



City of Casey
**STRONG
COMMUNITIES
OUTCOME STRATEGY**
2025-29



Artwork: *Dhelkunya Journey* by local Boonwurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung artist.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Casey proudly acknowledges the traditional owners, Casey's Aboriginal communities and their rich culture and pays respect to their Elders past, present and future.

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as Australia's first peoples and as the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we work and live.

COMMITMENT TO RECONCILIATION

The City of Casey is committed to reconciliation, guided by Casey's *Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)* and the Casey Aboriginal Gathering Place.

These initiatives support cultural connection, strengthen community capacity, and work towards better outcomes for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The City of Casey is home to a remarkable diversity of cultures, languages, faiths, identities, landscapes, and stories. From our first Australians to our most recent arrivals and every wave between, the City of Casey welcomes and represents all community members and their respective ambitions to live healthy, rewarding, and happy lives.

These intersecting and overlapping community stories form Casey's collective identity and contribute to its evolving, rich history.

We recognise this diversity as our strength and we aim to share, nurture, and celebrate it.

OVERVIEW OF THE OUTCOME STRATEGY

The *Strong Communities Outcome Strategy 2025-29* outlines our plan to deliver programs, foster partnerships and empower healthy, safe, inclusive and connected communities.

Why it matters

Strong, connected communities are the foundation of a thriving city. This strategy focuses on delivering inclusive programs, building partnerships, and advocating for services that support the health, safety, and wellbeing of all Casey residents.

By enhancing community safety, supporting early years and youth, promoting gender equality, and encouraging participation in arts, sport, and local activities, we can foster a sense of belonging and connection.

These efforts will help reduce inequality, prevent family violence, and ensure our diverse community feels supported, empowered, and proud to call Casey home.

Our priorities

- 1. Community safety** - Partner with community to enhance safety outcomes and feelings of safety.
- 2. Effective advocacy** - Coordinate advocacy and partnerships to attract funding for and provision of critical non-council services that support community needs.
- 3. Arts and destinations** - Utilise cultural, arts and heritage experiences and places to foster community connection and cohesion, inclusion and a strong creative community.
- 4. Sport and active community participation** - Support increased participation in sport, leisure and community activities, with a focus on women, girls and gender diverse people, through coordinated design and delivery of accessible programs.
- 5. Early years and youth** - Support the delivery of programs and partner with community organisations to provide greater access to services for early years and youth populations.
- 6. Social cohesion** - Foster greater social cohesion through the advancement of Casey's targeted populations needs; and the rejection and prevention of family violence and promotion of gender equality.

CITY OF CASEY'S COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT



429,383
Estimated
population
(ForecastID 2025)



42%
of residents speak a
language other than
English at home
(ABS 2021)



9.4%
LGBTQIA+
(VPHS 2023)



2,395
Aboriginal or Torres
Strait Islanders
(ABS 2021)



5.5%
living with profound
or severe disability
(ABS 2021)



-18
26.8%
of residents
are under 18
(ForecastID 2025)



+55
85,191
Estimated
population of
over 55 residents
(ForecastID 2025)



5,835
babies born
in 2024



3
aquatic facilities
throughout the
municipality



47
Council managed
kindergarten facilities
deliver essential early
years services



38
Community
Facilities offering
multi-purpose
spaces



5
Library branches
throughout the
municipality
(with an additional Library
Lounge at Cranbourne
West Community Hub)

FOUNDATIONS OF THE OUTCOME STRATEGY

Community engagement

The City of Casey is committed to ensuring the diverse voices in our community are reflected in Council decisions. The *Shape Your City 2024* engagement program is one way that we brought this commitment to life.

Across August and September 2024, Council undertook a deliberation process to review the Community vision and inform development of the Council and Casey’s *Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029*, including a review of the Long-Term Financial Plan, Revenue and Rating Plan and Asset Plan.

Under the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*, Council is required to develop these long-term strategic plans with significant input from the community.

More than 4,600 members of community participated in the engagement, split across three phases -

- Phase 1 was used to understand broad community sentiment and priorities for the Plans.
- Feedback from the broader engagement supported deeper discussions in Phase 2, via deliberative engagement with the Community Panel.
- Community was then engaged to provide feedback on the draft strategic documents in Phase 3.

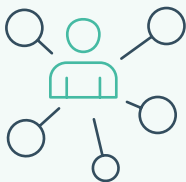
ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

The following represents the key themes and number of mentions recieved based on community engagement (out of 4600 responses).

CITY OF CASEY’S ENGAGEMENT SNAPSHOT



1,234
Crime prevention



970
Creating community connections



895
Funding for community programs and community groups



559
Enhanced Council and community connections



138
Creating community connections through community spaces and outdoor places

Children were asked to draw their visions and aspirations for the future and some responses related to the Strong Communities outcome.

When asked what would make our community a better place, children wanted more community activities and safety.



