

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT



HELP GEELONG BE HEALTHY AND SAFE

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Introduction

This report summarises findings from a community engagement process we undertook to inform *The City of Greater Geelong's Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2018–21*.

The aim of the community engagement was to gain an understanding from the Greater Geelong community about their health and wellbeing priorities.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Local governments have a unique role in creating, improving and maintaining environments where residents can maximise their health and wellbeing.

The *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* requires that we produce a municipal public health and wellbeing plan every four years. Additionally, we must involve the local community in the plan's development, implementation and evaluation.

We take a holistic view of health and wellbeing and recognise that the social determinants of health – defined by the World Health Organisation as “the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, play and age”¹ – influence health outcomes, along with biological factors.

Our municipal public health and wellbeing plan, and supporting action plan, will help us to strengthen our focus on ways we can improve health and wellbeing in the local community. The findings from this survey will be used to inform the plan, in conjunction with the following information:

- A review of recent demographic and population health profile information.
- A review of relevant state and federal policies, including the *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015–2019*.
- The findings from the Geelong Preventative Health Survey (2017) of key health and wellbeing indicators for the community.
- Health and wellbeing themes identified during the development of *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future*.
- Feedback from four community workshops, that will be used to further inform the health and wellbeing priorities identified in the community survey.

¹ World Health Organization (2018) *Social determinants of health*. www.who.int/social_determinants/sdh_definition/en/ (accessed on 23 April 2018).

Community survey method

The information in this report was collected via an online survey entitled 'Help Geelong Be Healthy and Safe.' An incentive was provided to generate a larger response rate.

The survey was placed on the 'Have Your Say Page' of www.geelongaustralia.com.au from 23 November 2017 to 31 January 2018.

It was promoted in the City News section of the *Geelong Advertiser* and *Geelong Independent* over 5 weekends (November 2017, December 2017 and January 2018). A short clip to prompt people to complete the survey was also placed on our Facebook and Instagram pages in December 2017.

Finally, a link to the survey was emailed to health and wellbeing stakeholders in the Geelong region. Many of them these groups then promoted the survey to their clients and employees.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SURVEY

Respondents were introduced to the survey as follows:

The City is currently drafting its integrated *Council and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan**. We are seeking community feedback to gauge support for health and wellbeing actions to be included in this plan.

Under Section 26 of the *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, the City must prepare a municipal public health plan within 12 months of a general council election. Key priorities within the plan will encourage a whole-of-Council focus on health and equity.

The Municipal Public Health Plan will identify the priorities our new Council will focus on during their term, and work towards delivering the first three years of the Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future long-term vision and nine community aspirations.

To update our plan so far, we have:

- completed a Geelong Preventative Health Survey, to collect information on key health and wellbeing indicators for the community
- heard from 16,000 community members when developing our long-term vision, *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future*, and identified health and wellbeing themes
- reviewed the previous *Geelong Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013–2017*
- reviewed relevant state and federal policies, including the *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015–2019*
- reviewed Geelong's updated demographic information.

After taking all of the above into account, we have ideas about what priorities we will include in the updated plan. These priorities need to align with the statewide *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan*.

We now need your help to refine where we should direct our efforts to address these priority areas over the next three years.

* NOTE: At the time the survey was conducted, our plan was to include public health and wellbeing matters in our council plan, as described in section 27 of the *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*. However, a subsequent decision was made to keep the plans separate, while maintaining strong links between them.

Survey respondents were then asked to rank the six health and wellbeing priorities identified in the *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015–2019* in order of importance to them. The priorities are:

- increasing participation in physical activity
- supporting access to safe and healthy food
- improving social connections and mental wellbeing
- reducing harm from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs
- preventing violence and injury
- improving sexual and reproductive health.

Respondents were then asked to rank five potential actions that local government could use to address each health and wellbeing priority area, in order of importance to them.

These actions came from a series of evidence-based local government action guides, developed by VicHealth to assist with municipal public health and wellbeing planning. The actions were consistent with national and state health promotion priorities and prevention frameworks of the time, and were considered achievable.

Respondents were also asked an open-ended question to give them an opportunity to provide additional feedback on health and wellbeing priorities.

Finally, data was collected on gender, age and postcode.

