

VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge – Integration Phase 1: 2019

Funding guidelines

VicHealth's Bright Futures report (2015) identified rapidly emerging trends in society and their resulting influences on young people's mental wellbeing.

Resilience, social connections and cohesion are important assets required for all young people and communities to be successful and thriving into the future. The big question was: how do we build these assets in our local communities?

The VicHealth Bright Futures Challenge kicked off in 2016 and has brought Victorian local councils together with young people and other partners to develop solutions that can promote community and young people's resilience, social connection and mental wellbeing.

The Bright Futures Challenge is now entering its third stage with a focus on integrating the learnings and achievements of the earlier stages. VicHealth invites the Victorian local councils that have already been part of the Bright Futures Challenge to apply to become an Integration Mentor.

VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge Integration Phase 1 will provide funding for Integration Mentors to:

- Produce your Bright Futures Program Implementation Guide during a period of 10 weeks (January to March 2019); and
- Work with VicHealth and other partners to support integration of your program within other Victorian local councils (March to December 2019).

Councils can apply by completing and submitting a Bright Futures Challenge Integration Phase application as per instructions included in the invitation to apply.

Enquiries

For questions regarding the program, these guidelines or the Terms and Conditions please email brightfutures@vichealth.vic.gov.au.

Important information

Key dates

Opening date	Monday 19 November 2018
Closing date	5pm Monday 3 December 2018
Questions anticipated by	Wednesday 28 November 2018
Funding period	January 2019–December 2019

Important documents

Before applying, please ensure you have thoroughly read and understood these guidelines as well as the:

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Terms and Conditions
- VicHealth Privacy Statement
- VicHealth Website Terms of Use.

Submitting an application

To complete your application, you will need to:

- have your council ABN and bank account details
- register your details on the Funding Application System
- complete the online Eligibility and Compliance check
- complete the online application.

About VicHealth

VicHealth is a pioneer in health promotion – the process of enabling people to increase control over and improve their health. Our primary focus is promoting good health and preventing chronic disease. VicHealth’s current investments align with the [VicHealth Action Agenda for Health Promotion](#).

The Action Agenda is our strategic plan to 2023, with 10-year goals and 3-year priorities on the following strategic imperatives:

Promote healthy eating	Encourage regular physical activity	Prevent tobacco use
Prevent harm from alcohol	Improve mental wellbeing.	

More information about VicHealth is available at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au.

Background to Bright Futures Challenge

VicHealth’s [Mental Wellbeing Strategy 2015–19](#) aims to find new approaches and opportunities for building resilience and social connection in Victorian young people and communities.

Resilience is about enhancing everyone’s ability to cope with, adapt to and bounce back from any challenge or adversity they experience in their lives. Social connection is an important contributor to resilience and mental wellbeing.

At a community level, resilience-building factors include opportunities for young people to have positive social relationships, attachment to neighbourhood, safe environments and social cohesion. Importantly, the evidence for these factors is currently scarce and results from this Challenge will contribute new and important knowledge about what works to build resilience at a community level.

Our focus in mental wellbeing has been informed by an extensive review of the latest evidence, analysis of trends and consultation with experts. This information has helped us prioritise our work until 2019 on building resilience and social connection, with a particular emphasis on young people aged 12–25 years old.

The VicHealth/CSIRO [Bright Futures: Megatrends impacting the mental wellbeing of young Victorians over the coming 20 years](#) report has also informed the issues we need to consider, and the needs of young people, to better prepare them for the future. The report provides an analysis of new and emerging trends in society and their resulting influences on young people’s mental wellbeing. The report identifies resilience as an important asset required for all young people to be successful into the future.

The five megatrends identified in Bright Futures are:

The rising bar: Rising skills and education levels in emerging economies (India and China), increased connectivity and automation are leading to a more competitive global jobs market.

Global reach: Globalisation and digital technology are changing the way workplaces and individuals operate. The future will see a new breed of portfolio workers who have no fixed abode and sell their skills and knowledge to multiple employers.

Life’s richer tapestry: A more diverse culture, society and consumer market where identification of mainstream is increasingly difficult. This includes the aging population staying at work longer, increased growth in the Indigenous youth population and increase in number of non-traditional family structures such as single parent families.

Overexposure online: Increasing exposure to wide-ranging online content, privacy breaches and virtual relationships. Young people will have virtual resumes which are beyond their control to edit as there will be an increase in the amount of discoverable personal information.

