



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

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BRIGHTON EAST
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GLEN EIRA COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2022–2025



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THE GLEN EIRA COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2022–2025 WAS ENDORSED BY
GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL AT ITS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ON 7 JUNE 2022.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Glen Eira City Council acknowledges the Boonwurrung/ Bunurong and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation as Traditional Owners and Custodians, and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to land and waterways. Council extends its respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Council honours the rich histories and cultures of First Nations peoples and recognises and values the important contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in enriching our community. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart and are committed to a *Reconciliation Action Plan* which is underpinned by the principles of self-determination. We work towards improved outcomes and long-term generational change, and to consolidate Glen Eira as a culturally safe place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We are committed to achieving equality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to live healthy and prosperous lives and to improve life outcomes for current and future generations.

Glen Eira resides on country that always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.

INTRODUCTION

What is community safety?

Community safety is about feeling safe in the home, on the street or at work. It relates to quality of life and means a person can pursue and obtain the fullest benefits from their domestic, social and economic lives without fear or hindrance from crime and disorder.

Community safety recognises the need for different areas of the community to work together to create a safer environment for people in which to work, live, study, play and travel through. This means building partnerships between police, government agencies, neighbouring councils, partners and community organisations and residents to promote and achieve these goals.

Why a community safety plan and what community safety means to Glen Eira

Everyone has a right to feel safe and a responsibility to contribute toward a safer community. Feeling safe is an essential factor of an individual's health and wellbeing and their participation in community life.

Glen Eira is a vibrant community of 159,152 people spanning a range of cultures, ages and household types. The most common countries of birth outside Australia are China, India, England, South Africa and Israel, and 552 residents identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, including those who have a cultural background. More than half (56 per cent) of Victoria's Jewish population live in Glen Eira. Glen Eira has a higher rate of education than the Greater Melbourne average and higher personal and household incomes than the Victorian average. Couples with children

are the most common type of household, followed by lone person households. A total of 12.3 per cent of Glen Eira residents live with disability.

Some people experience an increased risk to personal safety, such as experiencing violence and discrimination. Contributing factors include gender identity, age, Aboriginality, sexuality, ethnicity, isolation, disability, addiction or mental illness. These individuals may experience different or heightened safety concerns than others in the community.

The *Glen Eira 2040 Community Vision* identifies the future aspirations and hopes of people living in or connected to Glen Eira for the next 20 years. The *Community Vision* was developed by the community for the community, led by a Deliberative Citizens Panel and informed by an extensive community engagement program. The *Community Safety Plan 2022–2025* (the *Plan*) will be integral in bringing our *Community Vision* to life and building a connected and inclusive community where people have the resources, opportunities and capabilities to learn, work, participate and have a voice in decisions that affect them.

The *Community Safety Plan 2022–2025* identifies Council's commitment to a safe community and proposes strategic activities that Council will undertake with its strategic partners to improve safety and security within the community. A safe community is a municipal-wide issue. This *Plan* will set the direction for Council to operate and engage collectively with our community and residents in continuing to maintain safety.

CONTEXT

Who is responsible for a safe community?

Community safety is the shared responsibility of Commonwealth, State and Local Governments, community service organisations, business owners and community members. Creating and maintaining a safe community involves engaging the different levels of government, organisations and groups that have a role in the Glen Eira community. Achieving a safe community requires collaboration and strong partnerships. Safety is determined by a range of complex environmental, social and economic factors. No one organisation can solve complex safety issues in isolation.

Commonwealth Government

The Commonwealth Government is responsible for law and order, public health, social housing, public transport and emergency management. The Commonwealth Government creates and maintains legislation that provides an overall system and framework for laws that govern appropriate conduct and behaviour for a well-regulated and fair society.

State Government

The Victorian Government develops state laws and supporting guidelines and engages in a range of other activities and functions that impact on safety and security. This includes Victoria Police, Neighbourhood Watch, the Country Fire Authority, Fire Rescue Victoria, State Emergency Services, VicRoads, Ambulance Victoria, child protection services and drug and alcohol services.

The Victorian Government has set five priorities² to make Victoria safer:

1. Reducing harm — by identifying threats and preventing crime.
2. Increasing connection to the community — with high police presence and involvement in our communities.

3. Putting victims first — so they are at the centre of policing.
4. Holding offenders to account — so people who commit crimes are punished.
5. Improving Victoria Police capability, culture and technology — so they have the tools they need to do their jobs.

The Victorian Government also develops policies and provides grants that aim to reduce crime, increase community confidence and support community development initiatives.

Local Government

Glen Eira City Council is well placed to take a leading role in addressing safety and security due to its strong partnerships and collaborative approach in working with the community, community organisations and State Government. Council has a capacity-building role to support the community in crime prevention and social inclusion. Council provides advice and education around safety actions and supports services, programs and activities to promote community connection and leadership, including initiatives such as *Coffee with a Cop*, *Driving it Down*, *Living Safely* and *Safe Plate Day*.

Council has the responsibility to ensure safety, peace and order through other activities by:

- > creating and enforcing local laws, including those that regulate the consumption of liquor, animal management, parking and planning for new developments and enforcing some Victorian Government legislation, such as food safety inspections;
- > providing and maintaining public places for the community that are safe and support community development and sporting, leisure, social and business activities;

2. Victorian Government, 2019, [Community Safety Statement 2019–20](#)

CONTEXT CONTINUED

- > supporting safe travel and transport through planning, road and footpath design and maintenance; bicycle paths and walking tracks; contributing to local road safety programs; working with public transport providers; and ensuring adequate levels of street lighting; and
- > delivering a range of community services for family, children and youth services, older people and people with a disability and working to build social cohesion and harmony.

