

# AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE  
**HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL**

on

**2 July 2018**

**5.30pm**

at

Civic Centre

HORSHAM

**COUNCILLORS are respectfully requested to attend the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council to be held in the Municipal Chambers, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm on 2 July 2018.**

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CLOSE



SUNIL BHALLA  
Chief Executive Officer

**1. READING OF PRAYER AND THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY STATEMENT****2. WELCOME TO DISTINGUISHED GUESTS OR PERSONS IN THE PUBLIC GALLERY**

The public are advised that the Council meeting will be recorded to maintain an audio archive.

**3. APOLOGIES AND REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE****4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND SIGNING THEREOF**

(A) MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL CHAMBERS, CIVIC CENTRE, HORSHAM AT 5.30PM ON 12 June 2018

(B) MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL CHAMBERS, CIVIC CENTRE, HORSHAM AT 5.00PM ON 25 June 2018

**5. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST AND DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

A Councillor who has a conflict of interest and is attending the Council meeting must make a full disclosure of that interest.

(a) by either –

- (i) advising the Council at the meeting of the details required under paragraphs (b) and (c) immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting; or
- (ii) advising the Chief Executive Officer in writing of the details required under paragraphs (b) and (c) before the meeting; and

(b) classifying the type of interest that has given rise to the conflict as either –

- (i) a direct interest under 77B; or
- (ii) an indirect interest and specifying the particular kind of indirect interest under:

Section 78 – close association

Section 78A – financial interest

Section 78B – conflicting duties

Section 78C – receipt of an applicable gift

Section 78D – consequence of becoming an interested party

Section 78E – impact on residential amenity; and

- (c) describing the nature of the interest; and
- (d) if the Councillor advised the Chief Executive Officer of the details under paragraph (a)(ii), the Councillor must make a disclosure of the class of interest only to the meeting immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting.

#### Members of Staff

Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989, officers or people engaged under contract to the Council providing a report or advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests in the matter, including the type of interest.

**6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**7.1 RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON THE MOTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

NIL

**7.2 RECEPTION AND READING OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, JOINT LETTERS AND DEPUTATIONS**

NIL

**7.3 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

**7.3.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 166**

Given by Cr Mark Radford

TAKE NOTICE that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council, to be held at the Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue, Horsham on Monday 2 July, 2018.

“That Council having conducted a review of its Meeting Procedure (incorporated by reference in to Local Law No.1 – Governance), intends to amend the revised procedure at its meeting on Monday, 16 July, 2018.”

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**Cr Mark Radford**

CIVIC CENTRE  
HORSHAM 3400  
27 June, 2018

**7.4 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

NIL

**7.5 ORDERS OF THE DAY**

NIL

## **8. OTHER REPORTS**

### **8.1 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – RECORD OF MEETINGS**

Council Briefing meeting held on Monday 25 June, 2018 at 7.45pm in the Council Reception Room.

Refer to **Appendix “8.1A”**.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council note the Assembly of Councillors’ – Record of Meetings.

### **8.2 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

NIL

### **8.3 INWARD CORRESPONDENCE**

NIL



#### **8.4 COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

- 8.4.1 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday 2 May 2018 at 5.00pm in the Council Reception Room.**
- 8.4.2 Wimmera Intermodal Freight Terminal Committee of Management meeting held on 23 May 2018 at 1.30pm in the Horsham Rural City Council, Council Chambers.**
- 8.4.3 Sunnyside Park Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 23 May 2018 at 7.30pm at the Sunnyside Bowling Clubrooms**
- 8.4.4 Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 12 June 2018 at 10.30am in the Council Reception Room.**
- 8.4.5 RoadSafe Wimmera Inc meeting held on Monday 18 June 2018 at 7.00pm at the SES building, McPherson Street, Horsham**

Refer to **Appendix "8.4A"**.

## 9. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

## 10. OFFICERS REPORTS

### 10.1 AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

Diana McDonald

File Ref: F18/A13/000001

#### Purpose

To report outcomes of the Audit Committee meeting of 14 June 2018.

#### Background

The Horsham Rural City Council (HRCC) Audit Committee is an advisory committee of Council, whose objective is to provide appropriate advice and recommendations to Council on matters as listed in its Charter, in order to facilitate decision making by Council in relation to the discharge of its accountability requirements.

A copy of the minutes from the recent meeting of 14 June 2018, are attached as **Appendix "10.1A"**.

Key topics covered in the meeting were:

- **Purchasing Card Review Final Report** – An internal audit was conducted with 3 areas of strength noted, and 4 areas of improvements recommended.
- **Internal Audit Actions Report** – The quarterly report on the completion and/or number of outstanding audit actions has shown a substantial number of actions completed for the quarter. In total 30 actions were completed compared to the quarter prior where there was 19 completed and the quarter before only 9, so officers have made significant inroads with the completion of these recommended actions.
- **Interim Management Letter** – The external auditors have completed the interim phase of the 2017/18 audit and noted that they did not identify any matters that need to be brought to the attention of management or the audit committee and that 6 out of 8 outstanding items and recommendations have now been completed and closed off.
- **2018/19 Budget Update** – This year council conducted additional communication strategies to encourage more feedback and comments from ratepayers. A total of 8 submissions were received on the draft budget.
- **Committee Member Vacancy** – A member vacancy will shortly be advertised to fill a recent term expiry.

There was also a range of other compliance matters including an update on the Accounting Standard Changes, the updated Strategic Internal Audit Plan (2017/18 to 2018/19), Strategic Risk Register report, Insurance update and the Financial Report (March 2018).

### Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies

Council Plan Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence

Four-year outcomes – 4.2 Manage risk to the organisation and 4.4 Achieve high standards of organisational performance

### Recommendation

That Council note the report outcomes of the Audit Committee meeting of 14 June 2018.

## 10.2 DEVELOPMENT PLAN – TWO LOT SUBDIVISION, PEARSONS ROAD, HAVEN

Adam Moar

File Ref: PA1800025

### Purpose

To approve the development plan for a two lot subdivision at Pearsons Road, Haven.

### Background

The subject land is the location of the proposed Artist in Residence development. Stage 1 of the development is a two lot subdivision which will facilitate the transfer of a culturally sensitive site to the Barengi Gadjin Land Council (BGLC).

In 2016 Council undertook an Amendment to the Horsham Planning Scheme (C77) to introduce a schedule to the Special Use Zone and a schedule to the Development Plan Overlay over the site for the purpose of facilitating the establishment of an Artist in Residence facility on the land.

