

Public Health Plan 2026-2030

Draft for Public Consultation



Introduction

The City of Unley is a healthy, connected and liveable inner-urban community where people value wellbeing, inclusion, sustainability and quality of life. Council plays an important role in shaping the places, environments, services and opportunities that support people to live active, connected and fulfilling lives.

Over the next four years, health and wellbeing outcomes in Unley will increasingly be shaped by social, environmental, economic and demographic change. An ageing population, increasing housing density and affordability pressures, climate change and urban heat, changing patterns of work and movement, and growing expectations for accessible and inclusive public spaces will continue to influence how people live, connect and participate in community life. At the same time, there is an increasing focus on mental health, social connection, resilience and preventative approaches that support wellbeing before problems emerge.

These trends reinforce the importance of healthy, walkable and inclusive neighbourhoods with access to quality public spaces, active transport options, community infrastructure and opportunities for participation and connection. They also highlight the importance of ensuring growth and change continue to support liveability, sustainability and quality of life.

This Public Health Plan sets out how Council will work with the community and partners over the next four years to support and strengthen health and wellbeing outcomes across the City. The Plan recognises that health and wellbeing are influenced by many factors beyond healthcare, including housing, transport, social connection, environmental quality, safety, participation and access to services and opportunities.

A strong focus of the Plan is supporting community wellbeing in ways that are practical, inclusive and responsive to local needs. Council recognises that achieving positive health outcomes requires collaboration across government, community organisations, businesses, sporting clubs, service providers and the broader community. Partnerships and advocacy therefore play an important role in delivering the Plan, particularly in areas where Council has an enabling, leadership or influencing role.

The Plan has been developed using a collaborative and evidence-informed approach that combines community input, organisational knowledge, demographic and population health data, and existing strategic directions. It aligns with Council's Community Plan, Lead Strategies and Four-Year Delivery Plan, and responds to Council's responsibilities under the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011* and the priorities of the State Public Health Plan.

Through this Plan, Council seeks to support a healthy, inclusive and resilient community where people of all ages and backgrounds feel safe, connected and supported, and where everyone has the opportunity to participate, thrive and live well.

Our Vision for a Healthy Unley

A healthy Unley is a community where people feel safe, supported and connected to one another; where neighbourhoods are walkable, green and welcoming; and where everyone has opportunities to participate, stay active and access the services and spaces they need to thrive.

We aspire to be a healthy, inclusive and connected community where people of all ages and backgrounds can live well. We are a community that values wellbeing, embraces diversity, supports participation, and works together to create resilient and sustainable places for current and future generations.

Our Approach

This Plan adopts a “Health in All Policies” approach that recognises health and wellbeing outcomes are influenced by many aspects of our environment and everyday life.

Public health focuses on actions that protect and improve the health of communities and populations as a whole. Wellbeing includes physical, mental and social wellbeing, including feeling healthy, connected, included and able to participate in community life. The places people live, work, learn and connect all shape wellbeing outcomes.

Through this approach, Council has considered how all the things we do can collectively contribute to healthier communities and improved wellbeing outcomes.



City of Unley – Snapshot

Located on the traditional lands of the Kaurna people, just 3kms south of Adelaide's CBD, the City of Unley is an inner-urban community recognised for its liveability, strong sense of community and high quality urban environment. Unley's leafy streets, walkable neighbourhoods and network of parks, sporting facilities, trails and public spaces support active lifestyles, social connection and everyday wellbeing.

Our Business Precincts - King William Road, Goodwood Road, Fullarton Road and Unley Road - together with a growing number of local business precincts, provide access to services, employment, hospitality and community life. Our Library, community centres, cultural facilities and civic spaces create opportunities for participation, learning, creativity and connection, helping people of all ages and backgrounds feel included and engaged in community life.

Unley's natural beauty, historic character and strong local identity contribute to a community that values wellbeing, sustainability and inclusion. Well-designed public spaces, accessible streetscapes and a vibrant community life help make Unley a healthy, welcoming and resilient place to live, work, visit and age well.

