

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

SEABROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE

STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2015

March, 2011

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Seabrook is a residential area in the south west corner of the City of Hobsons Bay. Separated from the rest of the municipality by Skeleton Creek in the north and east, the Princes Highway and railway line to the north, and the City of Wyndham in the south and west, and accessed by just one main road, Point Cook Road, it functions as something of an island dormitory.

Officially opened on February 18, 2001, the Seabrook Community Centre was established as a multi-purpose facility, with Maternal and Child Health services, a twice monthly immunisation service, a kindergarten for three and four year-olds, playgroups for preschoolers and a range of activities and programs typical of a Neighbourhood House including, training and support programs, and a range of after school activities particularly for children of primary school age.

Initially managed by the community, current management from Hobsons Bay City Council since 2006 has built on past achievements to significantly enhance:

- The sense of welcome;
- The profile of the Seabrook Community Centre;
- Partnerships; and
- The provision of services targeted at meeting community need including maternal and child health, ante-natal clinics, preschool, playgroups, afterschool activities, training opportunities and an environmental education programs.

In 2011, the centre will begin construction of a new kindergarten/multipurpose room including modifications to the existing kindergarten. This will be funded by the Hobsons Bay City Council, a State Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) grant and the Seabrook Kindergarten. The additional room will provide a second kindergarten space to meet the demands of universal access hours and an opportunity for the expansion of community centre programs.

Methodology

The Seabrook Community Centre Strategic Plan 2011 has been informed and developed with input from the following:

- The current Seabrook demographic profile and identified future trends;
- Information and data collected at a Seabrook Community Centre community forum in August 2010;
- 43 semi-structured interviews with current service users, service providers, council officers from Hobsons Bay and Wyndham City councils, and staff at other community centres and community organisations (held during September and October 2010);
- 31 individual surveys completed by centre users, Seabrook residents and staff from relevant departments at Council;
- Individual course evaluation forms from 2010 which identify other courses of interest;
- A focus group attended by 10 staff of various departments of Hobsons Bay City Council; and
- Hobsons Bay City Council's Council Plan 2009-2013 as revised July 2010.

The consultation process to obtain updated data supplied the 'related participant priorities' presented in this report. With the exception of proposals received late in the interview

process, most of these have been triangulated, or checked for resonance and validity with two other participant type, such as current service users, service providers and staff at Hobsons Bay City Council.

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN THE SEABROOK COMMUNITY

Demographic trends have been summarised from existing data identified from the 2006 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census and future projections. The picture of Seabrook will be clearer with the datasets from the ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing but reports from residents, service providers and Hobsons Bay Council staff identified the following trends for the period of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015.

PRESCHOOLER COHORT

Seabrook will continue to have a significant cohort of pre-schoolers.

Between 2015 and 2021, current projections indicate the size of this pre-school cohort will begin to decline.

Related participant priorities

- Need to retain existing co-located Maternal Child Health service, playgroups and kindergarten to meet the need for increased kindergarten hours;
- Consider future options for the extension to the centre/kindergarten beyond the period of this strategic plan with regard to multi-purpose use;
- Need to enhance opportunities to nurture cross generational relationships between women who access the centre by creating a welcoming shared space; and
- Need to enhance opportunities to build cross cultural relationships through playgroups activities and programs.

SCHOOLAGE AND TEENAGE COHORT

Seabrook will continue to have a significant cohort of children of Primary and secondary school age in the strategic plan period, 2011-2015.

Related Participant priorities

- Opportunity to plan and promote age-appropriate after-school activities and programs; and
- Support opportunities for fitness and wellbeing activities and programs for young people, through extensive use of Homestead and Barry Jones Parks.

HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURE

The household structure in Seabrook is forecast to change between 2010 and 2015, with a decline in households with dependents, with a slight increase in the number of lone person households.

The cohort of people aged 50 or more will increase over the strategic plan period 2011-2015 and this ageing of the population will accelerate towards 2021.

Seabrook will continue to have predominantly two income households. Workers will also continue to travel significant distances, spend long hours away from home and are vulnerable to social isolation.

Related Participant priorities

- Opportunity to enhance and promote open access areas and meeting spaces at the centre;
- Support and promote opportunities to use Homestead Park for family and community events, functions and joint projects; and
- Support opportunities for fitness and wellbeing activities and physical activity groups programs for older people.

MULTICULTURAL COHORTS

Seabrook will continue to have a multi-cultural population.

Related Participant priorities

- Opportunity to plan and promote activities and programs for individual and/or combined multicultural groups in the community.
- Support opportunities to provide a meeting space for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse groups; and
- Support opportunities to plan and promote cultural events and festivals in and around the area of the community centre including in Homestead Park.

ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE

Seabrook is not a homogenous suburb. The Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) for Seabrook as a whole is more than the State average of 1000, however, the Seabrook ABS Census Collection Districts (CCD) 230918 and 230921 contain pockets of distinct socio-economic disadvantage.

Related Participant priorities

- Support accessible, affordable access to information and social welfare services;
- Opportunities to plan and promote accessible post secondary education and training and those which enhance employability.

PARTNERSHIPS

During the consultation, participants indicated a range of opportunities to strengthen existing and build new partnerships to enhance access to programs, services, and activities that would strengthen the community and build community capacity at Seabrook.

Hobsons Bay City Council:

Environment Team

- The Community Education Strategy
- Practical programs for behaviour change, aimed at mitigation of the effects of climate change and community resilience



Library services

- Environment Resource Centre and environment workshops
- Roving Library Service
- Education and Training

Youth Services

- School holiday and after school programs
- Events and social activities

Sport and Recreation

- Parks and Recreation
- Playgrounds and sporting facilities

Community Centres within Hobsons Bay and Wyndham, in particular:

- Altona Meadows Community Centre
- Laverton Community Centre and Community Hub
- Laverton Community renewal
- Youth Program Point Cook Learning Centre
- Jamieson Way Community Centre

Other providers and support services:

- Tertiary education providers; such as Northern Metropolitan Institute of TAFE (NMIT) and Deakin University
- Health and professional services including Sunshine Hospital and Women's Health West
- Employment services providers

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 1:

1.0 Increase participation through provision of programs, activities and recreation opportunities for young people who live in the Seabrook and surrounding areas by working collaboratively with youth services and other relevant partners.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

2.1 Work collaboratively in the planning and construction phase of the new extension to the community centre and kindergarten.

2.2 Work collaboratively with the Seabrook kindergarten in the planning and provision of future programs and services for the pre-school and primary school aged cohort.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

3.0 Partner with the multicultural officer, to increase participation and access by developing programs and/or services specifically for the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

4.0 Strengthen opportunities for education, training and short courses, which support residents in accessing programs which enhance their capacity for employment.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

5.0 Enhance existing partnerships and provide opportunities for developing new partnerships which will build community capacity and promote and foster health and wellbeing.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

6.1 Financial resources of \$25,000 are allocated for staffing an additional 0.4 position for administration support and implementing the recommendations in the Seabrook Community Centre strategic plan and action plan 2011-2015.

6.2 Financial resources of \$10,000 are allocated for a one off, joint multi-cultural project.

6.3 Financial resources of \$10,000 are allocated for a one off joint youth project aimed at implanting the recommendations in the Seabrook Community Centre strategic plan.