C77 was exhibited, in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. This exhibition resulted in 18 submissions supporting the amendment and 3 opposed. BGLC supported the amendment. A copy of their letter of support is attached as **Appendix “10.2A”**.

A Planning Panel Hearing has held on 5 December 2016, with the report being presented to Council on 20 December 2016. The Planning Panel recommended approval of the amendment with some drafting changes, and Council adopted the report on 15 May 2017. The amendment was gazetted on 3 August 2017.

The proposed development plan has been submitted with a planning permit for the two lot subdivision. The planning permit application can be considered after the Development Plan has been approved.

## Assessment

The proposed development plan and addendum to the development plan are provided as **Appendix "10.2B"**.

Schedule 8 to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay in the Horsham Planning Scheme requires that before a planning permit is issued *an overall development plan must be prepared for the entire area affected by DPO8 to ensure a co-ordinated and comprehensive approach to the development of the land.*

The submitted development plan provides an overall view of the development by outlining:

- the proposed building envelope for the Artist in Residence building;
- the location of the access road;
- the location of pedestrian linkages to the existing informal walking track along the Wimmera River; and
- the car parking areas.

The applicant also identifies that a State 2 Development Plan will be developed when the balance of the development is ready to commence. It is considered that this more comprehensive development plan would accompany the future planning permit application.

### *Requirements for the development plan*

Section 3 of Schedule 8 outlines the requirements that must be included in the development plan. The applicant has addressed these points in their documentation, which is attached.

The requirements that are listed are:

- *General consistency with the development concept plan as shown in Figure 1.*
- *An overall development plan for the Horsham Artist in Residence site, showing how the facility and its immediate curtilage are to be developed.*
- *A Site Management Plan that addresses;*
  - *Each use proposed to operate from the site.*
  - *Operating hours for each use.*
  - *Carparking requirements for each use.*
  - *An emergency management response.*
  - *The ongoing management and maintenance of any unsealed road or accessway.*
  - *Staging of development.*
  - *All car parking areas to be located in the vicinity of the Horsham Artist in Residence building.*
- *Identification of how cultural heritage matters are to be managed through subdivision.*

- *Connectivity to existing road network via internal vehicle access ways constructed to an all weather standard. The access roads and internal accessways are to be constructed to a minimum load limit of 15 tonne with a trafficable width of 4 metres, and to be provided with 20 metre long by 6 metre wide passing bays every 200 metres.*
- *Internal vehicle and pedestrian circulation.*
- *Vehicle entry point to be located at least 60 metres north of the shared boundary with Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 308873 on Pearsons Road.*
- *Provision of appropriate arrangements for necessary physical infrastructure, including waste water management, drainage works, retention and management of storm water, power and telecommunications.*
- *Provision of an overall landscaping plan, including screen planting of vehicle entry points, and screen planting of the common boundary with Lot 1 on PS308873W.*
- *Identification of proposed water supplies, storages and systems required for fire fighting purposes.*
- *Identification of how environmental risks relevant to the land (fire and flooding) are to be addressed and managed.*
- *Identification of how the development responds to other land uses in the area.*

**Comments:**

The plan is consistent with Figure 1 of Schedule 8 to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay.

All the other points have been generally provided in the submitted documentation given the staging of this development. Most of the aspects, such as hours of operation, the specific uses that will occur, and emergency management plans need further development through the final designs of the Artist in Residence development.

One aspect of the development plan that should be changed before approval is that the vehicle entry point is shown on the plan at 59 metres from the shared boundary with Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 308873. This should be changed to 60 metres on the proposed plan.

Given the proposed development plan has been developed for the purpose to allow for a two lot subdivision to facilitate the transfer of land, and that the detailed development of the Artist in Residence facility has not been full designed, that the development plan as proposed is considered suitable.

**Consultation/Communication**

The amendment to the Planning Scheme was advertised and notified in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, which included advertisement in the Wimmera Mail Times, letters to adjoining property owners, notification to Government agencies such as Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, and the CFA.

It was considered by Council officers that the Development Plan is consistent, if not almost identical, to the concept plan that has been included into the Planning Scheme through C77, as such this Development Plan has not been notified to adjoining property owners, or advertised more widely. Notification is not required by the Planning Scheme in these circumstances.

While not officially notified as part of this process, BGLC have identified their support for the proposed subdivision as attached. (Refer to **Appendix “10.2C”**)

### **Financial**

At a suitable time, a further amendment to the Horsham Planning Scheme will be required. This would be required at any time when the subdivision is to be proposed.

The Special Use Zone Schedule 8 – Artist in Residence was specifically drafted to allow for the development of the Artist in Residence and for the subdivision to allow the transfer of the cultural significant land to the traditional owners.

Once the land is subdivided and transferred to the traditional owners the Special Use Zone Schedule 8 – Artist in Residence will no longer be relevant to the smaller lot, neither will Schedule 8 to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay.

### **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

Council Plan -

*1.3 Contribute to cultural activities that enhance our community*

1.3.01 Complete Business Plan to determine the viability and funding options for an artist in residence facility on the Wimmera River

Horsham Planning Scheme -

*Schedule 8 to Clause 37.01 Special Use Zone (Gazetted 3 August 2017)*

### **Recommendation**

That Council approve the proposed Development Plan for Pearsons Road, Haven, prepared by Ferguson Perry Surveying titled “Development Plan Horsham Artist in Residence, Stage 1: Excision of cultural heritage sensitivity area (proposed lot 1)”, with Surveyors reference H008517 dated 18-04-18, with one amendment requiring the plan to show the access road to be located a minimum of 60 metres from the shared boundary with Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 308873.

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**10.3 HORSHAM REGIONAL ART GALLERY COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT  
TRANSITION TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND UPDATED COLLECTIONS POLICY**  
A Harding & A Donovan File Ref: F06/A2/000001

**Purpose**

To endorse the transition of Horsham Regional Art Gallery Committee of Management (HRAG COM) from a Section 86 Committee of Council to an Advisory Committee.

**Background**

The HRAG COM was formed by the City of Horsham in 1983 and became a Section 86 Committee of this Council after amalgamation. Its purpose has been to guide the development of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery and oversee its collecting activities. It achieved this through the appointment, review and endorsement of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Acquisition Committee. It is guided by the HRAG COM Instrument of Delegation (**Appendix "10.3A"**) which was reviewed and updated in 2012.

Council commenced reviewing Section 86 Committees and engaged with all committees to communicate the activities that need to be completed in order to be a Section 86 Committee and to explain the alternatives. Most committees have changed status after consideration of those alternatives.

The development of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection is guided by the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Acquisition Policy (**Appendix "10.3B"**). This policy details the makeup of the Acquisition Committee, its procedures, aims and principals for collecting.

