



MITCHELL SHIRE LIFE STAGES STRATEGY



MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Mitchell Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land, those of the Taungurung and Wurundjeri People. We pay our respects to their rich cultures and to Elders past and present.



Flying the Aboriginal Flag.

CONTENTS

Glossary	4
Welcome message	5
Purpose	6
Life Stages Vision	7
The Life Stages	8
Context	10
Strategic Context	10
Roles and Responsibilities	11
Policy Context	12
Community Voice	15
Infants to preschool	15
Childhood	17
Young people	20
Adults	25
Older people	30
Service Providers	35
Focus Areas and Aspirations	37
Focus Area 1	39
Focus Area 2	40
Focus Area 3	41
Appendix 1: Mitchell Shire Overview	42

GLOSSARY

The Strategy The Life Stages Strategy	The Mitchell Shire Life Stages Strategy.
Life Stages	The different phases of life that people pass through in a lifetime, defined by critical transition periods.
Transitions	Significant changes within the life course.
Diversity	Recognition and respect that everyone is unique in how they identify including their backgrounds, socio-economic status, abilities, religious beliefs, age and life stages, sexuality and gender.
Infants to preschool	From birth to the beginning of primary school.
Childhood	Commonly from 6 to 11 years of age.
Young people	Commonly from 12 to 24 years of age.
Adults	Commonly from 25 to 64 years of age.
Older people	Commonly 65 years of age and older.

WELCOME MESSAGE

It is with great pride that we present the Mitchell Shire Life Stages Strategy. This strategy ensures people moving through different stages of their life are valued, supported, connected and well.

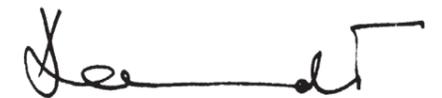
Every day we engage with an increasingly diverse range of people who are experiencing different life stages, lived experiences, needs and aspirations. This rich diversity creates positive economic, environmental and social outcomes and brings strength and resilience to our community.

Adopting a life stages approach allows us to better support key moments of transition and recognises the importance of family, community, culture and place. It provides increased opportunities for holistic, integrated actions that create supportive and healthy environments for all people throughout their life. It is a strategy for all.

Council has a role as a provider, facilitator and advocate to improve outcomes for people in all stages of life in Mitchell Shire. Progress will only be made with sustained partnership and collective efforts. This Strategy will help us to work more collaboratively with service providers, policy makers and community.



Mayor, Cr Bill Chisholm
October 2019



Chief Executive Officer, David Turnbull



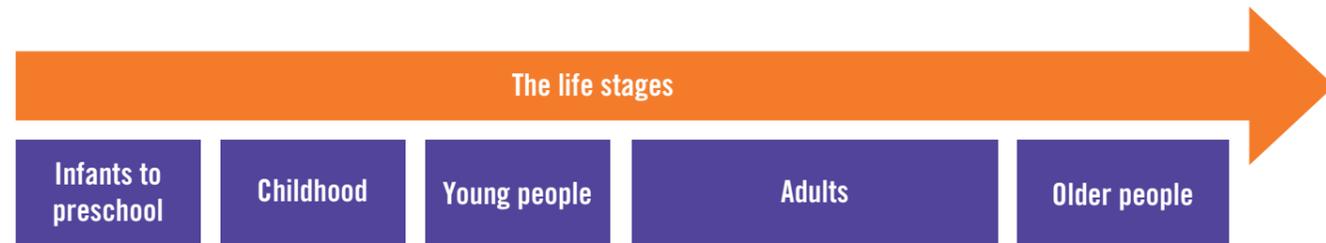
From left to right: Cr Bob Humm, Cr Bill Chisholm, Cr Rhonda Sanderson, Cr Fiona Stevens, Cr Annie Goble, Cr David Atkinson, Cr Bob Cornish, Cr David Lowe and Cr Rob Eldridge.

PURPOSE

The Mitchell Shire Life Stages Strategy emphasises the importance of all ages and stages of life and acknowledges the intergenerational setting within which our community sits. Through this Strategy, Council seeks to recognise and respond holistically to the needs of all people across the life stages and provide directed care at key transitions. The Strategy is aspirational, aiming to nurture Mitchell Shire as a place where locals are proud to live, learn, work and play.

The Life Stages Strategy enables Council to genuinely embrace the needs of our entire community, from conception to end of life. It enables Council to build upon our achievements in providing for infants to preschool aged children, young people and older people and capture life stages previously not reflected in Council's strategic planning framework such as 6-11 year olds, 25-64 year olds and the diversity of family structures and living arrangements.

Image 1: The Life Stages.



Although every person will have a unique experience as they journey through life, there are common needs, issues and transitions that typically occur and correspond to each of the five key life stages. The Life Stages Strategy aims to support people at vulnerable moments as they move through life. A life stage perspective recognises that investing in the earlier stages of one's life will improve outcomes as they journey through the later stages.

The Strategy responds to changes in International, Australian and Victorian government policy, our extensive experience in service and program delivery, consultation with community members, service provider organisations alongside research and data analysis.

Mitchell Shire Council staff and external partners are encouraged to use the Strategy as a tool for applying a life stage approach to co-designing and planning for services, places and spaces that support people's wellbeing.

LIFE STAGES VISION

People are valued, supported, connected and well as they transition through the life stages.