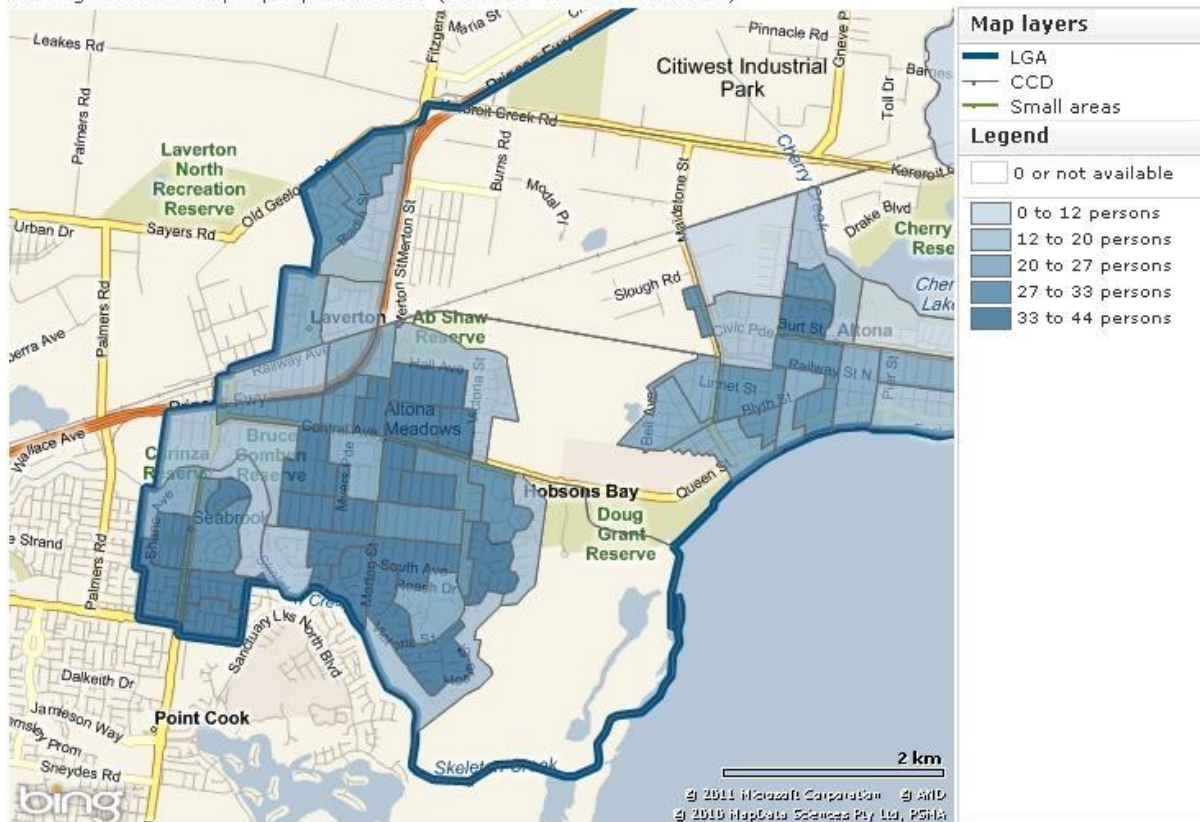
PART ONE: THE STRATEGIC CONTEXT

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Seabrook is a residential area in the south west corner of the City of Hobsons Bay. Separated from the rest of the municipality by Skeleton Creek in the north and east, the Princes Highway and railway line to the north, and the City of Wyndham in the south and west, and accessed by just one main road, Point Cook Road, it functions as something of an island dormitory.

Development of the area dates primarily from the 1980s. Rapid growth occurred from the late 1980s to the late 1990s. The population more than doubled between 1991 and 2001. Growth slowed considerably from 2001, with only a slight increase to 2006, a result of some new dwellings being added to the area. The population in 2006 stood at 4,981. By 2010 there are few green-field sites left in Seabrook to accommodate further housing development, and thus the population size during the Strategic Plan period 2011-2015 is unlikely to increase.

Population density, the City of Hobsons Bay 2006
Average number of people per hectare (includes Overseas Visitors)



Major features of the area include the Skeleton Creek linear park, one school, the Seabrook Primary School (111) and the Seabrook Community Centre (7). There is a

Community Centre in Altona Meadows to the west, Laverton to the north, and two Community Centres in Point Cook, the most easterly suburb in the City of Wyndham. Management of the Seabrook Community Centre is in contact with each of these Centres, and each is open to working in collaborative partnerships to augment their service to the local community.

1.2 THE SEABROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE

THE HISTORY OF THE SEABROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE

Officially opened on February 18, 2001, the Seabrook Community Centre was established as a multi-purpose facility, with Maternal and Child Health services, a twice monthly immunisation service, a kindergarten for three and four year-olds, playgroups for preschoolers and a range of activities more typical of a Neighbourhood House such as Weight Watchers, Yogalates/meditation, training and support programs, and a range of after school activities for particularly children of Primary School age.

THE PROFILE OF SEABROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE USERS

The Seabrook Community Centre has a mix of users and participants from across a range of income levels and ethnic backgrounds. Currently participants include mothers of new babies and young children of playgroup age, high numbers of preschool aged children, children and adults from households with a moderate income who attend for a single purpose. Women users outnumber men.

SEABROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Since Council assumed responsibility for the management of the Seabrook Community Centre, considerable advancement has been made on previous achievements.

In 2010, community-based participants reported that the Seabrook Community Centre is appreciated for:

- The centre coordinator,;
- The Maternal and Child Health service, and nurse;
- Its friendly, welcoming atmosphere;
- Its sweet 'quaint' character as a building;
- The beauty of its setting in Homestead Park;

- The accessible, affordable playgroups;
- The kindergarten;
- The supply of information that is well-presented;
- Sunshine Hospital's outreach Ante Natal Clinic;
- The programs available for preschool and school aged children;
- The programs, including training courses;
- The special events and festivals; and
- The Centre's readiness to co-operate with other groups in the sector.

The Community Centre currently offers a suite of programs in five key areas:

- Activities for pre-school and primary school aged children;
- Accredited and non-accredited education and training;
- Fitness and Wellbeing programs;
- Environment and sustainability information, workshops and recycling; and
- Support services, programs and groups,

As well as providing meeting rooms for local groups and a casual hire facility.

The Centre is particularly focussed on meeting the needs of the community, especially the needs for stimulation, education and community connection.

Operated at first by a Committee of Management, Hobsons Bay City Council assumed control of the Seabrook Community Centre in 2006, initially for a limited time, and completed a strategic review in 2008. The 2008 strategic review included recommendations for short term management, environmental sustainability retrofit, physical surrounds and future programs and services.

See appendix 2 for the outcomes and resulting actions from the 2008 strategic review.

In 2009 and 2010, the council further endorsed:

- Council's continued management of the Seabrook Community Centre;
- The conducting of three community forums over 18 months to input into the future planning of the Centre, one of which was conducted in August 2010;
- The development of a Seabrook Community Centre Strategic Plan 2011-2015 and Action Plan.

1.3 THE STRATEGIC CONTEXT

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLAN

The programs proposed for the Seabrook Community Centre are aligned to Council's strategic objectives.

As the Seabrook Community Centre is managed by Hobsons Bay City Council, it is imperative that its Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan align with the Council Plan 2009-2013, revised July 2010.

The Council Plan 2009-2013 has seven strategic objectives, each with strategies and measures. The programs proposed by Seabrook Community Centre users, service providers and Council staff, to meet projected needs in the Seabrook community 2011-2015, are aligned to following strategic objectives of Council.

1 Civic Leadership

1.5 Deliver a high quality customer- focused service

2. Community Wellbeing

- 2.1 Ensure equitable access and a high quality of service to meet the varied needs of our community
- 2.3 Promote and foster health and wellbeing in our community
- 2.4 Provide a broad range of sport, leisure, and recreation facilities and services

3. Environmental Sustainability

- 3.1 Enhance the urban environment through the greening of the municipality
- 3.2 Move towards more sustainable use of resources
- 3.3 Provide a quality open space network across the municipality and promote our unique coastal parklands
- 3.6 Undertake environmental education to increase community awareness
- 3.7 Use water in a responsible manner and increase efficiency.

4. A Liveable City

- 4.2 improve the quality and amenity of public spaces
- 4.3 Prepare and implement structure planning and master planning for the activity centres and major gateways within the Municipality.

6. Arts Recreation and Culture

- 6.1 Promote and enhance the community pride and sense of belonging.

- 6.2 Promote the artistic and cultural life of the city.
- 6.3 Maintain and improve parks and open spaces for formal and informal recreation and amenity.

1.4 THE KEY TRENDS AND ISSUES OVER THE YEARS 2011-2015

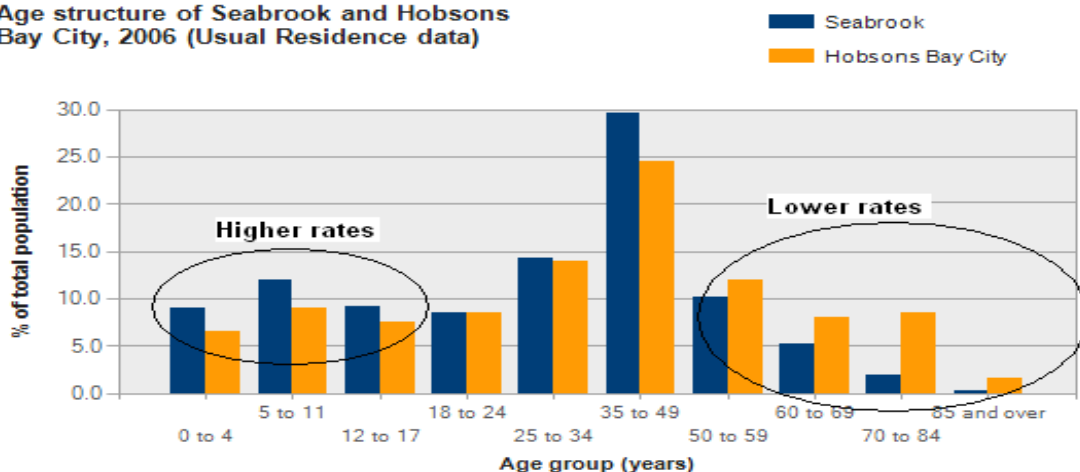
Because of the porous nature of the border, the demographic trends of both Seabrook and Point Cook were explored for the Seabrook Strategic Plan 2011-2015.