- We have 40,731 residents
- We have 22,927 local jobs and 6,200 GST registered local businesses
- We maintain 170km of local streets and laneways and 307km of pathways
- We manage 37 local parks and open spaces and 30 hectares of open space
- We manage 4 community centres and 2 libraries

Health and Wellbeing in Unley

This section provides a snapshot of the current health and wellbeing profile of the City of Unley and highlights the key trends likely to influence community wellbeing over the life of this Plan.

This information can be read in conjunction with our [Community Profile](#), which provides deeper insights into our community and our City.

A changing population

The City of Unley continues to experience steady population growth within an established urban environment. Population growth, smaller household sizes and increased housing density are changing how people live and interact with their neighbourhoods.

At the same time, Unley has an ageing population profile, with a growing proportion of residents aged over 60 years. This trend is expected to increase demand for accessible public spaces, social connection opportunities, age-friendly infrastructure and services that support people to age well in place.

Indicator	Unley	Key insight
Projected resident population (2041)	46,000 people (+5,300)	Continued population growth is increasing demand for housing, services and public infrastructure
Median age	43 years	Unley is older than Greater Adelaide average (39 years)
Residents aged 60+	28.3%	Reflects a growing ageing population

What this means for Unley

- Population growth and increased housing density are increasing demand for local services, public spaces and community infrastructure.
- An ageing population will increase the importance of accessible, walkable and age-friendly neighbourhoods.

Health and Wellbeing Outcomes

Overall, health outcomes in Unley are generally positive compared to metropolitan council averages. Residents experience relatively high life expectancy, lower levels of chronic disease and strong socio-economic outcomes. This relative advantage is reflected in higher household incomes, educational attainment and broader health and wellbeing outcomes.

However, long-term health conditions remain common across the community, with approximately one in three residents reporting at least one diagnosed long-term health condition.

Mental health conditions are the most commonly reported long-term health issue in Unley, highlighting the growing importance of social connection, community resilience, access to services and preventative wellbeing initiatives.

Indicator	Unley	Key Insights
Population reporting at least one long-term health condition	33.1%	Slightly less than Greater Adelaide (34.5%)
Population reporting a mental health condition	9.2%	Most commonly reported long-term condition in Unley
People needing assistance with core activities	6.2%	Slightly lower than Greater Adelaide (6.6%)
Obesity rate	Males 18.8% Females 21.3%	Lower than Greater Adelaide (26.6% and 29.9%)
Average life expectancy	89 years	Significantly higher than Greater Adelaide (83.2 years)
Socio Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Score	1067	Unley is one of the most advantaged LGA's in Greater Adelaide

What this means for Unley

- Unley's strong socio-economic profile supports generally positive health and wellbeing outcomes across the community.
- Long-term health conditions remain common, highlighting the ongoing importance of prevention, healthy lifestyles and access to services and inclusive community spaces.
- Mental health is a growing public health priority, reinforcing the importance of social connection, resilience and community wellbeing initiatives.
- Opportunities for physical activity, recreation and community participation support both physical and mental wellbeing.
- As the population ages, demand for services, infrastructure and programs that support people with disability, mobility limitations and age-related challenges is likely to increase
- Creating inclusive, accessible and connected communities will help maintain Unley's high quality of life and support the wellbeing needs of residents across all life stages

Housing, affordability and liveability

Housing affordability and changing housing preferences are influencing the health and wellbeing of communities across metropolitan Adelaide, including Unley.

More people are living in smaller dwellings and higher density housing, increasing the importance of access to quality public spaces, tree canopy, employment, active transport options and community facilities.

The City of Unley also contains a significant proportion of renters and lone-person households, reinforcing the importance of housing diversity, affordability and social inclusion.

Indicator	Unley	Key insights
Separate houses	59.0%	Much lower than many metropolitan LGAs (73-75%)
High density housing	23.1%	Significantly higher than Greater Adelaide (3%)
Home ownership (owned outright)	36.1%	High proportion of outright ownership reflects an older and comparatively affluent population
Privately rented dwellings	28.9%	Relatively high rental proportion indicates strong housing demand
Average household size	2.4 people	Slightly smaller than Greater Adelaide average (2.5 people)
Lone person households	30.1%	Higher than the Greater Adelaide average (27.7%)
Average weekly mortgage repayments	\$2,500 per month	High mortgage costs reflect Unley's premium property market and high dwelling values.
Average weekly rental costs	\$700 per week	Rental prices are significantly above the Adelaide average (\$620)
Households experiencing housing stress	Mortgage stress: 5.9% Rental stress: 27.6%	Rental affordability is a much greater challenge than mortgage affordability in Unley.

