

Youth Hack 2022





Message from Shire of Broome President



The Shire of Broome is committed to providing **A Future, for Everyone** – and our young people are critical to achieving this vision.

As such, it was fantastic to bring together local teenagers for the inaugural Youth Hack on April 2022.

Students from Broome Senior High School and St Mary's College came together to brainstorm solutions to local issues and provide invaluable feedback from a youth perspective.

The amount of energy and innovation displayed at the Youth Hack shows that Broome is in good hands, with plenty of future leaders having their say on our town.

The Shire is acutely aware that the provision of additional youth services is a priority for our community and that engaging with our young people is so important.

That is why we have invested heavily in sporting infrastructure such as the Pump Track and new Skatepark, which will be community hubs for our young people once completed.

Participants at the Youth Hack celebrated and acknowledged the good things about living in Broome and suggested improvements to some areas of our town.

There was a focus on three trains of thought; Education pathways, mental and physical health, and youth crime.

The innovative input provided at the Youth Hack has been taken on board by the Shire and will be part of our forward planning – with this document giving an overview of the discussions had by our youngsters.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the 2022 Youth Hack – I look forward to an even bigger and better event next year.

Harold Tracey



The Shire of Broome is pleased to have partnered with Year 13 on the delivery of the Youth Hack 2022

Year 13

The purpose of Year 13 is to help young people live happier, healthier, more fulfilled lives. Our aim is to support young people to activate their post-school goals, while supporting them with their wellbeing.

We provide on our platform the following:

Our academy life lessons that are not often taught in school, like finance and superannuation and what you need to do to move out of home. It provides information on industries that have heaps of jobs and how young people can get into those industries and finally work, travel and study information to help them decide what they want to do after school!

Furthermore, we help young people with cool wellbeing content, including information on mental health, growing up, sustainability, culture – All the stuff young people love and more.

For more information about Year13, please head to our website: year13.com.au

What is the Youth Hack?

The Youth Hack (Forum) is an annual deliverable within the Shire's Youth Plan (2021 – 2025).

The Youth Hack 2022 was delivered in partnership by the Shire of Broome and Year 13 and was held at the Notre Dame University on Thursday April 7.

The Youth Hack provided an opportunity for young people in Broome to work together on solutions to issues that affect them.

Students from Broome Senior High School and St Mary's College worked in small teams to develop solutions and then presented their ideas in the form of mini expos to their peers and teachers, and then to the guests who listened and provided feedback.

The issues for the 2022 Youth Hack included:

- Youth Crime
- Education Pathways
- Physical and Mental Health

YEAR13



Youth Crime

Young people are bored and don't want to stay home at night time due to various factors, which results in a rise in crime. What innovative and creative solutions can be applied to impact on the lives of those young people and reduce the rate of crime in Broome?

What's happening?

- Young people are stealing cars and breaking into houses
- WA Police vehicles are getting rammed by stolen cars.

Why is this happening?

- Young people are bored
- Neglect and trauma at a young age
- No safe place to stay
- Peer Pressure.

What are the consequences?

- Local businesses are suffering
- People are getting their property damaged or stolen
- People are losing faith and do not feel safe in Broome
- Increased risk of injury or death
- Young people are being sent to juvenile detention.

What needs to be done?

1) A place for young people

- Figure out why kids don't want to stay home and give them something to do
- Create more opportunities for young people who are bored at night like social sports and music opportunities
- Promote PCYC more
- Build a fun youth centre (To be called 'The Cosmos') which could have Go-Karts, Arcade games, Indoor trampolines, Bowling, Laser Tag, Paintball etc.

2) Increased Security

- Install CCTV in residential properties with financial support available from the Government
- Increase pay rates for police officers so more young people want to become associated with law enforcement.
- Conduct nightly patrols where if kids are caught out at night, they will be sent to PCYC or an alternative for support
- Police to sweep streets to stop kids from breaking into and stealing cars.