Community survey results

PARTICIPANT SUMMARY

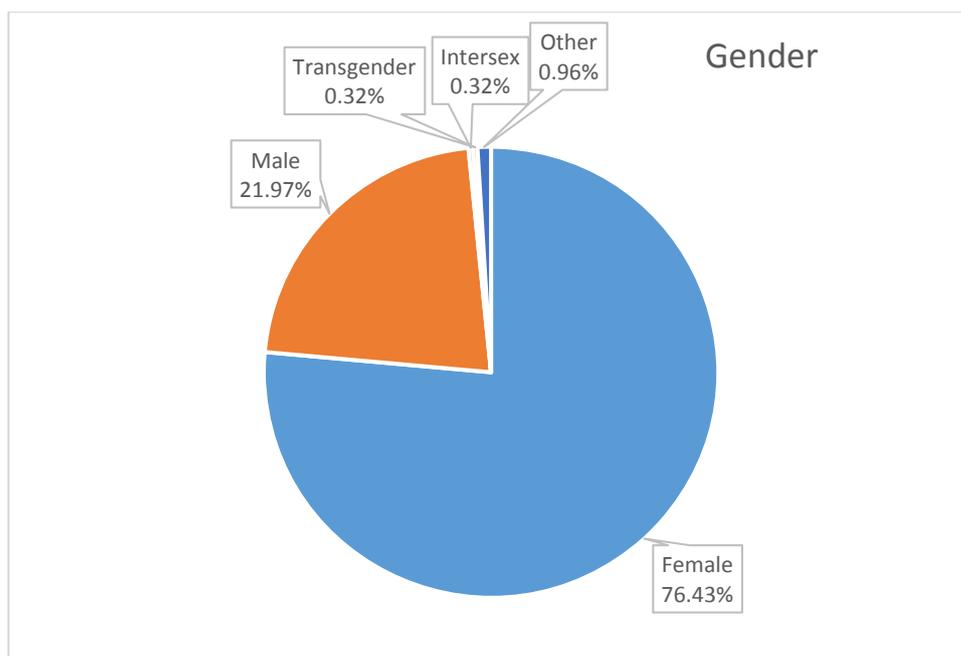
Number of respondents

- 335 people responded to the survey.
- 326 people participated in survey in the online format.
- 9 people returned paper-based surveys.

Gender

As you can see from Figure 1, the majority of people who responded to the survey were female.

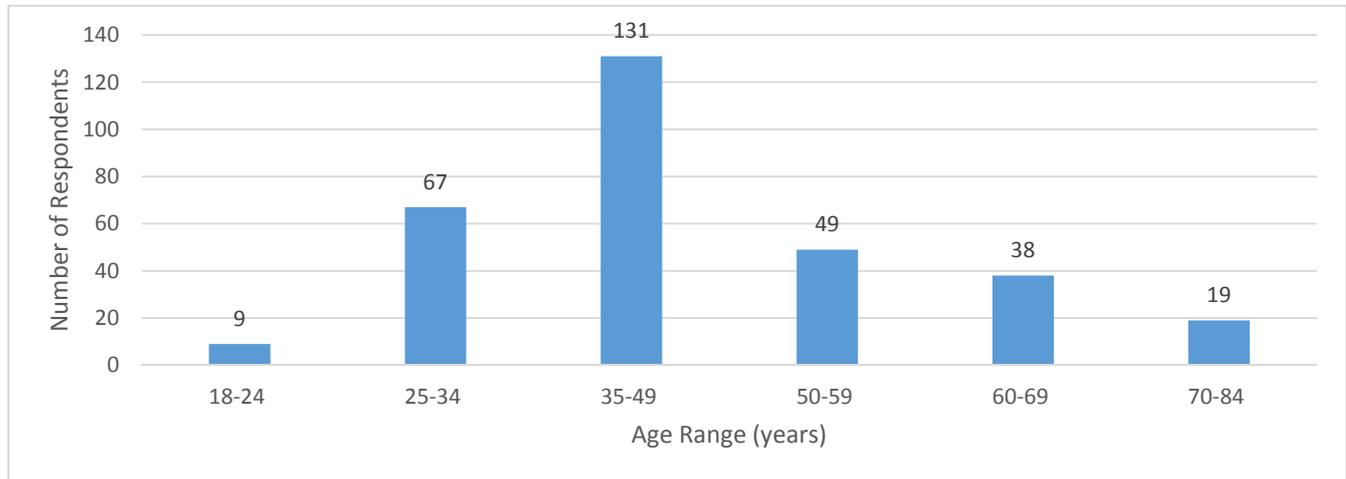
Figure 1: Gender Breakdown



Age range

Respondents were asked their age, based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census service age groups, 22 respondents did not provide their age. As Figure 2 demonstrates, the majority of respondents (39%) were aged 35–49.

Figure 2: Age range of respondents



Postcode

- Respondents were from 25 different postcodes.
- The highest number of respondents came from postcodes 3216 (67 respondents), 3220 (34 respondents) and 3226 (34 respondents).
- The size of the postcodes in Figure 3 demonstrate the comparative response rate for each. For example, postcode 3216 has the largest physical display in the pictogram and therefore had the highest number of respondents.

Figure 3: Postcodes of respondents



Community priorities

Respondents were asked to rank six health and wellbeing priorities in order of importance to them – a rank of 1 being the most important, and a rank of 6 being the least important. The health and wellbeing priorities were chosen to be consistent with the *Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015–2019*.

As Figure 4 demonstrates, the top two ranked health and wellbeing priorities were:

- improving social connections and mental wellbeing
- increasing participation physical activity.

Figure 4: Health and wellbeing priority rankings

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score
Improving social connections and mental wellbeing	1		1,378
Increasing participation in physical activity	2		1,332
Preventing violence and injury	3		1,258
Support access to safe and healthy food	4		1,213
Reducing harm from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs	5		1,005
Improving sexual and reproductive health	6		512



Lowest Rank Highest Rank

Improving social connections and mental wellbeing

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions that could improve social connections and mental wellbeing, in order of importance to them – rank 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

These potential actions were selected for inclusion in the survey based on recommended actions in the evidence informed *VicHealth Local Government Action Guide - Improving Mental Wellbeing* and consultations with key council staff regarding actions that are achievable by local government.

The top-ranked actions for social connections and mental wellbeing were:

- support participation in social activities that bring people together – for example, through community and arts groups, or sporting clubs.
- encourage participation in learning and education activities across the life course.

Figure 5: Improving Social Connections and Mental Wellbeing Rankings

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score
Support participation in social activities that bring people together (e.g. community or arts groups, sporting clubs)	1		1,289
Encourage participation in learning and education opportunities across the life course	2		1,036
Develop and support community initiatives that celebrate Geelong’s diversity	3		904
Support local efforts to encourage more people to volunteer	4		834
Support access to and use of affordable technology	5		706



Low est High est

Physical activity

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with potential to increase physical activity, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

These actions were selected based on the evidence-informed *VicHealth Local Government Action Guide – Increasing Physical Activity and Reducing Sedentary Behaviour* and what we felt was achievable.

