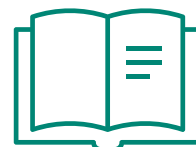


Community Engagement Framework

Easy read version



Easy Read



Adelaide Hills
COUNCIL

Acknowledgement of Country



Council acknowledges that we conduct our business on the traditional Country of the Peramangk and Kaurna people.

We pay our respects to Ancestors and Elders past and present as the Custodians of this ancient and beautiful land.

What is community engagement?



Community engagement is about including the community in making a decision.

We use community ideas and feedback to make better decisions.

Why is community engagement important?



Talking to our community helps us to understand what is most important to people living in the Adelaide Hills.

Working together and sharing ideas helps us to make decisions that support our community.



What is the Community Engagement Framework?

The Framework is a document that explains how we will do engagement in the Adelaide Hills.

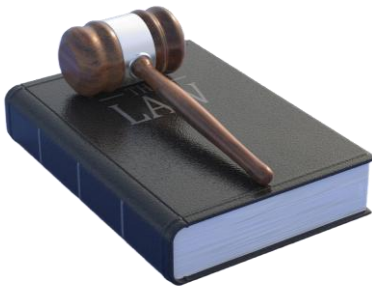
It explains our promises and how you can take part.

Are there rules about how Council must engage?

Yes. There are rules we must follow.

Some parts of community engagement are decided by legal documents such as:

- The **Local Government Act 1999**.
The Act sets rules for how councils perform lots of different activities including community engagement.
- The Minister for Local Government's **Community Engagement Charter**.
The Charter sets rules for how councils engage with their communities.



What will the Community Engagement Framework help council to do?



The framework will help us to:

- Make sure we share information well about engagement opportunities.
- Make sure there are lots of opportunities for our community to share their ideas and feedback.
- Be clear about the reasons why we are talking to our community.
- Tell the stories about how community ideas have shaped decisions.
- Build relationships with our community.
- Learn from what our community knows and their lived experience.



How did we engage with you?

During September and October 2025, we asked our community to share ideas about what is important to you when talking to us about community projects.

To make sure we heard from lots of different people we held:

- 3 staff workshops.
- 5 meetings with community groups.
- 2 meetings with organisations.
- 4 engagement pop-ups.
- 3 community forums.



Our engagement principles

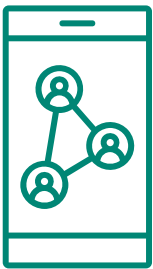
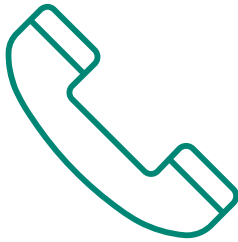
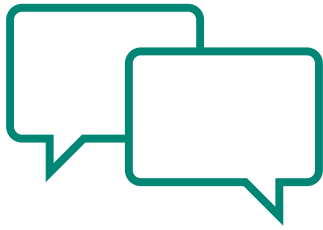


Using all of the ideas we heard from our community, we have come up with 3 **principles** to guide the way we engage with our community.

Principles are our promises to our community about how we will engage.

Our principles:

1. Communication and Connection.
2. Purpose, Influence and Transparency.
3. Active Participation.



1. Communication and Connection

What is this principle about?

We understand that our community likes to participate in many different ways.

We want to make sure everybody can participate.

What will we do?

We will **communicate** in ways that are clear and accessible.

Communicate means the way we share information with our community.

This could be by:

- Talking to each other face to face or on the phone.
- Sharing flyers and posters.
- Putting information on social media.
- Sending an email.

We will grow relationships with our community and make sure people can participate in conversations that matter to them.

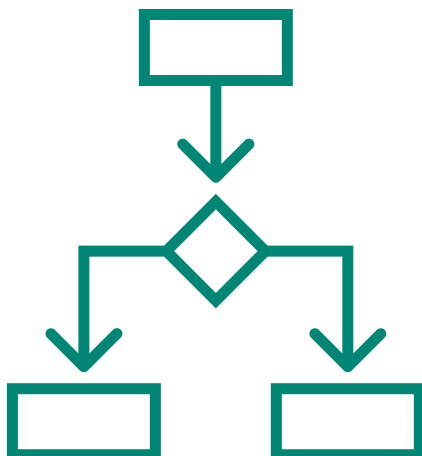


2. Purpose, Influence and Transparency

What is this principle about?

We want our community to understand how their ideas and feedback can shape Council decisions.

We want to build community trust and confidence.



What will we do?

We will explain clearly why we are engaging.

We will tell our community about how they can shape local decisions.

We will have open and honest talks with our community.

We will tell our community about the outcomes of decisions and what we will do next.

3. Active Participation



What is this principle about?

We want to learn from our communities' local knowledge and lived experiences.

We want to support our community members and groups to share their ideas and experiences.

What will we do?

We will grow engagement **participation**.

Participation means how many people get involved in a sharing their ideas.

We will support our community to learn new skills.

We will welcome local knowledge and lived experience.

We will include our community throughout decision-making processes.

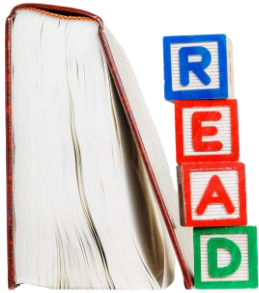


What is my role in community engagement?



There are lots of different ways you can be involved in community engagement.

You can choose when and how you would like to be involved.



- You can look at engagement information that interests you.
- You can share your ideas and feedback on things that are important to you.
- You can be open to different ideas and respect other people's ideas.
- You can follow engagement process and timeframes.
- You can understand that a decision may not always be the one you want.
- You can tell council staff if you need any assistance to participate.





Contact us

You can contact us by:

- Calling us on 8408 0400.
- Emailing us at engage@ahc.sa.gov.au.
- Visiting our website at www.engage.ahc.sa.gov.au.
- Visiting our staff at Stirling Coventry Library located at 63 Mount Barker Road, Stirling.

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