SOCIAL TRENDS

Located on the edge of the municipality of Hobsons Bay, residents pay little heed to the border and move across it regularly to access services and facilities. Children of secondary school age cross west, for schooling and youth club activities, and families with babies, and preschoolers flood east to the Maternal Child Health Centre and to access playgroups and kindergartens at Seabrook.

The needs of the different age cohorts

Age structure of Seabrook and Hobsons Bay City, 2006 (Usual Residence data)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006 Census of Population and Housing (Usual Residence)

The trends in Seabrook will be clearer with the datasets from the ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, but reports from residents, service providers and Hobsons Bay Council staff indicated that in the period of the Strategic Plan 2011 -2015:

Seabrook will continue to have a significant cohort of pre-schoolers and primary school cohort in the short term.

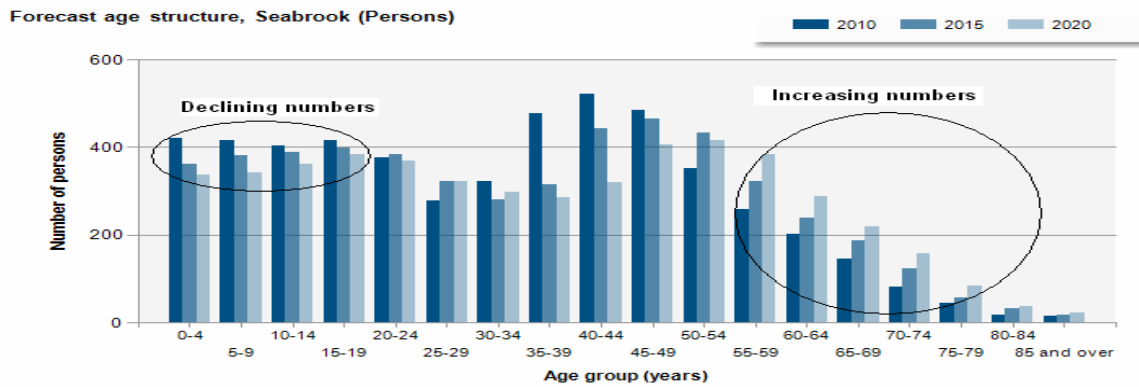
Between 2015 and 2021, current projections indicate the size of this pre-school cohort will begin to decline.

This suggests the wisdom of participant priorities gained through surveys and interviews:

- to retain the co-located Maternal Child Health service, the playgroups and the kindergarten (kindergarten hours are legislated to increase in the coming years);
- Consider future community needs regarding multi-purpose use of additional room outside kindergarten hours;
- to nurture relationships and build cross cultural relationships with older women attending the centre through provision of open access common area and planned programs;
- to build cross cultural and cross generational relationships through playgroup and other groups; and
- Seabrook will continue to have a significant cohort of children of Primary School age. This suggests the priority of the Community Centre users for after-school activities that nurture fitness and wellbeing, is appropriate.

Wyndham City Council does not provide separate datasets on its website for Sanctuary Lakes as distinct from the suburb of Point Cook and is thus included in Point Cook statistics. The graph above also indicates that the heavy demand for playgroups and preschool will continue throughout the period of the 2011-2015 Strategic Plan. Towards the later years of the Strategic Plan, Wyndham City Council plans the construction of two new Community Centres in Point Cook, at Sneydes Road and Point Cook Homestead Road.

Seabrook will continue to have a significant cohort of teenagers in the Strategic Plan period 2011-2015.



- Opportunities for supporting the planning and organisation of fitness and wellbeing activities and programs for young people, including increasing use of Homestead and Barry Jones Parks.

RECOMMENDATION 1:

Increase participation through provision of programs, activities and recreation opportunities for young people who live in the Seabrook and surrounding areas by working collaboratively with youth services and other relevant partners.

Seabrook will continue to have two income households with, and increasingly without dependents, who travel significant distances to work, who spend long hours away from home and who are vulnerable to social isolation.

As one preschool parent put it:

'Because we all have push buttons to raise our garage doors we hardly ever see our neighbours. They drive in, and then go inside. The only time we 'catch' them is if we collect our post or take the garbage out at the same time, or are in the front doing our gardens.'

The data in the following tables 1 and 2 show the percentage of those groups surveyed who deemed the listed activities as priorities.

This suggests the following identified priorities of those surveyed are appropriate:

- Space provision for service providers and social meeting spaces;
- More extensive use of Homestead park for community activities, events and sport and recreation; and
- Health and wellbeing activities.

Table 1: Survey results: Priority Activities for Support Programs and Groups

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|---|------|-------|----|
| LEGEND HBCC: Hobsons Bay Council Staff U: Surveyed users of the Seabrook Community Centre CF: Attendees at the Community Forum, August 3, 2010. ¹ | | | |
| Intergenerational play groups | 17% | 73% | - |
| Nurture relationships between older women <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned social groups for new and existing users. ESL conversation groups: Middle Eastern, Sri Lankan, southern European Health nurses to give talks | 83% | 50% | H |
| Need for private space for community service providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunshine Hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ante Natal Clinic & a separate room for midwives & clients Child Birth Education Classes Breastfeeding service Dietetic care Heart Program (prevention of chronic disease – HARP) Melbourne City Mission, Tax Help (from late July to early October) ISIS Primary Care– healthy eating program | 100% | 62% | M |
| a single parents group | 50% | 30% | - |
| Pre-natal groups that cover parenting, life skills, feeling anxious. Depression | 83% | 62% | - |
| Emergency Relief: needed due to housing stress, unemployment, and/or low income | 50% | 35% | - |

Table 2: Survey results: Priority Activities for Fitness and Wellbeing

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|---|------|-------|----|
| Space for Health and Wellbeing activities | 83% | 46% | M |
| Physical activity groups, examples cited: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> walking and amblers groups gentle exercise group for health & to address isolation evening exercise class | 83% | 40% | M |
| Space for fee for service Neighbourhood House type activities, examples cited: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food, Wine and Lifestyle Drama/plays or music concerts in park | 66% | 40% | M |
| Coffee facilities so people can have a chat whilst waiting. | 83% | 36% | H |
| Meeting spaces/place for private functions, venues for CALD groups | 63% | 35% | M |
| Space for cultural festivals, sacramental programs | 50% | 23% | M |
| More extensive use of Homestead Park for community connection, examples cited: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Films; presentations of local drama classes or drama groups; markets as events rather than a regular thing as too big a workload sausage sizzle in summer; and Christmas parties in Homestead Park | 66% | 43% | M |

¹ These considered the needs of the various age cohorts in the community rather than the suggestions subsequently made by community members, users, school, service provider and Hobsons' Bay Council staff in semi-structured interviews in September–October 2010. Thus the data recorded here is drawn from what they did provide, and is ranked high, medium and low. A number of ideas were not raised at the earlier community forum and as a consequence no ranking is possible.

Beyond the period of the five year Strategic Plan, significant ageing of the population is forecast. (see graph page 6)

Many of these are likely to be empty-nesters, who have chased affordable housing, possibly distant from extended family members, and spend long hours travelling to work in the city or in other municipalities. These people are reported to be vulnerable to social isolation in the future. Community and user groups have urged that the needs here be given priority consideration in the Strategic Plan.

The needs of the different household types

Between 2010 and 2015, the household structure at Seabrook is forecast to change, with a decline in the households with dependents, an increase in the households without dependents and a slight increase in the number of lone person households. Some of these will belong to the cohort of people aged 50 or more, and this ageing of the population will accelerate towards 2021. People living alone may be well socially connected, but service providers and users have reported high levels of social isolation. This suggests that the priorities of the Community Centre users for activities promoting social connection are highly appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

