Community Planning Workshops

Engagement Summary Report

Prepared for the City of Onkaparinga

March 2024

BUSINESS • RESOURCE • MANAGEMENT

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We acknowledge Naomi Hicks and Maureen Hume who welcomed us to Kaurna Country with smoke, song, stories and dance and we pay our respects to all traditional owners, past, present and future. We extend that respect to all First Nations people who participated in the workshops.

We acknowledge the Onkaparinga team for their hard work in bringing the events to life and thank all staff who played an important role before, during and following the workshops.

We would also like to thank the alumni of the Leadership Onkaparinga program who volunteered to facilitate discussions with their community peers.

We acknowledge and thank Mayor Moira Were AM and the Council Members who worked with us to co-design the engagement program and attended the workshops to engage, connect and listen.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

What does a good future for the Onkaparinga community look like, and what do we need to focus on and prioritise to get there?

These were some of the big questions explored with a diverse group of community members across two workshops, which will be one of many inputs to a new Community Plan for the City of Onkaparinga. This engagement built on community surveys that heard from around 5000 voices about what matters most to them.

Council Members and staff from the City of Onkaparinga attended the workshops to observe and listen to signposts from the community about how to tackle emerging challenges and opportunities over the next ten years.

What we heard is that the key elements of a future vision for Onkaparinga are a connected, inclusive and sustainable community. People love where they live and want their community to be a place for everyone to thrive, prosper and belong. To achieve this shared vision, there are some significant challenges that need long-term action, constraints to be managed and trade-offs to be made.

People care deeply about the health and wellbeing of the community and want to improve genuine access to the services and support that people need, particularly those who are most vulnerable. This is a challenge that requires all governments, sectors, and the community to work together. We heard that Council can be a strong voice for the community in advocating for better health, housing, services and transport outcomes.

Workshop participants highlighted the role of Council in building community connections. Celebrating all cultures and identities and facilitating participation in community activities that support healthy and active lifestyles at all stages of life are important goals. Enhancing liveability by growing a green and diverse economy to create local jobs and providing high quality places and spaces for people to live, play and visit are also important outcomes to achieve the future vision.

We heard that protecting and enhancing the environment and responding to climate change is a community priority. Council is encouraged to be bold and ambitious in setting goals and targets in areas such as tree planting, biodiversity, open space, and waste management. Achieving a net environmental benefit, prioritising natural solutions and utilising First Nations wisdom came through as important considerations for Council when making decisions.

Workshop participants expressed surprise about the breadth and depth of services already provided by Council and were generally cautious about asking Council to take on more responsibilities. Attracting Federal and State Government funding and leveraging partnerships with community organisations were seen as positive approaches to unlocking opportunities without creating a further financial burden on the current and future generations of ratepayers.

It was felt that some voices are often missing in important conversations about the future of the community and a targeted approach to engagement is needed to reach all audiences. As advocates for the community, Council can only amplify the voices it can hear. This series of workshops was seen as positive step towards stronger engagement and building a clear, cohesive and transformative vision for Onkaparinga.

Workshop Outcomes – A Snapshot

How does Onkaparinga want to describe itself in ten years?

What do we need to focus on to become who we want to be as a community?

What are our top community priorities?

- A community that is happy and healthy
- Diverse, inclusive, and connected communities
- Care and balance for a sustainable environment
- Strong and diverse local economy
- Places and spaces that we love
- Everyone can access the right housing
- Council as a community leader and amplifying the community voice

What are our goals as a community?

What criteria should be used when making decisions and setting priorities for the community?

Imapct | People | Environment | Culture | Cost | Role

1. INTRODUCTION

The City Of Onkaparinga (Onkaparinga) is preparing a new Community Plan that will set out a 10-year vision and guide how decisions will be made to achieve a good future.

While many governments plan *for* their community, Onkaparinga is planning *with* its community.

A first phase of community engagement commenced in September 2023 with an online survey and future vision questionnaire encouraging all local people to share their views on what it means to them to 'love where you live'.

The Phase One engagement drew around 5000 responses and delivered a comprehensive snapshot of the collective aspirations, worries and hopes of the Onkaparinga community.

To help analyse and build on the Phase One engagement, Onkaparinga looked for deeper insights from within the community about how to interpret the survey outcomes and translate them into focus areas and goals to inform the new Community Plan. Recognising that there are numerous constraints (financial, legal, environmental, social etc) that limit what Council can pursue, Onkaparinga was seeking to build a 'community compass' to guide priority setting and decision making.

