City of Cockburn

YOUTH SERVICES STRATEGY
2017–2022

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Contents

Executive summary

As of 2017 forecasts, there are currently 22,052 young people aged 10 to 24 living in the City of Cockburn, which is 19% of the population (forecast.id). The number of young people in this age group will increase by over 14% (3,136) by the end of this strategy. Young people have unique needs, which need to be considered when planning events, programs, and facilities.

This strategy affirms the City's commitment to work in collaboration with young people to deliver high quality events, programs and facilities that enable them to reach their full potential.

To develop the strategy, we looked at the following information:

- The type of young people that live in the City of Cockburn
- What current research tell us about the issues of concern for young people
- Which services, activities, events, programs and facilities are currently available for young people and where the gaps are
- What young people, parents/caregivers, community organisations and City staff told us was working well for young people and what needed to be improved or changed

The City's previous Youth Services Strategy outlined a number of strategies to improve youth services in the City. The City has had a number of successes over this time including expanding youth development services and outreach services, new youth recreation facilities, new partnerships and an improved connection between the council and the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC).

Background research explored a number of current issues and trends relevant for the wellbeing of young people and this information was used to inform the development of the strategy. The issues identified included, education, health, unemployment, housing and homelessness, child protection, transport, youth justice, technology and youth participation. This exploration also looked at key issues for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, young people living with disability, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ) young people and young carers.

To inform the development of the strategy, the City spoke with and listened to 316 young people, 36 parents and caregivers, representatives from 30 community organisations, and 53 City staff.

Young people told us that the main issues of concern for them included: the cost of things or not having money to do things they wanted to; boredom and a lack of things to do; transport and difficulty getting around; drugs and alcohol; not knowing what is available; safety - namely feeling unsafe in certain places and situations; employment - not having the skills to find work and an absence of jobs; and finally, inclusion - feeling welcome and valued. Parents and caregivers told us the main issues that worried them was anti-social behaviour, a lack of activities to do, general boredom of young people and drugs and alcohol. Community organisations and City staff were concerned about many of the same issues as young people, and added that they felt there needed to be special focus on young people who were vulnerable or at risk, and a need to challenge the negative stereotypes of young people in the community.

The new strategy has four key components:

- The vision - what we want things to look like in the City of Cockburn
- Four outcomes - what we want to achieve in the City of Cockburn

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- Thirteen strategies - how we will go about achieving the outcomes
- An Implementation Plan - actions that will be taken to achieve the outcomes and strategies
- A robust process for ongoing monitoring and review

Our vision for young people living in the City of Cockburn is that, they feel safe, valued and included in their community and have access to places, activities, programs and support that enable them to reach their full potential.

The four outcomes that we want to achieve in order to move the City toward this vision are:

1. Young people feel safe, welcome and valued in their community
2. Young people have access to events, programs, services and facilities that meet their needs
3. Young people are well informed and involved in decision making
4. The City has strong partnerships and advocates for the current and emerging needs of young people

We have identified ten priority actions:

	Focus area	Priority action
1	At risk or vulnerable young people	Continue to provide out-reach youth work services to at-risk young people
2	Boredom or having nothing to do	Upgrade the acoustics and sounds system in the youth centre hall to support forums and events which rely on sound
3	The cost of things	Continue to provide all youth services run events for free or low cost
4	Drugs and alcohol	Explore a collaboration with a drug and alcohol service/program to co-locate and provide services from the youth centre
5	Employment	Collaborate with employment service providers and local businesses to target youth unemployment (with a focus on Coolbellup)
6	Inclusion and feeling part of the community	Review the youth award criteria for City Awards to make it easier to nominate young people
7	A negative image of young people	Develop a positive message campaign for the youth centre in collaboration with young people that use it
8	Promotion of programs, services and events	Develop a digital communication plan for young people
9	Safety	Visit and identify areas of the City that young people feel unsafe, in a community safety youth audit
10	Transport and difficulty getting to places	Develop a program to assist young people to acquire their driver's licence (e.g. RYDE program)

1. Introduction

The City of Cockburn has a strong history of supporting and investing in the wellbeing of its young residents, especially those most at risk or vulnerable to poor outcomes. The City is well regarded as a leading provider of youth services in the area.

This strategy, builds on the achievements of the Youth Services Strategic Plan 2011-2016. The City made significant progress towards the strategies and actions in the previous plan, including:

- The development and employment of a new full-time Youth Development Officer position
- The provision of Blissco mobile youth services to Beeliar, Coolbellup, Hamilton Hill, Hammond Park, South Lake, Spearwood and Southwell
- The expansion of youth recreational facilities, including additional skate, scooter and BMX facilities, and the completion of Cockburn ARC
- Improved connection between the Council and the City's Youth Advisory Collective (YAC)
- Collaboration with key community organisations to provide co-located support services for young people at the youth centre

In developing the new Youth Services Strategy, the City aims to build on its strong performance, and continue to focus on areas that need further development, including:

- Transport - the previous plan stipulated that the City would investigate allocating resources towards buses and staff to transport young people to and from events and activities. The aim was to assist young people facing transport disadvantage, especially those living in suburbs with poorer transport options, to access City activities and events. Municipal funding for this proposal was not forthcoming, however the need for an initiative that facilitates greater access for these young people remains;
- Schools - building relationship with high schools and the Department of Education featured in the last youth plan, however City staff report that engagement with high schools has been difficult and continues to be of an ad-hoc and issues based nature, despite numerous attempts made by the youth services team. The employment of the Youth Development Officer (whose role it is to engage with schools), was delayed by a year. Building partnerships with schools remains an area of focus in the new strategy;
- Driver training programs - the previous plan stipulated that the City would work in partnership with the WA Police and the RAC to source grant funding in order to facilitate driver training programs. Driving lessons and hours have been offered at irregular times across the last five-year period; however there is a clear gap in this area. Implementing a young person's driving program known as RYDE, is a priority action in this strategy;
- Communication - the previous plan included an action of investigating the development of an interactive online forum to both seek opinions and give feedback. Municipal funds for this initiative were pushed back to the 2017/2018 financial year due to competing projects. This project will be instigated in 2017/2018 and is included in the new strategy;
- Employment - the previous plan stipulated that youth services would assist in the implementation of the Aboriginal Employment Strategy contained within the City's Human Resources Strategy. Progress has been achieved with the employment of two Aboriginal trainees in departments other than youth services. Youth services continue to lead the way in

terms of the City's Aboriginal employment, and remain supportive of an organisational wide Aboriginal Employment Strategy, which is included in the new strategy.

The development of the Youth Services Strategy 2017 - 2022 involved three key stages:

- Review and research
- Consultation
- Analysis and strategy development

An outline of the timeframe and key steps in this process is outlined in Annexure 1.

2. Existing youth services and facilities

The City of Cockburn is the most significant youth service provider in the area, and provides a wide-range of existing youth services, programs, events and facilities, detailed in the table below:

Cockburn Youth Services

Service area	Objective	What is provided
Cockburn Youth Centre	To provide a safe, supervised space offering engaging youth programs and events	- Open six days a week, Monday to Saturday, 9am to 7pm and 9pm Thursday evenings - Safe drop in space for young people to hang out - Co-located youth support services - School holiday and term programs - End of term events - Free, or low-cost activities, with fee waivers available
Youth Programs and Events	To provide targeted youth programs and events in Cockburn at locations other than the Youth Centre	- Bliss-Co youth outreach arts and sports program held weekly in three locations around the City - Outrage school holiday program - Annual events: - Skate park competitions in Spring and Autumn - ANZAC youth parade in April - Youth Noise (previously Battle of the Bands) in September - FROSH Youth Festival in October
Youth development	To work with the community, building programs and projects where gaps have been identified	- Leadership programs - Peer mentoring programs - Youth Advisory Collective (YAC) - Building partnerships with schools, tertiary institutions and other community organisations
Youth Support Services	To provide tailored support to young people identified as at risk and where appropriate their	- Qualified Youth Workers - One-to-one case management for at-risk young people aged 10 to 18

	• Groups and programs that engage young people in pro-social activities of a diversionary nature
family.	

Other City Services for young people

Service area	Deliverable
Sponsorship and grants	• U-Fund grant for young people 12 to 18 to organise a small project; up to $400 • Youth Art Scholarships; up to $500 • Environmental Education for Primary and Secondary Schools grant • Reimbursement donations to schools
Recreation Services	• KidSport program - financial assistance towards club fees for children and young people aged 5 to 18 • Junior Sport Travel Assistance Program
Co-Health	• Programs for young people focused on who are overweight and obese
TravelSmart	• Working with schools to enable travel behaviour change
Co-Safe	• A 24-hour service that provides assistance on issues including anti-social behaviour, vandalism, suspicious behaviour and noise complaints
Support Services	• Cockburn Support Services - free, community service for individuals or families, including counselling, advocacy, referrals, groups and workshops • Financial Counselling - free, community service for individuals aged 18 years and over or families which to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to take control of their finances
Parenting Services	• Cockburn Parenting Service – free, offers parenting support to families with young people up to 18 years to manage the challenges of parenting and build close, connected relationships.
Library Services	• Three libraries in Spearwood, Success and Coolbellup • Library programs for young people aged 8 to 17 (i.e. coding clubs) • Resources - space to study, access to online resources to assist study, books, graphic novels and DVDs
Facilities	• Coolbellup Community Hub • Nine community halls and centres • One youth centre (detailed above) • 210 parks and reserves, including 153 playgrounds (including one regional universal playground with a liberty swing) • Four skate parks • One BMX track • Six sport and recreation centres • Cockburn ARC • Three libraries • Azealia Ley Museum - run school holiday programs and support schools
Aboriginal Community Development	• Support to Aboriginal community groups and individuals in Cockburn • Reconciliation Action Plan

	• Aboriginal Reference Group
Disability Access and Inclusion Services	• Projects that enhance participation for people with disabilities • Free annual community event, 'Celebrate Ability', with involvement from local schools • Disability Reference Group

Reference groups

The City has four reference groups relevant to young people:

- The Children's Reference Group (for children and young people aged 6 to 12)
- The Youth Advisory Collective (for young people aged 12 to 24)
- The Disability Reference Group (for interested community members representing disability issues)
- The Aboriginal Reference Group (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members)

Networks

The City currently coordinates and/or participates in the following networks which aim to ensure that service provision for young people in the City is well informed and connected.