Community

Everyone in the Glen Eira community has an important role to play in contributing to personal and neighbourhood safety. Individuals, families and neighbours must share a level of responsibility for community safety. There are also many groups and organisations that take on an important role in maintaining connections, building resilience and creating an awareness of crime prevention which all contribute to and improve the sense of safety and security across the community, such as Neighbourhood Watch, the Community Security Group, TaskForce Community Agency and Hatzolah.

Responsibilities of each individual, family unit, group or organisation as a member of the Glen Eira community include:

- > watching out for, supporting and assisting vulnerable community members in the neighbourhood;
- > looking out for neighbours and helping each other when needed;
- > demonstrating and promoting respectful behaviour to others;
- > being aware of and taking an interest in safety and security issues, being involved in solutions or ensuring matters are reported to the appropriate authorities; and
- > ensuring the reasonable safety and security of houses, vehicles and other assets.

HOW WE DEVELOPED THIS PLAN

The development of the *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2022–2025* has been a collaborative effort between Council, the Glen Eira Community Safety Committee, community and other stakeholders. We aimed to build an understanding of the context and issues relevant to Glen Eira, our shared strategic priorities and to provide a co-ordinated and integrated response.

Community safety influences many different aspects impacting on the quality of life for Glen Eira's growing population of residents, workers, students and visitors. The *Plan* outlines our current and future efforts to respond to our community's safety needs. We developed the themes and strategies in consultation with stakeholders to ensure our efforts are effective and meaningful based on our scope of influence and control.

The *Plan* also draws on the actions endorsed in the *Glen Eira Council Plan 2021–2025* and the *Glen Eira Community Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025*, while aligning with a range of state and national strategies that relate to crime prevention, family violence, reducing harm from alcohol and drugs, emergency response and community safety.

A review of the previous *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2018–2022*³ was also part of this *Plan*'s development process, as well as a study of the key achievements of the *Community Safety Action Plan 2020–2022*. These *Plans* focused on four priority areas: a strong, resilient and connected community, living safely, safe public places and safe travel and transport.

A comprehensive analysis of community and stakeholder engagement, data and local crime trends and the 'hits and misses' of our previous planning has enabled us to develop a well-informed, comprehensive and accessible *Plan* to continue to both understand and improve community safety.

Community consultation

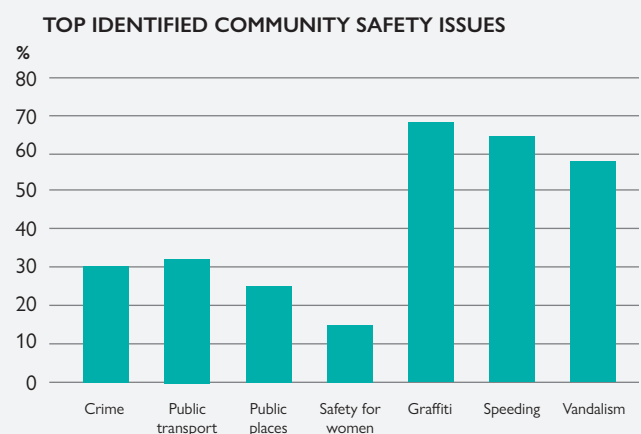
Our stakeholders are experts in developing solutions for issues affecting their communities. To develop the *Plan*, we engaged with community members, local traders, Victoria Police, community service organisations, government agencies and Council staff.

Positive perceptions of safety are closely linked to community trust and social inclusion. When people feel safe in their community, they are more likely to experience greater levels of social connection and trust and are more confident participating and engaging in public life. This leads to people being more willing and able to help address local problems, which further strengthens the community's capacity to respond to future issues that impact on health and wellbeing.

In developing the *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2022–2025*, Council consulted with the community to identify safety concerns and perceptions. This was done through the following mediums from September to November 2021:

- > Have Your Say online survey: 27 responses
- > Survey Monkey survey: 6 responses
- > Zoom/Teams workshops/drop-in sessions: 10 responses
- > Meetings with stakeholders: 9 responses
- > Community Voice survey: 190 responses

Through these engagement methods, the top identified community safety issues were:



3. Glen Eira City Council, 2018, [Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2018–2022](#)

HOW WE DEVELOPED THIS PLAN CONTINUED

Glen Eira Community Safety Snapshot

The [Glen Eira Community Safety Snapshot 2021](#) provides a point-in-time summary of community safety in the municipality. It includes data from the *Community Confidence and Feelings of Safety Survey* (2021) and the *Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey* (2021), conducted state-wide, as well as statistics agencies, commissions and other State, Commonwealth, organisational and institutional surveys and data. It reveals that Glen Eira residents enjoy a strong feeling of safety in their community, with 94 per cent reporting a very good or good quality of life, 96 per cent feeling safe or very safe to walk alone in the local area during the day, and 64 per cent feeling safe or very safe to walk alone after dark. The community maintains its own safety, with 75 per cent of residents reporting their neighbours are willing to help each other. In addition, 79 per cent believe Glen Eira City Council can be trusted.