Onkaparinga worked with BRM Advisory to implement a community-focussed and inclusive Phase Two engagement program comprising a series of two workshops to intensively unpack community data and gather different perspectives on future challenges and opportunities.

The approach to the workshops was developed through a co-design process, with BRM Advisory collaborating with a group of Council Members and Administration to develop the engagement objectives, lines of inquiry and techniques.

1.1 Engagement goals, objectives, and outcomes

The following goals, objectives and outcomes for the Phase Two engagement were developed through the co-design process.

Engagement Goals:

1. Actively demonstrate a culture of collaboration and deep listening in how the City of Onkaparinga works with its community to achieve transformative change.

2. Deepen the relationship between Council and the community to build trust and harness the collective creativity, wisdom, and effort within in the community to achieve a shared vision.

3. Move the conversation on from the Phase One engagement and build a level of consensus around the directions of a new Community Plan.

Engagement Objectives:

1. Develop a dynamic, accessible and inclusive engagement program that provides a variety of ways for people to contribute in a way that suits their abilities and preferences.

2. Target the participation of community leaders with established community connections and networks that represent the diversity within the community.

3. Invite Elected Members to attend as observers to demonstrate that representatives are engaged and actively listening to the community.

4. Share the outcomes of the Phase One engagement in a way that fosters a 'whole of community' strategic approach and encourages participants to elevate their thinking beyond their own needs and interests.

5. Be honest with participants about challenges and constraints, and the complexity of community planning and Council decision making.

6. Record engagement outcomes using different mediums, with a focus on ensuring that all contributions are captured and can be summarised, synthesised and shared with the broader community.

7. Create a community atmosphere that is fun and engaging where participants feel valued and rewarded for their time and contribution.

Engagement Outcomes:

1. The results of the Phase One engagement have been distilled and discussed and community members have informed the development of the key elements of a refreshed vision for Onkaparinga.

2. Participants have achieved a consensus position on the priority themes / outcomes for the Community Plan and provided direction on what success looks like.

3. Participants have provided direction on what Council should prioritise when it makes decisions about the future of Onkaparinga and the allocation of resources.

4. Onkaparinga receives high quality qualitative data from the workshops to inform the development of the draft Community Plan.

1.2 **Engagement overview**

The engagement program was designed as two sequenced workshops, with the second workshop building on the outcomes of the first.

Invitations were sent from the Mayor to community leaders who could draw on their established networks and relationships within the community to bring a broad perspective to the discussions. This included leaders from local groups, clubs, committees and associations. The invited people were selected by Onkaparinga with the aim of achieving a diverse mix of participants that is reflective of the demographic and geographic make-up of the community.

The workshops were scheduled on weekends and childcare was provided to support people with carer responsibilities to attend. Onkaparinga also offered support with transport and held the events at accessible venues.

It was anticipated that 50 – 100 participants would attend the workshops.

Workshop One

The first workshop was held on Saturday 14 January at the Arts Centre in Port Noarlunga on Kaurna Country with 66 participants. The workshop comprised studio style activities and facilitated small group discussions aimed at achieving the following outputs:

- Key elements of a community vision

- Focus areas for a Community Plan

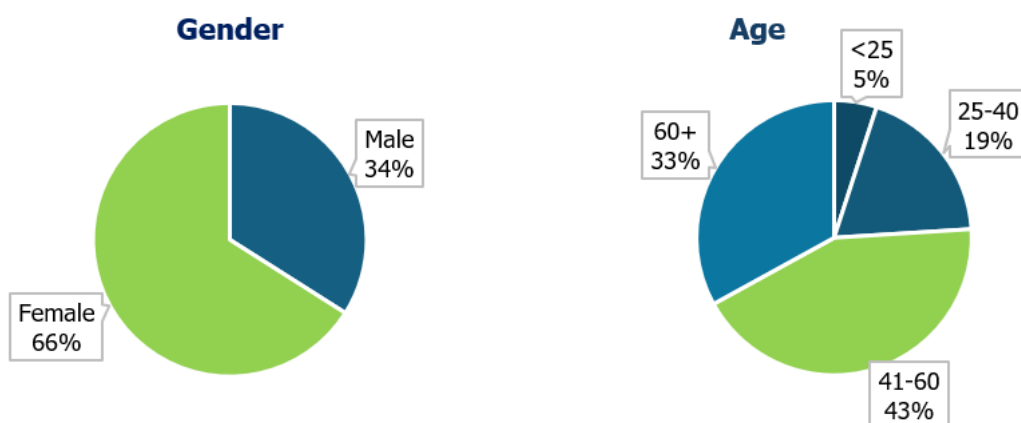- A long list of community goals / outcomes in each focus area.