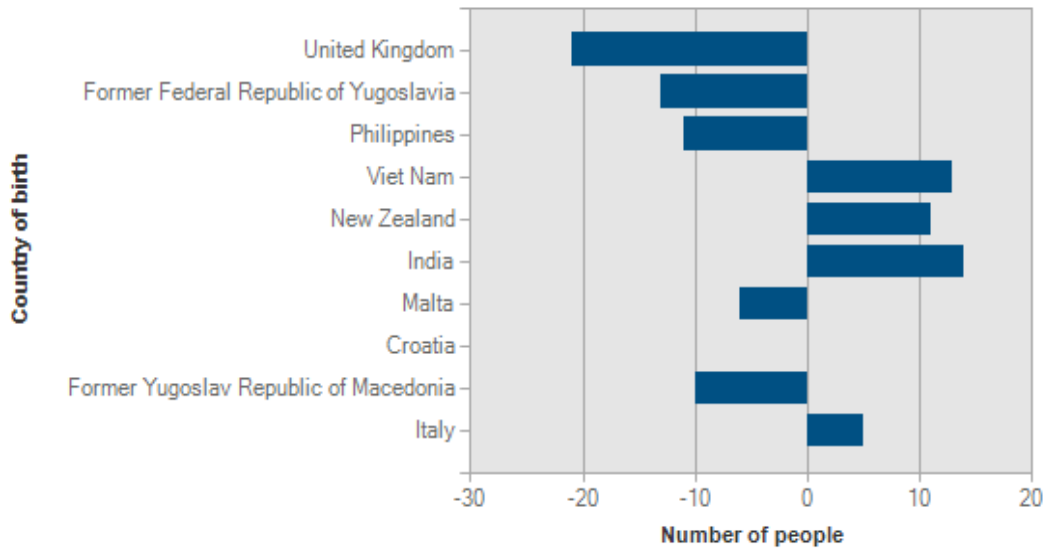
Plan and develop the multipurpose use of new community centre and kindergarten room.

| | |
|-----|--|
| 2.1 | Work collaboratively in the planning and construction phase of the 2011 extension to the community centre and kindergarten, to support out of kindergarten hours use. |
| 2.2 | Work collaboratively with relevant partners in the planning and provision of future programs and services for the needs of differing age cohort groups. |

The needs of the different religious and cultural groups

Seabrook will continue to have a multi-cultural population. In 2006, 27.7% of the population was born overseas, and 21.7% were from a non-English speaking background. See graph below.

Change in country of birth (top 10), Seabrook, 2001 to 2006 (Enumerated data)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006 and 2001 Census of Population and Housing (Enumerated)

The dominant non-English speaking country of birth in Seabrook was the Former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, where 1.9% of the population or 96 people, were born. Community Centre user groups and service providers report increasing numbers of Vietnamese, Indian, Sri Lankan and Chinese. The Community Centre Manager observed that about 50% of the casual hiring of the Community Centre is by Indian and Sri Lankan families.

This suggests the following priorities of the Community Centre users and service providers are appropriate:

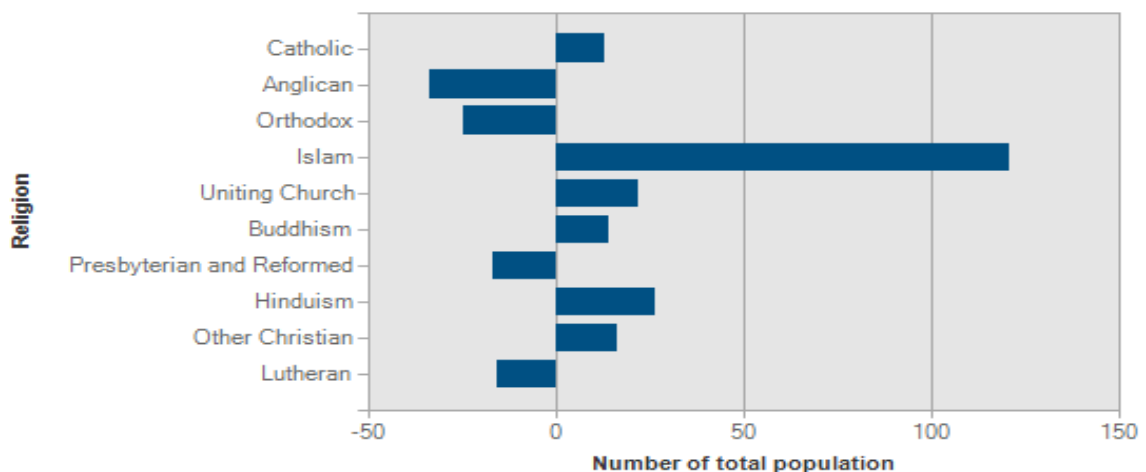
- English as a Second Language (ESL) conversation groups. The Community Centre Manager has twice yearly consultations with the Adult Migrant Education Service with regard to changing and emerging needs and interests of the local community. It is appropriate for these to continue.
- A meeting space for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) groups; and
- Space at the Community Centre or in Homestead Park for cultural festivals.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

Partner with the multicultural officer, to increase participation and access by developing programs and/or services specifically for the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community.

Of particular interest with regard to religion in Seabrook is the changing trend in religious affiliation and the increasing presence of Islam and Hinduism in the community. The requests from different community groups for meeting and celebration space was mentioned by all the community centres in the area between Altona Meadows, east of Seabrook, to Laverton in the north, and Pt Cook and Jameson Way in the west. Provision of this could nurture community belonging and connection. See table below.

Change in religions (top 10), Seabrook, 2001 to 2006 (Enumerated data)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006 and 2001 Census of Population and Housing (Enumerated)

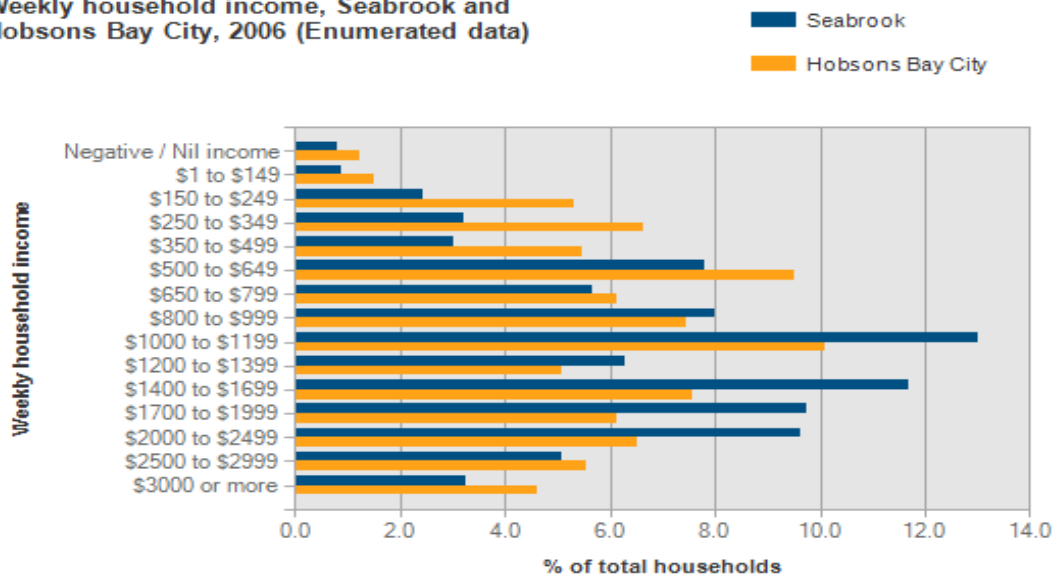
ECONOMIC TRENDS

Seabrook is more affluent than Hobsons Bay in general, but education levels are lower than in the Melbourne metropolitan area. Residents are generally employed in the trades or more precariously in the retail and hospitality sectors. In 2006 the three most popular occupations of Seabrook residents were:

- Technicians and Trades Workers (18.5%)
- Clerical and Administrative Workers (17.9%)
- Professionals (12.8%)

In combination these three occupations accounted for 49.2% of the employed resident population. In comparison, Hobsons Bay City employed 14.1% as Technicians and Trades Workers; 16.9% as Clerical and Administrative Workers; and 20.0% as Professionals.

Weekly household income, Seabrook and Hobsons Bay City, 2006 (Enumerated data)