Social cohesion was a focus of the data collection for the Snapshot. Social cohesion is the resilience, connection and wellbeing of a community — it is the ‘glue’ that holds us together⁴.

A sense of belonging and participation contributes to a resilient community that is prepared to look after each other in times of crisis⁵ and promotes better health behaviours, lower crime rates and safety.

The Glen Eira community, like the rest of Australia, faced many challenges to their health and wellbeing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In November 2020, Glen Eira City Council conducted a *COVID-19 impact survey* through Community Voice. [Community Voice](#) is an online panel of over 400 residents selected on age, gender and suburb who participate in surveys throughout the year on a range of topics. Comparisons of the surveys before and after the COVID-19 restrictions identified that 20 per cent of people had a negative impact on their employment situation, nine per cent identified a negative impact to their child's wellbeing, and 29 per cent saw negative impacts to their mental health. However, 32 per cent are more satisfied with their life as a whole post COVID-19, and 89 per cent agree their neighbourhood is a good place to live.

SAFETY



Enjoying a strong feeling of safety in their community

94%

Very good or good quality of life

96%

Safe or very safe to walk alone locally during the day

64%

Safe or very safe to walk alone locally after dark

75%

Report neighbours are willing to help each other

79%

Believe Glen Eira City Council can be trusted

COVID-19



Impact of COVID-19 restrictions

20%

Negative impact on employment

9%

Negative impact on their child's wellbeing

29%

Negative impacts to their mental health

32%

More satisfied with life as a whole post COVID-19

89%

Agree their neighbourhood is a good place to live

4. Australian Human Rights Commission, 2015, [Building Social Cohesion in our Communities](#)

5. Victorian Department of the Premier and Cabinet, issuing body, 2015, [Strategic Framework to Strengthen Victoria's Social Cohesion and the Resilience of its Communities](#)

HOW WE DEVELOPED THIS PLAN CONTINUED

While residents of Glen Eira have a strong sense of wellbeing, community cohesion and safety, there is room for improvement. Key safety issues include crime, family violence, alcohol and drug use, gambling harms, road safety, online safety, housing security and the various impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The following provides a snapshot of key safety issues for Glen Eira based on the [Glen Eira Community Safety Snapshot 2021](#) data from 2020–2021.

Glen Eira had the sixteenth lowest crime rate in all 79 Local Government areas⁶, but there were still 6,036 incidents recorded in 2020–2021. The five most common crimes in Glen Eira in 2021 were ‘steal from a motor vehicle’, ‘other theft’, ‘public health and safety offences’, ‘residential non-aggravated burglary’ and ‘criminal damage’.

Public realm amenity

There were 89 graffiti-related crimes in Glen Eira in 2020. This type of crime is higher in Glen Eira than the Victorian average⁷.

Family violence

There was an increase of 13 per cent of family violence incidents from 2019–2020 to 2020–2021, which echoes the 14 per cent overall increase in Victoria⁸, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdowns.

Alcohol and drug use

There were 2,319 ambulance attendances for alcohol substance abuse and 1,281 ambulance attendances for illicit substance abuse in Glen Eira in the period⁹.

Gambling harms

Although Glen Eira saw a much lower net expenditure on electronic gambling machines in Glen Eira (\$23,888,482), one in three people identified that they took up online gambling for the first time in 2020¹⁰.

Road safety

The number of road crashes involving injury in 2021 was 128, and there were six fatalities.

Online safety

Safety issues online include bullying (particularly of young people), scams and frauds.

Housing security

There are 4,145 households in Glen Eira experiencing severe housing stress — paying over 50 per cent of their income on rent. This is a safety issue because without housing security, households may endure housing stress and homelessness, financial pressures and the loss of economic and social life in the municipality¹¹.

COVID-19

The pandemic and lockdowns have created issues of health, safety and resilience for individuals and the community. As of 31 January 2022, there have been 13,127 cases of COVID-19 in Glen Eira¹². Some residents identified a change in access to food, housing and medical services. Others identified negative impacts to their employment situation, anger and violence in the home, their child’s wellbeing and their mental health¹³.

The areas of concern in the *Snapshot* are addressed in this *Plan* but also in other, aligned, Council plans and strategies.

6. Crime Statistics Agency Victoria, 2021, [Data Tables — Latest Crime Data by Area Data Visualisations — year ending June 2021](#)

7. Crime Statistics Agency Victoria, 2021, [Data Tables — Latest Crime Data By Area Data Visualisations — year ending June 2021](#)

8. Crime Statistics Agency Victoria, 2020, [Data Tables — Family Incidents Visualisation — year ending June 2021](#)

9. Turning Point, 2021, [Alcohol and drug-related ambulance attendances in Victoria](#)

10. Australian Institute of Family Studies, 2020, [Gambling in Australia during COVID-19](#)

11. Glen Eira City Council, 2019, [Glen Eira Social and Affordable Housing Strategy 2019–2023](#)

12. COVID Live, 2021, <https://covidlive.com.au/report/cases-by-lga/vic>

13. Glen Eira City Council, 2021, [Glen Eira Community Voice](#)

HOW WE WILL IMPLEMENT THE ACTION PLAN

The following *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan Action Plan* outlines Council's commitment to improving safety outcomes for the community through specific strategies and actions. The timeline for implementation of the actions is one to three years. We will know that we have been successful in achieving these actions when:

- we have delivered on the actions in the *Community Safety Plan 2022–2025*;
- there is an increase in the percentage of residents that report that they feel safe in the home, on the street or at work via the *Community Confidence and Feelings of Safety* survey; and
- research and data indicate crime rates (criminal incidents) have declined in Glen Eira municipality, in particular crimes related to theft of, or damage to property or motor vehicle, criminal damages and public safety offences.

