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HUME CITY COUNCIL CONNECT & THRIVE: A PLAN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HUME 2022-2026

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HUME CITY COUNCIL
Youth
services





CONTENTS

Acknowledgment of traditional custodians

We acknowledge the Gunung-Willum-Ballak of the Wurundjeri People as the Traditional Custodians of the land and region on which Hume City is located. We embrace Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living culture as a vital part of Australia's identity and recognise, celebrate and pay respect to family members of the Gunung-Willum-Ballak and to Elders past and present.

Acknowledgment of contribution to the Plan

Many people have contributed to the development of this Plan. We would like to thank all the young people and families that contributed their ideas and input - your voice is central to the development of this Plan. We also acknowledge the expertise and input of our key partner organisations, agencies, and stakeholders across Hume.

Sketches drawn by Sketch Group at the Hume Youth Mental Health Summit 2021. Owl logo design by Lauren Rigby, a participant in the Hume City Council Passport to Work program 2013. Find more of Lauren's artwork at www.facebook.com/laurenrigbyart/

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



On behalf of Hume City Council, I am pleased to introduce "Connect & Thrive: A Plan for Young People in Hume 2022-2026". This plan provides the vision and strategic direction that will guide Council's work with young people aged 6 to 24 years and their families who live, study and work in City of Hume.

Council is committed to ensuring that all young people in Hume are healthy, safe, connected, and have opportunities to thrive. Connect & Thrive is a four year plan that will guide our work in collaboration with schools, service providers, community leaders and agencies to develop and implement targeted supports and services for young people.

The plan was developed after extensive consultation with young people and their families, schools, community agencies and service providers. Young people told us they wanted to be heard. They wanted welcoming, engaging, safe spaces, and opportunities to be active in their community. Families told us they wanted access to information, resources and supports that are culturally appropriate and targeted to their needs, and

opportunities for their children to develop the skills they need to do well at school, get a job and grow into healthy adults.

This plan aligns to the goals of the Hume 0-24 Framework and represents a new way of thinking about how services and programs can be planned and delivered for this age group. It places young people and their families at the centre of this thinking, focusing on the critical supports required for young people as they transition through key life stages, from early years to primary school, primary school to secondary school, and secondary school to higher education and work.

Recent times have brought unprecedented challenges for our young people impacted by the social and economic implications of COVID-19. This plan builds a solid foundation from which Council will build shared understanding, robust partnerships and integrated supports to ensure all young people in Hume are connected and thrive.

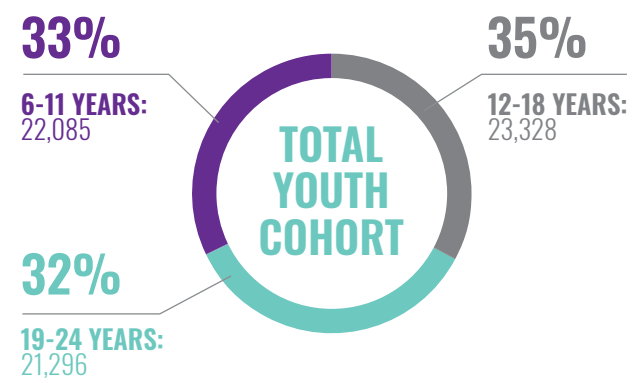


YOUNG PEOPLE IN HUME

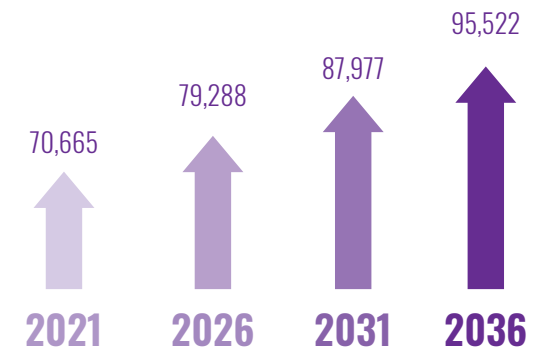
Based on population and household forecasts, there were:

70,664 (27%)

6– 24 year olds living in Hume City in 2021.



Projected population for Hume young people aged 6-24 years



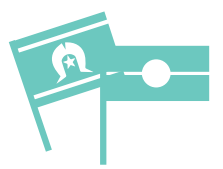
57%

of the 6–24 year old population in Hume have either one or both parents that were born overseas



591

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander young people aged between 6-24 years live in Hume.



INTRODUCTION

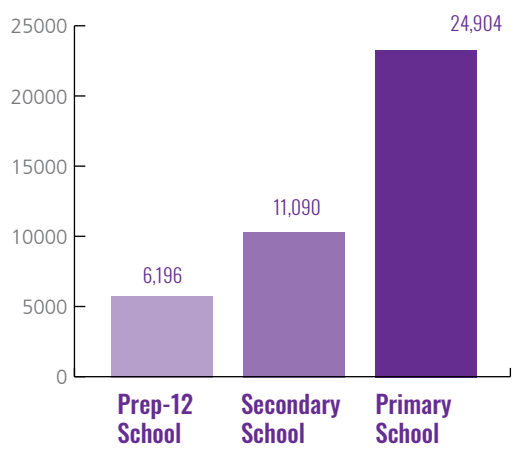
Hume City Council's Connect & Thrive - A Plan for Young People in Hume, 2022 - 2026 reaffirms Council's commitment to contributing to positive health, social and economic outcomes for young people aged 6 to 24 years. This plan aims to support seamless care and transition support for middle years children, adolescents and young adults, underpinned by a comprehensive suite of services and support designed specifically for Hume's young people and their families.

This plan builds on Council's many years of working with local young people and their families, workforce and its youth sector partners. It has considered evidenced informed practices and research into this critical stage of learning and development. Informed by consultation with young people, families, staff and partner agencies, the plan sets out a vision for Council's Youth Engagement and Pathways Unit and outlines how these services will change and transform in the years ahead.