Workshop Two

The second workshop was held on Sunday 4 February at the Reynella Community Centre on Kaurna Country and attended by 47 participants from the first workshop. The activities focussed on providing advice to Council on how it should manage constraints and the most important things to consider when making decisions that shape the community.

The program was again a mix of studio style activities and facilitated small group discussions to develop the following outputs:

- Criteria for prioritising outcomes and making decisions.

- Signposts about what the priorities are from a community perspective.

Participant Snapshot

Gender

Male 34%
Female 66%

Age

<25 5%
25-40 19%
41-60 43%
60+ 33%

14 people from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background

8 First Nations people

16 people who identify as having a disability

There were many ideas or perspectives contributed across the two workshops, which have been captured in the large volume of content produced and the observations made by Onkaparinga Council Members and staff.

These ideas and perspectives will be used by Onkaparinga to draft a new Community Plan, which will be released for public consultation in the coming months.

This report provides a summary of the workshop outcomes and draws out key themes to inform the preparation of the draft Community Plan.

2. WORKSHOP ONE: ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

A core concept of the workshop was 'Discovering Onkaparinga' through information sharing and storytelling. It was important that participants were provided with contextual information to help shape their insights, such as demographic and socio-economic statistics and trends, community survey outcomes, and examples of how Council is responding to current issues.

Participants visited 'activity stations' to learn about key topics and share their views about what worries and excites them about the information presented.

A summary of the feedback themes on each topic is provided in the following sections.

2.1 Discovering Onkaparinga: Environment

- Participants were pleased to see a relatively high level of awareness around climate risk within the community and a sense that people are becoming more engaged in climate solutions at an individual level.

- Participants were also excited by initiatives being progressed by Onkaparinga to improve environmental outcomes. Improving urban greening and diversion of waste to landfill were commonly identified as two important outcomes being pursued.

- Onkaparinga's urban greening targets were seen as a positive move but viewed by some as not being ambitious enough. There is a strong desire to see (a lot) more trees and vegetation planted across the City to improve biodiversity, increase habitat and provide shade / urban cooling. In relation to planting, participants felt there needs to be a stronger focus on native vegetation.

- The importance of First Nations engagement and perspectives on the environment and managing Country was noted by several participants, who felt that this is currently missing. It was recommended that Council engage with First Nations people when developing environmental plans and designing spaces.

- There is concern that too much open space is being lost to development. The importance of retaining bushland was highlighted.

- There is a strong community interest in recycling and achieving higher waste diversion rates. Current incentives programs are supported, but there is a sense that more could be done. Participants are looking to Onkaparinga to provide an effective recycling solution for soft plastics.

- Feedback suggested more could be done to manage the impact that roaming cats are having on the environment and wildlife.

2.2 Discovering Onkaparinga: Community

- Participants were excited by the diversity of the community and see this as an asset that requires more focus and celebration.

- There is strong concern about the mental and physical health of the community. Participants were worried about the statistics presented, with some commenting that the data may not accurately reflect the extent of health and wellbeing issues in the community. Improving local access to services and support came through as a strong theme.

- Participants had questions about the statistic that food security has reduced by 59% between 2018 and 2022 as this does not reflect what they are experiencing / observing in the community. Food security continues to be a concern for some, particularly access to affordable fresh food that supports good health.

- Declining rates of volunteer participation were also highlighted as a concern, with some making the connection to increased social isolation and declining mental health.

- Investments in community infrastructure and events were seen as important ways to build community participation and connections.

- Perspectives on investments in sports infrastructure were varied. Some saw sports as vital to the engagement and health of young people and called for more focus, while others saw an overemphasis on traditional sports at the expense of other ways of connecting community, such as arts, music, culture, heritage and spirituality.

- The importance of community events being inclusive and accessible was highlighted, with comments particularly focussed on Australia Day events causing hurt and division within the community.