The Glen Eira Community Safety Committee will oversee the co-ordination of these actions. Working collaboratively within Council, with the community and with external organisations is an important aspect of implementing these actions.

Glen Eira Community Safety Committee

The Glen Eira Community Safety Committee promotes, guides and supports strategic responses to community safety priorities in Glen Eira. Among the Committee's objectives are the development, implementation and reporting of the *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2022–2025*.

Council established the Glen Eira Safety Committee in 2017 to bring together key agencies and organisations whose work has a significant impact on community safety. Membership of the Committee includes Glen Eira elected Councillors, senior Council officers, government stakeholder representatives and representatives from community organisations and Victoria Police.

Monitoring and evaluating

The Glen Eira Community Safety Committee will be responsible for ensuring the proposed actions are implemented. Appointed by Council, members of the Committee have a strong understanding of safety in Glen Eira, strong networks and links to the community and a keen interest in driving good outcomes in the municipality. The Committee will also review data, research and evaluation regularly and understand how and which efforts have made a difference in creating a safe community.

Alignment with other Council plans, actions and strategies

The *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2022–2025* sits alongside other Council plans that share similar strategic objectives and principles. Aligned plans help Council to work interdepartmentally and with stakeholders and the community to strengthen delivery on strategic outcomes that benefit our community. The plans with the highest level of strategic alignment and that support the themes of this *Plan* are:

Glen Eira Council Plan 2021–2025

The [Glen Eira Council Plan 2021–2025](#) includes a range of indicators within its strategic priorities that align with safety concerns of the community. These include an 'improved look and feel of our activity centres, including cleanliness, footpath condition, graffiti, waste management, trees, parking, safety and lighting', 'the progression of safe, accessible and sustainable transport initiatives' and Council advocating for 'improved transport infrastructure'.

The delivery of the *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2022–2025* is a commitment in Year One of the *Glen Eira Council Plan 2021–2022*.

HOW WE WILL IMPLEMENT THE ACTION PLAN CONTINUED

Glen Eira Community Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025

The [Glen Eira Community Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025](#) addresses crossover health and safety issues, such as COVID-19 and climate change impacts through Priority One: Improve Public Health Protection. This *Plan* also has objectives related to ‘improving the built environment to be more accessible, safe, walkable and interconnected’, reducing ‘harm to our community from tobacco, vaping, alcohol and other drugs, and gambling’, and participating ‘in partnerships to promote gender equality, respect and the prevention of violence’.

Glen Eira 2040 Community Vision

The first [Community Vision](#) for Glen Eira was developed following an extensive community engagement program and endorsed mid last year (2021). One of the key values that was raised from community members during this engagement was the importance of maintaining a strong community connection, belonging and feeling safe. This value is also addressed in our *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2022–2025* as we achieve a strong sense of belonging and feeling safe.

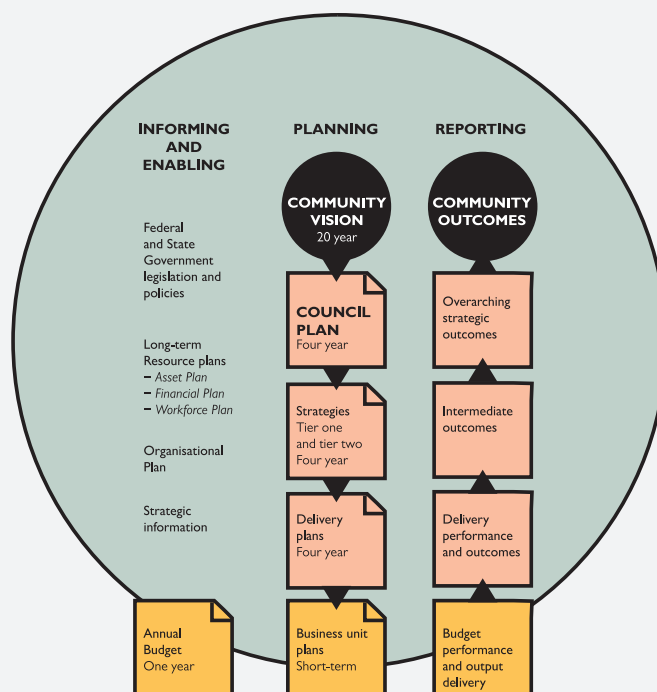
The following Council plans and strategies also have some alignment with this *Plan*:

- > [Our Climate Emergency Response Strategy 2021–2025](#)
- > [Glen Eira Gender Equality Action Plan](#)
- > [City Plan — Activity Centre, Housing and Local Economy Strategy 2020](#)
- > [Local Economy and Place Making Action Plan 2020–2025](#)
- > [Social and Affordable Housing Strategy 2019–2023](#)
- > [Integrated Transport Strategy](#)

Integrated planning and reporting

Along with the *Community Vision*, the *Council Plan* is the overarching strategic component of Glen Eira's *Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework* (the *Framework*). The *Framework* describes how strategic planning and reporting is developed and managed by Council to ensure the work it does contributes to the goals and aspirations of the Glen Eira community.