It provides a plan for Council to deliver an enhanced and purposeful service, directed at supporting the lives of young people in their development, ensuring equitable access to opportunities, and supports social and civic participation. It reimagines Council's youth centres as vibrant spaces where all young people and their families and the extended community can come together and engage in opportunities that enhance their health and wellbeing. The plan seeks to advance Council's stewardship and advocacy within the sector to secure positive futures for young people and the broader Hume City community.

This plan is underpinned by Hume Horizons 2040 and Council's Hume 0-24 Framework which sets out a shared set of priorities for young people residing across the municipality. It builds further on this foundation to describe the key service principles that underpin youth services delivered by Council, and targeted actions that will be undertaken in the coming years to deliver a more comprehensive, progressive and responsive service that can meet the current and evolving needs of young people and their families.

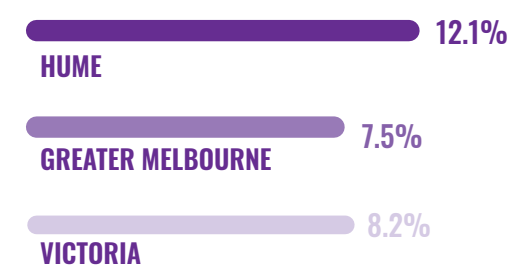
Hume City School 2020 student enrollements



A small number of schools in Hume have campuses outside the municipality. The above figures include students attending these campuses.

Hume has a higher proportion of disengaged young people aged 15-24 than Greater Melbourne and Victoria

PROPORTION OF DISENGAGED YOUNG PEOPLE, 2016:



Source: ABS Census 2016

HUME 0-24 FRAMEWORK OBJECTIVES

Council’s Connect & Thrive - A Plan for Young People in Hume 2022-2026 aligns with the key objectives included under Hume City Council’s 0-24 Framework. This framework,

developed in close consultation with our youth sector partners, young people and families, seeks to create a community where all children and young people aged 0-24 years are supported in achieving a good life.

The table below outlines each of the themes from the 0-24 Framework and its objectives. A snapshot of key evidence that informs our work with children and young people is also included.

COUNCIL'S INTEGRATED STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Theme	Feeling secure, cared for and safe.	Access to life’s necessities.	Health and wellbeing.	Learning from birth to adulthood.	Being involved, connected and valued.
Objectives	Support children and young people and families to build strong, resilient families and foster positive relationships.	Increase knowledge of and access to community support services.	Foster an active community with multiple and diverse opportunities to engage in activities for health and wellbeing needs.	Increase participation in and enhance the range of diverse formal and informal learning opportunities.	Include, engage and empower children, young people and families to access and participate in events, places and spaces.
	Increase children and young people’s safety in the community, educational settings and home environment.	Increase opportunities and access to employment in Hume.	Educate children, young people and families through information and health promotion to enable them to identify factors required to achieve a healthy lifestyle.	Appropriate support is accessed to enable full participation in quality education.	Build children and young people’s capacity for active civic participation.
		Advocate to address the needs of children and young people.	Increase capacity of children, young people and families to address their health and wellbeing needs.		
Supporting evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ In 2018/19, there were 1,699 police call outs to family incidents per 100,000 residents.■ In 2016, 26% of children and young people resided in a two-parent household with no parent in paid work.■ In 2016, 17.2% of young people in the Hume Moreland area reported living in healthy functioning families within the Hume-Moreland■ In 2018, 65.1% of young people living in the Hume-Moreland area reported having a trusted adult in their life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ In 2016, the youth disengagement rate among 15-24 year olds was 12.1%, compared to 7.5% for Greater Melbourne.■ The unemployment rate amongst persons aged 15 years and older was 7.8% as of June 2019, compared to 4.7% in Greater Melbourne.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ In 2017, 19.2% of young people in Hume reported high levels of psychological distress.■ Across Australia, 14% of 12-17 year olds and 27% of 18-24 years old have a mental health condition.■ Research highlights that certain groups of young people are disproportionately impacted by mental ill health. These can include young people who are Aboriginal, LGBTI, living in out of home care, experiencing homelessness, or living with a disability.■ Across Victoria, nearly a third of 10-14 year old and over half of 18-24 year olds are overweight or obese.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ In 2016, 13.9% of 20-24 year olds left school before completing year 11, compared to 8.4% for Greater Melbourne■ In 2016, 26.2% of Hume 20-24 year olds were attending university or another tertiary institution, compared to 47.3% for Greater Melbourne■ In 2017, 15.6% of Hume pupils did not meet the national numeracy benchmark and 7.2% did not meet national numeracy benchmarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ In 2016, 12.4% of 15-24 year olds in Hume volunteered for and organisation or group, compared to 18.3% for Greater Melbourne.■ One in eight Victorians aged 16–25 has a high intensity of loneliness, which is linked with decreased mental wellbeing.■ In 2015, 58.3% of students in year 7 to 9 reported lower feelings of being connected with their school in comparison to 82.9% of students in grade 5 and 6 combined.

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE, PARENTS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS TOLD US

Over the past two years extensive consultations have been conducted with young people, families, schools and service providers to better understand the current and emerging needs of the local community.

We listened to feedback and ideas from the community and the sector, and this has informed the development of the plan. Key suggestions for how we could enhance the lives of young people and their families in Hume included:

- Accessible and inclusive support that covers all areas of wellbeing - including education, employment, social connection and mental health.
- More free activities for children and young people.
- Specific services that are tailored to needs of individual groups of young people.
- Opportunities for young people to feel safe, connected and engaged.
- Welcoming, safe and engaging spaces for young people that meets their interests and aspirations.
- Access to information and resources for parents/ carers and young people about local support services.
- Greater coordination and sharing of knowledge and resources across the sector.
- Greater supports for parents/carers to build their capacity and develop positive relationships with their children.
- Supports for young people as they transition from primary to secondary school, and secondary school to higher education and/or employment.
- Young people’s voices and ideas heard, valued and actioned.
- Recognition and celebration of young people’s achievements.



