



# MINUTES

## PREVENTING FAMILY VIOLENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 10 May 2019 at 10.30am in Civic Room 2, Melton Civic Centre

**Present:** Cr Bob Turner, Mayor, Melton City Council  
Cr Ken Hardy, Councillor, Melton City Council  
Christine Levy, Coordinator Family Services, Melton City Council  
Liz Smith, Coordinator Social Planning and Wellbeing, Melton City Council  
Christine Reid, Supported Playgroup Facilitator, Melton City Council  
Rachel Phillips, Settlement Social Worker, MiCare  
Ken Anderson, Sergeant, Victoria Police  
Louise Falconer, Director Strategy Advocacy Community Engagement, Women's Health West  
Gaby Cabezas, Project Lead - Respectful Relationships, Department of Education and Training  
Nathanael Poljak, Project Lead – Respectful Relationships, Department of Education and Training

**Chairperson:** Cr Bob Turner, Mayor, Melton City Council

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### 1. Welcome

Cr Turner welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced apologies. Cr Turner acknowledged the Traditional Owners.

### 2. Apologies

Cr Lara Carli, Councillor, Melton City Council  
Cr Steven Abboushi, Councillor, Melton City Council  
Cr Sophie Ramsey, Councillor, Melton City Council  
Cr Goran Kesic, Councillor, Melton City Council  
Cr Kathy Majdlik, Councillor, Melton City Council  
Cr Michelle Mendes, Councillor, Melton City Council  
Matthew Wilson, Manager Community Planning, Melton City Council  
Shelley Tait, Health Promotion Officer, Melton City Council  
Peter Webster, Kirrip Aboriginal Corporation  
Helga Jennings, Department of Health and Human Services  
Normal Vella, Program Manager, Hope Street Youth and Family Services  
Joan Eddy, Manager Counselling, Djerriwarrh Health Services  
Stephanie Dziunka, Department of Justice and Regulation  
Gehan Shehab, Department of Justice and Regulation  
Alice Harris, Melton Specialist School  
Tegan Tregea, Hope Street Youth and Family Services  
Inspector Zorka Dunstan, Victoria Police



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### 3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil.

### 4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

February meeting minutes noted.

### 5. Business Arising

- 5.1 L Smith organised for an invitation to be sent to Gabrielle Williams MP to meet with Council to advocate for a Support and Safety Hub to be located in the City of Melton.
- 5.2 L Smith reported that S Tait has not yet finalised the update of Council's website with information around preventing and responding to family violence.
- 5.3 L Smith reported that S Tait will organise preventing and responding to violence training for Councilors in 2019-20.
- 5.4 L Falconer shared the suite of training packages that Women's Health West have available in regards to preventing violence against women, gender equity, bystander and workplace standards.
- 5.5 J Eddy to share Djerriwarrh Health Services family violence response conversation resource with the Committee (carried over).
- 5.6 L Smith shared the Engaging Dads project flyers with the Committee.
- 5.7 Committee members to share their ideas for the 16 Days of Activism campaign for 2019 (discussed in 6.3 and 6.4).
- 5.8 L Smith shared the City of Melton International Women's Day photo series with the Committee.
- 5.9 Cr Turner to organise a meeting with G Ludbook and management of the Brimbank Melton Community Legal Service to discuss the need for additional local legal services (deferred).
- 5.10 J Eddy to liaise with the Djerriwarrh Health Service internal prevention and response departments to discuss the potential re-delegation of this Committee to a staff member from the prevention team (carried over).

#### Action

S Tait to coordinate the update of Council's website information around preventing and responding to violence against women and family violence.

S Tait to organise preventing and responding to violence training for councilors in 2019-20.

J Eddy to share Djerriwarrh Health Services family violence response conversation resource with the Committee (carried over).

J Eddy to liaise with the Djerriwarrh Health Service internal prevention and response departments to discuss the potential re-delegation of this Committee to a staff member from the prevention team (carried over).



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### 6. General Business

#### 6.1 Respectful Relationships Brimbank Melton – G Cabezas

G Cabezas and N Poljak attended the meeting as guest presenters to share information about the Department of Education and Training's Respectful Relationships program. The program is a whole of school approach to respectful relationships which forms part of the Victorian school curriculum for Foundation through to Year 12.

The program is being delivered across Victoria, stemming from recommendation 189 of the Royal Commission into Family Violence. It is the largest prevention initiative to be funded, commencing in 2017 with funding secured until June 2020. Five schools in the City of Melton have already delivered the program, with another nine schools confirmed for 2019-20.

Professional development is also being offered to early years educators to reinforce the program's messages in state funded kindergartens. Two of Council's Preschool Field Officers will attend this training.

The presentation and contact details will be shared with the Committee.

#### Action

S Tait to share the Respectful Relationships presentation and contact details with the Committee.

#### 6.2 Support and Safety Hub advocacy – L Smith

L Smith shared that Council is continuing to advocate for an Orange Door to be located in the City of Melton. Advice has been sought about the types of office space that Family Safety Victoria are seeking.

#### 6.3 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence – L Smith

Councillors have demonstrated interest in implementing a number of public installations to raise awareness during the 16 Days of Activism. The three installations, are a tree of hope, video, and decals.

Members are invited to participate in developing a slogan/message for the decals and to feature in the video.

#### Action

S Tait to contact the Committee about their ideas for a 16 Days of Activism slogan for the decal installation.

#### 6.4 Equality and Respect 2030 Strategy – L Smith

L Smith reminded members of the action that was nominated by the Committee for the Equality and Respect 2030 Strategy, which was to hold a business breakfast to engage local businesses in the prevention of violence against women. L Smith gauged interest levels in progressing with this initiative as a Committee. Members queried the ongoing capacity to support local businesses after a one-off event. It was suggested to tap into an existing business event where an initial presentation could take place prior to a standalone event such as Venture Melton or the Business Awards.



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### Action

S Tait to contact Council's Economic Development team about existing opportunities to engage with local businesses.

## 7. Other Business

### 7.1 Member reports

#### Melton City Council

C Levy shared that the Melton Family Violence Network recently met and that membership is strong.

C Reid shared what Council's Families and Children department is currently delivering in regards to family violence. The department now has a family violence policy and procedure in regards to the information sharing scheme.

#### Victoria Police

K Anderson shared recent statistics of reported incidents of family violence within the City of Melton. He also reported that all members are undertaking an e-learning package and a half day of family violence training. iPads are now available for all members which will assist with completing L17 forms.

#### MiCare

R Phillips provided an overview of her case work role at MiCare where she is based in Melton two days a week. She shared that she is always on the lookout for content that can be shared with her local Burmese playgroup, especially in regards to family violence and respectful relationships.

Cr Hardy left the meeting at 12.00pm.

#### Women's Health West

L Falconer shared that the Preventing Violence Together partnership is looking to do some new actions focusing on the collective impact across the western region. One of the actions will focus on community conversations to share key messages in regards to gender equity and the prevention of violence against women in settings such as sports clubs and early years.

## 8. Next Meeting

Friday 14 June 2019 10.30am – 12.30pm.  
Civic Room 2, Melton City Council.

## 9. Close of Business

The meeting closed at 12.15pm.