



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

- BENTLEIGH
- BENTLEIGH EAST
- BRIGHTON EAST
- CARNEGIE
- CAULFIELD
- ELSTERNWICK
- GARDENVALE
- GLEN HUNTLY
- MCKINNON
- MURRUMBEENA
- ORMOND
- ST KILDA EAST

Glen Eira City Council Financial Sustainability Strategy 2025–2029



Easy Read



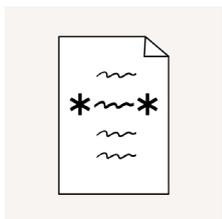
About Easy Read



This is an Easy Read book.



Easy Read uses simple words and pictures to explain ideas.



New words are ***bold with stars***.



We tell you what new words mean.



Easy Read is a summary.



Get more information on our website
www.gleneira.vic.gov.au

About this book



This is an Easy Read summary of our ***Financial Sustainability Strategy***.



Our Financial Sustainability Strategy helps us

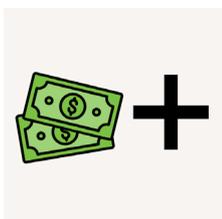
- know how we use council money now



- map how we use council money in the future



- keep Glen Eira ***financially sustainable***.



Financially sustainable means we have money to keep Glen Eira strong in the future.



We call it **our strategy** in this book.

Our strategy goes from **2025 to 2029**.

Why is our strategy important?



A Financial Sustainability Strategy helps us do a good job now and into the future.



Our strategy will help us to keep

- giving great services



- taking care of our buildings and spaces



- meeting our community's needs.



Local governments like Glen Eira must plan for financial sustainability by law.

What are we doing now?



We are doing many things to help financial sustainability for Glen Eira.



We are using ***budgets***.

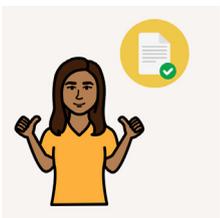


Budgets help us see

- money we have



- money we spend



- if we are on track with our goals.



We make reports about what we spend every month and every ***quarter***.



A quarter means every 3 months.
For example, January to March is a quarter.



We follow a plan for how we use money over time.



We manage loans and cash carefully.



We use an ***Audit and Risk Committee***.



The Audit and Risk Committee is a group outside of council who help us do the best work.

Are we at risk?



Most councils have financial risks to manage.



Rate capping is a financial risk.



Rate capping is a rule about how much councils charge in ***rates***.



Rates pay for local council services.



The cost of running our council is going up a lot.



It is hard to pay for things we need if rates do not go up when costs go up.



Cost shifting can make it harder to manage money.



Cost shifting means State or Federal government give more jobs to local councils.



Jobs might be organising local

- school crossings



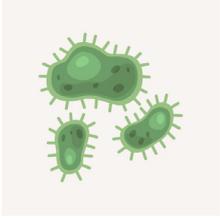
- ***immunisations***.



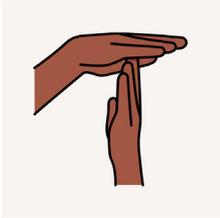
Immunisations are vaccines that keep everyone safe from dangerous diseases.



When cost shifting happens, local councils do not get more money for their extra work.



COVID-19 or covid also caused problems.



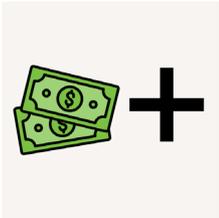
We closed many services during the covid pandemic.



We lost money when we closed our services. For example, closing our gyms and pools.



We built a new swimming pool in Carnegie.



The new pool cost a lot of money to build.



We changed some of the services we manage.



Big changes in council cost a lot of money.
For example, extra work setting up different teams.

Our 5 goals

1 Balance Future Budgets



We manage our money carefully.



We work to keep our finances strong over time.



We make sure we always have enough cash.



We can pay our bills and daily costs.



We aim to have money left over.



We spend money on the things that matter most to our community.



We try not to take out too many loans or owe too much money.



Building and upgrade projects are within our budget.



We use left over money to make services and buildings better.

2 Boost revenue and drive efficiency



Boost revenue and drive efficiency means we plan ways to make the most of our money.



We will lower our day to day costs.



We look for new ways to bring in money.



We try to improve our financial health over time.



When we have left over money, we put more money back into important services.



Buildings and land we own helps us to be financially strong.



We track the money we spend and make over time so we can see clear results.



We will look for better ways to do our work, so our money goes further.

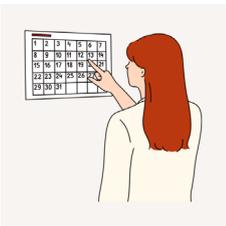


We save money and make sure we get good value for what we spend.

3 Strengthen reserves



Strengthen reserves means we build up savings.



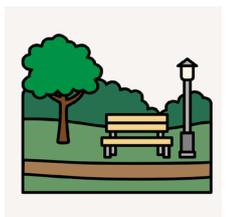
We want to increase our extra savings.



We set up new reserves to help us if new risks come up in the future.



We check our ***Open Space Reserve*** to see if it meets our goals.



Our Open Space Reserve is money we put aside for parks and green spaces.

4 Manage debt responsibly



We work to lower the amount we pay each year on loans.



We do not take out new large loans unless they are part of plans we have agreed on already.



We use more of our saved money to pay for future building and upgrade projects.

5 Build a funding pipeline for capital works



A ***funding pipeline for capital works*** means we have lots of ways to pay for building and upgrades.



We find ways to get more outside funding for building and upgrade projects.



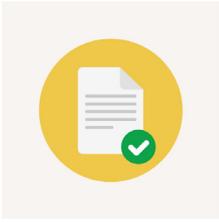
We aim to save money when we buy goods and services.



We track savings and make sure we get good value for money.



Our building and upgrade projects match our main goals.



Our projects also match our
Asset Management Framework.



Our Asset Management Framework is a document that helps us use ***assets*** safely.



Our assets are things we own that are worth money. For example, council office buildings.

Follow our work



Each year we will share an ***Annual Report***.



The Annual Report tells you what we have been working on from our Council Plan and strategy.



You can also read our monthly newsletters to see what we are doing over time.



You can follow our social media and website too.



There are many ways for you to get involved in our activities.

Contact information



Contact us for more information about our Financial Sustainability Strategy.



You can also ask for the information in different formats. For example, audio.



Website www.gleneira.vic.gov.au



Phone 9524 3333



Email mail@gleneira.vic.gov.au



Visit Glen Eira Town Hall, corner of Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield.

Help to call



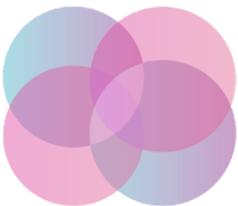
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