- Cockburn, Melville, Fremantle (CMFIYF) Youth Services meeting
- Fremantle Family Support Network (children and family support services)
- South West Metropolitan Partnership Forum (8-13 years working group)
- Parents and Friends Group Network (18 P&Cs)
- Champion sporting club's networks (80 clubs)
- CALD Services South West network

External services

There are a wide variety of external services that support young people in the City of Cockburn, including education services, health and support services, sport and recreations services, employment services and church groups/programs. A more detailed description of the number and type of these is included as Annexure 2.

3. Young people in Cockburn

There are currently 22,052 young people aged 10 to 24 living in the City of Cockburn, which is 19% of the population. An average predicted population growth across the entire population of the City of Cockburn of 3.22% per annum, means that the number of young people in this age group will increase by 14% (3,136) by the end of this strategy. The number of young people in Aubin Grove-Banjup (833)[1] and Hammond Park-Wattleup-Henderson (468) will grow by between 40-50% and the areas of Coogee-North Coogee (391), South Lake-Cockburn Central (308) and Success (395) will grow by between 17.5-25%. Forecast .id can be accessed in real time to see these trends, and where growth is occurring. This can be accessed at http://forecast.id.com.au/cockburn/.

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[1] Actual numbers of additional young people in brackets

In 2016, the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage scores showed that there were pockets of significant disadvantage in the suburbs South Lake - Cockburn Centre, South Lake, Spearwood, Coolbellup and Hamilton Hill.[2] A focus on monitoring youth services and trends in these areas should be a priority over the next five years.

In 2016, 1.5% (1,528) of the City's population was Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI). Young people make up a larger proportion the Indigenous population compared to the than non-indigenous population. In 2016, 2.37% (524) of young people aged 10 to 24 living in Cockburn were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. In WA, 35.2% of the indigenous population was age 0 to 14, with a median age of 22.[3] The suburbs with the highest proportion of ATSI residents are Coolbellup (3%, 157), South Lake (3.2%, 225), and Hamilton Hill (2.2%, 229).

In 2016, 28% of young people (5,390) were born overseas. In addition, 17% (3,274) of young people in Cockburn speak another language as well as English. In 2016, 3% (3,132) of Cockburn residents spoke English not well or at all (slightly higher than Greater Perth level of 2.4%)[4], however less than 1% of young people fall into this category (152). This suggests that young people for whom English is a second language has far greater English language proficiency than their parents.

The greatest numbers and proportion of Cockburn residents speaking another language and English not well or at all live in Success (4.6%), Spearwood (4.3%), and Hammond Park - Wattleup - Henderson (3.6%).

The City of Cockburn has two secondary schools within its borders which fall below the average Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA)[5] - Hamilton Senior High School and Lakeland Senior High School. The City also has six primary schools that fall below ICSEA, which are (in order from lowest to highest ranked), Southwell, South Lake, Coolbellup, Spearwood, Yangebup and Newton Primary Schools. The suburbs these schools are located in reflect the pockets of significant disadvantage in the City. They are also where a higher proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and CALD young people reside. Hamilton Hill High School closes at the end of 2017.

In terms of higher education, in 2016 6.4% (7,457) of people living in Cockburn were attending tertiary institutions; this is lower than the Greater Perth average of 7.1%.

4.   Research, trends, policy initiatives and best practice

There are a number of issues and trends that are important for the health and wellbeing of young people, including:

- Education
- Health (including mental health)
- Unemployment
- Housing, homelessness and youth accommodation
- Child protection

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[2] The index measures the relative level of socio-economic disadvantage based on a range of census characteristics. These suburbs all had a SEIFA score under 1000.
[3] The 2011 data only provides age groupings of 0-14, 15 to 64 and 65 and over for this data
[4] The 2011 census data does not break down country of birth, and language by age; and this data is likely to vary to much per age to be extrapolated or estimated.
[5] The average value of all schools' ICSEA values is set at 1000. This represents the 'middle ground' of educational advantage levels among Australian school students.

- Transport
- Youth justice
- Technology

In addition, there are demographic groups of young people who experience additional challenges or barriers, including:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people
- Young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Young people living with disabilities
- LGBTIQ young people
- Young carers

A full analysis of the research, trends and state and federal policy as such relates to each of these issues and demographic groups are included as Annexure 4.

Youth and community services policy trends

The section above looked at a variety of trends, research and policy responses (both state and federal) to specific youth issues, however there are also broader trends in policy and funding that have an impact on youth and community sector services, including local government. This section explores those policy trends, and the impact they may have on the City's youth services provision.

Scarce funding environment

It is widely acknowledged that funding in the community services sector is diminishing, with services expected to provide the same or better services for less funding. The impact on local government is two-fold. In the first instance, where local governments are in the business of direct service delivery (as the City of Cockburn is), they may have State government funding for services they provide either reduced or completely de-funded. Secondly, where community organisations find their funding reduced, they may approach local government to step in and either assist, or take on the responsibility for something they were previously providing.

State government department consolidation

In April 2017, WA's new State Government announced that the number of government departments in WA would reduce from 41 to 25. The Departments for Child Protection, Housing and Local Government, Communities and the Disability Services Commission now come under the Department of Communities. Juvenile Justice has been decoupled from the Department of Corrective Services and parts sit under the Department for Community Services. The merger may open up more opportunities for collaboration across government, however there is also the possibility that the State Government will drop some functions they maintained and push these out on to local government. It is early days and the City should maintain strategic partnerships with key State Government stakeholders to monitor the potential impact on the City of Cockburn's youth services.

Consortiums, collaborations and partnerships

There continues to be a strong focus in State and Federal Government funding programs on consortiums, collaborations and partnerships. Tenders and grants often require organisations to work together in a consortium model to apply for funding and deliver their service or program. The challenge of this approach for organisations, including local government, is that often less money needs to be spread amongst more organisations, and there is no funding given to actually make the consortium

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work, which takes resources in and of itself .It will however continue to be strategic to pursue and maintain partnerships with a variety of different organisations and key stakeholders - an area that the City works well in at the moment. Opportunities for consortiums and partnerships with other local governments are likely to continue to be difficult because service delivery differs so much between local governments.

Boundaries

The City of Cockburn provides a high level of youth service provision, which is funded through a combination of municipal funding and State Government funding. The State Government funding enables staff to work with young people beyond the local government boundaries, as the catchment area for service delivery stretches into areas of Kwinana, Melville, Fremantle, and Rockingham or even beyond. The challenge for staff however comes with needing to enforce stricter boundaries with programs that are financed through City municipal funding. Additional challenges arise because other surrounding LGAs have different models of youth provision, and so young people who live in those LGAs are not able to access the services that Cockburn provides elsewhere. This puts pressure on the City to provide services to young people living outside its boundaries.

Co-design

Youth participation, via consultation has long been considered important or even integral to youth service delivery; however there is an emerging focus on the co-design of service delivery from its inception, even back to the point of procurement. It is now considered best practice in service design. Services and programs which demonstrate a strong element of co-design with young people are likely to be more highly favoured when funding is being allocated.

Outcomes based framework

Youth services staff are currently using a number of different software systems to report grant funded youth services program outcomes, depending on which funding the program receives. This is an administrative burden which is detracting from service delivery.

Best practice initiatives

In looking at how the City of Cockburn compares in its youth service provision with other local government areas in the immediate vicinity, it is clear that it is a leader in not only providing universal services to young people, but in the unique level of case-work and individual support provided to vulnerable or at-risk groups of young people. There are however, some examples of excellent projects or programs in WA that the City could adopt or learn from, including those that address challenges with transport, youth leadership, co-design and countering negative stereotypes of young people. More detail about these initiatives is included as Annexure 5.

5.   Vision, mission and values

The vision of the Youth Services Strategy 2017 - 2022 is that:

> *Young people in the City of Cockburn feel, safe, valued and included in their community and have access to places, activities, programs and support that enables them to reach their full potential.*

This strategy supports the mission to make the City of Cockburn the most attractive place to live, work, visit and invest in, within the Perth metropolitan area. It does this by addressing the priority issues for young people living, working, studying or recreating in the City.

6. Links to City strategic documents

A number of current City strategies and plans were reviewed to inform the development of the Youth Services Strategy 2017 - 2022.

Strategic Community Plan 2016 - 2026

The Youth Services Strategy supports a number of key strategies with the City's Strategic Community Plan (SCP). Table 1 illustrates which areas of the plan supports the focus areas and strategies in the SCP.

