Cardinia Shire Council

International Safer Communities Designation Annual Review

November 2018

Background

In 2014, Council made the commitment to develop a more coordinated and structured approach to creating a safer community and agreed to begin working towards designation as an International Safe Community.

In 2015-2017 Cardinia Shire Council undertook an extensive internal scoping exercise, community consultation and review of existing data, statistics and research in order to develop a baseline; understanding the Shire's current position and the issues that affect and are important to the community.
A range of concerns were raised by the community, however six key themes were clearly evident. These were (in no particular order):

- Road, pedestrian and transport related issues
- Crime
- Family violence
- Mental health related issues
- Drug and alcohol related issues
- Natural hazards (emergency management)

In 2016 to support Cardinia's designation as an International Safe Community, Cardinia Safer Communities Strategic Committee (CSCSC) was established with the purpose of addressing local community safety, injury and crime prevention issues by working in partnership with all major stakeholders though a whole of community partnership response.

November 2017 Cardinia Shire Council became the 388 member of the International Network of Safe Communities.

Road, Pedestrian and Transport

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
L2P Learner Driver Program	Joint initiative between Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service and Cardinia Shire Council that assists learner drivers to gain the minimum 120 hours of driving experience needed to get their license and drive safely.
Communities that Care: Smarter Generation Program	Evidence-based multi-level intervention which aims to reduce adolescent alcohol use and incorporates road safety aspects.
Primary school programs	Delivered by Council in partnership with local Primary Schools, programs include: • Stop and Drop zones • Linking families into child restraint fitting services • Educate parents/ carers at key age and stage visits on road safety • School crossing supervisors
Precinct Structure Plans and Township Plans	These plans detail specific safety requirements around physical infrastructure such as roads, safe bike paths and pedestrian crossings during new developments, or upgrades to existing developments.
Advocacy for improved transport systems	Including upgrades to roads and rail networks. Council works with VicTrack, Metro Trains and local Bus companies to deliver this.
Black Spot (road trouble spot safety) Programs	The Federal Blackspot programs provides funding to address road safety issues at locations or along lengths of roads that have a demonstrated crash history based on the previous 5 years. Council submits applications to treat applicable locations and roads each year.
Cardinia Shire Council Road Management Plan	• Routine inspection programs and audits on physical infrastructure such as roads, footpaths, playgrounds and council buildings to ensure that they are compliant, safe and fit for use. • Capital works programs which see the replacement and installation of new infrastructure such as roads, footpaths and bridges.

Road, Pedestrian and Transport

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Roads and Footpaths Resurfacing Program	Every year Council resurfaces 871 kilometres of unsealed roads and footpaths in Cardinia Shire. It ensures these roads are safe for drivers and pedestrians to use.
SAM Trailer Program	Cardinia Shire Council uses a Speed Alert Mobile (SAM) trailer as part of the Not So Fast program. The Not So Fast program is run in partnership with RoadSafe SouthEast and Victoria Police through the Victorian Community Road Safety Partnership Program. The program's goal is to reduce the number and severity of crashes on Council's local road network caused by excess and inappropriate speed. It aims to increase driver awareness of safe speed limits at identified locations along particular roads and reinforce the speed limit to drivers, as well as providing road safety messages. The current SAM trailer was funded by the TAC Community Road Safety Program in 2016
Vehicle Purchasing Policy	Council policy to only purchase of fleet cars which have a 5 star safety rating
Country Fire Authority Road Safety Program	Local CFA brigades run regular road education programs
Bicycle Users Group (BUG)	Run with support from Council, this community lead group: • Advocates for all people who use paths and identify and report weaknesses in paths • Organises regular rides for all ages and abilities levels • Contribute to community health and social wellbeing • Runs Bike Ed program with young mums
Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategy	Council has adopted the Cardinia Pedestrian Bicycle Strategy 2017 which incorporates the creation of new, safer bike and walking paths for the Shire
Looking After Our Mates Program (LAOM)	In partnership with TAC and VicRoads Council delivers interactive drink/drug driving information presentation about responsible driving and looking after each other.to young adults in Year 12 or equivalent in a school or sports club setting

