

IT STARTS WITH YOU



Shire of Broome Youth Framework 2016-2018

INTRODUCTION

FROM THE SHIRE PRESIDENT

It Starts With You - Youth Framework is the Shire of Broome's commitment to young people in the Broome region. For the first time, a whole of community, structured framework has been developed to guide the Shire of Broome's involvement in youth services and ensure the needs of young people are formally considered in future planning.

Council has a leadership role in understanding and responding to the needs of young people in our community and representing their interests to other spheres of Government and the broader community.

The Shire of Broome values, supports and respects our young people. We recognise the important role young people play in the social, economic and cultural life of Broome. We acknowledge young people's right to participate in local matters and recognise the need to support their involvement in decision making and future planning for the Broome region.

An exciting and very significant outcome of this framework is the Shire's commitment to establishing a Youth Advisory Council (YAC) for the Shire of Broome. Council looks forward to working with the YAC to ensure young people have a say on the issues that matter to them and make a real impact on the Shire's planning and decision making processes.

Cr Ron Johnston
Shire President



BACKGROUND

It Starts With You - Youth Framework formalises the Shire of Broome's commitment to young people and acknowledges young peoples' right to have a say in the issues that matter to them.

YOUNG PEOPLE REPRESENT
17%
OF THE TOTAL POPULATION
IN THE SHIRE OF BROOME

29000
YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 10
TO 24 LIVE IN THE
SHIRE OF BROOME.

42%
OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN
THE SHIRE OF BROOME
IDENTIFY AS ABORIGINAL
OR TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER

Young people are a vibrant and vital part of the Broome community and play an important role in social, cultural, economic and community life. It is important that we provide support and opportunities for young people to achieve their goals and reach their full potential as well as respecting and acknowledging their role in the Broome community. The Broome region has a large proportion of young Aboriginal young people living within it. The Shire of Broome acknowledges and celebrates the contribution of Aboriginal culture to enriching our communities and values the significant role that cultural development plays in creating a positive future for its young people.

Why have a youth framework?

The Shire of Broome has an ongoing commitment to young people, however until now there has been no strategy to guide this commitment. The framework will assist the Shire to plan and develop services and facilities which best meet the needs of the community and will ensure resources are used effectively. The framework provides strategic direction for the Shire of Broome to guide our involvement in youth services in the region. This is the first time the Shire of Broome has taken a strategic approach to the way we engage with and support the needs of Broome youth.

How will the framework make an impact?

Under the Local Government's mandatory Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework the Shire of Broome's service delivery to the community is guided by two key documents. The Strategic Community Plan is a high level document that reflects the long term (10+ year) community and local government aspirations and priorities. The Corporate Business Plan activates the Strategic Community Plan by setting out the short to medium term priorities to achieve the objectives and aspirations of the community.

Importantly, these guiding plans are informed by several other key strategy documents. **It Starts with You - Youth Framework** is one of these documents and aligns closely with other informing strategies including the Sport and Recreation Framework, Public Art Masterplan and Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.



BACKGROUND

Cont.