Table 1: Strategic links with the YSS 2017 - 2022

SCP focus area	SCP strategic objective	YSS strategic links
City Growth Planning for the City's population growth and maintaining a strong financial position	Ensure planning caters for a population growth of 33,671 residents over the next ten years	1.2
	Maintain service levels across programs and areas	2.1, 2.2
Moving Around Facilitating safe, efficient, connected, sustainable movement around the City	Identify gaps and take action to extend the coverage of the cycle way, footpath and trail networks	3.2
	Advocate for improvements to public transport, especially bus transport	4.2
Community, Lifestyle and Security Providing safe, attractive, healthy programs and infrastructure for a diverse range of activity and people	Provide residents with a range of high quality programs and services	1.1, 1.2 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 2.4, 2.5 3.3
	Provide community facilities and infrastructure in a planned and sustainable manner	1.1 2.1, 2.5
	Provide safe places and activities for residents and visitors to relax and socialise	1.1 2.5
	Create and maintain recreational, social and sports facilities and regional open space	1.1 2.5
	Foster a greater sense of community identity by developing Cockburn Central as our regional centre whilst ensuring there are sufficient local facilities through our community	1.1, 1.2 2.5
Economic, Social and Environmental Responsibility Enabling a sustainable future - economically, socially, and environmentally, including business activity, job opportunities and sustainable use of resources	Increase local employment and career opportunities across a range of different employment areas	2.2

Leading and Listening Being accountable to the community and engaging through multiple communication channels	Listen to and engage with our residents, business community with greater use of social media	1.3 3.1, 3.2, 3.3
	Ensure advocacy for funding and promote a unified position on regional strategic projects	2.3 4.2

Other strategies and plans

A number of other City strategies and plans relate to the Youth Services Strategy 2017 - 2022, including:

- Bicycle Network and Footpath Plan
- Children and Families Strategy 2016 - 2021
- Communications Strategy and Action Plan 2012 - 2017
- Community Safety and CCTV Action Plan 2017 - 2022
- Community Development Strategy 2014 - 2019
- Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategic Plan 2017 - 2031 (draft)
- Corporate Business Plan 2012-2013 - 2016-2017
- Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2012 - 2017 (currently being reviewed)
- Cultural Strategy 2016 - 2020
- Libraries Strategic Plan 2014 - 2019
- Public Health Plan 2013 - 2018
- Public Open Space Strategy 2014 - 2024
- Reconciliation Action Plan 2013 - 2016
- State of Sustainability Report 2015 - 2016

7.   Youth Services Strategy 2017 - 2022

The Youth Services Strategy 2017 - 2022 is based around four, with 13 strategies outlining how these outcomes will be achieved:

Outcome 1:   Young people feel safe, valued and included in their community

Strategy 1.1   Improve the safety of young people in the community through the development of youth specific community safety initiatives

Strategy 1.2   Ensure that City-wide events and facilities are inclusive and youth-friendly

Strategy 1.3   Promote the positive contribution of young people to the City and counter negative stereotypes

Outcome 2:   Young people have access to events, programs, services and facilities that meet their needs

Strategy 2.1:   Continue to provide youth specific events, services and facilities, and develop new provision where gaps are identified

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Strategy 2.2   Develop initiatives that target and support young people with key issues of concern - namely transport, finance, education, training and employment

Strategy 2.3   Develop or support services and programs that improve the wellbeing of vulnerable or at risk young people

Strategy 2.4   Provide information and programs for parents/caregivers of young people to build their knowledge, capacity and confidence

Strategy 2.5   Utilise the Cockburn youth services staffing to continue to respond to youth need and gap areas

Outcome 3:   Young people are well informed and involved in decision making

Strategy 3.1   Provide information to young people in ways that resonate with current youth culture

Strategy 3.2   Continue to develop innovative initiatives that enable young people to be involved in City planning and decision making

Strategy 3.3   Develop and implement mechanisms that give all young people the opportunity to contribute to their community

Outcome 4:   The City has strong partnerships and advocates for the current and emerging needs of young people

Strategy 4.1   Build and maintain strategic partnerships which strengthen the community's ability to respond to the current and emerging needs of young people

Strategy 4.2   Use the City's position and influence to advocate on issues of importance for young people and youth/community service providers in Cockburn

8.   Summary of community consultation

Consultation process

The consultation for the development of the Youth Services Strategy involved four key stakeholder groups:

- young people aged 10 to 24 that lived, studied, worked or played in the City of Cockburn
- parents/caregivers of young people aged 10 to 24
- representatives from community groups, organisations and services
- internal City staff

In total, 435 individuals were consulted with including 316 young people, 36 parents/caregivers, 30 representatives of community organisations and 53 City staff. The details of the method of engagement are included in Annexure 7.

Key findings of the consultation

Young people

We heard from a wide variety of young people (details included as Annexure 7).

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Young people told us that social media is an important way of finding out about things, but they are more likely to find out about things going on through other, non-City avenues of social media, and only older young people use Facebook. Young people aged 10 to 12 haven't heard of anything going on in the City of Cockburn.

Young people told us that shopping centres are favourite places to hang out, as are other free venues such as beaches, parks/ovals and libraries. Young people like Adventure World but find it expensive. The biggest barriers that prevent young people getting to places they want in the City transport and cost.

Young people told us that their most important sources of support are friends, parents/caregivers and other family members. Over two-thirds of young people surveyed said they would like to get more involved in their community or meeting new people.

Young people surveyed identified seven main issues of concern:

- Transport
- Drugs and alcohol
- Cost of things
- Safety
- Promotion of activities
- Boredom
- Employment

Further details about these issues of concern and some of the young people's suggested solutions are included in Annexure 7.

Parents and caregivers

Parents and caregivers were most worried or concerned with anti-social behaviour; a lack of activities for young people, general boredom and drugs and alcohol. Parents felt that the City could better support parents and caregivers of young people aged 10 to 24 by providing more or different activities, parent education and better communication of what is available. There were a few negative comments about young people hanging around outside the youth centre and engaging in anti-social behaviour.

Community groups

Representatives from community groups, organisations and services told us that they thought the Cockburn Youth Service worked well, that it provided lots of well used and targeted programs and that City staff worked really well with young people. They felt that there were a lot of good services and facilities for young people in the area. Many felt that partnerships, collaboration and communication with the City's youth services team was good.

Community groups advised that from their perspective, the biggest challenges for young people in the City related to:

- Employment
- Financial support
- Communication
- Transport
- Housing and homelessness

- Drugs and alcohol
- Education and training
- Inclusion
- Mental health
- The justice system

City staff

City staff agreed with a number of the issues that young people and service providers talked about. They identified additional challenges including:

- Limited emergency, temporary and long-term accommodation in Cockburn
- A lack of locally based drug and alcohol support
- Poor collaboration with high schools
- A lack of support for LGBTIQ young people

They also identified other areas that they felt were gaps or as presenting as challenges, including:

- Rapid community growth
- Poor financial literacy in young people
- Attracting newly arrived young people to the City's youth services
- Negative stereotypes of young people
- A lack of City-wide mainstream events being youth-friendly

City staff report that youth services are currently at capacity, with staff often stretched. They identified that administrative support for Youth Services would mean trained youth staff members are able to better focus on innovation and partnerships - to prevent working in silos.

9. Analysis

The Youth Services Strategy 2017 - 2022 has been developed based on analysis of:

1. Population figures and demographics of young people in Cockburn
2. Key issues, trends and policy as they relate to young people
3. Current service provision for young people in and around the City of Cockburn
4. The achievements and areas for improvement of the Youth Services Strategy 2011 - 2016
5. Consultation with key stakeholder groups, including young people, parents/caregivers, community organisations and City staff

Duplication and over servicing of services and facilities

There was no duplication of services identified in the review of youth services and the City is seen as a strong youth services provider. Although we know that mental health difficulties continue to be one of the biggest issues of concern for young people (and young people and service providers reaffirmed this through the consultation), young people in Cockburn are well serviced by a variety of mental health services. It wasn't identified as over servicing, but there is currently enough mental health service provision in the area.

Overall, the City's own provision of recreation facilities, by way of playgrounds, parks and ovals, skateparks, and the newly opened ARC, is strong. Again, the review did not identify recreational over-servicing or duplication, but it was apparent that the City is currently well serviced with skate provision. Skate facilities, are often seen as the solution to youth issues, but the consultation data shows that skateparks are just one place that a young people hang out. There are number of other places that young people spend time and it is important that this strategy ensures resources are directed to a range of recreational activities.

Gaps in service provision and facilities

There were several service gaps or areas for improvement identified in the youth service and facilities review.

Education

1. Literacy and numeracy / homework support - there are several education programs for young people who have disengaged, or are at risk of disengaging from education in Cockburn, but they are still not meeting demand. Participation coordinators are stretched and unable to support the young people who are in the early stages of disengaging from school. Other groups of young people, such as those who are newly arrived also need assistance when their time in the Intensive English Centre (IEC) runs out. In the previous youth plan, a Department of Child Protection and Family Services (DCPFS) funded Literacy and Numeracy one on one mentoring program was piloted at the youth centre. The program showed early success, but the funding stream was not sustainable. It should be a priority of this strategy to explore funding and/or partnerships for literacy and numeracy or homework support programs to run out of the youth centre and/or City libraries.

