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## Horsham

2023 Nominee Information Pack







#### What is the Young Mayors program?

The Young Mayors program will support people 11 to 17 across Horsham to run for election to a brand new Horsham Youth Council of 8 members. Elected by their peers, together this Youth Council will nominate a Young Mayor, set an agenda for their 12 month Term in Office and work with the Horsham Rural City Council on specific issues.

With access to training, mentoring and money to run local projects and campaigns, Youth Councils won't just have a voice - but a platform to take action on the issues that young people in Horsham truly care about.

It's free for all young people to apply and participate in Young Mayors.

#### Who runs the Young Mayors program?

Young Mayors is run by the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA), in partnership with Horsham Rural City Council and other councils around Australia. FYA is a national non-profit organisation that exists to back young people across the country to beat injustice and create long-lasting change for all.

# Message from the Mayor

Young people in Horsham have told us they want to be more involved in our community. You have told us you want more opportunities to deliver projects and events, and influence decisions that impact where you live.

Council has listened, and we are now building on our original Youth Council to improve how we hear from young people. We are delighted to announce that Horsham will host Victoria's first democratically elected Youth Council through the Young Mayors program, in partnership with the Foundation for Young Australians.



We believe young people can make an incredible contribution to Horsham. This is your chance to make change on the issues young people in our region care most about. Nominate yourself as a candidate, vote in the election and help elevate the voices of young people in our community.

This is your opportunity to not only share your ideas, but to do something about them.

Mayor Cr Robyn Gulline

#### What you can expect if you're elected to Youth Council

Representing your community on the Youth Council is an important responsibility, and will be a whole lot of fun. If you're elected, you will:

- Participate in a 3-day induction, held across two weekends in July 2023
- Serve a 12 month Term in Office, from August 2023 to July 2024
- Participate in fortnightly meetings on a weekday after school (snacks/dinner provided, and transport will be available for those who need it). The meetings will be held at The Station (16 Pynsent St) with some meetings held online
- Work with your Youth Council to select a Young Mayor
- Get involved in activities led by the Youth Council, and opportunities to work with the Horsham Rural City Council
- Represent your community and celebrate its diversity; share opinions and ideas, learn from others and contribute to creating a better future for your region

The Youth Council is non-partisan and not affiliated with any political party or ideologies. If you're a member of a political party or subscribe to the views of a specific ideology, we'll ask you to not to represent any party and participate as an independent candidate.

Read more about our Code of Conduct at <u>bit.ly/YoungMayorsCodeConduct</u>

### What you'll get access to

If you're <u>selected as a candidate</u> to run for election, you'll get access to:

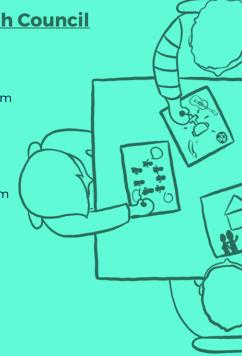
- Online workshops to prepare you for campaigning, led by experts from the Foundation for Young Australians
- A small budget for campaign materials and 10 t-shirts for you and your supporters to promote your campaign
- The opportunity to speak to your constituents at a Town Hall meeting (with support to prepare)
- Coaching and well-being support from the Young Mayors Program team throughout your campaign

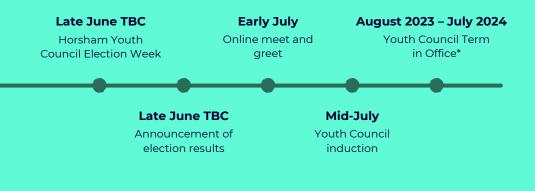
#### 2023 Key Dates



#### If you're <u>elected to the Youth Council</u> you'll get access to:

- Online workshops and training during your induction and throughout your Term in Office to support you
- Support for transport to and from The Station, as needed
- Coaching and mentoring by experts from FYA and Horsham Rural City Council
- The chance to connect and collaborate with Youth Councillors in other parts of the country





\* Youth Council meetings will be held once a fortnight in-person at the The Station, or online



## Who can apply?

#### Keen to apply? Excellent choice. To apply, you must meet the following criteria:

- live in the Horsham Rural City Council local government area
- aged between 11 and 17 years at the time of nomination
- be able to participate in the Youth Council induction in 2023
- submit your own nomination

You do not need to be an Australian citizen to nominate yourself.

# What is the nomination process?

To nominate, all you need to do is read and fill out this form: <u>bit.ly/HorshamNominations</u>

After nominations close, your application will be assessed by a panel of FYA and HRCC team members. Not everyone who applies will be selected as a candidate to run for election. Candidates will be selected based on responses to two questions, and availability to commit to the Term in Office.

If you're not selected, we will provide feedback to help you develop a stronger application if you want to apply again in future years.

Note: Once elected, the Youth Council will select a Young Mayor.

More information	If you have a question check out Young Mayors Horsham FAQ: <u>bit.ly/HorshamFAQ</u>
	For any other questions, or if you'd like support to fill out your nomination form, please email Irene Banda at <u>youngmayors@fya.org.au</u>