As Figure 6 shows, the top-ranked actions relating to physical activity were:

- plan for and develop quality open spaces, parks and reserves – for example, with good surveillance, walking paths, shade and access to public amenities
- improve and develop walking and cycling paths that are safe and well connected.

Figure 6: Physical Activity Action Rankings

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score
Plan for and develop quality open spaces, parks and reserves (e.g. with good surveillance, walking paths, shade and access to public amenities)	1		1,154
Improve and develop walking and cycling paths that are safe and well connected	2		1,135
Improve access and inclusion for all people to sports, recreation and leisure facilities	3		929
Develop and promote initiatives to encourage walking and cycling	4		792
Encourage and promote participation in sport and physical activity	5		760



Low est Rank High est Rank

Preventing violence and injury

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with potential to prevent violence and injury, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

These actions were selected based on the evidence-informed *VicHealth Local Government Action Guide – Gender Equity and Respectful Relationships* and what we felt was achievable.

As Figure 7 shows, the top-ranked actions relating to preventing violence and injury were:

- support programs and initiatives to prevent violence against women.
- promote gender equality and respectful relationships between men and women.

Figure 7: Preventing violence and injury rankings

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score
Support programs and initiatives to prevent family violence (e.g. violence against women, children and older people)	1		1,140
Promote gender equality and respectful relationships between men and women	2		1,035
Design safe public spaces (e.g. with access to transport options and adequate lighting, bins, public toilets)	3		1,000
Provide support and training to community groups regarding family violence	4		863
Promote family violence prevention messages through local media	5		711



Low est Rank High est Rank

Supporting access to safe and healthy food

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with potential to support people’s access to safe and healthy food, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

These actions were selected based on the evidence-informed *VicHealth Local Government Action Guide – Supporting Healthy Eating* and what we felt was achievable.

As Figure 8 shows, the top-ranked actions for supporting access to safe and healthy food were:

- develop and support initiatives that increase access to healthy food – for example, promoting home and community gardens, emergency food relief and healthy canteens
- encourage and promote healthy eating.

Figure 8: Supporting Access to Safe and Healthy Food Rankings

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score
Develop and support initiatives that increase access to healthy food (e.g. promote home and community gardens, emergency food relief, healthy canteens)	1		1,181
Encourage and promote healthy eating (e.g. increase fruit and vegetable consumption, promote breastfeeding)	2		1,021
Increase healthy food options available in the City’s venues	3		982
Support food retailers to improve food safety practices (e.g. promote knowledge food allergens and compliance with food safety laws)	4		811
Increase healthy drink options available in the City’s venues	5		760



Low est Rank High est Rank

Reducing harm from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with potential to reduce harm from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

These actions were selected based on the evidence-informed *VicHealth Local Government Action Guide – Reducing Harm from Alcohol* and *VicHealth Local Government Action Guide – Preventing Tobacco Use* and what we felt was achievable.

As Figure 9 shows, the top-ranked actions for reducing harm from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs were:

- design safe public spaces – for example, with access to transport options and adequate lighting, bins, public toilets
- advocate for effective programs to reduce harmful alcohol and drug use.

Figure 9: Reducing Harm from Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drugs Rankings

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score
Design safe public spaces (e.g. with access to transport options and adequate lighting, bins, public toilets)	1		1,202
Advocate for effective programs to reduce harmful alcohol and drug use	2		1,012
Develop and support initiatives that promote a safe-drinking culture	3		994
Support programs and initiatives to prevent smoking	4		809
Educate on and promote the current tobacco legislation (e.g. in new smoke free areas like outdoor dining, playgrounds, school entrances)	5		751



Low est Rank High est Rank

Improving sexual and reproductive health

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with potential to improve sexual and reproductive health, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

These actions were based on the *Implementation of the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015–2019* and what we felt was appropriate.

As Figure 10 shows, the top-ranked actions relating to improving sexual and reproductive health were:

- provide and support immunisation access to all
- improve access to quality health information across all age groups

Figure 10: Improving sexual and reproductive health rankings

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score
Provide and support immunisation access to all	1		1,087
Improve access to quality health information across all age groups	2		1,081
Promote online safety among children, parents and young people	3		957
Support and raise awareness of health promotion campaigns (e.g. Movember and Women’s Health Week)	4		817
Promote safe sex health education	5		795



Low est Rank High est Rank

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Physical activity themes were identified in 39 per cent of responses. Improving and connecting walking and cycling paths was also strong theme, identified in 18 per cent of total comments.

Other themes that emerged were:

- developing family friendly, well maintained, safe open spaces
- encouraging the development of additional recreational facilities on the Bellarine Peninsula and
- concern over the affordability of swimming and fitness classes.

“I would like to see the improvements to pedestrian and cycling networks continue.”

“Better connected and lighting for bike and walking paths to encourage leaving car at home.”

“Support improvements to sports clubs and reserves.”

“Expand your focus for programs and improvements to open space and reserves from the city centre to incorporate the whole of council, including the Bellarine peninsula.”

“Important to have lots of sports facilities with programs that are inclusive to all ages and different socio economic groups.”

“Affordable fitness classes/yoga.”

“Provide sporting, aquatic and community facilities that are affordable to all.”

SOCIAL CONNECTIONS AND MENTAL WELLBEING

Social connections and mental wellbeing themes were identified in 21 per cent of responses. Promoting mental health awareness and providing affordable mental health support services were also strong themes within this topic.

