



Outcome 3. Inclusive Communities

Inclusion

An inclusive community is one where the value all people bring to our community is recognised, respected and embraced, and opportunities are available for everyone in our community to participate - no matter their age, gender, culture, language, ability, income, location or education. Inclusive communities are cohesive, equitable and support opportunities for all.

Priority Areas:

- The value all people bring to our community is recognised, respected and embraced.
- Opportunities are available for everyone in our community to participate, socially, economically and in decisions that impact them.

Trends:

- We have an increasingly diverse population, with higher proportions of First Nations people and more migrants from different cultures according to the latest data.
- Our population is ageing and is expected to continue to age to 2041.
- There are an increasing number of people with disability.

Examples of Existing Council Initiatives:

- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Harmony Day celebrations
- Multicultural Advisory Group
- Shine a Light on Racism campaign
- Migrant Work Ready and Migrant Business Ready programs
- Inclusion Action Plan for People with Disability
- All Access Day at the Beach
- Youth Council.

Housing and Homelessness

A mix of diverse and affordable housing is important to offer housing choice for our growing community. Universal design ensures dwellings are appropriate for most people. In addition to appropriate housing, a range of services are needed to support people experiencing homelessness.

Priority Areas:

- People experiencing homelessness and/or domestic and family violence have access to support services.
- Collaborative action is undertaken to address housing affordability and availability.

Trends:

- The cost of renting and purchasing a dwelling have substantially increased and rental vacancy rates are low. Homelessness has increased.
- Higher proportions of low-income households are experiencing rental stress.
- There is difficulty accommodating workers in some industries resulting in lost economic activity.
- The proportion of social housing dwellings is slightly less than most other areas in South East Queensland and is not keeping up with population growth.
- Residents consider affordable housing to be a significant challenge impacting the liveability of our region.

Examples of Existing Council Initiatives:

- Support for community-led initiatives
- Housing & Homelessness Directory
- Responding to Homelessness Policy and Guideline (internal)

Participation in Decision Making

Active community members are involved in processes that affect decisions that matter to them, which leads to better decision-making and shared outcomes. Communities that get involved and participate in decision-making are more likely to be trusting and cohesive.

Priority Areas:

- Opportunities are available for everyone in our community to participate socially, economically and in decisions that impact them.

Trends:

- Around half of residents agree that there are opportunities to have a say on important community issues.
- Just over half of residents believe they live in a community where people get involved in local issues.

Examples of Existing Council Initiatives:

- Excellence in Engagement Framework
- Inclusive Engagement Guideline
- “Have Your Say” online platform.



haveyoursay.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
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