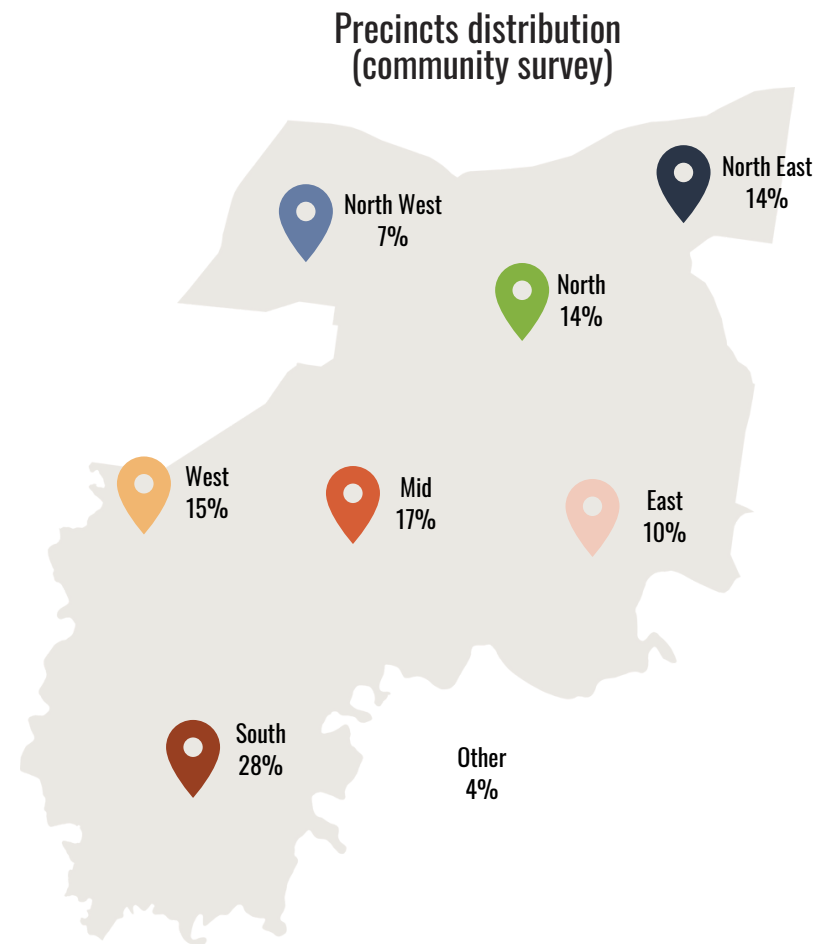
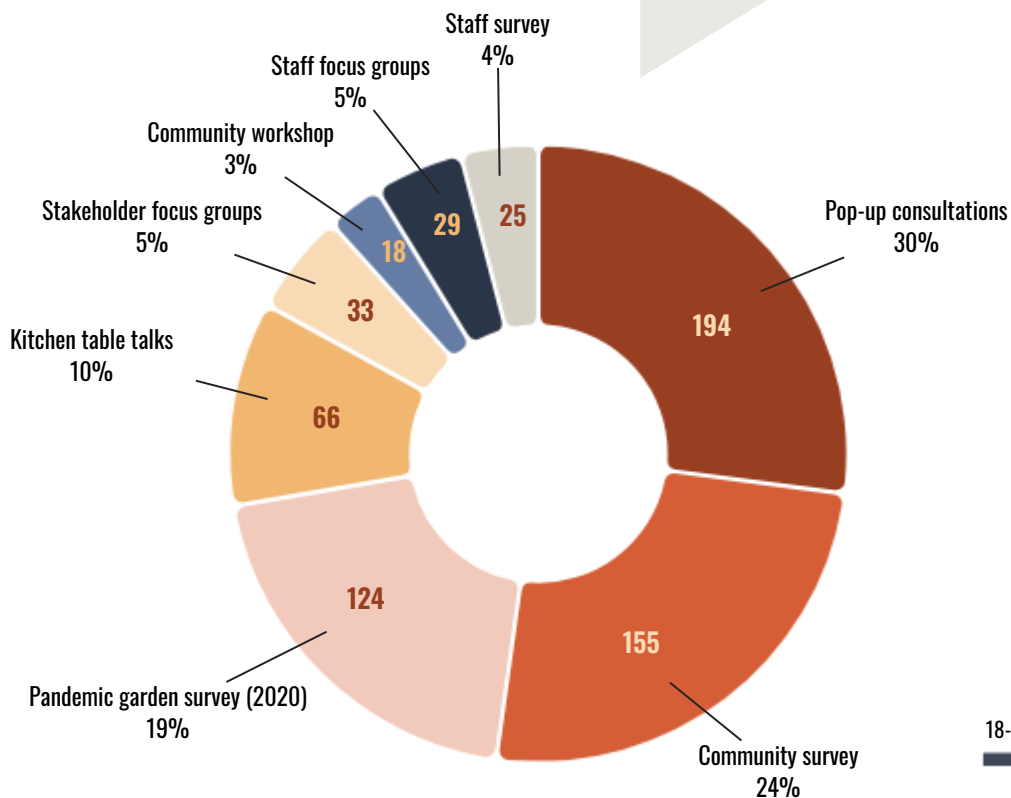


