



Creating a Connected Cardinia

Neighbourhood Development Framework

Action Plan

2011 - 2015

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Review date:

*The Neighbourhood Development Action
Plan 2011-2015 will be refreshed
annually and reviewed every four
years.*

Introduction

Home has a special place in the heart of Australians. We value our homes, our streets, our communities. We all know when a place feels good to be in....

But what are the ingredients that help create this feeling? What makes a strong, resilient community?

Part of the answer lies in the physical form of the place. Part in the facilities and services that are offered. And a third ingredient is the people that live there, the connections and networks they form, and the sense of belonging that together builds a community.

Cardinia Shire is home to brand-new communities within the growth area, as well as to long-standing communities in some of the Shire's rural townships. The development of the growth area from greenfield sites into new suburbs and employment areas presents a special set of challenges that needs a particular approach. Characteristics such as a more uniform age structure, new residents with fewer closer family members, fewer links with existing community groups are just some examples.

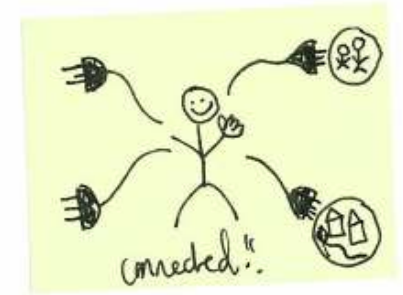
Council has an important role to play in ensuring that new and existing residents within Cardinia Shire feel welcome, become part of the community and are able to know about and access a range of services to meet their individual needs.

This Action Plan sets out the actions Council has committed to delivering over the period 2011-2015. It should be read in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Development Background Paper and the Neighbourhood Development Policy and Strategy.

Program Papers

Neighbourhood Development Background Paper 2011 - 2015	Provides the background to Neighbourhood Development, defines Council's role etc.
Neighbourhood Development Policy & Strategy 2011 - 2015	Sets out the approach to Neighbourhood Development at Cardinia Shire Council, the key outcomes sought and a program logic model for moving towards these outcomes
Neighbourhood Development Action Plan 2011 - 2015	Sets out a program of activities and initiatives related to Neighbourhood Development in Cardinia Shire
Yearly Review	Provides a yearly review of Neighbourhood Development and learnings for the following year
4-year Evaluation	Provides a full evaluation of the program and provides recommendations for the next four year program

Connection & Attachment



Broad outcome:

Cardinia Shire community members have connections and attachments to other local people, local groups, local places, local services and governance structures.

Policy statement:

The Neighbourhood Development portfolio will deliver and support initiatives that help to create and maintain community connection and attachment.

Supporting strategies:

1. Develop and deliver initiatives that provide opportunities and encouragement for connection between community members, and between community members and local groups, service providers, Council and others.
2. Advocate for and contribute to the design and delivery of high quality public spaces that promote connection between community members.

Priority Initiatives:

Initiatives	
Action 1	New Resident Welcome, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Resident Welcome Kits • Resident Information Nights
Action 2	Get to Know Your Shire, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get to Know Your Neighbour • Meet the Street/Town events • Get to Know Your Local Area events • Get to Know Your Shire bus tours
Action 3	Civic Engagement for Cardinia residents, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support best practice community engagement

Resilience

Broad outcome:

Cardinia Shire community members have resilient ways of “doing and thinking”.

Policy statement:

The Neighbourhood Development portfolio will deliver and support initiatives that help to build and maintain resilient community members, families, groups and organisations.

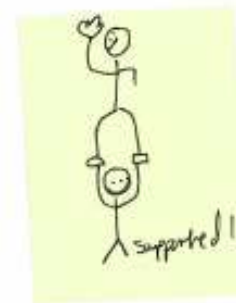
Supporting strategies:

1. Create and deliver initiatives to assist community groups to function optimally and to improve long-term sustainability.
2. Develop and support initiatives that assist vulnerable community members to feel safer and more connected to their community.
3. Develop and support initiatives that improve individual, group and/or family resilience in dealing with adversity.

Priority initiatives:

Initiatives	
Action 4	Building Community Resilience
Action 5	Linking Neighbours Project
Action 6	Family Leadership/Mentoring Program





Support & Involvement

Broad outcome:

Cardinia Shire community members feel supported and encouraged to participate in the community and take on leadership roles

Policy statement:

The Neighbourhood Development portfolio will deliver and support initiatives that will encourage and assist community members and organisation to be involved in the community and take a leadership role.

Supporting strategies:

1. Develop and deliver initiatives that support, encourage and promote high quality community leadership.
2. Support community members and groups to undertake actions that will help to improve community connectedness, resilience and respect

Priority initiatives:

Initiatives	
Action 7	Resident-led Neighbourhood Development initiatives
Action 8	Community Leadership Program
Action 9	Poppy Seed Grants program
Action 10	Capacity building for community groups



Respect

Broad outcome:

Cardinia Shire community members display respect for others and embrace diversity

Policy statement:

The Neighbourhood Development portfolio will deliver and support initiatives that build mutual respect for others.

Supporting strategies:

1. Ensure neighbourhood development initiatives are developed with community input wherever possible and appropriate.
2. Ensure neighbourhood development initiatives are accessible to all community members regardless of age, race, gender, sexual preference, ability etc.
3. Support and contribute to initiatives that are aimed at creating connection between diverse sections of the community.

Priority initiatives:

Initiatives	
Action 11	Multi-lingual Council information and translation services
Action 12	Investigate and potentially revamp the role of the Access and Inclusion committee
Action 13	Promote connection between diverse groups (physical spaces/programs etc)

Governance and Project Management

Initiatives	
Action 14	Neighbourhood Development Reference Group
Action 15	Project Management

Monitoring and Evaluation

Initiatives	
Action 16	Annual Resident Surveys
Action 17	Monitoring of community well-being data
Action 18	Individual monitoring and evaluation of project impacts
Action 19	Yearly Review
Action 20	Five-year evaluation