What this means for Unley

- Higher density living increases the importance of quality public spaces, tree canopy and walkable neighbourhoods to support health and wellbeing.
- Smaller households and more people living alone reinforce the importance of social connection and accessible community facilities.
- Housing growth and changing living patterns will continue to increase demand for liveable, healthy and inclusive neighbourhoods.
- Housing affordability pressures may impact vulnerable households and community diversity, particularly for younger residents, lower income households and key workers such as health, education, care and community service workers who need to live within reasonable access of local workplaces but may be priced out of the local housing market.

Climate, environment and active living

Climate change, urban heat and environmental sustainability are increasingly important public health issues.

Trees, green open space and nature-sensitive design all contribute to community wellbeing by reducing urban heat, supporting physical activity and improving mental health outcomes.

As the city grows and density increases, access to high-quality public spaces and opportunities for active living will become increasingly important.

Indicator	Unley	Key insights
Tree canopy cover	25%	More than the metropolitan average, but less than Unley's target of 30%
Open space provision	<8m ² per person	Lowest level of public open space provision per capita in Greater Adelaide.
Travel to work	Drive - 63% Bicycle – 4% Walk – 4% Public Transport – 6.7%	Significantly more people walk and cycle to work compared to Greater Adelaide. Slightly more people catch public transport

What this means for Unley

- Increasing urban density and climate change reinforce the importance of tree canopy and cooler, greener neighbourhoods to protect community health.
- Limited public open space highlights the importance of high-quality parks, streetscapes and walkable environments to support physical and mental wellbeing.
- Higher rates of walking, cycling and public transport use support more active lifestyles and healthier travel behaviours.

Diversity, inclusion and connection

Unley is a diverse and connected community with residents from a wide range of cultural backgrounds, life stages and household types.

The City of Unley has a growing culturally diverse population, including increasing numbers of residents born in India and China, alongside long-established communities.

Community wellbeing is strengthened when people feel connected, included and able to participate in community life, including digital connections.

Indicator	Unley	Key Insights
Residents born overseas	27.8%	Very similar to Greater Adelaide overall
Speak language other than English at home	19.4%	Slightly lower than Greater Adelaide (21.6%)
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents	270 people (0.7%)	Lower than Greater Adelaide overall (2.0%)
Residents working from home	14.8%	Higher than Greater Adelaide (9.8%)
Households with internet connection	83.7%	Slightly higher than Greater Adelaide (79.3%)

What this means for Unley

- Unley's growing cultural diversity highlights the importance of inclusive and culturally responsive services, programs and public spaces.
- Higher levels of working from home and lone person households reinforce the importance of social connection and neighbourhood participation.
- Strong internet access supports digital inclusion, but some residents may still face barriers to accessing services, information and connection.

Data sources

Data included in this section has been sourced from:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing 2021
- REMPLAN Community and Economy profiles for the City of Unley
- .id Community Profile data
- City of Unley Community Profile 2023
- Adelaide Primary Health Network community profile data
- South Australian Government population projections

Action Plans

Each of the following Action Plans aligns with the public health priorities of the State Public Health Plan:

1. Prevent and control the spread of infectious disease
2. Promote healthy living to reduce chronic disease
3. Improve mental health and wellbeing
4. Reduce the risk, burden and severity of injury
5. Ensure healthy environments for human health

The Action Plans provide a roadmap for how the City of Unley will support these priorities over the next four years in alignment with the goals, objectives and commitments of our Community Plan and four Lead Strategies. Each Action Plan highlights this strategic alignment and provides a snapshot of key services and projects that contribute to a healthier Unley.