OUR COMMUNITY’S ASPIRATIONS

Casey is a safer, more connected, and healthier community where residents have access to essential services, feel secure, and enjoy a high quality of life.

HEALTH FOCUS AREAS

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan has been integrated into the Council Plan, and the six Health Focus Areas (HFA's) below set the organisations strategic direction for health.

The HFA's are embedded across all strategic outcomes and their associated strategic priorities, reflecting the complex and interconnected ways Council's services, policies and infrastructure influence health and wellbeing.

The HFA's themselves are also ideeply interrelated - addressing one area often leads to positive outcomes in another.

Through embedding the HFA's across the strategic priorities and recognising their interconnected relationship, we aim to have a greater impact, empower our community, foster resilience and move towards optimal physical and mental wellbeing for individuals, families and communities.

Health Focus Areas	Definition
1 Healthy and Active Environments	Active transport options are available and accessible, there are ample opportunities to be active in everyday life and access to fresh and affordable food that supports healthy and thriving communities. Indicators include increased active recreation, active transportation use, and increased food security.
2 Connection and Participation	People feel connected to each other and their community, with various opportunities to participate and connect through cultural and creative avenues. Indicators include increased connection to people and place, increased trust, and increased cultural and creative participation.
3 Community Empowerment	Greater access to information, resources, and supports leads to more informed and resilient individuals, households and communities, strengthened local networks and community leadership, that together can better tackle our greatest challenges, such as the health impacts of climate change. Indicators include increased service access and uptake, increased preparedness for extreme weather events, and increased volunteering rates.
4 Tobacco, Vaping, Alcohol and Gambling Harm	Harm prevention measures through urban planning, community education, and advocacy protect communities from the negative impacts of tobacco, vaping, alcohol and gambling. Indicators include reduced rates of tobacco and vaping use (particularly among young people) and reduced alcohol use (particularly among older people).
5 Community Safety and Prevention of Violence	Communities feel safe at home and in public, are free from violence, including family violence and all forms of gender-based violence, as well as all forms of discrimination, which supports full participation in community life. Indicators include increased sense of safety, reduced rates of family violence and reduced rates of discrimination.
6 Affordable Housing and Homelessness	Access to appropriate affordable housing options, as well as services to support those experiencing homelessness leads to greater stability, health, and safety outcomes. Indicators include increased rates of social and affordable housing and reduced homelessness rates.

EMBEDDING THE STRATEGY IN THE 2025-29 COUNCIL PLAN

The *2025-29 Council Plan* is a key strategic planning document. It outlines the strategic directions, outcomes, priorities and strategic indicators that will focus planning, investment and effort across the 4 year period.

The *2025-29 Council Plan* outlines five strategic outcomes that Council pursues. Strong Communities is strategic outcome one.

Embedding the Strong Communities strategic outcome within the Council Plan promotes integrated decision making – where decisions around investment and effort in one outcome strategy can be considered alongside decisions made in other outcome strategies.

Additionally, embedding the outcome strategy within the *2025-29 Council Plan* allows for the health focus areas of the Council to be aligned to priorities within the outcome.

STRATEGIC OUTCOME 1 Strong Communities

S01

Deliver programs, foster partnerships and empower healthy, safe, inclusive and connected communities.

Strategic Priorities		Strategic Indicators
Priority 1.1 	Community safety Partner with community to enhance safety outcomes and feelings of safety. <i>(Health Focus Area 5)</i>	• Maintain a high level of graffiti removal requests to improve the appearance of public areas and improve safety perceptions within the community. • Increase the number of Road Safety Education Programs delivered to enhance community awareness and safety. • Maintain a low average number of days to action safety requests, such as animal management, to improve community safety. • Increase the number of environmental design audits to assess safety improvements. • Advocate and secure service funding to enhance the availability of critical services for the community.
Priority 1.2    	Effective advocacy Coordinate advocacy and partnerships to attract funding for and provision of critical non-council services that support community needs. <i>(Health Focus Area 3, 4, 5 and 6)</i>	
Priority 1.3 	Arts and destinations Utilise cultural, arts and heritage experiences and places to foster community connection and cohesion, inclusion and a strong creative community. <i>(Health Focus Area 2)</i>	