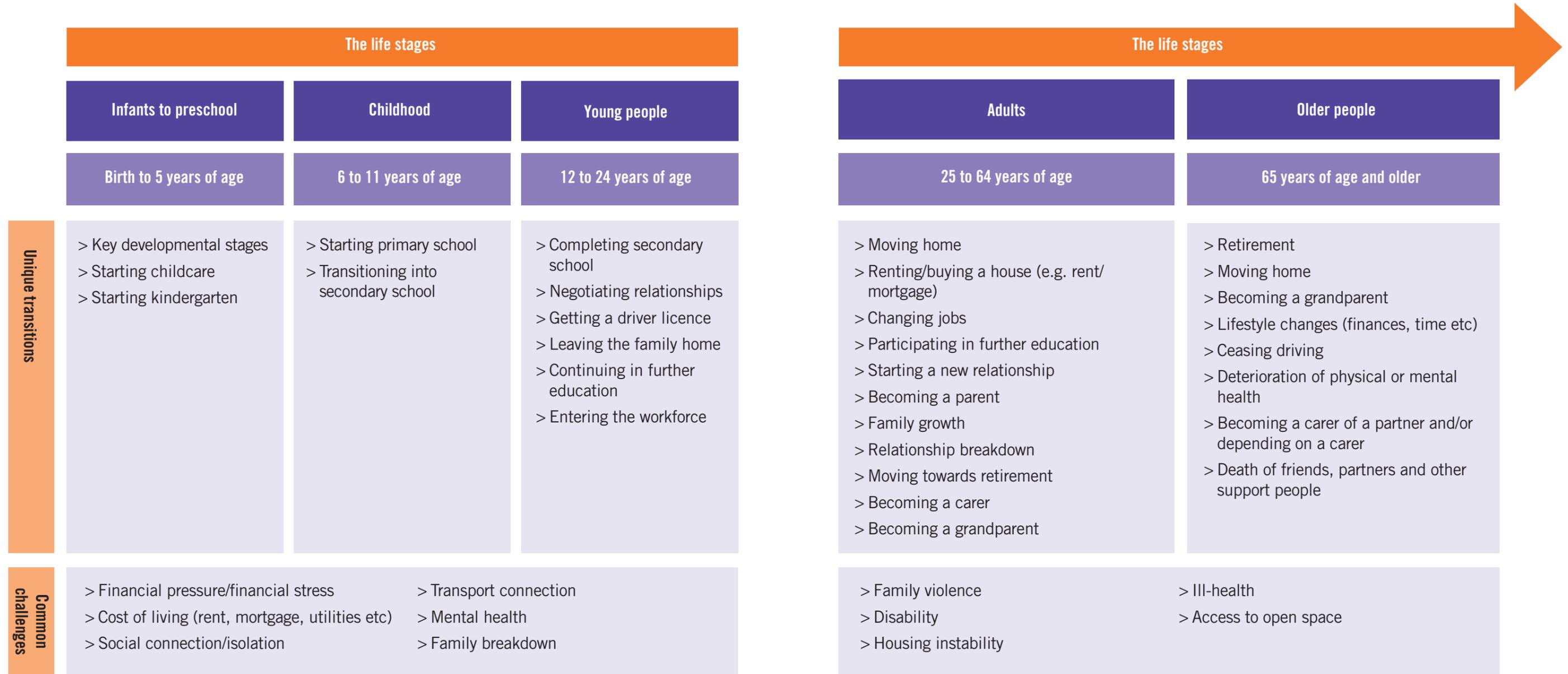
Community members attending the Beveridge Community BBQ.

THE LIFE STAGES

The Life Stages are different phases of life that people pass through in a lifetime, defined by critical transition periods. Each of the five Life Stages experience unique transitions and common challenges. These have been informed by what the community and service providers have told us,

Mitchell Shire Council staff experience in service and program delivery, research, demographic data, and governmental policies and frameworks.

Image 2: Transitions through the Life Stages.



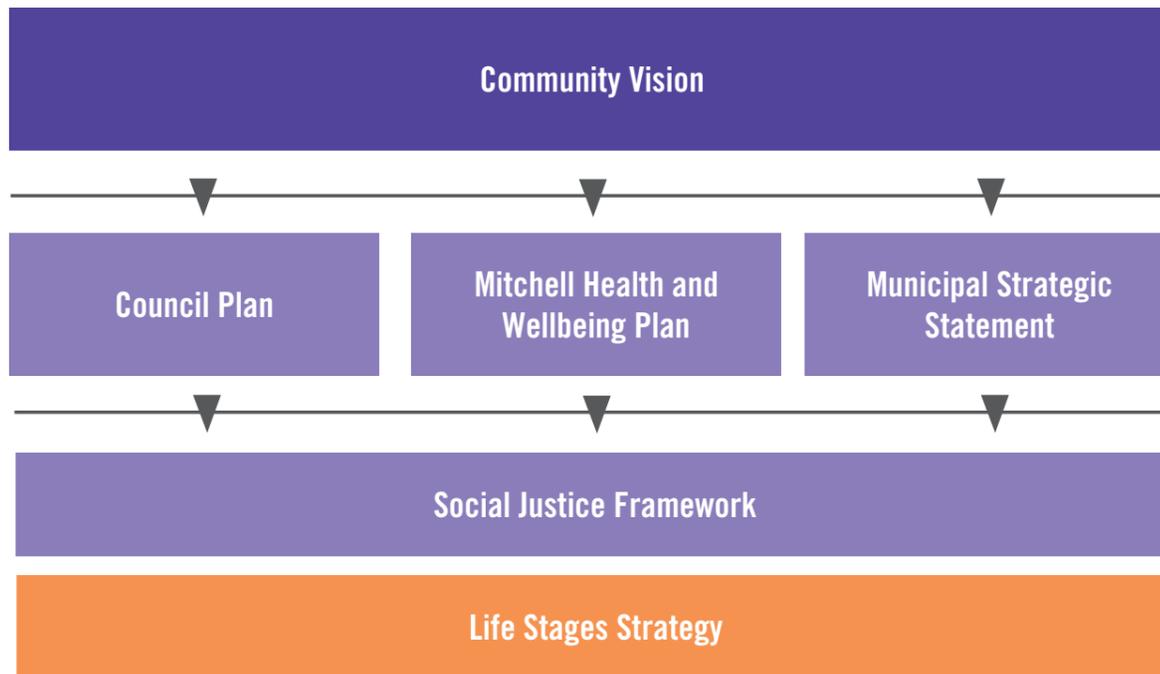
CONTEXT

The Life Stages Strategy sits within Council’s strategic framework. It is one of many strategies created by Council to develop and support a healthy, connected and sustainable community now and into the future.

Strategic Context

The Life Stages Strategy builds on and is informed by the aspirations and outcomes articulated in: the Community Vision, Council Plan, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, and the Municipal Strategic Statement. It is underpinned by the principles and approach outlined in the Social Justice Framework.

Image 3: Life Stages strategic context.

