

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, 13 September 2021 8:24 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan submission
Attachments: [Redacted] proposal_MPHWP submission.pdf

Hi,

Please find attached a submission for the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, on behalf of the [Redacted]
[Redacted]. We look forward to your consideration and response.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

*MACEDON RANGES
PUBLIC HEALTH &
WELLBEING PLAN
SUBMISSION*

Primary Prevention of Family Violence

Primary prevention requires changing the social conditions, such as gender inequality, that excuse, justify or even promote violence against women and their children. A primary prevention approach works across the whole population to address the attitudes, practices and power differentials that drive violence against women and their children. The drivers of violence against women include:

- Condoning of violence against women
- Men's control of decision-making and limits to women's independence in public life and relationships
- Rigid gender roles and stereotyped constructions of masculinity and femininity
- Male peer relationships or 'male bonding' that emphasises aggression and disrespect towards women

Our Watch



Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25

The Prevention of Violence Against Women / Gender Equality is a priority in the Draft Macedon Ranges Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25. There is also a commitment to 'continue involvement in the Family Violence Network and contribute to actions that come out of this network participate in the Macedon Ranges'

Proposal

Local government is critical in driving the change needed to prevent violence against women and to embed gender equity and respect into local communities. We would like to propose that Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) takes the lead in local family violence prevention/gender equity work and actively supports the [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] will support council in this transition period. If Council is unable to support this work the [redacted] and the collaborative work will cease.

Council is well placed to lead this work. Councils work with people across all life stages and across a number of settings, such as health and community services, arts, sports and recreation, education and care settings and public spaces. Councils are a major employer within their municipality, providing them with a unique opportunity to embed primary prevention in their communities through civic leadership, service provision, policies, work practices and community engagement.

[redacted] was a [redacted] of the Macedon Ranges Local Safety Committee and was formed in 2016 to strengthen collaboration amongst stakeholders in addressing family violence. The Macedon Ranges Local Safety Committee recognised the maturity of the family violence network and agreed for the Macedon Ranges Family Violence Network to be independent under their own branding.

The Network recognises the strength of a collaborative approach and has completed numerous primary

prevention activities over the past 5 years in settings such as education, community, health and local government.

The purpose of the [redacted] is to reduce violence against women in the Macedon Ranges, along the continuum of primary prevention, early intervention and response. [redacted] membership is inclusive and consists of interested service providers and community leaders who are committed to supporting the prevention of violence against women and gender-based violence.

[redacted] has been proud to support and facilitate this network over the last 5 years, however [redacted] funding ceases in March 2022.

The network members remain committed to working towards actions as per the [redacted] Terms of Reference and Action Plan. However, none of the partners have the capacity to facilitate this network.

Membership

The [redacted] membership includes representatives of:

- [redacted]

At the request of the Network, external persons may be strategically invited to attend meetings and join working groups to provide advice and assistance where necessary.

Role of coordinator

Historically, [REDACTED] allocated 0.2 EFT to coordinate the network, with the scope of the role including:

- Sharing information and resources within the network
- Coordinating capacity building opportunities
- Convening monthly meetings and associated communications
- Coordinating projects and their respective working groups- ongoing projects include-16 days of activism, International Women's day, Making HERstory Leadership forum (women's leadership and decision-making forum for school students) and Beyond the Superhero project (breaking down gender stereotypes forum with male and non-binary school students).
- Advocacy
- Community engagement
- Networking within the region (gender equity and Prevention of Violence Against Women Community of Practices)

However, *Centre for Non Violence* have now included network members in their communication process in regards to family violence response. There is now an opportunity to focus on primary prevention of family violence eg coordination of 16 days of activity campaign and therefore reduce the resource/eft required.

MRSC commitment to MRFVN

Prior to MRSC restructuring, MRSC had a representative on:

- The [REDACTED] (see ToR)
- The Making HERstory Leadership Forum project: (first delivered in 2019 with hopes to deliver again in 2021-22 depending on COVID-19 restrictions and school capacity to engage)
- Breaking the Mancode (Tomorrow Man) Forum (postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19, a one day forum for year 9-10 male/non binary students from the six local secondary schools exploring outdated gender stereotypes, recognise power relationships between genders and that greater equality and the breakdown of gender norms give everyone more opportunities to develop to their full capacity as human beings.