Public Health Actions: Promote, Protect and Prevent

Consistent with the South Australian Public Health Plan, the actions within this Plan have been grouped into three public health action categories: promote, protect and prevent. These categories recognise that good public health outcomes are shaped not only through healthcare, but through creating healthy, safe, connected and resilient communities.

Promote actions support healthy lifestyles, social connection and wellbeing through inclusive programs, services and public spaces.

Protect actions safeguard community health through safe environments, environmental health measures, emergency management, climate resilience and public safety initiatives.

Prevent actions reduce the likelihood or impact of poor health outcomes by addressing risk factors, encouraging healthy behaviours, strengthening resilience and improving inclusion and access.

Each action in this Plan has been assigned one or more of these categories to demonstrate how Council contributes to improving health and wellbeing outcomes for the Unley community.

Action Plan 1: Prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases

Preventing and controlling the spread of infectious diseases is essential to protecting community health and maintaining safe and resilient communities. Council plays an important role through environmental health regulation, including food safety monitoring, personal care and body art premises, public swimming pools and spas, legionella risk management, hoarding and squalor concerns, immunisation support, waste management, public education, supporting trusted food-based businesses and emergency preparedness. Over the next four years, the City of Unley will continue to work with health agencies, businesses and the community to minimise public health risks, maintain safe public environments, support immunisation programs and strengthen preparedness and response arrangements during periods of elevated health risk.

Protecting public health through education and regulation

The City of Unley plays an important role in protecting community health through its regulatory oversight of food businesses and personal services such as hairdressers, beauty therapists and tattoo studios.

Council Environmental Health professionals undertake inspections and monitor compliance with state public health legislation to help ensure businesses operate in a safe and hygienic manner. This work helps reduce the risk of food-borne illness, infection and other health hazards that can affect customers, staff and the broader community.

Council's role extends beyond regulation. By providing education, training, advice and practical support, Council helps businesses understand and meet important health standards. This collaborative approach combining regulation, education and partnerships supports continuous improvement, encourages best practice and assists operators to maintain safe environments for their customers.

Connecting the community with health information

The City of Unley helps connect the community with health and wellbeing information through a range of channels, including community publications, digital communications, library resources, workshops, events and community programs. Council libraries provide access to books, online resources, technology and learning opportunities about staying healthy.

Council also works in partnership with State Government agencies and community organisations to promote important public health messages and participate in education campaigns on issues such as immunisation, heatwave preparedness, healthy ageing, mental wellbeing, physical activity and community safety.

By providing trusted information and opportunities for learning, Council helps build community awareness, resilience and health literacy. This supports people to make informed choices, access support when they need it and take an active role in maintaining their own health and wellbeing.

Council Service Category	Actions		Public Health Action	Delivery Measure
Public and Environmental Health	1.1	Undertake proactive food safety inspections, education and compliance activities to support safe local food businesses	Protect / Prevent	Percentage of scheduled food business inspections completed
Public and Environmental Health	1.2	Support the delivery and promotion of community immunisation clinics to help protect the community from vaccine-preventable diseases	Protect / Prevent	Number of community immunisations supported
Public and Environmental Health	1.3	Undertake environmental health monitoring, education and compliance activities relating to public health risks, including vector-borne diseases, public swimming pools and spas, legionella risk systems, and hoarding and squalor matters	Protect / Prevent	Percentage of scheduled Environmental Health inspections completed
Public Realm Amenity	1.4	Maintain high standards of public cleanliness, sanitation and waste management in our places and spaces	Protect / Prevent	Maintain public amenity and cleansing service levels
Emergency Management	1.5	Maintain preparedness and response arrangements for public health emergencies	Protect	Council participation in emergency management planning and exercises
Marketing and Communications	1.6	Support public health awareness and communication initiatives, particularly during periods of elevated health risk	Prevent	Number of public health information and awareness initiatives supported

Strategic Alignment

Community	Environment	Economy	Places and Spaces
Safe & Welcoming Active & Connected	Sustainable Waste Management	Collaborative Growth	Open Space & Recreation Activated Spaces

Action Plan 2: Promote healthy living to reduce chronic disease

Chronic disease is one of the most significant long-term health challenges facing our community. Many chronic conditions are preventable and are strongly influenced by the environments in which people live, work, learn and connect. Unley is well positioned to support healthy and active lifestyles through its parks, streets, libraries, community centres, sporting and recreation facilities, community events, economic development and social connection initiatives. By working collaboratively with residents, sporting groups, community organisations and other partners, Council will help create a healthier, more connected and resilient community.

