

## Engagement summary – Reconciliation Action Plan

The Inclusive Ballarat consultation engagement process was open from early April until early May 2022. This engagement process was designed to inform the following plans:

- Inclusion Framework
- Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Plan
- Ageing Well Strategy
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Intercultural Plan

The engagement process was a two-phased engagement which attempted to engage the general community (particularly regarding general inclusion sentiment) and to target the specific groups for which the plans listed above apply. Therefore, there are a greater proportion of respondents from each of those target groups that would normally be seen for an engagement process targeted at the general community.

A range of methods were employed including a survey, community-led conversations, a mapping tool, a community poll and interactive activities. Engagement methods were chosen to allow inputs from people in written word, spoken word, through drawings, identifying places on a map and in a range of languages.

Consultation findings were analysed using a combination of quantitative analysis and qualitative thematic analysis, grouping responses into overarching themes that shaped priorities.

### Key findings

- Improve culturally appropriate engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and targeted initiatives to improve economic opportunities
- Provide more visibility of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander symbols, flags and artwork at cultural events, sporting venues, City of Ballarat buildings and community spaces
- Increase recognition and frequency of cultural celebrations involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- Educate young people about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history to promote cultural awareness from a young age.