“Access to workshops about parenting”
(Parent)

“Use networks/partnerships to full advantage”
(Service provider)

“More events to bring diverse community together”
(Parent)

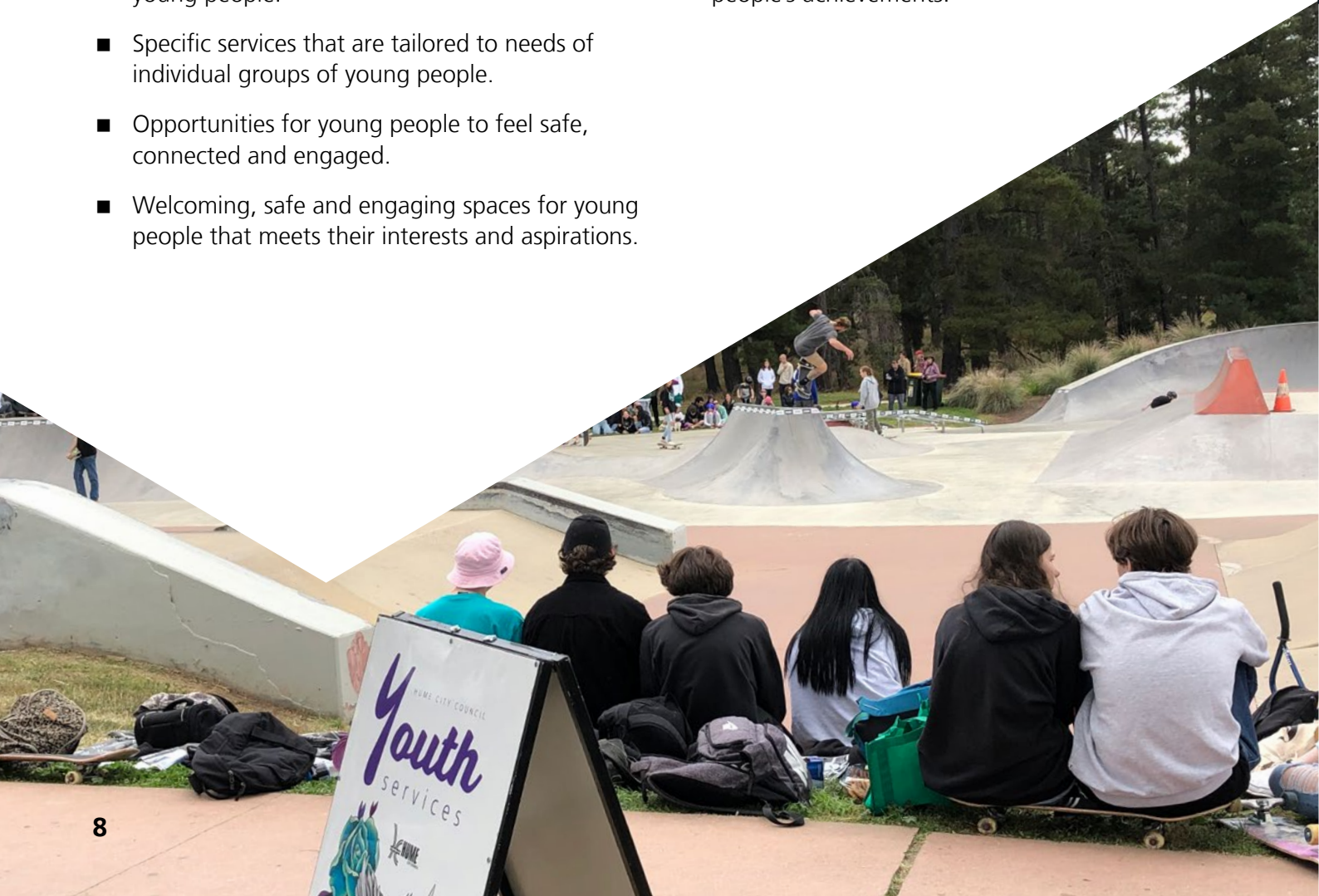
“HAPPY HEALTHY KIDS”
(Parent)

“Collaborative approach for all stakeholders to be engaged in collective action”
(Service Provider)

“Safe community”
(Young person)

“the ability to pursue a range of work experience opportunities in Hume”
(Young person)

“BEING ABLE TO TRUST AND GO TO THE SERVICE WHENEVER YOU ARE FEELING DOWN”
(Young person)





INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Stages of youth development and transitions

The youth development phase can be broadly broken down into the periods of middle years childhood, mid-to-late adolescence and early adulthood. Each of these periods' present new stressors and pressures, detailed below:

- **Middle years (6-11):** During this stage, children in the middle years are rapidly developing cognitive functions while experiencing emotions more intensely and developing empathy. At the same time, middle years children begin exploring identities and often experience changes to self-esteem. This is a key transitional time when middle years children are entering puberty and transitioning from primary to secondary school.

- **Mid-to-late adolescence (12-17):** During this stage, young people further develop their capacity for planning, self-regulation and assessing risks and rewards. They also begin navigating the larger world, including social roles and differing perspectives. Young people are typically starting and finishing high school during this period, and transitioning to work or higher education.

- **Early adulthood (18-24):** During this stage, self-sufficiency strengthens, and young people are increasingly motivated by internal values. In this period, young people typically seek greater independence and transition into the world of higher education and/or work.

A deep understanding of the unique pressures, stressors and needs at each of these stages of development will be used to underpin Council's design and delivery of actions and initiatives outlined in this plan.

The importance of the middle years

The middle years describes a period in a child's life between early childhood and adolescence. Across sectors and government there are various definitions in relation to what constitutes middle childhood. For the purposes of this plan and to align with Council's Early Years Services, the middle years is defined here as young people aged 6 to 11 years. During this critical time of development, major changes are occurring on multiple levels in a child's life.

