



BANYULE YOUTH
SUMMIT

2023
REPORT





INTRODUCTION

The 2023 Banyule Youth Summit was held on May 25 at the Heidelberg Golf Club.

It was Council's 5th summit of this format, which has been a key feature of Banyule's youth service delivery since 2014. 100 young people attended, discussing and proposing recommendations on issues that matter most to them.

Their vision for a more inclusive Banyule was shared with an audience of decision makers and community and education sector workers. Council will work in partnership with young people and the wider community to ensure their visions are addressed. A report card will be presented to Council in 2024 to outline the achievements met.



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

BODY IMAGE

Our vision is for young people to feel comfortable, loved and safe. We want young people to not be defined by their appearance. We want to positively change how other young people, families, teachers, and ourselves feel about our body image

ACTIONS

- ▶ Deliver a parent workshop on the topic of body image.
- ▶ Offer body image workshops for young people alongside a social media campaign that challenges unrealistic expectations.



YOUTH VOICE

We want more opportunities for young people to make an impact on our community.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Host a networking and professional development day for student representative councils.
- ▶ Provide young people with the opportunity to have their say via a youth survey.
- ▶ Bring together Summit ambassadors to collaborate and continue to advocate to change makers on the issues that matter to them.



LGBTQIA+

For sporting clubs, arts spaces, and schools to feel safe, inclusive and tolerant for LGBTQIA+ young people and their allies.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Create online resources and workshops for teachers, community groups and sporting clubs.
- ▶ Offer sporting opportunities for gender and sexually diverse young people.
- ▶ Deliver LGBTQIA+ youth events.



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

GENDER EQUALITY

A Banyule community where there are no stereotypes and divides between genders and where all young people are educated on gender equality.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Social media campaign challenging gender stereotypes and telling stories of gender equality.
- ▶ Deliver school workshops addressing gender stereotypes.



MASCULINITY

We need to normalise men talking about their emotions, not just to a stranger, but to their friends and family. The discomfort and intimidation aligned with talking to strangers makes it harder for men to communicate their struggles. We also want to educate individuals on positive masculinity, changing stereotypes from power and strength to empathy and emotional intelligence.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Deliver workshops in schools and sporting clubs that promote positive masculinity.
- ▶ Deliver social activities for younger men (12-14) combining physical activity and conversation.



NEURODIVERSITY

To see people educated and to reduce the separation of neurodiverse people in schools and community.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Develop a youth media team of neurodiverse individuals to guide how services can use social media to advocate for awareness and visibility.
- ▶ Deliver a professional development opportunity on neurodiversity to local youth practitioners and teachers.



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

DISABILITY INCLUSION

We would like to see more support for youth with disabilities and we would like young people with disabilities to feel included.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Offer inclusive activities for all young people.
- ▶ Create a newsletter and social media for parents to promote opportunities for young people with disabilities through a parents newsletter and social media engagement.



ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS

We would like to see better alcohol & drug education delivered in a more engaging way - including safe use, spaces to talk about it openly, as well as supporting your own and others mental health.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Support health promotion messaging in relation to alcohol and other drugs at YouthFest.
- ▶ Street Artists to paint a street art mural with a positive health message.
- ▶ Deliver a workshop for youth workers, teachers and parents on vaping.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES 18+

Our vision is to create the same opportunities for Somali-Australian young people. This can be done through targeted ongoing support programs, which will hopefully create a safe space for Somali youth within Banyule.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Deliver activities that focus on mental health and recreation for Somali-Australian young people.
- ▶ Support opportunities for 1:1 career advice for Somali-Australian young people.



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

MENTAL HEALTH

Our vision is to create a more social environment where everyone feels comfortable to express themselves by initiating more appealing social events, such as, recreational gatherings, no social media/phone events and many more.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Deliver a community movie screening to provide opportunity for connection.
- ▶ Ensure a range of sensory supports and accommodations at YouthFest.
- ▶ Provide regular recreational and social activities supporting young people's opportunities and ability to socialise.



CLIMATE CHANGE

For young adults and children to be more educated on the impacts we and larger companies have on our climate and what we can do to help.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Workshops that educate and bring together young people committed to climate action.
- ▶ Deliver an upcycle clothes workshop.
- ▶ Create a social media campaign addressing "greenwashing" and climate anxiety.



I liked being able to talk about important issues that I'm passionate about

It was an opportunity for my voice to be heard

I enjoyed the way we could communicate our views without judgement

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY – UNDER 18

We would like to work towards the elimination of racism through better community awareness, access to prayer rooms in schools, teachers treating students equally and more employment opportunities for Somali young women in male dominated industries.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Provide service information for Somali-Australian young people through social media.
- ▶ Host sporting tournaments for Somali-Australian young people.
- ▶ Host intergenerational events for the Somali-Australian community.



CULTURAL INCLUSION

For culturally and linguistically diverse young people to feel included in our community. Raising awareness and educating people to respect and embrace other people's identities would lead to young people embracing theirs and other people's cultures.

ACTIONS

- ▶ Cultural representation, including traditional performances at community events.
- ▶ A social media campaign that shares young people's cultural stories.





WE ONLY HAVE
ONE HOME! 
IT'S IMPORTANT
THAT OUR HOME
IS CLEAN + SAFE



To find out more about the 2023 Banyule Youth Summit and follow our progress, go to banyuleyouth.com/youth-summit or contact us.

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