3) More support for young people

- Create strong positive relationships and connect students with mental health support
- Teach kids how to navigate social and emotional challenges
- Encourage participation at school events
- Connecting to country with elders like hunting, fishing and learning language
- Go through key problems with kids such as conflict with parents or friends.

If this is done, what will be the benefits?

- Crime will reduce and community members will feel safer
- An increased number of police officers will keep neighbourhoods safe because potential thieves will be taken to safer places where they won't be bored and commit crimes
- A fun youth centre will give children something to do when they're bored and allow them to feel comfortable in their own environment
- Creating sporting competitions for these kids will give them something to do at night which means they won't resort to committing crimes.

Our message:

“Children are becoming bored at night and families and businesses are suffering from this. If we increase pay rates for police officers, we could have more night-time patrols reducing crime significantly. Obviously, kids can't be arrested so they could join a cadet organisation so instead of causing crimes they could be stopping them”



Physical and Mental Health

We have a growing percentage of poor physical and mental health in the Kimberley so what innovative solutions can be applied to support and increase the social and emotional well-being of young people across the region?

What's happening?

- Young people are not coping with life stressors
- Young people are hurting themselves.

Why is this happening?

- Suicide and self harm are hard topics to talk about as there are so many different reasons for it.
- Students don't feel confident getting help
- Students feel shamed by others and often feel they are weak because they can't deal with it themselves.

What needs to be done?

1) Develop a mobile app for young people

- With easy link to services such as Headspace and Alive and Kicking Goals
- Is anonymous
- Which has a fitness section
- With access to free counsellors
- Has online reading
- That features meditation classes.

2) More support for young people

- Set up a group for those who want to talk about their problems verbally and/or online
- Schools to normalise getting mental health support and having regular check ins
- Increase connections with family members
- Provide free gym membership
- Encourage kids to talk to trusted people.

3) Provide young people with more things to do

- Painting or art classes
- Out of school programs
- More sporting events
- Equality rights program / motivational speakers
- Festivals, circus, music, concerts
- More BRAC events
- Cinema
- Book clubs
- Centre for games, books and music.

If this is done, what will be the benefits?

- Decrease in suicide and self harm
- Broome will be a better place to live for young people.

Our message:

“Choose the sort of person you want to be. Mental and physical health is very important, but some people do not realise that. By investing a small amount of money to improve and start extracurricular activities, mental and physical health will most certainly slowly improve”.



Education Pathways

Research has shown that out of the students graduating high school, approximately 57% of students across Australia are dropping out of their chosen course, degree or job within the first 6 months. Why is that? And what can we do to stop students dropping out and find their passion?

Source: After the Atar Reports - Youth Sense

What's happening?

- Young people are dropping out or changing their selected courses
- Young people are uncertain about their future career.

Why is this happening?

- Lack of engagement and support
- Stress or anxiety due to pressure
- Course is not what they expected
- Lack of job opportunities
- Bad habits and mental health issues
- Jobs do not pay enough
- Students fear failing
- Not having good role models
- Didn't have opportunities to learn.

What are the consequences?

- Young people's futures are being affected
- Increased homelessness and poverty
- Young people feel stuck in Broome and jobs they don't like
- Dropping out affects young people's ability to get a decent job.

What needs to be done?

- Provide more options to explore career pathways at school
- Provide support to people who are struggling and offer different ways to receive support with work and other issues
- Employ teachers who are engaging and passionate
- Provide more opportunities for broader range of University / TAFE courses and work experience.

If this is done, what will be the benefits?

- Young people will have more confidence
- Students will be more engaged
- It may give young people the courage to seek out further opportunities
- With prior knowledge of how to pursue their passion and be able to access tools to succeed students are less likely to drop out.

Our message

"From my perspective as a year 8 with a possible ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) future I think that students should be given the opportunity to learn about what universities are going to be like, the different options of courses to do and start getting ideas about what they want to do"

"Overall, it is up to the person to get the help they need, so we need to offer as much support as possible"





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YEAR 13