**Discussion**

Upon review of the Section 86 Committee, it was found that the Instrument of Delegation (2012) was not reflecting the actual role of the Committee and how it was functioning.

After reviewing the draft HRAG ToR and the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection Policy at their meeting on 3 May 2018 the HRAG COM agreed to transition to an Advisory Committee.

*Advisory Committee*

It is proposed that the new Committee be known as Horsham Regional Art Gallery Advisory Committee (HRAGAC).

*Terms of Reference*

A new ToR has been developed (Appendix "10.3C") in consultation with the existing Committee and Council Officers. The proposed HRAGAC ToR is consistent with other Council Advisory Committees and is based on current best practice.



### *Membership*

The current members of the HRAGCOM will transition to new HRAGAC.

The membership of the HRAGAC will consist of

- Horsham Rural City Councillor – Cr Gulvin
- A representative of the Horsham Art Gallery Trust Fund – Rhonda Tursi
- A representative of the Horsham Town Hall Volunteers – Cheryl Linke
- Three community representatives

Under the proposed ToR, Community Committee membership shall be for three years with a maximum of two terms. To ensure consistency, and reflect current tenure, the current community members' tenure will be recorded as such:

As of June 2018:

- Marion Matthews – will commence her third year of membership of her first term
- Simone Dalton – will commence her second year of membership of her first term
- Di Dale – will commence her first year of membership of her first term

In addition, up to two Ex Officio attendees may include the Director Community Services or Community Development Manager and the Art Gallery Director or Art Gallery Curator.

### *Collection Policy*

To reflect the change in the status of the HRAG COM, the Collection Policy has been updated to reflect the roles of the Advisory Committee and Council Officers.

The aims and principles of this policy remain those that have guided the development of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery since the development of a collection policy for this institution. The Collection Policy commits the Art Gallery and Council to focus its collecting on: Australian Photography, the development of the Mack Jost Collection, and the Wimmera and its artists. Through this policy there is a commitment to meet industry standards and not avoid challenging or difficult art. Currently, acquisitions are funded from the Horsham Art Gallery Trust, which is made up of \$531,657 of managed investments and cash.

The Collection policy has been updated to reflect role of the Advisory Committee and Council Officers. In summary, the main changes are:

Once the HRAG Acquisition Committee identifies work for purchase, this recommendation is then presented to the Advisory Committee for endorsement. Once endorsed it is then authorised by the Horsham Art Gallery Trust with approval for payment of purchase being made by a delegated Council Officer (Manager Community Development).

### **Consultation/Communication**

The current Committee members have been consulted regarding the transition and review of all documents, including Instrument of Delegation, and Collection Policy to develop the new HRAGAC ToR and the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection Policy.

It is proposed that once the transition has been finalised, the new ToR and Policy will be uploaded to Council website along with a descriptor of the new Committee.

### **Financial**

This work can be undertaken within current budget allocation.

### **Links to Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

The Horsham Regional Art Gallery Advisory Committee aligns with -

Council Plan -

- 1.1 Contribute to building a vibrant, diverse and resilient community
- 1.3 Contribute to cultural activities that enhance our community

Health and Wellbeing Plan -

Support and promote advocates and events that build community resilience and social networks for all groups

Arts and Cultural Plan 2014-2018

### **Recommendation**

That Council -

1. Approve the transition of the existing Section 86 Horsham Regional Art Gallery Committee of Management to an Advisory Committee.
2. Endorse the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.
3. Endorse the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection Policy.

## **10.4 DRAFT YOUTH STRATEGY**

A Donovan

File Ref: F12/A06/000001

### **Purpose**

To seek approval for the Draft Youth Strategy to be released for public consultation.

## **Background**

Horsham Rural City Council (Council) engaged Cred Consulting in February 2018 to develop a Draft Youth Strategy.

The aim of the Strategy was to:

- To provide Council with contemporary and future facing, equitable and accessible, models for youth service delivery that reflects the needs of a diverse regional city population
- Provide a service delivery map of the current services
- Identify opportunities for young people to be empowered to make decisions on service delivery that suits their needs
- Increase meaningful engagement opportunities with Council

As part of this work, a background report (**Appendix “10.4A”**) was developed that sets out the strategic evidence base. This work included profile of Horsham’s young people, review of national, state and Council plans and policies relating to young people, review of Council’s current youth services delivery and comparison with neighbouring councils, mapping of current services that are available to young people in Horsham and comparison with other Victorian councils, and review of best practice youth service delivery and youth engagement.

Comprehensive community engagement was undertaken to help shape the Draft Strategy. Over 325 people, including 200 young people participated in this consultation.

In summary, young people have said they are proud to live in Horsham, like the close-knit community and feel safe. Challenges have been identified and young people have said that the main issues in Horsham are:

- Drug and alcohol use and abuse
- Bullying
- Mental and physical health
- Lack of things to do for young people
- Lack of youth friendly places and spaces

## **Discussion**

Council currently contracts out its youth service delivery role to Grampians Community Health and they operate youth services under the Nexus brand. This contract will expire in March 2019.

The Draft Strategy (**Appendix “10.4B”**) proposes that a new model for youth services be implemented that sees a transition away from a centre-based youth services model to an outreach and collective impact model. This will include the retention of the youth role internally within Council. It is proposed that this role coordinate local services under the new collective impact model to deliver on emerging priorities and coordinate engagement with young people.

It has also proposed that some type of youth council be developed to provide young people with more meaningful engagement opportunities with Council. This is in response to young people, services and schools identifying that young people need more opportunities to engage with Council on a range of topics. This new model also proposes that Council Officers will be required to report on the implementation of the Youth Strategy to a group of young people who will then report on achievements and/or blockages to Council.

### **Consultation/Communication**

The Draft Strategy has been developed from extensive community consultation. A consultation summary (**Appendix "10.4C"**) and media release providing an update on the consultation was released on 1 June 2018.

In summary, over 325 people participated in the discussion. This includes:

- 264 visited the project website
- 280 people completed the online survey (200 young people)
- 14 organisation interviews
- 25 Council staff participated in a workshop
- 26 young people attended a co- design youth workshop
- 20 young people in participated in focus groups
- 16 services attended a service/organisation workshop
- 100 people completed intercept surveys

### **Financial**

The Draft Strategy has been developed within the budget allocated in the 2017/18 financial year.