The *Framework* outlines how Council plans for the future across multiple functions, levels and locations to contribute to those aspirations. It also shows how the obligations from our regulators and relationships with our partners impact and contribute to the community's desired outcomes. From a reporting perspective, the *Framework* ensures there are mechanisms in place to monitor progress towards achieving those outcomes and report transparently to the community.



INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK



OUR VISION AND ACTION PLAN THEMES

OUR COMMUNITY SAFETY VISION

Our vision is for Glen Eira to be a place where people feel safe and able to participate in community life. The community is connected, inclusive and supportive of all individuals and groups.

The community is resilient and informed, actively engaged and empowered to make decisions for their own and others safety.

ACTION PLAN: COMMUNITY SAFETY THEMES AND STRATEGIES

The *Glen Eira Community Safety Plan 2022–2025* outlines the strategic activities that Council will undertake to improve safety and security for the community. This *Plan* focuses these activities through three key themes:

- > A strong, resilient, inclusive and connected community;
- > Living safely and securely; and
- > Creating safe public spaces and transport.

As Glen Eira values and enjoys a relatively high quality of life and safety, these themes aim to continue to keep Glen Eira safe and to minimise issues that have been identified, those that are emerging and some that may arise in the future. Under each theme there are strategies to achieve the objective. The strategies listed under each theme are supported by annual actions that will result in positive safety outcomes for the community.



THEME 1:

A strong, resilient, inclusive and connected community

For a community to be safe, members of that community must feel they belong. Council and its partners can promote connections within the community to reduce isolation, create support linkages, and foster a sense of belonging and safety. This can be done through a range of activities, events and programs designed to be inclusive of all ages, cultures, genders and abilities. Efforts can be made to reach out to those most vulnerable or isolated.

Strategies:

1. Encourage and support connections in the community to reduce isolation, create support linkages and foster a sense of belonging and safety.
2. Equity and respect are thriving in our community.
3. Improve community confidence and feelings of safety.
4. Improve understanding of factors that may have a community safety impact and/or drive crime and anti-social behaviour to inform future strategies and planning and develop effective solutions.

Actions:

Strategy 1: Encourage and support connections in the community to reduce isolation, create support linkages and foster a sense of belonging and safety.

- 1.1 Support programs and services across Council to engage with and/or support the needs of community members experiencing isolation, homelessness, loneliness or vulnerability by building understanding of these needs and how they can be supported.
- 1.2 Promote activities and programs that encourage safe neighbourhoods and communities.
- 1.3 Advocate for and facilitate programs to minimise the risk of anti-social behaviour.

Strategy 2: Equity and respect are thriving in our community.

- 2.1 Facilitate and/or support an anti-racism campaign/activity.
- 2.2 Through the implementation of the *Glen Eira Community Wellbeing Action Plan*, promote respect, care and equity to help keep our community safe from all forms of inequality and violence.

Strategy 3: Improve community confidence and feelings of safety.

- 3.1 Develop and publish positive media releases and articles about community safety on the Council's website and through a variety of media outlets.
- 3.2 Promote family-friendly and safe initiatives and public events to increase perceptions of safety in public spaces.
- 3.3 Conduct a *Community Confidence and Feelings of Safety* survey to understand perceptions of safety and to inform a proactive approach to community safety issues.

Strategy 4: Improve understanding of factors that may have a community safety impact and/or drive crime and anti-social behaviour to inform future strategies and planning and develop effective solutions.

- 4.1 Participate in networks to enable a broader understanding of community safety, crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 4.2 Analyse crime statistics and trends and report these to the Glen Eira Community Safety Committee and identify future actions to combat increasing crime areas/issues.
- 4.3 Conduct comparative data analyses to identify strategic priorities and emerging risks and build an evidence base for advocacy campaigns.



THEME 2: Living safely and securely

Community safety will be addressed by Council, the police, organisations and residents working together. Council has a responsibility to take on board what it learns from our community about their safety needs and provide support in return. There are many factors for living safely and securely. In previous sections we have determined some of the community's main concerns, from crime to online safety to the impacts of climate change. These strategies and actions will ensure we continue listening to these concerns and provide education, empowerment and support to our community in navigating these safety issues.

Strategies:

1. Provide information to the community on how to keep safe, report local safety issues and potential safety risks.

2. Partner with Victoria Police and various community organisations to strengthen relationships within the community.

3. Educate and empower the community to understand the impacts of climate change and safety.

4. Engage and support our community to minimise harms and reduce the risk of adopting criminal and anti-social behaviour.

Actions:

Strategy 1: Provide information to the community on how to keep safe, report local safety issues and potential safety risks.

1.1 Promote children's safety to parents and carers to assist with injury prevention, water safety, personal safety and other identified safety issues for babies and children.

1.2 In partnership with Victoria Police, provide information through Council publications to our community on how to report local safety issues, messages and potential safety risks to the appropriate organisations.

1.3 In partnership with Victoria Police, provide information to the community, traders and local businesses about where to seek assistance if they become a victim of crime.

1.4 Work in partnership to develop initiatives and programs that raise awareness of cyber safety concerns.

Strategy 2: Partner with Victoria Police and various community organisations to strengthen relationships within the community.