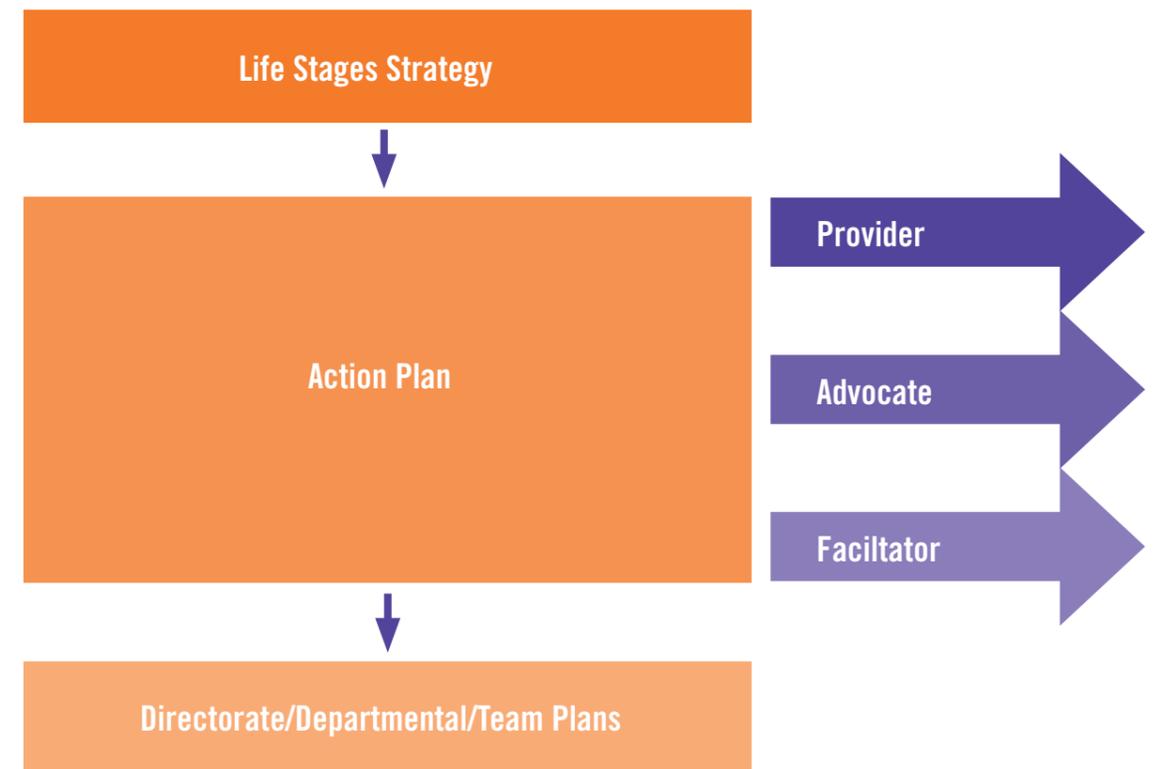


Roles and Responsibilities

The Strategy responds to Mitchell Shire Council’s roles and responsibility to provide services, places and spaces that support community members across all the life stages. A four-year action plan sits alongside the Life Stages Strategy to guide Council’s focus. A new action plan will be reviewed and drafted every four years to reflect the changing needs of the community and changes in policy developments to reflect best practice. Mitchell Shire Council’s roles are:

- Provider** A. of services;
 B. of information, tools, public spaces and facilities;
- Advocate** to represent the needs of the population now and into the future; and
- Facilitator** through collaboration and partnerships.

Image 4: Life Stages Implementation.



Policy Context

A number of frameworks have informed the development of the Life Stages Strategy. These frameworks underpin the approach Council is taking to support people as they move through the life stages.

This Strategy acknowledges that our health and wellbeing is not just influenced by our genetics, lifestyle or behaviours. We are also influenced by the conditions in which we are born, grow up, live, work and age¹.

The Wider Determinants of Health

Some of the wider determinants of health include income, early childhood experiences, gender stereotypes, norms and expectations, education, employment, social inclusion, housing and geography, living and working conditions, quality of air, soil and water, and health system². The wider determinants of health are depicted in image 5.

Image 5: The Wider Determinants of Health. Source: Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, 2019-2023.



Source: Adapted from Dahlgren & Whitehead 1991

¹ Dahlgren and Whitehead 1991, Policies and strategies to promote social equity in health: Background document to WHO – Strategy paper for Europe. Institute for Futures Studies.

² Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023.

UNICEF’s Child-friendly Cities Framework

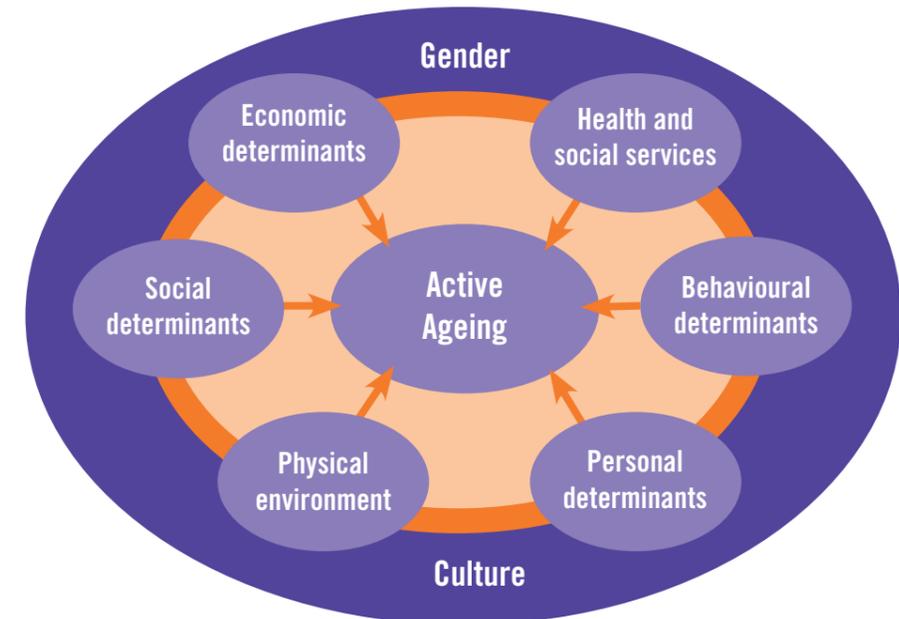
Mitchell Shire Council is committed to supporting people within the early stages of life and aligns with UNICEF’s Child-friendly Cities Framework. A child-friendly city is “a local system of good governance committed to fulfilling children’s rights.”³ The framework for action is based on the right of every young person to:

- > Be protected from exploitation, violence and abuse
- > Participate in family, community and social life
- > Receive basic services such as health and education
- > Express their opinion and influence decisions about their city.