Young people are transitioning between early years, primary, secondary and tertiary education, or from education to work, and navigating away from the family home. This can be a period of high risk for some young people that can include challenges such as disengagement from school, family and/or peers, experimentation with risky behaviours such as drinking, smoking or illicit drug use. It is also a time when mental health symptoms can emerge.

It is a crucial time when middle years young people need to be supported within the context of their lives - by peers, family and carers, schools, and the community. By working with young people and their families, at key points of transition Council and its youth sector partners, can help foster strong and productive relationships, behaviours, skills and identities that continue into adulthood.



Adolescence to early adulthood

It is during this period of rapid emotional, physical and intellectual transition, where young people aged 12 to 24 years develop from being dependent children to independent adults. This critical time of rapid growth and development includes changes to sense of identity and the development of autonomy, physical and emotional growth and cognitive and social development.

The development of common mental health conditions occurs predominantly in adolescence to mid-20s, making these years critical for early intervention. Rates of anxiety and depression are high in young people, and rapidly rising.

Providing guidance and support for adolescents and young adults through this stage of their life is just as critical as intervention in the early and middle years. Research shows that getting the right support at the right time can help young people lead healthy lives, have good mental health, and thrive.



Support to young people and their families.

Council recognises the fundamental importance of fostering warm and connected relationships between parents, carers, families (inc extended) and young people. These relationships play an important role in buffering environmental, behavioural, social, and personal risk factors and provide a secure base for young people to grow and develop.

In recognition of the above, Council's Youth Engagement and Pathways Unit seeks to not only provide tailored support to meet the specific needs of young people, but works within a family-centred approach to support parents, carers, families and communities.

This includes delivering experiences that provide opportunities for parents and their children, to come together and strengthen their relationships, while also providing targeted capacity building opportunities to enhance their skills and confidence in supporting their children through their development.

Strong family support is pivotal to young people's health and wellbeing. A sense of connection and belonging to family and friends has a positive impact on young people's mental health and wellbeing

We recognise that the support networks of young people vary across stages of development and may also vary by social and cultural background. There are many different types and configurations of family and friends, which includes all types of families, care-givers, and friends.



COUNCIL'S ROLE

Hume City Council has varied roles in relation to young people and families. These roles include:

1 **Direct service delivery** of services, programs and experiences for all young people and their families.

2 **Provider and manager of community facilities** that enable Council and other organisations to provide services and programs for young people and their families.

3 **Funder** of services and programs to community organisations and youth service providers to provide a range of opportunities and supports to young people and their families.

4 **Research and planner** of services and facilities to respond to current and future needs of young people and their families.

5 **Collaborator** with young people and their families, schools, community agencies, youth service providers and local, state and federal government to develop, deliver and advocate for shared goals to support young people.

6 **Navigator** in the provision of information, referrals and safe spaces for young people and their families to connect with appropriate services and supports.

7 **Steward** to strengthen the youth sector in Hume by facilitating information sharing, supporting service coordination and responsiveness, and building collaborative practice.

8 **Advocate** for and listen to young people, families and the sector to influence other levels of government and other organisations.





OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

A partnership approach:

Hume City Council works in partnership with a broad range of youth prevention, early intervention and tertiary services. It supports large numbers of young people to build their capacity, resilience and wellbeing so that they can be connected, healthy and thrive. A partnership and collaborative approach to the planning and delivery of new services and programs will ensure that they are evidence-informed, localised and responsive.

In addition, Hume City Council supports young people's health and wellbeing, social inclusion, skill development and leadership, and provides young people with opportunities to engage in arts and culture, skill building, leadership and advocacy, education and employment pathways and community strengthening and civic life. Council also assists young people and their families to navigate challenges, develop pro-social coping skills, and to access specialist services and assertive outreach where these are needed.

Recent times have brought unprecedented challenges for our young people, and they have been disproportionately impacted by the social and economic implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. Compared with older age groups, young people have experienced high rates of psychological distress, loneliness, disconnection, educational disruption, unemployment, housing stress and domestic violence. Council has a commitment to working with the sector to respond to evolving needs, and provide tailored support for young people and their families, and assertive outreach services that specifically target vulnerable young people.

Council works with a comprehensive range of partners whose work directly and indirectly impacts on the lives of local young people and their families. These partners include, but are not limited to:

- Children and young people
- Families, carers and community members
- Local primary and secondary schools
- Police and community safety services
- Youth mental health and health promotion services
- Agencies that provide targeted and assertive outreach support to young people experiencing disadvantage – such as disengagement, unemployment, homelessness, alcohol, and other drug issues
- Community health services
- Agencies focussed on fostering youth inclusion and connection
- Multicultural community services
- Aboriginal support services
- Local, State and Federal Government
- Sporting clubs
- Youth Health Promotion services and agencies
- Parenting support services
- Multi-faith groups and community leaders
- Youth Affairs Council of Victoria (YACVIC)
- Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY)





Council also recognises the importance of high level assertive outreach services for vulnerable young people in the community. In response, Council is committed to the provision of specialised services delivered by a third party that supports vulnerable young people aged 6-24 years, who are not currently engaging with mainstream services, to reconnect and engage in education and/or employment.