Investing in open space to promote healthy living

The City of Unley is planning significant upgrades to Ridge Park and Goodwood Oval to enhance the quality, accessibility and functionality of these important community assets.

These projects are helping meet the needs of a growing and changing community by providing modern infrastructure, improved amenities and greater opportunities for physical activity and social interaction. They will create welcoming and inclusive spaces that support organised sport, informal recreation, community events and everyday use by residents to enhance liveability.

Recognising the significant community benefits these projects will deliver, Council is actively advocating for partnership funding from the State and Australian Governments to help bring these important community investments to life.

By investing in quality open spaces and community infrastructure, Council is supporting healthier, more active and more connected communities both now and into the future.

Planning for growth to support healthy communities

Through its Planning for Growth initiative, the City of Unley is planning for future population growth in a way that supports the health and wellbeing of current and future residents. The initiative seeks to provide a greater diversity of housing options, including homes that are more affordable and suitable for people at different stages of life, helping residents to remain connected to their community as their needs change.

A key principle of the plan is “living locally” to create where people can easily access shops, services, employment, recreation, nature and public transport close to home. By supporting walkable neighbourhoods, active travel, local jobs and vibrant activity centres, the plan helps reduce reliance on cars while promoting physical activity, social connection and environmental sustainability.

By planning carefully for growth, Council is helping to create connected, inclusive and resilient neighbourhoods that support health, wellbeing and quality of life for generations to come.

Council Service Category	Actions		Public Health Action	Delivery Measure
Urban Design	2.1	Maximise opportunities to provide high quality open space to support physical activity, social connection and community wellbeing	Promote / Prevent	Development and implementation of an Unley Open Space Plan
Transport Planning	2.2	Deliver walking, cycling and shared path improvements that support active and safe movement throughout the City	Promote / Prevent	Implementation of Unley's Walking and Cycling Plan actions.
Community and Cultural Development	2.3	Continue delivery of active ageing and wellbeing initiatives that support healthy and connected ageing	Promote / Prevent	Community participation in active ageing programs
Open Space Amenity	2.4	Support participation in sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities for people of all ages and abilities	Promote / Prevent	Participation and utilisation levels across Council's sport and recreation facilities
Community and Cultural Development	2.5	Improve accessibility and inclusion across Council facilities, programs and public spaces	Promote / Protect	Implementation of Unley's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
Economic Development	2.6	Support thriving main streets and precincts that facilitate access to services, amenities and local jobs	Promote / Prevent	Development and implementation of Precinct Plans
Marketing and Communications	2.7	Provide accessible, inclusive and culturally appropriate information and engagement opportunities to support participation in community life	Promote / Prevent	Measure and report on community satisfaction with access to Council information

Strategic Alignment

Community	Environment	Economy	Places and Spaces
Safe & Welcoming Active & Connected Creativity, Culture & Learning Civic Participation	Urban Forest & Biodiversity	Thriving Precincts Strategic Investment	Open Space & Recreation Activated Spaces

Action Plan 3: Improve Mental Health and Wellbeing

Good mental health and wellbeing are supported by strong social connections, safe and welcoming places, lifelong participation and opportunities to engage in community life. The City of Unley plays an important role in creating environments and experiences that help people feel connected, valued and supported. Over the next four years, Council will continue to deliver programs, services, events and public spaces that strengthen inclusion, reduce social isolation, support young people and volunteers, encourage creativity and cultural participation, and connect people with nature and each other.

Unley Museum and Galleries – A Hub for arts, culture and connection

The development of Unley Museum and Galleries (UMAG) is creating a cultural hub that celebrates the stories, heritage, creativity and identity of the City of Unley. UMAG will provide welcoming spaces for exhibitions, programs, events, learning opportunities and community participation, making arts and culture more accessible to residents and visitors alike.