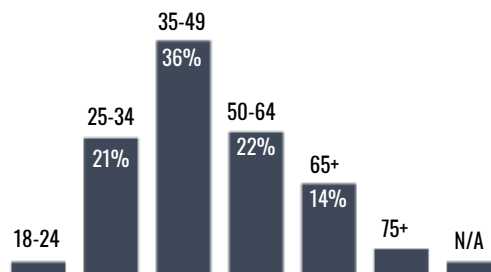
# Consultation overview

**644**  
people engaged

Between September 2022 and February 2023, an extensive consultation process took place in Banyule through community pop-ups, kitchen table talks, online surveys, workshops and focus groups. A diverse range of stakeholders, residents and Council staff were engaged in order to develop a preliminary community vision for Banyule's urban food system.

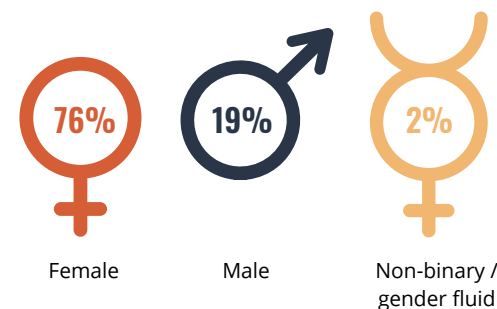


Age (community survey)



Gender (community survey)

\* 2% preferred not to declare



# Our strengths



Established local food and sustainability networks



A strong, engaged community

75% Grow food at home  
19% Participate in a community garden  
75% Consider food central to how they make friends or connect with community.