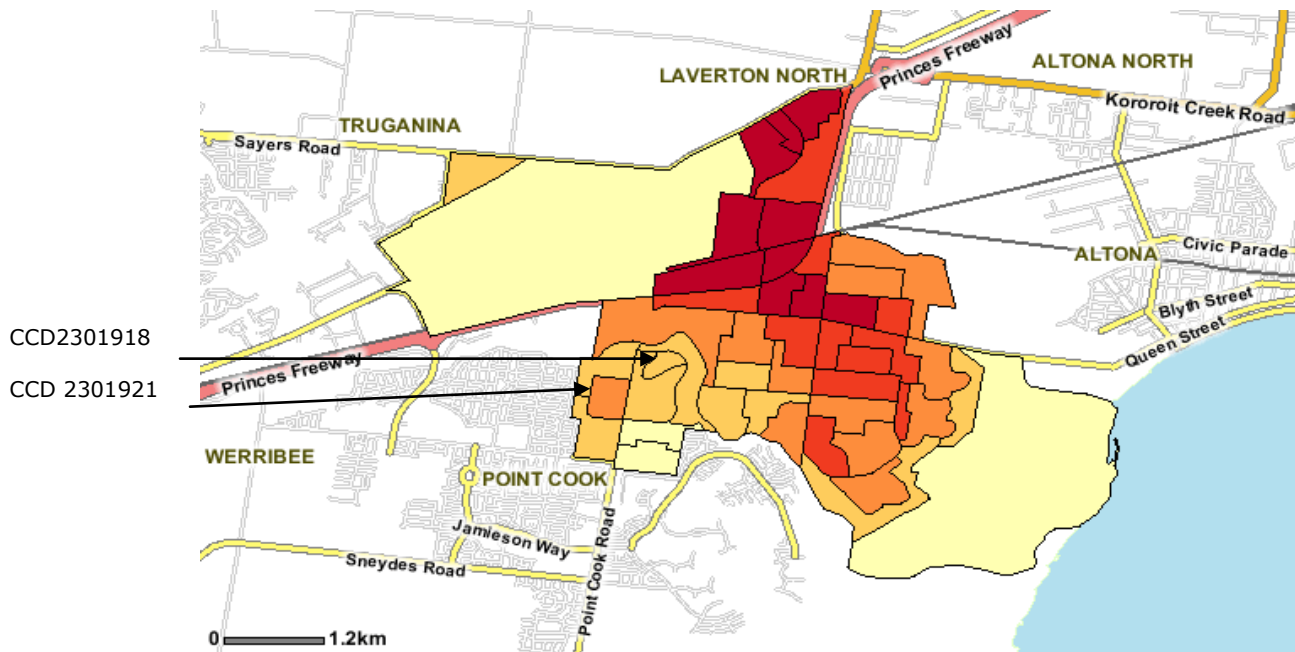
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006 Census of Population and Housing (Enumerated)

Whilst most households in 2006 had access to liveable incomes, many in 2010 are believed to be vulnerable to economic fluctuations, down-sizing and housing stress.

Furthermore, Seabrook is not a homogenous suburb and there are pockets of concern that may influence the future service types provided at the Community Centre. Whilst the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) for Seabrook as a whole is more than the State average of 1000, the Census Collection Districts (CCD) 230918 and 230921 contain pockets of disadvantage.

In two of the eight Census Collection Districts in Seabrook, housing stress, or the payment of 30% or more of household income in mortgage repayments or rent, is running in 2006 at 45.6% and at 46.5% in respectively. These two areas had the highest numbers of people on low incomes in Seabrook: 15.2% and 16.5%; and in part-time employment: 28.8%, and 36.5%. An area also had significantly elevated levels of disengaged youth: 12.8%. This data suggests the existence of two pockets of disadvantage within the suburb.

Hobsons Bay Low Income Households, with weekly incomes of less than \$500.



Source: ABS Population of Census and Housing, (2006), Map Stats: Canberra

Membership of the Catholic Church is relatively significant and the parish priest at the closest parish with a St Vincent De Paul Conference, in Altona Meadows was an participant for this research. He reported housing stress, especially in one income households with young children, a need for affordable general counselling, and social isolation especially amongst CALD elderly.

This and the 2006 Census data suggest some Seabrook residents could benefit from:

- Accessible, affordable social welfare services that agencies are open to providing at the Seabrook Community Centre;
- Accessible post secondary training courses that enhance employability. NMIT is open to providing these, neighbouring Community Centres are open to partnerships in the auspice of these, and library staff are willing to offer the use of their spaces, if re-consideration of the current hiring charges can be progressed.

Community Centre user groups and service providers did not provide clear direction on the pathways to employability preferred in the area. The Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres at Hobsons Bay have offered a range of work-preparation courses but local research conducted by Council staff has found that the uptake of these has been significantly low. From the data collected from neighbourhood houses and

community centres in 2010, of the 4,997 people enrolled in activities, 100 were enrolled in the eleven vocational training courses offered in Term 2, 2010. (Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres data collection, HBCC September 2010).

Table 3: Level of Participant Priority for Training

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|---|------|-------|----|
| Dedicated classroom for classes leading to employment | 83% | 38% | M |

Point Cook has experienced a high response to courses offered in childcare. Also, there has been some interest in computer classes and the Manager of the Community Centre has referred these to Laverton Community Hub and Altona Meadows Community Centre, a practice that should continue.

Participants attending classes and workshops at the centre include in their evaluations topics of interest and the following table identifies course suggestion over the last 12 months of data collection.

| COURSES OF FURTHER INTEREST IDENTIFIED IN 2010 COURSE EVALUATIONS | |
|---|---|
| Environment Programs | Building chook pen Water tanks and solar power Produce Swaps Other sustainability Topics |
| Accredited training | Certificate III in Retail Childcare Business Administration and Management Information Technology: Excel, PowerPoint First Aid |
| Gardening | Growing Vegetables Small Garden design Planting animal habitats Companion Planting Native Planting |
| Cooking/Home | Cooking with children Pickling, jam making Activities where 'take things home' Christmas Cookery International Foods Art and Craft |
| Work Related | Resume writing Interview skills |

In view of the educational levels of residents and their vulnerability in the workforce, further research into the opportunities for training could also be appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

Strengthen opportunities for education, training and short courses, which support residents in accessing programs which enhance their capacity for employment.

ENVIRONMENTAL TRENDS

Whilst 2010 has been a very fortunate year for rain, Victoria has just emerged from 13 years of rising temperatures and drought-like conditions. Increasingly, residents are aware that the rainfall in 2010 could be the forecasted exception to the rule and that the challenges of climate change have still to be faced.

This suggests the appropriateness of the following priorities:

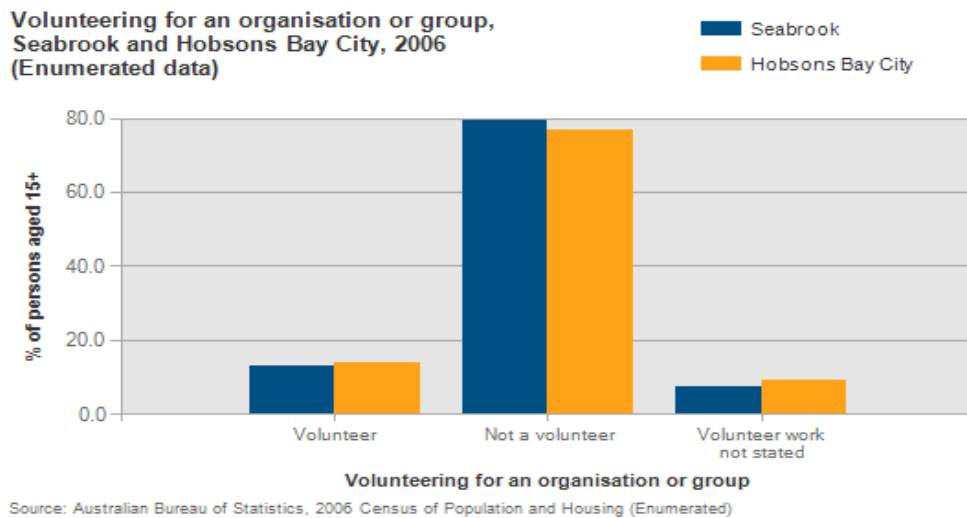
- Environmental education;
- Practical workshops such as water wise gardening and efficient water use;
- Recycling, including of mobile phones; and
- Community Food Gardens and/or education on backyard food gardening.

Table 4: Level of Participant Priority for Environment and Sustainability

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|---|------|-------|----|
| Environmental education including efficient water usage | 100% | 35% | - |
| Recycle mobile phones | 83% | 38% | - |
| Water-wise gardening | 66% | 38% | - |
| Community Food garden | 83% | 38% | - |

VOLUNTEERING

The level of volunteering at Seabrook and surrounding areas is limited, a fact that will affect the number of people available to support the centre and centre activities in a voluntary capacity.



1.5 OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIP

Due to its geographical location and position as a community centre owned and operated by Hobsons Bay City Council, the centre is in an ideal position to partner with a number of departments within the Council, and with a range of like organisations and groups located or operating in the area.

Community Centres

Altona Meadows Community Centre

Deakin University offers a first year basic study course to build confidence and then a second year study for an Associate Diploma that can lead into university entrance qualifications. People need 'come and try' sessions before committing. Deakin and Victoria University have partnerships with the Libraries.

Laverton Community Centre and Neighbourhood House

This is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and has course space and a computer laboratory with 10-15 computers for general community access. A new significantly expanded Laverton Community Hub housing Laverton Community Centre and Neighbourhood House and other service providers will be built during 2011-2013 at a cost of \$8.6 million

Jamieson Way and Point Cook Learning Centres (Wyndham Local Government Area)

The Seabrook Community Centre Manager is in regular contact with these Learning Centres, advertises their programs, and refers participants. Mindful of their proximity at the north-eastern edge of the municipality of Wyndham, the Seabrook Community Centre Manager aims for complementary programming. All parties expressed a high priority for enhancing this relationship.

