

**Proposed Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee, Terms of Reference.**

<b>Committee type</b>	Advisory
<b>Purpose</b>	The Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee collaborates with Yarra to inform responses to the needs and aspirations of children and young people (aged from birth to 25 years).
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>The Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee achieves its purpose by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Providing advice and feedback on Yarra’s strategic planning, policy, service provision and advocacy for children and young people.</li> <li>b. Informing the progress, review and measures of success of the Yarra 0-25 Plan for children and young people and their families,</li> <li>c. Providing advice to Council to achieve its commitment to community engagement and consultation including child / youth right to have their voices heard and reflected in policy, planning and service delivery; and</li> <li>d. Acting as a conduit for the exchange of information and views between community, Council and other representative bodies on issues relevant to children, young people and their families.</li> </ul>
<b>Membership</b>	<p>Two Councillors appointed by Council.</p> <p>Up to ten (10) community members and ten (10) stakeholder member organisations will be selected by Council after an public Expression of Interest.</p> <p>Member’s term of appointment will be for three years, with all appointments terminating on the 30 June following the next Council election.</p>
<b>Quorum</b>	A quorum of 12 for meetings.
<b>Chairperson</b>	Chairing is the responsibility of the appointed Councillor(s).

<p><b>Selection criteria</b></p>	<p>As far as possible, the Committee membership will reflect the diversity of Yarra including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People from family / households with children and youth from a variety of life stages</li> <li>• People of diverse sex, sexuality and gender</li> <li>• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</li> <li>• People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds</li> <li>• People with a disability</li> <li>• People from different locations across the municipality.</li> </ul> <p>Community members are selected on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are Yarra residents and can demonstrate capability in contributing to strategic planning and policy for children, youth and families in Yarra</li> <li>• A sound working knowledge and understanding of the issues affect children and/or young people</li> <li>• Capable of working with Council and other community stakeholders to understand different points of view and sources of information</li> <li>• Committed to engaging with and hearing the voices of children and young people.</li> </ul> <p>Stakeholder organisations are selected based on their:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant and appropriate experience providing services, policy or planning for children, young people and/or families with dependent children in Yarra</li> <li>• Capacity to communicate with non-experts</li> <li>• Willingness to share information and contribute to implementation of strategy and policy</li> <li>• Committed to engaging with and hearing the voices of children and young people,</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting arrangements</b></p>	<p>The Advisory Committee will meet up to six times each year.</p>