

Poverty and Place

The pursuit of a fair and just society

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The Hume City Story

Poverty – Policy and Place

Precursors to Policy- a fair & just

- ◆ Local Government Act
- ◆ Hume's Experience
- ◆ Social Justice and Bill



Policy into Place

- ◆ Poverty Inquiry
- ◆ Learning Together
- ◆ Dallas/Broadmeadows Urban Renewal
- ◆ Breeze

Elements of success



Poverty

Policy or Place

➤ Different approaches to poverty

- ◆ Local Government context
- ◆ Need combination Policy (universal) and Place (targeted) approaches

➤ Hume's Approach- "Pursuit of a fair and just society"

- ◆ Community wellbeing, social inclusion and Citizens' Rights
- ◆ Relevant, responsive and valuing
- ◆ Comprehensive
- ◆ Continuous improvement



Precursors to Rights Approach

Local Government Act

- "...to achieve the best outcomes for the local community...."
- "to promote the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the municipal district"
- Required "to improve the overall life of the people in the community"



Precursors to Rights Approach

Hume's Experience

- **Rapidly growing**
 - ◆ 2.2% population growth 2001-2006
 - ◆ 1,205 lots released in 2006/2007
- **Cultural diversity**
 - ◆ 41.7 % speak LOTE at home
 - ◆ 2006 showed 19,689 of Islamic faith compared to 5,827 Anglicans
 - ◆ 42 different countries represented at Citizenship Ceremonies in 2007
- **Settlement destination**
 - ◆ About 400 humanitarian entrants per year



Precursors to Rights Approach

Hume's Experience

"places like this, have more respect for things that you don't need money for, like family and love and stuff like that."

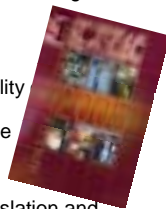
- **Current social disadvantage (2001, 2006 census)**
 - ◆ 5th most disadvantage LGA in Victoria
 - ◆ Average weekly income \$403, almost 20% less than Melbourne's \$481
 - ◆ 12.1% lower proportion young people completing yr12 than Melbourne Metro
- **Historical continuance**
 - ◆ Communities – such as our Indigenous People
 - ◆ Geographic – concentration of disadvantage in some suburbs (JSS 2001, 2003 and 2007)



The Social Justice Framework

Hume's Approach

- **The role of governance**
 - ◆ Vision – renowned for social justice, lifelong learning & community inclusion
- **Social Justice Charter 2001**
 - ◆ Reduce causes of disadvantage
 - ◆ Recognition that not all enjoy equality opportunities
 - ◆ Enable all to participate in public life
- **Bill of Rights 2005**
 - ◆ Bedrock of a fair society
 - ◆ Platform to meet obligations of legislation and Covenants
 - ◆ Strong focus on right to participate



The Social Justice Framework

Hume's Approach

- **Systematic approach for Council**
 - ◆ Guides resources, planning, advocacy, and priorities for our communities
- **Application of Policy**
 - ◆ More than words - 'walk the talk' in all areas of life (social, economic, environmental, cultural)
- **"Living Documents"**
 - ◆ Commitment to dialogue and review
 - ◆ Victorian Charter of Human Rights & Responsibilities 2006



Application of Policy in Place

Social

➤ Tackling Poverty Together

- ◆ Groups experience poverty disproportionately
- ◆ Indigenous, CALD, women, young and old, people with a disability
- ◆ “Building a future together”

➤ Findings

- ◆ Expressions of community strength and dignity
- ◆ Priorities for respect, employment, learning, recreation and essential support
- ◆ Local focus in implementation



Application of Policy in Place

Economic

➤ Learning Together Strategy

- ◆ Facilitate learning, personal growth and participation
- ◆ Themes: life-long learning, language, literacy, numeracy, computer skills, and access of learning opportunities
- ◆ 56 projects over 3 years



Application of Policy in Place

Environmental

➤ Dallas/Broadmeadows Renewal Project

Actions are designed to:

- ◆ capitalise on the area's strategic location,
- ◆ change the undeserved image,
- ◆ improve the economic position of residents,
- ◆ and strengthen community capacity



Application of Policy in Place

Cultural

➤ Breeze

- ◆ Community art project as part of local shopping centre upgrade
- ◆ 6 *Windwalls* captures the ‘breeze of peace, tranquility and comfort’
- ◆ Designed by the community for the community





In conclusion Elements of success

- Leadership and sustained commitment
- Relevant, responsive and valuing
- Comprehensive
- Continuous improvement – policy review