Other themes identified included:

- promoting the importance of community centres and group activities to reduce social isolation
- reducing inequalities across Geelong
- community spaces that are safe and community activities that are affordable.

“By ensuring our residents have equal access and equity of community resources, we will improve social inclusion and economic participation throughout our city which will in turn improve health and wellbeing.”

“Socialisation, overcoming isolation and community involvement are all important areas for older residents.”

“Affordable community activities to promote social wellbeing would be great.”

“Improve, expand and create more mental health support services.”

“Mental health awareness prevention and support.”

ACCESS TO SAFE AND HEALTHY FOOD

Access to safe and healthy food themes were identified in 10 per cent of responses. Educating the public about basic nutrition, to prevent chronic disease and promote good health, was a strong theme in this topic.

Other themes identified included:

- supporting social enterprise and initiatives that promote healthy choices
- local food co-ops and
- community gardens.

“I think education in basic nutrition is key. Healthy diet can fuel the body for its own medicine and help with prevention of other major disease that put A LOT of pressure on our current health care system.”

“I strongly believe that healthy eating (mostly fresh fruit and vegetables) should be a key priority to improve the overall health of our population. The evidence is beginning to mount that this is the best way to achieve health and happiness and public education around the same is paramount.”

“Focus should be on healthy drinks, good food and regular exercise for all young people. This would avoid further issues.”

“Encourage and support local food co-ops and community gardens. Encourage local shopping, educate about food waste and ban plastic.”

“Focus on bad fats and sugars to reduce local obesity crisis.”

OUR ROLE IN HEALTH PLANNING AND PROMOTION

Our role in health planning and promotion was a theme identified in 8 per cent of responses. What we can control and have an impact on was a strong theme in this topic.

“Health and wellbeing is an integral component of community welfare and should be held in high regard throughout council planning.”

“These are all priorities, but the challenge lies in prioritising (and resourcing) the priorities. I would like to see my council focus on things that will have the most impact, in areas that need it the most, and where Council have direct influence.”

“Keep up the good work. Promote what you’ve been doing. We like to hear of your success. Continue the work for Geelong CBD workplaces.”

“Council to focus on what it can control and, at times, advocate over implement.”

“Continue to listen and work with the community on the strategies to support work on the priorities of focus.”

REDUCING HARM FROM TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Reducing harm from tobacco, alcohol and drug themes were identified in 6 per cent of responses. Having a low tolerance for drugs and alcohol in public places was a strong theme in this topic. Increasing and enforcing smoking zones was also identified.

“Increase smoke-free areas and actually enforce current smoke free areas. Smoke does not just affect those who smoke, but those around them.”

“I am concerned about the use of ice and the associated increase in violence and other crime.”

“In my opinion, drugs and drug-related crimes (including vandalism) are an increasing detriment to our city. A focus on these issues need to be made a priority when the health of our city is concerned.”

“Target to reduce alcohol and gambling culture.”

“Public spaces that aren’t safe and drug culture are my biggest concerns.”

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Public transport themes were identified in 4 per cent of responses. Improving the frequency and duration of bus services was a strong theme in this topic. Improving train station safety was also identified.

“Build infrastructure to support connected public transport by train to reduce car and bus road traffic and sedentary behaviour.”

“Could ensure that footpaths are not cracked and dangerous to walk, create roads so less pollution from cars etc in residential streets, ensure bus timetables enable people to connect.”

“Need more frequently and extensive bus routes to lessen reliance on cars.”

“As a 72-year-old, my health and wellbeing depends on good public transport and well maintained footpaths. Both of these are within local governments’ power and influence and responsibility to maintain, unlike other things in this questionnaire. Good public transport includes ensuring the busses stay in Moorabool St.”

“Could you please advocate to extend Geelong’s bus service to, say, 11.00pm as a safety issue? I frequently walk the 2 or 3 kms to my home from central Geelong because the bus service finishes so early.”

“The north of Geelong (Norlane, Corio) hasn’t had visible investment in safe and well-lit parklands, safe train stations, safely-lit streets and connecting pathways.”

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Environmental health and climate change themes were identified in 4 per cent of responses. Concerns about food allergies in restaurants, pollution (air, water, soil and noise) and mosquito control were identified. Climate change was also raised as important factor to consider in health and wellbeing planning.

“It would also be good to consider the impact of environmental factors on health such as air/water/soil quality (including diesel exposure, industrial chemical/waste exposure), access to green space, climate change, mosquito control.”

“The focus on climate change to be factored into all decisions.”

“I would love to see more open green space throughout the city as its tourism focus (family-friendly, future-focused on climate change and keeping our gorgeous environment intact).”

IMPROVING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Sexual and reproductive health themes were identified in 4 per cent of responses. Educating young people about cyber safety was also a strong theme in this topic.

“Promote and talk about the safe use of technology. Our children have access and are seeing much more than we ever did. Educating people on how to teach children cyber safety.”

“I think early education.”

PREVENTING VIOLENCE AND INJURY

Preventing violence and injury themes were identified in 1 per cent of responses.

“Fantastic to see family violence prevention as a priority area! I would like to see more options around young people.”

Educational settings survey

Local early childhood services and schools involved in the Victorian Government's Achievement Program were also surveyed about their health and wellbeing priorities.