### **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

Development of a Youth Strategy aligns with -  
Council Plan

1.2 Develop a safe, active and healthy community, encouraging participation:

- 1.2.08 Review of Youth services in consultation with other agencies and develop a strategy

Health and Wellbeing Plan

3. Improving Mental Health:

- Develop a Youth Strategy

### **Recommendation**

That Council approve the release of the Draft Youth Strategy and associated documents for public consultation from 3 July to 29 July 2018.

**10.5 CONTRACT 18/015 RESTORATION OF FLOOD DAMAGED ASSETS, PACKAGE 3**  
Ram Upadhyaya File Ref: 18/015

**Officer Declarations of Interest**

Officers advise they have no conflicts of interests in the tender process.

**Purpose**

To award the contract for flood restoration works.

**Background**

The September 2016 storm event caused a moderate level of damage in parts of Council's road network. The majority of the damages were found in the unsealed road network. Typical damages caused by this storm event were:

- Gravel washing away in unsealed road pavement;
- Shoulder material washed away;
- Table drains silted and clogged;
- Culverts washed away, silted or clogged;
- Culvert end walls washed away;
- Scouring at the culverts or beaching washed away.

The restoration works were divided into three different packages to facilitate development of works packages, the awarding and then supervision of contracts. This contract is for the third package of works being in the area generally between the Wimmera Highway (towards Edenhope) and Henty Highway (towards Hamilton) as shown in the map in **Appendix "10.5A"**. Typical restoration works are as follows:

- 100 mm thick gravel resheet;
- 100 mm thick shoulder resheet;
- Formation grading and reshaping;
- Reshaping table drains;
- Installation of culverts (various sizes);
- Installation of end walls (various sizes);
- Installation of rock beaching;
- Installation of edge beams on floodways to prevent future damage.

**Tender Process**

Tenders were invited via advertisements in the Wimmera Mail-Times and Council's website e-tender portal.

At the close of tenders four tenders were received as follows:

1. QR Construction (Gippsland) Pty Ltd, Moe
2. Bitu-Mill (Civil) Pty Ltd, Campbellfield
3. Grampians Excavation, Stawell
4. Glover Earthmoving Pty Ltd, Longerenong

The tender evaluation panel consisted of Ram Upadhyaya (Asset Engineer), Jared Hammond (Senior Project Engineer) and Lyndon White (Senior Design Engineer).

The panel evaluated all tenders in line with the tender invitation documents against the nominated criteria, being -

- Appreciation of the work, methodology and challenges – 15%
- Commercial and financial – 15%
- Project experience and delivery capability – 10%
- Project team and experience – 10%
- Safety, quality and environmental – 15%
- Local content – 5%
- Price – 30%

The panel concluded -

- That all of the contractors would be able to complete the works to the required standards.
- The highest scoring tender of Glover Earthmoving Pty Ltd would provide the best value for money, it was is also the lowest priced tender.

### **Issues**

The preferred contractor has indicated that he will not be able to meet the nominated timeframe for all the works as stated in the tender document due to other current commitments. He has advised that the culvert works (about 25% value) can be started immediately, but the pavement restoration works cannot be started until November 2018, with project completion by March 2019.

### **Consultation/Communication**

In addition to Council's own inspections, there was extensive advertising to identify the locations for the works shortly after the flood event.

### **Financial**

The works are entirely funded under Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA) in accordance with Commonwealth – State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

The NDRRA process is run through the state Department of Treasury and Finance, which uses VicRoads as its regional agents. The local VicRoads assessor has been continuously informed and consulted during data collection and specification development.

The tender panel has assessed the significantly cheaper price of the preferred tender as being advantageous, even taking into account the delayed work schedule. This schedule still meets the NDFA time requirements, as the current funding guideline allows the completion of the project by 30 June 2019.

#### **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

The Council Plan 2014-18 includes under Goal 3 – Asset Management the following aim:

- 3.4 Deliver works to develop and maintain Council’s physical assets for long term sustainability, amenity and safety

#### **Recommendation**

That Council award Contract No 18/015 Restoration of Flood Damaged Assets – Package 3 to Glover Earthmoving Pty Ltd, of Longerenong for the tendered price of \$939,520 (excluding GST).

**11. URGENT BUSINESS**



# APPENDICES

**COUNCIL BRIEFING HELD IN THE RECEPTION ROOM  
ON MONDAY 25 JUNE 2018 AT 7.45PM**

**Present:** Cr P Clarke, Mayor, Cr MA Radford, Cr J Koenig, Cr D Grimble (until 8.30pm), Cr L Power, Cr J Robinson (until 8.30pm); Sunil Bhalla, Chief Executive Officer; Kevin O'Brien, Director Community Services; John Martin, Director Technical Services; Angela Murphy, Director Planning and Economic; Anne Donovan, Community Development Manager

**Apologies:** Cr A Gulvin; Graeme Harrison, Director Corporate Services

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Cr Clarke welcomed everyone.

**2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST SEC 79, LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1989  
(AS AMENDED)**

Nil.

**3. YOUTH STRATEGY PRESENTATION**

In attendance: Sarah Reilly and Sam Cooper, Cred Consulting

**4. DISCUSSIONS**

**4.1 Art Gallery Transition to Advisory Committee**

Discussed

**4.2 Wesley Performing Arts Centre Update**

Not Discussed, deferred to 9 July 2018

**4.3 Duff Street Roundabout**

Not discussed

**5. CLOSE**

8.45pm



## MINUTES

Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday 2 May 2018 at 5.00pm

Council Reception room – Horsham Rural City Council Offices

### Present:

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Grant Hollaway    | Chair, Community representative          |
| Gary Aitken       | Wimmera river improvement representative |
| Alan Bedggood     | Community representative                 |
| Cr Alethea Gulvin | Councillor, Horsham Rural City Council   |
| Janine Harfield   | Health sector representative             |
| Rudy Panozzo      | Community representative                 |

### Ex officio -

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mandy Kirsopp | Sustainability and recreation, HRCC |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|

### 1. Welcome

### 2. Apologies

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Martin Duke        | Manager, Infrastructure  |
| Gillian Vanderwaal | Community representative |

### 3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

None declared

### 4. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

#### MOTION

That the Minutes of the meeting 28 March 2018 be received as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**Moved:** Alan Bedggood

**Seconded:** Janine Harfield

**CARRIED**

### 5. Business arising from previous minutes

#### 5.1 Action Table

Updates were made to the Action table – four items were identified for discussion at this meeting.

New item - Flood damage to tracks where creek overflow has washed away the track surface.

(Refer below and attached, updated Action table).

