



NEWS

DEC–JAN 2026

IN THIS EDITION

3 Frankston City appoints new CEO

6 Changes to Council's Community Care Service

10 Events to enjoy this summer

12 Our amazing local environment

14 Focus on summer safety

16 Frankston Moto Park revamp

18 Supporting local business

20 Sandfield Reserve upgrade delivers



Community rallies as Frankston raises \$200,000 for Australia's most accessible beach

Frankston City Council has worked with the community to raise over \$200,000 for the Australia's Most Accessible Beach pilot.

Frankston City Mayor Cr Kris Bolam JP, who spearheaded the fundraising efforts, said he was amazed by the generosity of local organisations, and that the contributions reflect the community's alignment to Council's vision.

"Fundraising is more than raising money — it's raising hope. It reflects the generosity and unity that define a healthy, thriving community. When people give freely, they show that the true wealth of a community lies in its people," Mayor Bolam said.

"I am impressed by the breadth of support behind this initiative — nearly thirty organisations contributing in both monetary and in-kind ways, from service groups and charities to businesses and regional partners. This diversity of generosity reflects the compassion and shared commitment that make Frankston extraordinary.

"I'm deeply proud of my community."

Just under \$200,000 was raised by local businesses, community groups and service providers to support the Australia's Most Accessible Beach pilot in Frankston next month.

The funding for the pilot, which is being delivered in collaboration with Frankston City Council and Accessible Beaches Australia and supported by the Frankston Social Inclusion Action Group, combines both sponsorship and in-kind support, and will go towards equipment and the provision of support staff and trained volunteers.

Inspired by the renowned Handi-Plage program in Nice, France, Accessible Beaches Australia identified Frankston Beach as the ideal location to pilot this first-of-its-kind project in the country.

With input from an advisory committee, Frankston City Council and Accessible Beaches Australia developed a pilot program that enables

people of all abilities — particularly those with disabilities and our ageing population — to enjoy the beach with ease and dignity.

"This ambitious project would not have been possible without the support and expertise of sponsors and contributors," said Councillor Nathan Butler, who chairs of the Australia's Most Accessible Beach Advisory Committee.

"With more than 30,000 residents identifying as a person with a disability, it's wonderful to see our community come together to ensure that anyone who wants it can enjoy our beautiful beach in its entirety."

"The success of the fundraising campaign means that some of council's own contribution for the first year of the pilot can be held over for future years, giving this exciting initiative the best possible chance of becoming an ongoing feature of our summer."

For more information, see page 4.



Contact us

Phone: 1300 322 322
Email: info@frankston.vic.gov.au
Live Chat: frankston.vic.gov.au
Interpreter: 131 450

Customer Service Centres

Civic Centre
30 Davey Street, Frankston
Monday to Friday, 8.30am–5pm

Seaford Customer Service Centre
Seaford Community Centre, corner of Station Street and Broughton Street, Seaford
Times vary.

Langwarrin Customer Service Centre
Shop 6, The Gateway, Cranbourne-Frankston Road, Langwarrin
Monday to Thursday, 9am–4pm
Friday (limited self-service), 9am–4pm

Carrum Downs Library and Customer Service Centre
203 Lyrebird Drive, Carrum Downs. Times vary.

Frankston Regional Recycling and Recovery Centre (FRRRC)

20 Harold Road, Skye (off Ballarto Road, opposite the Skye Recreation Reserve)
Open 7 days a week, 8am–4pm
Treasure Chest open 7 days a week, 10am–3pm

Hoon driving
1800 333 000 (Crime Stoppers)

Graffiti removal
1800 66 8247 (1800 NO TAGS)

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Message from the Mayor

Foreshore revitalisation underway

By the next edition of Frankston City News, we'll announce new tenants for the former Sofia's site and the first floor of the Frankston Yacht Club — projects years in the making. I'm confident you'll be impressed! Frankston's transformation extends beyond the city centre to our foreshore, a vital environmental and tourism asset attracting tens of thousands annually. Improving this precinct supports our evolution from a seaside town to a vibrant waterfront city.

Recent upgrades include boardwalk lighting near the pier, the return of the Carlsberg Beach Club and the Accessible Beach Pilot. This summer, expect exciting food truck activations along the waterfront. Strategic improvements include the new Foreshore Advisory Committee, the Frankston Structure Plan, and practical measures like beach buggy safety patrols. In response to recent drownings, Council funded lifesaving equipment, beach cleaning, and safety signage across local patrols and clubs. More shelters and public art near the pier and Kananook Creek will follow soon.

We're also investing \$143,380 in the **Coastal Resilience 2100** project, integrating risk assessments, advanced monitoring, and Traditional Owner knowledge to strengthen hazard preparedness and resilience.

Frankston City shines this awards season

Frankston City Council was named Overall Winner of the 2025 Tidy Cities Awards, with our *Growing Our Urban Forest* initiative — 60,000 trees in three years — winning the Environment category. We were finalists in the National Waste Innovation Awards for the *Trim Your Bin* program. These achievements reflect our commitment to sustainability and community wellbeing.

Peninsula Leisure earned three honours at the 2025 Aquatics and Recreation Victoria Awards, including Facility of the Year for PINES and PARC, plus a Sustainability Award. Events like Carlsberg Beach Club also received national recognition. Our Community Connectors program won Gold at the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards, supporting hundreds of referrals and harm-prevention interactions and our South Side Festival was State Winner and national nominee in the Australian Event Awards for Best Small Event.

Welcoming our refugee community

Council is proud to be designated a **Refugee Welcome Zone**, affirming our commitment to inclusion. Through programs like the CALD Network, Multicultural Meet and Greet, and Harmony Day celebrations, we foster a safe, connected community. We're also seeking to elevate our membership in the Welcoming Cities Network from 'Committed' to 'Established' with an outcome expected in a few weeks.

A new era for Frankston Moto Park

The long-closed Frankston Moto Park on Old Wells Road in Seaford is set for a major transformation, marking a significant investment in local motor sport and the region's visitor economy. Led by motorsport professionals Yarrive Konsky and Cheyne Boyd of Konsky Motor Group, the project will deliver a contemporary, high-standard venue that balances performance with community engagement. The duo brings elite racing and management experience and a shared vision to create an inclusive, safe, and innovative space for motorcycling enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels.

The redevelopment will maintain ties with the long-standing Frankston City Motorcycle Club, whose volunteers sustained the original facility since its opening in 1980. Closed since 2017 after a tragic incident, the Moto Park's revival is expected to take about 10 months. Once complete, it will deliver economic benefits through events, local employment, hospitality, and tourism — reinforcing Frankston City's reputation as Melbourne's south-east sporting hub. With a renewed focus on safety, design excellence, and community collaboration, its reopening represents not only the return of a much-loved facility but also a step forward for responsible, forward-looking motor sport in Frankston.

An exciting new partnership with Kingston City Council

Frankston and Kingston City Councils have signed an agreement to explore opportunities benefiting nearly 300,000 residents across both municipalities. The partnership aims to:

- Identify cross-boundary collaboration for stronger economic, social, and environmental outcomes.
- Coordinate joint advocacy and project delivery on shared priorities like infrastructure, coastal resilience, and transport.
- Share knowledge and best practice to improve service delivery and planning.
- Build alignment with State and Federal Governments to strengthen regional influence.

This collaboration reflects our commitment to strategic partnerships amid reduced state and federal funding. I look forward to seeing this exciting partnership take shape in the months ahead!



Kris Bolam JP
Mayor

Frankston City appoints first female CEO to lead city's transformation



Frankston City Council is proud to announce the appointment of Tennille Bradley as its new Chief Executive Officer, following a Special Council Meeting held on 10 November 2025.

Ms Bradley will join Frankston City in mid-January 2026 from the City of Greater Geelong, where she has been a key member of the executive leadership team, helping guide one of Victoria's fastest-growing and most economically diverse municipalities. She brings extensive experience in major-project delivery, organisational transformation, economic development and community-centred local government leadership.

Her appointment marks a historic milestone for Frankston City, becoming the first female Chief Executive Officer in Council's history.

Ms Bradley said she is honoured to join the Frankston City community at such a pivotal stage in the city's growth.

"Frankston is a city on the rise. You can feel the momentum and ambition here, from the waterfront to the hospital precinct, the metropolitan activity centre and the new investment landing across its suburbs."

