

promote council so young people know and understand more about what we do

Being upfront and clear about who we are and what we can and can't do for the community.

promote positive images of young people in the community

Working with local media and our own publications to reflect a more balanced representation of young people as valued members of the community.

actively encourage and respect young people's contributions to the community

Recognising and acknowledging that contributions to the community happen in many different ways and supporting young people to contribute in ways they feel comfortable and happy about.

acknowledge & celebrate the diversity of young people in knox

Recognising both the differences and similarities in the passions, dreams and realities of all young people.

hear young people's opinions and respond

Considering and acknowledging young people's feedback and ideas.

create opportunities for young people to have a say about what we do and how we do it



Providing different ways for young people to have a 'voice' – tell us what young people like and don't like about our services and programs.

# knox city council youth charter

continue to respond to the needs of young people and provide adequate and appropriate support and services

Our support and services for young people will be relevant and within our capacity, reflect what young people, their families and local agencies want and need.

foster links within the community, and develop resources and opportunities for young people to explore their interests and passions

Connecting interested young people into the appropriate agencies or services to assist them to reach their full potential and goals. Working with the community to develop resources and opportunities to meet these needs.

continue to explore more effective ways of letting young people know what is happening

Using different mediums, technology and formats to provide information to young people and receive their feedback.

work with young people to come up with new and interesting ways to do things

Young people's fresh ideas and different perspectives will assist us to be innovative and broaden our horizons in our work.

## what is a youth charter?

The Knox City Council Youth Charter is a set of Ten Fundamental Guiding Principles that support Council's commitment to actively engage with young people and value and support their unique contributions to the community.

The Knox City Council Youth Charter puts young people on the agenda for everyone at Council – not just youth workers. It will assist Council as an organisation to respond to the needs of young people in our planning, policy, advocacy and service delivery.

The Knox City Council Youth Charter is not a stand alone document. It is linked to Council's organisational values, our commitment to effective Community Engagement, the *Knox Vision 2025* and the *Council Plan 2009–13*. The Knox City Council Youth Charter will be supported throughout Council with training and resources for all staff.

## where did the Knox City Council Youth Charter come from?

The Knox City Council Youth Charter was developed over a 12 month period. Discussions and consultations took place with young people from across the municipality, local service providers, the broader community and also Council staff. These conversations provided the basis for the Ten Fundamental Guiding Principles which make up the foundation of the Youth Charter.

The process of developing the Charter, involved checking back in with young people about what was being put forward in the Ten Fundamental Guiding Principles and keeping everyone involved informed about the progress. This process has aimed to create a sense of ownership and meaning for both young people aged 12-25 who live, work, study or hang out in the City of Knox and Knox City Council staff.

## where can i go for more info?

If you have any comments or would like more information about the Knox City Council Youth Charter please feel free to contact Knox Youth Services on 9298 8308 or email [youth@knox.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@knox.vic.gov.au)



# knox city council youth charter