World Health Organisation’s Age-Friendly Community Project

The Strategy aligns with the World Health Organisation’s (WHO) Age-Friendly Community Project. “In an age-friendly community, policies, services and structures related to the physical and social environment are designed to support and enable older people to “age actively” – that is, to live in security, enjoy good health and continue to participate fully in society.”⁴

Image 6: Determinants of Active Ageing. Source: World Health Organisation, 2007, Global Age-friendly Cities: A Guide.



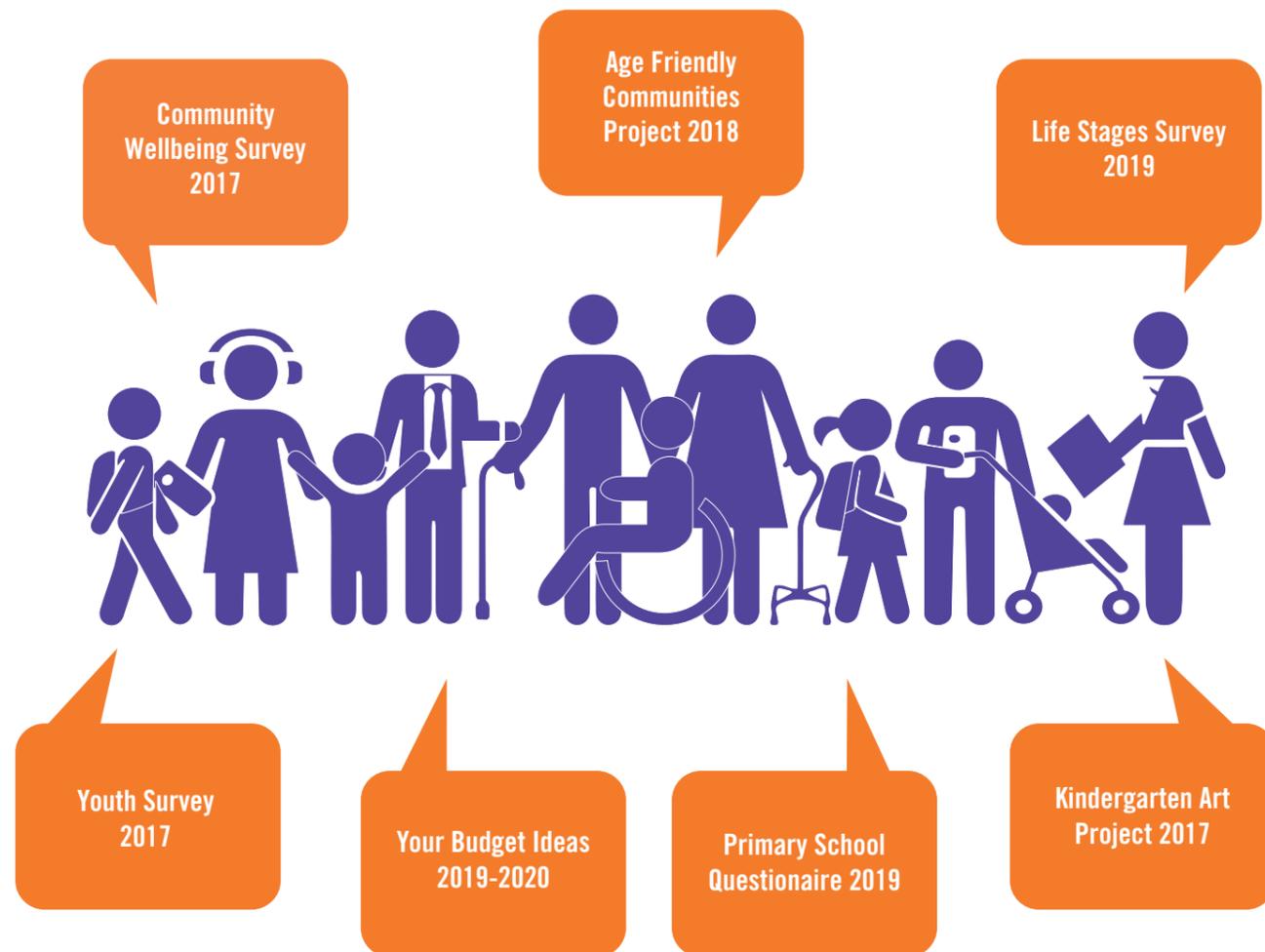
³ Van Gils, Jan. Introducing the child friendly city network: One of the most effective programmes in the world today to transform our cities into places of well-being, p. 173, 2013.

⁴ World Health Organisation, 2019, Global Age Friendly Cities Project.

COMMUNITY VOICE

The Life Stages Strategy was drafted in consultation with people across the life stages within our community and draws on numerous surveys.⁵

Image 7: Life Stages community consultation.



The community voice shapes Mitchell Shire Council's work. This section draws on the Life Stages survey responses received from members of the community and our service provider partners.

A limitation in our Life Stages survey was that the very young were not represented. To mitigate this, the voices of those within the life stages of infants to preschool and childhood have been captured through targeted consultation.



Mitchell Shire welcomes new Australian Citizens.

⁵ In addition, a range of service providers and community members were consulted in the following forums: Social Justice Committee; Family Violence Roundtable; Youth Steering Committee; Mitchell Shire Youth Council; Municipal Early Years Reference Group; Positive Ageing Ambassadors; and Elder Abuse Information Session.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Infants to preschool

Preschool children across the Shire participated in an art project and answered "I feel safe when...":



Image 8: Samples of children's artwork "I feel safe when..."



Image 9: Samples of children's artwork "I feel safe when..."

COMMUNITY VOICE

Childhood

Primary school children were consulted on their current and future living environment. They completed a survey with pictures and writing. They answered “Can you think of a few things you wish your community had now?”