\*Community survey



A committed and connected Council



Major new economic development initiatives

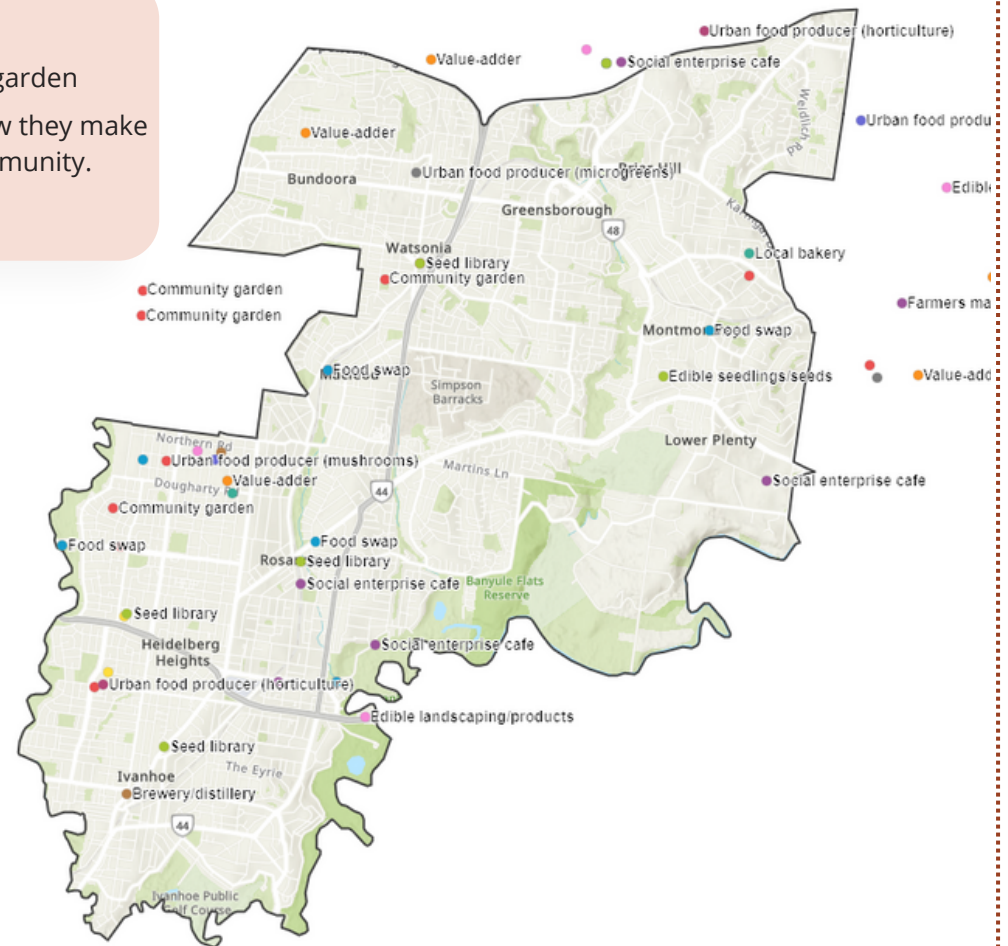


Abundant open spaces and bushland



Strong alignment with existing and emerging strategies for Council

## Community food assets



Esri, Geoscience Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS | Vicmap, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS | Esri, Michael Bauer Research GmbH...



# Our challenges

## The local food environment

*"I participate in the veg boxes by Farm Raiser, and the fact that they deliver is central to my ability to access/participate. I don't have a car, so always find it hard to get to local farms and/or pick up veg boxes on a regular basis"*

– Bellfield resident (community survey)

Ratio of unhealthy to healthy food outlets\*

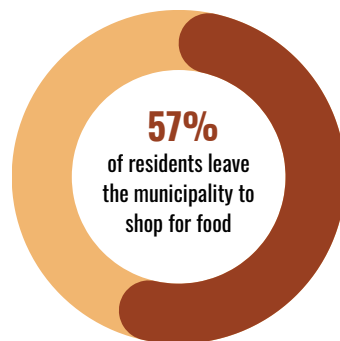


3 : 1

### How residents access food



77% 8% 6% 3%



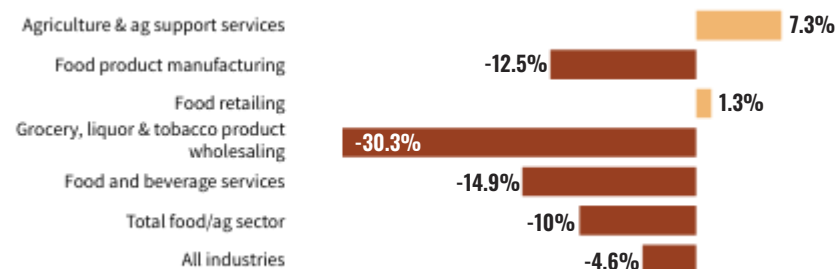
### Barriers to accessing and choosing healthy food options

- 28% No time to shop and cook
- 25% Healthy food options too expensive
- 14% Healthy food options not available in stores near me
- 3% Not confident in selecting and preparing healthy meals

\*Healthy food includes greengrocers, cultural grocers and supermarkets. Unhealthy food includes fast food chains, takeaway outlets, convenience stores and confectionery shops.

## The local food economy

### Percentage change in local sales (from 2016/17 to 2020/21)



### Decrease in jobs (between 2016/17 and 2020/21)



*"I am disappointed that a lot of small food businesses have closed recently... It would be great to see Banyule promoting and supporting local independent food businesses that have to compete against the big supermarket chains."*

– Ivanhoe resident (community survey)

# Our challenges

**1 in 5** community survey respondents reported some level of food insecurity in the last year

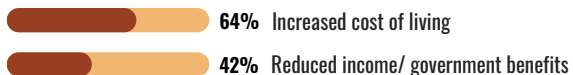


## Banyule residents under financial stress



Source: Everybody's Home Campaign - Financial Stress Map  
<https://everybodyshome.com.au/financial-stress-map-victoria/>

## Most common drivers of food insecurity



A much broader range of household types and income levels are now experiencing food insecurity (Foodbank Hunger Report, 2022).

## Growing vulnerability and food insecurity

*"We can't keep up with the food demand."*

- Watsonia emergency food relief provider (kitchen table talk)

## Increased demand for food relief

Local emergency food relief providers report that demand for food relief continues to grow. Community consultation also suggests there is a lack of coordination in delivering services to people who need it most, and many people may not know where to access services.