2.3 Discovering Onkaparinga: Liveability

- Participants expressed significant worry about the statistics on housing, homelessness, domestic violence and access to health services. Some participants observed that these issues in the community are probably worse than the figures provided.

- There are concerns that these issues will be exacerbated by population growth as the existing population is already struggling to access genuine services and support.

- Some participants are asking Council to reconsider spending on 'nice to have' projects (with examples being theatre and sporting upgrades) when there are many people in the community struggling to meet their basic needs, such as food, housing and transport. These participants were wanting more focus and funding directed towards improving local support services. Others acknowledge that it is a challenge the find the right balance of spending, but expressed support for upgrade projects to support participation in sports, the arts and other activities that promote health and connection.

- The difficulty of accessing services and amenities without a car was acknowledged. There is a view that there are not enough transport options servicing all communities.

- Several comments notes that Onkaparinga could be safer for pedestrians and cyclists. More shade for people to rest was also highlighted.

- The connection between the quality of the natural environment and good physical and mental health was noted.

- Some participants were concerned about unemployment and highlighted the need to create more local jobs by providing support to local businesses.

- While some participants were calling for Council to become more involved in direct service provision, others noted that Council can be a stronger voice for the community in advocating to State Government for more health, housing and support services.

2.4 Activity Station: Community survey trends

This activity station provided statistics, trends and vision responses from the Phase One community survey and asked participants what they found most interesting and surprising about the results, and the trends they would like to see changed over the next text years.

- Participants noted that how Onkaparinga communicates with and provides information to the community can have a positive or negative impact on how engaged / connected people feel in their community. It was recommended that Onkaparinga look for blockages in their communication and customer services, particularly for the audiences they might not be reaching.

- There were some questions about how representative the survey is of the Onkaparinga community. For example, it was noted that families with complex needs are unlikely to have capacity to complete a community survey and their voices are often missing from these conversations.

- Declining community sentiment about cultural diversity over the past three years was highlighted by participants as a surprise and a concern. Some noted that the effects of misinformation in the community is evident in the survey responses, and Onkaparinga needs to continue to focus on First Nations engagement.

- Drops in household action to improve waste and recycling were seen as a concern, with some noting that many more households are struggling due to cost of living pressures and more focussed on managing weekly budgets than buying recycled or recyclable products. Some noted an element of scepticism within the community about how much content is eventually being recycled, with a perception that all waste is taken to landfill.

- Some participants commented that household recycling and waste habits may be positively influenced if people understand that sending waste to landfill increases costs and means more increases in council rates.

- Declining participation in sport and physical activity was also noted as a concern, with some highlighting that this might be another trade off that households are making due to increased cost of living. It was perceived that the level of participation does not align with the level of council investment in organised sports.

- It was noted that achieving the vision set by the community for more open space, better developments and mixed transport options will require changes to planning rules and zoning. Participants noted that the community is looking for less 'over development' in the area.

2.5 Activity Station: A vision in pictures

At this activity station participants were presented with a series of images depicting different urban and peri-urban settings as a 'vision in pictures'.

Participants were each given one set of stickers and asked to identify which images they do and do not like, and the one that they liked the most.

Table One shows how participants uses their stickers in the activity and a scoring system has been applied to rank each of the images from lowest to highest.

Table One: Vision in pictures activity summary

Vision Image	⭐ Favourite (+3)	❤️ Do Want (+1)	⬛ Don't Want (-1)	Aggregated Score
Big box retail	0	1	33	**-32**
High Density Housing	2	7	33	**-23**
Coast (Activated)	0	1	20	**-19**
Town Square	1	4	6	**1**
Main Street	0	7	2	**5**
Night time economy	1	2	0	**5**
Low Density Housing	0	11	3	**8**
Hills and vines	1	10	5	**8**
Playgrounds	3	6	2	**13**
Car parking	0	21	1	**20**
Open space	3	14	0	**23**
Community events	3	16	0	**25**
Cultural events / activations	5	11	0	**26**
Walking / cycling trails	2	20	0	**26**
Bushland	13	19	0	**58**
Coast (Natural)	18	21	0	**78**

Participants also posted comments on the images to provide context to their responses.

- While the image depicting 'low-density housing' was liked by many, some noted that traditional suburban development patterns create car dependency that increases living costs and can alienate people from services, jobs and opportunities. There is concern that young people will never be able to afford to buy a home in the area if choice is limited to low density options.