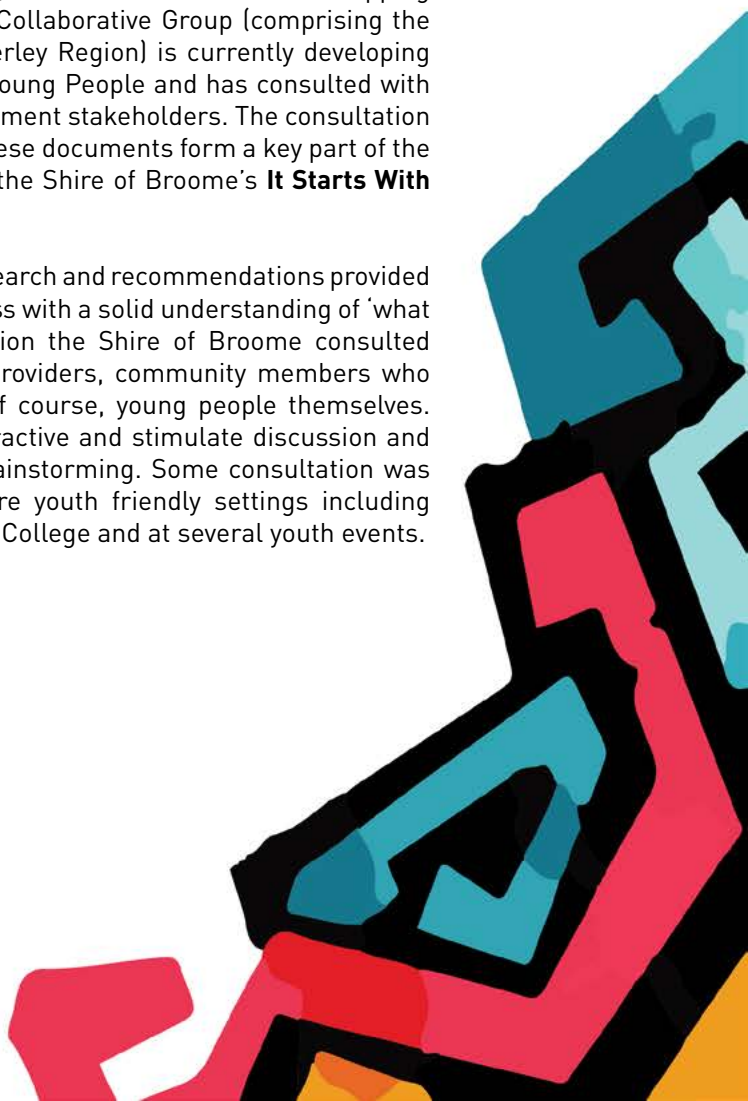
Development of the framework

The Shire of Broome, community partners and other stakeholders have conducted numerous consultations, needs analyses and research with the community in recent years to understand the needs of the community, identify strengths and gaps that exist and assist in planning for the future.

In 2012 – 2013 the Shire of Broome conducted the Broome 2040 visioning project which informed the development of the Shire of Broome Strategic Community Plan 2013-2023. The project was the most extensive gathering of community views ever undertaken by the Shire, using a wide range of techniques and technology including online surveys, workshops, and community champions as well as input from a youth forum held by the Shire in April 2013.

Other key stakeholders in the region have also conducted valuable research, consultation and analyses. Following the 2012 West Kimberley Youth Sector Conference (WKYSC) the WKYSC Working Party developed a Youth Strategy 2014-2016 to provide strategic direction for the youth sector of the West Kimberley. A diverse range of young people aged 12 to 25 years as well as youth service providers from across the West Kimberley were consulted through surveys, discussions and a service mapping exercise. Furthermore, the Kimberley Regional Collaborative Group (comprising the four Local Government Authorities in the Kimberley Region) is currently developing a Kimberley Regional Strategic Framework for Young People and has consulted with young people, service providers and Local Government stakeholders. The consultation findings, analyses and recommendations from these documents form a key part of the research that has informed the development of the Shire of Broome's **It Starts With You – Youth Framework**.

Analyses of the existing consultation findings, research and recommendations provided an informed place to start the consultation process with a solid understanding of 'what we already know'. Equipped with this information the Shire of Broome consulted with key stakeholders including youth service providers, community members who work closely with young people, families and of course, young people themselves. Consultation methods were designed to be interactive and stimulate discussion and included workshops, forum discussions, and brainstorming. Some consultation was conducted in formal settings and some in more youth friendly settings including Broome Senior High School, Broome Residential College and at several youth events.



FRAMEWORK SUMMARY

It Starts With You – Youth Framework sets out the key priorities for young people in Broome and illustrates a vision for the outcomes and opportunities we want to see for young people in Broome. The framework outlines strategies for the Shire of Broome to work with community partners, key stakeholders and young people to achieve this vision.

Contextual information has been provided with examples of what is already happening within each of the priority areas.

Priority Areas

Through consultation and research 10 key priorities were identified for young people in Broome and form the basis of the framework. Priorities were ranked based on the following factors:

- What matters most to young people
- Areas where the Shire of Broome can make the biggest impact or has influence
- Issues identified as having the greatest need or requiring the most attention
- Activities that are considered core business for the Shire of Broome

Key strategic priorities for Broome youth:

1. **A Voice for Youth**
2. **Community Participation and Leadership**
3. **Education, Training and Employment**
4. **Youth Service Coordination**
5. **Health and Wellbeing**
6. **Alcohol and Other Drugs**
7. **Safety**
8. **Recreation and Leisure**
9. **Events and Entertainment**
10. **Accommodation and Transport**



A VOICE FOR YOUTH

1

VISION

Young people have a say about the issues that affect them and are empowered to make a meaningful contribution to decision making and future planning in their community.

CONTEXT

Young people tell us that it is important for them to feel represented by their government and be included in decisions that affect them.

Local Government has a responsibility to understand and respond to the needs of young people in the community, and in order for this to happen young people must have the opportunity be heard. Young people have an important role to play in the social, economic and community life in Broome and they have the right to participate in decision making around issues that affect them.