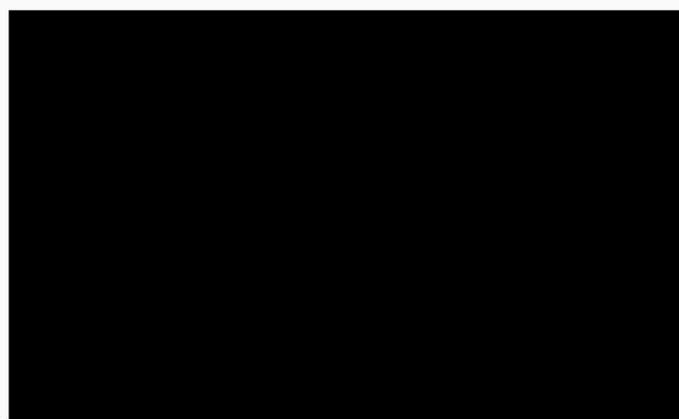
- 16 days of activism: The 16 days of activism is a global movement raising awareness of and challenging gender based violence against women. It runs from 25th November (International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women (IDEVAW) to 10th December (International Human Rights Day). Each year MRFVN coordinates and delivers activities and events across the shire in accordance with the 16 Days theme.

Where to from here?

For the [REDACTED] to continue in its momentum, coordination of the network needs to be taken on by a lead organisation. [REDACTED] proposes that MRSC is in a strong position to take on this lead role [REDACTED] asks that MRSC considers this proposal to support the continued collaboration to deliver prevention of gender-based violence initiatives.

The Work

Case studies on the following pages depicts the work of the network over the Integrated Health Promotion reporting period and below is a short animation.



The partners have achieved a lot over the years, collaboratively and individually - Project Reports: Click on images below to view case studies.



Making HERStory

The [redacted] [redacted] organised a Making HERstory: a Leadership Forum to improve young women's understanding of the concept of leadership, their leadership capacity and opportunities.



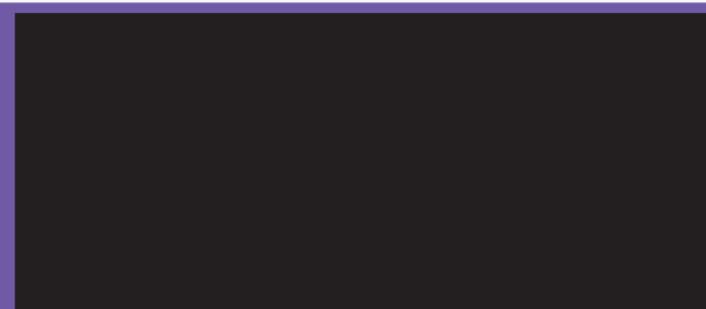
Breaking Down Male Rigid Stereotypes

Macedon Ranges Shire is ready and resourced to lead the innovative work in addressing rigid male stereotypes.



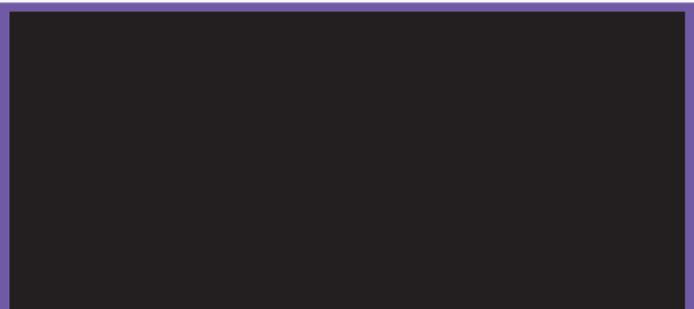
Prevention of Violence Against Women Strategy

Women's [redacted] is continuing to build regional capacity for aligned and strengthened action towards Gender Equality and the Primary prevention of violence against women.



Role Modelling Respect

[redacted] collaborated with the [redacted] on a project called Role Modelling Respect. Players and members were invited to be photographed holding a statement that models respectful behaviour or challenges harmful social norms. The project aimed to promote a club culture that is inclusive and where every member of the club is valued.



16 Days of Activism

The [redacted] uses the annual International 16 Days of Activism campaign to raise awareness in our local community of gender inequity, services available to community members experiencing family violence and the importance of speaking out against discriminatory attitudes and behaviours.