BACKGROUND

"The Achievement Program is part of the Victorian Government's vision for a Victoria free of the avoidable burden of disease and injury, so that all Victorians can enjoy the highest attainable standards of health, wellbeing and participation at every age. Launched in 2012, it boasts a membership of more than 3000 early childhood services, schools and workplaces from around Victoria.²"

Implementation of the Achievement Program is a collaborative effort between Cancer Council Victoria and the Victorian Departments of Education and Training and Health and Human Services.

² State of Victoria (2015) *About the Achievement Program*. www.achievementprogram.health.vic.gov.au/about (accessed 24 April 2018).

Educational settings method

The following were invited to participate in an online survey about health and wellbeing priorities in November and December 2017:

- 430 subscribers to the Achievement Program newsletter and
- 155 education settings within the City of Greater Geelong.

The survey was developed via Survey Monkey and designed to collect information about the Achievement Program in settings in the City of Greater Geelong.

Representatives of schools and early learning centres were asked six questions about the same health and wellbeing priorities used in the general community survey. The proposed actions for each priority were slightly different, however, to make sure they were relevant to an educational setting.

As with the general community survey, an incentive was used to increase the survey response rate.

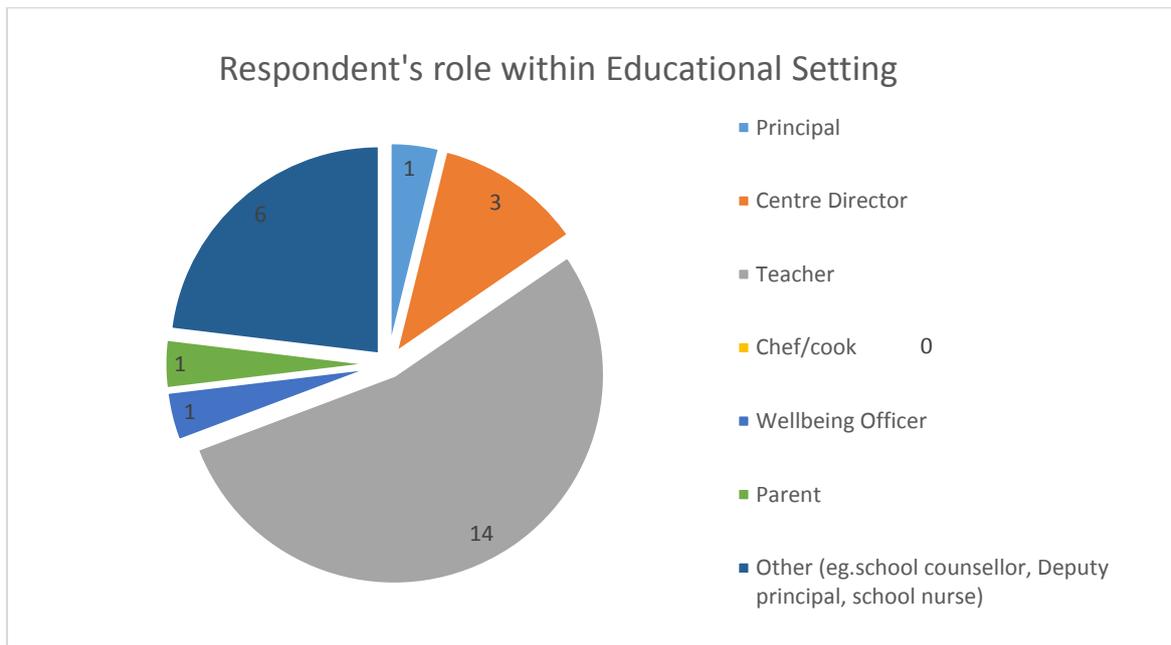
Educational settings results

Respondents

The survey collected responses from 26 early learning centre and school representatives across Greater Geelong. Responses came from teachers, health and wellbeing officers, school nurses, principals, committee/board members, educators and centre directors.

As Figure 13 demonstrates, the majority of respondents were teachers and wellbeing officers.

Figure 13: Breakdown of Respondent Type for Achievement Program Survey



Educational setting priorities

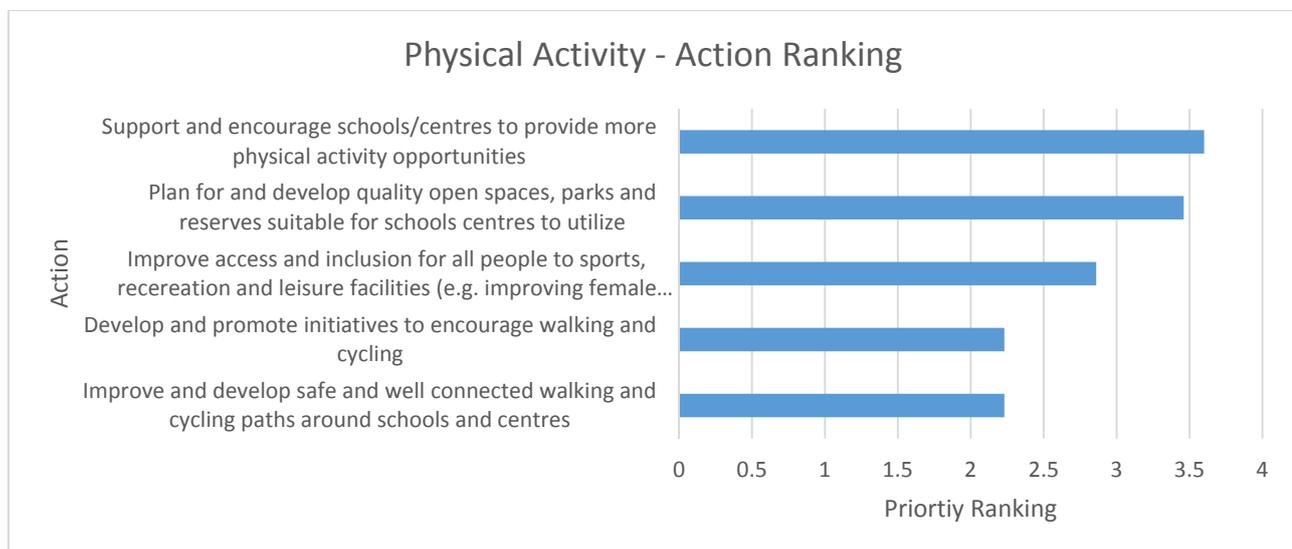
Increasing Participation in Physical Activity