Road, Pedestrian and Transport

Vic Police Eye watch

Make sure you're always visible to vehicles, use your lights and wear bright clothes during the day and night when bike riding: https://bit.ly/2CZYGcl

L2P learner driver mentor program is a joint initiative between Kooweerup Regional Health Service and Cardinia Shire that assists learner drivers gain the minimum 120 hours of driving experience needed to get their license.
Many kids don't have easy access to a car, or anyone to sit in a car with them for 120 hours.
L2P, a VicRoads initiative funded by TAC, connects these learner drivers with trained community volunteers. Even the car is provided by the program.
The driving sessions occur weekly for a minimum of 1 hour.

Road, Pedestrian and Transport

Blackspot project underway

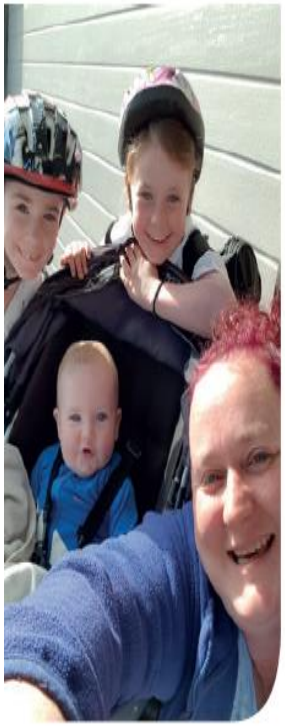
Cr Brown and Cr Moore are pleased the intersection realignment will improve safety.

The intersection of Thirteen Mile Road and Bunyip River Road has been identified as high-risk and improvements are being funded through the VicRoads Blackspot Program.

The intersection will be re-aligned to offset the roads and prevent vehicles from driving straight through the intersection. Vehicles entering the intersection from Bunyip River road will have to stop, deviate and turn to continue their travel.

The offsetting of the western leg of the Bunyip River Road at this intersection will significantly improve safety. Signage and access will also be improved.

Construction will begin in the September school holidays to lessen the impact on the school bus route, and take about eight weeks to complete. Roads will be closed as part of traffic management while works are underway.



Last year's winning Walk to School selfie!

Why not walk to school?

Walking, riding or scooting to and from school every day is an easy way to make physical activity part of children's daily life, which is good for their health and wellbeing.

Council has joined VicHealth in its mission to get kids walking, riding and scooting to school as part of the annual Walk to School program. Every October, Walk to School month encourages children and families to get active on the trip to school to help build healthy habits for life.

All primary schools in the shire will be invited to participate in Walk to School activities, with prizes up for grabs for those who get involved. Among the prizes, Aligned Leisure will run a sports day for the most active school and we'll also run a selfie competition for families who participate.

Just look at the fantastic selfie that won the competition last year! Well done to mum Kylie for helping Lily, Conor and Logan get active and create healthy habits.

Encourage active daily habits in your family by joining the Walk to School activities this October. Find out everything you need to know on our website **www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/walktoschool**

Nominate outstanding Aussies and events

Nominations are now open for the Cardinia Shire Australia Day Awards.

Our Australia Day Awards recognise residents and community events making an outstanding contribution to our local community.

Nominate now via our website **www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/australiaday**

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Communities that Care: Smarter Generation Program	Evidence-based multi-level intervention which aims to reduce the sale of alcohol to underage youth and educate students and parents on the recommended guidelines for alcohol consumption. Delivered in partnership with local schools and Deakin University.
Grounded	A social support program for young people who are impacted by family drug and/or alcohol abuse. The free weekly program is for young people aged 14-21 years old which explores basic drug and alcohol information, resilience and self-esteem, goal setting, food and nutrition and sexual health. Grounded is a partnership program between Council and YSAS (Youth Support and Advocacy Service).
Sharp Safe Container Exchange Program	Collection of sharps on Council property and general provision of sharps containers to the community.
Cardinia's FReeZA committee (Electric Productions)	Electric Productions is a FReeZA committee made up of local young people aged 14-25 that put on fun, exciting, safe, professionally run drug, alcohol and smoke free events for young people in the Cardinia area.
Good Sports Program	Good Sports is Australia's largest preventive health program for the community sport sector. The program supports clubs to progressively introduce a set of practices and policies that create a culture of responsible drinking within the club. Developed by and run in partnership with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, Council supports this program to be delivered in multiple sporting clubs throughout the Shire.
Tackle the issue Forum	Ice, alcohol and other drugs forum run by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation in Cardinia on a semi-regular basis.