"I'm excited to work closely with the Mayor, Councillors, staff, partners and the community to build on this momentum and ensure Frankston City grows in a way that is sustainable, inclusive and true to the city's identity and strengths."

"Frankston City has long been compared to Geelong, and now it's Frankston's time to shine. I am thrilled to join a city with such potential and pride, and to lead an organisation with strong capability and heart."

News in brief

New Ballam Park Heritage Trail

The newly constructed Ballam Park Heritage Trail, completed in October, invites locals and visitors to step into the stories that have shaped our city, from cultural knowledge to seaside holidays and suburban growth.

Travelling along the footpath, either north-east or north-west from the park entrance off Karingal Drive, there are five themed panels and one information panel, each offering a snapshot in time, telling the story of Frankston City. The trail takes about 20 minutes to complete.

Guided tours of the Ballam Park Homestead (house and museum) and grounds operate every Sunday from 12–3pm and the Tearooms are open every Sunday from 12–4pm. Both are closed on the fifth Sunday of each month.

New winter fire festival coming to Frankston

We are launching our new signature event in June — the Frankston Winter Fire Festival — completing our 2025–2026 Destination Event Attraction Program (DEAP) line-up.

Taking place on 13 June 2026, the festival will transform the Frankston Waterfront into a spectacular celebration of fire, food and live entertainment — bringing warmth, connection and energy to the city centre during the cooler months.

We have committed \$100,000 to the new festival as part of our investment in major events that drive tourism, support local business and highlight Frankston's coastal appeal.

The festival will feature a bonfire lighting ceremony, fire pits, roving performers, live music and a feast of fire-cooked food and warm drinks, such as mulled wine and hot chocolate.

Follow [@imaginefrankston](#) for more updates.

Continued from cover...

Bookings are now open for beachgoers to participate in the accessible beach pilot, which features:

- 70 meters of beach matting running across the beach and to the water's edge
- Bookable daybeds shaded by cool cabanas for relaxation
- Four complimentary beach wheelchairs and two beach walkers
- A hoist to support transfers between wheelchairs
- Trained staff and volunteers available to assist
- Additional accessible parking bays

The FREE program runs Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 10.30am and 2.30pm, beginning on 6 December and concluding 28 February, located between the Frankston Pier and the mouth of Kananook Creek. Bookings essential. Booking slots open two weeks in advance.

Visit the website frankston.vic.gov.au/Community-and-Health/Accessible-Beaches or scan the QR code for more information and to book.



This project would not have been possible without the generous financial contributions of our partners and contributors, including*:

Social Inclusion Action Group – Frankston

Rotary Peninsula 2.0

Anaconda

Peninsula Leisure

Frankston RSL

Sandhurst Club

Monash University

Challenger Services Group/Nivad

Excel Australasia

The Dicker Family

The Australian Wuxi General Chamber of Commerce

MAAC Care

Seaford RSL

Frankston District Basketball Association

Grace Professional Services

Frankston District Netball Association

Signature Hospitality Group

Ecco Enterprises Group

Sinopec

South East Water

Bayside Shopping Centre/Vicinity

Ash Marton Realty

Rotary Club of Frankston

Rotary Club of Frankston Sunrise

Frankston North Rotary

Peninsula Health

Peninsula Rotaract

Chisholm TAFE Frankston

Frankston Business Collective

CBRE management (ISPT)

**The above list was accurate at time of printing*

The Giving Tree is back: help support those doing it tough this Christmas

Frankston City Council, along with local charities Frankston Life Community and Community Support Frankston, encourages residents to donate non-perishable food items and toys to the Frankston City Libraries' Christmas Giving Tree.

Acceptable food items include canned fruits and vegetables, cereals, pasta, rice, biscuits, and pre-cooked desserts like puddings and mince pies (no alcohol, please).

These donations will help local families in need through hampers

distributed at the Frankston Life Community Christmas Lunch. For toy donations, we welcome brand-new gifts suitable for all ages, including books and colouring supplies, unwrapped. Used items cannot be accepted.

Community Support Frankston also provides emergency services and accepts monetary donations, which are tax-deductible. Donations will be accepted until Friday 19 December at Frankston City Libraries. Details can be found on the library website, library.frankston.vic.gov.au



Empowering community leadership and inclusion in Frankston

The Social Inclusion Action Group (SIAG) is proud to be supporting Orwil Street Community House with funding over a two-year period towards an innovative project aimed at empowering emerging leaders with disability and building a sustainable model for inclusive community engagement.

The program will focus on:

- growing the skills, knowledge, and networks of local emerging leaders with disability
- providing real-world experience in advocacy, event management, and leadership
- building long-term pathways for inclusive community involvement and collaboration.

A major highlight of the project will be two International Day of People with Disability events held in December

2025 and 2026; co-designed and led by people with disability that aim to grow community support and showcase the impact of inclusive leadership.

By bringing together a range of community members and disability organisations, this project is laying the groundwork for sustainable and collaborative community-driven change. For more information about the Social Inclusion Action Group and related projects, visit frankston.vic.gov.au/SIAG



What if nothing went to waste?

Imagine clothes, electronics, furniture, packaging and more, all designed to be reused, repaired, shared, or recycled. That's a circular economy, and it's the focus of our new City Circularity Roadmap.

We want your feedback to make sure our actions in the roadmap are ambitious and practical:

- Read the draft
- Have your say online by 11:59pm 14 December
- Or join us at a community drop-in session this November! See the link below for the full details.

Council and local businesses are already embracing circular ideas:

- Library of Things (Frankston Library) – borrow tools and gadgets and more instead of buying.

- Roving Repairs (Frankston Library) – fix broken items with local volunteers.
- Roving Refills – refill detergents and cleaning products to cut single-use plastics.
- Biersal Brewery and Beerhall – buy takeaway from the brewery in reusable and refillable bottles - bring them back in for a top up when you're ready.
- Stonekast – making new pavers/concrete products from old ones! They can even make bespoke products from old bricks for reuse back into a new build.

Your input will help shape initiatives like Circular Hubs for repair cafés, swap events, and business innovation.

Find out more engage.frankston.vic.gov.au/roadmap-circular-economy



Make a splash this summer in Frankston!

Dive into some great summer activity options — perfect for families and friends looking to keep cool and active. Check out what's on offer:

VICSWIM at PARC and Pines Pools

Running throughout January, this low-cost, one-week intensive course helps children fast-track their swimming skills and water safety. At just \$43 for five lessons and pool access, it's the perfect way to prepare for a safe, fun summer.

Splash Island Paradise at PARC

Get ready for fun these school holidays with the return of Splash Island Paradise throughout January! This giant inflatable obstacle course brings slides, balance beams and jumps to the pool — a family favourite for all ages.

Community access at Pines Forest Aquatic Centre

Enjoy Frankston's award-winning outdoor pool this summer! With Free Family Fridays (yes, free entry every Friday from 4pm) and a new Quiet Hour each week for those who prefer a calmer swim, Pines is the perfect place to unwind and soak up summer.

Whether you're after structured lessons, affordable family fun, or a relaxed outdoor swim, Frankston's aquatic centres have you covered. Visit peninsulaleisure.com.au



Council safeguards core community care while ensuring sustainability

Frankston City Council has made the decision to move to a shared delivery model for Community Care services from 30 June 2026, ensuring essential local support continues while positioning Council for long-term financial sustainability.

Under the change, we will continue delivering the core services our community relies on including Meals on Wheels, Group Social Support (Outings Program), and our fully funded Community Transport Service, while transitioning other services to experienced external providers. The transition to a shared delivery model will enable us to reduce our Meals on Wheels waiting list to zero, meaning more clients will get the essential hot meal they need, when they need it. Furthermore, three dedicated buses will transport more clients to social outings.

The decision follows extensive community consultation and aligns with national aged care reforms that are transforming how services are funded and delivered across Australia.

Launching in April 2026, the Community Care Navigation and Advocacy service will help residents and their families understand the evolving aged care system, explore service options and connect with local providers



that best suit their needs. All clients and staff have been personally notified of Council's decision, with detailed information provided on what it means for their services or roles. Staff will be supported through this change, including opportunities for redeployment and upskilling. A dedicated Community Care Transition team has been established to guide clients through the process, and all affected staff are being supported through internal redeployment opportunities and sector transition pathways.

