



## Reflection session

Moreland City Council: Community Panel

6:30pm - 8pm Tuesday 22nd June, Online via Zoom

### Overview of the day

This session concluded the deliberative sessions with the Community Panel. It served as a reflection session following the three short-form deliberative sessions that were conducted in person, and the six targeted-conversation sessions that the Panel participated in online.

The reflection session included:

- A presentation by Nat McGlone on how the Panel's work will be used by Council
- A reflection activity that invited the Panel to share their thoughts in smaller groups
- An individual survey for the Panel to provide more personal feedback
- A presentation from the Panel
- A brief acknowledgement from the Mayor and deputy Mayor

### Introductory presentation

#### **Nat McGlone, Coordinator Community Engagement and Public Participation, Moreland City Council**

Nat gave the only formal presentation of the evening. Her presentation stepped out the entire Imagine Moreland process, and explained to the Panel how their work would be used by Council.

After thanking the Panel for their hard work, Nat started by discussing the four different phases of the Imagine Moreland engagement program, including the three phases that have now been completed:

- the broad engagement to gain insight from the broader community.
- the deliberative engagement sessions that produced the Community Vision.
- and the deliberative engagement session that provided feedback on topics to inform council strategies.

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As well as the phase that is still to come, community ownership of the process - where all draft documents are made public and presented to Council.

Nat advised the Panel that the Community Vision will be put on public exhibition and will then go to Council to be formally acknowledged as a guiding document of Council. Nat also described how the Panel's work would inform the Council Plan, Asset Plan and Financial Plan. Nat finished off the presentation by again thanking the Panel for their hard work.

## Activity 1 - Reflecting on the process

Following Nat's presentation, the Panel was split up into small groups to work on the first activity. This activity involved the Panel members reflecting on the whole deliberative process in their smaller groups. The Panel was asked to answer the following questions:

- Most surprising part of the process?
- Where did you gain the most new knowledge?
- Hardest part of the process?
- The thing you would want to change next time?

Groups then presented their thoughts to the whole Panel.

Following this first activity, the Panel was directed to an online survey, to provide more individual feedback.

## Presentation from the Panel

The Panel was then joined by the Moreland Council Mayor, Cr Annalivia Carli Hannan, and Deputy Mayor, Cr Mark Riley, as well as Joseph Tabacco - Moreland Council's Director of Engagement and Partnerships. Four representatives of the Panel (nominated by the Panel), gave a presentation summarising the deliberative process from their perspectives and the outputs that they produced.

The first speaker started by reflecting on how far the group had come. She reflected on the collective knowledge that they had gained, before introducing the rest of the Panel speakers.

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The next speakers spoke of the outputs produced from the series of Targeted Conversations. They summarised the Panel's work on the topics of: neighbourhoods; health and equity; economy and the arts; governance and democracy; getting around; and climate change and waste.

The first speaker wrapped up the presentation as follows:

*"We need to change the way we work at a Council level as well. There are people in our community who have not had a voice for the future of Moreland until now. Our unique experience, our hardships, are perspectives that frame the lens in which we can solve problems that are here. We have not been engaged until now. This is a really unique opportunity for the Council. Moreland Council has seen this clearly, and you've placed value on this. So thank you, this really does mean a lot to us. That's why we're still here. The drop-off should have been at least 50%, but we're still here - which is pretty amazing. I hope I can speak for all of the panel when I say that we want this to continue and that we hope the output from our work does not slip through the cracks. We are engaged and we are ready to imagine. So thank you."*

Following this presentation from the Panel, the Mayor Annalivia Carli Hannan addressed the Panel. She gave an Acknowledgement of Country, and gave apologies for the Councillors that could not be present due to the conference of local governments that was taking place in Canberra.

She thanked the Panel for their time, and emphasised that the Vision produced by the Panel is something that they would never have come up with as a group of Councillors. She expressed her belief that the Vision has the whole of Moreland's voice behind it. The Mayor then acknowledged everyone by name.

The Deputy Mayor Mark Riley then addressed the Panel. He built on the Mayor's remarks, and talked about his desire to get the Panel to provide insight on an ongoing basis. He then encouraged the Panel to stay engaged and to get involved, either through formal Council advisory groups, or other community groups. He explained the invaluable advocacy work that is carried out by these groups with respect to Council.

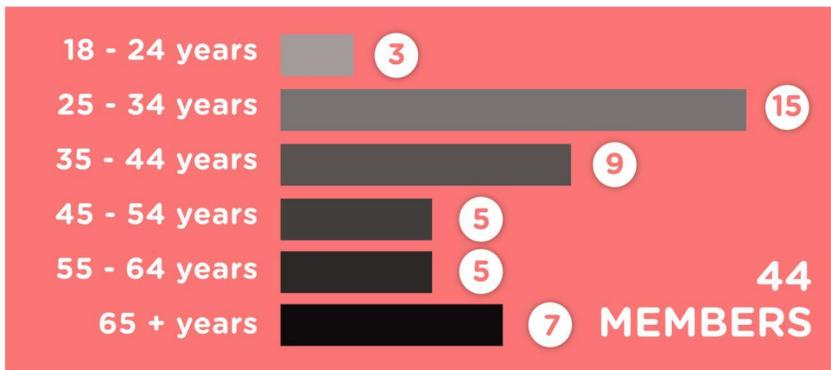
Finally, members of the Panel were invited to share any closing thoughts. Various members of the Panel thanked the other Panel members and the Council staff for their roles in the process.

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



- 8 Brunswick
- 4 Brunswick East
- 6 Brunswick West
- 7 Coburg
- 1 Coburg North
- 2 Fawkner
- 7 Glenroy
- 4 Pascoe Vale/Oak Park
- 5 Pascoe Vale South



Recruitment and stratification undertaken by Deliberately Engaging

There were 33 members of the Community Panel present at this meeting, with no apologies.