- Some noted that the image of 'high density' was actually 'medium density' and that good quality high - medium density housing in the right places is important to provide people with more affordable housing options. Some noted that that high v low density debate is too binary and there needs to be a good housing mix in the right places to cater for different housing needs.

- The community event image drew a positive response, but with the caveats that events need to be more inclusive, cater for all ages and have less focus on alcohol.

- Activation of the coast is not supported where it results in privatised use of public spaces.

- The image of a playground was mostly liked, but with the caveats of upgrading existing playgrounds than creating new spaces and focusing on nature play spaces that use natural materials.

- Things that were noted as being missing from the vision images were food, primary production and facilities centred on community wellbeing.

2.6 Activity Station: Artist's impression

Onkaparinga commissioned an artist's impression of what it means in Onkaparinga to 'love where you live'.

Participants were asked what they thought was missing from the artwork based on their own reflection of what the 'love where you live' message means to them. The things that participants would add or emphasise in the artwork were:

- Natural areas / bushland / habitat / biodiversity
- Native trees, birds and animals
- Food production / fruit trees / community gardens
- Shaded areas / seating / public toilets
- Dogs
- Bikes and micro-mobility / Public transport
- First Nations people and culture
- Families with young children
- Meeting places / yarning circles
- People playing sport / being more active
- Housing diversity
- Bins / waste management
- Arts / culture
- Better accessibility (for wheelchair / walking frame users)

2.7 Activity Station: What's on your mind?

Participants were provided with a space to share any thoughts or ideas they had during the workshop that were not captured in the other activities. A summary of the 'what's on your mind' wall is provided below.

- Find new ways of doing things rather than relying on built / tech / business / high dollar solutions. Look for inexpensive, nature-based solutions.

- There are not many overseas born residents at the workshop – how do we engage more broadly with all communities?

- Develop connections between Council and schools to include students in their community.

- Community health and wellbeing needs to be the biggest priority. There needs to be a stronger focus on mental health services.

- Need a deeper understanding of what drives fracturing / polarisation in communities – the impact of misinformation and mistrust. What is the role of Council staff in building trust and hope in the community?

- Accessible tool library for borrowing 'library of things'

- Community consultation needs to be more individual and connected – how does Council capture the voices of our most disadvantaged communities?

- More support for skateboarding – promotes inclusion and community belonging. Develop the sport to develop young people, create jobs, support local businesses and build community.

- Need for better planning and conservation to protect the natural environment.

3. WORKSHOP ONE: COMMUNITY VISION

Three words to describe how Onkaparinga sees itself it 10-years

Having participated in the 'Discovering Onkaparinga' activities and engaged with the information and stories presented at each station, participants were asked to share three words to describe how Onkaparinga sees itself in 10-years. Responses are shown in Figure One on the next page.

Figure One: Key elements of a community vision

The words come together to inform the key elements of a community vision, which reflect an aspiration for Onkaparinga to be *connected, inclusive and sustainable; and a place to thrive, belong and prosper.*

4. **WORKSHOP ONE: FOCUS AREAS**

To become the community Onkaparinga wants to be, what will we need to focus on as a community over the next 10 years?

Building on the key elements of a community vision, participants worked in groups to identify key focus areas for the next 10-years. Following a facilitated discussion, each group presented their top 4 focus areas.

The key words from the focus areas identified are summarised in Figure Two.

Figure Two: Focus Area Key Themes

The workshop arrived at a consensus on seven focus areas that support the elements of the community vision:

- *A community that is happy and healthy*

- *Diverse, inclusive and connected communities*

- *Care and balance for a sustainable environment*

- *Strong and diverse local economy*

- *Places and spaces that we love*

- *Everyone can access the right housing*

- *Council as a community leader and amplifying the community voice*

5. WORKSHOP ONE: COMMUNITY GOALS / OUTCOMES

Thinking about our focus areas, what are some great goals for the City of Onkaparinga for the next 10 years?

The final objective of Workshop One was to develop a long list of goals or outcomes for the City of Onkaparinga for the next 10 years. A consolidated list of the goals identified at the workshop is provided in Appendix One and key themes are summarised in Figure Three.

Figure Three: Community Goals / Outcomes

The goals range from broad aspirations for the community through to specific projects, programs or services that Council could provide to meet a local need. The long list of goals provides a useful guide to the strategies and actions that Onkaparinga could implement in its various roles as a service provider, place maker, regulator, partner, facilitator and community advocate.