2. School attendance - consultation data showed that regular school attendance is still a challenge for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people. The only existing program addressing this works with primary schools, leaving a gap in service provision. This strategy should explore ways in which the City can support schools to establish mentoring programs to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students.

Health and support

1. Accommodation - there are four accommodation providers servicing Cockburn young people, and only one (with limited provision) is located within the City. All are typically full with waiting lists. City youth staff have said that this is a gap area for young people in Cockburn. The City is not going to enter into the area of crisis accommodation or housing provision, so Cockburn's role in this area is primarily one of advocacy.

2. Alcohol and other drugs - there is only one service provider targeting this issue in the area, and they are not located in the City of Cockburn. The issue of drugs and alcohol was of great concern to lots of young people during the consultation, and also to a lesser extent, parents. Cockburn youth staff members have highlighted that not having a service addressing drug and alcohol use in young people in Cockburn is a gap area. With two vacant co-location spaces available in the youth centre, the City should prioritise getting a drug and alcohol service in the building.

3. Sexual health services - the service review found no sexual health services for young people in the area. It is understood that there may be an SHQ nurse providing testing at Cockburn

Integrated Health, however this is not youth focused, nor is it widely known. City staff identified this as a gap area. Again, as there is a co-location space available at the youth centre, the City should prioritise getting a sexual health service in the building.

4. LGBTIQ young people - there is currently no support or services for young people who identify as LGBTIQ in the City. The Freedom Centre is the State's youth service for LGBTIQ young people but is not funded to provide outreach. The Centre may however, be able to support the City in establishing a social or support group for LGBTIQ young people at the youth centre.

5. The City's financial counselling service currently only works with young people aged 18 and over. City staff identified that young people getting into financial trouble through phone contracts was a problem. An exploration of expanding services to young people aged 16 and over is warranted.

Recreation

1. Cockburn ARC - Cockburn has an exciting new recreation space for the community; it is early days, but City staff members have already suggested that there is room for expanding the Cockburn ARC youth programming in collaboration with young people.

2. Trail bike facilities - City staff and local resident groups have raised the issue of young people using trail bikes unsafely and illegally. The City has a Henderson motor cross facility, and this strategy should explore opportunities around better utilising the facility.

3. Cinema - the most frequently requested recreation facility by young people and parents was a cinema. This is a clear recreational gap in the City. The City should try and facilitate the development of a Cinema in Cockburn. To address this gap in the interim, the City should look at pop-up alternatives, making upgrades necessary to the sound and acoustics at the youth centre to enable this to happen.

Development of outcome areas and strategies

This section takes the data gathered through the consultation and review of trends and policy, and identifies how they fit under the four outcomes areas, and the strategies addressed within these.

Outcome 1

Young people feel safe, valued and included in their community

Three strategies were developed to achieve this outcome. These strategies focus on increasing safety, ensuring City events are youth-friendly and inclusive, and promoting a positive image of young people.

Strategy focus	Key actions in the new Youth Services Strategy
Safety	• better promotion of Co-Safe and its role to young people and parents • identify areas young people feel unsafe through a community safety audit
Accessible youth-friendly events and facilities	• make City-wide events inclusive and involving young people in planning • expand youth service provision in the City libraries
Positive image	• focus on promoting positive things that young people do • develop a positive media campaign around the youth centre

Outcome Objective 2

Young people have access to events, programs, services and facilities that meet their needs

Five strategies were developed to achieve this outcome. These strategies focus youth specific events, services and facilities; targeting issues of concern for young people; programs for at-risk young people; programs for parents/caregivers and best utilising youth services staff.

Strategy focus	Key actions in the new Youth Services Strategy
Youth specific events, services and facilities	- continue to provide a range of low cost or free activities - develop recreational services and facilities identified in the gap analysis
Targeting issues of concern for young people	- focus on transport, education and employment as key issues - establish the RYDE program to assist young people get their drivers licence - encourage a greater use of bicycles by young people - build opportunities for young people to grow their employability skills - provide more work experience opportunities - develop relationships with key employment service providers in the area, especially those in receipt of youth employment package funding - address educational service gaps identified in the gap analysis
At-risk young people	- continue to provide services for at risk or vulnerable young people - assist young people from CALD backgrounds to access recreational opportunities - develop support for LGBTIQ young people
Parent and caregiver programs	- develop workshops for parents of teens on topics of relevance, such as safe parties, early identification of mental health problems, drugs and alcohol, cyber safety, bullying, study stress or gaming addiction - encourage more intergenerational use of the youth centre
Youth services staff	- continue to look at ways of making the centre safe and accessible - host an annual youth centre open day - co-locate sexual health and drug and alcohol services at the youth centre - improve the youth services administrative capacity

Outcome 3

Young people are well informed and involved in decision making

Three strategies were developed to achieve this outcome. These strategies relate to communication with young people in a way that resonates with them, providing young people with an opportunity to be involved in planning decision making, and providing opportunities for young people to contribute to their community.

Strategy focus	Key actions in the new Youth Services Strategy
Communication	- develop a youth digital communications plan - implement youth specific marketing and communications staff time
Involvement in planning and decision making	- review the YAC model to ensure diverse voices are included - further opportunities for young people to plan events - provide opportunities for peer engagement

Contributing to community	• develop youth-led community initiatives • develop volunteering opportunities • include young people in participatory budgeting

Outcome 4

The City has strong partnerships and advocates for the current and emerging needs of young people

Two strategies were developed to achieve this outcome. These strategies relate to building the City's strategic partnerships, and using its position of influence to advocate on issues of importance to young people.

Strategy focus	Key actions in the new Youth Services Strategy
Strategic partnerships	• continue City participation in current networks • build relationships or partnerships with new schools, higher education providers, church groups and shopping centres
Advocacy	• advocate for the provision of better housing and crisis accommodation options and better, safer public transport • pursue funding opportunities for initiatives that will support young people • maintain and seek new funding for vulnerable and at risk young people • co-design new funding initiatives with young people from inception through to evaluation

10. Resourcing

The majority of the actions contained in the plan utilise existing resources, but the following actions will require new resources. Please refer to the Implementation Plan for detailed resourcing requirements.

11. Implementation Plan and Measuring achievement

The Youth Services Strategy Implementation Plan is included below. This document contains specific actions with details on how the success of those actions will be measured.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Youth Services Strategy 2017 – 2022

VISION Young people in the City of Cockburn feel, safe, valued and included in their community and have access to places, activities, programs and support that enables them to reach their full potential	

OUTCOME 1 Young people feel safe, valued and included in their community

Strategy 1.1 *Improve the safety of young people in the community through the development of youth specific community safety initiatives*

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
1.1.1	Work with schools to develop young people's understanding of the role of CoSafe, through tailored promotional material	CoSafe (L) Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019 and ongoing	• CoSafe work with schools annually	
1.1.2	Develop a Co-Safe 'when to call Co-Safe' promotional video targeted at young people	Communications CoSafe (L) Youth Services	New $2,000	2020/2021	• CoSafe produce a promotion video for young people • Video is viewed 1000 times	
1.1.3	Visit and identify areas of the City that young people feel unsafe, in a community safety youth audit	CoSafe (L) Youth Services	Existing	2019/2020	• Community safety youth audit is conducted • Youth specific actions identify are included in next Community Safety Strategy	
1.1.4	Implement or support initiatives that improve the financial literacy of young people, including the expansion of financial counselling to young people aged 16 and up	Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019 and ongoing	• Young people aged 16 and up can attend financial counselling • One financial literacy initiative held per annum	

Strategy 1.2 *Ensure that City-wide events and facilities are inclusive and youth-friendly*

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
1.2.1	Review the City's event program to include more youth focused events and/or activate	Communications (L) Youth Services	Existing	2017/2018	• There is an increase in the numbers of young	

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
	existing events in genuine collaboration with young people				people attending City-wide events	
1.2.2	Include transport and access information in all event promotional material to encourage youth attendance	Travel Smart Officer (L) Communications Events	Existing	Ongoing	• Travel information is included in all event materials	
1.2.3	Engage with young people to develop library programs that meet their needs, and promote these to young people via the website and social media	Library (L) Youth Services Communications	New $30,000 per annum .5 level 5 to be added to workforce plan	Ongoing	• City Libraries provide two initiatives for young people each term • Cockburn Libraries develop a youth tab on the website	
1.2.4	Explore options for youth programs and activities to be hosted at the ARC	Recreation Services (L) Youth Services	Existing	2017/2018 ongoing	• Programs for young people are a feature of the ARCs service provision	
1.2.5	Actively identify and promote to young people all of the free things on offer in the City (i.e. skateparks, beaches, libraries, fitness equipment, youth centre, Wi-Fi)	New Social Media Officer (see 3.1.2)	New (see 3.1.2)	2018/19 ongoing	• Free things are promoted to young people at least 12 times per annum	
1.2.6	Regularly review growth areas of the City to ensure youth service provision is meeting need (Aubin Grove-Banjup and Hammond Park-Wattleup-Henderson, Coogee-North Coogee, South Lake-Cockburn Central and Success)	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Annual review of youth demographic growth and youth service and facilities occurs	

Strategy 1.3 Promote the positive contribution of young people to the City and counter negative stereotypes

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
1.3.1	Promote the outstanding things young people are doing in the community and their achievements, including the work of the YAC	Youth Services (L) Communications	Existing	Ongoing	• Six youth achievements are profiled in COC material and the media	