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Alcohol and Other Drug Action Group	Action group made up of various local stakeholders including Police, Australian Drug Foundation, Council, Ambulance Victoria, local health services, Drug and Alcohol Services etc. working towards reducing harms related to alcohol and drug misuse and improve perceptions surrounding alcohol and other drug use throughout Cardinia Shire.
Cardinia Tigers Reclink Football Team	A local Reclink Football Team Cardinia Tigers has been created. Windana are the lead agency and the group trains/plays every Wednesday at 12 at the Heather Brae Reserve in Officer. Reclink, is a not for profit organisation that has been around for more than 20 years; running sports and arts programs right across all of the states in Australia. Its aim is to include the excluded, and those in our community who might be going through some rough times - whether that being through long term unemployment, homelessness, mental- health concerns, addiction or social isolation. The football teams themselves comprise of people aged 16+, all genders, abilities and backgrounds.
Community Ice Action Grants	The campaign called parents/guardians to action by them making a pledge to support their children to abstain, delay onset of use or reduce consumption of alcohol and other drugs. Parents/guardians were directed to a pledge webpage, where they were able to select which pledge/s they would like to make, with support through the provision of information and resources to action their pledge. The project was designed to complement our Smart Generation program
Advocate for introduction of alcohol outlet planning policy	Seven Councils including Knox, Dandenong, Casey, Cardinia, Maroondah, and Mornington have joined together and developed a Planning Policy which highlights the negative impact that packaged liquor outlets have on communities. The policy has been submitted to the Minister for Planning for review and consideration. Next steps – Councils to go out for public opinion which is due to take place next year 2019.

Alcohol and Other Drugs

CARDINIA TIGERS FOOTBALL TEAM

Cardinia Shire Council and Windana Drug and Alcohol Recovery have partnered with Reclink Australia to form a Community Football Team in Cardinia.

We are currently recruiting players for the 2018 season and need the local community's support. We especially need agencies such as yours to be a part of it's creation. If you work with clients that would benefit from participating in this team, you are encouraged to bring them along.
Agencies can bring multiple clients along and game rules are adapted to make the experience fun, social and inclusive for all ages (16+), genders and abilities.

SEASON

Round 1 commences Wednesday 18th April 2018

The season runs alongside the regular AFL season. Training and matches are always on a Wednesday at 12pm, with training one week and a match the next. A mini bus will run from Pakenham to away games.