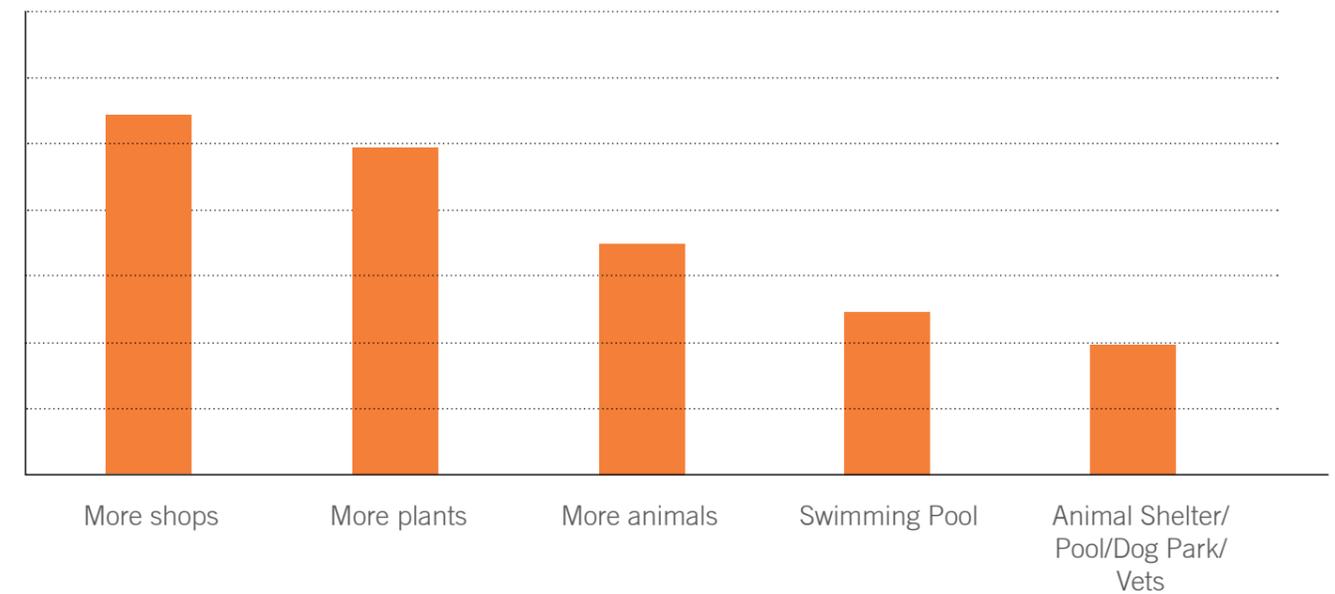
Primary School children learning in the classroom.

There were many separate items listed in response to this question. Some of the answers were:

- > Shopping Centres
- > A huge park and vegie patch for everyone
- > Public swimming pool
- > Dog parks
- > Kmart
- > University
- > More trees to climb
- > Hospital
- > A lake where you can relax and have fun
- > Movies
- > Parrots, toucans, all kids of difference species of bird

Graph: Top five answers to...

Can you think of a few things you wish your community had now?



Children responded to **“Imagine in 5 years time, what do you wish or think your community might be like?”**

Generally children felt there will be more shops and buildings and their community will be crowded and busy. The children wished there were more plants and animals, parks and open space, as illustrated in the below comments and drawings;

- > The same, but with more buildings
- > It would be full of animals and there will be a zoo
- > There will be lots more people and houses everywhere and not many plants
- > A huge shopping centre
- > A university college and high schools
- > More fast food places
- > I wish more nice plants and flowers
- > It will be full and crowded
- > Less animals
- > More pollution and rubbish
- > If Wallan keeps their environment safe, then it would look like there is less pollution and it if it doesn't then it would look more like a busy town and there will be loads of people.



Broadford Outdoor Pool.

Image 10, 11 and 12: Children's drawings "Imagine in 5 years time, what do you wish or think your community might be like?"



COMMUNITY VOICE

Young people

Key points from young people's responses to the Life Stages Survey are outlined below.



Young people enjoying the Wandong Skate Park.

Focus Area 1: Mitchell Shire Council aims to positively influence living, cultural and environmental conditions, that impact the health, wellbeing and safety of the population.

Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

Prepared for emergencies – it's important to be prepared, particularly in the country compared to the city.

Community is connected and mentally well – Because a lot of people in all age groups are struggling but mentally is especially bad we don't have enough resources for people to go and get help plus it's super expensive and that needs to change!!

The top three Focus Area 1 aspirations for young people:

1. Accessible, available and timely transport connectivity.
2. Community is connected and mentally well.
3. Community is prepared for emergency situations.

Focus Area 2: Mitchell Shire Council aims to improve access and opportunities for local education, volunteering, employment pathways and business development.

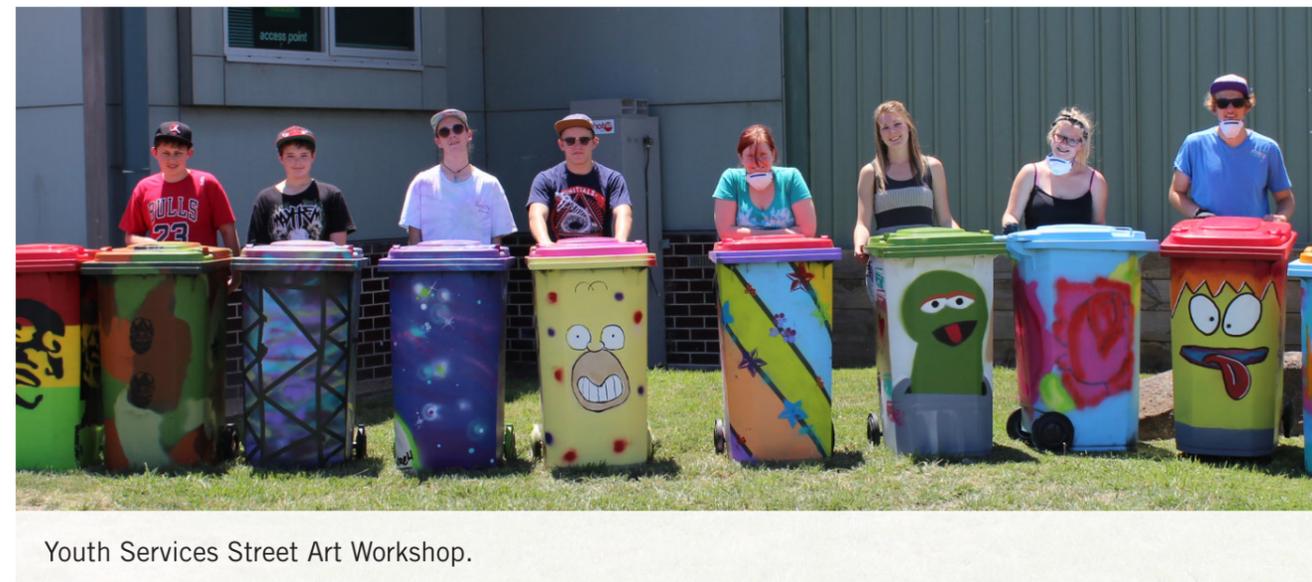
Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