Engagement with young people must be meaningful and genuinely considered in the decision making process. Token gestures are easily identified as such and only damage young peoples' trust in the organisation or project.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

High School Student Councils, Yawuru Youth Steering Committee, Headspace Broome Youth Reference Group, Aarnja Kimberley Aboriginal Youth Leadership Program, Shire of Broome Community Engagement Framework.

STRATEGIES

- 1.1 Establish a Youth Advisory Council for the Shire of Broome with membership representing the cultural, social and economic diversity of Broome youth.
- 1.2 Facilitate opportunities for young people to provide input into the Council decision making processes.
- 1.3 Integrate strategies to genuinely engage young people in all relevant community engagement and consultation conducted by the Shire of Broome.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION & LEADERSHIP

2

VISION

Young people are encouraged and supported to develop skills that build their capacity to act as role models and leaders in their community.

Young people are active members of the Broome Community and make a valuable contribution to community life.

CONTEXT

Young people are a vital and vibrant part of the Broome community and participate in community life in a range of ways including, volunteering, employment, participation in sporting clubs, school activities, membership in community groups and committees and social activities.

With support and guidance young people have great potential to act as leaders and role models in the community.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

Existing youth leadership programs include Kimberley Girl, Aanja Kimberley Aboriginal Youth Leadership Program, ICEA, Clontarf, Broome Girls Academy, Garnduwa leadership camps, and the Broome Sports Association's Talent Development Program.

Young people participate in a range of community projects and are involved with various community groups as volunteers, committee members and participants.

STRATEGIES

- 2.1 Establish partnerships with community organisations and local business to facilitate opportunities for Youth Advisory Council members and other young people to contribute to and participate in community projects and events.
- 2.2 Promote and support programs and initiatives in Broome that build skills and increase capacity for young people to act as role models and leaders in the community.
- 2.3 Identify young leaders and encourage and support them to pursue leadership development opportunities outside of Broome and to represent Broome youth at regional, state and national levels.
- 2.4 Establish partnerships to facilitate mentoring opportunities for Youth Advisory Council members and other young people.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT



VISION

Broome youth have access to a range of quality and flexible education and training opportunities and employment pathways which engage and support them to secure lasting employment and develop the appropriate life skills to enhance the future that they envision.

CONTEXT

Young people identified training and employment opportunities as being an important factor for their long term health and wellbeing. Education and training underpins a wide range of opportunities for young people. However, there is a need to ensure that education and training programs align directly with real job opportunities and employment pathways are available to young people in Broome.

Many young people are not able to access education and employment close to home and need to either travel into Broome from remote communities or leave the region to pursue education and employment opportunities. Support in the areas of travel, accommodation, life skills and study methods is required for young people to access education, training and employment opportunities.

Support for disengaged and at-risk youth to engage in education, training and employment has been identified as a priority. A range of factors such as low levels of literacy, low level parent involvement, financial disadvantage and low self-esteem can lead to poorly developed personal or "life skills". Skills such as the ability to obtain a driver's license, basic interpersonal skills, and financial literacy are often taken for granted.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

Broome Senior High School, St Mary's College, alternative learning programs (Broome Girls Academy and PCYC), Kimberley Training Institute, Kimberley Group Training and University of Notre Dame.

Workforce Development Centre, Employment services, in school transition support and vocational training programs, supported accommodation (Horizon House and MADALAH)

STRATEGIES

- 3.1 Establish partnerships with schools, education providers and employers to maximise opportunities for young people to pursue study and find employment in Broome.
- 3.2 Provide work experience and employment opportunities for young people at the Shire of Broome.
- 3.3 Establish partnerships to support service providers who support young people to pursue education and employment opportunities away from home within the Broome region and beyond.
- 3.4 Support programs that provide flexible learning/working options to engage at risk and disengaged youth in education, training and employment.

YOUTH SERVICE COORDINATION

4

VISION

Young people have access to a range of integrated and coordinated services and are able to easily access information about the services available to them.

CONTEXT

The Broome region has a large number of service providers who deliver a diverse range of support services for young people. Some coordinated networks exist around particular interest areas such as the Youth at Risk interagency meetings, however coordination of government and non-government youth services is not the responsibility of one group or organisation.

The Broome Youth Coordinators Network (BYCN) meets monthly to share information about training and funding opportunities, provide service updates and plan for collaborative projects and events. The BYCN functions well as an information sharing tool, however has the potential to be much more than that and strategic planning and training are required to build the capacity of network to represent the interests of members.