However, it is important to note that the activities in Workshop One encouraged 'big picture' thinking without being limited by resourcing and operational constraints. The long list of goals / outcomes was not peer reviewed or filtered at the workshop and does not represent the consensus position of participants.

6. WORKSHOP TWO: INFORMATION STATIONS – CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITES

A primary objective of Workshop Two was to seek advice from the community leaders about how Council should manage the constraints and challenges that must be considered when making decisions about the allocation of resources.

To help participants understand and appreciate these constraints and challenges, they were provided with information and case studies that demonstrate the broad considerations that Council must apply when making decisions on the themes of environment, community, liveability, finance and governance. This activity was undertaken to provide important context for the workshop tasks of developing and applying decision making criteria.

Participants were asked if they have any comments about the information provided. The following is an overview of the participant comments that relate to how Council should approach these challenges in developing the Community Plan.

- Population growth must be carefully planned and infrastructure, services and environmental protection measures must be in place before the growth occurs.

- The Community Plan needs to think beyond the next 10-years, particularly in relation to climate change. The decisions made today will have long-term implications.

- Council should look to partner with the community to develop solutions to local issues.

- The 'right' thing to do is often not the easy or popular thing to do. Council needs to be bold and brave in its decision making and consider the long-term big picture.

- Making the information available to the whole community will help people to better understand the decisions that Council makes.

- Communities need more specific information about how to engage with Council (who, when, how etc) and have their voices heard when making plans about priorities and how funds are spent.

- The funding model between Federal, State and local governments needs to be reset. Councils understand local needs best and should have greater influence over how and where Federal and State funds are directed.

- Council should advocate and build partnerships to unlock more funding for local services and projects to reduce reliance on ratepayers.

7. **WORKSHOP TWO: DECISION MAKING CRITERIA**

What criteria will you use as a group to decide if a goal should become a priority for Onkaparinga?

To provide direction to Council on what it should consider and prioritise when making decisions, participants were asked to work in groups to develop a set of criteria they would use to assess and prioritise potential goals. The following criteria, which has been consolidated from the workshop, provide insights about what the community values most when important trade-offs need to be made.

Criteria 1: Impact

- Outcomes should deliver benefits across multiple domains – environment, social, economic, cultural.

- Outcomes should provide benefits to many and/or target populations with specific or complex needs.

- Outcomes should achieve systemic change and deliver long-term impact.

Criteria 2: People

- Outcomes should improve the health and wellbeing of the community.

- Outcomes should enhance liveability / affordability.

Criteria 3: Environment

- Outcomes should produce a net environment benefit and make the community more resilient.

- Outcomes should enhance the natural environment. Nature-based solutions should be prioritised.

Criteria 4: Culture

- Outcomes should enhance inclusivity and connection to people and place.

- Outcomes should utilise First Nations knowledge.

Criteria 5: Cost

- Outcomes should return a positive cost v impact analysis and deliver value for money.

- Outcomes should be affordable for ratepayers.

- Outcomes should be equitable for current and future generations.

Criteria 6: Local Government Role

- Council should not duplicate the role of other governments or sectors (advocate or partner instead of 'provide' if not Council's role)

8. **WORKSHOP TWO: ASSESSING PRIORITIES – COMMUNITY SIGNPOSTS**

Apply your decision criteria to the five goals on your table – what advice do you have for Council about setting priorities?

To road test and refine their decision-making criteria, groups assessed a sample of the goals developed at Workshop One. This was a challenging exercise that simulated Council decision making and the trade-offs that are required when allocating limited resources.

The outcomes of this activity provide some useful signposts from the community about setting priorities.

- Reflect on the many roles that Council has – service provider, advocate, regulator, partner, facilitator / connector etc. Council does not always need to 'step in' to address an issue, but it can 'step up' for the community as an advocate or partner. A list of the issues that participants identified across the workshops as potential advocacy priorities is provided at Appendix Two.

- Work smarter, not harder. Council doesn't need to take on new responsibilities, it can use its resources and influence to be a part of the solution to key issues such as housing, health and wellbeing services and improving public transport.

- Work with the community to develop an Advocacy Plan to guide local leadership and be a strong and visible voice for the community on issues that sit outside of Council's role / control.

- Maintaining high-quality and efficient municipal services is a priority – open space, trees, resource (waste) management, coastal management, local roads, footpaths etc. Council can be more ambitious in these areas.