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
					per annum	
1.3.2	Profile the 'good news' story of one young person each month on the City's social media pages	Communications (L) Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• One young person is profiled on COC social media per month	
1.3.3	Actively promote young people for award opportunities and publicise these achievements	Youth Services (L) Communications	Existing	Ongoing	• Two young people each year are nominated for awards	
1.3.4	Review the youth award criteria for City Awards to make it easier to nominate young people	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Youth nominations for the City Awards increase by 30%	
1.3.5	Develop a positive message campaign for the youth centre in collaboration with young people that use it	Youth Services (L) Communications	Existing	2019/2020	• Positive message campaign developed	

OUTCOME 2 Young people have access to events, programs, services and facilities that meet their needs						
Strategy 2.1 Continue to provide youth specific events, services and facilities, and develop new provision where gaps are identified						
#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
2.1.1	Develop the Bibra Lake Skate and Recreation Facility in collaboration with young people	Parks(L) Youth Services	Existing Bibra Lake Management Plan + $400,000 committed by Peter Tingley local projects grant program	2017/2018	• Skate park and recreation facility is complete	
2.1.2	Explore opportunities around better utilisation of the Henderson motor cross facility, to encourage legal use of trail bikes by young people	Youth Services Co Safe Club Development	New $11,800	2018/2019	• New opportunity has been explored, program implemented.	
2.1.3	Complete new pump tracks in South Lake and Yangebup and Spearwood BMX track	Youth Services (L) Parks and Environment	Existing	2018/2019	• Pump tracks in South Lake and Yangebup	

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
					• are complete • Spearwood BMX track is complete	
2.1.4	Expand skate park and BMX competition events to activate new facilities when they are developed	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• 80% of satisfaction of each event achieved	
2.1.5	Upgrade the acoustics and sounds system in the youth centre hall to support forums and events which rely on sound (i.e. film screenings)	Facilities (L) Youth Services	New $20,000	2018/2019	• Youth Centre has the infrastructure to support events that rely on sound	
2.1.6	Continue to provide all youth services run events for free or low cost	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• All youth services events are provided free or low cost	
2.1.7	Explore Possibility of Youth specific Programs running out of the ARC including at risk young people's inclusion in sport teams	Youth Services (L) ARC	Existing	Ongoing	• % of young people 10 – 24 who attend the ARC. • # Youth Service / ARC collaborations	

Strategy 2.2 Develop initiatives that target and support young people with key issues of concern – namely transport, finances, education, training and employment

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
2.2.1	Implement the RYDE program to assist young people to acquire their driver's license	Youth Services (L) Volunteer Resource Centre	Existing for pilot. Funding beyond pilot to be costed	2017/2018	• RYDE program is established • 50 young people participate in the program per annum	
2.2.2	Investigate the best method of supporting at young people with transport disadvantage, or living in Cockburn suburbs with poorer transport options, to access activities and events	Travel Smart (L) Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019 and ongoing	• City activities and events are attended by more young people in suburbs with poorer transport options	
2.2.3	Develop programs and initiatives for young people that encourage cycling as mode of transport (i.e. bike maintenance workshops,	Youth Services Travel Smart Officer (L)	Existing	2020/2021 and ongoing	• More young people use cycling to access City activities and events	

	bike safety and etiquette)					
2.2.4	Collaborate with employment service providers and local businesses to target youth unemployment (with a focus on Coolbellup)	Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019 and ongoing	• Local businesses engage with the City to target youth unemployment	
2.2.5	Contribute to the development of area-wide employment forums or job fairs for young people	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• The City has a presence at any local employment forums	
2.2.6	Develop the necessary business networks to assist young people to locate local employment and assist young people to develop skills required to secure their first jobs	Youth Services	Existing	2017/2018 and ongoing	• Two programs per year focused on employment are delivered	
2.2.7	Expand and promote the City's youth work experience program, as well as youth internships and traineeships	Human Resources (L) Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019 and ongoing	• Young people engaging in work experience, or that have in internship/traineeship at the City increases by 20%	
2.2.8	Assist in the development and implementation of an Aboriginal Employment Strategy (within the City's Human Resources Strategy	Human Resources (L) Aboriginal Reference Group Youth Services	Existing	2017/2018	• An Aboriginal Employment Strategy is developed	
2.2.9	Actively explore funding through the Try, Test and Learn program to support youth employment initiatives in Cockburn	Youth Services (L) Human Resources	Existing	Ongoing	• Any Try, Test and Learn funding applications submitted are successful	
2.2.10	Support partnerships to establish mentoring programs to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students, where appropriate	Youth Services	Existing / Grant funding to be explored	2017/18 and ongoing	• Schools are assisted where requested	
2.2.11	Actively explore funding and/or partnerships for literacy and numeracy or homework	Youth Services (L) Volunteer Resource	Grant funding	2017/2018 and ongoing	• Funding streams identified	

		Centre	to be secured		• Literacy/numeracy or homework support program established	

Strategy 2.3 Develop or support services and programs that improve the wellbeing of vulnerable or at risk young people

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
2.3.1	Continue to provide out-reach youth work services to at-risk young people	Youth Services	Tender to be submitted to State Gov	Ongoing	• # young people receive out-reach youth services	
2.3.2	Partner with community organisations to support young people from CaLD backgrounds to access sport (or other) opportunities in the City	Club Development Officer (L) Youth Services (L)	Existing grant funding to be explored	2018/2019 and ongoing	• Fremantle Multicultural Centre report young people are finding it easier to access sporting clubs	
2.3.3	Audit the City's youth provision in collaboration with young people with disabilities to assess for youth disability accessibility and provision	Disability Services (L) Disability Reference Group Youth Services (L)	Existing	2017/2018	• Youth disability audit is delivered • Necessary amendments are make to youth service provision	
2.3.4	Establish a support or social group for LGBTIQ young people at the youth centre	Youth Services	Existing	2017/2018	• LGBTIQ young people social group is established	
2.3.5	Re-tender for Department for Communities funding for at-risk children and young people when it is released	Youth Services	Existing	When tender is released	• Tender is successful	

Strategy 2.4 Provide information and programs for parents/caregivers of young people to build their knowledge, capacity and confidence

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
2.4.1	Develop and deliver education workshops for parents of teens on topics of relevance (i.e.	Family Services (L) Youth Services	Existing – Family and	2017/18 and ongoing	• 80% of satisfaction of each event is achieved	

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
	safe parties, early identification of mental health problems, drugs and alcohol, cyber safety, bullying, study stress, gaming addiction)		Youth Service to jointly fund			
2.4.2	Deliver more intergenerational sessions at the youth centre	Youth Services	Existing	2017/2018 and ongoing	• There is improved community engagement between the Youth Centre and the community leading to positive perception of the youth centre	

Strategy 2.5 Utilise the Cockburn Youth Services staffing to continue to respond to current youth need and gap areas

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
2.5.1	Continue to ensure that youth centre is a safe and accessible space for all young people	Youth services	Existing	Ongoing	• Statistics of youth centre use reflect a diversity of young accessing the centre	
2.5.2	Continue to provide a wide-variety of term time and holiday programs from the youth centre	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• 80% of satisfaction of each event achieved	
2.5.3	Host an annual youth centre open day to promote services and programs, and encourage parents to visit the centre	Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019 and ongoing	• Annual youth centre open day is held	
2.5.4	Explore a collaboration with a drug and alcohol service/program to co-locate and provide services from the youth centre	Youth Services	Existing	2017/2018	• Drug and alcohol support services are provided at the youth centre	
2.5.5	Explore a collaboration with a youth sexual health service/program to co-locate and provide services from the youth centre	Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019	• Youth sexual health services are provided at the youth centre	

OUTCOME 3 Young people are well informed and involved in decision making						
Strategy 3.1 Provide information to young people in ways that match their modes of communication and resonates with current youth culture						
#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
3.1.1	Develop a digital communication plan for young people	Communications (L) Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019	• Digital communication plan developed	
3.1.2	Social media officer dedicates two days per week to youth services marketing and promotion and is based at the youth centre for those days	Communications Youth Services (L)	New $25,000 per annum .4 level 5 position to be added to workforce plan	2017/2018 and ongoing	• Youth services receive 0.4FTE time for youth marketing and promotion	
3.1.3	Develop an interactive online forum to seek the opinions of young people and give feedback	Communications (L) Youth Services Community Engagement Officer	Existing	2017/2018	• Online forum developed	
3.1.4	Develop a media clip to promote the Youth Services Strategy to young people	Youth Services (L) Communications	Existing	2017/2018	• Media clip developed • Clip viewed 2000 times	
Strategy 3.2 Continue to develop innovative initiatives that enable young people to be involved in City planning and decision making						
#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
3.2.1	Continue to review the YAC model, with a focus on identifying ways of including diverse groups of young people	Youth Services (L)	Existing	Ongoing	• Young people are well engaged in the YAC • YAC has a diverse membership	
3.2.2	Expand the YAC and other young leader's skills and capacity to do peer to peer engagement	Youth Services (L)	Existing	Ongoing	• Peer-to-peer engagement training is provided when required	
3.2.3	Involve young people in the planning of key City events	Events (L) Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Young people are involved in the organising of Coogee Live event	