Out of the shadows: Improved and widespread understanding of the causes of mental illness and building blocks for mental wellbeing, coupled with advances in medical technology and a change in service delivery models will help some. However, poor mental health in Indigenous and remote communities, and issues such as PTSD and family violence remain a major concern.

In 2016 VicHealth launched the Bright Futures Challenge, inviting Victorian local councils to develop and responses to the megatrends identified above and solutions to promote young people's resilience, social connection and mental wellbeing. The first round of the Bright Futures Challenge enabled 12 local councils to work directly with young people through co design and create new programs and initiatives in the local area. The second round of the Bright Futures Challenge provided Horizon funding for several of those local councils to further expand their program activity. It also provided Seed funding for several new local councils to join the Challenge by creating new programs and initiatives.

In total the Bright Futures Challenge has supported 20 local councils to create new programs for young people and resilience, as listed in the table below.

Victorian local council	Project name
Banyule City Council	The Mail Project – Youth Voices Being Heard
Brimbank City Council	Upstart and Uplift
Cardinia Shire Council	Safe and Supported in Cardinia
Casey City Council	Arts Agitators
Corangamite Shire Council	We Know Your Name But Not Your Story
Darebin City Council	First Step
Gannawarra Shire Council	Wired into the Warra – A Virtual Youth Space
Golden Plains Shire Council	GPS Adventures
Greater Dandenong City Council	Kitchen Challenge
Hindmarsh Shire Council	Understanding Reality
Latrobe City Council	Green Valley Garden
Manningham City Council	Skills 4 the Future: Opening the Doors for Young People into Work
Maribyrnong City Council	Bandmates
Maroondah City Council	Youth Uploaded
Melbourne City Council	My Journey
Monash City Council	Young Women's Leadership Program
Moonee Valley City Council	Youth-Friendly Employer Certification Program
Moreland City Council	The Moreland Youth Movement Project
Wyndham City Council	Dad Space
Yarra City Council	The Art of Belonging

For more information about previous rounds of the Bright Futures Challenge see <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/programs-and-projects/bright-futures-projects>

About VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge – Integration Phase

The goals of the Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge Integration Phase are to:

- Increase the resilience and social connections of young Victorians
- Continue to support Victorian local councils as leaders in the delivery of youth resilience programs and co design
- Embed the most promising youth resilience programs into the business of selected Victorian local councils
- Develop and test integration models to enable future mental wellbeing action.

What's on offer?

VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge Integration Phase 1 grants will provide funding for Victorian local councils to become Integration Mentors. Up to \$75,000 is available for each Integration Mentor council. The funding period and anticipated activity period is 12 months.

This program is providing support to document and sustain the Bright Futures projects which have demonstrated their potential for replication or scaling. This program is not providing support to create new initiatives or projects; rather it will support the replication and embedding of the most effective Bright Futures projects into additional local council areas.

What is the funding for?

The purpose of the funding is to support local councils to deliver their function as Integration Mentors during the Bright Futures Challenge Integration Phase. The role of the Integration Mentor is described in the below.

Funding can be utilised for:

- Reasonable staff costs to engage a contractor or reimburse staffing costs for existing employees delivering agreed activities.
- Reasonable and necessary costs of facilitation for approved events, such as healthy catering, facility hire and administration
- Reasonable advertising or media costs for activity promotions

Funding will not be allocated for:

- Existing council plans or work that will go ahead regardless of the Bright Futures grant
- Development of new programs or services
- Capital works or infrastructure improvements
- Alcohol or tobacco promotions, or any act which may damage VicHealth's reputation
- Advertising or media costs for unrelated council activities.

What are the functions of an Integration Mentor

Produce an accessible instruction or how-to guide for your Bright Futures program which can be published as part of a suite of Bright Futures Program Implementation Guides

Participate in up to four writing workshops and individual writing coaching sessions with VicHealth and project partners to support development of your Program Implementation Guide

Provide information to assist VicHealth in publishing the Program Implementation Guide

Participate in up to four Integration planning workshops with VicHealth and project partners

Provide information and advice to other local councils in the Integration phase through presentations and discussion

Provide information and advice to VicHealth during the recruitment of other project partners in the Integration Phase

Contribute to the design and development of the Bright Futures Integration Model

Participate in evaluation and promotion of the Bright Futures Challenge Integration Phase

Who can apply?

