33%	↓	25%	End of scheme	End of scheme	End of scheme	↓
Family Violence Incidents (annual)			3,571 incidents – equates to 9 a day - up by 7.9% compared to previous year		↑			4,022 incidents – equates to 11 a day - up by 12.6% compared to previous year		↑
<i>Victoria</i>			7.5% change compared to previous year					2.8% change compared to previous year		
Recorded Offences (rate per pop 100,000) (annual)			6,486.5 up by 13.5% compared to previous year		↑			5605.3 down by -11.3% compared to previous year		↓
<i>Victoria</i>			-2.8% change compared to previous year					-9.8% change compared to previous year		
Gross Regional Product (annual)		\$11.2 billion compared to \$11.0 previous year.			↑					

Wyndham Youth Survey 2021 (April to June 2021)						Young people indicate their average mental health to be neutral, with a score of 3.0 out of 5.0. Many responses about what would improve mental health included resolving impacts of COVID-19 lockdowns/restrictions i.e. more social interaction and interest activities again; self-care and receiving support from others.				
Economic output	\$1.888 billion	\$1.911 billion by June 2021, a rise of 1.2% since start of social lockdown measures								↑
Psychological distress - high or very high**		The proportion of adults in Wyndham who experienced <i>high or very high levels of psychological distress significantly increased</i> from 15.9% in 2017 to 24.6% in 2020. This was higher than both Western Melbourne (23.4%), and Victoria (23.5%). (Source: VPHS)								↑
Self-rated mental health-fair to poor**		The proportion of people reporting <i>fair to poor self-rated mental health status increased</i> from 2017 (19.8%) to 2020 (21.0%). (Source: VPHS)								↑
Life satisfaction		A higher proportion of adults expressed an <i>increase in very high life satisfaction</i> in 2020 (32.5%) compared to 2019 (27.7%). (Source: VPHS) There was a <i>decrease</i> in the proportion of people expressing <i>low to medium life satisfaction</i> in 2020 (22.9%) compared to 2017 (23.9%).								↑
INDICATORS OF POPULATION GROWTH IMPACTS										
	Mar 2020	June 2020	September 2020	December 2020	Trend	March 2021	June 2021	September 2021	December 2021	Trend
Births		4882 (2019/20) Up by 93, 2% growth compared to previous year. Ranking 21 st highest fertility rate in Victoria.			↑		5061 (2020/21) Up by 86 births, 2% growth compared to previous year.	1266 births July to September quarter (Q1)	1352 births October to December (Q2)	↑
Residential building approvals		5,356 2019/20			↑		6,313 2020/21-highest amount in past 10 years			↑
Estimated Resident Population	283,294 people, increase of 12,687 and 4.69% change on previous year; 1.58% change for Greater Melbourne.				↑					

*Wyndham was a hotspot for JobKeeper recipients **Generally, the upwards trend/arrow signifies a positive trend but please note this is not the case for psychological distress and self-rated mental health.

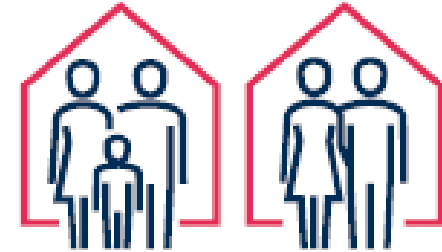
Wyndham



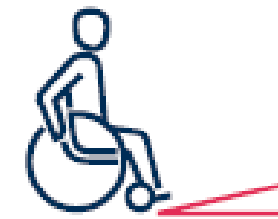
People



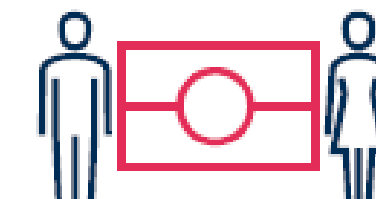
292,010
called Wyndham home in 2021



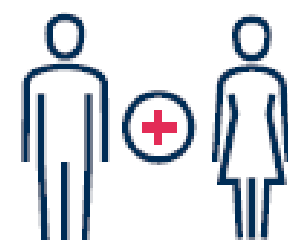
505,822
people are estimated to call Wyndham home by 2040



4.1%
of people living with disability



2567
First Nations people call Wyndham home



74,892
residents added since 2016



48%
of the population was born overseas



49.8%
of the population's primary language is non-English, primarily Punjabi, Hindi, Mandarin, Urdu and Telugu



48%
of those born overseas arrived in the last 5 years



31%
families with children



19%
families without children



4%
single parent families



15%
are lone person households

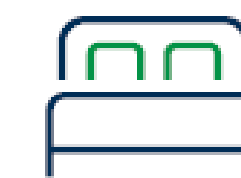
Places & Spaces



94,200
households in Wyndham



63%
of residents either fully own or are purchasing their home



Dwellings with **4 bedrooms** were the most common in Wyndham



28%
are renting privately



\$649,000
Median house price. Housing is **40%** more affordable than in Greater Melbourne