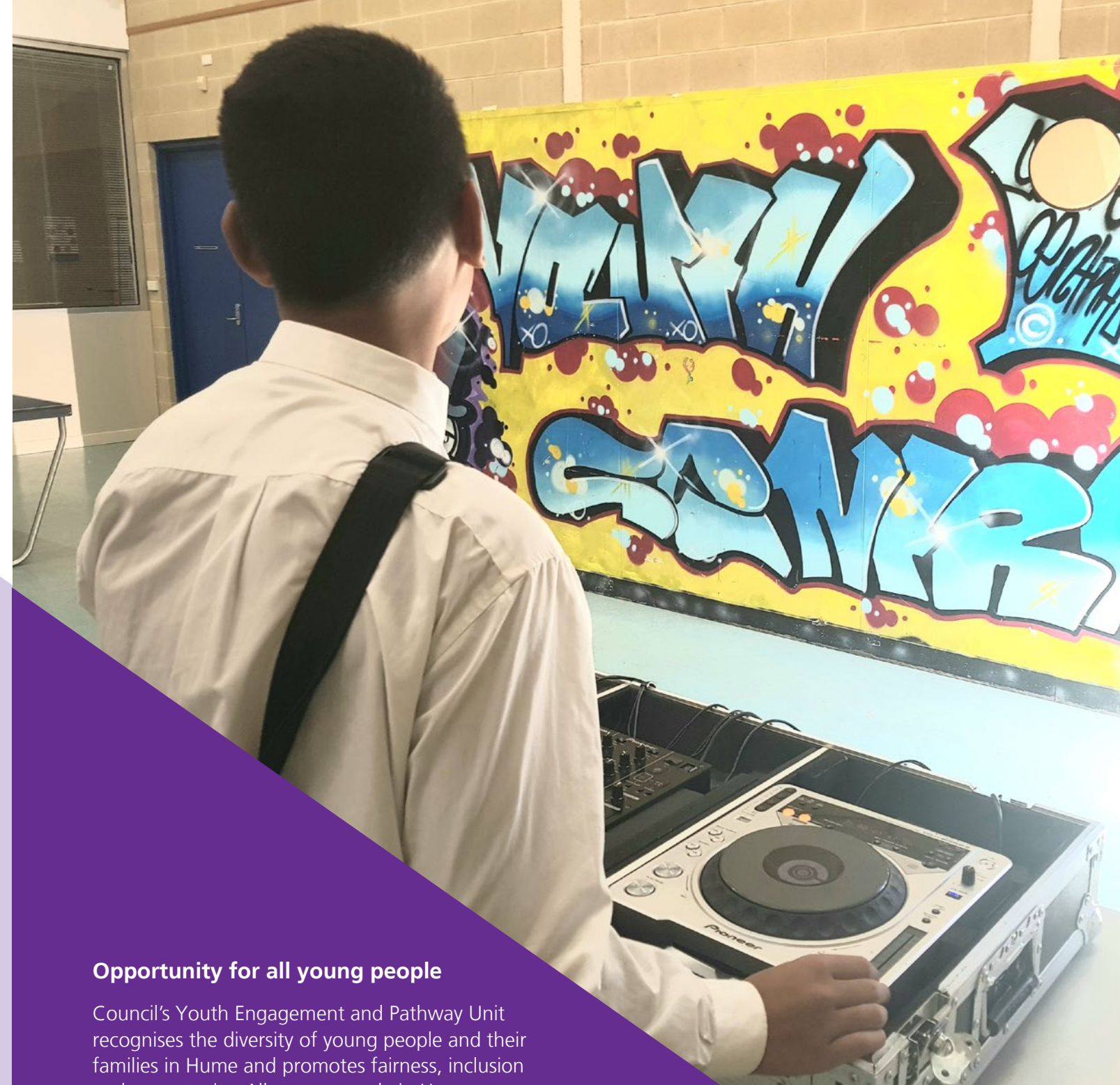
The assertive outreach service focuses on mental health and capacity building through targeted case work and is based on the foundation of working with and amongst the community to develop targeted support and engagement strategies.

While this plan details the actions and directions for Council's own services, these will be developed and delivered in close partnership and coordination with key partners to ensure all young people and their families living in Hume are afforded the best possible opportunities for a good life and can thrive.

Young people as experts

Council recognises that young people are experts in their own lives and have the contemporary, real-world knowledge and experience of issues and opportunities impacting them and their communities. This means that they can and should be involved in designing and identifying the services and supports they need.

Actions and initiatives outlined in this plan will be designed and delivered in consultation with young people. Council is also committed to ensuring that young people have an active voice and their ideas and opinions are represented and considered in decision-making, and inform State and Federal Government policy directions. We recognise that in order to foster critical learning and development, there needs to be a balance between adult supported and led directions and youth-led actions which require the development of capacity building and awareness skills. Adults play an influential role in ensuring young people are provided with necessary information to make informed decisions and choices. This will ensure navigation pathways are clear and create a stronger sense of autonomy and resilience.



Opportunity for all young people

Council's Youth Engagement and Pathway Unit recognises the diversity of young people and their families in Hume and promotes fairness, inclusion and opportunity. All young people in Hume are valued, respected and included.

Council's Youth Engagement and Pathway Unit seeks to promote all Hume's young people, regardless of their social, cultural, and economic background or circumstances. This is underpinned by Council's commitment to social justice, outlined in the Hume Social Justice Charter, ensuring that Hume's rich and diverse cultural heritage is celebrated, creating a vibrant and inclusive community that values and welcomes young people and their families from all backgrounds and faiths. Equitable outcomes for young people will be achieved through this plan by

delivering both universal actions that seek to benefit all young people and families, alongside more targeted actions that seek to support and provide opportunities to those experiencing vulnerabilities. In addition, Council has a commitment to ensuring that all young people's strengths, interests and abilities are recognised and celebrated.

