

Celebrating Our Achievements Council

2019-22

Mayor's Thank You
Michael Hewitson AM

Community Living

King William Road

- King William Road upgrade, including re-paving, outdoor dining, and greening, completed ahead of time and under budget (\$16.3M)
- Purchased two properties in Bloomsbury Avenue (adjacent King William Road) for future additional car parking

Community Living

Goodwood Precinct

- Redeveloped the Goodwood Oval Clubroom facilities within limited budget (\$4M)
- Redeveloped the Millswood Croquet Club (\$900K)



Community Living

Unley Oval

- **Unley Oval upgrade:**
 - Seating replaced in heritage Grandstand
 - Heritage entry gate installed (gift from SFC)
 - Redevelopment of Oatey Grandstand Stage 2 (\$4.2M)
 - Resurfacing of Oval and underground drainage (\$1.5M)

Community Living Inclusion

- Established the Maison de France
- Joint first council to become an accredited Established Welcoming Cities in Australia
- Development of Council's Cultural Plan 2021-26 incorporating our Reconciliation Action Plan
- Development of Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- Development of Living Well Plan

Community Living Youth Engagement

- **Established the Living Young Reference Group**
- **Ran the Fish Tank youth entrepreneurship program 2019, 2021, 2022**
- **Delivered the Living Young Action Plan 2018-21**

Community Living Aged

- Led Co-housing research initiative to explore options for people to stay in their homes for longer
- Delivered pilot “Start Up at Any Age” program
- Delivered “Forget Me Not” intergenerational dementia awareness training program, partnering with local schools and aged care providers
- Produced online video brochure of our aged care services
- Implemented “Daily Moves” program (\$600K grant), increasing the physical activity levels of 700 older residents across ERA

Community Living Movement

- Developed Clarence Park/Millswood traffic scheme
- Developed Council's Walking and Cycling Plan 2022-27
- Delivered walking and cycling infrastructure projects:
9 pedestrian refuges and 6km of new or upgraded bikeways
- Commenced investigation of City-Wide Parking Strategy
- Completed initial City-wide e-scooter trial
- Completed Wilberforce Walk Upgrade between Anzac Highway and Third Avenue
- Completed Mike Turtur Bikeway Greening project between Musgrave Street and King William Road

Community Living

City Planning

- Developed public realm design guidelines for Unley Road
- 80% of the City is protected under new Planning and Design Code (heritage zones)
- 30° building envelope rule for new development

Community Living Arts & History

- Unley Museum won Interpretation Australia 2019 Award of Excellence (project < \$15,000) for Unley's Own exhibition, and 2019 Bank SA Fringe Weekly Award for the Things of Nature exhibition
- Implemented our "Involve" 5-year Public Arts Strategy including Echo artwork in Heywood Park
- Facilitated All Connections to Unley Art Prize exhibitions and awards in 2019 and 2021
- Delivered year-long program to celebrate Unley's Sesquicentenary 150th milestone
- Delivered program of events and activities to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage

Economic Prosperity Strategic

- **Developed Business and Economic Growth Strategy 2021-25**
- **Developed new online business portal to provide a one stop shop for businesses**
- **Created new investment attraction prospectus**
- **Implemented “buy local” campaign**
- **Partnered with Business SA, to provide advice and support to local businesses**
- **Redeveloped 3 cottages on Edmund Avenue to house co-working space (\$1.8M)**
- **Fish Tank and Start Up At Any Age programs**
- **Gig City Connection**

Environmental Stewardship

Climate Change

- Developed Council's Climate and Energy Plan for Council to be carbon neutral by 2023
- Changed street lighting across the city to LED providing greater efficiencies and reduced operating costs
- Unley scored highest out of 341 Australian councils to be assessed through the "Informed City" climate change governance program

Environmental Stewardship Waste Management

- **Developed Council's Waste Management and Resource Recovery Plan 2021-25**
- **City-wide kitchen caddy initiative**
- **Joined East Waste as an owner Council**