Local career pathways –
Everyone needs a job; working close to home.

Lifelong learning – Lifelong learning because no one, no matter how old you are, can know everything, so it's important to always be learning.

The top three rated Focus Area 2 aspirations for young people:

1. Community has access to local career pathways.
2. Community has the opportunity to participate in lifelong learning.
3. Employment zones and precincts are planned and developed within the Shire.



Youth Services Street Art Workshop.

Focus Area 3: Mitchell Shire Council aims to maintain strong partnerships and enhance the planning, integration and quality of services and infrastructure provision.

Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

The environment is valued in planning and decision making –
The environment because sooner or later if we treat our environment badly there won't be anything left.

Local planning and investment –
If you're making something without the community's approval then it might not get used and people like to be part of the decision making.

The top three rated Focus Area 3 aspirations for young people:

1. The environment is valued in all planning and decision making.
2. Community infrastructure is accessible, timely and sustainable.
3. Growth and development is planned and designed to enhance social connection and amenity.



Celebrating Youth Week at Mitchell Shire Youth Fest, Kilmore

What do you enjoy most about your life stage?

Being able to hang out with my mates and still have my parents to lead me and help make decisions.

There's a lot of things to be active with. With us being at school, we can socialise with everyone there.

How I can learn a lot of new things because I haven't learnt everything and how I'm always improving.

What do you think are the key challenges for people in your life stage?

People don't listen. Because we're young it's a very different world we're living in and some of the older generations don't understand what some young people go through.

School because it becomes overwhelming from homework.

Finding a place and fitting in with people and finding good friends and balancing social and study.

In your opinion, what is the most important thing for council and/or service providers to provide or know for people in your life stage?

Appropriate transport (i.e. metro train instead of Vline) so that way we can get to work quicker in the city or make more business parks in the area for more commercial job opportunities.

Know that we all want to work locally, however there just aren't the opportunities to.

Making the Community a safe and fun living environment and having places for people that are unwell like mental health or any other issues easy and accessible for everybody no matter how much you earn or little you earn!!

COMMUNITY VOICE

Adults

Key points from adults' responses to the Life Stages Survey are outlined below.



2019 MyMitchell Photo Competition, Community champions category winner, Cynthia Lim for her photo Chef Amrit conducts an Indian cooking class at Blue Tongue Berries.

Focus Area 1: Mitchell Shire Council aims to positively influence living, cultural and environmental conditions, that impact the health, wellbeing and safety of the population.

Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

Natural assets and environment sustainability are valued and fostered because – Natural assets dictates all aspects of our lives - no economy with declining ecology.

Community is safe from family violence. Let's be honest. It is a national problem. One woman per week dies at the hands of a current partner or ex. It is a massive problem in our community and needs addressing.

Transport, specifically the train service is important to my employment. The Seymour line is in a dire state and will put the region behind many others for attracting employers and jobs and, failing that, allowing people to travel elsewhere for work.

The top three Focus Area 1 aspirations for adults:

1. Accessible, available and timely transport connectivity.
2. Natural assets and environment sustainability are valued and fostered.
3. Community is connected and mentally well.

Focus Area 2: Mitchell Shire Council aims to improve access and opportunities for local education, volunteering, employment pathways and business development.

Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

Community is actively engaged in volunteering as a pathway to social connection. I am a stay at home Mum who needs to connect with the community to feel a part of society and volunteering is a great opportunity to feel useful as well as helping others and the environment which are very important to my parenting.

Local career pathways – I want to live and work in my community. I'm sick of the commute. It means I can't give back to my community or family because I'm stuck on the Hume or on a broken down train.

Employment zones and precincts to enable community to live and work locally, developing a stronger local economy and return investment in local community provisions.

The top three Focus Area 2 aspirations for adults:

1. Community has access to local career pathways.
2. Employment zones and precincts are planned and developed within the Shire.
3. Community has the opportunity to participate in lifelong learning.

Focus Area 3: Mitchell Shire Council aims to maintain strong partnerships and enhance the planning, integration and quality of services and infrastructure provision.

Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

The environment must be valued and considered. Environmentally unsustainable development will never be able to be reversed. Environmentally Sustainable Design should be a top priority.

Community infrastructure is accessible, timely and sustainable. With the growing needs of our shire we need to ensure that the services are ready and available as soon as they are needed to support community.

Community directed planning and investment is important to ensure appropriate facilities are available and needs being met.

The top three Focus Area 3 aspirations for adults:

1. The environment is valued in all planning and decision making.
2. Community infrastructure is accessible, timely and sustainable.
3. Growth and development is planned and designed to enhance social connection and amenity.

What do you enjoy most about your life stage?

Still young enough to enjoy life but old enough to not really care about petty things that used to bother me.

I am on maternity leave with a 5 month old baby. I most enjoy spending time with my family.

Owning my own home, volunteering in the community, watching my kids grow and develop.

What do you think are the key challenges for people in your life stage?

Feeling alone as a mother is a big one, meeting with Mothers groups have been a wonderful way to meet people who are experiencing a similar journey. But it would be great to also spend time with older and younger generations, we all have different gifts to share and we all benefit from each other's stages of life.

Mortgages, school fees, children's wellbeing, looking after parents, job security.

Being a single person, lots of things in my age group are family or children oriented. Nothing really on offer for singles.