As a focal point for creative activity, UMAG will support local artists, cultural organisations, schools, community groups and volunteers, while creating opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to engage with arts and culture. It will also help preserve and share the stories that shape Unley's unique identity and sense of place.

By investing in UMAG, Council is creating opportunities for creativity, learning, connection and community participation—important foundations for individual wellbeing and a thriving community.

Economic development supporting community wellbeing

The City of Unley supports a diverse business community, from major employers and retail businesses to hospitality venues, professional services, creative industries and home-based businesses. Through business support programs, networking opportunities, advocacy and partnerships, Council helps create an environment where businesses can start, grow and succeed.

Council also invests in the ongoing vitality of Unley's main streets and business precincts. Attractive, accessible and vibrant precincts encourage people to shop locally, connect with others, participate in community life and enjoy public spaces. They create destinations that support local jobs, foster a sense of place and contribute to the social and cultural life of the city.

By supporting economic opportunity and thriving business precincts, Council helps strengthen financial wellbeing, social connectedness and community resilience.

Council Service Category	Actions		Public Health Action	Delivery Measure
Community Centres & Unley Community Hub	3.1	Strengthen the role of community centres as welcoming neighbourhood hubs that support social connection and health promotion	Promote / Prevent	Community participation in community centre programs
Community and Cultural Development	3.2	Promote arts and cultural activities that support creativity, identity and connection	Promote	Community participation in Council-led arts and cultural activities
Libraries	3.3	Provide lifelong learning opportunities that support good health, wellbeing and digital safety.	Promote / Prevent	Library membership, visitation and program participation
Community and Cultural Development	3.4	Support skills-based volunteering and civic participation opportunities that strengthen community resilience, purpose and engagement	Promote	Number of volunteer hours involved in the delivery of City of Unley programs
Community and Cultural Development	3.5	Deliver inclusive community events that encourage social connection, participation and social inclusion	Promote / Prevent	Community participation in Council-led events
Museum	3.6	Facilitate exhibitions, programs and community activities that celebrate local history, culture and identity	Promote / Prevent	Number of visitors to the Unley Museum and Galleries (opening in 2027)
Community and Cultural Development	3.7	Deliver and support programs that help young people to live well and participate in community life	Promote / Prevent	Community participation in Council-led youth initiatives
Economic Development	3.8	Support local businesses through programs, partnerships and initiatives that contribute to economic resilience and a thriving community	Promote / Prevent	Business participation in Council economic development programs and initiatives

Strategic Alignment

Community	Environment	Economy	Places and Spaces
Safe & Welcoming History & Identity Active & Connected Creativity, Culture & Learning Civic Participation	Urban Forest & Biodiversity Sustainable Natural Resources	Igniting Innovation Thriving Precincts	Activated Spaces

Action Plan 4: Reduce the risk, burden and severity of injuries

Reducing the risk, burden and severity of injuries helps create safer, more accessible and resilient communities for people of all ages and abilities. Council plays an important role through the design and maintenance of public infrastructure, community safety initiatives, emergency management, regulatory services and education programs. Over the next four years, the City of Unley will continue to improve the safety and accessibility of streets, public spaces and community facilities, support safer movement throughout the City, strengthen emergency preparedness and promote initiatives that help prevent injuries and improve community wellbeing.

Healthy communities start with well-maintained assets

The City of Unley's streets, footpaths, roads, parks, playgrounds, community buildings and public spaces play an important role in supporting community health and wellbeing. Through ongoing asset maintenance, renewal and improvement programs, Council helps create safe, accessible and connected neighbourhoods where people can move around confidently and stay active.

Well-maintained infrastructure reduces trip hazards and other safety risks, helping to prevent injuries and support independent mobility for people of all ages and abilities. Safe and connected footpaths, streets and public spaces also make it easier for residents to access services, shops, schools, recreation facilities and opportunities for social connection. This work also supports the objectives of Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan by helping to remove physical barriers and improve access to community life for people living with disability.

Council regularly inspects and maintains its assets and makes it easy for the community to report issues that need attention. Residents can notify Council of damaged footpaths, potholes, lighting faults, fallen branches and other maintenance concerns online at [Report an issue | City of Unley](#), by phone on 08 8372 5111 or in person at the Unley Civic Centre.