- Prioritise new spending / investment in holistic projects and programs that deliver long-term benefits across multiple domains - environmental, social, cultural and economic. Avoid short-sighted, populist or ill-conceived decisions.

- Support and empower community groups, local service providers and businesses to develop and implement the solutions through grants and partnerships. While the idea of supporting businesses to grow local jobs was broadly supported, participants queried whether Council should provide cash grants or other direct financial assistance to the for-profit sector.

- Make good use of the data available to tell the story of Onkaparinga. This will help to bring the community along by building awareness of the 'what' and 'why' of Council's role.

- Complement investments in sports, recreation and cultural facilities and events with programs / projects that reduce barriers to participation to maximise return on investment.

APPENDIX ONE: COMMUNITY GOALS AND OUTCOMES

The long list of goals / outcomes developed by participants at the first workshop.

Focus Area: A community that is happy and healthy

- Support for mental health, diverse cognitive and physical abilities across our community
- Local artwork that reflects the natural and cultural heritage and the diverse community
- Work with local community centres and service providers to support individual and family needs
- Develop a community profile and undertake a local needs assessment to better understand the support required in the community
- Connecting people and places and providing accessible opportunities for everyone
- Create a home support program for all lonely residents (not just the elderly)
- Investigate and address the root causes of mental health issues in the community
- Creating solutions the create empowerment rather than dependence
- Enabling a community that reaches out through events, personal connection, mentoring and sponsorships
- Provide free services and support to meet community needs
- Promote and facilitate healthy and active lifestyles
- Increase participation in physical activity
- All council decisions are considered though a wellbeing lens
- Improve access to genuine and affordable health, wellbeing and safety services
- Invest in sporting club upkeep / upgrade to achieve participation and affordability
- Invest in walking and cycling trails across all areas of Onkaparinga
- Provision of multi-functional, active, and connected play spaces
- Continue to support the skateboarding community in Onkaparinga

Focus Area: Diverse, including and connected communities

- Promote and support community groups that add value by assisting with accommodation, offering accessible grants and providing training in needed areas.
- Maintain a strong Community Team as a vital council service
- Establish a local voice to understand what is happening on the ground and make sure that community needs are up to date and the community is moving forward
- Bring diverse cultures together as one to build trust, listen to people's lived experience and learn from each other
- Community engagement at the individual and neighbourhood level that supports inclusivity and diversity
- Commit to and work towards achieving the United Nations 17 sustainable development goals
- Ensuring equity for all
- Create another community day that celebrates all cultures – instead of 'Australia Day'
- Improve the accessibility of all public spaces and places through good design
- Community engagement in authentic local events that highlight diversity within society
- Supporting and encouraging everyone in the community to participate in a hobby or sport
- Create a sense of community purpose by providing more opportunities to work and play
- Attract people from different cultures and backgrounds to live and establish businesses in the area
- More representation of First Nations perspectives in local decision making
- The community is more aware of what is happening and what is available in the local area
- Establish an Aboriginal cultural centre
- Community events are held in every ward to bring together people from different communities, backgrounds and generations

- Activation of understanding and engaging with Kaurna cultural stories connected to land
- Communicate and engage with people of diverse cultures to identify expectations and needs
- Provide free public transport within the City of Onkaparinga
- More opportunities for youth such as diverse events and building life skills
- Council supports every person in Onkaparinga to be connected to a group, service or program

Focus Area: Care and balance for a sustainable environment

- Develop a clearer direction for recycling
- Support for our community and environment to be resilient to climate change and extreme weather events
- Looking after our natural and cultural heritage by supporting a diverse community
- Create more open spaces to allow wildlife, waterways and the environment to thrive
- Invest in utilizing the expertise of local and traditional owners to support environmental sustainability
- Implement effective solutions to reduce litter in public spaces and places
- More resources and community education for a sustainable environment
- Choose plant species that provide habitat and increase biodiversity
- Grow the circular economy by using waste resources to develop new industries / renewable fuels
- Purchase land to turn into public green space
- Ensure the health and sustainability of the environment in every decision
- The health of the environment is the primary criteria for decision making
- Plant trees on every street
- Community education workshops for residents on benefits and reliance on nature
- Protect open spaces from future developments
- Implement sustainable waste practices
- Support neighbourhood borrow or swap programs for unwanted household items to reduce household costs and waste generation
- Provide grants and incentives to support community libraries and community pantries
- Invite and encourage more people to become involved in preserving the local environment and caring for their 'patch'
- Strategies to make housing more energy efficient