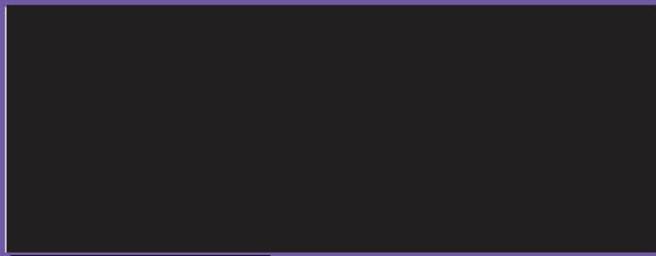


Challenging Gender Stereotypes

[redacted] as part of their Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships Program, organised a Careers Expo: Challenging Gender Stereotypes. Over 90 students and 6 staff participated in the event. The network sourced some funding to capture the event on video, promoted the event and engaged the media.



56 community members took a stand against violence against women at the local farmers market They had their photograph taken holding a message that: challenges the condoning of violence against women; promotes gender equality; and challenges gender stereotypes and roles. These portraits were exhibited across the Macedon Ranges Shire



Lancefield & Romsey Stand Together

A roving exhibition of local community members photographed holding a statement declaring their stance against family violence.



It's Just A Joke gender backlash animation and teacher resource

The gender backlash animation project was developed by [redacted] in response to young female/non binary students at [redacted] experiencing gender backlash at their school.

[redacted] staff, and staff and students from [redacted] have worked in collaboration on this project with the [redacted] students developing the animation scenario and script. [redacted] produced the animation for the trial.

The animation and resource builds on the Respectful Relationships curriculum being delivered in schools providing a locally produced resource. [redacted] have also developed a resource to guide teachers in unpacking the content of the animation and having further discussions regarding challenging gender stereotypes, sexism and addressing gender backlash.

The animation and accompanying teacher resource is currently being trialled in various local schools and it is expected that the resource and animation will be adapted in relation to the feedback

Link to animation : <https://vimeo.com/484293874/2ce4b6ce27>

Terms of Reference

Acknowledgement of Country

Macedon Ranges Shire is on Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Countries. We would like to pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Acknowledgement of survivors of family violence

We would like to pay tribute to the many survivors of family violence whose bravery, experience and stories inform service responses, initiatives and events such as this one today. We acknowledge that family violence is a very prevalent issue in our community and that we can all do something to prevent it if we all work together.

Vision

We in Macedon Ranges Shire are non-violent, gender equitable, non-discriminatory and have respectful relationships. Everyone lives free from violence.

Family Violence

This is an overarching statement that does not intend to exclude any lived experience of family violence.

Family violence is defined as : physical abuse, sexual abuse, damage to property, emotional abuse, social abuse, economic abuse, psychological abuse, and spiritual abuse. Whatever form family violence takes, a central feature is that it involves a person exercising a continuum of control and power over the victim by inducing fear, which can last many years.

We recognise that the majority of family violence is gender based violence against women perpetrated by men (intimate partners) driven by factors associated with gender inequality.

Hence the network's focus on primary prevention or the reduction of gendered drivers of violence against women.

Values and Principles

Collaboration

- We work with our partners and others knowing that whole of community change is only possible through alignment of effort.
- We collaborate in an open, respectful and transparent way and share expertise and skills to progress the agreed objectives This is to be reflected in all external communications eg media releases, social media

Strengths based

- We seek to strengthen existing structures and groups rather than re-invent or change.

Capacity building

- We work to build the capacity of individuals, agencies, organisations and communities to understand and act to change underlying drivers of violence against women
- We acknowledge that there is equity between all members of our group.

Intersectional approach

- We know that some groups of women are more likely to experience male violence due to the intersection of multiple types of structural and cultural oppression (eg colonialism, racism, able-ism, ageism) and we will listen to, learn from and work with these communities so that we may better understand and address these issues in our prevention strategies.
- We recognise the intersectional approach required with Indigenous, Culturally And Linguistically Diverse (CALD), LGBTQI, Disabled, Youth and Elder communities.

Innovation and learning

- We recognise that primary prevention of violence against women is an emerging area of knowledge and activity that requires innovation and learning. This includes the sharing of knowledge and evidence through learning, knowledge and evaluation processes.
- We will apply rigor to our evaluation process and be accountable to each other and our community.