Clients can receive information and support about these changes by contacting our newly established dedicated Community Care Transition team on **9784 1818** or email **CommunityCareConnect@frankston.vic.gov.au**



Announcing our 2024–2025 Annual Community Grant recipients!

We are proud to announce a total of \$125,000 has been awarded to 37 local not-for-profit organisations through the Frankston City Council Annual Community Grants.

These grants are designed to support activities that address emerging community needs and provide vital services to vulnerable and disadvantaged residents.

One notable recipient, Change for Sam, will utilise their funding to provide free, 24/7 security-monitored safety devices for individuals experiencing family violence through the Salvation Army Alexis Program. This grant will allow them to offer critical support to those who need it most.

Another successful applicant, MSA Training and Professional Development, plans to host four free Auslan workshops to enhance communication access for Frankston's deaf and hard-of-hearing community. This grant



allows the organisation to provide valuable training that promotes inclusivity.

Earlier this year, Council also endorsed over \$540,000 annually for 47 recipients of our Community Service Partnership Grant. The grant runs for three years and enables partnered organisations to deliver inclusive and accessible programs or services to build resilience and strength in the community.

These grant programs are an investment in a brighter, more inclusive future for all residents of Frankston. For more information, visit **frankston.vic.gov.au/community-grants**



Do you know your neighbours? Let's build connections this March

This coming March, gather your neighbours for a BBQ, host a morning tea, or enjoy a picnic in the park — there are countless ways to connect with your Neighbours Every Day!

The Neighbours Every Day campaign encourages our local communities to take small, everyday steps to connect, build friendships, and create a more caring, inclusive Frankston City —

because the community we want starts right at our front door.

Follow **@FrankstonCity** or visit **frankston.vic.gov.au/SIAG** for more information, inspiration, and tips on how to get involved.

The Neighbours Every Day initiative is run nationally by Relationships Australia and championed locally by the Social Inclusion Action Group (SIAG) and Frankston City Council.

**Cr Kris Bolam JP**

Ballam Ward
03 9768 1451
crbolam@frankston.vic.gov.au

Planning Improvements

Following approval of the Frankston Metropolitan Activity Centre Structure Plan earlier this year, we've focused on planning clarity for the city centre. Key initiatives include: **Special Economic Priority Area (SEPA) Feasibility Study** — A \$35,000 Council-funded business case identified a potential \$4 return for every \$1 invested. The study explores opportunities to link the city centre with Monash University Peninsula Campus, Frankston Hospital and Chisholm Institute, positioning the precinct as a hub for health, education and innovation.

Development Contributions Plan (DCP)

Overlay — Approved by the Victorian Government on 25 September 2025 through Amendment C161fran, introducing Council's first-ever DCP. Future developments will contribute to public infrastructure upgrades, including Playne Street (\$16.691 million) and Kananook Creek Boulevard (\$15.399 million), ensuring revitalised streetscapes and public spaces. **Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO)**

— Also introduced through Amendment C161fran, giving Council statutory tools to secure land parcels for pedestrian links and urban design improvements, creating a safer, more walkable city centre aligned with the FMAC vision. **Differential Rates on Vacant Land** — Under the Revenue and Rating Plan 2025–2029, vacant properties in the FMAC and along Nepean Highway now attract a rate of 300% of the general rate (up from 125%). This policy discourages land-banking and stimulates redevelopment. **Streamlined Post-Permit Processes** — A review is underway to simplify asset protection, occupation of Council land, and drainage approvals, delivering a faster, more predictable experience for developers.

Ensuring Our City is Emergency-Ready

With climate change increasing extreme weather risks, Council is creating a dedicated Emergency Disaster Fund to future-proof our city. This fund will act as a financial buffer for rapid response to events like landslips, bushfires, coastal erosion and severe storms. It will be implemented in the 2026–2027 budget with an annual allocation of \$150,000. Learn more at frankston.vic.gov.au/Prepare.

50-Year Lease for Nairn Marr Djambana

Council's decision to lease the Jubilee Park site to Nairn Marr Djambana (NMD) for 50 years aligns with our Reconciliation Action Plan and commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. NMD is a community-led meeting place offering culturally safe programs that promote health, wellbeing, education and cultural connection. This fulfils a vision set in motion during my first mayoral term in 2010.

**Cr Michael O'Reilly**

Centenary Park Ward
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Investing in our young people is investing in our future

I know firsthand how vital youth programs are to a community. The local community centre, after school club and sporting team weren't just places to spend time — they were lifelines that built confidence, friendships and purpose. Today's young people face countless pressures, from academic stress to social challenges, a complex online world and increasing financial and political uncertainty. It is so important they know they have safe, supportive spaces to learn and grow.

When we invest in facilities and programs tailored for our next generation, we're not just funding activities, we're also shaping futures. Every dollar and volunteer hour helps a teenager discover a passion, stay out of trouble or simply feel like they belong. Communities thrive when their young people do. Supporting youth programs isn't charity — it's a commitment to a stronger, brighter future for all of us.

As a Council, we're proud to be working side by side with young people across Frankston City to design programs and spaces that truly reflect their needs and aspirations. From the \$750,000 Langwarrin Skate Park upgrade, funded in partnership with the Australian Government, to the development of new youth hangouts, our focus is on creating safe, inclusive places where young people can connect and thrive.

It all began with a youth-led petition in 2022, which inspired the first stage of upgrades at Langwarrin. That same spirit of collaboration continues to guide our work. In Carrum Downs, for example, we've joined forces with local schools, Victoria Police and community groups to better understand what young people want — like dedicated chill-out spaces and more opportunities to get involved locally.

Through our Youth Action Plan 2022–2026 and the Council and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029, we're ensuring young people have a genuine voice in shaping their city. With upcoming projects such as the Langwarrin Community Centre redevelopment and the Building Blocks Partnership, we're laying strong foundations for the future. When we invest in young people, we're investing in the future of our whole community.

**Cr Brad Hill JP**

Derinya Ward
0438 212 426
crhill@frankston.vic.gov.au

Encouraging a passion for sustainability and innovation

Our Councillor Appreciation Awards have been a lovely way to acknowledge those in our community who go above and beyond every day to make life better for others — in whatever form that may take. I recently presented a Councillor Appreciation Award to an incredible group of students at Frankston High School, in recognition of their leadership in the Solar School Initiative. Through tireless fundraising and passionate advocacy, these inspiring young leaders have raised \$45,000 towards the installation of solar panels at their school, a major step towards making Frankston High the first school in the region to be powered by solar energy.

This initiative is expected to cut around 50 tonnes of carbon emissions every year, showing that real change starts at the grassroots level. And the savings generated will be reinvested into future student-led sustainability projects, creating a lasting legacy for future generations. Congratulations to the student committee for showing what's possible when vision meets action.

There is an opportunity for a Councillor Appreciation Award to be presented at each council meeting and I encourage you to nominate. Recipients of these awards go into the running for the annual Citizen of the Year Award, held in January each year. To nominate a local champion who you believe deserves our recognition head to the Council website.

Listening, learning and engaging together

As a Councillor, I've seen how powerful genuine community engagement can be. When we listen to our residents, we make better decisions — decisions that reflect real needs, not assumptions. Over the past year, more than 2,000 community members shared their thoughts on how we can engage more effectively. Your feedback has shaped our draft Community Engagement Framework 2026, which sets out a clearer, more inclusive approach to how we involve you in shaping our city's future.

We're committing to transparency, accessibility and honesty and engaging only where there is real influence and explaining what's negotiable. We're also simplifying our principles and processes so that everyone understands how and when to have their say.

Thank you to everyone who contributed. This framework isn't just a document, it's a shared commitment to build stronger, more connected communities through meaningful engagement.



Cr Cherie Wanat

Elisabeth Murdoch Ward
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Celebrating an incredible 2025

As the year comes to a close, I've been reflecting on the many moments that showcased the dedication, heart and growing strength of our community. It has been a year shaped by connection, progress and the collective effort of people who work tirelessly to enrich our city.