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with the potential to increase physical activity, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

The top-ranked actions relating to physical activity were:

- support and encourage schools/centres to provide more physical activity opportunities
- plan for and develop quality open spaces, parks and reserves suitable for schools/centres to utilise.

Figure 14: Increasing Participation in Physical Activity Action Ranking Achievement Program Survey



Supporting Access to Safe and Healthy Food

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with the potential to support access to safe and healthy food, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

The top-ranked actions relating to supporting access to safe and healthy food were:

- support food retailers to improve safety practices – for example, by promoting knowledge of food allergens and compliance with food safety laws.
- encourage and promote healthy eating and drinking – for example, through healthy canteens, increased fruit and vegetable consumption, promoting breastfeeding within centres/schools.

Figure 15: Supporting Access to Safe and Healthy Food Action Ranking Achievement Program Survey



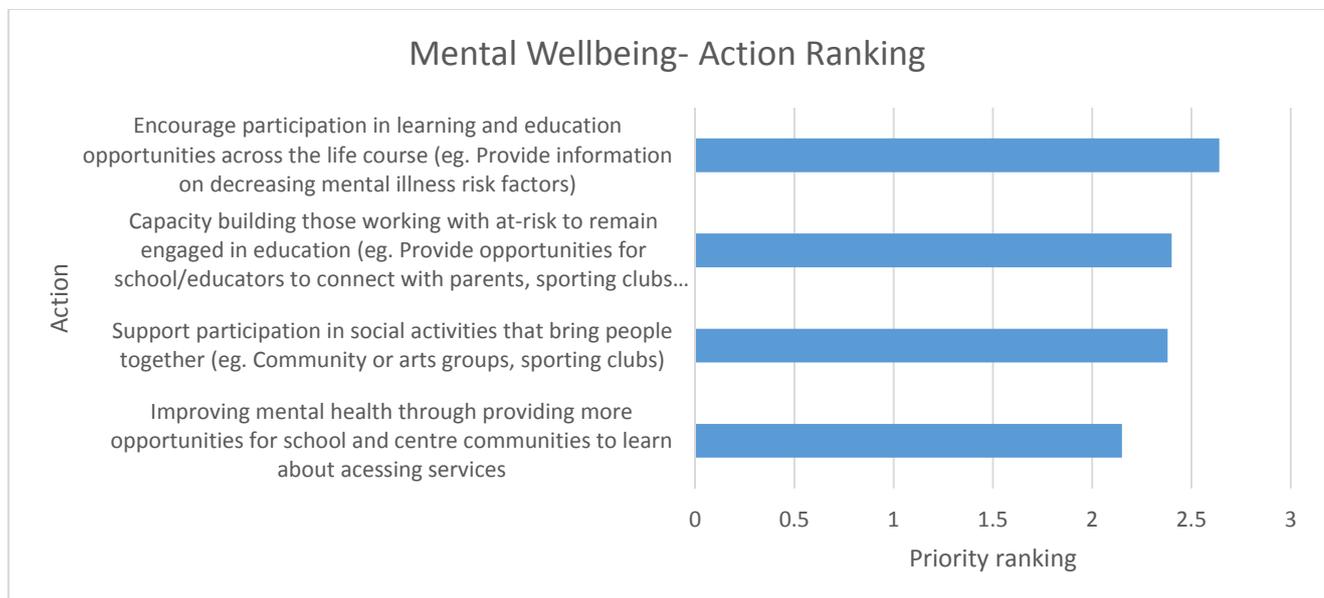
Mental Wellbeing

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with potential to improve mental wellbeing, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

The top-ranked actions relating to mental wellbeing were:

- encourage participation in learning and education opportunities across the life course - for example, providing information on decreasing mental illness risk factors
- capacity building those working with at-risk to remain engaged in education – for example, by providing opportunities for school/educators to connect with parents, sporting clubs and external agencies/businesses.