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
3.2.4	Increase youth participation in co-facilitating or co-presenting at City events and occasions	Youth Services (L) Events	Existing	Ongoing	• Young people MC or co-present at two events per year	
3.2.5	Actively involve young people in the development of the next Bicycle Network and Footpath Plan and other City plans and strategies related to transport	Planning (L) Travel Smart Officer Youth Services	Existing	2021/2022	• Young people involved in new plan development	

Strategy 3.3 Develop and implement mechanisms that give all young people the opportunity to contribute to their community

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
3.3.1	Develop a group for young people aged 18 to 24 who want to volunteer or work on community initiatives	Youth Services (L)	Existing	2017/2018 and ongoing	• A group for young people aged 18 to 24 is established	
3.3.2	Promote volunteering opportunities specifically for young people	Volunteer Resource Centre (L) Youth Services	Existing	2018/2019 and ongoing	• The number of young people volunteering increases by 10%	
3.3.3	Expand, promote and re-name the U Fund to be available to young people of all ages	Youth Services (L)	Existing	Ongoing	• U Fund funds are fully expended each year • U Fund is re-named	
3.3.4	Ensure City of Cockburn participatory budgeting schemes are inclusive of young people and youth projects are included	Community Development (L) Youth Services	Existing	2019/2020	• Young people are included in participatory budgeting schemes	

OUTCOME 4 The City has strong partnerships and advocates for the current and emerging needs of young people						
Strategy 4.1 **Build and maintain strategic partnerships which strengthen the community's ability to respond to the current and emerging needs of young people**						
#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
4.1.1	Continue to participate in networks that build partnerships and increase collaboration amongst youth and community sector providers in the area	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Four CMFIYF meetings are attended per annum	
4.1.2	Provide input in the review of the Regional	Community	Existing		• Review occurs	

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
	Managers Forum and the South West Metropolitan Partnership Forum	Development Manager (L) Youth Services				
4.1.3	Build relationships with staff at the two new secondary schools that will service Cockburn students: South Fremantle site, and Hammond Park	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• One contact person is identified in each school • Youth Services staff have regular contact with both new schools	
4.1.4	Continue to build on the relationship with Murdoch, Notre Dame, Curtin Universities and TAFE to provide opportunities for young people aged 17 to 25	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Youth Services staff have regular contact with each tertiary institution	
4.1.5	Continue to build relationships with church groups that provide programs and events for young people	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Contact is made with each of the church youth groups in the City	
4.1.6	Advocate with key personnel in shopping centres so they can adequately meet and respond to young people's needs	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Shopping Centres provide opportunities to young people celebrate their positive contribution	
4.1.7	Explore partnership opportunities with the Fremantle Dockers which have the potential to benefit local young people	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Partnership develops	

Strategy 4.2 Use the City's position and influence to advocate on issues of importance for young people and youth/community service providers in Cockburn

#	Actions	Leader & key contributors	Budget	Timeframe	Measures of success	Status update
4.2.1	Continue to advocate for better provision of housing and accommodation for young people in Cockburn	Manager Community Development (L)	Existing	Ongoing	• Advocacy occurs when opportunities arise	
4.2.2	Continue to advocate for better transport options for young people in Cockburn (i.e. buses from youth centre at closing time)	Travel Smart Officer (L) Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• City has regular contact with the PTA	
4.2.3	Continue to inform State and Federal	Manager Community	Existing	Ongoing	• Communications with	

	Government authorities, where appropriate, on key issues affecting young people in the City of Cockburn	Development (L)			State and Federal Government occur on key issues	
4.2.4	Pursue grant opportunities (where appropriate) to respond to the needs of young people	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Grants are applied for	
4.2.5	All funding applications for youth services are co-designed from inception with young people	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• All funding applications are co-designed	
4.2.6	Apply for award opportunities that provide recognition to the City and youth services	Youth Services	Existing	Ongoing	• Awards applied for	

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12.   Reporting format

An annual review of the strategy will be undertaken with results published in the City's Annual Report each year. A comprehensive review of all components of the Youth Services Strategy will be undertaken in 2022.

13.   Reference information

The following references documents were used to inform the development this strategy:

- City of Cockburn population forecast - www.forecast.id.com.au/cockburn/home
- www.scsa.wa.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/345458/Year-12-Student-Achievement-Data-2016-web.pdf
- South Metropolitan Population Health Unit, WA Government Department of Health, *City of Cockburn Health and Wellbeing Profile*, 2016
- dropin.org.au/display/DNE/2017/04/19/New+Unemployment+Data+for+WA
- This is Me - Aboriginal young people's stories, Commissioner for Children and Young People
- Listen to Us: Using the views of WA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people to improve policy and service delivery, Commissioner for Children and Young People
- A Catalyst for Change: Catalyst Youth Summit 2016, YACWA
- Speaking Out About Disability: The views of Western Australian children and young people with disability, CCYP
- Rosenstreich, G. (2013) LGBTI People Mental Health and Suicide. Revised 2nd Edition. National LGBTI Health Alliance. Sydney
- Hopping off the Roundabout: Supporting Young Carers in Western Australia,
- http://www.missionaustralia.com.au/publications/research/young-people
- https://www.yacwa.org.au/blog/events-and-news/yacwa-survey-results/
- The New Work Order - Ensuring young Australians have skills and experience for the jobs of the future, not the past. The Foundations for Young Australians
- www.yacwa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/YACWA-Policy-Position-Paper.pdf
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- ABS, (9 November 2012). Factsheet: Youth Homelessness
- http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/index.php/about-homelessness/homeless-statistics
- Policy brief - March 2015. Housing and homelessness: the impact on the wellbeing of WA children and young people
- http://thehomestretch.org.au/about/
- https://news.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Building-Safe-and-Strong-Families-Earlier-Intervention-and-Family-Support-Strategy.pdf
- Issues Paper 7 - July 2011 Middle Years, Commissioner for Children and Young People WA
- Are the kids alright? Young Australians in their middle years (2016). The Australian Wellbeing Project
- https://www.yacwa.org.au/blog/events-and-news/yacwa-survey-results/
- http://bys.net.au/ryde-program' https://www.yacwa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/YACWA-PBA-ONLINE.pdf

- http://www.youngandwellcrc.org.au/
- https://www.yacwa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/YACWA-PBA-ONLINE.pdf
- http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/wa-ndis/wa-ndis/service_provider_search_tool/

Annexure 1: Methodology

The review and research stage of the new strategy ran from February to May 2017 and included the following:

1. A review of the current Youth Services Strategy 2011 - 2016 and an audit of what had been achieved during the period
2. The identification of what facilities, services, events, activities, and programs the City provide for young people
3. A review of the current services and facilities providing youth services and events in the City
4. An analysis of demographic data of young people living in the City
5. A review of the current issues, trends and policies relevant to the health and wellbeing of young people

The consultation stage of the new strategy ran from February to August 2017 and included the following:

1. Identification of key target groups and the development of a stakeholder engagement plan
2. Delivery of consultation actions identified in the engagement plan
3. Collation of consultation data

The analysis and strategy development stage ran from June to August 2017 and included the following:

1. Identification of duplication or over-servicing, as well as gaps in youth service provision
2. Review of the capacity of current youth services and other events and facilities within the City to meet the needs of young people
3. The identification of youth services, community development opportunities, events and facilities, including appropriate localities that will need to be provided over the next five years
4. Development of evidence based strategies and actions regarding the type and location of future facilities, services, events, activities and programs that need to be provided or facilitated for young people over the next five years
5. Development of three publications: a report to the community, the strategy, and an implementation plan

The development of the Youth Services 2017 - 2022 was overseen by a working group, comprised of the Manager Community Development, Youth Services Manager, and Youth Development Officer.

Annexure 2: External services

There are 28 primary schools in the City of Cockburn, with an additional learning centre on the site of Coolbellup Primary School, and eight secondary schools, with one of these being alternative education provision. There is also one secondary campus (North Lake) located outside the border, which has an Intensive English Centre and well used by Cockburn residents. In terms of tertiary education, there are two universities located near the City - Murdoch and Notre Dame. Fremantle Education Centre and South Metropolitan TAFE, both also offer tertiary opportunities, including diplomas, certificates and also vocational education and training programs, South Metropolitan TAFE currently runs the GATE program at the Cockburn Youth Centre. There are two CARE providers in the City, Port Community School, and a relatively new provider, Alta 1 College run by the Red Door Community Church.

There is over 30 health and support organisations, services or programs that were based in Cockburn, provided outreach into Cockburn, or worked with a number of young people from the Cockburn area. These were a mix of not-for-profit and Government bodies.

There are currently around 60 sporting and recreation clubs located in the City of Cockburn. There are also other clubs that fall outside of the City's borders that young people living in the City attend. There are also four scout, guides or cadet groups in the City's borders. Two of the major, commercial facilities for young people in the City of Cockburn are Adventure World and Cockburn Ice Arena, both located in Bibra Lake.

There are a number of shopping centres in the City. Cockburn Gateway Shopping Centre is the largest shopping centre, but there are others that young people reported visiting, including Phoenix Shopping Centre, Coolbellup Shopping Centre - Coolbellup, Harvest Lakes Shopping Centre, Beeliar Shopping Centre, and Lakes Shopping Centre.

There are at least 13 employment service providers either located in the Cockburn area, or providing services to young people in Cockburn, with four of these being disability specific providers, and three based within the City of Cockburn borders.