Values and Principles (cont)

Voice

- Most effected populations of women are subject to layers of disadvantage. We strive to enable these women to have a voice and pursue opportunities to hear and share stories from survivors of violence and gender discrimination.

Acting now

- We have a choice. We can change the story that currently sees a woman murdered every week by a current or former partner. We can choose a future where women and their children live free from violence. We need to act now.

Background

[Redacted]

The network was formed in 2016 to strengthen collaboration amongst stakeholders in addressing family violence. The publically available data to measure the level of Family Violence in the Macedon Ranges is from the Victorian Crime Statistics Data

<https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/family-violence-data-portal/family-violence-data-dashboard/victoria-police> (see graph in [Community Profile Summary](#)).

Purpose

The purpose of the [Redacted] is to reduce violence against women and children in the Macedon Ranges, along the continuum of primary prevention, early intervention and response.

We use strategies of collaboration, community engagement, advocacy, capacity building, coordination and consciousness to achieve our strategic objectives.

Membership

[Redacted] Membership is inclusive and consists of interested service providers and community leaders who are committed to primary prevention and to supporting the women of our community to access family violence specialist services.

The membership includes representatives of:

- [Redacted]

Membership (cont)

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

At the request of the Network, external persons may be strategically invited to attend meetings and join working groups to provide advice and assistance where necessary.

Objectives

The objective of this group is to develop and implement actions that will:

- Reduce the gendered drivers of violence against women by:
 - Challenging condoning of violence against women
 - Promoting women's independence and leadership in public life and relationships
 - Challenging gender stereotypes and roles
 - Strengthening positive, equal and respectful relations between and among women
 - Promote and normalise gender equality in public and private life
 - Increase the identification of family violence
 - Increase awareness and access of services and supports available for those who are victims of family violence

Role & Responsibilities

The [Redacted] is committed to achieving its purpose and objectives and members will:

- Work in accordance to the Terms of Reference
- Attend and actively participate in network meetings
- Join a [Redacted] working group
- Respect the confidentiality of materials and discussions that are presented 'in confidence'
- Accurately represent the values and views of the [Redacted] member organisation/networks/clubs and communicate meetings minutes back to them if appropriate
- Maintain the network's focus on the agreed purpose and objectives
- Develop and work to an action plan that is endorsed by the [Redacted]

Responsibilities of the Chair:

- Guide the meeting according to the agenda and time available
- Ensure that all participants have an opportunity to express their ideas and opinions
- Ensure all discussion items end with a decision, action or definite outcome
- If the chair is unable to attend they must delegate the chair function to another member of the network.

Governance/ Decision making / communication process

The [redacted] is a network of and auspiced by the [redacted].

A quorum is attained with five network members present. Decisions will be taken by consensus. Where consensus cannot be achieved, decisions will be taken by a simple majority vote.

Meetings Proceedings

- Chair: To be confirmed
- Agenda: Will be distributed at least one week prior to the meeting. There will be a standard agenda. Members may forward additional agenda items to the chair for inclusion.
- Minutes: Brief action orientated meeting minutes will be taken and distributed to all members within two weeks of the meeting. The responsibility for minute taking will be rotated annually. Minutes will be provided to [redacted]
- Frequency: Meetings will be monthly: Third Thursday of the month.

Outcomes / Measures of Success

Success will be measured according to the action plan monitoring and evaluation framework.

