What the community panel have to say about

**governance and democracy**

and the question

What actions would increase the community’s trust in Council?

and

In what different and innovative ways could the community and Council work together to deliver projects?

The four main recommendations from the community panel that answer both of these questions are:

Find us.

* Talk to and share information with people where they are.
* Use regular notices (such as rates and animal registration notices) to share extra information about how Council works, what Council is doing, and how the community can get involved.
* Use services and facilities that the community already engage with and like (such as libraries and arts events) to share extra information about how Council works and how to get involved.
* Communicate clearly with us, and find better ways to express messages.
* Find ways for community members to be involved in Council business and making decisions.

Listen to us.

* Councillors should listen more to what the community need and fight for us, and not just the loud people, but those who are quieter and may be more vulnerable.
* Use many different ways to listen to the community, such as pop-up events, and offer us different ways to give feedback or vote on ideas.
* A program like Moreland Connector could use people with strong connections to community groups to help share information.

Be honest.

* We want more transparency.
* We want more information about what Council does, how it does it, how decisions are made, and what the outcomes of projects are.
* The community want to know who councillors are, what they represent, what they do, what they have achieved, and why they want to be councillors.
* Tell us about plans, results, evaluations, wins and losses, and feedback opportunities.