There are eight churches in the City operating youth programs. Many of these groups meet on a Friday night and provide transport for young people age 12 to 17 to access their program.

Annexure 3: Research and trends

Education

According to the Department of Education annual report, 26.3% of students enrolled in WA schools that started Year 8 in 2011 didn't successfully graduate Year 12 in 2015. Table 5 contains the 2016 WACE data from schools in the City of Cockburn.[6]

Table 2: 2016 WACE data for Cockburn high schools

School	FT eligible year 12 students	Achieved the WACE	%
Atwell College	161	141	87.6
Hamilton Senior High School	52	38	73.1
Lakeland Senior High School	79	62	78.5
Emmanuel Catholic College	124	119	96

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[6] http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/345458/Year-12-Student-Achievement-Data-2016-web.pdf

The Education Department currently employs participation coordinators who work with young people who are early school leavers and at risk of not engaging in education or other approved training or employment programs. The coordinators in the southern area (which includes Cockburn) have extremely high workload which means that they cannot assist all young people that need it.

Since 2013, TAFE fees in WA have increased significantly (some up to five-fold) as a result of the removal of the cap on annual course fee. This fee increase has correlated with a 25% decrease in enrolments. In May 2017, the WA State Government announced that it would freeze TAFE fees on all courses over four years. At a similar time, the Federal Government announced cuts to higher education which resulted in increases in university fees. The threshold earning rate at which young people start paying back their HELP debt has also reduced.

Health

Children aged up to 12 and young people aged 13 to 25 are both vulnerable groups for poor health and wellbeing. Seventy-one percent of the adult population in the City of Cockburn are either overweight or obese; 92% eat less than five serves of vegetables per day, 31% of adult's drink at risky/high risk levels and 43% are not active enough[7].

In 2016, the City of Cockburn had a higher rate of self-reported or doctor diagnosed mental health problems than Western Australia as a whole (17.1% compared to a WA estimate of 14.4%)[8]. The Youth Mental Health Report contains the most recent data on mental health for young people[9]. One of the most striking findings of this report was that the percentage of young people (20%) that said mental health was a top national concern doubled in last six years. Internet Gaming Disorder is now listed in the DSM-5 diagnostic manual as a new condition warranting more research. An Australian report on the impact of technology on young men's mental health and wellbeing, by the federally funded Young and Well Co-operative Research Centre, shows males aged 16 to 25 are upping their average time online to three hours each day from two hours four years ago[10].

Headspace is one of the key mental health providers for young people aged 12 to 25. Headspace Fremantle is the local provider for Cockburn and 27% of their clients come from the City of Cockburn[11]. In the last 18-months there have been significant changes within the organisation. The federal government defunded the national body and organisations within each state have been contracted to deliver services; in WA, this is the WA Health Alliance. YouthReach South is a significant mental health provider in the Cockburn area and is co-located at the Cockburn Youth Centre.

Unemployment

The 2011 census data shows that City of Cockburn has a comparatively slightly lower youth unemployment rate (9.6%) than the greater Perth average (10.1%) however this rate was not consistent across the City, with Coolbellup having a youth unemployment rate of 20.2%. In addition, 8.9% of the City's population were disengaged[12], compared to 8.5% in Greater Perth, with this again rising to15.5% in Coolbellup. State-wide trends show that youth unemployment is rising and recent surveys conducted by YACWA found that young

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[7] South Metropolitan Population Health Unit, WA Government Department of Health, *City of Cockburn Health and Wellbeing Profile*, 2016

[8] This is for persons 16 years and over. South Metropolitan Population Health Unit, WA Government Department of Health, *City of Cockburn Health and Wellbeing Profile*, 2016, p.8

[9] http://www.missionaustralia.com.au/publications/research/young-people

[10] http://www.youngandwellcrc.org.au/

[11] Statistic provided by headspace Fremantle in September 2017

[12] Disengaged young people are defined as those whose labour force status is either 'unemployed' or 'not in the labour force'

people are finding it increasingly difficult to find work and that they wanted help with help with writing and improving CVs.[13] Young people with disabilities are especially at risk of unemployment.

The federal government recently opened its first cycle of the Try, Test and Learn Fund, which is part of its controversial PaTH program.[14] The federal government has stated that the fund is expected to open for ideas several times over multiple years and will support trials of new or innovative policy responses to help people live independently of welfare. There may be an opportunity for the City to partner with business and employment agencies to apply for funding in future rounds.[15]

Housing, homelessness and youth accommodation

A quarter of people experiencing homelessness is young people. The rate of homelessness reported in the 2011 census indicates that 125 young people in Cockburn are likely to be homeless on any given night[16]. In 2017, large portions of WA's youth homelessness initiatives are at risk of closure or face a serious reduction in service delivery, due to the uncertainty surrounding the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH), which comes to an end next year.

Child protection

The state government's review of the child protection early intervention strategy will impact on youth outreach provided by the City. The City will likely to have to re-tender for its current contract, and there are likely to be more Aboriginal service providers delivering services in the area.

Transport

A 2016 survey conducted by YACWA found that over half of young people reported that it was hard or very hard to get a licence, which was as high as 60% in the 19 to 20-year age group.[17] Almost 75% reported that they found the process unaffordable and over half reported that not getting a licence affected their job or potential job applications.

As part of its election platform, the WA Labor party announced that it would commence the Circle Line between Thornlie and Cockburn as part of METRONET. This work would commence in 2019 and be completed by 2021. As part of the same election platform the party also committed to build the Armadale Road Bridge linking North Lake Road and Armadale Road over the Kwinana Freeway. Both of these projects will have an impact on young people's transport in and out of Cockburn.

Youth justice

There is a critical lack of funding and cross-departmental accountability for community based early intervention programs to prevent youth offending. Effective early intervention and prevention programs that work with vulnerable and disadvantaged children and their families, address underlying risk factors and can circumvent initial (and ongoing) contact with the justice and child protection systems.[18]

Technology

Children and young people are increasingly engaged with technology, and a wide variety of devices, in different ways than they were just a few years ago. There are a huge number of positives to this, including access to information and services. However, there are also risks including issues such as breaches of

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[13] www.yacwa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/YACWA-Youth-Survey-Results.pdf

[14] www.yacwa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/PaTH-Submission-31-August-2016.pdf

[15] https://engage.dss.gov.au/try-test-and-learn-fund/try-test-and-learn-fund-view-ideas/

[16] http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/index.php/about-homelessness/homeless-statistics

[17] www.yacwa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/YACWA-Youth-Survey-Results.pdf

[18] https://www.yacwa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/YACWA-PBA-ONLINE.pdf

privacy, the sharp rise of cyber bullying and sexting. Some of the changes in the way technology can be used have left services and, at times, the law struggling to keep up. In addition, now that online communication has become the 'norm', a lack of access for some young people has become a human rights issue. Young people who are unable to access through financial means are more likely to be at risk of building up huge debts.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are a group at particular risk for poor outcomes; they are increasingly over-represented in the criminal justice system and in the out-of-home care system. They are likely to have lower health outcomes and educational and employment achievements compared with their non-Aboriginal peers.

A coordinator of the State funded Strong Families Program was previously co-located in the Cockburn Youth Centre and worked effectively with Aboriginal families and young people in the area. A review of this state-wide program in 2016 saw it de-funded. There is currently a no-one coordinating state government departmental response for Aboriginal families and young people in the Cockburn area.

In 2015, the state government outlined the Aboriginal Youth Services Investment reform. The aim of this reform is to drive improved outcomes for Aboriginal young people and increase the effectiveness of government expenditure on Aboriginal youth services and programs. This reform will inform future service provision by the City of Cockburn.

Young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

Demographic data show that there has been a substantial increase in families from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) residing in Cockburn in the last five years. In 2015, the Commissioner for Children and Young People undertook a consultation to find out about the issues that affect children and young people under the age of 18 from CALD backgrounds[19]. They found that the best things about living in Australia for these children were family, friends, sport, freedom, safety, and opportunities. Racism, bullying, discrimination and stereotyping were among the things children found most difficult. Other things that were hard included separation from family, loss of culture, learning English, making friends and learning how to get around. Schools with Intensive English Centres (IECs) report a big gap in the educational services for newly arrived young people. They are only funded to receive two years IEC support, and when they go into the mainstream school, many are left floundering, and still need additional help.

Young people living with disability

The 2016, census data shows that 2.8% of young people aged 10 to 19 living in Cockburn need assistance with core activities due to disability (compared to 2.4% of the Greater Perth population). However, the definition of disability is broader than that, and in 2013 the Commissioner for Children and Young Children reported that around 1 in 12 (8%) of children and young people have some form of disability. This means approximately 1,900 young people aged 10 to 24 in Cockburn are living with a disability. Young people in Cockburn have been part of an NDIS trial site, and anecdotally this has improved their ability to access services and programs to meet their needs. Youth services have seen an increase in young people with autism diagnoses engaging in programs and have adjusted services accordingly.

