

Summary Report

24th March 2018

**Wyndham Family Friendly Charter**

Thank you everyone for your input into the Family Friendly Charter draft proposal. Feedback was received online via The Loop and at separate workshops with stakeholders both internal and external to council.

Feedback received indicated that:

* The definition of family may be too narrow to capture the diversity of family groupings in Wyndham
* Support for the Charter principles

As a result of feedback the following changes were made to the Charter:

*Definition of family*

In the draft Family Friendly Charter the definition of family was:

*Two or more individuals related by blood, marriage/commitment or adoption - including people living together, not living together, those in committed same sex relationships, defacto relationships, foster care and step relationships.*

It has now been changed to:

*Two or more individuals that come together as a unit, to support and care for each other.*

The intent of the original definition was to be broad enough to capture the diversity of family groupings in Wyndham. During the public consultation some members of the community and those who work with families in Wyndham felt that the definition could be more open and inclusive and that the current wording made it seem more focused on a traditional family structure. A revised definition has now been included that aims to communicate the intent more simply.

*Enhancements to principles:*

Principle One: Voice

* Stronger emphasis on active and meaningful engagement opportunities for families

Principle Two: Equity and Social Cohesion

* An additional example of possible implementation has been put forward to recognise that in addition to advocating, opportunities to work together to make local changes where possible should

Principle Three:

* Inclusion of the word ‘equitable’ into the principle statement to align with Council’s equity and inclusion policy direction

Principle Four: Partnerships

* Inclusion of recognition of family friendly employers/workplaces

The Family Friendly Charter with its agreed changes was taken to the Council Chambers on Tuesday 1st May 2018 and it was officially adopted by council.

We have now started the process of an awareness campaign to both internal and external stakeholders about the Family Friendly Charter.

Last week in combination with Family Week we displayed the Charter at the following events:

* Play Expo 16th May 2018 at Arndell Park
* IDAHOBIT day 17th May 2018 at Wyndham Civic Centre

In the next few months the Family Friendly Charter will be showcased at the following events:

* Manor Lakes Community and Learning Centre Launch 25th May 2018
* Winter Party 29th June 2018

Thank you again for your support in getting this charter shaped and please feel free to drop at the above events and come and support our awareness campaign.