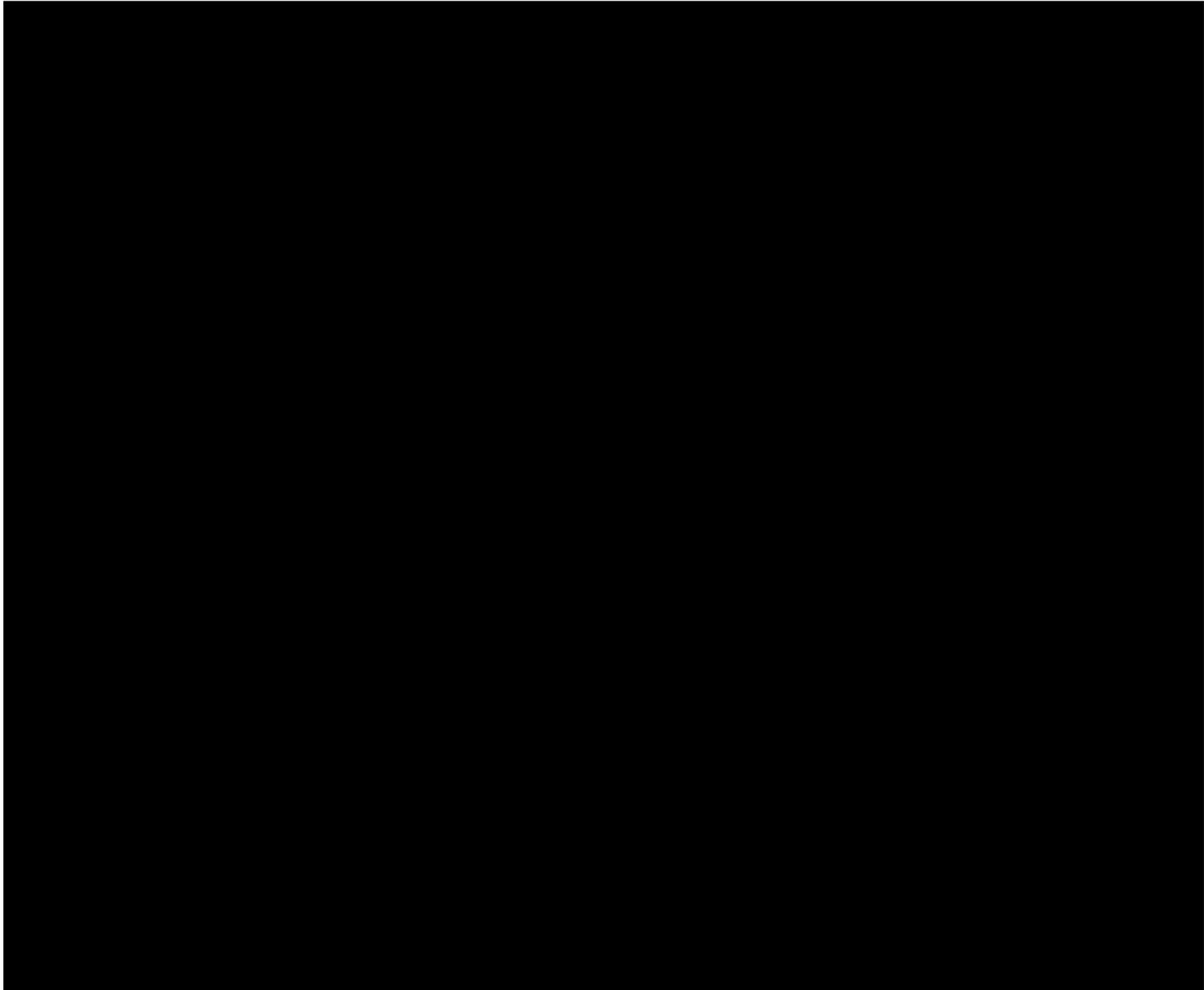
Conflict of Interest & Confidentiality

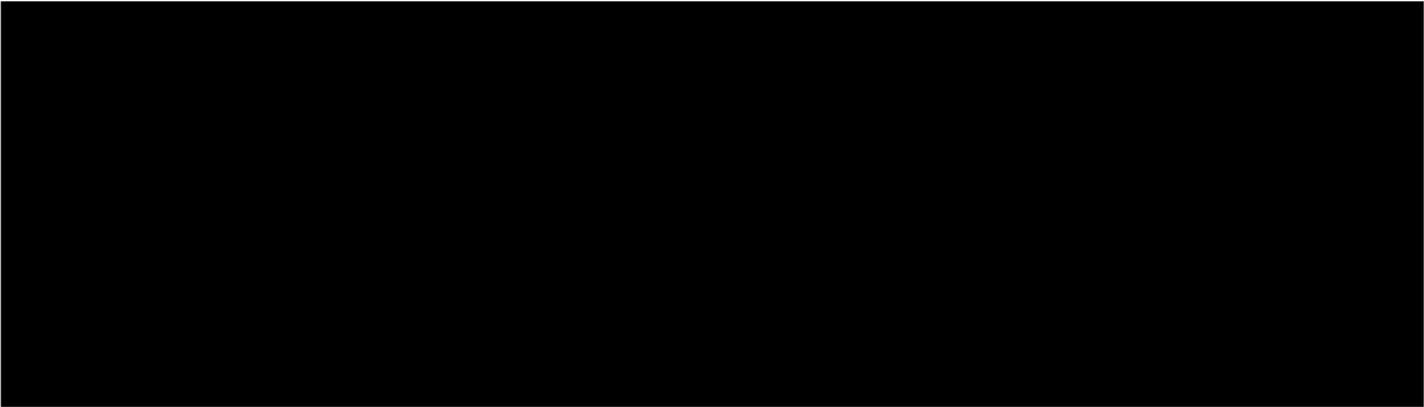
Members and their representatives shall declare any conflict of interest at the point of discussion that could or do result in a conflict with service provision or work or priorities. All partner members are bound by confidentiality of meetings (when requested) and decisions of their networks.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 17 September 2021 4:39 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Sender Unverified] Re: [Sender Unverified] Re: Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan and Disability Action Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.