### 6. Strategic Planning – Implementation Plan

#### 6.1 Route selection

##### Part A: Urban routes

A number of routes and traffic issues were identified

- Urquhart St roundabout

- Route to CBD: Natimuk Rd – Curran Rd – Racecourse bike track – Gleed St – Coles
- Barnes Boulevard
- Wilson St east bound – towards lights
- New bridge to CBD

Crossing points were identified as a cause of concern:

- Rowing clubrooms
- Pynsent St
- Roberts Ave
- Hamilton St
- Velodrome, St Brigids

It was agreed that identified concerns need to be assessed against criteria that include:

- Level of use (of the road)
- Level of safety / current level of risk
- Level of cost
- Value as a connecting road / measure. Does the road connect to other routes or destinations?

### **Part B: Off Road routes**

- Southbank to the weir
- Burnt Creek to Williams Rd
- Yanga track
- Riverside – Williams Rd
- Kenny Road – (down hill track using old tip site)

### **ACTION**

This discussion to be continued at the next meeting.

Grant Hollaway will provide a list of criteria to assist with decision making.

## **7. Correspondence – received and actions**

### **7.1 Brian Chan – VicRoads**

Explanation re challenges of widening the footpath/bike track near the eastern section of the McPherson St/Showgrounds corner and comment re disappearance of the bike lane.

Widening of path would require acquisition of Showgrounds land. Where bike track disappears from McPherson St, a 5m wide opening will be installed. Cyclists have three exit points to move onto the shared path parallel to McPherson St.

### **7.2 Garrett Liston – Hamilton St bike lane**

Information was circulated re three treatment options for the Hamilton St – O’Callaghans Parade area.

1. Merging of Firebrace St traffic onto O’Callaghans Parade – endorsed by the committee
2. Hamilton St / Firebrace St intersection – Accepted that option may be to narrow Hamilton St so that a single car or bike is at the head of the intersection. (A bike is treated in the same way as a car). Agreed that the preferred option is to keep separate bikes and cars and that cutting through the existing shoulder of the roundabout is much preferred as a safety treatment option.
3. Hamilton St / Madden St intersection – Concern expressed that bike lane disappears near the intersection and that bikes are treated as cars – pushed onto the road to

take the place of the car. Requested that bike lanes be kept separate to cars in all possible instances.

**ACTION**

Martin Duke to share VicRoads guidelines re: bike lanes with committee to assist discussion re: road treatment

**7.3 Chris McClure – WDA Grampians Regional Cycling Master Plan development**

Grant Hollaway agreed to be the committee's nominee for the master plan development with Rudy Panozzo a back up member.

**ACTION**

Mandy Kirsopp to notify Chris McClure of the committee's decision.

**8. Next meeting**

It was agreed that meetings will be monthly until further notice. The next meeting will be 5.00pm Wednesday 6 June 2018 at the Civic Centre.

**9. Meeting Close**

The meeting closed at 6.30pm

**Chairperson**

**Grant Hollaway** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_



**WIMMERA INTERMODAL FREIGHT TERMINAL  
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

**MINUTES**

**1.30 pm, 23 May 2018**

**Horsham Rural City Council, Council Chambers  
Meeting No. 21**

**Present:**

Cr David Grimble, HRCC (chair)

Ms Maree McNeilly, Department of Transport - teleconference

Mr Sunil Bhalla, Chief Executive, HRCC – non voting

Mr John Martin, Director, Technical Services, HRCC

Ms Angela Murphy, Director, Planning and Economic, HRCC

Mr Stephen Pykett, HRCC

Tim Guidera, General Manager, WCL

**Apologies –**

Colin Kemp RDV

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting No 20 held on 27 February 2018**

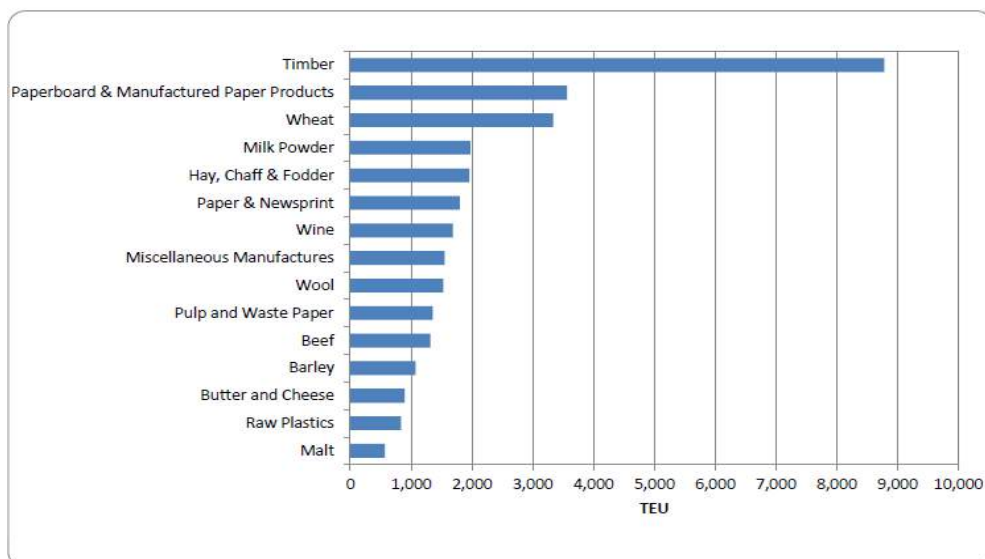
Moved Cr David Grimble and Seconded Tim Guidera that the minutes be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

**2. Operational Update – WCL**

- Jan–April activity in 2018 has been significantly lower than same period in 2017. Refer graphs attached
- A positive was a strong grape season starting and finishing earlier than last year.
- India's 30% tariffs on grain and pulse imports has had a significant impact
- Now dropping to 3 rail services per week/running at half length/300 containers
- WCL has incurred extra costs expanding and maintaining gravel storage areas required to accommodate peak season activity levels. Existing site capabilities reflect \$17 Million was spent on initial site construction vs the \$32 Million sought that would have provided for more rail paths and a longer loading pad.
- The Vic Govt has made it clear No funds derived from the sale of the Melbourne Port precinct will be directed towards an upgrade to the Dooen terminal so alternate Grant funding will need to be targeted.
- Funds from the Port of Melbourne sale will go towards easing Metro congestion and improving freight movements around the port precinct.
- Vic Govt has announced the Mode shift Incentive Scheme (MSIS) will be extended for 1 year at 17/18 rates and a full review to be conducted in the next year.

