

Lobethal Community Forum

19 October 2024 | Fabrik Arts + Heritage

Community Forum Outcomes Report



Adelaide Hills
COUNCIL

Purpose

Community Forums are held throughout the year in community facilities around the Hills. They provide an opportunity for Council and local residents to communicate directly with each other about emerging issues, services and Council initiatives.

Councils' recent community forum was held in Lobethal:

- Fabrik Arts + Heritage, Lobethal Woollen Mill, 1 Lobethal Road, Lobethal
- Saturday 19 October 2024
- 12:30pm – 2:30pm (kids craft and mobile library until 3:30pm)

More than just a forum

The forum focused on Council supporting community and was a chance to dive into everything that makes our community thrive. From arts and culture to community and library programs, events, and access and inclusion, this event brought together passionate locals, creative minds, and Council staff and Elected Members to talk about what matters most to you.

The day kicked off at 12:30 pm with refreshments, followed by an official start at 1:00 pm. Attendees were then able to explore the brand-new Fabrik site on a self-guided tour, where history meets creativity at every turn.



Fun for the whole family

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Children were kept entertained with kids' activities running until 3:30 pm including kids craft and the mobile library where they could check out the books and learn about the fantastic programs our libraries offer.

The craft session allowed children to create their own piece of colourful and fantastically decorated wearable art. Using templates of dressmaking cardboard with repurposed and thrifted materials, participants could try on their creations and wear them home. This session was hosted by Cheryl Hutchens, a textile artist and needleworker living and working on Kaurana country.



Summary of what we heard

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Community members had the opportunity to speak with and provide feedback to Council staff and Elected Members at the forum as well as online following the event. Feedback has been categorised into key forum themes and summarised below. Other unrelated feedback has been shared with the relevant teams at Council.

Feedback on art, culture, library programs and events in the Hills

- Positive feedback was received on the new community forum format with a family friendly program
- Suggestion to have local / Adelaide authors for a meet and greet
- Introduce a romance readers book club
- Better advertising needed of what activities / workshops are happening
- Improved opening hours for the mobile library – it's challenging for working parents with school-age kids to get to the mobile library during school hours
- Offer seminars for local groups with strategies to assist groups e.g. mediation
- Would like to see opportunities for local businesses to thrive
- Increased art, culture, programs and events in the north of the region around Lobethal, Mt Torrens etc.
- Events are quite heavily weighted towards older adults, youth or families. We'd like to see more geared towards/or inclusive of adults without children

Feedback on the new Fabrik Arts + Heritage facility

- The site is fabulous! Wow! Much more than I'd hoped for or envisaged
- Love the change space!!
- Suggestion to make regular use for the outside lawns space at Fabrik e.g., live music, markets, kid's activities, Christmas carols
- Great so far. Keen to see more events and workshops, especially more financially accessible events (e.g. under \$100)



Proposed topics for future forums

- Environment and sustainability
- Council plans and attitudes toward building housing in the hills
- Electrification (for both residential and community properties)

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended, you are an important and valued part of our community. To stay informed about Community Engagement and future Community Forums please visit ahc.sa.gov.au, call 8408 0400 or email engage@ahc.sa.gov.au



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