Figure 16: Mental wellbeing action ranking Achievement Program survey



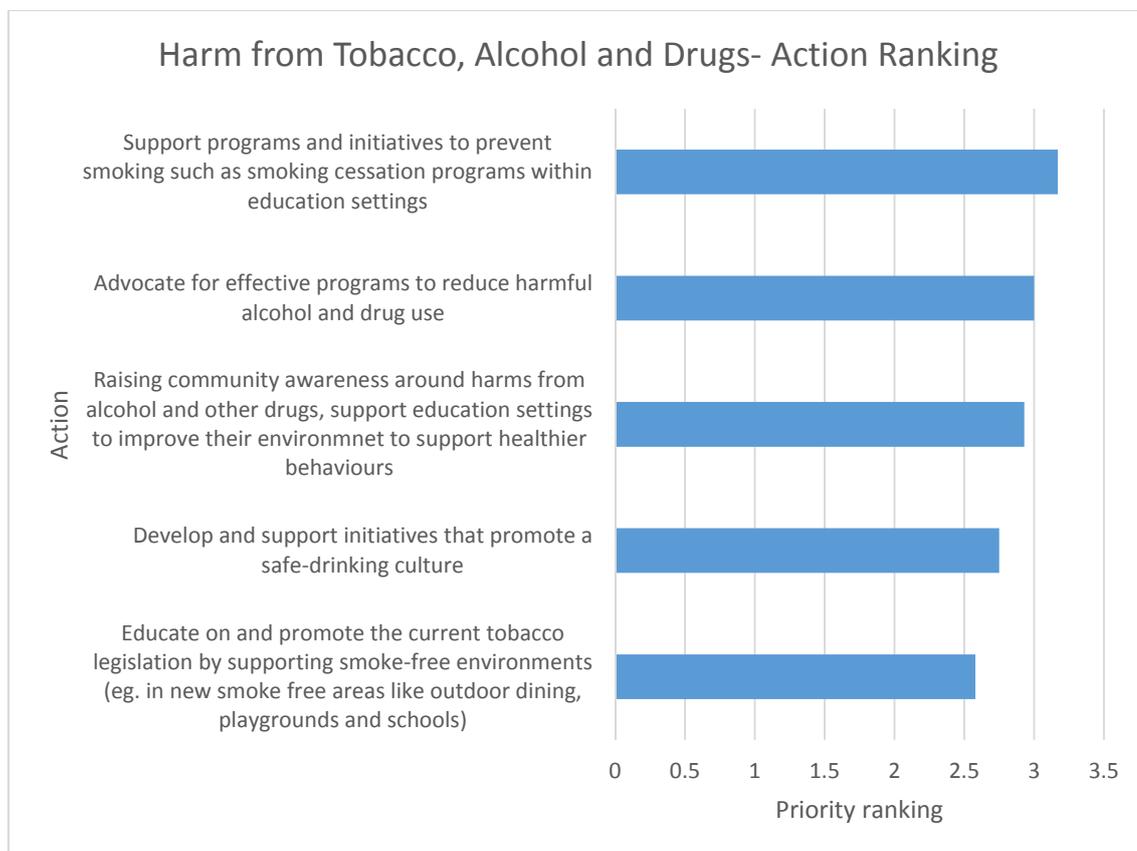
Reducing harm from tobacco, alcohol and drugs

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with the potential to reduce harm from tobacco, alcohol and drugs, in order of importance to them – ranked 1 for ‘most important’ and 5 for ‘least important’.

The top-ranked actions relating to reducing tobacco, alcohol and drugs were:

- support programs and initiatives to prevent smoking such as smoking cessation programs within education settings.
- advocate for effective programs to reduce harmful alcohol and drug use.

Figure 17: Reducing harm from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs actions (Achievement Program)



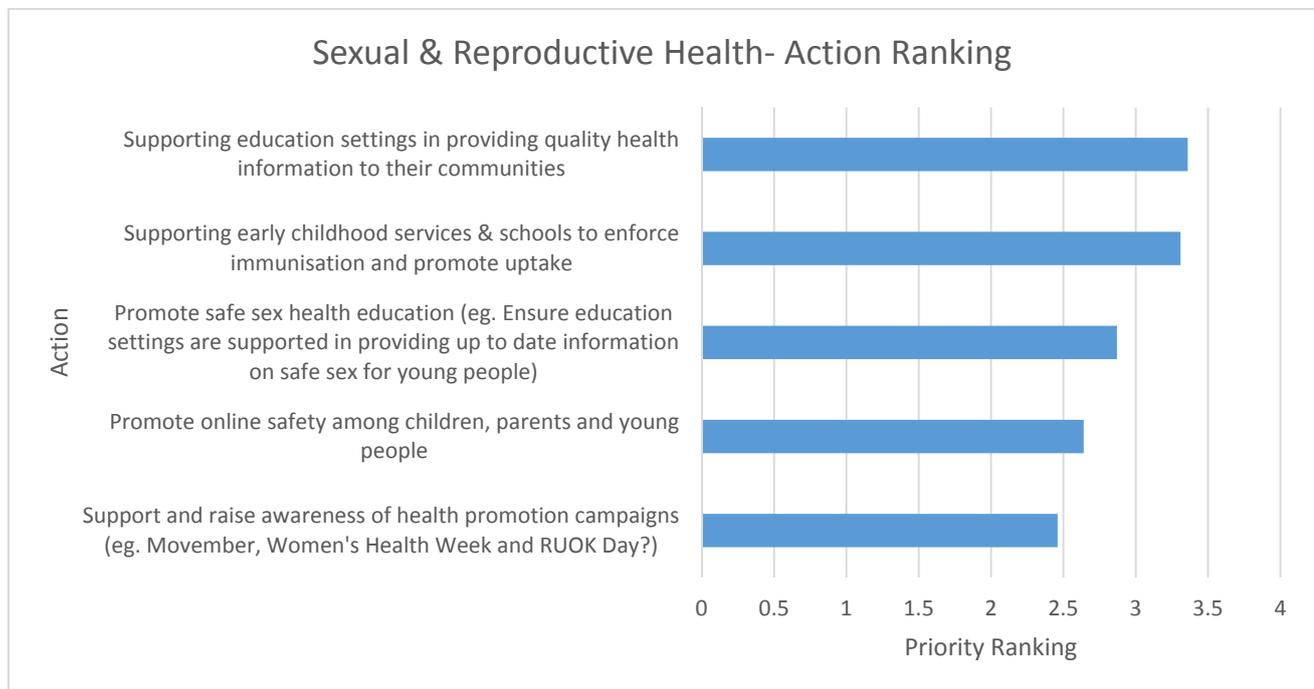
Improving sexual and reproductive health

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with the potential to improve sexual and reproductive health, in order of importance to them ranked 1 for 'most important' and 5 for 'least important'.