In your opinion, what is the most important thing for council and/or service providers to provide or know for people in your life stage?

Childcare. Supporting return to work mums. This includes addressing foreseeable issues such as road congestion, train station accessibility and parking. Every minute counts.

Active family areas for all ages. Getting people off the phones and back into life.

Education is key. Having a range of job and education options are important. Also a community that values respect would be great. Groups of teens with nothing to do causes trouble for everyone in town.



Marina Villani from Myriad Glass Studio, Kilmore.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Older people

Key points from older people's responses to the Life Stages Survey are outlined below.



Local Senior Citizens.

Focus Area 1: Mitchell Shire Council aims to positively influence living, cultural and environmental conditions, that impact the health, wellbeing and safety of the population.

Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

I know many older people who would like to downsize from a one-person house with 3 or 4 bedrooms to a 2 Br unit in town but there is nothing available. It is a real issue as people age, lose a partner, or perhaps lose ability to drive and would like to be in town centre.

Community services integrated etc – this is important to me because as I get older it will be critical to enable me to remain at home for the longest possible time.

As one grows older the ability to source the resources diminishes so having community services that are integrated, responsive, accessible and community focused AND KNOWN without a lot of messing around is very important.

The top three Focus Area 1 aspirations for older people:

1. Community services are integrated, responsive, accessible and community focused.
2. Affordable, appropriate and accessible housing that is environmentally sustainable and meets a diversity of needs across the life stages.
3. Community is prepared for emergency situations.

Focus Area 2: Mitchell Shire Council aims to improve access and opportunities for local education, volunteering, employment pathways and business development.

Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

Volunteering because – I am retired and live alone. Social connection is very important to me and volunteering is the way I choose to get this whilst giving back to my local community.

The most important is the opportunity to participate in lifelong learning as this provides for enhancement of brain/mind function, new knowledge/skills development, and social engagement with others sharing the same interests.

Lifelong learning is crucial to positive ageing and a healthy vibrant community.

The top three Focus Area 3 aspirations for older people:

1. Community is actively engaged in volunteering as a pathway to social connection and/or employment.
2. Community has the opportunity to participate in lifelong learning.
3. Employment zones and precincts are planned and developed within the Shire.

Focus Area 3: Mitchell Shire Council aims to maintain strong partnerships and enhance the planning, integration and quality of services and infrastructure provision.

Which aspiration do you consider to be most important to your life stage and why?

The environment is valued... I think we need a stronger statement here. The environment underpins our current lifestyle and survival and is under threat from climate change.

Urban Growth and development is planned and designed to enhance social connection and amenity - Ensuring the elderly are not left behind or forgotten in the rush to establish resources for the young.

The protection of the environment is the most important as it (1) reduces the alarming rate of indigenous flora and fauna extinction; and (2) provides visual and aesthetic relief from the depressing concrete, bricks and asphalt of high and medium density urban development.

The top three Focus Area 3 aspirations for older people:

1. The environment is valued in all planning and decision making.
2. Growth and development is planned and designed to enhance social connection and amenity.
3. Community infrastructure is accessible, timely and sustainable.

What do you enjoy most about your life stage?

Debt free, Children free whilst still enjoying working.

The freedom to travel, engage in hobbies and new activities, and become involved in community services and organisations. Time to spend with children and grandchildren.

Time to pursue the things which bring me pleasure-to interests, friends and family. Also the luxury of being able to decide and be involved in chosen volunteering interests in the local community- this is very satisfying.

What do you think are the key challenges for people in your life stage?

Realising we are getting old and no longer Superman. Having to accept because our blocks are larger that we will have to uproot from what we know and love to downsize.

Dealing with the discrimination directed against those over 60. Accessing non-medical health and fitness services and activities.

Difficulty finding work as an older adult.

In your opinion, what is the most important thing for council and/or service providers to provide or know for people in your life stage?

Support for older people to enable them to stay in their homes.

Address the transport problem.

Preparing for climate change at every level.



Kilmore Senior Citizens.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Service Providers

Representatives from service organisations within Mitchell Shire were consulted through a series of forums, events and the Life Stages Service Provider Survey.



Representatives from service organisations.

Feedback and responses were received from a range of service providers, representing all life stages including:

- > Aged care
- > Education services
- > Environmental programs
- > Legal services
- > Library services
- > Recreation services
- > Community services
- > Emergency Management
- > Health services
- > Leisure services
- > Maternal and Child Health
- > Youth services

Service providers identified the most significant challenges for them or their organisation to provide services for people across the life stages as: insufficient funding and/or short term, non-recurrent funding; a lack of local services; limited facilities; and a high cost of living for people living within the Shire.

The lack of services that we can refer a client for is challenging... The older people that we see are already vulnerable/restricted physically due to limited mobility - they shouldn't have to wait or have their needs unmet.

Respondents identified that more could be done to cater for people across the life stages by:

- > Providing affordable public transport
- > Greater access to mental health services
- > Promoting existing services and programs
- > Attracting skilled workers to live and work in the Shire
- > Professional networking and support
- > Supporting members of the community to advocate for their needs
- > Diversifying the health and wellness programs in the Shire
- > Building and planning for inclusive public spaces

Respondents thought Mitchell Shire could do the following to help their organisation to confront any challenges going forward:

- > Provide a directory of services within the Shire
- > Facilitating events for young professionals
- > Supporting/providing a welfare navigator role to assist vulnerable older people
- > Providing 1:1 support for older people
- > Continue to plan for new, and upgrades to existing, aquatic and leisure facilities
- > Advertise free wellbeing and leisure services and activities

FOCUS AREAS AND ASPIRATIONS



Youth Services Colour Run, Kilmore Trackside to raise funds for Rural Housing Network

The Strategy has three focus areas ensure everyone is valued, supported, connected and well as they transition through the life stages.

Image 13: Life Stages Focus Areas



The order of the aspirations reflects the community's ranking of their importance. The action plan has been influenced by the community voice and prioritises the aspirations that are most important to the community.

Focus Area 1: Mitchell Shire Council aims to positively influence living, cultural and environmental conditions, that impact the health, wellbeing and safety of the population.