Within Elisabeth Murdoch Ward — the largest ward in our municipality — we carry both the responsibility and the privilege of delivering meaningful infrastructure for our residents. Throughout the year, I've visited several major projects at various stages, from planning to construction and completion. Funding secured in this year's budget has supported a wide suite of upgrades, including the Langwarrin Child & Family Centre, Athol Reserve Playground renewal, shared user path and drainage improvements, reserve and kindergarten upgrades, and several sporting facility enhancements. These projects reflect priorities raised by both Council officers and our community, and I remain committed to advocating for future needs as we continue building a thriving, well-supported ward.

Chairing the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee has been another highlight. Meeting with club presidents, volunteers, committee members and Council's recreation team has allowed us to share ideas, strengthen relationships and plan for the future of community sport. As a municipality, we also celebrated significant milestones — including construction beginning on the new Frankston Stadium, the largest project in our city's history; winning the Supporting Tennis – Local Government Award at the 2025 Victorian Community Tennis Awards; celebrating Pines Soccer Club's 60th birthday; and engaging in powerful conversations at the Equal the Contest screening with Hawthorn Football Club. These moments remind us that sport is more than competition — it creates opportunities for growth, connection, belonging for people of all ages and abilities.

I have also deeply valued my role on the Frankston Charitable Fund Committee, recognising the 2025 Community Connection Grant recipients; as well many other organisations supported through our packages and programs. Celebrating these wonderful people was a heartwarming reminder of the extraordinary grassroots work they undertake strengthening wellbeing and community connection. Other highlights included presenting a Letter Under Seal to Glenda Viner for more than 40 years of volunteer service with the Frankston Historical Society, and presenting a Councillor Appreciation Award to the Langwarrin Men's Shed for their decade of contributions to social wellbeing, skill-building and community service.



Cr Emily Green

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It has been such a full and uplifting few weeks in Frankston, and I wanted to share some of the highlights from the past one to two months. There has been a real sense of connection, celebration and momentum in our community, and it has been a privilege to be part of it.

One of the biggest highlights was the YES Awards. This event always reminds me how impressive and passionate our young people are. The awards celebrate those aged 12 to 24 who are making a positive difference, and I was very grateful to be able to attend and speak on behalf of Mayor Kris Bolam. The room was full of young people who genuinely care about their community, and it was wonderful seeing groups like the Peninsula Rotaract team and the Youth Advisory Council recognised for the work they do.

I also loved seeing the Youth Parliament and Youth Advisory team connect with the Peninsula Community Legal Centre. The team recently travelled to Parliament to present their bill proposing legal services in schools, and soon these services will be delivered locally. It is exciting to see ideas turn into action, especially when they come from young voices who are deeply invested in improving the future of Frankston.

Another standout moment was attending the MAV Conference. Walking in felt a little surreal because so many of the people there are individuals whose work I have followed for a long time. Meeting them face to face and hearing about their experiences in local government was incredibly inspiring. I learnt a lot from people who have been leading in this space for years, and being surrounded by others who share the same passion made me feel very fortunate. Representing Frankston meant a lot to me, and I am already hoping I can attend again next year.

I also want to take a moment to recognise someone who has given an enormous amount to our community. David Cross has contributed so much through the Frankston Environmental Friends Network, Friends of Wallace Reserve and many local groups. He will receive a Letter Under Seal at the Council Meeting on 17 November 2025, which is a very well deserved acknowledgement of his commitment to our environment and community.



Cr Steffie Conroy

Lyrebird Ward
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The past two months have been an incredibly rewarding time across Frankston. My boys and I have loved the new Sandfield Reserve upgrades, we even celebrated Cormac's first birthday there! From meeting local business owners and attending community gatherings such as Diwali at the Temple to celebrating the achievements of our volunteers and young people at the Frankston Volunteer Awards, I've been continually reminded of what makes our city so special, our people. Every event I attend and every conversation I have reinforces the pride, creativity and generosity that thrive within our community.

Recently, I attended a Dress for Success EmpowerHER event and visited their opportunity boutique at Shop 6, 11 Station Street Mall, Frankston. Dress for Success empowers women to achieve economic independence by providing professional attire, support networks, and development tools.

Services include:

- ▶ Free one-on-one styling sessions for job interviews or work
- ▶ Workshops on interview skills, confidence-building, and resume help

They rely heavily on good-quality donations to support their programs and are currently seeking:

- ▶ Contemporary women's workplace clothing in excellent condition (including plus sizes)
- ▶ Shoes and accessories in very good condition

Donations can be dropped off on Wednesdays between 10am and 3pm.

As we move into the summer months, there's so much to look forward to! Our events calendar is brimming with opportunities to connect, celebrate and enjoy everything our city has to offer. From Little Beauty Market to the Carlsberg Beach Club on the waterfront, Blessing of the Waters, The Frankston Swim Classic, The Waterfront Festival, and The Frankston Street Art Festival, there's truly something for everyone.

I encourage all residents to explore what's coming up at [imaginefrankston.com.au/events-in-frankston-city/frankstonevents](https://www.imaginefrankston.com.au/events-in-frankston-city/frankstonevents), invite friends and family along, and take advantage of the incredible experiences happening right here in our backyard. I look forward to seeing you out and about at our upcoming events, please stop and say hello if you see me around!

Finally, I want to wish each and every resident a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year! As always, if you have any issues, please send me an email crsconroy@frankston.vic.gov.au

**Cr Sue Baker JP**

Pines Ward
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crbaker@frankston.vic.gov.au

Pines Ward flourishes with continued upgrades and fun activities

The welcome upgrade of the Mahogany Avenue shopping strip is now complete, as part of our Local Shopping Strip Action Plan. The \$400,000 investment from Council has provided the strip with a fresh and welcoming feel, including installation of new paths, car park upgrade, new furniture such as bin surrounds, bike racks and seating, 21 new trees and over 2,400 plantings.

Meanwhile, progress continues on the Frankston Dandenong Road industrial precinct revitalisation, with installation of new traffic signals and construction of the intersection scheduled for completion around late March 2026. The lights are expected to be operational by mid-year. Installation of the traffic signal at Frankston Dandenong Road/Compass Court intersection is fully funded by the developer and most of the construction works associated with this intersection is being supervised by Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) as it is located on an arterial road. The new gym, Planet Fitness and Starbucks have become welcome fixtures, opening a few months ago.

Belvedere parkrun has proven extremely popular. Commencing this year, it has already hosted 18 running events with 1,598 participants! They have completed 2,740 parkruns covering an impressive 13,700 km, including 408 personal bests! Parkrun also benefited from 111 volunteers helping events run smoothly. A big thank you to every one of you for your generosity. Thank you also to Belvedere Bowls Club, who have supported parkrun with carparking and club room access, where participants can enjoy a warm coffee, egg and bacon roll and a chat after the weekly event.

Make sure to mark your calendars for the Southcare Community Care and Pines Soccer Club Community Celebration Day on 21 February, 10am–2pm on the main soccer field at Monterey Boulevard. Southcare is a not-for-profit charity that has been working in the Frankston, Seaford and Carrum Downs areas since the 1990s. The charity works with vulnerable youth, runs a men's support group, delivers community food assistance to six different locations per week and runs a food pantry, amongst other things. This FREE event aims to showcase the incredible services and groups in our area, as well as some fun family activities.

Have noticed the new traffic island to help deter hoon driving on the intersection of Skye Road and Carramar Drive? It's doing its job! Public lighting at the intersection is scheduled for completion in next few months, most likely by late January.

**Cr David Asker**

Wilton Ward
0438 175 560
crasker@frankston.vic.gov.au

Thank you to Sikh Volunteers Australia

I was proud to present \$10,000 in funding on behalf of Frankston City Council recently, to help important local organisation Sikh Volunteers Australia continue their vitally significant work. This non-profit volunteer organisation is based in Langwarrin and is dedicated to relieving hardship in our community. Through their free food van and free takeaway food kitchen, they provide nutritious meals to individuals and families in need, especially during crises and emergencies such as floods and bushfires. Sikh Volunteers Australia has been contributing to our community for many years now. In particular, I remember the incredible role they played during the severe 2020 bushfires that impacted so many in our state. During times of need they are a reliable and comforting presence and this funding, supplied as part of our Local Support Package 2025–2026, is certainly money well spent.

Investing in safer play for our littlest locals

Council recently doubled funding for new shade sails in local play areas, allocating \$400,000 over the next four years as part of our Annual Budget. This builds on funding for the existing Shade Retrofit Program and the Play Strategy, which cover both play equipment and associated facilities such as picnic tables and seating. This was prioritised because shade is no longer just a 'nice to have', it's essential for health and wellbeing, which is why I put forward the motion to increase funding earlier this year.