Youth Program Point Cook Learning Centre

The strategic planning team at Wyndham City Council is happy to open their existing programs to youth from Seabrook:

- Holiday Programs – government funded for 12-25 year olds;
- Employment-Jobs Service Australia;
- Open Family-Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) counselling; and
- Is there a need for a youth hub in the area that helps them link to services.

Community Centre Brochures

The Council produces an annual brochure that promotes the courses of all community centres and neighbourhood houses in Hobsons Bay. It assists the centres to promote education and training and other programs and services. It also assists centres in planning their courses and conducting complimentary programs.

Possible partnerships with other departments at Hobsons Bay City Council

Council's Environment Team

The team members are conscious of the potential for stress in the community with the carbon tax, long term water shortages and the cost of food miles and are progressing the following:

Seabrook Community Centre already has an environmental profile and could work in partnership on this with Sustainability Street and Council's Environment Team. The potential for practical environmental programs at Seabrook Community Centre include:

- The Community Education Strategy;
- A community consultation is planned from February 2011 to map perceptions of climate change in the community, what people value, what sources of information they trust, and what motivates them to act;
- The team are doing a mini-audit and 'green' retrofit of kindergartens, including the Community Centre;
- Consideration of practical programs for behaviour change, perhaps at the Community Centre aimed at mitigation of the effects of climate change and community resilience;

- Reducing impact of energy crisis and carbon emissions;
- Consideration of the My Smart Garden model. This is a 2 year program run by Moonee Valley Council, which includes initial workshops, recruiting households and re-skilling these households. There could be potential for this at Seabrook Community Centre on the triangle of land between the Centre and the oval;
- Continuing opportunities to be involved in public events and expos; the council and the centre participated in the 2009 'Environment Expo' run by the Seaholme group, Sustainability St; and
- Continuing opportunities to conduct workshops at the centre such as those run in the past; keeping chickens, raised vegetable and herb gardens, fruit preserving.

Library services

In general, with playgroups and four year old kindergarten, the limits of supply in relation to demand, determine permeability across the Point Cook/Hobsons Bay municipal boundary. Libraries, which attract a spread of socio-economic status and gender, are starting to operate as Learning Centres, offering episodic learning opportunities rather than programs to which people must commit for a term or more. This may also be the case with adult education. Libraries lack the resources to offer these, but do have:

- consulting rooms which can hold up to 8 people;
- meeting rooms which can hold 25-30 people; and
- A public room with a kitchen which can hold up to 100 or more.

Service providers commented on the dearth of opportunities for adult education in Hobsons Bay but while there is considerable good will, partnerships with libraries are inhibited by the Library Policy to charge for the rent of rooms. If there could be an adjustment to this policy, a range of opportunities for partnership might be possible, including opportunities within existing programs:

- Homework assistance programs; these currently operate at Williamstown Learning Centre with the support of volunteers. This is complemented by a 'Your Tutor' program that is funded by the library and operates as on-line 'q and a' sessions;
- Book groups and clubs;
- Men's coffee and chat groups. Initially it was noticed that men would come and sit alone, reading the newspapers. They were invited to have coffee together and share opinions on what they were reading. They now meet regularly;
- Conversational English Classes. The libraries can access community buses to transport people, and can support activities with DVDs, books, and websites on relevant topics;

- Support Groups for Stress and Anxiety. The libraries have spaces for 70-150 people; at Altona Meadows Library, Centacare Family Counselling outreaches every Friday, and operates a private consultant contracted by the Department of Veterans Affairs;
- Men in the Kitchen – cooking for 1-2; ISIS Primary Care conducted the funded program fortnightly at low cost to participants;
- Roving Library Service; and
- Environment Resource Centre

Youth Services

- School holiday and after school programs; and
- Events and social activities.

Sport and Leisure

- Sport and Recreation events; and
- Playgrounds and sporting facilities.

Working with other key staff and departments:

- Enhancing food security and capacity to produce/access food, self-sustaining food gardens or community gardens, re-skilling, food preservation; and
- Enhancing mental health through activity outdoors and community connection.

Enhanced partnerships with Wyndham City Council

Residents opt for services that are available, accessible and affordable, without regard to municipal boundaries, including across the Hobsons Bay/Wyndham City Council boundary. There could be value in enhancing co-operation between the two Councils, to rationalise existing services or to collaborate in the development of new ones. Enhancing these relationships will be relevant to the operation of the Seabrook Community Centre.

RECOMMENDATION 5

Enhance existing partnerships and provide opportunities for developing new partnerships which will build community capacity and promote and foster health and wellbeing.

Possible partnerships with other education and social service providers

NORTHERN METROPOLITAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (NMIT)

The Community Centre has an established relationship with NMIT, hosting a Certificate 2 course in retail in 2010. NMIT is open to expanding this partnership to include Certificate IV programs, further training in Retail, Education Support/Integration Aides, Hospitality, and support for those seeking employment outcomes in a more personalized setting.

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Deakin University provides university preparation courses out of Altona Meadows Community Centre. Enhanced promotion of these may be appropriate.

SUNSHINE HOSPITAL

The Hospital is increasingly interested in out-posting parts of its services to enhance accessibility and the possibilities of prevention and early intervention, and is open to building on the programs already provided at the Community Centre, with childbirth education classes, a breastfeeding service, dietetic care and a program focussed on the prevention of chronic disease e.g. The Hospital Admissions Risk Program (HARP).

WOMEN'S HEALTH WEST

This body receives significant requests for information and support from the western suburbs of Hobsons Bay and from Wyndham and is open to providing an outreach service at the Community Centre.

Partnerships take time and most Community Centre Managers are paid for fewer hours than they work, so their flexibility to take on the extra work of developing partnerships may be limited.

1.6 OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANSION

The proposed extension to the Seabrook Community Centre and Kindergarten will provide an integrated multi-purpose community room which will also service as a second kindergarten room. The introduction of universal access from 2013 will increase the licensed capacity from 32 to 65 places and as a result retain current licensed four year old kindergarten places, three year old activity group and potential for playgroups.

The other key driver for the extension is the demand for additional meeting and programming space at the centre. This new room will have provision for out-of-hours access for community use and will be managed by eh community centre. This will result in increased responsibilities for the current coordinator position.

RECOMMENDATION 6

6.1 Financial resources of \$25,000 are allocated for staffing an additional 0.4 position for administration support and implementing the recommendations in the Seabrook Community Centre strategic plan and action plan 2011-2015.

6.2 Financial resources of \$10,000 are allocated for a one off, joint multi-cultural project.

6.3 Financial resources of \$10,000 are allocated for a one off joint youth project aimed at implanting the recommendations in the Seabrook Community Centre strategic plan.

PART TWO: STRATEGIC PLAN

Vision: Seabrook Community Centre is a welcoming, friendly place in Seabrook, where programs and projects support all parts of the community, in a happy and healthy environment suitable for all ages, abilities and background.

Mission: By providing high quality services and amenity we improve the health, safety and wellbeing of our community

Values: **RESPECT:** Seabrook Community Centre is committed to acknowledging the differences, rights, teachings and way of life of all people

EQUITABLE ACCESS: In working to offer access to all, the Seabrook Community Centre is committed to acknowledging the needs of people with different backgrounds and abilities

HIGH LEVEL OF SERVICE TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS: Seabrook Community Centre is committed to being accountable in its assessment of community need, and working to achieve excellence through continuous improvement.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING: Seabrook Community Centre will promote and encourage health and wellbeing activities in a supportive atmosphere.

LIFELONG LEARNING: Seabrook Community Centre will offer educational opportunities, either on site or through partnerships with others, to provide pathways and support for learners.

RECREATION AND LEISURE PROGRAMS: Seabrook Community Centre will promote mental and physical wellbeing through the provision of opportunities to connect with others.

STRATEGIC GOALS

1. ART AND CRAFT

OBJECTIVE: To promote mental and physical wellbeing through the provision of a range of art and cultural opportunities from which Community Centre users can choose to explore their talents and to connect with others.

Strategies to achieve our objective:

- Broaden opportunities to promote and engage all age groups in art and cultural activities; and
- Promote Seabrook Community Centre as a site for arts and cultural events in Hobsons Bay.

2. TRAINING COURSES

OBJECTIVE: To strengthen partnerships which provide for educational opportunities, to provide pathways and support for learners, in order to enhance their economic and social wellbeing.

Strategies to achieve our objective:

- Strengthen links with accredited education providers;
- Offer programs which Improve employability skills of the community; and
- Offer accredited training options.

Innovations and Actions

- Continue existing relationship with NMIT;
- Enhanced relationships with other Community Centres and a mutual referral practice to each others' training opportunities where relevant; and
- Establish a partnership with the Library Service.

3. SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND GROUPS

OBJECTIVE: Promote and strengthen opportunities for community and other support services, programs and groups to operate at the community centre.