2.1 Run online or face-to-face community safety engagement activities in partnership with Victoria Police to discuss current safety issues.

2.2 In partnership with Emergency Services and community organisations, deliver safe community initiatives and events in Glen Eira eg. *Safe Plate Day*, *Community Safety Month*.

2.3 Provide opportunities to establish and build positive relationships between Victoria Police, young people and key stakeholders to address young people's local safety issues.

Strategy 3: Educate and empower the community to understand and minimise the impacts of climate change on safety.

3.1 Engage and educate our community to understand climate safety and how they can best adapt to and protect themselves against climate change impacts eg. extreme weather, heat, flash flooding.

3.2 Incorporate safety and climate change messages in social media posts and media releases and other communications channels.

THEME 2: Living safely and securely

CONTINUED

Strategy 4: Engage and support our community to minimise harms and reduce the risk of adopting criminal and anti-social behaviour.

4.1 Provide opportunities to have discussions, establish and build relationships with young people, their families and key stakeholders to explore local issues relating to anti-social behaviour, including drug, alcohol and tobacco use by young people (10–25 years).

4.2 Liaise with local traders of activity centres to identify and address emerging anti-social behaviour.

4.3 Work in partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform and Gambler's Help Southern to implement campaigns that minimise gambling harm.



THEME 3: Creating safe public spaces and transport

People's perceptions of whether they are safe in an environment can be influenced by environmental and design factors, such as lighting, the presence of rubbish, graffiti, damaged property, a lack of people and whether there are places they can sit. The behaviour of other people in the environment can also influence perceptions of safety. Council aims to design and maintain public spaces that feel safe and inviting. We also aim to ensure our streets are safe for pedestrians and cyclists, and that there are safe and convenient transport choices. Reducing the risk and severity of injuries on our roads is also a priority.

Strategies:

1. Design and maintain public spaces to deter crime and anti-social behaviour while promoting safety and a sense of place.
2. Improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.
3. Enhance safety around railway stations and other public transport nodes.

Actions:

Strategy 1: Design and maintain public spaces to deter crime and anti-social behaviour while promoting safety and a sense of place.

1.1 Liaise with Victoria Police to understand issues relating to crime and anti-social behaviours in our public spaces and undertake design consideration and suitable actions to mitigate or eliminate these issues.

1.2 Maintain the positive look and feel of public spaces through ongoing cleansing, graffiti removal, amenity patrols and ensuring passive surveillance.

Strategy 2: Improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

2.1 Continue to improve safety for people walking, using wheelchairs and bike riding through the design and renewal of footpaths and bike corridors across the City.

2.2 Through implementation of the *Glen Eira Integrated Transport Strategy*, increase the quantity and quality of walking and cycling paths along major transport routes.

2.3 Promote safe user access along pathways and transport routes across the municipality through social media.

2.4 Address community safety issues through discussion with local young people (10–25 years).

Strategy 3: Enhance safety around railway stations and other public transport interchanges.

3.1 Integrate within the structure plan development of Caulfield, Carnegie, Bentleigh, Elsternwick interchanges.

3.2 Advocate for community safety outcomes at Glen Huntly level crossing removal project.



ACTION PLAN

THEME 1: A strong, resilient, inclusive and connected community



For a community to be safe, members of that community must feel they belong. Council and its partners can promote connections within the community to reduce isolation, create support linkages and foster a sense of belonging and safety. This can be done through a range of activities, events and programs designed to be inclusive of all ages, cultures, genders and abilities. Efforts can be made to reach out to those most vulnerable or isolated.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 1: Encourage and support connections in the community to reduce isolation, create support linkages and foster a sense of belonging and safety.	1.1 Support programs and services across Council to engage with and/or support the needs of community members experiencing isolation, homelessness, loneliness or vulnerability, by building understanding of these needs and how they can be supported.	1.1.1 Annually review and quarterly promote the Glen Eira Community Connections page to Council staff and community members and organisations.	Community Development	2022–2025
		1.1.2 Four face-to-face or online programs delivered annually to address isolation issues.	Libraries, Arts and Culture	2022–2025
	1.2 Promote activities and programs that encourage safe neighbourhoods and communities.	1.2.1 Six <i>Glen Eira News</i> articles annually, featuring recipients of the <i>Good Neighbour Recognition Program</i> .	Community Development	2022–2025
	1.3 Advocate for and facilitate programs to minimise the risk of anti-social behaviour.	1.3.1 Promote and support external organisations and key stakeholders that facilitate programs to minimise anti-social behaviour.	Community Development	2022–2025

THEME 1: A strong, resilient, inclusive and connected community



STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 2: Equity and respect are thriving in our community.	2.1 Facilitate and/or support an anti-racism campaign/activity.	2.1.1 Work in partnership with community organisations to facilitate an anti-racism campaign.	Community Development	2022–2025
	2.2 Through the implementation of the <i>Glen Eira Community Wellbeing Plan Action Plan</i> , promote respect, care and equity to help keep our community safe from all forms of inequality and violence.	2.2.1 At least three grant applications awarded that promote respect, care and equity within our community.	Community Development	2022–2025
Strategy 3: Improve community confidence and feelings of safety	3.1 Develop and publish positive media releases and articles about community safety on the Council's website and through a variety of media outlets.	3.1.1 Media releases delivered online and through printed media.	Community Development	2022–2025
	3.2 Promote family-friendly and safe initiatives and public events to increase perceptions of safety in public spaces.	3.2.1 Media releases delivered online and through printed media to promote activities eg. <i>Koori Chill Out</i> , <i>International Day of People with Disability</i> .	Community Development	2022–2025
	3.3 Conduct a <i>Community Confidence and Feelings of Safety</i> survey to understand perceptions of safety and inform a proactive approach to community safety issues.	3.3.1 <i>Community Confidence and Feelings of Safety</i> survey completed.	Community Development	2022–2023

