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Targeted Conversation #2: Health and equity summary

Moreland City Council: Community Panel

6:30pm - 9pm Saturday 18th May, Online via Zoom

Overview of the day

This session was the second of six targeted conversations with the Community Panel, on the topic of “**Health and equity**”. To focus the discussion, the Panel was presented with a relevant problem and remit that had been developed by Council, as shown below:

Problem: Council has a suite of strategies that address health equity in the community, however there is a need to prioritise strategies that address inequality in access to services and improve overall health and wellbeing.

Remit: What can Council do to best address social and economic inequality in Moreland over the next few years? (example strategies provided to panel)

The session included:

- An introduction to the session and topic
- Presentations from Bernadette Hetherington, Jillian Dent and Tracey Evans
- An opportunity to making sense of the information provided
- An activity to review and provide feedback on Council’s priority areas.

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Presentations

Bernadette Hetherington, Manager Community Wellbeing, Moreland City Council and Jillian Dent, Manager Community Wellbeing, Merri Health.

Jillian introduced the idea that wellbeing is much larger than just individual factors, and that prevention and early intervention are critical tools in increasing the wellbeing of a community. Ideas of participation, equity and equality were also contrasted. Bernadette expanded on Council's role in health and equity through advocacy, partnerships (with organisations such as Merri Health) and planning. Finally, the priority communities that Council targets as well as the priority areas for Council's advocacy, were shown and two questions were presented to the Panel:

1. *Does this reflect the communities that you think should be prioritised in terms of health and equity?*
2. *Do these advocacy priorities reflect the needs you see in the community?*

These questions were explored further in a group discussion during the session.

Tracey Evans , Executive Director of the First People's Assembly

Tracey's presentation focused on *Health equality for the Aboriginal community*. Tracey spoke about access and equity issues for Aboriginal people, closing the gap, the importance of self determination, what equality means for Aboriginal people and social emotional wellbeing.

The presentations were followed by questions from the Panel. Questions centred around how the priorities were identified, Council's role in promoting equity and health and direct engagement with the Aboriginal community.

Activity 1 - Sense-making

The group was asked to reflect on the presentations, topic paper and health profile, and then to respond to the questions:

- What stood out for you from the presentations?
- What stood out from the topic paper? Any gaps?
- Thinking about the information you have read from different perspectives, Is there anything Council should be doing more of and why?

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Activity 2 - Key issues

Participants were split into four breakout rooms for the second activity to provide discussions on different issues. Each group was given two key issues to discuss. The task given was to review the assigned issues and:

- Identify if anything is missing from the opportunities given?
- What are the two most important opportunities and provide a reason why?

What's coming up next?

Given the interruption to the session as a result of technical difficulties, we were not able to complete activities as planned. Agreement was reached with the Panel that a follow up activity would be provided on the participant portal to finalise this session.

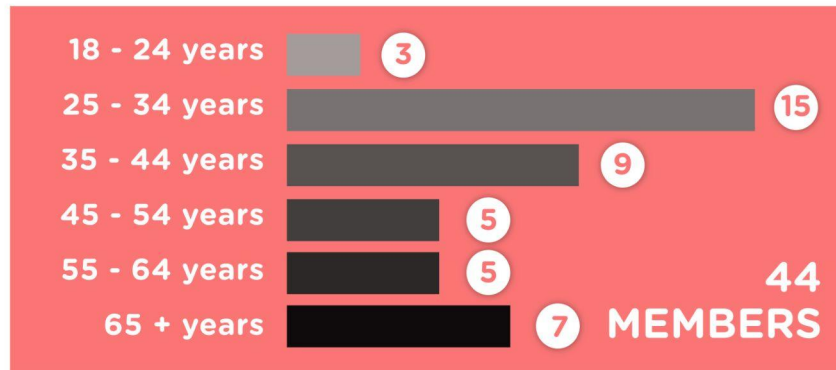
The next session will take place at the same time on Tuesday 25th of May. It will focus on the topic of the **Economy and the arts**.

Demographics of the Community Panel

IMAGINE MORELAND COMMUNITY PANEL



The Imagine Moreland Community Panel was randomly selected to form a representative sample of the community



Recruitment and stratification undertaken by Deliberately Engaging