WHERE

Heather Brae Reserve, Officer
12 Bellerive Ave, Officer VIC 3809

For more info: Richard.price@windana.org.au / 5942 3208 / 0414 269 815

An initiative of the Cardinia AOD Action Group

windana
Drug & Alcohol Recovery

reclink
Rebuilding lives through sport and arts

WHO IS RECLINK

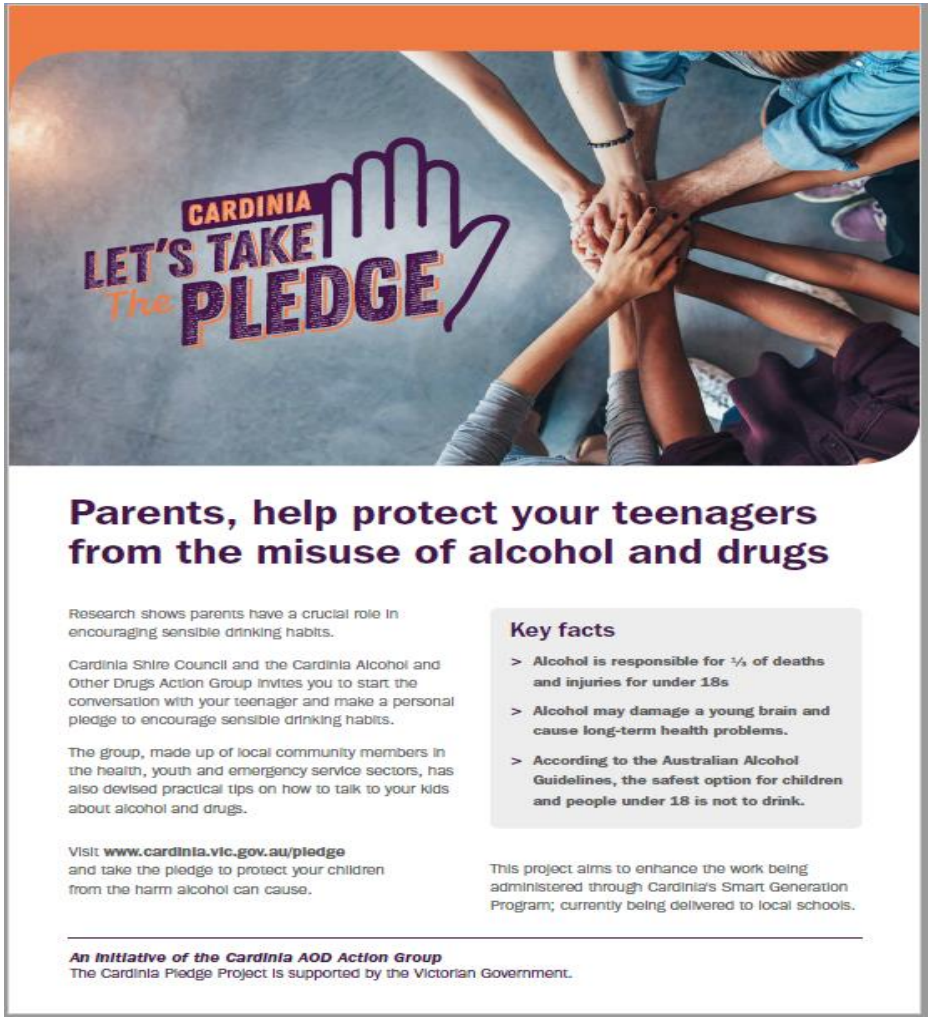
Reclink Australia provides evidence-based sport and art programs to disadvantaged Australians to create socially inclusive, life-changing opportunities. Founded 25 years ago with the goal of enhancing the lives of people experiencing disadvantage, including those with disability, drug and alcohol issues, homelessness or mental illness Reclink Australia is uniquely placed to engage some of the most isolated and disadvantaged people in our community by bringing all parts of the community together to create participation opportunities and deliver socially inclusive activities.
www.reclink.org

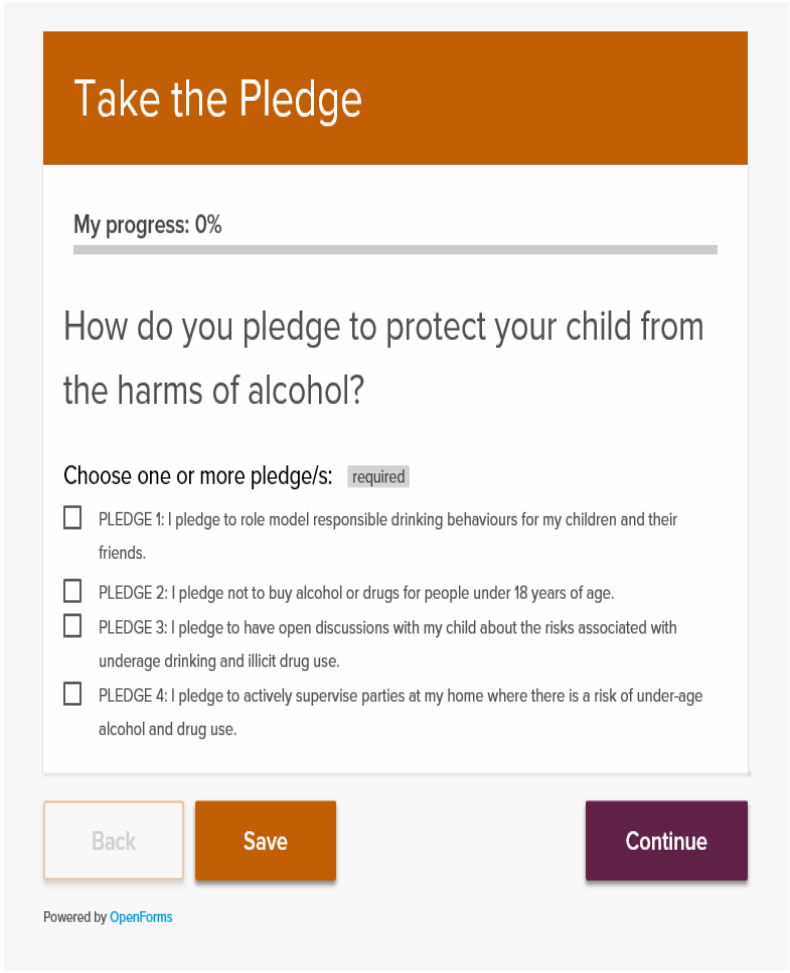
WHY JOIN?