Referral pathways help to ensure young people are connected with the most relevant and useful service for their needs, however there is a general lack of awareness and understanding of the services available to young people and information about services is not always accessible or easy to find.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

Broome Youth Coordinators Network, West Kimberley Youth Sector Conference, Kimberley Regional Group, District Leadership Group, interagency meetings and collaborative events and school holiday activities.

STRATEGIES

- 4.1 Facilitate networking, information sharing and collaboration through the Broome Youth Coordinators Network and partnerships with relevant stakeholders.
- 4.2 Build the capacity of the Broome Youth Coordinators Network to act as a peak body for youth services in the Broome Region
- 4.3 Promote and facilitate shared training opportunities for service providers around the common issues, challenges and opportunities related to working with youth.
- 4.4 Develop and maintain an up to date Youth Services Directory in a format that is accessible to young people

HEALTH & WELLBEING

5

VISION

Young people have access to the information, support and services they need to be healthy, happy and well and are empowered to make positive informed choices about their health and wellbeing.

CONTEXT

Health and wellbeing are integral to long term positive outcomes for young people. Supporting the health and wellbeing of young people takes a whole of community approach with integrated service delivery and coordinated service provision.

Health and wellbeing incorporates a wide range of factors including physical health, mental health, sexual health, social and emotional wellbeing, family environment and tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

The Shire recognises the critical role family and friends play as the primary source of support in young people's lives. Some of the challenges facing families of young people include high incidences of domestic violence, suicide, alcohol and other drug use and the prevalence of young people on the streets at night. While many of these issues fall outside of local government's direct role or expertise, the Shire can advocate for these services and will actively support agencies who are delivering these services.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

Alive and Kicking Goals suicide prevention, Headspace Broome, Helping Minds, Strong Families, Broome Youth and Families Hub, KAMSC and BRAMS community health service, Boab Health (primary healthcare and health promotion), Kimberley Population Health Unit, Cancer Council regional education.

STRATEGIES

- 5.1 Establish partnerships with key health providers and youth services to support the delivery of education and awareness programs that promote key health messages.
- 5.2 Support agencies providing family support, mental health and alcohol and other drug services.
- 5.3 Advocate for the provision of essential health services for young people in the Broome region.

ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS



VISION

Young people have the knowledge and support to make responsible decisions regarding drug and alcohol use.

CONTEXT

Young people identified underage drinking, drug abuse, binge drinking, smoking and peer pressure as their top concerns around alcohol and other drugs. Young people are particularly concerned about the increasing use of ice (methamphetamine) and marijuana among youth in the Broome region.

Young people are not only concerned with their own behaviour with regard to alcohol and other drugs but also that of their peers, family members and the general public. Alcohol and drug abuse in the community and street drinking make young people feel unsafe. Alcohol and drug abuse can have a significant impact on the family and home environment which can lead to difficulties at school, engaging in social and recreation activities and damage family relationships.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

Red Cross 'Save a Mate' program, Yawuru Drug Action Awareness Group, Local Drug Action Group, Broome Alcohol Management Group, Liquor Accord, Cyrenian House Milliya Rumurra outreach and rehabilitation services, Kimberley Mental Health and Drug Services, Headspace Broome, Kimberley Aboriginal Health Planning Forum – Drug and Alcohol subcommittee.

STRATEGIES

- 6.1 Work with young people, the community and service providers to support the development of innovative and effective ways to engage young people and their families with prevention and intervention programs.
- 6.2 Support community initiatives that educate young people and raise awareness of drug and alcohol issues.
- 6.3 Establish partnerships to facilitate youth input into community projects and alcohol and other drug awareness activities.

SAFETY



VISION

Young people feel safe in their community and at home and have the skills and knowledge to make good choices about their personal safety. The Broome community feels safe and property and the environment are respected.

CONTEXT

Safety encompasses a wide range of situations and concerns including personal safety, crime, antisocial behaviour, safe environments, neglect, cyber safety, bullying and risk taking behaviours.

Issues around safety can be considered as both actual experience as well as perceptions individuals have of their situation or community. Sometimes perceived danger or threat can be worse than the reality, however is none the less cause for distress and concern.

Crime and antisocial behaviour have been identified as key concerns for young people in Broome. They are concerned for their own safety and wellbeing and also have a strong awareness of social issues and desire to influence change for the benefit of others. Young people are also concerned that the actions of a few young offenders create a bad image for Broome youth as a whole.