Supporting healthy communities through dog and cat management

Pets make an important contribution to health and wellbeing. They provide companionship, encourage physical activity, support social connection and can have positive benefits for mental health. The City of Unley's Dog and Cat Management Program helps maximise these benefits while ensuring the safety, amenity and wellbeing of the broader community.

Council supports responsible pet ownership through education, registration, customer support and enforcement of dog and cat management requirements. Authorised Officers respond to community concerns, assist with wandering animals and work with owners to prevent issues such as nuisance behaviour, uncontrolled dogs and impacts on public spaces. Council also manages dog exercise areas across the City, helping people and their pets enjoy safe opportunities for recreation and social interaction.

By promoting responsible pet ownership and balancing the needs of pet owners and the wider community, Council helps create a healthy, connected and liveable city for people and animals alike.

Council Service Category		Actions	Public Health Action	Delivery Measure
Community Safety	4.1	Administer and enforce Council by-laws to support safe, accessible and respectful use of public spaces	Protect / Prevent	Implementation of Unley's Compliance Policy
Transport Infrastructure	4.2	Upgrade footpaths, crossings and streetscapes to improve safety and accessibility	Protect / Prevent	Implementation of Unley's Asset Management Plans and Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
Transport Planning	4.3	Support safer movement for pedestrians, cyclists and other active transport users	Protect / Prevent	Implementation of Unley's Walking and Cycling Plan
Risk Management	4.4	Deliver initiatives that improve public safety and reduce injury risks in Unley's places and spaces	Protect / Prevent	Measure and report on perceptions of community safety
Emergency Management	4.5	Build community resilience and preparedness for emergencies and extreme weather events	Protect	Delivery of emergency preparedness and resilience activities
Unley Swimming Centre	4.6	Deliver accessible programs through the Unley Swimming Centre and support community education on water safety	Promote / Prevent	Participation levels in Unley Swimming Centre programs and services
Community Safety	4.7	Deliver dog and cat management services that support responsible pet ownership and positive interactions between people and animals	Protect / Prevent	Implementation of Unley's Dog and Cat Management Plan

Strategic Alignment

Community	Environment	Economy	Places and Spaces
Safe & Welcoming Active & Connected	Sustainable Natural Resources	Thriving Precincts Strategic Investment	Open Space & Recreation Activated Spaces Local Streets

Action Plan 5: Healthy environments for healthy people

Healthy environments are essential to supporting the physical, mental and social wellbeing of the community. The quality of our natural and built environments influences how people live, move, connect and respond to challenges such as climate change and population growth. Over the next four years, the City of Unley will continue to create greener, cooler and more sustainable neighbourhoods through urban greening, climate action, waste reduction, integrated planning and local food initiatives. These actions will help strengthen resilience, support liveability and create healthier environments for current and future generations.

Creating a greener and cooler Unley

The City of Unley is committed to creating a greener and cooler environment through a range of programs, initiatives and advocacy efforts. Council continues to expand and protect the urban forest through street tree planting, greening projects and innovative programs such as Adopt a Tree, which encourages residents to help care for nearby street trees during hot weather.

Council also supports residents to contribute to a greener city through the Green Verges Program and a range of education and engagement activities that promote tree planting, water-sensitive gardening and sustainable landscaping practices.

Recognising that most of Unley's land is privately owned, Council advocates for a legislated tree incentive scheme to encourage tree retention and planting on private property. Together, these initiatives help create cooler neighbourhoods, improve environmental resilience and support healthier, more liveable communities for current and future generations.

Supporting community action on climate change

Programs such as Council's Home Solar Partnership Program make it easier and more affordable for residents to install solar energy systems, helping to reduce household energy costs while lowering carbon emissions. Council is also trialling electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure to support the transition to cleaner and more sustainable transport options.

Our Community Climate Action Plan will guide future climate mitigation and adaptation efforts across the city by identifying practical actions that support emissions reduction, climate resilience and community participation in responding to climate change.

Together with Council's broader work in urban greening, climate adaptation and community education, these initiatives help reduce environmental health risks, improve resilience to a changing climate and support a cleaner, cooler and more sustainable city.