As we know, Australia has the highest rate of melanoma in the world and shade helps protect children and families from UV exposure, creates more comfortable spaces and encourages longer, healthier and more inclusive play. Our community has told us this is a priority, and Council is proud to be leading the way in delivering it.

For our work in this area, we received a 2025 Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) VIC Award for Shadsmart and are now a finalist in the upcoming national awards, with judges noting our clear requirements for natural and structural shade and its contribution to both community wellbeing and Council's urban canopy targets. By combining structural and natural shade from trees, we're making sure our reserves are designed to be safely enjoyed by residents and visitors now and into the future.

**Cr Nathan Butler**

Yamala Ward
0497 918 095
crbutler@frankston.vic.gov.au

A truly inclusive local beach to be proud of

As a proud Frankston local, I've always believed our beach is one of the city's greatest treasures. It's where families gather on summer evenings, where kids learn to swim, where friends meet for a walk or a coffee. But for too long, not everyone in our community has been able to enjoy this beautiful space in the same way.

That's why I'm so excited to that Frankston Beach is set to become Australia's most accessible and inclusive shoreline. Through a partnership between Frankston City Council, Accessible Beaches Australia, the Social Inclusion Action Group, disability advocates, local businesses, community organisations and volunteers, we're launching a three-month pilot program designed to make the beach a place everyone can enjoy, with ease, comfort and dignity.

Over the peak summer months, visitors will see some wonderful new features: beach matting that extends all the way to the water's edge, complimentary beach wheelchairs and equipment, shaded cabanas and daybeds for relaxation, and friendly, trained staff and volunteers ready to assist.

This project was inspired by the incredible Handi-Plage program in Nice, France and Frankston has been chosen as the ideal location to bring this first-of-its-kind Australian initiative to life. It's a reflection of our community's spirit: forward-thinking, inclusive, and determined to make everyone feel welcome.

For many of us, a day at the beach is something we might take for granted. But for people living with disability, older residents, or anyone with mobility challenges, the simple joy of feeling the sand between your toes or dipping your feet in the water can often be out of reach. This program changes that.

Frankston Beach will be a place where everyone, regardless of age or ability, can share in the joy of summer. It's more than just an accessibility upgrade, it's a statement about who we are as a community.

I would like to thank the project's founding partners, including some of our largest donors, whose generous financial and practical support will ensure this important project is a success. A complete list of our partners is available on page 4.

Waterfront Festival 2026

**LIVE MUSIC * GARDEN BAR * GLOBAL EATS
ACTIVITIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS
RIDES AND AMUSEMENTS
FIREWORKS DISPLAY (SATURDAY NIGHT)**

**FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY * 5–10PM
SATURDAY 7 FEBRUARY * 12–9.30PM**

waterfrontfestival.com.au @waterfrontfest  





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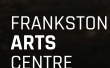
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2026



It's back bigger and better than ever with a **400m**, **1.2km** and **2.5km** swim, plus don't forget we have a **Kids 700m beach dash**, so now everyone can get involved in the event that kicks off the *2026 Frankston Waterfront Festival*, Saturday 7th of February, 2026.

Registrations are now open!

Start by scanning the QR code or visit
www.frankstonswimclassic.com.au





New residential tree protection rules introduced

In September, the Victorian Government introduced Clause 52.37 into all planning schemes via Amendment VC289.

This new provision requires a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop canopy trees in most residential zones, excluding the Low Density Residential Zone depending on the location on the site. A canopy tree is defined as one over 5 metres tall, with a trunk circumference above 0.5 metres and a canopy diameter of at least 4 metres.

The change aims to protect and enhance tree canopy cover to combat urban heat and support community wellbeing. The Tree Protection Local Law continues to operate in areas not covered by planning controls for vegetation removal.

Residents are encouraged to check with Council before undertaking any tree works by scanning the QR code.



Summer school holiday Ranger Program

Wednesday 21 January

Come join us during our School Holiday Ranger Programs for 2026 in the spectacular Seaford Wetlands.

This FREE program helps kids learn more about our native Fauna, Flora, fungi and the value of biodiversity conservation. Scan the QR to register today.



Koalas are on the move: please drive carefully

Warmer weather marks the start of koala breeding season, and with it, increased koala movement across Langwarrin and Frankston South.

You may have noticed the return of 'Koalas in Area – Stay Alert' signs on key roads. This seasonal campaign, now in its fourth year, is a joint effort between Frankston City Council, Mornington Peninsula Shire, and Mornington Peninsula Koala Conservation.

Running from September to April, the campaign aims to reduce koala road

deaths by raising driver awareness during peak koala activity. Sign locations are chosen based on reports from wildlife rescue groups and residents. Just recently, a female koala with a joey was spotted in Langwarrin, prompting a new sign to be installed in the area.

The updated sign design and seasonal placement help keep the message fresh and effective. Please slow down and stay alert. For wildlife emergencies in Frankston, call AWARE Wildlife Rescue on **0412 433 727** or Animalia on **0435 822 699**





Wildlife-sensitive Christmas lighting

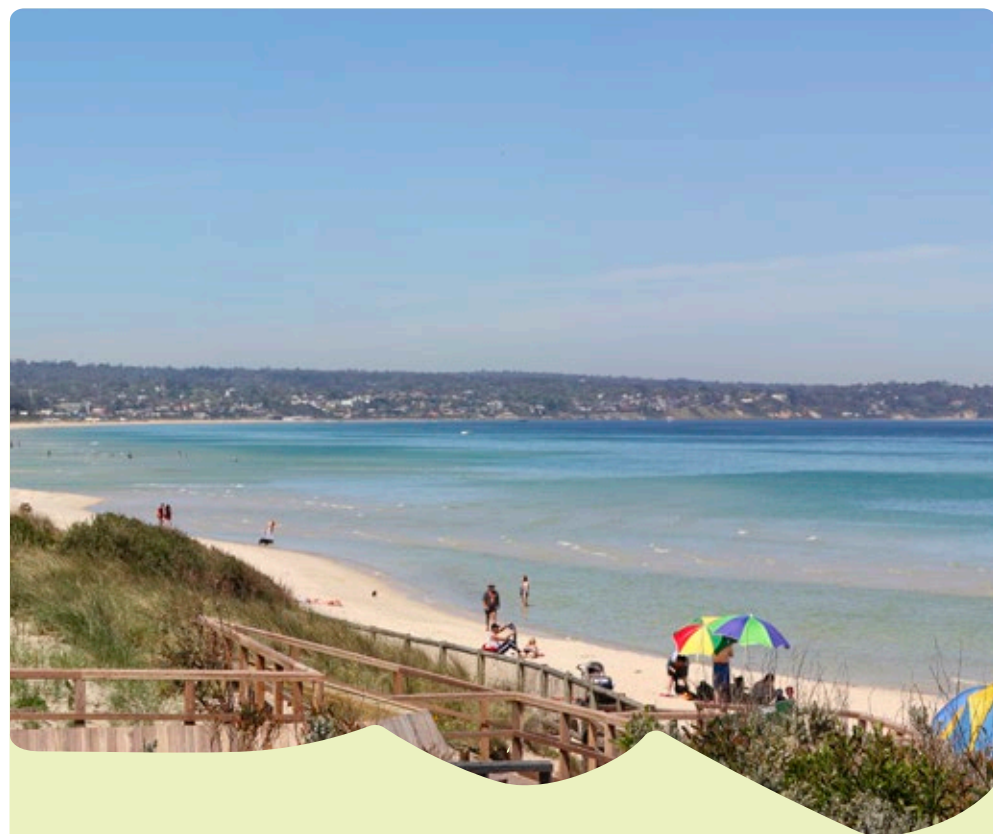
As the festive season approaches, many of us enjoy decorating our homes and gardens with bright, colourful lights. While these displays bring joy to our community, it's important to remember that artificial lighting can have unintended effects on local wildlife.

Excessive or poorly placed lighting can disrupt the natural behaviours of nocturnal animals such as possums, bats, frogs, and insects. Bright or flashing lights may interfere with their feeding, nesting, and navigation patterns, while blue and white light can disorient birds and attract insects away from their natural habitats.