- Build community connections
- Create social networks
- Promote healthy activities & behaviours
- Build resilience
- Be part of a team
- Fun and social game
- FREE to participate
- Equipment provided

Cardinia

Alcohol and Other Drugs





Crime

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Cardinia Safer Communities Crime Action Group	Action group made up of various local stakeholders including Police, Department of Justice, Council, Neighbourhood Watch, Victims of Crime, community members, Schools etc. working towards reducing crime rates and improving perceptions of safety throughout Cardinia Shire.
Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Subgroup	A sub group of the Cardinia Safer Communities Crime Action Group has formed to lead the way in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) advocacy. This group will include representation from Council, Police and Community. Additionally, the use of CPTED principles in the planning and development are used regularly. Assessment tools are used by Council's Statutory Planning Department to ensure that these principles are followed (where possible) in all new developments as well as in the upgrade of existing areas.
Bourke Park Infrastructure Improvements and CCTV	A range of public infrastructure improvements have been delivered to revitalise and make Bourke Park, Pakenham (a Police identified high risk community location) a safer space. A CCTV system comprising of 11 CCTV cameras were installed within the Park in 2017. Funding was provided by both State and Federal Government with works completed by Council in partnership with local Police.
CCTV cameras on Council facilities	Installation and maintenance of CCTV cameras on Council facilities. A CCTV Policy is in place to oversee the operation and maintenance of these cameras.
Graffiti Prevention Programs	• Policy and Action Plan – Regular removal of graffiti from Council buildings, facilities, structures and public spaces. • Installation of the VandalTrak System • PB Ronald Reserve Street Art Project – run in partnership with a local artist to engage with young residents • Warner Youth Graffiti Education Programs in Schools

Crime

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Lighting Systems	• Installation and maintenance of public lighting and lighting on Council facilities across the Shire for example: • The installation of additional lighting within local crime hotspot 'Bourke Park' in response to real and perceived community safety concerns • The upgrade of the existing external lighting system and the installation of sensor lighting at the Pakenham Senior Citizens Centre in response to real and perceived community safety concerns
Blue Light Disco	Police, Council Youth Services and Neighbourhood Watch are working together to engage positively with the young people who congregate outside the regular Blue Light Disco events in Pakenham.
Cardinia Shire Neighbourhood Watch	• Community volunteer group working on crime prevention, education and neighbourhood strengthening activities across the Shire: • Work with organisations such as VicPolice, VicRoads, TAC and Crime Stoppers. E.g. education programs in partnership with local Police addressing issues such as personal safety and home security • Act as an intermediary between the community and police, particularly in instances where people aren't comfortable going directly to police. • Provide Crime Stoppers endorsed signage to display at each neighbourhood, towns and estate entrances to indicate that the community is a Neighbourhood Watch community.
Windermere Victims Assistance Program	Provides outreach case management services for victims of crime and witnesses of crimes. They will assist clients through the criminal proceedings of their case and also provide social support including referrals onto appropriates services etc. Windermere work closely with many vulnerable groups including those experiencing mental health problems or CALD communities and have strong partnerships with Victoria Police.