THEME 1: A strong, resilient, inclusive and connected community



STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 4: Improve understanding of factors that may have a community safety impact and/or drive crime and anti-social behaviour to inform future strategies and planning and develop effective solutions.	4.1 Participate in networks to enable a broader understanding of community safety, crime and anti-social behaviour.	4.1.1 Council staff attend meetings and forums that focus on community safety, crime and anti-social behaviour to gain a comprehensive understanding of these issues.	Community Development	2022–2025
	4.2 Analyse crime statistics and trends and report these to the Glen Eira Community Safety Committee and identify future actions to combat increasing crime areas/issues.	4.2.1 Annual reporting of crime statistics and trends is presented to the Community Safety Committee.	Community Development and Glen Eira Community Safety Committee	2022–2025
	4.3 Conduct comparative data analyses to identify strategic priorities and emerging risks and build an evidence base for advocacy campaigns.	4.3.1 Annual comparative data analysis conducted and reviewed.	Community Development	2022–2025

THEME 2: Living safely and securely



Community safety will be addressed by Council, the police, organisations and residents working together. Council has a responsibility to take on board what it learns from our community about their safety needs and provide support in return. There are many factors for living safely and securely. We have determined some of the community's main concerns, from crime to online safety to the impacts of climate change. These strategies and actions will ensure we continue listening to these concerns and provide education, empowerment and support to our community in navigating these safety issues.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 1: Provide information to the community on how to keep safe, report local safety issues and potential safety risks.	1.1. Promote children's safety to parents and carers to assist with injury prevention, water safety, personal safety and other identified safety issues for babies and children.	1.1.1 Maternal and Child Health Nurses to provide all families with written and verbal educational information and resources at all <i>Key Age and Stage</i> scheduled appointments and at <i>First Time Parent Groups</i> .	Family, Youth and Children's Services	2022–2025
	1.2 In partnership with Victoria Police, provide information through Council publications to our community on how to report local safety issues, messages and potential safety risks to the appropriate organisations.	1.2.1 One article per issue of the <i>Glen Eira News</i> that provides information from Victoria Police and that informs on local safety issues and potential safety risks.	Communications, Engagement and Advocacy and Victoria Police	2022–2025
	1.3 In partnership with Victoria Police, provide information to the community, traders and local businesses about where to seek assistance if they become a victim of crime.	1.3.1 Media releases delivered online and through printed media, including the <i>Glen Eira Trader's Association</i> newsletter.	Community Development and City Futures	2022–2025
	1.4 Work in partnership to develop initiatives and programs that raise awareness of cyber safety concerns.	1.4.1 At least two <i>Glen Eira News</i> articles per annum on how to keep safe while on online.	Community Development and Communications, Engagement and Advocacy	2022–2025

THEME 2: Living safely and securely



STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 2: Partner with Victoria Police and various community organisations to strengthen relationships within the community.	2.1 Run online or face-to-face community safety engagement activities in partnership with Victoria Police to discuss current safety issues.	2.1.1 Deliver online and/or face-to-face activities four times per year eg. <i>Coffee with a Cop</i> , online forums, participation in community events.	Community Development and Victoria Police	2022–2025
	2.2 In partnership with Emergency Services and community organisations, deliver safe community initiatives and events in Glen Eira eg. <i>Safe Plate Day</i> , <i>Community Safety Month</i> .	2.2.1 Deliver two face-to-face activities annually eg. Victoria Police's <i>Safe Plate Day</i> , and <i>Jewish Community Day</i> .	Community Development and Victoria Police	2022–2025
	2.3 Provide opportunities to establish and build positive relationships between Victoria Police and young people to help address young people's local safety issues.	2.3.1 Invite Victoria Police and an LGBTIQ+ Liaison officer to attend school and community-based PRIDE groups to build relationships and to assist young people to feel comfortable to discuss their local safety issues.	Family, Youth and Children's Services	2022–2025
Strategy 3: Educate and empower the community to understand and minimise the impacts of climate change on safety.	3.1 Engage and educate our community to understand climate safety and how they can best adapt to and protect themselves against climate change impacts eg. extreme weather, heat, flash flooding.	3.1.1 Community stakeholders engaged to adapt and prepare for climate change and communicate climate safety messages.	Community Safety and Compliance	2022–2025
		3.1.2 Engagement projects or activities delivered to engage and educate the community about climate safety.	Community Safety and Compliance	2022–2025
	3.2 Incorporate safety and climate change messages in social media posts, media releases and other communications channels.	3.2.1 A minimum of six social media posts and/or media releases that educate the community to understand climate safety and how they can best adapt to and protect themselves against climate change impacts.	Community Safety and Compliance	2022–2025