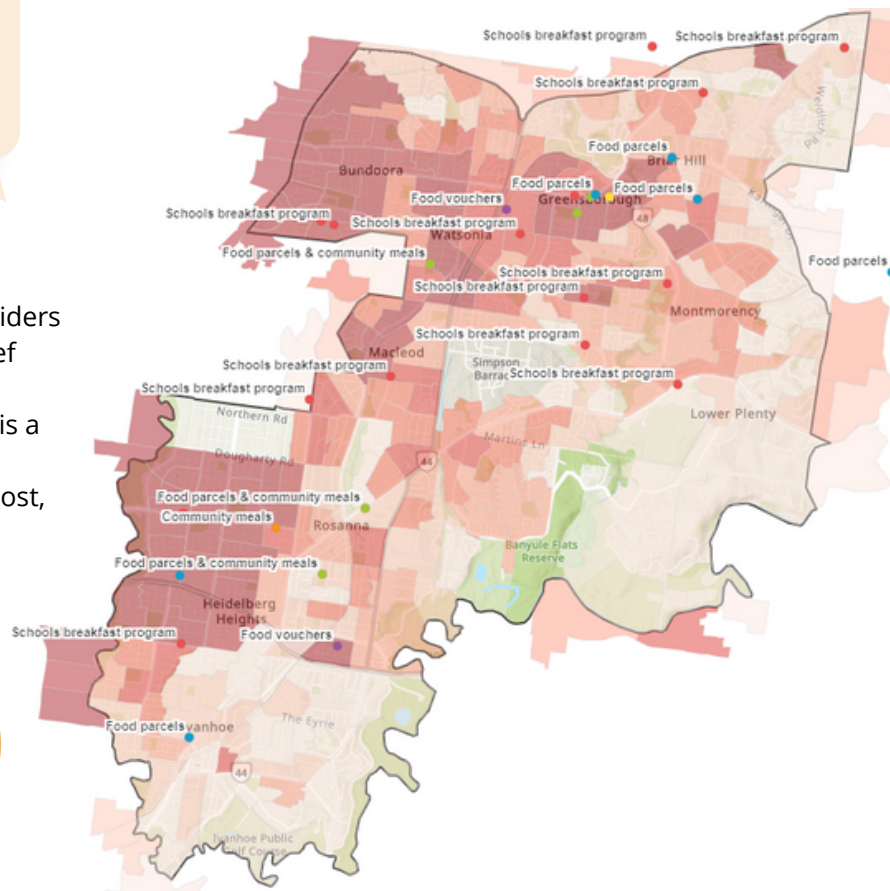
**216%**

increase in client demand for emergency and food relief from late 2019 to 2022



Source: Banyule Support and Information January 2023 Progress Report

## Distribution of food relief providers and services



Esri, Geoscience Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS | Viomaps, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FourSquare, METI/NASA, USGS | Esri, Michael Bauer Research GmbH...



# Our priorities

## Community

*What would you like to see more of in Banyule?*

- Local food access
- Community food initiatives
- Community food growing
- Sustainable farming in & around Banyule

## Council Staff

*What do you feel should be the top three priorities for Council in developing its Urban Food Strategy?*

- Food relief and food security
- Sustainability and climate change
- Health and wellbeing

*"My vision is for a food-connected community where food and food products are the centrepiece of a table shared by residents who are diverse yet bonded by a common love of good, healthy food and food practices. For this to happen, food needs to be locally visible, poking out of every nook and cranny"*

*– Ivanhoe resident (community survey)*

*"Make the food more healthy, less fast food. I see too much unhealthy food."*

*– Year 4 student (pop-up consultation)*

*"Better local greengrocer. More Asian and Middle Eastern options for fruit and veg. More and varied fresh fish outlets".*

*– Montmorency resident (community survey)*

*"I want to grow my own food now because of the cost, but also because it's organic. I don't trust the supermarkets."*

*– Barrbunin Beek client (pop-up consultation)*



# Our Community Vision

## An inclusive, connected food community

All Banyule residents have equitable access to fresh, healthy and culturally appropriate food. Community food relief initiatives, where required, put people's dignity first. Food is the connective tissue of Banyule's diverse communities.

## A thriving local food economy

Local neighbourhoods have a lively, village feel, and local food businesses reflect the cultural diversity of their communities. Banyule residents find it easy and convenient to buy good food locally. Greengrocers, butchers, bakers and other food businesses provide job opportunities and cater to people working, visiting or living in the municipality.

## Planning for healthy and sustainable food environments

The food system is understood as vital urban infrastructure, and access to healthy, affordable and sustainable food contributes to a sense of place, belonging and underpins neighbourhood and precinct planning. Healthy and sustainable food environments are not left to chance but rather integrated into the local planning scheme.

## Good food system governance

The governance of Banyule's food system is consultative, collaborative and participatory. Strong leadership support for the Urban Food Strategy within Council is strengthened by a diverse network of urban farmers, community gardeners, local business owners, community organisations and their volunteers. The 'food lens' is applied to the development of new or review of existing policies to ensure strategic alignment and policy integration across Council.

## Abundant edible landscapes

Food is grown in backyards, community gardens and other spaces across the municipality. Urban farmers are supported to grow food and feed their community. Community members can access information and educational activities about growing food.