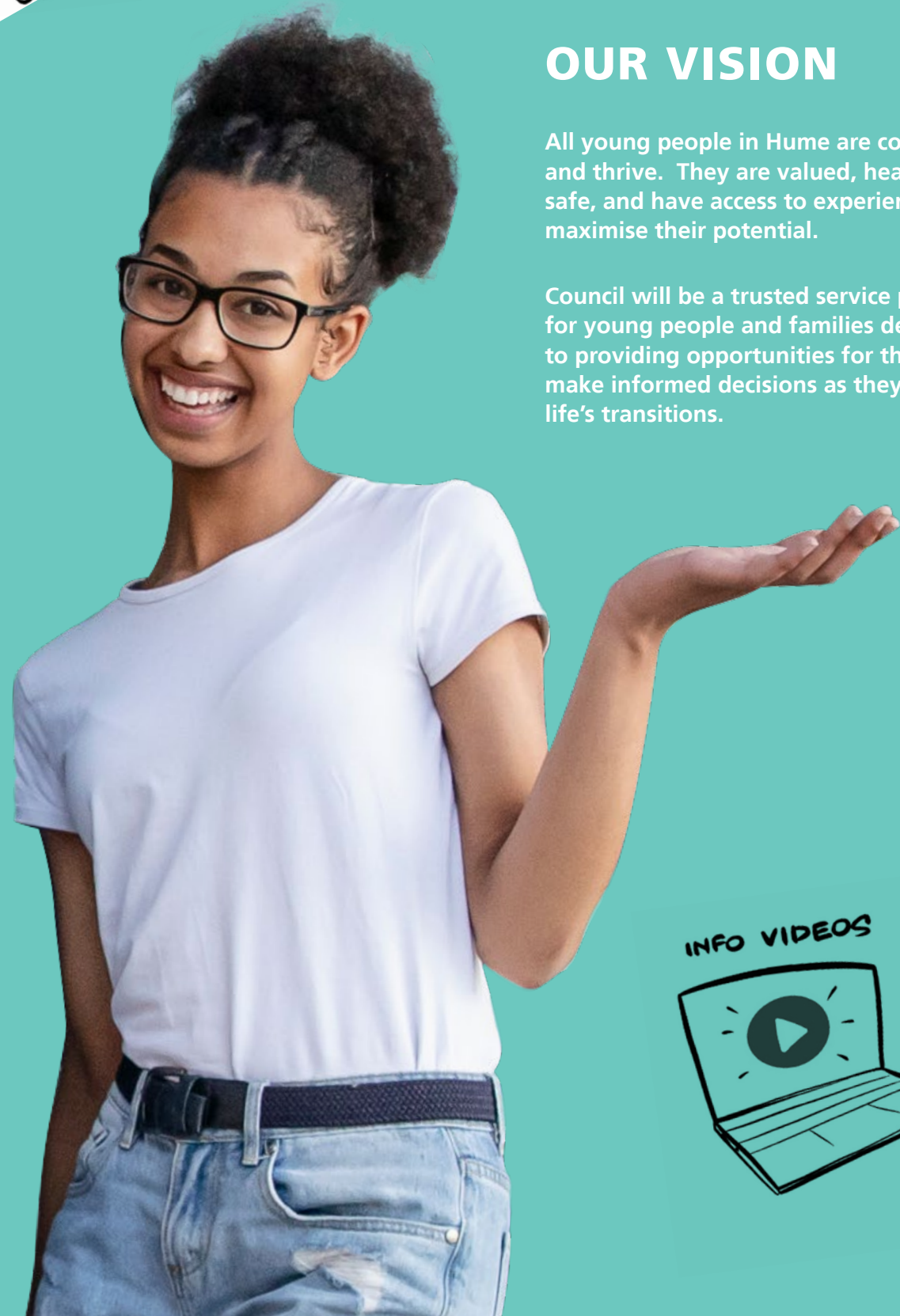


A commitment to child safety

Council is committed to the Victorian Child Safe Standards and puts the best interest of young people first. Council actively promotes the safety of children in the community and has embedded an organisational child-safe culture where:

- Everyone in the organisation is committed to child safety
- There are clear policies and procedures that protect young people from abuse and create environments that reduce the likelihood of harm
- All staff are aware of and understand how to report and how to respond to concerns, disclosures, allegations or suspicions of harm
- Strategies are in place to identify, reduce or remove risks of child abuse, including cyberbullying, online grooming and trolling.
- Young people are valued and understand that they have the right to feel safe and how to raise a concern if they feel unsafe.
- The participation, engagement and empowerment of young people is actively promoted and encouraged, and their voices heard.





OUR VISION

All young people in Hume are connected and thrive. They are valued, healthy and safe, and have access to experiences that maximise their potential.

Council will be a trusted service partner for young people and families dedicated to providing opportunities for them to make informed decisions as they navigate life's transitions.



PRIORITY ACTIONS

This plan will contribute to the objectives of the 0-24 Framework through the range of actions outlined below.



ACTION AREA 1:

Youth and family-friendly Places and Spaces

Council will continue to provide and enhance welcoming, interesting, multipurpose centres for young people and their families, while also working to provide youth-friendly environments in other venues, facilities, and spaces in the community. This will be underpinned by best-practice, youth-informed frameworks for these spaces which will ensure that they are accessible, flexible, safe, and responsive to the unique characteristics of young people and the communities to which they belong.

ACTIONS:

- Continue to provide safe and accessible spaces through Council's Youth Centres and other Council facilities in collaboration with schools, community agencies and youth service providers that young people and their families can access at key times.
- Deliver youth engagement initiatives that encourage young people to develop their vision for local community facilities and safe spaces where their voices and ideas are heard, valued and actioned.
- In partnership with young people and internal council areas, develop a best-practice framework to guide the design and use of future community facilities as well as upgrades and retrofits of existing facilities.
- Create, in conjunction with other Council departments, a short, medium and long term plan for youth-friendly venues and facilities in Hume.
- Collaborate with young people, families, the sector and community agencies to deliver locally-based, integrated and responsive services and programs from Council's youth centres; and review the need to implement extended opening hours.
- Provide outreach services and programs for young people and families in growth corridor areas.
- Develop a detailed plan to attract youth service agencies to establish services within Council-owned centres/facilities, in line with identified service needs.