THEME 2: Living safely and securely



STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 4: Engage and support our community to minimise harms and reduce the risk of adopting criminal and anti-social behaviour.	4.1 Provide opportunities to have discussions, establish and build relationships with young people, their families and key stakeholders to explore local issues relating to anti-social behaviour, including drug, alcohol and tobacco use by young people (10–25 years).	4.1.1 Engage with an industry expert to deliver one <i>Family Information Night</i> that promotes healthy family discussions on topics relating to anti-social behaviour.	Family, Youth and Children's Services	2022–2025
	4.2 Liaise with local traders of activity centres to identify and address emerging anti-social behaviour.	4.2.1 Three <i>Glen Eira News</i> articles advertising youth worker support options per annum.	Family, Youth and Children's Services	2022–2025
	4.3 Work in partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform and Gambler's Help Southern to implement campaigns that minimise gambling harm.	4.3.1 One campaign annually.	Community Development	2022–2025

THEME 3: Creating safe public spaces and transport



People's perceptions of whether they are safe in an environment can be influenced by environmental and design factors, such as lighting, the presence of rubbish, graffiti, damaged property, a lack of people and whether there are places they can sit. The behaviour of other people in the environment can also influence perceptions of safety. Council aims to design and maintain public spaces that feel safe and inviting. We also aim to ensure our streets are safe for pedestrians and cyclists, and that there are safe and convenient transport choices. Reducing the risk and severity of injuries on our roads is also a priority.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 1: Design and maintain public spaces to deter crime and anti-social behaviour while promoting safety and a sense of place	1.1. Liaise with Victoria Police to understand issues relating to crime and anti-social behaviours in our public spaces and undertake design consideration and suitable actions to mitigate or eliminate these issues.	1.1.1 Utilise data from Victoria Police to inform design considerations during upgrades, redevelopments or creation of new public spaces.	Recreation and Open Space	2022–2025
	1.2 Maintain the positive look and feel of public spaces through ongoing cleansing, graffiti removal, amenity patrols and ensuring passive surveillance.	1.2.1 Undertake regular inspections and maintenance/works to directly respond to graffiti and cleansing matters.	Recreation and Open Space	2022–2025
		1.2.2 Collaborate with the Inner South Metropolitan Mayors Forum Graffiti Management Working Group to implement a trial of Council removal of graffiti on public utility assets with agreed authority partners.	Climate and Sustainability	2022–2025
		1.2.3 Design and implement a communications plan to increase community awareness of graffiti management and community engagement with graffiti prevention.	Climate and Sustainability	2022–2025

THEME 3: Creating safe public spaces and transport



STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 2: Improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.	2.1 Continue to improve safety for people walking, using wheelchairs and bike riding through the design and renewal of footpaths and bike corridors across the City.	2.1.1 Ensure footpaths and bike corridors (shared user paths) are constructed to relevant Australian standards.	City Futures	2022–2025
	2.2 Through implementation of the <i>Glen Eira Integrated Transport Strategy</i> , increase the quantity and quality of walking and cycling paths along major transport routes.	2.2.1 Implement Action 1.6 from the Walking and Accessibility Action Plan 2019–2024 (deliver improvements for pedestrian access and high-quality lighting to public transport, within 1.2 kilometres of the station or stop).	City Futures	2022–2025
	2.3 Promote safe user access along pathways and transport routes across the municipality through social media.	2.3.1 Ensure a minimum of one article per year published in <i>Glen Eira News</i> .	City Futures	2022–2025
	2.4 Address community safety issues through discussion with local young people (10–25 years).	2.4.1 Facilitate the <i>Moving up</i> program with at least one agenda focusing on safety and getting to school autonomously	Family, Youth and Children's Services	2022–2025

THEME 3: Creating safe public spaces and transport



STRATEGIC PRIORITY	ACTION	MEASURE	LEAD COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT	TIMELINE
Strategy 3: Enhance safety around railway stations and other public transport interchanges.	3.1 Integrate within the structure plan development of Caulfield, Carnegie, Bentleigh and Elsternwick interchanges.	3.1.1 Improve perceptions of safety around interchanges by including elements such as lighting and passive surveillance.	City Futures	2022–2025
	3.2 Advocate for community safety outcomes at Glen Huntly level crossing removal project.	3.2.1 Advocate for community safety during the design process.	Project Management Office	2022–2023
		3.2.2 Produce an updated advocacy document which outlines priority areas for Glen Eira City Council.	Project Management Office	2023–2024
		3.3.3 Be responsive to community safety needs during construction.	Project Management Office	2024–2025

DEFINITIONS

Anti-social behaviour: actions that harm or lack consideration for the wellbeing of others. This may include drunkenness, graffiti, destruction and damaging property.

Council: Glen Eira City Council.

Evidence based: actions that are undertaken are based on evidence which may include evidence from statistics, anecdotal evidence, research or best practice.

Resilience: the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties, toughness, challenges and to adapt to change and new ways.

Stakeholders: any parties who have an interest in, who work in or who may be impacted by community safety. This includes community, government departments at all levels, community organisations and support and service organisations.

Social cohesion: a cohesive society that works towards the wellbeing of all its members.



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

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Teletypewriter (TTY): 13 36 77

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Glen Eira City Council:

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@cityofgleneira:

www.instagram.com/cityofgleneira

Glen Eira arts, gallery and events:

www.facebook.com/gleneiraarts

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Glen Eira Leisure:

www.facebook.com/GESACOnline

<https://www.instagram.com/gleneiraleisure>

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