You can help protect local wildlife while still celebrating the season:

- use warm-coloured lights (amber, red or soft yellow) rather than bright white or blue tones
- turn lights off after 10pm or use timers and motion sensors to limit unnecessary illumination
- keep lights low and directed onto your property — avoid shining into trees, waterways or bushland
- choose solar or low-intensity options to reduce both energy use and glare.

By making small adjustments, we can all enjoy festive lighting that's both beautiful and wildlife-friendly. Thank you for helping keep our community a safe and welcoming place for people and nature this Christmas.



Protect our dunes: stay on designated paths

Our coastal dunes are more than just sandy hills, they're living, breathing ecosystems that protect our coastline and provide vital habitat for native plants and animals. The vegetation that grows on these dunes stabilises the sand and helps prevent erosion caused by wind and waves.

When people or pets walk through, stand or sit on vegetated dunes, even briefly, it can crush delicate plants, loosen the sand and create pathways for erosion.

Over time, this damage can cause dunes to collapse or retreat, increasing the risk of flooding and loss of habitat for birds, reptiles, and insects.

Dunes often provide shelter for snakes and other wildlife that can be disturbed or threatened by human presence.

For your safety—and theirs—please avoid entering vegetated areas and always use designated beach access tracks.

By keeping to marked paths, supervising children and dogs, and avoiding shortcuts through dune vegetation, you're helping to protect one of our most fragile and valuable coastal environments. Together, we can ensure our beaches remain healthy, stable, and enjoyable for everyone.



Image courtesy of Amy Motherwell

Thank you to our amazing volunteers!

Every year Frankston City benefits from our incredible group of environmental volunteers, who donate their time to fulfilling a variety of important roles.

There are more than 22 groups including a mix of Council and community volunteers, who undertake practical hands-on work within our nature reserves, parks and foreshore, as well as advocacy, beach clean ups, environmental education and wildlife rescue.

These passionate people volunteer thousands of hours every year and we would not be able to nurture our local environment the way we do without them.

Council would like to extend a warm thank you for your support — we look forward to working together again in 2026.

For more information about becoming an environmental volunteer, scan the QR code.





A safer summer in Frankston

Frankston City Council invests in additional foreshore services to support community safety over the busy summer period. We are dedicated to ensuring our city is a safe and welcoming place to live, work and visit.

Proactive safety patrols

Council's Rapid Response team provide a visible presence in our community performing proactive patrols to address Community Local Law issues relating to smoking, public consumption of alcohol and other anti-social behaviours.

The team has become a daily presence in our city centre, with Safer City Patrols operating in streets, laneways and key public places to improve safety and amenity.

Recently the team have expanded their patrols outside of the city centre, performing Safer Neighbourhood Patrols throughout the whole municipality, including in our suburban shopping strips, local parks and foreshore areas. Additionally, you may spot our Council's Beach Patrol beach buggy working to keep our foreshore safe every weekend and public holiday throughout summer.



Enjoy summer safely with your pet

A reminder dogs are not allowed on Frankston or Seaford Beach from 1 December to 31 March between 9.30am and 7.30pm.

Dogs must be on-lead when at the beach outside of the restricted times. The summer beach restrictions do not include the Keast Park Free Roam Area on the Seaford Foreshore, where your dog can enjoy 200 metres of sand off leash year-round.



Back to basics: prepare for safe boating this season

This spring, Safe Transport Victoria is reminding boaters to get **Back to Basics** — because preparation is the key to a safe and enjoyable season on the water.

Before you launch:

- **Check your equipment:** lifejackets, flares, fire extinguishers, and radios are your first line of safety. Replace expired items and make sure everything's in working order before you head out.

- **Know your boat:** from fuel levels to bilge pumps, a quick pre-departure check helps avoid breakdowns and keeps your trip stress-free.
- **Plan ahead:** weather can change quickly. Always check conditions before you leave and let someone onshore know where you're going and when you'll be back.

To find out how to prepare for a safe season on the water, scan the QR code.



Remember, when you are enjoying our local beaches to keep a respectful distance from marine life, such as dolphins.

Dolphins are curious and may approach you. If they do, slow down and enjoy the experience! It's remarkable to share our marine backyards with these animals and they deserve a fair go.

That's why the Dolphin Research Institute is asking boaters to commit to Dolphin Distancing this summer. Dolphin Distancing is about committing to being respectful around our dolphins and giving them space on the water. It's easy, don't approach dolphins closer than 100m (boats including paddled vessels), 300m (jet skis) and 30m (swimmers).

Find your exact location in an emergency

Did you know the entire world has been broken up into 3 x 3 metre grid squares as a way of identifying your exact location in times of emergency?

You can help Triple Zero Victoria find you by downloading the Emergency + app. The free Australian smartphone application quickly and accurately provides your location to emergency services by using the phone's GPS.

Scan the QR code to download the app and find out what three words represent where you are located right at this moment.



IMAGINE Frankston

Imagine Frankston celebrates the latest news and triumphs across Frankston City, from new business openings, developments and visitor attractions.



The Imagine Frankston mission...

Is to change outdated perceptions of Frankston City!

Profiling our people, play spaces, arts and culture, local businesses, our expansive and wonderfully diverse nature reserves and open spaces, our love of sports and recreation (with some of the best facilities in Victoria to match!), our world-class healthcare, schools and higher education and vibrant festivals and events...

We are showing prospective investors that other major national brands are choosing Frankston City as a sound destination for investment. Highlighting new mixed-use and residential developments as demonstration of the hundreds of millions of dollars pouring into our city centre.

Most importantly our mission is to continue boosting local civic pride. With our own residents continuing to champion Frankston City, others will embrace our growth and change and start imagining the possibilities!

Turbo charging housing growth

From February next year, qualifying major development proposals will benefit from a guaranteed 16-week Priority Fasttrack Program.

The new program will deliver an expedited

planning assessment pathway, providing timeframe certainty and one of the most competitive major planning approval processes in Victoria.

Benefits include:

- guaranteed 16-week planning assessment for qualifying major developments

- enhanced pre-application guidance
- dedicated post-permit concierge support to enable faster delivery and activation.

The Priority Fasttrack Program launches on 31 January 2026. More information will be available closer to that date on Council's Planning webpage.

Did you know that Frankston City is a key Metropolitan Activity Centre!

We often use this term, but what does it actually mean? To address Melbourne's booming population, the Victorian Government has identified and designated a small number of select Metropolitan Activity Centres in Melbourne's middle and outer suburbs to support housing growth, improve access to jobs and services, and create more vibrant, sustainable communities.

These centres, including Frankston City, were selected based on their potential to deliver significant housing growth as well as their existing infrastructure and amenities such as public transport, healthcare, education, open space, access to jobs, resilient local economy... So, it's a pretty big deal to be chosen!

As a result, we are seeing some incredible federal, state and local government investment. A record (for Frankston City) \$75m funding commitment at this year's Federal elections. A \$1.1 billion dollar Peninsula University Hospital redevelopment.

The \$150m dollar redevelopment of Chisholm Institute. \$100m for two commuter car parks. \$85m for a revitalised Kananook Reserve precinct.

\$50m in Federal funding for a revitalised Frankston Nepean Highway.



Some recent highlights:

- Did you know that Frankston City's Gross Regional Product (the value of all our goods and services produced) grew by TWO BILLION DOLLARS between 2020 and 2024! Reaching \$9.6 billion in 2024, it's set to match the pace of this growing City.
- We have over 42,000 locally operating businesses, with nearly 700 registering in the last year alone. More than 180 have an annual turnover of more than \$10 million.
- 95.4 per cent of our population are employed, higher than the Greater Melbourne average!
- Council's 2025–2026 Budget of \$304.82 million is its highest ever! With greater funding for community services and programs, public safety, urban planning, economic development, business and investment support, key infrastructure such as roads, parks, play spaces and sporting facilities, amongst many other key priorities.

For everything you need to know about Frankston City, follow Imagine Frankston on Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok and LinkedIn



New year, new habits — make 2026 un-FOGO-gettable!

The start of a new year is the perfect time to build better habits — and one of the easiest ways to make a positive impact in 2026 is by becoming an early adopter of the FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) bin service.