Strategies to achieve our objective:

- Continue to support existing programs and services
- Develop partnerships with new providers of programs and services
- Support and promote opportunities to provide outreach services
- Enhanced relationship with the Laverton Community Renewal Project for referrals where appropriate
- Enhanced relationship with agencies providing Emergency Relief for referrals where appropriate

Innovations and Actions

- ESL Conversation Groups
- Encourage and support more outreach services
- Encourage and support programs and services for pre and post natal parents
- Link with organisations which can provide support for referral purposes

4. LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

OBJECTIVE: To offer access to all, the Seabrook Community Centre is committed to acknowledging the needs of people with different backgrounds and abilities

Strategies to achieve our objective:

- Referral to local Community Centres with relevant programs

Innovations and Actions

- ESL conversation groups: Middle Eastern, Sri Lankan, southern European
- Meeting spaces/pace for private functions, venues for CALD groups
- Space for cultural festivals
- More extensive use of **Homestead Park** for community connection

5. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

OBJECTIVE: To create a local environment, that is socially nurturing in its warmth, friendliness and sense of welcome and that is physically nurturing in its attractiveness, its sustainable accommodation to climate change and the need to reduce, recycle and/or re-use.

Strategies to achieve our objective:

- Continue environmental and sustainability programs that support behaviour change in residents including recycling services;
- Maintenance of improved signage around the centre retrofit, energy and water saving initiatives in the centre;
- Environmental education and workshops;
- Support and promote environmental and sustainability education and activities in Wyndham and Hobsons Bay including exchange and rebate programs, environment resource centre (ERC), library activities and the Sustainability St. environment expo; and
- Maintenance of the redeveloped rear yard to promote and display indigenous, native and sustainable garden and outdoor space.

Innovations and Actions

- Environmental education;
- Recycle mobile phones and printer cartridges;
- Water-wise gardening; and
- A Community Food Garden.

Community Food Gardens have been suggested as a way to promote domestic vegetable gardens, encourage healthy eating, improve health status and nurture community connection across generations, perhaps with parents or grandparents spending time there with their grandchildren, or playgroups with the residents of nursing homes, and with CALD groups sharing their skills with other community members. Because the Seabrook Community Centre already has a sustainability program, there could be potential to build on this.

Community Food Gardens (CFGs) could be supported by the Food Security Officer at Council and it could draw on the experience with CFGs at other sites in Hobsons Bay:

- The Stephanie Alexander garden for children at Altona Green Primary School; and
- The food gardens at Altona Meadows for adults, at Altona Primary School, and at Laverton. Brooklyn has obtained EPA funding for a community garden.

6. FITNESS AND WELLBEING

OBJECTIVE: To promote and encourage health and wellbeing activities in a supportive atmosphere.

Strategies to achieve our objective:

- Encourage groups which meet and provide support such as mothers and walking groups;
- Range of programs such as cooking for different age groups;
- Meeting spaces for the various committees and groups;
- Hosting various programs such as , Weight watchers
- Yopalates/meditation
- Natural therapies/, meditation, chakra healing
- Tax Help (from late July to early October) for seniors, single parents
- ISIS Primary Care– healthy eating program

Innovations and Actions

- Nurture relationships between older women
 - morning teas- for those who provide childcare and others 49 with scones
 - ESL conversation groups: Middle Eastern, Sri Lankan, southern European;
- Health nurses to give talks;
- Intergenerational play groups- taking little children to a nursing home where they could work together on a vegetable garden (as has happened elsewhere);
- Provision of space for private consultations;
- Sunshine Hospital;
 - Ante Natal Clinic & a separate room for midwives & clients

- Child Birth Education Classes
- Breastfeeding service
- Dietetic care
- Heart Program (prevention of chronic disease – HARP)
- Melbourne City Mission;
- Diabetes: So What Now? Program with information to sustain activity;
- Physical activity groups;
 - walking groups for mums after taking children to kindergarten
 - gyms too expensive – so Amblers Group
 - gentle exercise group for physical wellbeing & to address isolation
 - 7pm exercise class for younger and/or working women
- Healthy Eating, Community Gardens.

7. ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

OBJECTIVE: To provide access to healthy, energetic activities that promote social connection that is affordable, accessible and located in an environment that is appreciated for its beauty.

Strategies to achieve our objective:

- Music and dance programs;
- Seabrook Playgroups; and
- Activity based structured programs, such as existing Jujitsu.

Innovations and Actions at Homestead Park and Barry Jones Park

- Soccer goals
- Football posts
- Cricket pitch

PART THREE: ACTION PLAN

STRATEGIC GOALS

OBJECTIVE: To promote mental and physical wellbeing through the provision of a range of art and cultural opportunities from which Community Centre users can choose to explore their talents and to connect with others.

| Strategies | Actions | Relevant Partners | YEAR ONE | YEAR TWO | YEAR THREE | YEAR FOUR | YEAR FIVE |
|--|--|---|----------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Broaden opportunities to promote and engage all age groups in art and cultural activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build partnerships with internal stakeholders to promote Seabrook as a site for arts and cultural events. Work collaboratively with internal stakeholders and providers of arts and cultural programs and activities. | Youth Services | | | Develop | Establish | Continue |
| | | Children's Services Sport and Recreation | | | | Develop | Establish |
| Promote Seabrook Community Centre as a site for arts and cultural events in Hobsons Bay. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiate with internal stakeholders and others who conduct arts and cultural events Hobsons Bay. | Arts and Culture | | | | | Develop |

OBJECTIVE: To strengthen partnerships which provide for educational opportunities, to provide pathways and support for learners, in order to enhance their economic and social wellbeing.

| Strategies | Actions | Relevant Partners | YEAR ONE | YEAR TWO | YEAR THREE | YEAR FOUR | YEAR FIVE |
|---|---|--|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Develop a strong collective approach with accredited education providers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work collaboratively with NMIT in the delivery of accredited training. Commence negotiations to develop stronger links with neighbouring accredited providers. | NMIT Libraries Community Centres and NH houses in HB and Wyndham | Continue | | | | |
| | | | | Develop | Establish | Continue | |
| Offer programs which improve employability skills of the community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide access to resume writing and interview skills workshops or information Establish a referral system to other providers. | Other accredited education providers | Develop | Establish | Continue | | |
| | | | | | Develop | Establish | Continue |
| Offer accredited training options. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and display up to date information on accredited training in Hobsons Bay. Work collaboratively with external providers to offer accredited training. | | | Develop | Establish | Continue | |
| | | | | | | Develop | Establish |

OBJECTIVE: Promote and strengthen opportunities for community and other support services, programs and groups to operate at the community centre.

| Strategies | Actions | Relevant Partners | YEAR ONE | YEAR TWO | YEAR THREE | YEAR FOUR | YEAR FIVE |
|--|---|----------------------------------|----------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Continue to support existing programs and services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work collaboratively in the planning and building of the room extension Maintain strong relationships with existing providers. | Facilities | Continue | | | | |
| | | Seabrook Kindergarten | Continue | | | | |
| Develop partnerships with new providers of programs and services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence negotiations to develop stronger links with outreach service providers for referral purposes. Commence negotiations to develop stronger links with program providers. | Maternal & Child Health Services | | | | Develop | Establish |
| | | Community Support Providers | | | | Develop | Establish |
| Support and promote opportunities to provide outreach services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake to promote and advertise the centre as a site for external service providers | Laverton Community Renewal | | | Develop | Establish | Continue |
| | | Food Security Officer | | | | | |
| Build relationship with the Laverton Community Renewal for referrals where appropriate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake to develop stronger collective approach for services and referral | CALD Services | | | Develop | Establish | Continue |
| Strengthen relationships with agencies providing Emergency Relief for referrals where | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake to develop stronger collective approach for services and referral | | | | | | Develop |

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| appropriate | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

OBJECTIVE: To create a local environment, that is socially nurturing in its warmth, friendliness and sense of welcome and that is physically nurturing in its attractiveness, its sustainable accommodation to climate change and the need to reduce, recycle and/or re-use.

| Strategies | Actions | Relevant Partners | YEAR ONE | YEAR TWO | YEAR THREE | YEAR FOUR | YEAR FIVE |
|--|---|--|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Continue environmental and sustainability programs that support behaviour change in residents (including recycling services) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain existing recycling services Work collaboratively with partners to promote Seabrook as a site for environmental workshops and community programs Support and promote environmental and sustainability education and activities in Wyndham and H B | Environment | Continue | | | | |
| | | Libraries Sustainability Street Environment Team | Develop | Establish | Continue | | |
| | | Environment Resource Centre | Develop | Establish | Continue | | |
| Maintain centre signage around the centre retrofit, energy and water saving initiatives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake to continue existing displays and up to date information regarding State and local government environmental programs, rebates and initiatives. | Parks and Gardens Seabrook Playgroup | Continue | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|----------|--|--|--|---------|
| Maintain the redeveloped rear yard to promote and display indigenous, native and sustainable gardens and outdoor space. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively work with partners to maintain existing outdoor space Actively work with partners to undertake new opportunities to utilise the outdoor space for community and joint projects | | Continue | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Develop |