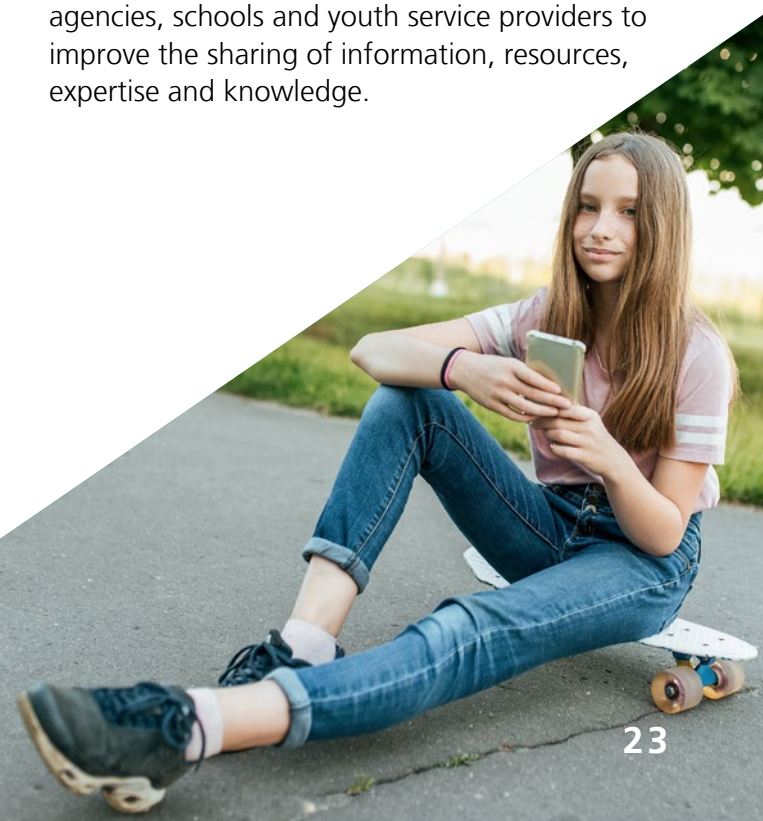
ACTION AREA 2:

Information, Resources and Navigation

Council will bring together a diverse collection of relevant youth and community information and resources for young people and their families, and make these available at centres, libraries and digitally. These resources will improve navigation across needed services and supports, while also providing opportunities for young people to explore interests, identity, and issues affecting their lives.

ACTIONS:

- Work with Council's Libraries to support the curation of a dedicated collection of books, information and resources that appeal to young people/parent interests and needs.
- Build the capacity of Council's Youth & Engagement Pathway Unit, other Council areas and service partners to understand the needs of young people, employ best-practice frameworks and deliver a coordinated service system in Hume.
- Formalise and promote the role of Council's Youth Engagement & Pathway staff as service system navigators.
- Ensure that Council's staff and our sector partners are well-trained to respond to the current and emerging needs of young people and their families, and can assist them to navigate the service system.
- Support opportunities for young people and families to improve digital and information literacy skills
- Maintain and build partnerships with community agencies, schools and youth service providers to improve the sharing of information, resources, expertise and knowledge.



ACTION AREA 3:

Innovative, responsive and impactful programs

Council will deliver and partner with key stakeholders to provide innovative, interest-driven, and experiential programs that support social health and wellbeing, connection, creativity, life-skill development, educational achievement, and employment pathways. Additionally, Council will establish a range of culturally safe and responsive programs that bring young people and families together to respond to their needs and interests, while fostering strong and healthy relationships.

ACTIONS:

- In consultation with young people and families develop annual calendars that provide information on programs that focus on skill building, creative mental health, wellbeing family connection, academic achievement, and pathways to education, employment and training.
- Foster opportunities for young people to co-design and/or have input into Council's youth service planning, development and delivery.
- In partnership with Maternal Child Health and Early Years, provide support, information and referral to young parents in Hume.
- Provide opportunities that foster social connection and bring together young people and families from different cultures, identities, backgrounds and lifestyles.
- Develop a coordinated approach to programming across Council and the local youth sector - ensuring consistency, quality, diversity, and relevancy.
- Develop and deliver responsive and evidence-informed services and programs tailored to the specific needs of young people and families.
- Continue to deliver assertive outreach support and work with the sector to ensure clear referral and transition pathways to specialist and crisis services for vulnerable young people



ACTION AREA 4:

Advocacy and stewardship

Council will develop new partnerships and bolster existing ones to strengthen the local youth sector. This will be achieved by facilitating information sharing, supporting service coordination, and sharing available resources. Council will ensure that young people have opportunities for their voices to be heard and listened to, their rights respected, their needs and interests represented and have opportunities to be involved in civic engagement and decisions that affect them.

ACTIONS:

- Support the establishment and delivery of youth-led issue, advocacy and leadership programs and committees that increase the community and civic participation.
- Track and predict trends about the existing and emerging needs of young people and share this knowledge with our sector partners.
- Develop and distribute a Hume Youth Profile that captures and details key health, economic, social, education and employment, safety data pertaining to local young people.
- Create opportunities for the sector to come together to share knowledge about the current and emerging needs of young people, service gaps to work together to align objectives and deliver meaningful impact.
- Provide policy advice and advocate across local, state, and federal governments in relation to needs and interests of young people.
- Advocate for social and affordable housing for young people across Hume.
- Strengthen and formalise engagement, networking and collaboration mechanisms with local education providers, service providers and community agencies.
- Build partnerships with stakeholders to improve data collection and build capacity to undertake, monitor and evaluate services and programs for young people.





ACTION AREA 5:

Supporting Transitions

Council will develop and deliver a suite of new, targeted programs and resources that will support successful transitions for young people and their families. This will include programs and resources that support the transition from primary to secondary school, secondary school to work or further education, the move from dependence upon family to relative independence and identify formation. This will include programs and initiatives focussed on developing young people's capabilities, and strengthening links between schools, training providers and businesses.

ACTIONS:

- Through a co-design process with young people who have successfully navigated major transitions, develop an annual calendar of programs that equip young people and their families with key skills and competencies to navigate major transitions.
- Strengthen partnerships across schools and the sector to enhance programs that focus on transition from primary to secondary school, and secondary school to work and/or further education, training and employment including capacity building, mentoring and experiential learning opportunities.
- Support schools to develop and deliver prevention and early intervention programs that respond to issues in relation to mental health, safety, social connection, and leadership.
- Continue to build the evidence-based on what works to improve 'transitions' for young people, and share this with partners.
- Continue to support young people to access appropriate education, training and employment pathways that are culturally relevant and responsive to their needs.
- Continue to work in partnership with schools to provide opportunities to recognise and celebrate the educational achievement of young people in Hume.
- Work with local businesses, training and education providers, community agencies and youth services to ensure young people in Hume have opportunities to engage in employment and training pathway programs such as work-experience and readiness programs, social enterprise programs, volunteer opportunities, internships, apprenticeships and traineeships.
- Work in partnership with Health & Community Wellbeing to advocate to State and Federal government for short and long-term social and affordable housing options for young people including crisis supports and accomodation.