The top two ranked actions relating to Sexual and Reproductive Health:

- supporting education settings in providing quality health information to their communities
- supporting early childhood services and schools to enforce immunisation and promote uptake.

Figure 18: Sexual and reproductive health action ranking (Achievement Program Survey)



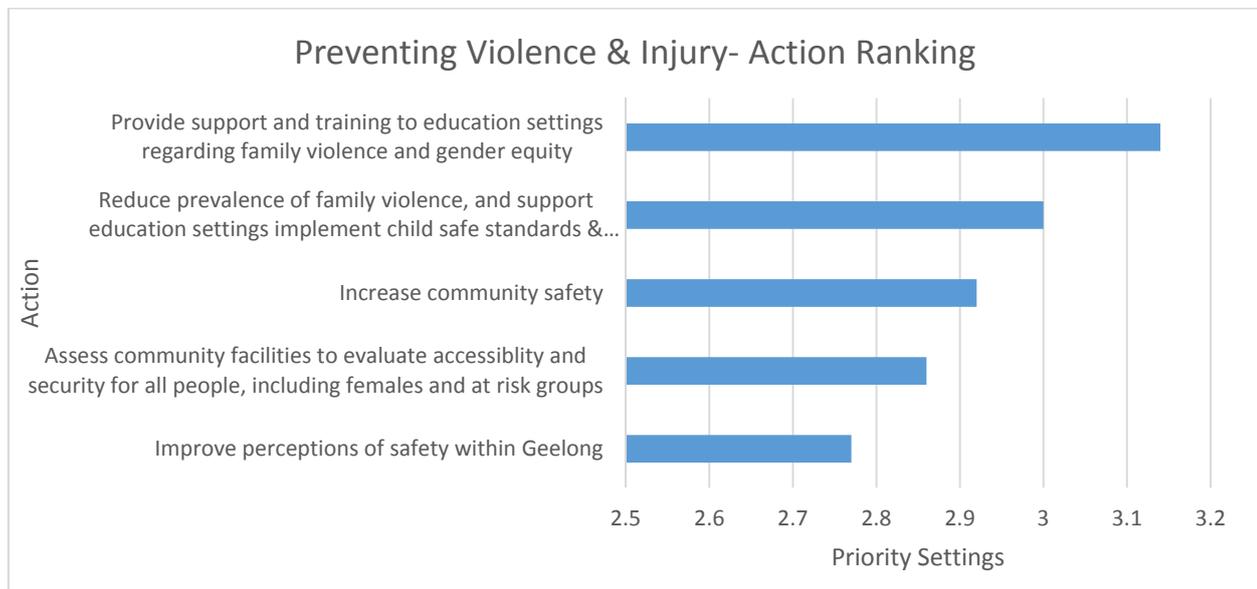
Preventing violence and injury

Respondents were asked to rank local government actions with the potential to improve violence and injury prevention, in order of importance ranked 1 for 'most important' and 5 for 'least important'.

The top-ranked actions relating to preventing violence and injury were:

- provide support and training to education settings regarding family violence and gender equity
- reduce prevalence of family violence, and support education settings implement child safe standards and respectful relationships curriculum.

Figure 19: Preventing Violence and Injury action ranking (Achievement Program Survey)



Conclusions

This community engagement process has identified the following health priorities as the most important to the Greater Geelong community:

- improving social connections and mental wellbeing and
- increasing participation in physical activity

Preventing violence and injury and supporting access to safe and healthy food were also ranked highly.

Responses to the educational settings and the general community surveys were consistent across a range of health and wellbeing actions. The following actions were identified as the most important in both surveys:

- **Increasing participation in physical activity** – developing quality open spaces and developing and improving walking and cycling paths.
- **Access to safe and healthy food** – encourage and promote healthy eating
- **Social connections and mental wellbeing** –support participation in social activities that bring people together and encourage learning and education activities across the life course
- **Reducing harm from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs** –advocate for effective programs to reduce harmful alcohol and drug use
- **Preventing violence and injury** –support programs to prevent violence against women, promote gender equality and respectful relationships between men and women
- **Sexual and reproductive health** – provide and support immunisation access to all, improve access to quality health information across the life course.

Some priority areas were different for the educational settings, when compared to the general community, for example:

- Supporting food retailers to improve safety practices – for example, promoting knowledge food allergens and compliance with food safety laws.

This was the top-ranked action by educational settings to improve access to safe and healthy food. However, it was ranked 4th by the general community.

- Supporting schools to provide more in sport and physical activity.

This was the top-ranked action by educational settings for increasing participation in physical activity. However, it was ranked 4th by the general community.

- Supporting programs and initiatives to prevent smoking.

This was the top-ranked action by educational settings for reducing harm from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. However, it was ranked 4th by the general community.

Next Steps

The information gathered through this consultation process will be analysed and used to inform the development of the our *Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2018-21*.

This report will then form part of a suite of documents, used as background and evidence, for the health and wellbeing priorities, including:

- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2018-2021: Demographics and Health Profile Background Document
- Executive summary from the Geelong Preventative Health Survey 2017
- Help Geelong Be Healthy and Safe 2018 - Community Engagement Report:
- Community Engagement Report: Community Consultation