LGBTIQ young people

One of the biggest issues to young people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex or queer is bullying and abuse in schools. To address bullying in schools of the student cohort, Safe Schools

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[19] www.ccyp.wa.gov.au/media/1411/report-cald-children-and-young-people-from-culturally-and-linguistically-diverse-backgrounds-speak-out-web-version-february-2016.pdf

Coalition Australia was formed. The program was first federally funded in 2014 and rolled out nationally. The aim of this program is to create safer and more inclusive environments. The federal funding for this program has ceased, however schools can continue to opt in to the program. LGBTI people have the highest rates of suicidality of any population in Australia. Same sex attracted young people attempt suicide at six times the rate of their heterosexual peers, and up to 50% of transgender people have actually attempted suicide at least once in their lives[20] [21]

Young carers

Young carers rarely identify themselves, and the unique challenges that they face often go unaddressed. Approximately 10% of children and young people assume caring responsibilities for a family member or friend. This means there are likely to be approximately 2,360 young carers living in the City of Cockburn. Most young carers under 18 are aged between 10 and 13 years[22].

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[20] LGBTI People Mental Health and Suicide.
[21] www.telethonkids.org.au/transpathways (2017)
[22] Hopping off the Roundabout: Supporting Young Carers in Western Australia, 2007

Annexure 4: Best practice initiatives

RYDE program

The Town of Bassendean support their young residents with getting their licence through the RYDE program, which is delivered by Bassendean Youth Services. The RYDE program[23] provides young people with the opportunity to complete their 50 hours of supervised driving experience with a volunteer driving mentor.

Foundation for Young Australians

The Foundation for Young Australians is national organisation which delivers a range of initiatives that are co-designed with young people. They have an excellent reach into the older youth demographic (18 to 25s), with a slick appealing website, and language which hits the mark. In the last year, they ran 10 national programs, backed 10,000 young people and estimate they reached a community of seven million. Their social media presence is strong, with over 115,000 followers. They have a young staff base and regularly involve young people in developing their media and marketing materials to keep them relevant to current youth culture.

Youth Partnership Project

The Armadale Youth Partnership Project commenced in 2014 and was a culmination of over two years collaborative works between community and government entities the South-East Corridor region to address the anti-social and criminal behaviour of young people on the Armadale train line. The project has been highly successful across a number of measures; however there are two key best practice principles the City could learn from and replicate in initiatives over the next five years.

1. Youth leadership and co-design - the Youth Leadership Roundtable (YLR) was comprised of 13 young leaders who were paid, casual staff. During the first two years of the project they provided strategic direction, advice and support to the YPP, as well as implemented activities and advocated for the priority needs of young people in the area. These young people not only ensured the project was designed and informed by young people, but many of these young people have gone on to do amazing things in other projects and been nominated for (and won) awards.

2. Promoting a positive image of young people and Armadale - in 2016, the Youth Partnership Project developed a Change the Story campaign message. The aim of this campaign was to challenge the prevailing negative stereotype of young people in Armadale. The campaign has been very successful, and received significant media coverage, including radio and television. Simple things like developing a hashtag #*changethestory*, and catchy name for the campaign that people can remember and get behind, has been critical to its success.

MYAN WA

The Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network of Western Australia (MYAN WA) has been highly successful over the last three years in engaging young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds in variety of projects and developing them as youth leaders that go on to participate and create change in their communities. Two core elements of MYAN WA's work that the City could learn from are outlined below.

Youth project co-design - MYAN WA has supported two different groups of young people to organise consecutive Catalyst Youth Summit's, which have both been well received by the youth and settlement sector alike. The initiatives were youth-led and co-designed from the outset, in every aspect of the project, from the

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[23] http://bys.net.au/ryde-program

initial grant application, event development, marketing, delivery and evaluation. This ensured maximum buy in by other young people, ensured the event was entirely relevant for young people, and developed the leadership skills of those involved. Many of the young people, who were delegates at the initial event, became the organisers of the next event, developing an alumnus of young people who are all connected.

Youth speakers - MYAN WA incorporates young speakers and presenters in all of their events, and it is part of their strategic plan. They have also developed a speaking bureau for young people from CALD backgrounds. Young people that participate in this project have received training on public speaking, sharing their story and working with the media. Sharing stories is a powerful way of changing community perception on an issue and in this case, showcasing the wonderful things that young people do and believe in.

Youth Advisory Groups

Maintaining strong youth advisory groups, committees or councils is a vital way for local governments to have a regular dialogue with their young citizens, as well as involve them in planning and decision making. Over the last ten years or so, many local governments have struggled in maintaining numbers and getting diversity. The City of Gosnells and the City of Stirling are doing new and invigorating work in this area, by working closely with schools in their area.

Annexure 5: Consultation detail

A peer consultation method was used to consult with young people. The rationale for this was that young people are able to gain access to other young people much more readily that an adult consultant, and the information they gather is likely to be a more accurate representation of their thoughts and opinions. Twelve peer consultation leaders were provided with training, and then co-designed and delivered surveys to other young people.

Table 3: Method, numbers and date of consultations used during the consultation and engagement stage of the plan

Group	Method	Number
Young people (aged 10 to 24)	Youth Advisory Committee	3
	Paper surveys	267
	Online surveys	25
	Peer leader workshop	12
	Review focus group	9
	TOTAL	**316**
Parents/caregivers	Online survey	36
	TOTAL	**36**
Community groups and organisations	Face-to-face meetings	5
	Phone conversations	6
	Disability Reference Group	10
	Aboriginal Reference Group	9
	TOTAL	**30**
City of Cockburn staff	Working group	3
	Casual youth staff workshop	15
	Permanent youth staff workshop	10
	Whole of staff workshop	25
	TOTAL	**53**
	TOTAL number consulted	**435**

Survey responses were received from young people in every age range (10 up to 24; with a median age of 17). To analyse the data, responses were separated into three age groups; age 10 to 12, age 13 to 17 and age 18 to 24. We heard from young people living in every suburb in Cockburn, with the exceptions of Henderson, North Coogee and Wattleup. The suburbs with the highest number of respondents were Success, Spearwood, Atwell and Beeliar, which matches the demographic data that shows these areas have high numbers of young residents. We heard from students from all of the high schools in the City, and those attending TAFE and university and a diverse range of young people:

- 55% were male, 45% female and 2% wrote other or chose not to respond
- 7% were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- 14% identified as being from a culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD)
- 6% identified as being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex or queer (LGBTIQ)
- 15% identified as living with a mental health difficulty
- 9% said they were living with a disability
- 5% said they had caring responsibilities
- 4% were young parents

Communication

- The most common way for young people to find out about what is going in is by talking with others, and about 20% use posters and flyers
- The youth centre is good source of information young people aged 13 to 17 but less so for other age groups
- Young people are much more likely to find out about things going on through other, non-City avenues of social media than through the City's Facebook page
- A third of young people aged 10 to 12 haven't heard of anything going on in the City of Cockburn - double that of other age groups
- Young people in Cockburn communicate with others primarily by talking in person, phone, and text message
- Facebook is used by nearly 85% of young people aged 18 to 24, but only 71% of those aged 13 to 17 and just under 20% of those aged 10 to 12
- Snapchat and Instagram are used by approximately 50% of young people aged 13 and over
- Email is an effective method of communication for about 50% of young people aged 18 and over, but not for younger groups
- The least used means of communication for young people are Twitter, What's App, blogs/forums and Skype

Access to places and facilities

- Across all age groups, the most popular place to visit is shopping centres, with over 70 % of young people frequenting shopping centres in the City of Cockburn
- No cost or free venues and activities are popular including beaches, parks/ovals and libraries
- Adventure World is visited by a lot of young people, though popularity decreases as young people get older
- The least used places by young people are BMX tracks, community centres and religious centres
- The biggest barriers for young people getting to the places or things they want to in the City are transport and cost
- Transport is a barrier for young people of all ages, but was most important to young people aged 13 to 17
- Age is a barrier for nearly two-thirds of young people age 10 to 12

Support and inclusion

- The most important sources of support for young people are friends, parents/caregivers and other family members
- About a third of young people state that a GP/doctor or nurse is a source of support, and is more likely to be used than the internet
- A phone helpline is the least used source of support for young people
- Only 13% of young people feel part of the community, 57% feel a little bit part of the community, and a third don't feel part of the community at all
- 68% of young people would like to get more involved in their community or meet new people

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Issues of concern to young people

Issue	Discussion / solutions
Transport	Young people reported finding it difficult to get to things. They wanted to see buses that were more frequent, ran later and went out into the suburbs. They also wanted safer public transport. They reported it was hard to get to the central part of Cockburn.
Drugs and alcohol	Young people reported that drugs and alcohol were a big issue in Cockburn. They felt that parents needed to be more accountable, and that police needed to do something about it; that they currently turn a blind eye. They felt there was a need for parent education and more police presence in public parks.
Cost of things	Lots of young people wanted more things to do that were free or cheap. They felt lots of things to do were too expensive and reported that they didn't have the money.
Safety	Many young people reported safety concerns. They said that they didn't know what CoSafe did, or what type of incident would be reported to them (some didn't know that CoSafe existed). There were concerns raised about lack of any lighting after dark in many parks.
Promotion of activities	Young people felt that the City didn't always promote what it offered for young people well. They said that young people use social media a lot, but rarely go onto the City's social media pages, and so to promote stuff the City needs to go on pages they do use.
Boredom	A number of young people reported boredom as an issue. They wanted more community events that they felt included in. A cinema was a highly requested facility.
Employment	Employment was a big issue of concern across age groups, with young people either worried about the future or underemployed/unemployed now. They felt there needed to be more meaningful volunteering opportunities, and workshops to help find jobs. Young people aged 13 to 17-year old were the most likely to report that they were looking for work, suggesting they want part-time work after school.