Crime – Community Engagement

Eyewatch - Cardinia Police Service Area
20 hrs ·

COFFEE WITH A COP

Note this in the calendar:
The next Coffee with a Cop day will take place on Monday the 26th of November 2018 at Village Way Cafe (15/9 Village Way, Pakenham) from 10am until 11am.

We look forward to seeing you on the day!

41047

Crime – Bourke Park CCTV

Cameras aid Bourke Park security

A system of CCTV surveillance cameras is up and running at Pakenham's Bourke Park, completing a comprehensive program of work aimed at improving public safety and addressing anti-social and criminal behaviour within the park.

The CCTV system will provide blanket coverage for the park and its immediate surrounds and footage is fed directly to the Pakenham Police Station.

Other works already completed at the park include landscaping, additional lighting, new play equipment including a basketball ring, sitting areas and shelters, additional footpaths and a public toilet.

Funding for the cameras was provided through the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program.

Mental Health

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Cardinia Mental Health Alliance	Mental health providers came together at a Mental Health Workshop in December 2016 where it was identified that Cardinia Shire require a local group to focus specifically on Mental Health and Wellbeing. Interest in such group was confirmed through the existing Community Workers in Cardinia Shire Network (CWICS). Initial planning session was held in June 2017, in which participants provided input into the purpose, priorities and aspirations of an Alliance (Strategic Plan). It was agreed the Alliance would be outcome focused, working collectively to deliver actions based on an agreed set of aims. The Mental Health Alliance meet bimonthly and work towards the achievement of the 3 year Strategic Plan. To provide additional knowledge, advocacy and support to the Alliance, a Strategic Leadership Group was formed consisting of high level management members of relevant Mental Health organisations. This Strategic Leadership group meet quarterly.
World Health Organisation recognition as an Age Friendly City and member of the Global Network of Age Friendly Cities	The Age Friendly Strategy (AFS) 2015-19 was adopted by Council in July 2015. An age-friendly community is developed through addressing eight priority areas all of which contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of Cardinia's aging population
Staff mental health training	Cardinia Shire Council recognises the importance of mental health and wellbeing on the lives of Cardinia Shire employees and their families. In the interest of promoting a healthy workplace we are undertaking a process to raise awareness of mental health and how it relates to the workplace.
Child Friendly Cities accreditation	Cardinia Shire formally endorsed the Child Friendly Cities and Community Charter in January 2015. The principles of this charter are key to all work within the Community and Family Services department and are embedded in key strategic documents e.g. Health and Wellbeing Plan, Youth Strategy and Child and Family Plan.

Mental Health

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Youth Services programs	Social programs, delivered in partnership with local groups and agencies such as the Pakenham Library and Youth Support and Advocacy Service, designed to support positive mental health and wellbeing amongst local young people. Programs include: • Catch Up: A social group for young people aged 17 to 24 years who want to meet new people and get involved with outings and activities • School holiday programs • Beats and Lyrics: A fun program teaching skills in music production, create your own loops, record audio and instruments • Art VS Science: messy, wacky and fun activities
Youth mental health pilot project	Council run pilot project to deliver outreach mental health services to young people in the context of their family setting. Delivered in partnership with Windermere.
Be Ur Self	Social group supporting young people who identify as gay, bi-sexual, lesbian, transgender or intersex and their allies/friends.
Parenting Teens	A five week program for parents and carers, to better understand and communicate with teens.
Young Mums	A social and supportive environment for pregnant and parenting young women (up to 25 years old). Mothers attend with or without their infants from birth to 12 months.
Communities that Care: Kids Matter Program	Whole of primary school approach to improve mental health and wellbeing. Run at primary schools across the Shire in partnership with the Principals Australia Institute.
Communities that Care: Mind Matters Program	Whole of secondary school approach to improve mental health and wellbeing. Run at schools across the Shire in partnership with the Principals Australia Institute.
Communities that Care: my Friends Program	Program to improve resilience and reduce depression and anxiety in youth. Run in partnership with Koo Wee Rup Secondary College
EAP policy	Cardinia Shire Council has developed the Employee Assistance Policy (EAP) to assist employees, volunteers, and their immediate families during emotional difficult times through the provision of free counselling services.

