



## Day #2 summary

### Moreland City Council: Community Panel

9am - 4pm Saturday 1 May, Coburg Concert Hall

## Overview of the day

The purpose of the second full day session was to go deeper and **develop** the Panel's Vision statement, supporting themes and explore recommendations for the Council Plan. This involved:

- Welcome to Country
- Presentations on Council's role and some key opportunities and challenges facing Moreland
- Assessing support for the draft Community Vision
- Prioritisation of pandemic recovery opportunities
- Developing the Vision themes
- Starting to look at strategic directions for the Council Plan.

To get a better understanding of the representation from the business community, we asked panel members if they ran a business or were self employed. Of those in attendance, a little less than a third indicated that they ran a business. We will confirm numbers for the panel as a whole in the coming week.

### Welcome to Country

To start the day, Wurundjeri Elder Aunty Di Kerr, OAM delivered a wonderful Welcome to Country and spoke about her aspirations for the future of Moreland. Our aim was to ground the Panel, by providing a deeper connection to Moreland as a place with a long history, and to ensure the voice of First Nations peoples was top of mind when thinking about the Vision for Moreland.

### Understanding the role of Council and key opportunities and challenges

The day started with a series of presentations to build participant's understanding of Council and some of the key opportunities and challenges facing Moreland. The aim was to bring the focus from the big picture presentation at the last session, to start to focus the community on the future of Moreland.

This included the following presentations:

- Overview of Moreland City Council, presented by Cathey Henderson, CEO
- Demographics, presented by Ryan James, Client Consultant, .id community
- Health, presented by Maryanne Tadic, General Manager Healthy Communities, Merri Health
- Climate, presented by Michaela Skett - Unit Manager Sustainable Communities, Moreland City Council
- Open spaces, presented by Mark Corea - Unit Manager Open Space Maintenance, Moreland City Council
- Planning, presented by Kate Shearer - Manager City Strategy and Design, Moreland City Council
- Transport, presented by Olivia Wright - Manager City Change, Moreland City Council.

## Assessing support for the Community Vision statement

Following morning tea, giving the panel an opportunity to consider the information that had been presented, we revisited the draft Community Vision statement to see how it resonated and check the level of support.

An online poll was conducted to determine the current level of support for the draft Vision statement. With a target of more than 80% of participants supporting the statement (I can live with it and above), the group demonstrated strong support. With another full day to refine the Vision statement and themes, this is a great position for the panel to be in.

## Prioritisation of pandemic recovery opportunities

In addition to developing the Community Vision, Council set a second overarching remit for the Panel:

***How should Council prioritise expenditure and services to help the community recover from the impacts of the pandemic over the next four years and achieve the Vision?***

The group was given a list of 20 pandemic recovery opportunities that had been identified through previous research with the Moreland community. First, as a group, the panel was asked to prioritise the actions by allocating a total of 100 points across all of the opportunities to represent their preference on where expenditure is allocated (more points = more money). Panel members also had the opportunity to add any other initiatives they thought were needed.

## Pandemic recovery - Table 1 (Allocating 100 points)

1. Gather more data on the impact and community needs in the coming months ...	<input type="text"/>	11. Explore the impact of broadening public WIFI access and advocating for more reliable, affordable (NBN) access.	<input type="text"/>
2. Support and strengthen volunteering infrastructure to harness Moreland's strong culture of volunteering ...	<input type="text"/>	12. Support for individuals, households and community groups with limited skills, equipment or devices to access data.	<input type="text"/>
3. Managing the growing demand for food and material aid as many individuals and families are accessing food relief services for the first time ...	<input type="text"/>	13. Support with digital literacy to access available resources and to participate online.	<input type="text"/>
4. Providing culturally appropriate food relief and ensuring its safe delivery.	<input type="text"/>	14. Address some of the impacts of social isolation for older people..	<input type="text"/>
5. Strengthen focus on mental health in the Council Plan ...	<input type="text"/>	15. Provide meals and social support, with the need to support older people to stay at home ...	<input type="text"/>
6. Influence the social determinants of health at the population level through regional partnerships ...	<input type="text"/>	16. Support the Moreland community services sector to better meet the growing needs and to advocate to State and Fed Govts	<input type="text"/>
7. Promote community-led initiatives ....., for example, through our Community Grants program.	<input type="text"/>	17. Implementing innovative ways to communicate messages to stop people "falling through the gaps" ...	<input type="text"/>
8. Promote opportunities for community participation following Covid-19, to rebuild the confidence of residents to connect with others and address any mental health issues that may have arisen during this time	<input type="text"/>	18. Support the State Govt's Free from Violence Strategy at local level.	<input type="text"/>
9. Address digital inclusion across Moreland, particularly for older residents, pwd, families and newly arrived communities.	<input type="text"/>	19. Continue to work with partnership with organisations in the prevention of family violence in alignment with the Moreland Gender Equality Commitment.	<input type="text"/>
10. Expand digital loan schemes via libraries and n'hood houses.	<input type="text"/>	20. Provide targeted, culturally sensitive information to a range of groups.	<input type="text"/>

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Then, having had the opportunity to discuss and hear the perspectives of other members of the community, participants were asked to allocate their 100 points in an individual exercise.

## **Developing the Vision themes**

The afternoon was spent developing the themes that had been identified in the previous session, see below. The Panel was asked to draft 2 to 3 sentences that describe what Moreland would look like in 10 years if the theme was addressed.

## **Starting to look at strategic directions for the Council Plan.**

The final activity for the day focussed on capturing initial thoughts on strategic directions for Council to consider as part of the Council Plan. The panel was asked to answer the following:

- What does Moreland (Council and community, including business) need to do to make this happen?
- What are the immediate actions that need to be taken over the next 4 years to reach the future state?

## **What's coming up next?**

The next session is the third and final day for the panel to work in person to **refine** the Community Vision and recommendations and draft the panel report for handover to the Mayor and CEO.