From [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 4:26 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: [Sender Unverified] Re: Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan and Disability Action Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi [Redacted]

Thank you for sending this through. It is terrific to see the Council continue to take on the leadership role in mental health, wellbeing and suicide prevention. We now here from the Prime Minister down the need for a “Whole of Government approach” to suicide prevention. Macedon Ranges Shire Council has in fact led the way on this for over a decade. Well done.

With respect to the draft Mental Health and Wellbeing Plan I have attached a marked up version with highlights where the suggested changes are required. They are:

1. Page 22 - Goal 1. Strategic Objective - Support Mental Wellbeing in the workplace and in the community.

Under Rolling Action - First point. “Support and promote mental health by continued delivery of mental health first aid sessions and the Older Person Mental Health First Aid course”. I suggest this be amended to “Support and promote mental health by continued

delivery of mental health first aid sessions through Live4Life and the Older Person Mental Health First Aid course”.

Reason for the amendment: It is important to point out that Live4Life is not just mental health education delivered to secondary schools. It is a whole community response to mental health and wellbeing and suicide prevention. It includes the school and community partnership group, it includes youth mental health first aid education to the wider community; parents, carers, teachers, sporting coaches, men’s sheds etc and it also involves the youth participation, youth leadership component - The Crew. It is the delivery of all these components that has been the strength of Live4Life and why it has such a positive impact and why it has been recognised with so many awards. It is very important that this is articulated in the plan.

2. Page 22 - Goal 1. Strategic Objective - Support Mental Wellbeing in the workplace and in the community.

Under Rolling Action - Fourth point. Develop, maintain and deliver a Live4Life program to go into grade 5 & 6. Please amend this to ““Develop, maintain and deliver a primary school-based mental health and wellbeing model for grade 5 and 6 students”.

Reason for the amendment: As discussed with [REDACTED], the name Live4Life is owned and controlled by Youth Live4Life Ltd. In 2015 the Macedon Ranges Shire Council decided to establish an independent, registered not-for-profit health promotion charity and transfer the name and intellectual property of Live4Life to the new entity, Youth Live4Life. Youth Live4Life is responsible for the Live4Life model, its expansion and the brand. As I have said to [REDACTED], Youth Live4Life is very supportive of the Council interest in developing a mental health initiative that is targeted at grade 5 and 6 students and would very much welcome being part of the steering committee to assist with this. But at this stage, given that Council is still only in the research and scoping stage and we do not know what this initiative may involve, it is inappropriate for the name Live4Life to be used at this stage.

3. Page 22 - Goal 1. Strategic Objective - Support Mental Wellbeing in the workplace and in the community.

Under Rolling Action - Fifth point. Live4Life is a mental health education and youth suicide prevention model for rural and regional communities. Suggest changing this to “Continue to deliver the evidence-based, award winning youth mental health and suicide prevention model Live4Life.”.

I may seem to be pedantic on some of the above amendments but it is very important that there is a proper understanding of what Live4Life is and that it is articulated clearly in the Council’s plans. One of the key recommendations from the two-year independent evaluation of Live4Life is the need to increase the visibility of the entire initiative within communities. By promoting the broader understanding of Live4Life, and sharing outcomes on an annual basis we are able to build more community support and strengthen the wellbeing and resilience of our community.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 September 2021 10:30 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Submission to Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 21-25
Attachments: [Redacted].docx

Hi Bernie,

Please find attached the [Redacted] response to the Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing plan.