Mental Health

Emergency Management

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) chaired by Council and sub committees and plans	The Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee and sub-committees bring together all relevant agencies and organisations to plan, prepare, respond and recover from emergencies and to ensure there is a common approach in order to reduce the adverse consequences of emergencies for the communities within Cardinia Shire. The committee use a community risk assessment process consistent with ISO3100 to identify and treat the risk from an emergency management perspective. Committee members include (but not limited to: Council, Country Fire Authority (CFA), Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES), Victoria Police, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Environment Land Water and Planning, Vic Roads, St John's Ambulance, ECHO Youth and Family Services and the Red Cross.
Building Materials Polices	Use of materials in all new Council buildings which increase safety and reduce injury eg: fire resistant materials and non-slip surfaces.
New Residents Kits	Council distributes kits to all new residents containing information on local emergency risks and how to prepare for these emergencies.
Ready2go	The Ready2Go program connects volunteers with vulnerable residents to support them with heat health awareness and planning for emergencies including relocation on high risk days. Development of the 'Ready2Go' model included Township Committee reps, St Luke's Anglican Church, MecwaCare, Monash Community Health, local Country Fire Authority and Police, Red Cross, St Patricks Church Pakenham, Living Learning Pakenham, ECHO Youth and Family Services & Cardinia Council.

Emergency Management

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Gembrook Emergency and Resilience (GEaR) group	GEaR was developed from an identified need for Gembrook to have a local coordinated response to emergencies. GEaR works with emergency response agencies and Council to increase preparedness and community resilience to emergencies in Gembrook.
Emerald Emergency Support Team	The Emerald Emergency Support Team community based planning model is focused on early recovery after emergencies. By assisting the community immediately after the emergency the impact of the emergency is reduced.
Bounce back	A Council managed eNewsletter focusing on building community resilience to emergencies across Cardinia Shire.
Neighbourhood safer places	Council audits and maintains the Shire's Neighbourhood Safer Places – Bushfire Places of Last Resort (NSP-BPLR). Cardinia Shire has three designated NSP-BPLRs which can be used during a bushfire. These places have been assessed by fire agencies and a multi-agency working group (the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee) for their ability to provide some protection against radiant heat.
Vulnerable Persons Register	Cardinia Shire Council is responsible for maintaining a Vulnerable Persons Register which can be used by Victoria Police during emergencies to identify who may need assistance with evacuations if ordered.
Cardinia Emergency Planning video series	This award winning video series provides vital information to assist the community to prepare and respond to emergency events, including simple tips on preparing emergency plans and how to support the most vulnerable in our community. The six-part series of two-minute videos, endorsed by the former Emergency Management Commissioner for Victoria Craig Lapsley was filmed at various locations across Cardinia Shire and featured local actors and community volunteers.

Emergency Management

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Fire Inspection Program	Council undertakes property inspection in order to identify fire hazards. Where fire hazards are identified, notices are issued requiring the landowner to undertake work to reduce the fire hazard.
Open Air Burning Policy	Management of open air burning including issuing of permits and infringement notices. The objective of the policy is to ensure that open air burning (commonly known as 'burning off') is used to minimise the risk of bushfire across the Shire in a safe manner and where alternative methods of vegetation waste disposal may not be practicable.
Fuel Management Framework	Management and reduction of fuel loads in open spaces and on Council land. Council is currently implementing a 10-year fuel management strategy to reduce the fire risk on Council owned land.
Fire access tracks	Support the upkeep of fire access tracks across the Shire, which provide fire services access to difficult to reach areas.
Road Management Plan	Installation, inspections and maintenance of drains to ensure that water is moved away from areas.
Community management risk assessment	Victorian State Emergency Service organised community risk assessment of Cardinia Shire.

Emergency Management

Clean up and be fire ready

Summer is just around the corner, so it's time to prepare your property for the fire danger period.

As part of our Fire Hazard Inspection Program, Council will inspect properties across the shire to identify and treat fire hazards. Our aim is to reduce the incidence and impact of fire in our community.