OUTCOMES AND PROGRESS

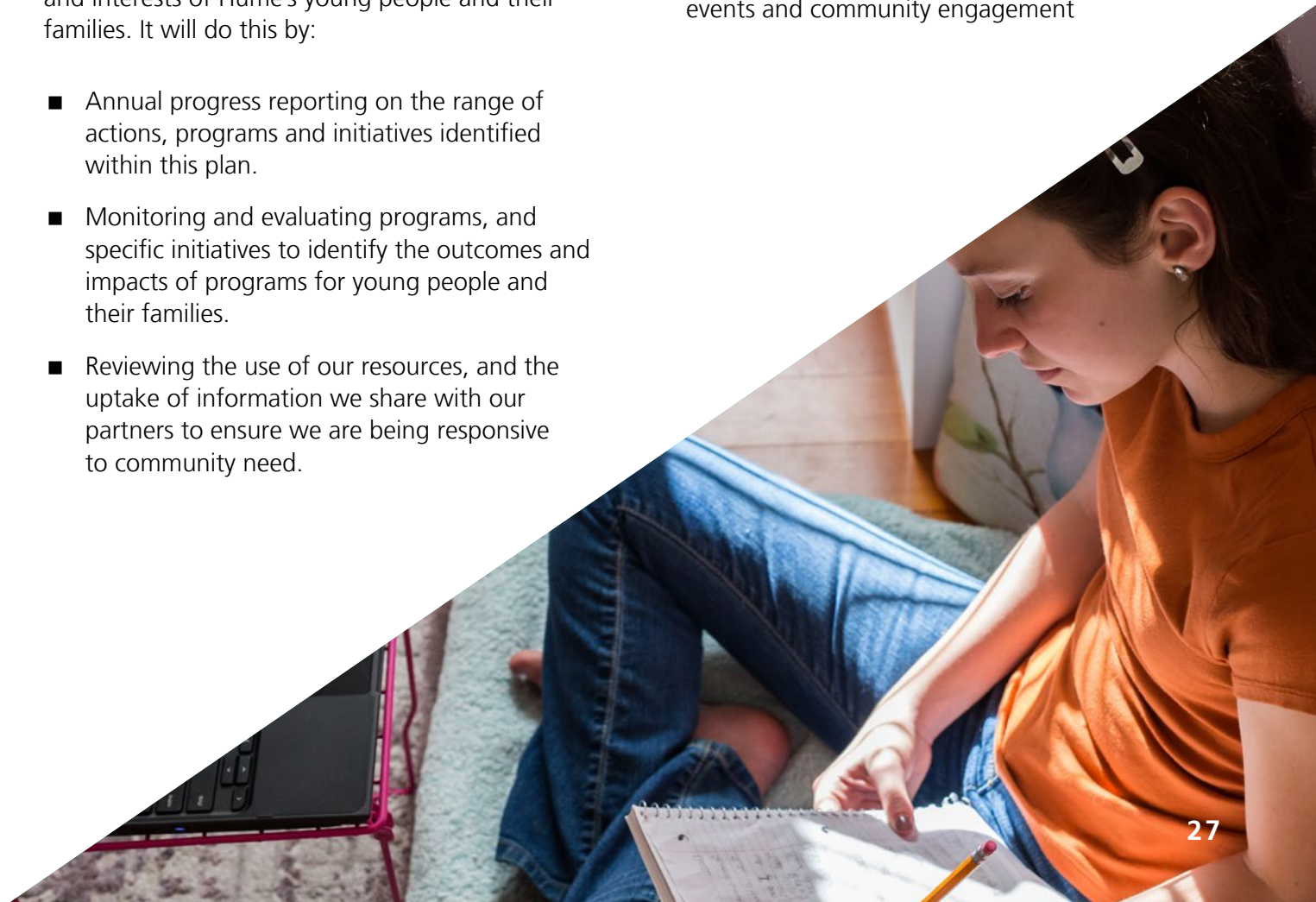
By implementing the actions outlined in this plan, Council will continue to support young people and their families to improve health and wellbeing, participation, education and social outcomes, while more effectively reaching and engaging with them.

Council has a commitment to ensuring the implementation of the actions outlined in this plan are evaluated and monitored on an annual basis.

It will work in partnership with young people, families, the community and the sector to ensure actions are relevant and respond to identified needs and interests of Hume's young people and their families. It will do this by:

- Annual progress reporting on the range of actions, programs and initiatives identified within this plan.
- Monitoring and evaluating programs, and specific initiatives to identify the outcomes and impacts of programs for young people and their families.
- Reviewing the use of our resources, and the uptake of information we share with our partners to ensure we are being responsive to community need.

- Continuing to monitor current health, economic, social, educational, employment and safety data and emerging trends; and undertaking research to identify and better understand the developmental needs and transition points for young people in Hume.
- Using a wide range of relevant data sources that measure the drivers and outcomes for young people, as they are identified and become available
- Embedding a culture of continuous and effective improvement to support services, programs, events and community engagement



Youth Centres

Broadmeadows Youth Centre (Youth Central)

33-37 Pearcedale Parade, Broadmeadows 3047

Roxburgh Park Youth Centre

75 Lakeside Drive, Roxburgh Park Victoria 3064

Craigieburn Youth Centre

59 Craigieburn Road, Craigieburn Victoria 3064

Sunbury Youth Centre

51-53 Evans Street, Sunbury Victoria 3429

HumeLink

Hume City Council's
multilingual telephone information service.
General enquiries: Telephone 9205 2200

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