



*City of*  
**Whittlesea**

# Minutes

Youth Council Meeting

Monday 11 November 2024 at 6pm

Council Chamber at Civic Centre,  
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

# Youth Councillors

Zachary Melvaine	Youth Mayor
Kaynat Virk	Deputy Youth Mayor
Angelica Banquil	
Dean Connelly-Carpenter	
Bavleen Kaur	
Mustafa Khraim	
Angela Rolevska	
Esha Serai	
Tanya Sharma	
Sandy Tran	
Emily Tricarico	
Elly Watson	
Sophie Winter	

# Officers

Jacinta Stevens	Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO
Bobbie-Lea Bright	Unit Manager Compliance & Governance

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## **1 Opening**

### **1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions**

The Youth Mayor opened the meeting at 6pm.

“Welcome to this Youth Council Meeting of 11 November 2024 which is being held in person in the Council Chamber at Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang.

I am Zachary Melvaine, Youth Mayor and I would like to introduce the Youth Councillors in attendance tonight:

Angelica Banquil  
Dean Connelly-Carpenter  
Bavleen Kaur  
Mustafa Khraim  
Angela Rolevska  
Tanya Sharma  
Sandy Tran  
Elly Watson  
Sophie Winter

We also have in attendance Bobbie-Lea Bright, Unit Manager Compliance & Governance.”

### **1.2 Apologies**

Deputy Youth Mayor, Kaynat Virk  
Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico  
Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO, Jacinta Stevens

### **Absent**

Youth Councillor Esha Serai

### **1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement**

The Youth Mayor read the following statement:

*“On behalf of Council, I recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.*

*I would also like to acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging.”*

#### **1.4 Youth Council Charter**

The Youth Mayor read the following Youth Council Charter:

*“We, the members of the City of Whittlesea Youth Council, commit to advocating for and being the voice of the youth within our municipality. We ensure a safe space for all, to engage in constructive collaboration on matters affecting young people. We aim to empower and foster community connectedness in our youth so they feel valued and supported to achieve their aspirations.”*

#### **1.5 Acknowledgements**

The Youth Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

##### **Media Training**

In September, many of our Youth Council members attended a media training session presented by the City of Whittlesea Public Affairs team. This hands on session provided us with some great insights and tips, and we wanted to say thank you to the staff who took the time to put on this engaging training session for us.

##### **Council Elections**

Local Council elections were held in October, and a new group of Councillors were announced today to represent the community. We would like to thank the outgoing Administrators for their support of the Youth Council, and we look forward to working with the new Council.

#### **2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

No declarations.

**3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

<b>Moved:</b>	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>
<b>Seconded:</b>	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>

**THAT the following Minutes of the preceding meeting as circulated, be confirmed:**

- **Youth Council meeting held on 2 September 2024.**

**CARRIED**

## 4 Officers' Reports

### 4.1 Community Insights Study

**Director/Executive Manager:** Director Customer & Corporate Services

**Report Author:** So Pyay Thar, Research Officer

**In Attendance:** Sarah Rowe, Chief Customer Officer  
 Ezgi Sahin, Unit Manager Advocacy & Stakeholder Engagement  
 So Pyay Thar, Research Officer

#### Executive Summary

The Community Insights Study is a research program for residents to share their experiences living in the City of Whittlesea. This annual program consists of three survey waves with each round of the survey exploring different aspects of community life including local life, social and civic participation, and health and wellbeing.

While survey response rates are high, there is a need for increased engagement from young people who are currently underrepresented in these surveys. This is to ensure young people’s experiences are captured and the findings from these surveys are representative of all age groups in our municipality.

#### Officers’ Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council advise on incentives/approaches to increase the participation of young people in the Community Insights Study.

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

<b>Moved:</b>	<i>Youth Councillor Sandy Tran</i>
<b>Seconded:</b>	<i>Youth Councillor Dean Connelly-Carpenter</i>

THAT the Youth Council advise on incentives/approaches to increase the participation of young people in the Community Insights Study.

**CARRIED**

#### YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

*Nil*

<b>VOTING</b>			
<b>UNANIMOUS</b>	<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>ABSTAINED</b>
<i>YES</i>			



**5 Notices of Motion**

No Notices of Motion

**6 General / Urgent Business**

No Urgent Business

**7 Closure**

There being no further business the Youth Mayor formally closed the meeting at 6:21pm.

Confirmed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2024.

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Zachary Melvaine  
Youth Mayor