Focus Area: Strong and Diverse Local Economy

- Provide support to local businesses to create employment opportunities for local people
- Attract more tourists to the wonderful beaches through experiences such as food and wine
- Council support for grants and sponsorships
- Encourage people to shop local and support local townships
- Offer incentives to encourage more business owners to the area
- Provide grants to local and independently run organisations and businesses without the need to provide matching funding
- Build on cultural and nature-based tourism
- Create tourism precincts that focus on nature and health and wellbeing as points of distinction
- Provide incentives to businesses to deliver sensible outcomes
- Build a strong local food economy
- Focus on personal and professional development of each person to create a diverse and vibrant economy
- Business grants that don't require matching funding
- Support the development of local small business hubs
- Provide incentives that create jobs to solve the climate crisis

- Business grants to support start-ups, women in business, people with a disability, alternative networking

Focus Area: Places and spaces that we love

- Continue to prioritise the preservation of the natural places and spaces we have
- The development and protection of natural, cultural and artistic heritage in ways that are inclusive
- Improve the quality of our public spaces
- Public spaces that provide activities for the whole community (activation without privatisation)
- Celebrate, value and protect our liveable spaces
- Open spaces are accessible, safe, well used, and bring the community together
- Local parks and nature within easy walking distance from all housing
- Maintain and preserve the nature space and wildlife within
- Local tree strategy that increases canopy cover and shade to streets, playgrounds and precincts
- Spaces are accessible for all and supported by good private and public transportation and parking
- More bins in public spaces, including yellow (recycling) and green (FOGO) bins

Focus Area: Everyone can access the right housing

- Provide housing support for single parent families about a relationship breakdown
- Affordable housing options for rent for young people
- Mapping of services that provide genuine support for to victims of domestic violence
- Undertake consultation on all forms of housing
- Provide more affordable housing options across the council area
- Diverse range of housing and infrastructure to support people to live where they work
- Create emergency housing for homeless people
- Explore with authenticity a complete range of innovative affordable housing offerings
- Engage with people who are seeking housing to understand their needs
- Address the impact that short stay holiday rental (AirBnB etc) has on housing supply and affordability
- There is more choice of housing available including non-traditional housing, tiny houses and eco housing
- Mixed use precincts with housing and retail
- Invest in building more public housing in Onkaparinga
- Advocate for planning and zoning changes to reflect local expectations and needs
- Focus on sustainable, community inclusive high density housing that is more walkable and less car-dependent

Focus Area: Council as a community leader and voice

- Consultation of all community for direction of funds from revenue
- Leadership programs to empower, inspire and connect community to create change and drive new initiatives
- Increase community awareness of what council does and who to go to for assistance
- Develop holistic and integrated plans
- Spend money on things that provide value for money
- Come up with new ways of doing things and be bold and brave in decision making
- Represent the voices of our community to other levels of government
- Council communicates without corporate speak
- Action is community led and not top down from council
- Council serves and represents the community rather than leads the community

- More support and acknowledgment of the people who quietly support the City of Onkaparinga
- Partnerships and collaborations with State and Federal Governments
- Appreciate, implement and build on Council's existing plans
- Council is a strong advocate and raises the voices of the local communities

APPENDIX TWO: POTENTIAL ADVOCACY ISSUES

- Unlock more Federal and State Government funding to enable Council to address community needs

- More (quality) public, community and emergency housing to meet local demand

- Better public transport – more connectivity across Council, greater frequency, lower cost and improved bus stop infrastructure (seating and shade)

- Genuine access to health and wellbeing services – address the significant unmet community need

- Better regulation of short stay accommodation (AirBnN etc) to address housing shortage and rental stress

- A strategic and planned approach to managing population growth – many services and facilities are already under stress now

- Greater protection for urban trees

- Lift the design and sustainability standards in the Planning and Design Code to achieve higher quality development outcomes

- Changes to the Planning and Design Code that enable a greater range of housing choices in the right areas – targeted density close to transport, jobs and services, tiny houses etc

- Stronger open space / green space requirements within new developments

- Better funding models to equitably share the costs of servicing new developments with the developer and State Government

- Statewide cat management laws to reduce environmental impacts