We encourage you to be fire ready well ahead of the fire danger period.
A few things you can do include:

- cut grass and remove fallen branches within 30 metres of buildings on your property
- clean gutters to remove leaves and twigs

- cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings
- write down and practice your fire plan
- ensure your home and contents insurance is adequate.

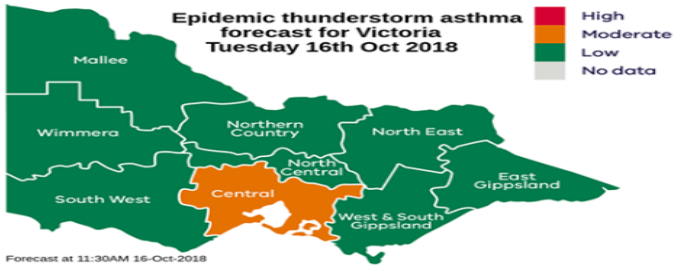
If you plan on burning off as part of your clean up, you must do this before the fire danger period. Be aware that a permit may be required. Fires must always be attended by an adult and never be left unattended.

For more information visit **www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/burningoff**

The fire danger period is set by the CFA each year, so check their website for dates and more great resources for preparing your property.

www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Eyewatch - Cardinia Police Service Area shared Victorian Department of Health & Human Services's photo.
16 October ·



Victorian Department of Health & Human Services
15 October ·

A moderate risk of epidemic #thunderstormasthma has been forecast in parts of Victoria today. It's the first moderate risk of the year, and is a timely reminder...
See more

Posts

Cardinia Shire Council shared CFA (Country Fire Authority)'s post.
20 hrs ·

The Fire Danger Period (FDP) started today for Cardinia Shire. Note that you cannot burn off during the FDP without permission from the CFA (Country Fire Authority).

Head to www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/fire or the CFA website for more info.

Family Violence

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
Cardinia Shire Council Family Violence Action Team and White Ribbon accreditation	• Internal Council Family violence action group consists of four parts • Family Violence Action Team (e.g. organising family violence awareness training for all staff). • White Ribbon (e.g. White Ribbon Day event), • Family Violence Networks • White Ribbon Accreditation – Now an accredited organisation • Membership is made up different business groups across the organisation with various staff across the organisation taking the lead in different areas.
Together We Can Project	Collective impact initiative implemented to work towards stopping family violence in Cardinia. The initiative is working to address this complex and deeply entrenched social problem by implementing sustainable long term community lead actions in tandem with government departments and the philanthropic sector projects. Partners range from community groups and individuals, sporting organisations, local services and agencies, media and police.
Communities That Care: Respectful Relationships	Primary prevention education program run in Secondary Schools. Run as partnership between Department of Education and Training and Cardinia Shire Council with support from the Together We Can initiative.
Enhanced maternal and child health service	The Enhanced service is available to parents who are experiencing significant early parenting difficulties. Council Maternal and Child Health nurses visit families in their homes to offer support and are trained to recognise family violence and help support victims.

Family Violence

Strategies, Programs & Projects	Description
WHISE Regional strategy to prevention violence against women and their children	Women's Health In the South East has developed 'Preventing Violence Together': A Strategy for the Southern Metropolitan Region' which was launched in April 2016, and is a region-wide strategy for the Prevention of Violence Against Women and their Children.
Gender equity framework	Councils Gender Equity Framework includes an Action Plan incorporating five categories: 1. Leadership, accountability & focus 2. Learning and development 3. Flexible working arrangements/initiatives supporting women & men with family care 4. Employee consultation 5. Preventing sex-based harassment & discrimination
Challenge Family Violence project	Challenge Family Violence is a four year project targeting the municipalities of Casey, Cardinia and Greater Dandenong and is funded by the Department of Justice. Modelled on the White Ribbon Campaign it involves male community leaders working to prevent violence against women and children.
Regional Management Forum (RMF)	Have family Violence as one of two priority issues for their work. This committee is working to develop a gender framework which could be rolled out across the different council areas. Cardinia Shire Council is represented on a sub group of the RMF which has developed an action plan.

Family Violence