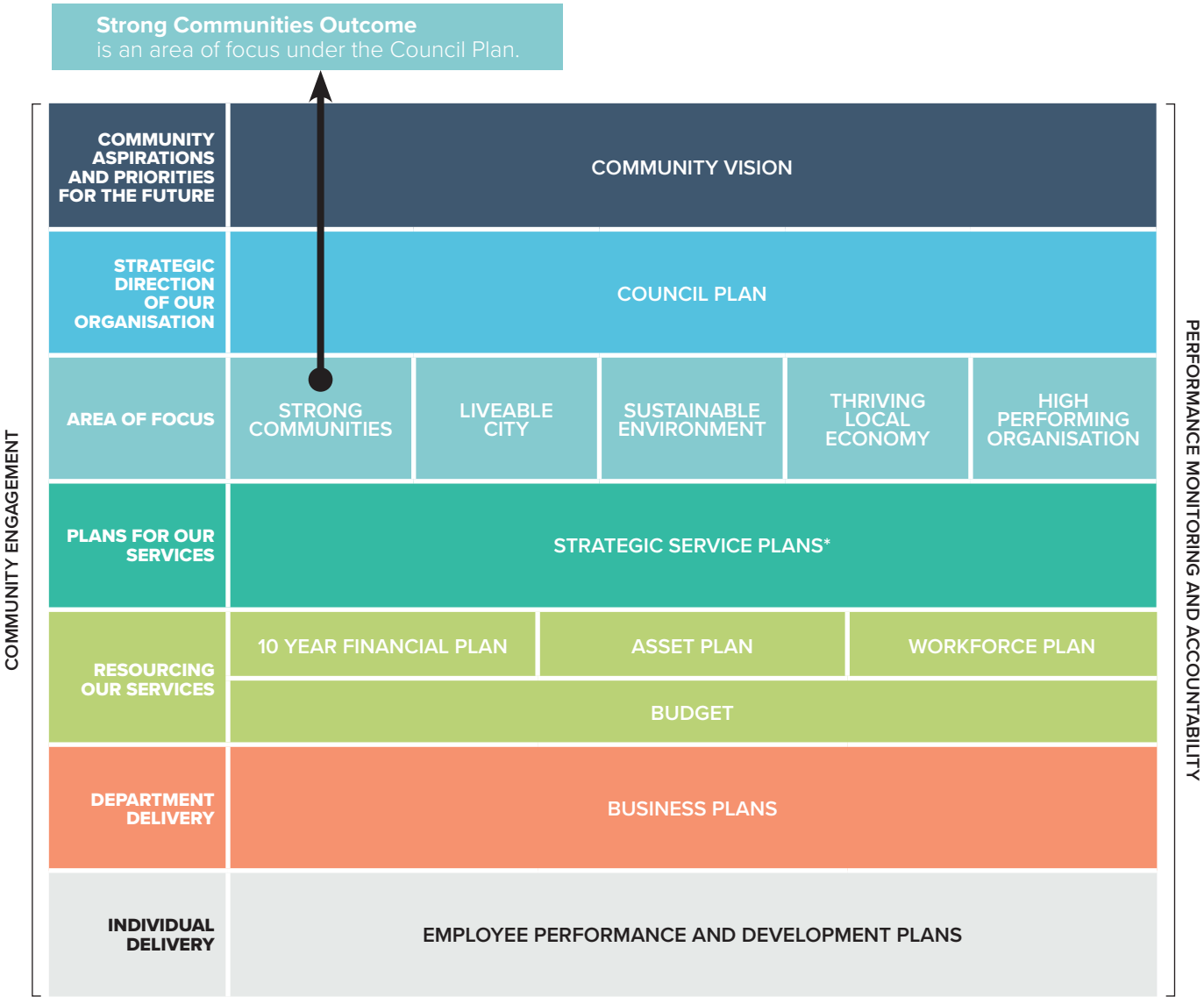
STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT AND GOVERNANCE

Integrated Strategic Planning Framework

The City of Casey’s Integrated Strategic Planning Framework guides Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (the Vision), medium term (Council Plan) and short term (Annual Budget, incorporating the Annual Action Plan and

Capital Works Program), and then how it will hold itself accountable (Annual Report and Audited Statements).

The following illustration demonstrates Council’s Integrated Strategic Planning Framework.



*In development

PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

Progress toward the outcome and its strategic priorities is monitored and communicated through two key publications, both available via the **City of Casey website**.

The **Quarterly Community Report** provides regular updates on progress, key activities, and emerging trends, ensuring the community stays informed throughout the year.

The Annual Report, published each October, delivers a comprehensive summary of performance, highlighting achievements, challenges, and how Council is advancing long-term outcomes for the community.



Contact City of Casey

03 9705 5200

NRS: 133 677 (for the deaf, hearing or speech impaired)



TIS: 131450 (Translating and Interpreting Service)

口译员 | مترجم شفاهی | හාමු පරිවර්තක | བྱ་སྒྲུབ་པ་ | ترجمان

PO Box 100,

Narre Warren VIC 3805

caseycc@casey.vic.gov.au

casey.vic.gov.au

Customer Service Centres

Cranbourne

Customer Service Centre Cranbourne Park Shopping Centre,
Shop 156, South Gippsland Highway, Cranbourne

Narre Warren

Bunjil Place,

2 Patrick Northeast Drive, Narre Warren



facebook.com/CityOfCasey



[@CityOfCasey](https://twitter.com/CityOfCasey)



[@cityofcaseycouncil](https://www.instagram.com/cityofcaseycouncil)