Environmental Stewardship

Green and Cool

- Recognised as a Tree City of the World
- Developed Council's Tree Strategy
- Accelerated planting of > 4,500 trees City-wide
- > 450 verges into green space in partnership with residents
- Undertook heat mapping of canopy cover across the City
- Developed an App that allows residents to view the % of canopy cover for each individual property in the City

Environmental Stewardship Community

- **Developed Ridge Park Master Plan**
- **Developed North Unley Park Master Plan**
- **Continued progress of Brownhill Keswick Creek works to improve flood mitigation across the catchment area**
- **Installed native bee hotel**
- **Delivered several Pocket Parks and Living Streets projects**

Civic Leadership

Finance

- Cumulative rates rise over the last 4 years has been lower than CPI (9.9%) at 8.4%
- Consistently maintained operating surplus of 5%
- Reduced Council debt from \$14.7M to \$5.6M (June 2022) through sound financial management (while still completing significant capital works)
- Internal Financial Controls requiring attention reduced from 22 to 4
- Developed key Asset Management Plans

Civic Leadership

Other

- **Piloted innovative community engagement methodology (Shaping Unley)**
- **Provided > \$800K in various grants schemes for community-based organisations and individuals**
- **Assisted local businesses through Covid: waiving outdoor dining fees; and rates reduction**

Awards

2019-22

2019

- Australian Event Award for Double Shot Coffee Fiesta
- LASA Excellence - Age Care Services Award
- Interpretation Award of Excellence - Unley Museum's Unley's Own Exhibition
- Bank SA Fringe Weekly Award - Unley Museum's Nature of Things Exhibition

2020

- Civil Contractors Federation SA Earth Works Award - King William Road Upgrade

Awards

2019-22

2021

- Australian Institute of Landscape Architects SA Excellence in Urban Design Award - King William Road Upgrade
- Australian Institute of Landscape Architects National Excellence Award in Urban Design - King William Road Upgrade
- Australian Institute of Landscape Architect Small Projects Award - Living Streets Program
- Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards Environmental & Sustainability Award - Mapping Changes in City of Unley Urban Forest using LiDAR
- Spatial Industry Business Association (SIBA) & Geospatial Information Technology Association (GITA) Environmental & Sustainability Award - Tree Canopy Change Mapping

Awards

2019-22

2021 *continued*

- **Local Government Excellence Award - Co-housing, Ageing Well project**
- **Local Government IT SA Awards**
 - **Won – Excellence in Community Experience, designing digital services with our customers (website)**
 - **Won – Excellence in IT Services, Employee Concierge**
 - **Won – Young Achiever of the Year**
 - **Commendation – Excellence in Employee Experience, Aquaria (intranet)**

Awards

2019-22

2022

- **Premier's Certificate of Recognition - Community Transport Volunteers**
- **IT News Australia National Award 2022**
 - **Won - Best Local Government Project, Tree Canopy Measurement**
- **LG Professionals SA Leadership Excellence Awards 2022**
 - **Finalist - Excellence in Volunteer Management Award South Australia**
 - **Finalist - Excellence in Environmental Leadership and Sustainability, Tree Canopy Measurement**

Final thank you to our community of Unley Mayor Michael Hewitson AM 2018 -2022 - ?

I have served you as your Mayor since 2018. We have achieved so much together with more to do to make Unley liveable and more accountable. When I started, I was told it would take two terms to deliver the agenda I took to the last election. We have made Australia-wide award-winning progress.

We have achieved so much and here are just two

1. Rates with the lowest base rate in greater Adelaide, with a rate reduction of 4% below CPI we are building an inclusive mixed Unley.
2. We have a cohesive working Council that can disagree yet unanimously vote in
 - a. a budget that reduces debt, and delivers our programs.
 - b. our climate change policy and energy plan to be carbon neutral [Carbon neutral Unley](#)
 - c. walking and cycling safety [Walking and cycling Plan 2022 -2027](#)
 - d. delivers accelerated tree planting,

We have laid the foundation to deliver real community participation in policy decision-making. (shaping Unley) but we are still losing 4 Ha of trees each year from our <400 Ha citywide total. Without completion of our current work, our children will cook!