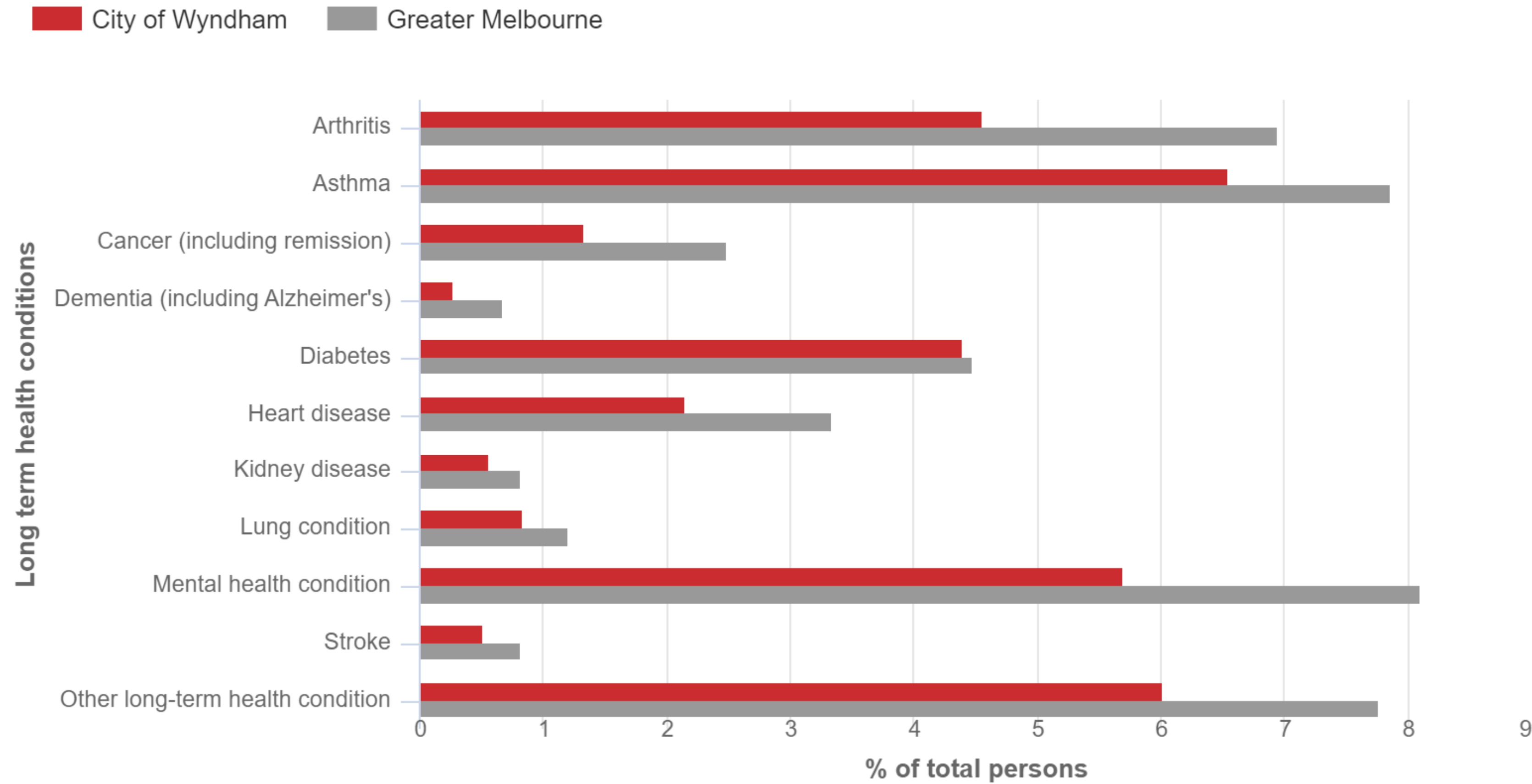
91%
of people who own a car

Long Term health Conditions 2021

With a young population, chronic health counts are relatively low. 65,479 residents have at least one long term health condition (22.4%).

The only health condition registering similar percentages to Greater Melbourne is diabetes (4.4% compared to Significantly lower rate of mental health issues than the Melbourne average (5.7% compared to 8.1%).

Long term health conditions, all persons, 2021



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 (Usual residence data). Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id (informed decisions).



In Wyndham in 2021 the highest level of schooling improved sharply. The number of overseas born residents is high and increasing. Volunteering, domestic care and unpaid care/childcare levels are decreasing.

NEED FOR ASSISTANCE



4.1% of residents
5.5% in Greater Melbourne
+0.2% since 2016

VOLUNTEERING



8.7% of residents (aged 15+)
12.1% in Greater Melbourne
-5.2% since 2016

LOW PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH



5.8% of residents
5.4% in Greater Melbourne
+0.1% since 2016

DOMESTIC WORK



60.3% of residents (aged 15+)
66.6% in Greater Melbourne
-6.4% since 2016

YEAR 12 SCHOOL COMPLETION



65.1% of residents (aged 15+)
64.3% in Greater Melbourne
+6.9% since 2016

UNPAID CARE



10.4% of residents (aged 15+)
12.6% in Greater Melbourne
-0.5% since 2016

UNPAID CHILDCARE



34.2% of residents (aged 15+)
26.5% in Greater Melbourne
-1.1% since 2016

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 (Usual residence data). Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id (informed decisions).



FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information or to receive a copy of this document in an alternate format, please contact:

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