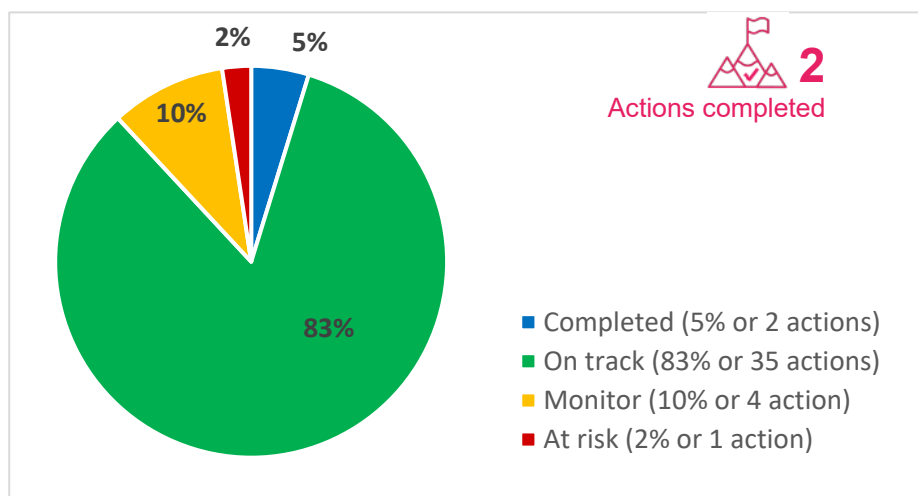


Our Progress (1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023)



Our advocacy highlights

- Our long-term advocacy efforts for improvements at Banksia Gardens have been successful, following the October funding announcement by the State and Federal Governments. Improvements announced include the construction of 120 new energy efficient homes, upgrades to current facilities and the creation of a long-term masterplan for the renewal and improvements of the entire neighbourhood.
- Continued our ongoing, strategic program of meetings with Members of Parliament.
- Supported the Northern Councils Alliance to launch the Regional Transport Advocacy and Community Electric Vehicle Transition Plan
- Gambling Harm Minimisation has been one of Council's long term advocacy priorities, in July 2023, the State Government announced it would be introducing sweeping new reforms to the use of Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) and venue operating hours to protect Victorians from gambling harm.

Theme 1: A community that is resilient, inclusive, and thriving

- Since July 2023, over 60 placements occurred comprising of high school work experience placements and tertiary education placements.
- Council has successfully secured almost \$7.5 million in funding for five kindergarten expansion projects.
- Construction tender for Council Chambers and community space at Hume Global Learning Centre was approved in December, construction to commence in early 2024.
- The 2023/2024 [Hume Multiversity Tertiary Education Scholarship Program](#) was launched with 32 scholarships available to Hume residents at Victoria University, Deakin University and La Trobe University.
- Construction has finished on six additional offices at StartNorth and the office will be activated in February.
- A successful Social procurement, Employment and Economic Development (SEED) networking event was delivered where six Hume Aboriginal Businesses were showcased.
- Hume LGBTIQ+ residents featured as speakers at Pride in the North Summit attended by 200 representatives from northern Councils and community organisations.
- Council delivered a series of activities as part of 16 Days of Activism campaign, an annual international campaign focused on the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence.
- In partnership with the Australian Tax Office, Council delivered Tax Help which provides supports with simple tax affairs. Tax Help received over 320 calls and emails and provided over assistance to almost 150 community members. This year's program is supported by 4 volunteers.
- The Hume Business Awards were delivered in November 2023
- The [Hume General Purpose Local Law 2023](#) and [Hume Domestic Animal Management Plan](#) were adopted by Council.
- The Gambling Harm Symposium in October brought together keynote speakers and those with lived experience of gambling harm.
- In October, Council provided a submission to the national housing and homelessness plan.
- A construction contractor has been appointed complete upgrades to the Sunbury Hume Global Learning Centre to store the [George Evens Museum collection](#).
- Planning procurement for participative-design process underway at the Sunbury Community Arts and Culture Precinct at Jacksons Hill.
- Hume City Council partnered with Victoria Police to deliver a Hume City Neighbourhood Policing Forum in December 2023. The forum presented local crime data and trends, police responses and provided participants with opportunities to raise and discuss concerns.

Theme 2: A City that cares about our planet, is appealing and connected

- Work to improve digital planning services has progressed with online lodgements of planning permits progressed to the testing phase with the aim of improving processing times and our customers experience.
- A joint council meeting with Mitchell and Whittlesea councils was held in October. The purpose of the joint meeting was for the partnership councils to endorse the Regional Partnership and its continued work on the planning of the Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) and joint advocacy for State Government assistance in the coordination and delivery of the MAC.
- Since October, the Waste Response team have attended to 833 incidents of illegal dumping in residential areas with 76.5% resolved without requiring large scale removal or enforcement.
- Completed works to improve active and passive open spaces and playspaces include: Cimberwood Drive Reserve, Craigieburn, Churchill Avenue Reserve, Tullamarine, and Andlon Court Reserve, Tullamarine.
- Almost one hundred Primary Producer Rate Rebate applications have been assessed and approved.
- The [Climate Action Plan](#) and [Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030](#) were endorsed by Council.
- Solar and energy efficiently on Council building continues to be rolled out and preliminary scoping work for Electric Vehicle recharging on leased Council land has begun.
- Rural Land Management Grant (RLMG) were promoted to rural residents via a green wedge newsletter and at rural community events, 125 grant applications have been assessed and approved.
- The draft Stormwater Offsets Scheme has received Council endorsement for public feedback. The public consultation period will start in late January 2024.

Theme 3: A council that inspires leadership, is accountable and puts the community first

- Youth Action Committee (YAC) planned the Mind Matters Summit held in October with 40 young people attending.
- Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group (RAPWG) delivered the "Deadly December Christmas Party" with almost 200 attendees from diverse backgrounds.
- The Multicultural Communications Framework was launched, the framework (developed in partnership with our multicultural community).
- In October, Council's annual community survey was completed 1,151 respondents. To support multilingual engagement, the survey is made available in English, Arabic, Turkish and Vietnamese.
- Development of a Partnership Frameworks is underway. Since July 2023 work has included: A review of best practice frameworks, establishment of a project control group and project working group.
- Council have approved an Implementation Partner for the digital transformation program (DTP), advancing our digital transformation. A Resource Strategy and Program Management Plan have been finalised. the program is expected to commence by the end of the financial year.
- A request for tender process for Roxburgh Park Youth & Recreation Centre has been completed a consultant is expected to be appointed in January and the project to commence in February.
- Discussions continue with Kangan TAFE regarding the use of Youth Central Broadmeadows
- Community Centres are implementing an online, integrated booking system. A website has been built with testing to be finalised early 2024. Revised fees and charges have been included in proposed 24/25 budget.
- Launch of [Snap Send Solve through Council's website](#).