- National Freight and Supplies Chain Priorities document tabled with attendees
- The rail cost profile becomes more attractive the longer the travel distance.
- The cost of Dooen rail services is ~25% fixed and 75% variable, with the actual mix subject to such variables as train length and the loaded weight of the train consist.
- Extra activity alone does not automatically generate profits if capacity is capped.
- The 300 Km distance Dooen to Melbourne currently places the Road vs Rail cost equation in favour of Road as rail access per container is higher than road access.
- Rail services are getting no \$ credit despite the benefits rail offers, including:
  1. Rail diesel consumption runs at ~ 30% to 50% of Road consumption per TEU depending on train length and utilisation.
  2. For longer trips diesel consumption is even more graphically in favour of rail.
  3. Rail carbon emissions are lower proportionate with lower diesel consumed
  4. Road wear and tear not fully costed into road transport option avoid if railed
  5. Road Trauma/injury accidents
  6. Road congestion/damage accidents
  7. Rail capacity (service frequency/train length) can ramp so farmers can get export volumes to market when there is peak seasonal demand
- The inland rail routes cater for longer distance rail services, longer trains and double stacked containers so they can run services at a lower cost mix per Km.
- The closure of the Mildura rail line from 1/8/17 to 31/5/18 helped WCL activity with 1800 containers railed for Peaco with their Dooen <> Donald road leg subsidised while their local rail service was upgraded.
- Logs, paperboard, paper, milk powder are non-seasonal activities that account for most of the containerised freight exports sent from the Port of Melbourne.
- Road transport is getting more competitive as the Melbourne highway improves and no Rail incentive so limits WCLs ability to penetrate such markets with rail.
- Mining and waste disposal are other potential non-seasonal growth areas that could also assist long term Rail volume growth and assist WCL business viability.
- The following graph shows April Port of Melbourne Export Container mix (similar to annual mix)



**3. Development Plan for Precinct**

- A Development Plan incorporating Stormwater drainage/utilities/link and loop roads/landscaping is almost complete for the Precinct
- Council to engage a consultant to review planning for infrastructure upgrades and extensions at the Terminal and its interaction with the Precinct to cater for increased throughput and future proofing of the whole precinct.

**4. RDV Funding for Infrastructure in Precinct**

- Seeking extension of time to commencement

**5. WIFT precinct Development and Enquiries**

- No further enquiries in the past quarter

**6. Site Pad and Rail Upgrade Planning**

- WCL prepared a proposal in March 2017 that incorporated 5 rail paths and a 400 metre loading pad extension to accommodate 1500m long trains with extra rail points allowing additional dedicated rail lines in the future.
- Consider Viterra and Mining requirements and access to main line power cables.
- A consultant led workshop is planned involving Council representatives with SCT and WCL management to consider WIFT precinct and terminal requirements with a long-term view (50 year) – expect to conduct this prior to 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**7. WIFT Throughput**

- April 2018 container activity down by 548 containers overall on April last year
- The Grape season is winding up in early May and the new Mildura line is now running, so there will be less demand for our rail services in coming months
- We anticipate dropping back to running 3 or 4 rail services a week with less wagons required per service
- Region needs some decent rains now to get the 2018 growing season underway.

**8. General Business**

- Insurance – Hoppers to finalise quote for repairs to pole expected soon
- Wear and tear areas on the pad – JM to follow up
- Quote for gate and lights
- Council has listed WIFT under an Expression of Interest process for enhanced broadband project.

**9. Next Meeting**

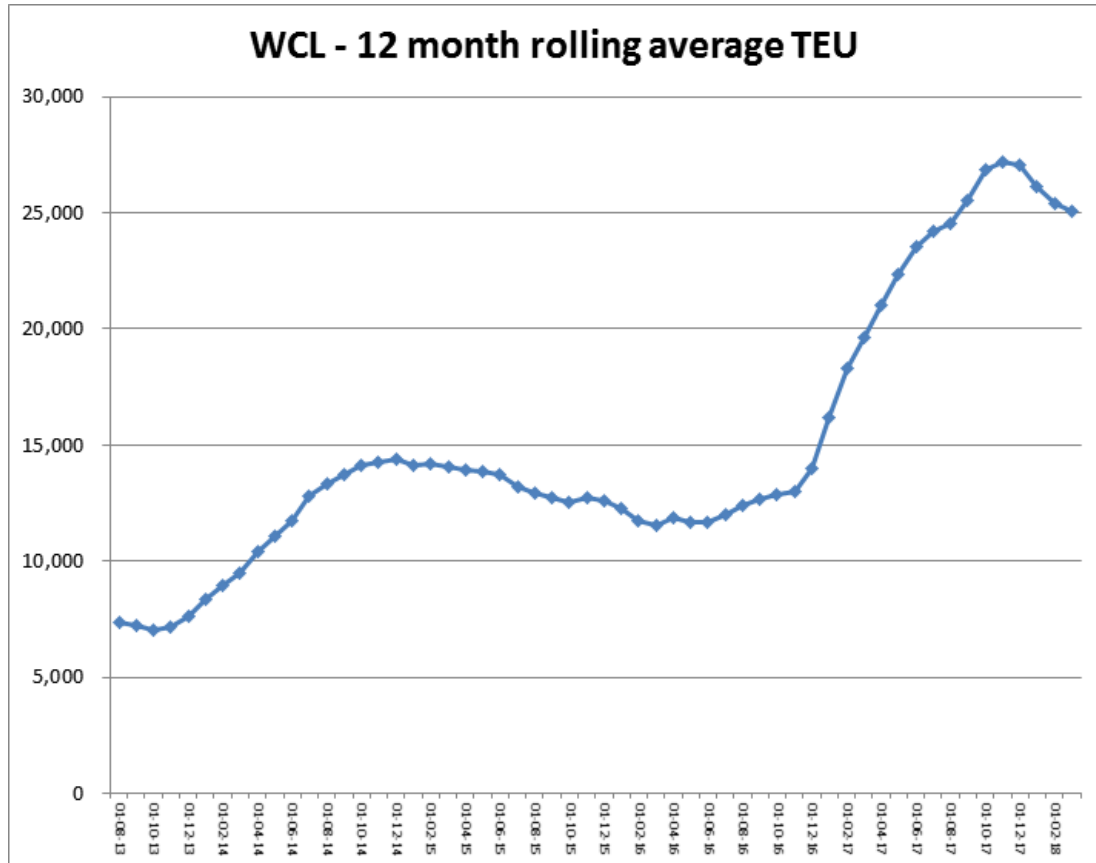
- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 22 August 2018.