All Victorian councils that have previously been funded in the Bright Futures Challenge are eligible to apply but must have satisfactorily acquitted any previous funding that was received from VicHealth and demonstrate a commitment to the partnership and integration goals that are underpinning this program.

Applications are limited to one per council. Only Victorian councils that have previously been funded in the Bright Futures Challenge are eligible to apply.

All VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge applications must be submitted online in accordance with timelines and processes outlined.

How to apply?

Councils can apply by completing and submitting a Bright Futures Challenge application at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/brightfutures.

What are the selection criteria on which applications will be assessed?

We will be assessing applications against the following assessment criteria:

Community and youth resilience, and social connection

Sound knowledge of the Bright Futures concepts and ability to implement programs are key requirements of the integration phase. Applications must reflect an excellent understanding of community and youth resilience and social connection for wellbeing and also describe a demonstrated capacity to deliver programs toward these goals.

Sustainability within local council

Local councils will be the lead agencies with whom VicHealth will enter into contract. Applications must demonstrate council's commitment to project success with regards to integration and sustainability. Applications may also describe the approaches to program sustainability that council has developed in previous phases of the Bright Futures Challenge.

Partnerships

The Bright Futures Challenge Integration Phase requires councils to work collaboratively with other councils, with VicHealth and with other project partners. Applications should present evidence of council's previous achievements in partnership activity and also council's readiness to work in partnership towards integration for outcomes at the Victorian level.

Replicability and scalability

The Bright Futures Challenge Integration Phase seeks to replicate, adapt and embed current projects into new council areas. Applications must indicate council's initial identification of the most replicable aspects of the project and also those aspects that may be unique to the original project setting.

Equity

Priority may be given to projects that have the potential to influence significant numbers of young people and/or their influencers (parents, employers, teachers, communities) in particular more vulnerable young people including:

- growth areas, rural and regional communities across Victoria where poor youth mental health or its precursors are prevalent
- unemployed young people or those struggling to transition between education or training and formal employment
- young people exhibiting or at risk of anti-social and related behaviours, for example violence and alcohol or other drug use
- lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) young people who may be socially and geographically isolated and stigmatised
- new arrival, culturally and linguistically diverse and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people experiencing discrimination or social exclusion.

Evaluation

VicHealth will continue to provide an overarching evaluation of the Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge; however, proposals must outline what their process, impact and outcome measures will be. VicHealth expects projects to undertake monitoring of activities against their own success measures and to adjust activities accordingly.

Funding conditions

Successful applicants are required to:

- comply with VicHealth's Terms and Conditions
- confirm bank account details for electronic funds transfer
- confirm ABN with VicHealth
- comply with reporting requirements as outlined in these guidelines
- take part in an evaluation of VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge as requested
- acknowledge VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge grant in all communications as detailed in the Terms and Conditions
- ensure they are not a recipient of financial support from tobacco companies.

Payment of funding to successful organisations

If your council is successful in receiving a Challenge Integration grant, the funds will be made by electronic funds transfer into your nominated bank account provided during the VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge Integration application.

VicHealth will issue you with a Recipient Created Tax Invoice (RCTI) along with remittance advice once the funds have been made. This is a VicHealth generated invoice and your council is not required to raise a separate invoice.

It is council's responsibility to ensure the bank account details are correct, as outlined in clause 11 of the Terms and Conditions.

Further reading

VicHealth's Mental Wellbeing Strategy 2015–19

www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/search/mental-wellbeing-strategy

Bright Futures: Megatrends impacting the mental wellbeing of young Victorians over the coming 20 years.

www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/youth-megatrends-report

The Partnership Analysis Tool

www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/search/the-partnerships-analysis-tool

Fair Foundations: The VicHealth framework for health equity

www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/search/the-vichealth-framework-for-health-equity

VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge – Integration Phase 1

FAQs

Eligibility

Who is eligible for VicHealth's Bright Future for Young Victorians Challenge Integration Phase 1?

Only Victorian councils that have previously been funded in the Bright Future Challenge are eligible to apply. Applications are limited at one per council. If your council is participating as consortium partner in a project but is not the lead agency this is not counted as an application.

Funding

What is the total funding amount?