- Aspiration 1.1:** Accessible, available and timely transport and connectivity.
- Aspiration 1.2:** Community is connected and mentally well.
- Aspiration 1.3:** Community is resilient to emergency situations.
- Aspiration 1.4:** Natural assets and the environment are valued and fostered.
- Aspiration 1.5:** Community services are integrated, responsive and accessible.
- Aspiration 1.6:** Community is free from family violence.
- Aspiration 1.7:** Public spaces provide connectivity and safety for all ages, stages and abilities.
- Aspiration 1.8:** Open spaces are well planned, visually inviting and encourage healthy lifestyles.
- Aspiration 1.9:** Gambling harms are minimised.

Focus Area 2: Mitchell Shire Council aims to improve access and opportunities for local education, volunteering, employment pathways and business development.

- Aspiration 2.1:** Community has access to local career pathways.
- Aspiration 2.2:** Community has the opportunity to participate in lifelong learning.
- Aspiration 2.3:** Employment zones and precincts are well planned and developed within the Shire.
- Aspiration 2.4:** Community is actively engaged in volunteering as a pathway to social connection and/or employment.
- Aspiration 2.5:** The local economy has a range of dynamic and innovative industries.

Focus Area 3: Mitchell Shire Council aims to maintain strong partnerships and enhance the planning, integration and quality of services and infrastructure provision.

- Aspiration 3.1:** The environment is valued in all planning and decision making.
- Aspiration 3.2:** Community infrastructure is accessible, appropriate, timely and sustainable.
- Aspiration 3.3:** Growth and development is well planned and designed to enhance social connection and amenity.
- Aspiration 3.4:** Local planning and investment is community directed.
- Aspiration 3.5:** Affordable, appropriate, sustainable and accessible housing for diverse needs.
- Aspiration 3.6:** Partnerships are innovative, collaborative and adaptive to drive joint planning and delivery.



View of Mount Fraser from Mandalay, Beveridge.

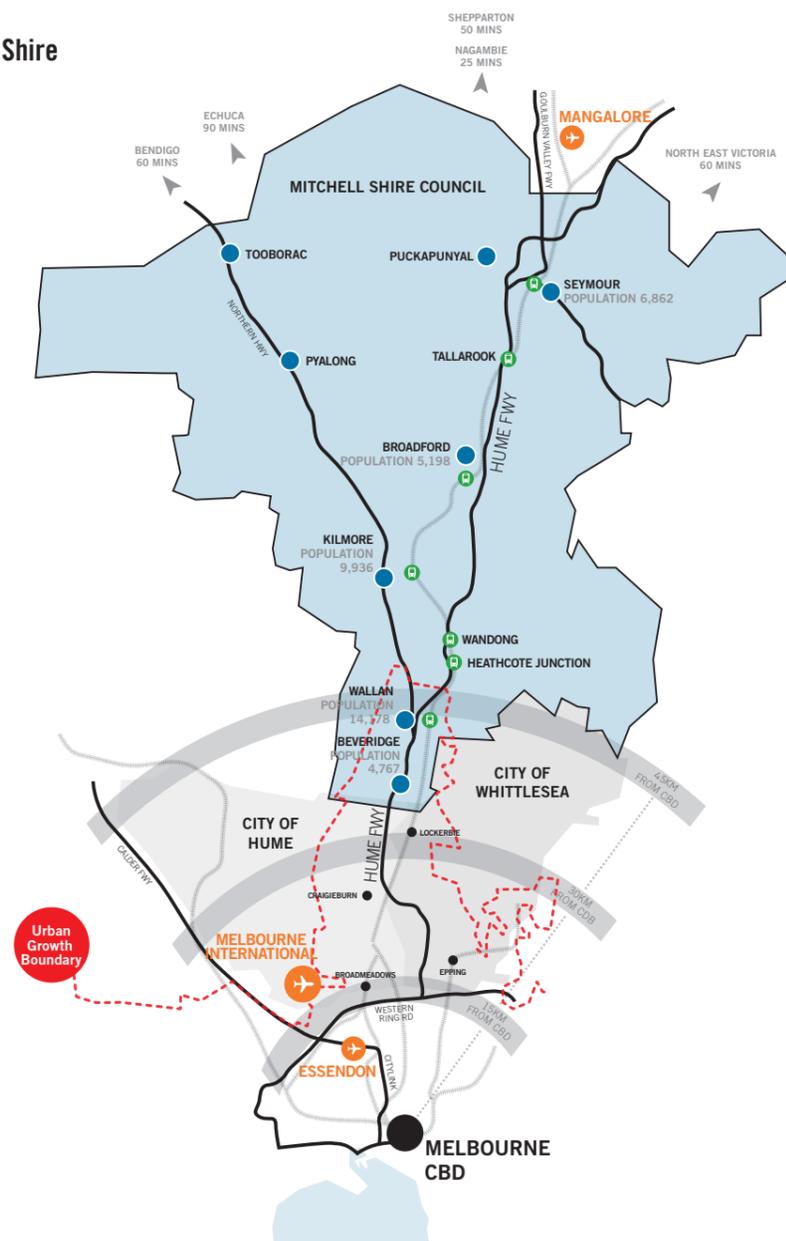
APPENDIX 1:

Mitchell Shire Overview

Located 40 kilometres north of Melbourne central business district (CBD), Mitchell Shire is Victoria's fastest growing municipality.

At 2,862 square kilometres, we are a large municipality with rural and urban land including Melbourne's Northern Growth Corridor.

Image 1: Map of Mitchell Shire



As at December 2019, Mitchell Shire's total population is 49,000. By 2048, our population is projected to grow to approximately 270,000. It is anticipated that most of this growth will be focused in and around Beveridge and Wallan.

Table: Mitchell Shire projected population growth

	2019	2039	Percentage increase
Infants to preschool	4,500	17,250	283%
Childhood	4,200	16,000	281%
Young people	8,100	26,000	221%
Adults	25,650	83,000	224%
Older people	6,450	23,000	257%

Mitchell Shire is witnessing growth across all of the Life Stages. Whilst all Life Stages are growing, the rate of growth is not the same within each Life Stage.

As a proportion of the population, there will be a significant rise in older adults and a decrease in young people. This projected trend is most striking in the Shire's northern communities.

For example, Seymour is projected to see a 196% increase in older people in 2039 compared to only a 100% increase in young people.



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**MITCHELL
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