10. Meeting Closed

- The meeting closed at 2.45 pm

Angela Murphy  
 Director Planning and Economic



| Actual WIFT stats 12 mths to Aug-18 |              |              |               |           | Actual WIFT stats 12 mths to Aug-17 |               |              |               |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Month                               | 20'          | 40'          | ALL           | Weeks     | Month                               | 20'           | 40'          | ALL           |
| Sep-17                              | 1,137        | 430          | 1,567         | 4         | Sep-16                              | 335           | 425          | 760           |
| Oct-17                              | 1,251        | 487          | 1,738         | 5         | Oct-16                              | 465           | 215          | 680           |
| Nov-17                              | 607          | 439          | 1,046         | 4         | Nov-16                              | 558           | 304          | 862           |
| Dec-17                              | 1,202        | 365          | 1,567         | 4         | Dec-16                              | 1,402         | 334          | 1,736         |
| Jan-18                              | 1,375        | 413          | 1,788         | 5         | Jan-17                              | 1,970         | 575          | 2,545         |
| Feb-18                              | 1,165        | 562          | 1,727         | 4         | Feb-17                              | 1,987         | 510          | 2,497         |
| Mar-18                              | 999          | 501          | 1,500         | 4         | Mar-17                              | 1,434         | 450          | 1,884         |
| Apr-18                              | 1,148        | 548          | 1,696         | 5         | Apr-17                              | 1,523         | 721          | 2,244         |
| May-18                              |              |              | 0             | 4         | May-17                              | 1,318         | 518          | 1,836         |
| Jun-18                              |              |              | 0             | 4         | Jun-17                              | 978           | 575          | 1,553         |
| Jul-18                              |              |              | 0             | 5         | Jul-17                              | 963           | 491          | 1,454         |
| Aug-18                              |              |              | 0             | 4         | Aug-17                              | 645           | 451          | 1,096         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>8,884</b> | <b>3,745</b> | <b>12,629</b> | <b>52</b> | <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>13,557</b> | <b>5,145</b> | <b>18,702</b> |



#### 4.3 Defibrillator Equipment

Discussion re: location of defibrillator equipment and process in place to share awareness of defib machines.

Identified that a call to 000 will trigger this information.

**Motion:** That information collected by Council re the location of community defibrillators be shared with essential services.

**Moved:** David Johns

**Seconded:** Di Bell

**CARRIED**

### 5. Correspondence

5.1 Letter from Homers Cricket Club

5.2 Letter from Fay Carine, Sunnyside resident

### 6. Business arising from correspondence

David Johns read notes of a meeting held between Simon Hopper, Richard Kemp (HCC) and Mandy Kirsopp (HRCC). Discussion followed re needs of cricket and supporting groups – negotiable and non-negotiable items. Agreed that discussions must occur between HCC, SBC and Horsham 298 Primary School.

Information provided by Fay Carine has been incorporated into the feedback summary presented to the committee in Item 7.1.

Suggestion that clubs and groups become social members of the SBC. This would confirm a commitment to be seen as a single unified club. Clubs and groups would retain their individual legal entity but would have a shared focus for planning and future operations. The increased membership would strengthen funding agreements for the precinct.

There was a general agreement with this suggestion and it will be considered further at the next meeting.

### 7. General Business

7.1 The table summarising feedback received to date was shared. Agreed that comments will be considered by members over the next two weeks and emailed to Mandy Kirsopp (return date 8<sup>th</sup> June).

Agreed that all members be copied into feedback between the committee so comments and information can be shared.

Suggestion that Mandy Kirsopp attend the June community dinner at Sunnyside Bowling Club and share draft landscape plans with people present on the evening. Mandy to seek approval from the Sunnyside Bowling Club to undertake this activity.

Note: Philip and Dee Sabien attended the first part of the meeting and made suggestions re draft landscape plan.

**8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 11 July 2018 commencing at 7.30 pm in the Sunnyside Bowling Clubrooms

**9. Meeting Close** The meeting was closed at 9.05pm

**Dave Hogan**  
**Sunnyside Park Advisory Committee**  
**Chairperson**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_



## Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee Meeting

Reception Room, Horsham Municipal Offices,  
18 Roberts Ave, Horsham VIC 3400  
Tuesday 12 June 2018  
10.30am to 12.30pm

### Minutes

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#### 1. Meeting Open

Cr Power welcomed all present.

#### 2. Attendance and MFMP Contact Directory review

Cr Les Power, John Martin, Martin Duke, Dianna Blake – HRCC  
Alfred Mason, Len Hawker, Paul Horton, Jenny McGennissen – CFA  
Rob Kelm, Greg Hobbs, Frank Barnes – Group Officers  
Mick Salter – VicPol

#### 3. Conflicts of Interest

Nil

#### 4. Apologies

Glenn Rudolph – DELWP  
Tevis Wright – VicPol  
Ian Morrison, Tony Brady, Michael Boatman (Jenny in lieu) – CFA

#### 5. Confirmation of previous Minutes – 14 February 2008

*Moved: Greg Hobbs, Seconded: Mick Salter, that the minutes from the previous meeting 14 February 2018, were a true and accurate record of that meeting. CARRIED*

#### 6. Action Items from previous Minutes – Appendix A

Close out

- Taylors Lake,
- appropriate protective clothing – needs a regular reminder – this is a recurring feature in CFA communications, e.g. radio messaging

Follow up on MEMPC re electrical outages.

#### 7. Correspondence In/Out

Emails re NSP review

#### 8. Standing Items

##### 8.1 Municipal Fire Management Plan

##### 8.1.1 Strategic Fire Breaks Review

- Dianna outlined some work that Tony and Ian are doing – but they are apologies. They are reviewing the list of breaks with the relevant brigades. These will be presented at the October meeting to ensure they are relevant.

- Rob Kelm – Dock Lake – it wasn't sprayed this year – **Action - follow up with GWMWater.**
- Martin Duke spoke with Tony Brady shortly before. Tony is meeting with brigades in July. List will be reviewed at October meeting. Will need an operational meeting prior to this spring to ensure that actions can occur this season. **Action - Invite GWMWater to that meeting.**

#### 8.1.2 NSP Bushfire Places of Last Resort review and revalidate

- Natimuk (Showgrounds Recreation Reserve)
- Horsham (Sawyer Park)
- Laharum (Cameron Oval Football Ground)

**Moved: Martin Duke, Seconded: Alfred Mason that the three sites continue as NSPs, subject to their approval at site inspections.**

- Discussed that we need to be aware of the potential of Natimuk and Laharum to be used as staging areas. It is considered that the sites wouldn't be providing both purposes at the same time. We would also not want a relief centre and staging area co-located.

**Action: Dianna Blake to complete the Council submission of NSPs for reassessment by CFA.** (NOTE - Already completed)

#### 8.1.3 Dadswells Bridge – Discussion with Frank Barnes

Issues relate to tourist traffic, e.g. visitors to the Giant Koala. In the event of a fire, how do we communicate with them re road closures and the risks of fire in the National Park vicinity?