OBJECTIVE: To promote and encourage health and wellbeing activities in a supportive atmosphere.

| Strategies | Actions | Partners | YEAR ONE | YEAR TWO | YEAR THREE | YEAR FOUR | YEAR FIVE |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Recognise celebrations and events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate centre 10th Birthday Build and maintain networks and linkages to participate in community events and celebrations | Seabrook Kindergarten | Complete | | | | |
| | | Arts and Events Community Centres | | | | Develop | Establish |
| Encourage and support informal groups which meet and provide social support, such as babysitting, mothers and walking groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake to promote and support the establishment of centre based group groups Promote and advertise the centre to attract external groups | ISIS Primary Care | | | | | Develop |
| | | Sunshine Hospital Women's Clinic | | | | Develop | Establish |

OBJECTIVE: To provide access for children and teens to healthy, energetic activities that promote social connection, are affordable, accessible and located in an environment that is appreciated for its beauty.

| Strategies | Actions | Partners | YEAR ONE | YEAR TWO | YEAR THREE | YEAR FOUR | YEAR FIVE |
|---|---|------------------------|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Encourage and support the provision of a range of physical activity and well being programs for age specific young people | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain relevant networks and linkages with partners Undertake to commence negotiations with new partners Undertake to plan and release joint promotional material | HB Youth Services | Develop | Establish | Continue | | |
| | | Wyndham Youth Services | | Develop | Establish | Continue | |
| Encourage and support the provision of a range of joint physical activity and well being programs for parents/adults and young people | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain relevant networks and linkages with partners Undertake to commence negotiations with new partners | Seabrook Kindergarten | | | | Develop | Establish |
| | | | | | Develop | Establish | Continue |
| | | | | | | | |

PART FOUR: IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The implementation of this Action Plan will involve:

- On-going attention to the maintenance of current programs which are considered to be of continuing priority, of internal management systems and financial management system;
- Continued attention to understanding the sector and community need;
- The conduct or supervision of research into training needs and interests;
- Fortnightly liaison and co-ordination with the independent Preschool Committee over the construction of the multipurpose space;
- The celebration of the Seabrook Community Centre's tenth anniversary; and
- The need for dedicated hours to enhance or develop relationships with existing and potential partners within Hobsons Bay City Council, with Wyndham City Council, with other Community Centres and other educational and social Service providers.

The monitoring of the Action Plan will involve:

- Linking identified actions to annual plan(s) of centre staff;
- Monitoring progress of identified actions against annual appraisals and monthly status reports of centre staff;
- Being open to change if identified needs and/or issues arise; and
- Evaluation of the plan at the end of the specified period - 2015.

APPENDIX ONE: PROGRAM PRIORITIES FOR THE SEABROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE

WHAT WE HEARD FROM USERS, STAKEHOLDERS AND STAFF

In order to obtain guidance for the Strategic Plan 2011 -2015, the following steps were taken:

- A community Forum was conducted in August 2010
- Background information was gathered for a community needs assessment;
- The scope was determined (geographic area; the target population included the current users of the Community Centre, people living with disadvantage or social isolation; other community facilities in the area);
- The supply of services was 'mapped' to consider capacity to meet existing and future demand;
- The demographic profile was examined and future trends identified;
 - The nature of participants current connection to the Seabrook Community Centre ;
 - Levels of awareness of the Seabrook Community Centre;
 - The needs in the Seabrook and surrounding communities;
 - The current gaps in service provision;
 - The needs in relation to the demographic trends; and
 - The preferred opportunities for meeting these identified needs.

The following program suggestions were suggested by current service users, service providers, staff at other community centres, and staff from Hobsons Bay and Wyndham City Councils. With the exception of suggestions received late in the interview process, most suggestions have been checked with at least one other participant type, and received support.

LEGEND

HBCC: Hobsons Bay Council Staff

U: Users of the Seabrook Community Centre, November 23 to December 1, 2010

CF: Attendees at the Community Forum at Seabrook Community Centre, August 3, 2010. These considered the needs of the various age cohorts in the community rather than the suggestions subsequently made by community members, users, school, service provider and Hobsons' Bay Council staff in semi-structured interviews in September-October 2010. Thus the data recorded here is drawn from what they did provide, and is ranked high, medium and low. A number of ideas were not raised at all at the earlier community forum and as a consequence no ranking is possible.

Art and Craft

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------|----|
| Art and Craft, e.g. Scrap-booking | 50% | 23% | M |

Training Courses

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|---|------|-------|----|
| Dedicated classroom for classes leading to employment | 83% | 38% | M |

Support Programs and Groups

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|--|------|-------|----|
| Intergenerational play groups- taking little children to a nursing home where they could work together on a vegetable garden (as has happened elsewhere) | 17% | 73% | - |
| Nurture relationships between older women <ul style="list-style-type: none"> morning teas- for those who provide childcare and others ESL conversation groups: Middle Eastern, Sri Lankan, southern European Health nurses to give talks | 83% | 50% | H |
| Need for private space for community service providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunshine Hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ante Natal Clinic & a separate room for midwives & clients Child Birth Education Classes Breastfeeding service Dietetic care Heart Program (prevention of chronic disease – HARP) Melbourne City Mission, Tax Help (from late July to early October) for seniors, single parents ISIS Primary Care – healthy eating program | 100% | 62% | M |
| a single parents group | 50% | 30% | - |
| Pre-natal groups that cover parenting, life skills, feeling anxious. Depression | 83% | 62% | - |
| Emergency Relief: needed due to housing stress, unemployment, and/or low income | 50% | 35% | - |

Environment and Sustainability

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|---|------|-------|----|
| Environmental education including efficient water usage | 100% | 35% | - |
| Recycle mobile phones | 83% | 38% | - |
| Water-wise gardening | 66% | 38% | - |
| Community Food garden | 83% | 38% | - |

Fitness and Wellbeing

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|---|------|-------|----|
| Space for Health and Wellbeing activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diabetes: So What Now? Program with information to sustain activity. Healthy Eating, Community Gardens Fitness stations by Skeleton Ck and a bridge over it – cycle circuit | 83% | 46% | M |
| Physical activity groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> walking groups for mums after taking children to kindergarten gyms too expensive – so Amblers Group gentle exercise group for health & to address isolation 7pm exercise class for younger and/or working women | 83% | 40% | M |
| Space for normal, fee for service, NH type activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Wine and Lifestyle e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheap healthy eats- Go For your Life program 2 hour cooking for fun classes for family – a la Master Chef? cake decorating Drama/plays or music concerts in park | 66% | 40% | M |
| Coffee facilities so people can have a chat whilst waiting. | 83% | 36% | H |
| Meeting spaces/pace for private functions, venues for CALD groups | 63% | 35% | M |
| Space for cultural festivals, sacramental programs | 50% | 23% | M |
| More extensive use of Homestead Park for community connection Films presentations of local drama classes or drama groups, markets as events rather than a regular thing as too big a workload sausage sizzle in summer Christmas parties in Homestead Park | 66% | 43% | M |
| A babysitting club organized through SCC | 33% | 43% | - |

Activities for Children and Teens

| NEED | HBCC | USERS | CF |
|---|------|-------|----|
| Young people aged 8-13 e.g. energy games- perhaps at After School Programs, to reduce the boredom ; soccer goals, football posts, cricket pitch | 66% | 50% | H |
| Dads and son's activities e.g. barefoot bowling, pool (as the topic of children is a helpful conversation starter. | 50% | 33% | L |

APPENDIX TWO

Outcomes and actions resulting from the 2008 Strategic Review

| Key Review Recommendation | | Outcome |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Management- Hobsons Bay City Council in short term - This and other options identified for future | Adopted Adopted |
| 2 | Environmental Sustainability- Retrofit the centre with solar panels, water tanks for the toilets, window tinting, ceiling fans and lighting upgrades, to demonstrate and inform the community | Extensive retrofit and ongoing programs |
| 3 | Physical Facilities-Building modifications to allow provision for occasional care, training programs, information sessions, regular meetings and mothers' groups | Deemed unable to provide required facilities for occasional care |
| 4 | Homestead Run and Barry Jones Park master plan- building of program in the cottage including accredited training partnership with NMIT | Park plantings and refit Rear yard development |
| 5 | Programs and Services – Needs analysis indicating a range of recreational, sporting and activity suggestions including ante-natal services with Sunshine Hospital | Build and support program development |
| 6 | Collaborative work with other neighborhood houses and community centres in Hobsons Bay in program planning | Ongoing work with other centres in promotion and planning |