By empowering residents and businesses to take climate action, Council is helping create healthier communities today while protecting the wellbeing of future generations.

Council Service Category		Actions	Public Health Action	Delivery Measure
Arboriculture	5.1	Expand tree canopy to create greener and cooler spaces across the City	Protect / Prevent	Development and implementation of an Unley Urban Forest Plan
Climate, Environment & Sustainability	5.2	Deliver adaptation and resilience initiatives that reduce environmental health risks associated with climate change	Protect / Prevent	Development and implementation of a Resilient East Climate Action Plan
Climate, Environment & Sustainability	5.3	Support the community to reduce carbon emissions and respond to climate change	Protect / Prevent	Development and implementation of Unley's Community Climate Action Plan
Waste Management	5.4	Continuous improvement in waste reduction, recycling and resource recovery outcomes	Protect / Prevent	Waste diversion and recycling rates
City Planning	5.5	Support healthy, walkable and liveable neighbourhoods by having an integrated plan for the City's growth	Promote / Prevent	Development and implementation of Unley's Plan for Growth and Local Area Plan
Climate, Environment & Sustainability	5.6	Support community gardens, urban food growing, local food initiatives and food-related enterprises that strengthen food, encourage local economic participation and increase access to healthy food	Promote / Prevent	Participation in Unley's community gardens

Strategic Alignment

Community	Environment	Economy	Places and Spaces
Active & Connected Civic Participation	Urban Forest & Biodiversity Climate Resilient Sustainable Natural Resources Sustainable Waste Management	Thriving Precincts Local Advantage	Open Space & Recreation Activated Spaces Local Streets Planning for Growth

Monitoring and Reporting

Reporting against this Plan is required biennially by the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011* to understand effectiveness, identify areas for improvement and learning, and enhance the evidence for current and future work.

Council will report on the Delivery Measures in each Action Plan to keep the community and stakeholders informed of what we are doing to support good health and wellbeing.

To ensure the Public Health Plan remains aligned with Unley's broader strategic management framework, Council will also monitor and report on a range of high-level outcome indicators already established within the four Lead Strategies. These indicators reflect the factors that most strongly influence community health and wellbeing, including social connection, participation, safety, accessibility, active transport, climate resilience, urban greening and liveability.

Outcome indicator	Baseline	2036 Target	Primary Data source	Reporting frequency
Residents who feel safe, welcomed and included in their local neighbourhood	Community survey baseline (2025)	Maintain or increase % feel safe and included	Community survey	Biennial
Residents who feel a sense of belonging and connection to their local community	Community survey baseline (2025)	Maintain or increase % feel connected	Community survey	Biennial
Participation in Council-led community programs, events, libraries, galleries and community centres	Total annual participation count (2025)	Maintain or increase from baseline	Council service usage data; library and community centre statistics	Annual
Older residents who feel supported to remain active, connected and independent	Community survey baseline (2025)	Maintain or increase % feel supported to age well	Community survey (age cohort)	Biennial
Net increase in publicly accessible open space	Public open space baseline (m ²) (2025)	Net increase in m ² of open space available for public use	Open space audits; GIS mapping; land and asset records	4 years
Community satisfaction with footpaths, local roads and cycling infrastructure	Community survey baseline (2025)	Maintain or increase satisfaction over baseline	Community survey	Biennial
Community satisfaction with open spaces and recreation facilities	Community survey baseline (2025)	Maintain or increase satisfaction over baseline	Community survey	Biennial

People walking or cycling for everyday trips	Active travel baseline (ABS Census / local survey)	Increase in proportion of people walking or cycling for everyday trips	ABS Census; Walking & Cycling Plan monitoring; community survey	4–5 years
Tree canopy cover and urban greening outcomes	Tree canopy baseline (2025)	Increase canopy cover and greening outcomes from baseline	GIS canopy mapping; urban forest data	Biennial
Business participation in Council-supported economic development, precinct and business resilience initiatives	Business participation baseline (2025)	Maintain or increase business participation from baseline	Council economic development program data; precinct engagement records	Annual