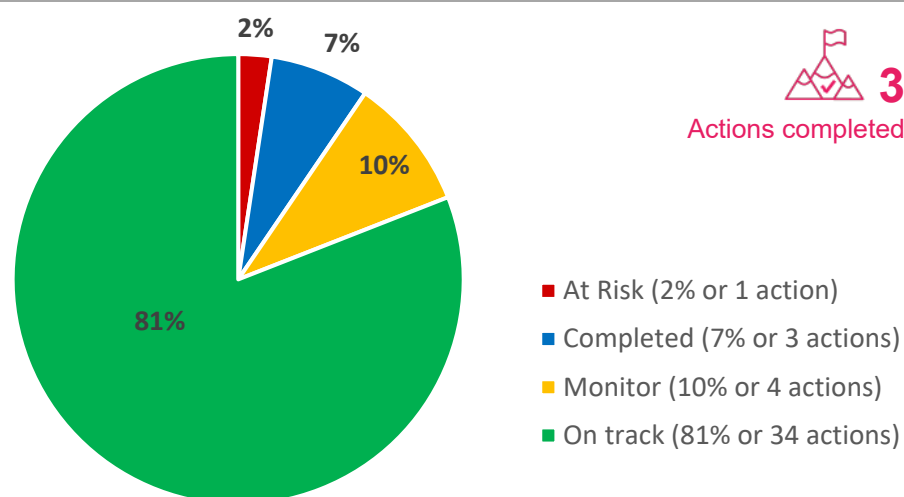


Our Progress (1 July 2023 to 31 March 2024)



Our advocacy highlights

- Federal Budget advocacy priorities booklet has been developed and submitted to Treasury and local MPs.
- Continued our ongoing, strategic program of meetings with Members of Parliament.
- Long-term advocacy efforts for improvements at Banksia Gardens have been successful, following the October funding announcement by the State and Federal Governments including the construction of 120 new energy efficient homes, upgrades to facilities and the creation of a long-term masterplan.
- Supported the Northern Councils Alliance to launch the Regional Transport Advocacy and Community Electric Vehicle Transition Plan
- Council supports the State Government announcement in July 2023 to protect Victorians from gambling harm. Including reforms to the use of electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) and venue operating hours.

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

- Since July 2023, 75 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 of Council Chambers and community space at Hume Global Learning Centre is progressing well and on track for completion in mid-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.
- Social media campaigns have been completed for business investment attraction and visitor economy promotion.
- Delivered Ready Set Hired in partnership with the Hume Community Investment Committee which provided young people to practice their interview skills with real employers.
- In response to research that identifies women are more likely to disclose experiences of violence or abuse to people they trust, such as their hairdresser or beauty therapists, a new training and development package for local hairdressers has been established.
- The Gambling Harm Symposium in October brought together keynote speakers and those with lived experience of gambling harm.
- Hume LGBTIQ+ residents featured as speakers at Pride in the North Summit attended by 200 representatives from northern Councils and community organisations.
- 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.
- Successfully implemented an Allied Health student placement program across various Hume Community Hubs, focusing on improving developmental delay diagnosis as an action of the Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- 2024 Arts Grants program is open for applications with an increased interest across both categories.
- Participatory design for development of draft concept plans for the Sunbury Community Arts and Culture Precinct at Jacksons Hill underway, with community workshops held in February and March.
- 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

- Improved digital planning processes for some Statutory Planning, Engineering, Subdivisions & Landscaping; and Environmental Planning processes went live in March 2024.
- Council has prepared a draft Good Design Guide to assist in getting better design outcomes for housing in Hume.
- 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.
- Over one hundred Primary Producer Rate Rebate applications have been assessed and approved and 160 Rural Land Management Grant (RLMG) grant applications have been assessed and approved.
- Princes Nature Reserve Management Plan has been completed.
- Four shortlisted sites for a Youth Crisis Accommodation facility have undergone further due diligence investigations.
- Two Environmental Scholarships have been distributed and Enviro Champions and Gardens for Wildlife continue to support environmentally sustainable leadership.
- Work is underway to improve active and passive open spaces and playspaces at: Grove Road Reserve, Craigieburn, Clovelly Drive Reserve, Craigieburn.
- The [Climate Action Plan](#), [Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030](#) and Stormwater Offsets Scheme have been endorsed by Council.
- The draft Transport Strategy was endorsed by Council, community engagement on the draft strategy occurred throughout March.
- A circular economy training program is under development to increase understanding across local businesses.

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) have commenced planning for Sorry day and Reconciliation week.
- The Multicultural Communications Framework was launched, developed in partnership with our multicultural community.
- In October, Council's annual community survey was completed with 1,151 respondents. To support multilingual engagement, the survey is made available in English, Arabic, Turkish and Vietnamese.
- Council's Partnership Framework and Guidelines has now been completed and will be presented to Council in April.
- The Minister has approved the [new electoral boundaries](#) which will come into effect later this year once the election process commences.
- The Digital Transformation Program is working towards commencement by mid 2024. Contract negotiations continued with the preferred implementation partner.
- Bookable, the new online integrated booking system has been built and tested. Data migration is currently being finalised with go live scheduled for April 2024.
- Work has been completed to redesign online forms and customise [Snap Send Solve](#) questions to improved customer experience.