FOGO is Frankston City's lime green-lidded bin service for food waste and garden waste. When you use it, your food and garden waste is collected and turned into compost — helping local farms grow healthy crops and keeping valuable resources out of landfill. Thanks to our community's efforts, over 16,000 tonnes of food and garden waste were transformed into nutrient-rich compost over the past year!

Why FOGO matters

Right now, nearly one third of what's in Frankston City's red-lidded general waste bins could be composted instead. That means every banana



peel, coffee ground and lawn clipping put into the FOGO bin helps to:

- **Grow food, not landfill:** turning everyday food waste into compost and reducing waste contamination
- **Cut greenhouse gases:** reducing harmful methane created when food rots in landfill
- **Keep resources in use:** building a circular

economy where nothing goes to waste

- **Support a cleaner, greener Frankston:** protecting our environment for generations to come
- **Support your current efforts:** the FOGO bin can take food items that your worm farm and compost cannot accept.

Join the movement

More than 80 per cent of Frankston households already use FOGO — and it's easy to join them. By sorting your food and garden waste into the FOGO bin, you are taking simple, everyday action to care for our local environment. FOGO services will become compulsory from 1 July 2026, but why wait? Scan the QR code to opt in now to kick off 2026 with a fresh habit that's good for your home, your community and the planet.



Your 2026 bin collection calendar

We know many of you look forward to the annual bin collection calendar.

As the calendar has grown over the years, we are no longer able to include the full printed version in Frankston City News.

However, you can still access it online or request a printed copy via our Customer Service team.

To get your copy, visit frankston.vic.gov.au/BinCalendar or call 1300 322 322

L2P turns 15!

This year the Frankston TAC L2P Program celebrates its 15th anniversary.

The program focuses on helping young people become safe, confident drivers, to reduce Victoria's road toll. It also provides an opportunity for young people to interact with positive driving role models, gain confidence and move towards social independence.

In the program's 15 years, 282 learners have successfully obtained their probationary licences and over 180 driver mentors have contributed their time, energy and experience to the program.

At a special celebratory event that marked the occasion, Mayor Kris Bolam and Paul Edbrooke MP, thanked all our driving mentors who enable this program to exist and our young people to thrive.

Our longest serving driver mentors were recognised for their invaluable contribution to the program including Fred Hamilton (pictured) who has supported an incredible 37 learners and contributed over 1,500 voluntary hours in the twelve years he has been an L2P mentor!



We are always on the lookout for more volunteers interested in the opportunity to connect with the community and make an impact in a young person's life in as little as 1–2 hours a week. If you are interested in becoming a driver mentor, scan the QR for more information.



Moto Park revamp set to boost Frankston's local economy

Frankston City is set to rev up its local motor sports offering and visitor economy with the transformation of the Frankston Moto Park — a project designed to attract riders, fans, and industry partners from across Victoria and beyond, while preserving strong community connections.

Plans are underway to redevelop the Old Wells Road facility in Seaford into a world-class venue, led by motorsport veterans Yarrive Konsky and Cheyne Boyd. The duo brings elite racing and management experience and a shared vision to create an inclusive, safe, and innovative space for motorcycling enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels.

The park redevelopment, which will be fully funded by the operator, is expected to engage over 45 contractors and multiple local companies to

deliver extensive infrastructure improvements.

Once operational, the facility will employ a dedicated team of at least 12 staff, encompassing operations, marketing, event management, and digital communications roles.

During major events, the venue will generate significant local employment opportunities, with 90 to 120 personnel engaged across various operational and event management responsibilities.

Council endorsed the new facility operators at its meeting on 27 October, following a competitive Expression of Interest process aimed at attracting a skilled and forward-thinking operator to lead the park into its next era as a premier motorcycling destination in Victoria.

The facility has been closed since late 2017 following a fatality on the main track. A coroner's

report released last year made no adverse findings or recommendations.

Originally opened in 1980, the Frankston Motorcycle Park was previously operated for recreational use by the volunteer-run Frankston City Motorcycle Club. The new operators plan to continue to work with the club to support community recreational riding opportunities.





Frankston City Libraries

Scan the QR code for
more library events or
phone 9784 1020



The Big Summer Read is back!

1 December–31 January
FREE
Open to kids 0–18 years

The Big Summer Read aims to arrest the 'summer slide' by engaging children and their families in a fun and dynamic way to keep up their reading throughout the holidays. A competitive element with statewide and local prizes provides added incentive for participation.

The more books you read, the more entries you get to win great prizes! All the details of how to register and prizes up for grabs are available on our website.



Christmas at Frankston City Libraries

Various days and locations
FREE

Frankston City Libraries has exciting activities for everyone in the lead-up to Christmas this year.

Write your letter to Santa in branch from Saturday 29 November–Friday 12 December.

Don't miss our special Christmas Storytime event in the Frankston Arts Centre, 10am on Wednesday 17 December, where we'll welcome a very important man in a red suit!



Summer school holiday activities

Monday 12 January–Sunday 25 January
Various times and locations
FREE

Make sure you are signed up to receive our Children's Events eNewsletter, so you don't miss all the fun of these summer holiday activities!

We have marine life talks, show with the Flying Bookworm, children's author talk, disco and more! Events will open for registration mid-December, so use the QR Code to sign up to receive the program directly to your inbox.

Sign up for
our eNews!



Don't Miss a Thing at Frankston City Libraries in 2026...

Join our enewletter to get all the latest on events, workshops, meeting groups and of course, all the latest book releases and recommendations!

Sign up to receive information about when to register for free events, including Library Lover's Day Writing workshops, Chatty Café, Craft Connections, storytimes, FrankTALKS plus sustainability & eco workshops.

Scan the QR Code to register!

FRANKSTON ARTS CENTRE

Scan the QR code
to book



Comedy

Christmas Comedy Gala

Saturday 20 December, 8pm

Get ready to sleigh this festive season with three of Australia's sharpest comedic minds in one unmissable night of stand-up mayhem!



Musical

PLOS presents The Wizard of Oz

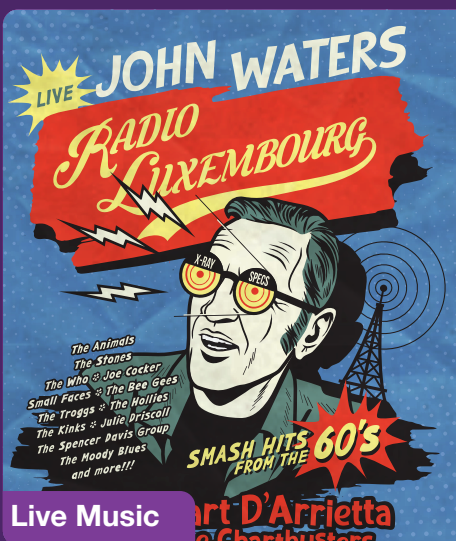
Wednesday 31 January–Saturday 10 January



Circus/Family

Cirque Nouvelle

Saturday 17 January, 6pm



Live Music

John Waters: Radio Luxembourg

Sunday 18 January, 8pm

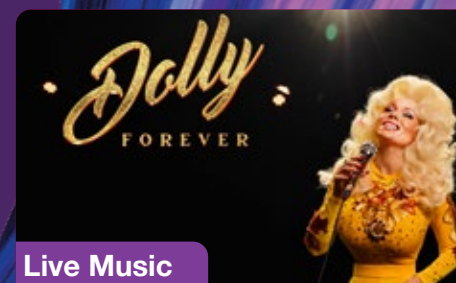
Back by popular demand, iconic star of stage and screen John Waters celebrates the songs of the British Pop Invasion that changed modern music forever.



Family

Bluey's Big Play The Stage Show

Friday 23 January–Sunday 25 January



Live Music

Dolly Forever

Thursday 29 January, 8pm

Keep it local

When you spend money at a local business, up to 70 per cent stays in the community — helping local jobs, suppliers, and services. That same dollar can be re-spent and grow to two to four times its value thanks to the local multiplier effect.

Spending at big chains or online keeps much less here — sometimes only \$10–\$20 out of every \$100.

Every local purchase helps build a stronger Frankston City. By shopping and working with local businesses, you support the economy and create jobs.

Explore the Frankston City Business Directory with over 400 listings. Not listed yet? Join before Christmas!

Annual Business Survey results are in

The results from the 2025 Frankston City Annual Business Survey are in and it was a huge success!

