

Frequently asked questions

What is a Community Vision?

A Community Vision is an aspirational description of what our residents want for the future of Glen Eira, including an outline of what will define future success. It captures what community members most value and hope their community will be or become over time.

How was the draft Glen Eira 2040 Community Vision developed?

You can watch a video on how the Glen Eira's Vision was developed here <https://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/get-involved/community-vision>

Community consultation started on the Community Vision with a co-design workshop in June 2019, followed by more than 30 engagement activities that took place between September 2019 and March 2020.

More than 3,800 community members provided their aspirations for the future of Glen Eira. Feedback was provided through a range of engagement activities including pop-ups, online forums, feedback forms, children's drawings, community workshops and a youth survey. All the findings were compiled in a report produced by an independent consultant which can be accessed [here](#).

We then recruited a community panel of 42 residents who were of different ages, gender and backgrounds to work together to develop Glen Eira's first draft Community Vision that would outline **“What is our vision for the future of Glen Eira and how can we reflect the aspirations of our diverse and growing community?”**

The Panel started their deliberations in March 2020 with two face-to-face sessions before they were paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After a long break, 32 community panel members resumed working together online in August 2020 to complete a draft community vision report for Glen Eira.

The community panel was given a range of information to consider, including the community engagement background report, and heard from professionals with specialist knowledge, as well as Council officers. They then worked together to develop the vision statement and six principles outlined in the draft Glen Eira 2040 Community Vision Report. The Vision statement and principles had to be accepted by 80% or more panel members for it to be included in the report. Minority reports were provided for elements that did not receive majority support but were still regarded as important to consider by some panel members.

How were the Community Panel representatives recruited?

The panel was recruited by an independent consultant 'Deliberately Engaging' to ensure their selection was made independently of Council. In January 2020, an Expression of Interest invitation for the panel was randomly distributed to 21,000 households across Glen Eira through a letterbox drop (every third household received the invitation).

Everyone aged 18 years or over living in the City of Glen Eira was invited to register interest, except for : a) current Councillors and Council staff; b) all past Councillors; c) previous staff employed by Council within the last 5 years); d) business and property owners who do not reside in Glen Eira; and e) people who work in Glen Eira but do not reside in Glen Eira.

More than 350 registrations were received. The panel was randomly selected to be broadly representative of the Glen Eira community considering age, gender, suburb, education, employment, house tenure, and other background and diversity features.

42 community members were initially invited to be part of the community panel.

Why did the Community Panel representatives reduce from 42 to 32?

Although 42 community members were invited to be part of the panel; after the first session this was reduced to 37 with five panel members being excluded due to failing to attend the first session.

After the second session, another panel member withdrew and by the time the panel resumed online in August 2020 (five months after they began); two panel members had moved out of Glen Eira and two no longer had capacity to stay on the panel, leaving a community panel of 32.

Although there was a significant attrition rate for the Glen Eira panel; this attrition rate is consistent across other community panels who generally have a dropout rate of 10-20% (and higher during a pandemic)ⁱ

What is the Vision Statement?

The Vision statement is a high-level statement that describes in a sentence what we want our community to be in the future.

The community panel had to reflect and develop a statement that they believed would bring about the best outcomes for our community now and in future generations.

The draft Glen Eira 2040 Community Vision statement is:

'Our Glen Eira' - A thriving community of empowered citizens working together for an inclusive and sustainable future.

In the words of the community panel representatives:

“Our Glen Eira expresses our love and pride in our city. During this panel process and the pandemic, the phrase ‘Our Glen Eira’ crystallised our sense of ownership of this Vision and report and the importance of the links between our Community, Council and Stakeholders.

This unifying vision stands before you as the product of long vigorous debate, intense discussions, and a tonne of aspiration. It leaves us excited and watchful for our shared futures. In fact, each main word in the Vision was examined for meaning, context and impact”

In explaining some of the key words in the vision statement the panel explained:

“Thriving’ and ‘inclusive’ can be catchwords these days, but in a covid-normal world, they have taken on an important meaning for ensuring that all of our community members are looked after and that we all share the wellbeing and prosperity of the post-pandemic recovery.”

What do the principles represent?

The principles identify core areas of focus that intend to support the future realisation of the vision statement. They provide context and examples of important themes needed to support the vision being achieved.

The panel explained aspects of the principles in the following way:

“The Principles are intended to express the most important themes that emerged, and to develop the intention of the Vision. As such, we anticipate they will deliver:

- *A Council and community that **work in a partnership** which communicates well, is fair, transparent and accountable.*
- *The **Proactive and evidence-based** building of **community resilience** against known **challenges** and unforeseen shocks **through planning** for the future social, environmental and economic needs of all Glen Eirans, across the lifespan; and*
- ***Community health and wellbeing through inclusion:** The intent here is that a **thriving** city depends on interaction between diverse community members to develop
 - *a feeling of belonging,*
 - *to ensure people have access to the resources they need, and*
 - *to protect us all from being left out or forgotten, in a crisis.**
- *The panel agreed that **Promoting Art and Cultural Celebration** further supports the shared experience and understanding that underpin our mental and physical wellbeing.*

*The Principles are not meant to be prescriptive, but to encourage and encompass creative responses. For example, **sustainable** initiatives can be reflected not only by the imaginative (**maximising of green and natural spaces**), but also by initiatives like more effective recycling”.*

How can I give feedback on the draft Glen Eira 2040 Community Vision?

Public exhibition of the draft Glen Eira 2040 Community Vision is from 18 January to 28 February 2021. You can view the draft Vision and complete a survey on our Have Your Say

website www.haveyoursaygleneira.com.au/community-vision or in person at our Town Hall Service Centre and local libraries.

This is an opportunity to test whether the draft Community Vision appropriately captures Glen Eira's aspirations and values for the future and whether there is anything missing or unclear.

Feedback can also be provided at one of our online Community Vision FAQ sessions via zoom:

- 10 February 2021 from 12 – 1pm
- 17 February 2021 from 6 - 7pm

Bookings preferred via TryBooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/BNTJH>

What will happen with my feedback?

All feedback provided till the end of February will be compiled and provided to the community panel who are set to meet again for one final session in March 2021. This session will allow the panel to review and respond to the community's comments and feedback, and to edit and finalise the Community Vision report.

What will the Community Vision be used for?

The Community Vision is a document produced by the community and owned by the community. It will be used to guide strategic planning and decision making for the future of Glen Eira. It will guide Council's priorities through the development of the Council Plan 2021-2025 and beyond.

What is the relationship between a Community Vision and the Council Plan?

The Local Government Act 2020 requires Council to develop both a Community Vision and a Council Plan.

The Community Vision is a document developed and owned by the community and sets out the community's future aspirations and goals for a minimum of 10 years.

The Council Plan is developed by Council at the start of each Council term and sets out the strategic direction of Council for at least the next four financial years. The Council Plan is informed by the Community Vision and sets out more detailed and specific strategies and actions for achieving Council's and the Community's aspirations.

What is the role of the Community Vision in future planning processes?

The final Glen Eira 2040 Community Vision will come into effect once endorsed by Council in mid-2021. It will guide and influence all of Glen Eira City Council's planning and strategies for the municipality including the next Council Plan 2021-2025 and other planning processes into the future.

¹ Information provided by Deliberately Engaging