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MEDIA RELEASE

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Successful program turning young lives around

More young people living in the City of Melton will have an opportunity to reach their potential with the Victorian Government extending funding for the UTURN 193 program.

The UTURN 193 crime prevention program works with young people aged 10 to 24 years who are at risk of committing crime or have already offended in the criminal justice system.

Last week, Minister for Crime Prevention the Hon. Natalie Hutchins announced funding that will allow Melton City Council to continue delivering the program for another year.

City of Melton Mayor Cr Goran Kesic thanked the State Government for continuing to support UTURN 193.

“The project has been delivered for five years in the City of Melton, with great success. It has already helped more than 4,200 young people in our area by linking them to education and employment pathways and providing intensive case management,” Cr Kesic said.

“The program addresses low self-esteem, disengagement from education, unemployment, emerging mental health issues, drug and alcohol misuse, trauma and violence.

“The program works because it enables participants to take the lead in identifying their own needs and seek opportunities for personal growth and skill development on their terms.

“Empowering young people to make better choices has a positive impact on their families and the wider community.”

UTURN 193 is a partnership between Melton City Council, Victoria Police, Odyssey House Victoria, Djerriwarrh Health Services, and Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services.

It's a free, confidential and voluntary service. To find out more and access the service, visit melton.vic.gov.au/uturn193

ENDS

Melton City Council media enquiries (not for publication): Kylie Kitchen, A/Communications Coordinator on 0427 595 552.