With 186 local businesses participating between 1–19 September, the insights gathered will help Council's Economic Development team shape programs and support that truly reflect your business support needs.

Respondents represented key areas including Frankston, Carrum Downs and Seaford, and top industries such as Retail, Professional Services, Construction, and Manufacturing.

Encouragingly, 52 per cent expect to grow their workforce, with 77 per cent considering employing young people aged 15–24 in the next year.

Businesses also praised Council services with 96 per cent reporting they were satisfied with direct Economic Development support.

Respondents also requested more business events (30 per cent) and training opportunities (24 per cent), which we look forward to delivering next year.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the survey. If you would like to know more or provide your feedback, get in touch today by emailing business@frankston.vic.gov.au



Not sure what services Council can provide for you and your business?

Simply head to the Council website and view our quick and easy video guide, outlining all our programs and services, including our FREE Mentor Program, FREE business grants and workshops, commercial property site sourcing, business eNewsletter and more.

It is our vision to foster a thriving, sustainable and resilient economy by

attracting and supporting local business success, employment opportunities and growth in Frankston City.

Why not reach out and see what we can do for you and your business today. Visit the website to find out more, email business@frankston.vic.gov.au or call **1300 322 322** to speak with an Economic Development officer.

Encouraging sustainability in business

On 8 October, our Waste Circularity and Economic Development teams, in partnership with Circuiti, hosted the Nothing Wasted, Business Ideas that Pay Off event.

The night was held at Biersal Brewery in Seaford and brought together local innovators, makers, manufacturers and service providers who are proving that cutting waste, saving money and improving efficiency can grow your business.

There were real-world stories, panel discussions and practical lessons from businesses who've found new ways to stay competitive through resource-

efficient approaches plus attendees were able to connect with like-minded business owners, explore 'circular' opportunities and discover fresh ideas to help their businesses thrive.

Thank you to our panelists Ninna Larsen from Reground and Circuiti, Sam Stone from BetterCup, Andrea Dunkey from Roving Refills Frankston and Christine from Rylock Frankston. If you would like to know more about how you can implement circular economy practices in your business, contact Council's Waste Circularity team.



Council ramps up youth programs with young people leading the way

We are working closely with young people across the municipality to design new and expanded youth activity programs.

This follows our ongoing commitment to investing in facilities and services for young people, such as the recently completed \$750,000 Langwarrin Skate Park upgrade.

Informed by feedback from local young people and jointly funded with \$170,000 from the Australian Government's Investing in Our Communities Program, the skate park now provides a modern, inclusive, and accessible space for skating and riding scooters and BMX bikes. The upgrade forms the second stage of improvements which began in 2022 in response to a youth-led petition presented to Frankston City Council, resulting in the installation of shelters and seating in April of that year.

Building on this approach, Council has resolved that new programs will be delivered where there is demonstrated demand, with a focus on

promoting positive youth engagement and providing safe spaces for young people to connect and participate in their community.

Carrum Downs has been recognised as having a gap in youth activity provision and in response, Council has established a collaborative alliance with Lyrebird Community Centre, Carrum Downs Secondary College, Victoria Police and the Frankston Social Inclusion Action Group. Together, the group is working to identify local needs and develop a coordinated response.

Consultation has already engaged more than 300 students from Carrum Downs Secondary College, with many highlighting the importance of a local chill-out space like Council's youth hangouts



in other suburbs. Additional engagement with Flinders College students and younger children at community events will ensure diverse voices inform the program design.

Our busy Youth Services team develops its programs with a strong emphasis on youth participation, guided by the Youth Action Plan 2022–2026 and the Council and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029.

Making waves to tackle national water safety issue



We are stepping up to tackle one of Australia's growing challenges — declining swimming skills among children — committing an additional \$75,000 to the Can Swim program in the 2025–2026 'Stronger Together' Annual Budget.

The funding, delivered through Council's \$1.7 million Local Support Package (LSP), ensures vulnerable community members, particularly in Frankston North and Carrum Downs, have access to free swimming and water safety programs.

This also follows the overwhelming success of the program in its first year. Delivered in partnership with Peninsula Leisure, Can Swim is already transforming lives. Key outcomes for 2024–2025 include:

- 3,330 touchpoints through classroom, pool and beach-based programs
- more than 2,000 primary school children participated
- 97 per cent of participants finished with more confidence in their water safety knowledge and skills
- six out of seven programs showed 100 per cent improvement across four key learning objectives.

For more information about upcoming Can Swim programs visit peninsulaleisure.com.au/can-swim Community groups interested in participating can email: can.swim@peninsulaleisure.com.au

Can't afford the price to get involved in local activities?

Council's Active Participation Subsidy program provides financial assistance to eligible residents facing cost barriers, covering 85 per cent of annual membership fees (up to \$500) to join local clubs, groups and community activities.

Applications are open until funds are expended or 6 May 2026. The subsidy is paid directly to the group or club so you can enjoy the activities you love!

Find out more at frankston.vic.gov.au/community-grants

New chapter for Centenary Park Golf Course



Centenary Park Golf Course will enter a new chapter from July 2026, with management of the much-loved public facility to be taken on by Peninsula Leisure Pty Ltd.

The change marks a new direction designed to maximise community benefit, unlock opportunities for reinvestment, and strengthen Frankston City's reputation as a leading destination for sport and recreation in Melbourne's south-east. Council made the decision at its September Council Meeting, consistent with its responsibilities and powers for managing recreation facilities on Crown Land.

Frankston City Councillor Cherie Wanat, Chair of the Frankston City Sports Liaison Committee, acknowledged the existing operators, Clublinks, for their outstanding commitment to the Golf Course's management since 2019.

"Clublinks has delivered exceptional service and care for Centenary Park Golf Course over the past six years," Cr Wanat said.

"Their professionalism has been invaluable, and this decision is in no way a reflection of their performance. On behalf of Council and our community, I sincerely thank them for their contribution.

"This next step reflects Council's long-term commitment to reinvesting in the facility and creating even more outstanding opportunities and experiences for locals and visitors alike."

Council is committed to a smooth transition over the coming months to minimise disruption for staff, members, and visitors. Importantly, the activities, services, programs, and access offered at Centenary Park Golf Course will not change. Council and Peninsula Leisure are also keen to work with Clublinks to retain existing staff to support continuity in operations.



Kicking goals for inclusion with Walking Football

Frankston's Social Inclusion Action Group (SIAG) is championing a new way to get active and connected — Walking Football!

This fun, low-impact version of soccer is designed for everyone to participate, no matter your age, ability, or fitness level.

Walking Football isn't just about the game - it's about creating a welcoming space where people from all walks of life can come together, boost their physical and mental wellbeing, and build lasting friendships. It's a

safe, social, and inclusive way to take an active role in both the game and the community.

Walking Football 4 Health is gaining momentum across Victoria and has multiple sessions in Frankston City, with sessions already running at Frankston South Community Centre. SIAG is excited to announce sessions are also on offer at Belvedere Community Centre. So lace up your sneakers, bring your smile and have some fun on the field! For more information, contact siag.team@frankston.vic.gov.au

\$4.95M Sandfield Reserve upgrade delivers for a growing Carrum Downs



Carrum Downs has a brand-new outdoor community hub, with the completion of the \$4.95 million Sandfield Reserve Precinct Revitalisation Project delivering a vibrant, safe, inclusive space for people of all ages.

Funded by all three levels of government following Council's successful 2022 pre-election advocacy campaign, the transformation features:

- youth-focused precinct including a multi-sports court, skate park upgrades, and parkour elements (completed late last year)
- an upgraded play space with water and nature play, and accessible equipment
- outdoor fitness equipment, walking and running circuits, new public toilets, BBQs, and picnic facilities
- improved lighting, pathways, landscaping, and shade.

Deputy Mayor Cr Steffie Conroy, who grew up in Carrum Downs, said the project is especially close to her heart and she couldn't be prouder of the outcome and what it will mean for the local community.

"Carrum Downs is growing fast, with more families choosing to make their home here. The first Sandfield Reserve play space was built 26 years ago, then another added in 2004 and fenced in 2015, so it's great to see the community getting the investment and infrastructure upgrades it deserves.

"Council is also grateful to the Australian and Victorian Governments for understanding our vision and working with us and the community to make it a reality."

This project is the final stage in Council's delivery of the Sandfield Reserve Master Plan 2021.