

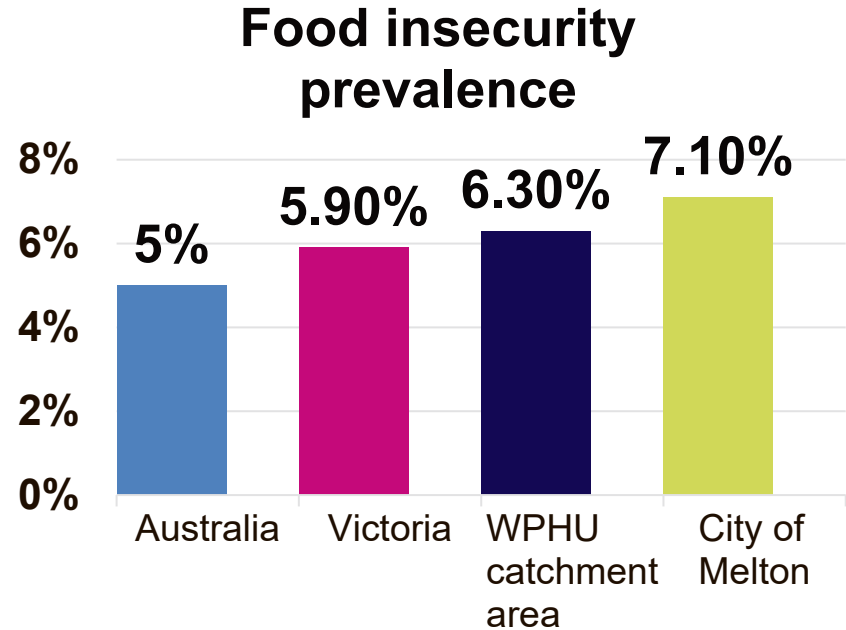
Melton Food Systems Collective

A thriving community where everyone belongs



Food insecurity in Melton

- Food insecurity is common and increasing in Melton
- One of three priority areas in the Western Public Health Unit's Catchment Plan
- Compounded by high cost of living
- Lack of physical access and infrastructure
- Lack of coordination amongst relief agencies.



Melton Health Promotion Forum 2023

- 85 local stakeholder representatives
- Agreement that current food access and distribution system is not meeting the growing community need
- Need for whole-of-community coordinated approach to support vulnerable clients and communities
- Collective call for the establishment of collective network with holistic approach.



Response to food insecurity

- **Systems Approach:** long-term and prevention-focused approach
- **Social Equity and Intersectional Lens:** addresses systemic barriers and supports equal outcomes
- **Collective Impact:** shared vision and coordinated approach
- **Relief and Response:** delivers food relief to communities.



The Melton Food Systems Collective

- Engage diverse local stakeholders to sustainably plan for collective action across the City of Melton to improve access and outcomes for community
- Collectively support short-term food relief and food security issues
- Create resilient and inclusive food systems that meet the needs of diverse community groups and address root causes of food insecurity
- Council will lead as the backbone organisation of a collective impact approach.



Role of the Collective

- Share our knowledge
- Commit to collaborative action
- Ensure City of Melton's most vulnerable communities are at the forefront
- Improve Melton's Food Systems.



Role of Council

Lead as backbone organisation to support collective impact approach:

- Ensuring mobilisation and sustainability of the Collective.
- Ensuring representation of City of Melton community in decision making for improving food systems.
- Create and support environment for food systems partners and evidence to continue to evolve.
- Embed policy, planning and advocacy to support sustainable collective action across Melton future food systems.

Objective 1: identify barriers and opportunities to enhancing an equitable, affordable and accessible food system in Melton (May 2024).

What will this look like?

Melton-specific research piece to map the current food system and identify community needs, service gaps and the role of Council.



Objective 2: establish and upskill a local collective of stakeholders to sustainably identify and respond to changing environments and needs in the Melton food system (*June 2024*)

What will this look like?

- Melton Food Systems Collective is established with a sustainable model.
- Collective identifies capacity building opportunities.



Objective 3: develop a strategic collective action plan that strengthens the capacity of stakeholders to improve prevention and intervention initiatives, in partnership for the City of Melton

What will this look like?

Melton Food Systems Collective partners build collective capacity through collaboration and identified training opportunities, to support sustainable food relief and food systems mobilisation.



Objective 4: initiate the delivery of activities to enhance an equitable, affordable and accessible food system in Melton (May 2025)

What will this look like?

Delivery of the Collective action plan for strengthening stakeholder collaboration across Melton's food systems.



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