

Foster Community Plan

February 2026



Foster is a rural town 174 km south-east of Melbourne. It is on the South Gippsland Highway and 60 km north of Tidal River, Wilson's Promontory. Foster has a population of just over 2,000. Foster is the service centre centre for the Corner Inlet District. There is a strong commitment to the natural environment, community and history.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands on which this Plan applies and pay our respect to Elders past and present.

Facts about Foster

2,318
Population in 2024

1,066
Women

979
Men

57
Median age in 2021

2.73%
Population growth since 2023 compared to Sth. Gipps. 0.65%

22.3% of Foster residents volunteer compared to **17.3%** in regional Victoria.

"Foster has everything - schools, kindergarten, shops, medical centre, hospital, sports venues - golf, footy, bowls basketball and tennis, an aged care facility, shops and a bank."

- Survey Respondent

For further information:
fosterplanninggroup@gmail.com

View the community plan
www.foster.vic.au

Survey Results

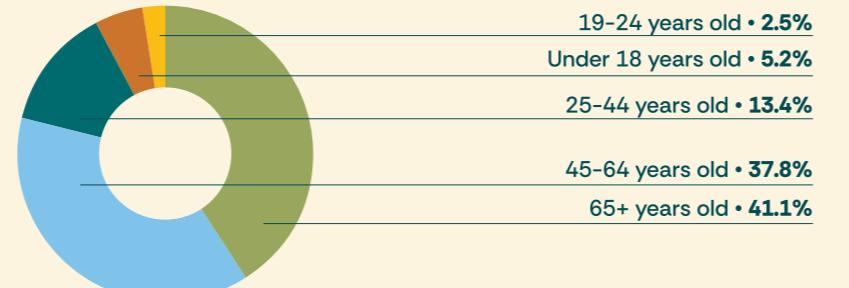
How we developed the plan

The community was consulted from August to November 2025 using several methods, including conversations with community leaders, service groups and residents in Foster.

A Community Survey ran through September and received 210 responses — around 10% of Foster's population. Findings from all engagement activities were shared at the Community Planning Event on 15 November 2025, where more than 270 people contributed additional ideas.

The survey was promoted through a letterbox drop, press releases and articles in the Prom Coast News (with over 2,100 readers). Engagement was also supported through a Facebook campaign and flyer distribution.

Age Group Of Survey Respondents



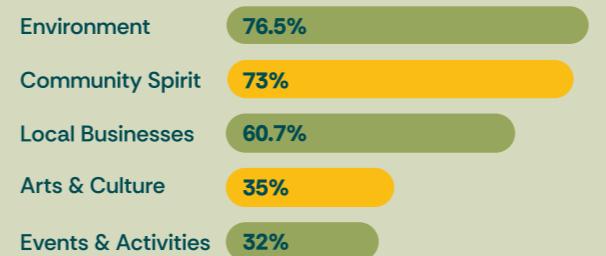
How Long The Survey Respondents Have Been Connected To Foster



What We Love About Foster



Top 5 things our community loves most about Foster



Our Community

42% of respondents believe that the Foster community is one of its greatest strengths. Other notable mentions include Services 34% and the Environment 22%

Challenges We Face



We asked our community what they thought were Foster's biggest challenges right now. These were their top 5



Future Foster

Our Community's Top 3 Priorities For Foster Over The Next 10-15 Years



Health

Community Connection & Inclusion

Environment & Sustainability

The Foster we want

52.66% said a Vibrant and Thriving Community
38.83% want an Inclusive & Connected Town



Community Projects

Foster has many active community groups working on current and upcoming projects. A range of project ideas were suggested, with five projects having champions to move them forward.

Reactivation of Foster Community Assoc.

Actions Proposed
Create a committee and enact the Foster Community Plan

Benefit to the Community
A Community Association is the main voice for the community when talking to Council or the State Government. It can also support smaller community groups through auspicing.

Re-development of the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre (FWMAC)

Actions Proposed
The revitalisation of the arts precinct and a focus on a future redeveloped space for the arts centre.

Benefit to the Community
The current building has a limited lifespan. It is timely to introduce a Master Plan for a new and inclusive space for the arts.

Install Shade Sails – Foster Pool

Actions Proposed
Raise \$60,000 through grant applications and fundraising

Benefit to the Community
Shade sails promote sun smart behaviours.

Revegetate Stockyard Creek

Actions Proposed
Support indigenous vegetation and remove invasive weeds

Benefit to the Community
Enhances the environment and reminds us of the importance of nature.

Project Partners
Corner Inlet Landcare, Catchment Management Authority, South Gippsland Shire Council

Colin Hall Pavilion

Actions Proposed
Construct an environmentally controlled space to house and display Foster's history.

Benefit to the Community
This space is vital for storing archival items for future generations.

Project Partners
Foster Historical Society, Bendigo Bank, Rotary, Lions and the RSL