Juvenile crime is a key concern for the Broome community and accounts for the majority of contacts made by community members to the Shire about young people. Addressing issues related to juvenile crime involves both improving outcomes for young offenders and diverting youth from the justice system as well as ensuring the safety of the community.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

Broome Youth and Families Hub support services and HYPE program, Shire of Broome Community Safety Working Group, Department for Child Protection and Family Services, Regional Youth Justice Services, WA Police Youth Crime Intervention Officers and Community Relations Officers, Life Without Barriers youth justice services.

STRATEGIES

- 7.1 Facilitate a collaborative and coordinated approach to community safety through the development of a Community Safety Plan for Broome and ensure issues relating to juvenile crime as well as the needs of young people are considered in the development of the plan.

RECREATION & LEISURE

8

VISION

Young people have access to a variety of recreation facilities and leisure activities as well safe, youth friendly spaces where they can 'hang out' and participate in programs and events.

CONTEXT

Sport, recreation and leisure opportunities are a high priority for young people. Young people in Broome continue to tell us that they need 'more things to do'. Young people need access to a range of regular physical, cultural, educational and artistic activities to keep them engaged and stimulated.

It is important for young people to have access to safe, youth friendly spaces where they feel welcome and belong. After school and on the weekend, young people congregate in the shopping centre and in Chinatown which is perceived negatively by community members who sometimes feel threatened. This is not a welcoming or engaging environment for young people.

Young people also spend time at the skate park and recreation centre which are both welcoming youth spaces, although the skate park is in need of upgrade and repair.

The Drop In Centre is open some afternoons and Friday and Saturday nights and is usually well attended. However, some young people see this as a place for at risk youth only.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

Kidsport program, sporting clubs, Broome PCYC programs and activities, Garnduwa sports programs, Broome Youth and Families Hub Drop In Centre, Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre(BRAC), Broome skate park

STRATEGIES

- 8.1 Provide and maintain a variety of recreation facilities for young people that enable sporting, cultural, and social activities.
- 8.2 Support programs, activities and events that activate youth spaces and encourage the use of public space for youth activities.
- 8.3 Promote and support the provision of inclusive and accessible youth spaces where young people have a sense of ownership and feel safe and welcome.

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT



VISION

A variety of events and entertainment opportunities are available that include or cater specifically for young people in Broome.

CONTEXT

The Broome region hosts a variety of events during the busy tourist season. It is important that these events are inclusive and accessible for young people.

The Shire of Broome supports and facilitates a range of events for young people including shows at the Civic Centre, Library programs, community events such as Australia Day celebrations and sporting events at the Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre.

Young people crave entertainment and tell us that there is not enough for them to do in Broome. They have told us that they would like to see more events for young people and in particular they want underage and alcohol free music events.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

National Youth Week events, school holiday activities, sporting events, live performances at the Broome Civic Centre, indoor and outdoor cinema, Shinju Matsuri Festival, Discos and Chilling Space at the Drop In Centre.

STRATEGIES

- 9.1 Facilitate, support and promote a range music, arts, sporting and cultural projects and events involving young people.
- 9.2 Coordinate and support a program of events and activities in celebration of National Youth Week each year.
- 9.3 Provide support, guidance and resources to the Youth Advisory Council to plan and run events and activities for their peers.
- 9.4 Provide advice and support to event organisers in Broome to encourage them to involve young people in their events

ACCOMMODATION & TRANSPORT

10

VISION

Young people have access to a range of accommodation and transport options to enable them to participate in community life and have independent access to education and employment.

CONTEXT

Many young people need to leave home to access education, training, employment and health services and finding suitable accommodation and transport options can be significant challenges. Leaving the family home and finding independent accommodation is a key step for young people moving into adulthood. However the high cost of living and rental prices in the Broome region make this particularly difficult and many young people need guidance and support through this process.

For some young people the family home is not always a safe or suitable environment and the lack of short term crisis accommodation for children and young people in Broome has been identified as a high priority.

Provision of accommodation and transport services are primarily the remit of State Government agencies, and a number of non government organisations who provide vital accommodation and transport services in Broome. The Shire of Broome can advocate for these services and will actively support agencies who are delivering these services.

WHAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING?

Supported accommodation services including Horizon House and MADALAH, Broome Youth and Families Hub Housing Support service, HYPE program, Town Bus Service, Greyhound Bus Service, Department of Housing, Department for Child Protection and Family Support, Department of Transport.

STRATEGIES

- 10.1 Work with service providers and agencies to identify service gaps (including crisis accommodation for young people) and advocate for additional support and resources for the Broome region.
- 10.2 Facilitate and advocate for a variety of transport options including bus, cycle and pedestrian routes to connect the community.



IT
STARTS
WITH

YOU