VicHealth's Bright Future for Young Victorians Challenge Integration Phase 1 has a total pool of funding of \$300,000 over the period from January 2019 to December 2019.

How much money is available for each successful council?

While no specific funding amounts have been determined as yet, we may offer up to \$75,000 for each successful council. Amounts mentioned are GST exclusive.

Is there an expectation for councils to co-invest in the program?

There is no requirement for a council to co-invest in VicHealth's Bright Future for Young Victorians Challenge Integration Phase 1. However, if your council or other partners are planning to co-invest you should include this intention in your application as integration and sustainability are the focus of this phase.

Will staffing costs be funded?

Yes, VicHealth allows councils to allocate budget expenditure to staffing costs to drive this project. This may include EFT for one or more staff. This can include existing council staff and new staffing resources for the project. There is a line in the budget template in question 13 of the application where councils can outline staff costs. Please provide comments against the budget line item to provide explanation of the staffing resources required.

Are there any restrictions to the way the budget can be allocated?

The budget you submit as part of your application should align with the scope of your project and with these guidelines. The listed line items provide a guide as to the type of expenses your project will likely have. You are able to add line items as needed but please provide comments to support your budget.

Project design

Why is this funding opportunity being directed toward local government?

This program demonstrates increasing awareness of the significant role that Councils can play in creating more resilient communities and aligns with strategies across government more broadly. Our research indicates that some of the greatest challenges to young people's resilience and mental wellbeing are loneliness and social isolation. Though we live in an increasingly networked age many people are lacking social supports and connection at a local community or neighbourhood level.

Why is this funding opportunity focused on integration and sustainability?

VicHealth action is guided by our business model of Innovate, Inform, Integrate. Our aim is to build community activity that is sustainable and can influence health and wellbeing in the long-term. The previous stages of the Bright Futures Challenge

have supported the creation of new approaches to youth resilience and strengthened youth co design. The next stage will support councils to sustain these approaches in the long term by increasing young people's access to the programs and embedding the programs into the business of local councils.

VicHealth has previously supported sustainability planning and delivery for example in the Generating Equality and Respect Program. More information and the summary report are available at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/gear

Application and assessment

What are the selection criteria for the program?

Selection criteria can be found in VicHealth's Bright Future for Young Victorians Challenge Integration Phase 1 Guidelines (above).

Can we submit multiple applications?

No, proposals are limited to one per council.

If your council is participating as consortium partner in a project but is not the lead agency this is not counted as an application.

What level of partner commitment is expected at the application stage?

VicHealth only requires in principal support from project partners to indicate an acknowledgement of the integration phase and the goals of this phase.

Will councils funded through other VicHealth initiatives be disadvantaged?

No, all council applications will be reviewed against the selection criteria.

Payments

If we are successful how are payments made?

Payments will be made in three instalments, 60% at the commencement of the project, 30% at the completion of the Program Implementation Guide and the final 10% on submission of all project requirements and completion of the project.

Once contractual agreement is reached VicHealth Finance team will be in touch with successful grantees to reconfirm payment arrangements.

Evaluation

How will VicHealth measure overall outcomes and success?

As part of the Bright Future Challenge to date VicHealth has commissioned the development of an evaluation framework which has assisted us in measuring whether the high-level objectives of the program have been achieved. VicHealth will ensure the Integration phase is evaluated in a similar way.

How will funded councils contribute to evaluation?

Funded councils are expected to contribute to and participate in the overall program evaluation as described above.

It is also expected that councils will measure their own success at a local level, through appropriate measures developed once the project commences, to inform delivery and ensure the project is monitored throughout.

To support this, local councils applying for funding must outline what their process, impact and outcome measures will be in their application forms.

Role of VicHealth

What role will VicHealth play in the projects during the funding period?

VicHealth will provide support and review during the life of the project. VicHealth will also recruit expert agencies as required to support all planning and development required in the Integration Phase. We will provide opportunities for projects to come together in structured workshops to share learnings, problem solve challenges and receive support and education as required.

How do grant recipients report to VicHealth on their activities?

In addition to the submission of a budget and workplan, VicHealth will also provide templates for a midway progress report and a final report at the point of project completion.

Will VicHealth be able to support projects that aren't successful?

VicHealth will continue to engage with Victorian councils who are not successful in this phase, to share learnings, case studies and models of good practice for building resilience and planning integration through a variety of forums and additional approaches.

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