We would be quite happy to have representatives available at the Submitters Committee Meeting on Wednesday 13 October or another time if suits.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



Monday 27 September, 2021



Re: Response to draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021- 2025

[redacted] welcomes the opportunity to make comment on the Council’s most recent Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing draft plan.

As you will be aware, [redacted] was formed in 2014 as a result of two Council led community consultations that sought to identify a way for the Council to work more collaboratively with the broader community, including organisations and people with lived experience, to address the critical issue of reducing suicide rates in the Macedon Ranges. Council’s role in mental health and wellbeing and specifically suicide prevention has been very well documented and celebrated ever since. Council should be proud of what it has accomplished in this important arena.

The Council’s recent restructure had multiple impacts on this collective work, it has been a period of change and great uncertainty.

We are buoyed to see that mental health remains a top and continuing priority in the MPHWPB 2021-25 and to read specifically, that Council has acknowledged that prevention of deaths by suicide remains an area for improvement. We have always been aware that to tackle a complex issue like suicide requires a sustained and ongoing commitment and a whole of community approach. It also requires leadership and drivers, and we hope that Council will continue to position itself as champions of this local work.

We invite Macedon Ranges Shire to reflect their ongoing commitment to suicide prevention by including the following suicide prevention actions in the final MPHWPB 2021-2025.

1. Invitation to become a permanent member of ██████████ (2.0)

MPHWBP strategic objective	Support mental wellbeing in the workplace and in the community
Rolling action proposed for inclusion:	Continue to work on suicide prevention strategies within the shire <i>through council's continuing membership ██████████ and contributions to activities.</i>

Over the last few months, we have been working closely with Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Trial Site on the 'Suicide Prevention in the ██████████'. The project has sought to consolidate existing suicide prevention efforts between the Trail Site and MRSPAG under a single governance structure. The aim of this is to reduce duplication and maximise the impact of our efforts for the Macedon Ranges community.

Through consultation with partners it has been agreed that existing Trial Site activities are integrated into ██████████ See **Attachment 1** for an overview of the ██████████) framework and governance structure.

██████████ includes an expanded membership (to include emergency services and other community organisations currently involved in trial site work). It also provides an opportunity for partners to strengthen advocacy efforts for mental health services on behalf of the Macedon Ranges community.

This project has provided partners, including council, an opportunity to revisit and reconfirm the purpose and scope of suicide prevention activities (particularly in the context of Trial Site funding ceasing in June 2022). Partners are committed to activities currently taking place through MRSPAG and the Trial Site. These activities align with existing council priorities such as building community capacity through delivery of Mental Health First Aid Training and advocacy for youth mental health services.

In the coming months, ██████████ will seek to work with partners to embed this new structure and further clarify the scope of existing activities and any new projects that partners would like to collaborate on.

Given council's broad community reach across the lifespan, established mechanisms for engaging with the community, previous leadership in this work and strategic responsibilities for supporting the health of the community, we would like to propose that council strengthens their commitment to reduce the suicide rates in Macedon Ranges and add to the MPHWBP their continued involvement in ██████████ and contribute to actions that come out of this network.

2. Support after suicide

Strategic objective (Draft MHWBP): New Priority:	Support mental wellbeing in the workplace and in the community Supporting the community to respond and recover from emergencies
Rolling action proposed for inclusion:	Continue to work on suicide prevention strategies within the shire through council's coordination of the suicide and sudden death response protocol

Support after suicide (also referred to as ‘postvention’) is a critical component in suicide prevention work. We know that the effects of a suicide on the broader community can be far reaching. Those impacted by the event may be at increased vulnerability of developing a mental illness or engaging in suicidal behaviour. Research has identified that a suicide can impact on anyone whose life or activities intersect with the deceased. This can include (but is not limited to):

- class mates or others attending the same school/college or workplace
- those attending the same sports club or other activity group
- those who perceive they have similar life problems to the deceased or identify with the deceased i.e. similar age, sexual orientation, cultural or religious connection.

Young people in particular when are exposed to a suicide, are at an increased risk of ‘suicide contagion’. This is where one suicide in a school, community, or area increases the likelihood that others will attempt or die by suicide. While this is a rare phenomenon, young people seem to be more vulnerable to suicide contagion than older people. This may be because young people identify more strongly with the actions of their peers, and because adolescence is a period of increased vulnerability to mental health problems, which in turn can increase the risk of suicide.

Background to council’s role in this work: the Macedon Ranges Suicide and Sudden Death Response Plan (2019)

The council previously led partner efforts to support children and young people impacted by a suicide or sudden death, and adults working with them (as set out in its Suicide and Sudden Death Response Plan). The council had the foresight to see that in Macedon Ranges “emergencies” were not limited to bushfires, storms, floods or pandemics and that the impact of a suicide on our community required a dedicated response to identify and mitigate ongoing risks and support recovery.

The plan stepped out a process through which the council in collaboration with local partners coordinated services and activities to support the community following a suicide death in the shire. The steps in the plan were informed by and aligned with council’s internal emergency response process. It was referenced and embedded as a sub plan of the Macedon Ranges Municipal Emergency Management Plan.

Council had (prior to the restructure) resourced this work by providing secretariat support for the committee meetings (convened following a suicide or sudden death) and the Municipal Emergency Resource Officer provided a dedicated 24/7 first point of contact to receive notifications of a suicide death from Victoria Police. The collective response consisted of a *response phase* (immediate

supports) and a *recovery phase* (longer term actions needed to strengthen supports and resilience in the community).

Interim support arrangements in place (January 2021 – current)

The Suicide Prevention Program Officer (SPPO) at [REDACTED] (who is responsible for coordinating the activities of the Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Trial Site) is providing coordination/secretariat support to the Response Working Group and acting as the point of contact for notifications from VicPol (or other sources). *Notifications are picked up during business hours only. not after 5pm or at weekends.* Following discussions, partners agreed that this would still allow them to activate timely supports, with the Response Working Group aiming to meet within three working days of the SPPO becoming aware of a notification. ***This is an interim arrangement only as the SPPO is a contracted role funded through [REDACTED] until June 2022.*** During this time, [REDACTED] Group have chaired the Response Working Group.

Interim arrangements have ensured partners and council continue to provide this critical support to the community. It has also allowed the SPPO to collate information on the resourcing required to coordinate this work. It is recognised that time required to support this work can be unpredictable. There is no way of knowing how many times in any given year the protocol will be activated or the extent of impact on community following each suicide or sudden death. From 2011 – 2020, data from the coroner's prevention unit indicates there were 62 suicides of Macedon Ranges residents. The annual number of suicide deaths during this period ranged from 2 to 10. As a guide for your information, the resourcing of this critical role from January to September 2021 was estimated to equate to 6 days in the coordination role.

Future support arrangements (June 2022 – ongoing)

Given the preventative nature of this work and council's established relationships with schools, young people and the broader community, we request that council resumes the coordination of the suicide and sudden death response protocol at the end of Trial site funding (i.e. act as the point of notification for suicide deaths and provide coordination/secretariat support to the Response Working Group).

The SPPO can continue to support this work and transition to new arrangements through:

- organising training for council staff that may be involved in supporting this work post June 2022 (Standby offers a one-day postvention training workshop. Tailored training is also available through [REDACTED])
- formalising arrangements (through [REDACTED] to ensure council colleagues who become involved in supporting this work have access to clinical supervision and debrief
- developing an MOU with partners to ensure clarity on their responsibilities to support the effective operation of the protocol
- raising awareness of the protocol across supporting organisations with responsibilities
- Working with [REDACTED] to offer training to schools around postvention planning

As part of transitioning to these new arrangements, there is also an opportunity to confirm responsibilities relating to the coordination/secretariat role i.e. other partners could more actively

support some aspects of coordination work such as using social media to promote help seeking and monitoring community forums and social media following a suicide death.

We would welcome an opportunity to talk to the requests outlined in this submission and answer any questions you may have at the Submitters Committee Meeting on Wednesday 13 October 2021.

Yours sincerely

Kaitlin Evans

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 29 September 2021 7:15 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Heath and well-being submission

Dear Macedon Ranges Shire Council,
If you can't prioritise the natural environment you will never be able to achieve the health and well-being of our community.
Our Environment Our Future
[REDACTED]