Is there a safe assembly area?

- How do we get the messaging out?
- How are Traffic Management Points established?
- Should there be signs – declaring it an assembly area? Can this be done? Or alerting to listen to the radio 594/1089 for fire updates. They will probably get an SMS as well if they have a mobile, if it is that bad.
- Is it legal to use the car park area for this purpose? **Action: John Martin**
- There is a difference between assembly areas for the businesses, or a township assembly area – to be clarified.
- This is not necessarily the same as a NSP / PLR.
- Halls Gap has the same problem – on a larger scale. There are pamphlets for tourists about what to do when there is a fire. Pamphlets in 4 languages.
- Direct people to NSP at Laharum or other direction (Stawell – Cato Park, Victoria St)
- **Action: CFA Community Safety team to liaise with Dadswells Bridge businesses. Consider including Roses Gap.**
- Is there signage listing the locations of NSPs? No, it is on CFA website.
- Alternative approach – drive away from the fire. “U-turn for safety”

## 8.2 Emergency Fire Incident Review

Season-so-far review: positives & negatives

- Rob Kelm – TFB days, harvesting operations ceased – no problems reported.
- Len Hawker – Horsham Group – most farmers are observing TFBs better.

- Jenny McGennisken – No harvest fires started by headers this season. Some by augers / utes.
- Mick Salter – Pre-season meetings made people aware of the VicPol approach to investigating fires – a detailed list of questions to ask. Insurance could be at risk with header fires.
- Jenny McGennisken – Lloyds of London has apparently indicated that there won't be insurance in these circumstances.
- Greg Hobbs – Fire in lake bed at Toolondo on Good Friday. It was hard finding crews over Easter. Access was a problem. Seeking a crossing in Mt Talbot Ck behind Caravan Park. DELWP provided good support with this fire.
- Alfred Mason – the presence of aircraft in the region was very good this season. They provide a rapid response approach.
- Rob Kelm – Night time fire-bombing trials elsewhere are encouraging.
- Jenny McGennisken – pre-harvest breakfasts will continue this season, in partnership with Emmetts. Considering partnering with other agencies. New generation of headers operate hotter – more potential for fires – also potentially driverless coming soon. Keen to see these breakfasts promoted and supported by Councils.

### 8.3 Victorian Fire Risk Register (VFRR) Review

Review to be facilitated by CFA Risk Intelligence team

- The CFA team was scheduled to visit, but this meeting date was changed. Will visit our October meeting – hence it will be a longer meeting as we work through the Register.
- Should we bring our meeting forward due to issues that are planned for that meeting?

### 8.4 Fire Access Road Subsidy Scheme (FARSS)

- The Toolondo Reservoir – Mt Talbot Ck crossing to be considered.
- Riverside water supply is in place.
- Netherway Drive works are not in place, as the Cultural Heritage Management Plan has taken some time to complete. This funding may therefore not be able to be accepted. Can this be re-submitted?
- Any further proposals will be needed at the next meeting.
- Magees Rd – it is a long way from other bridges. Difficult to see an obvious site for a crossing. Len Hawker did an inspection with Andy Van (HRCC) – there are many difficulties with this site.

### 8.5 Mockinya Fire Dam – or Alternative

Refer attachment

- Local Advisory Group met. The group agreed to investigate whether two larger tanks would be a suitable option at the stack site. The adjoining owner is agreeable for a collar tank to be located in the adjoining paddock when required, from a temporary pipe. [**Action from Local Fire Advisory Committee meeting 6/03/2018**– Unless a much higher priority is identified in the next 6 months, the Mockinya steel storage tanks, of at least 110,000 litre be the highest priority for the 2018 FARSS application for 2019/20 funding.]
- The use of this site would be subject to VicRoads approval. Dianna has had an initial discussion with Daryl Sinclair, who is absent today. **Action: Martin Duke to follow up with VicRoads.**

- It was noted that the information provided by Cr Robinson is him acting as a Councillor, and not as CFA representative.
- Council is seeking the advice of this group as to whether the large tanks be endorsed as a suitable approach for the Mockinya site.
- These type of works are not normally funded by Council, and John Martin suggested that the Government's Pick My Project scheme might be a potential funding scheme for this project. This would require a community nomination and then voting by the community for it to be funded – this is not guaranteed.
- Safer Together funding – end of August – is another alternative. (Jenny McGennissen has the details).

***Moved: Alfred Mason, Seconded: Martin Duke That this Committee supports the option for 2 tanks, of about 500 kL of storage at Mockinya and investigate the options for funding.***

**9. Agenda Items**

- 9.1** Resignation of Phil Kuhne, Wimmera Emergency Management Coordinator  
Noted.

**10. Agency Reports**

Nil

**11. General Business**

Nil

**12. Next meeting: Time, Date & Venue**

Wednesday 17 October @ 10.30am in Reception Room

**13. Meeting Closed**



**RoadSafe Wimmera Inc.**  
(Reg No A0033850U ABN 35 010 755 766)

**Minutes for Meeting 18. June 2018 start time – 7.00 pm**  
**Venue: - Horsham SES building McPherson Street Horsham.**

**1. Present**

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Nola Smith (Chair)      | SES local representative                 |
| David Rule              | Road Safety Officer                      |
| Noel Austin             | Road Transport Representative, Kaniva    |
| Charlie Cockroft-Basham | Wimmera Police – Divisional Intelligence |
| Daniel Bell             | Road Trauma Support Services             |
| Martin Duke             | Horsham Rural City Council               |
| Wally Cox               | Heavy Transport Representative.          |
| Rhonda Armour           | Driving Instructor – light               |

**Apologies**

|                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Alastair Griffiths | Hindmarsh Shire               |
| Heath Martin       | Horsham Highway Patrol        |
| Leigh Creasey      | Horsham Highway Patrol        |
| Jean Wise          | Councillor Yarriambiack Shire |
| Richard Hicks      | West Wimmera Shire            |

Moved R. Armour, seconded C. Cockroft-Basham, that the apologies be received.  
Carried

**2. Minutes of previous meeting Apr. 9<sup>th</sup>. 2018**

Moved C. Cockroft-Basham, seconded N. Austin, that previous minutes be accepted.

**3. Business Arising from minutes.**

- *Letter re 40 km/hr school zone answered.*
- *Quotes for audit services as per 2017 AGM sought.*
- *Succession planning process/documentation to be discussed.*
- *Feedback re Horsham West Hillary street precinct provided.*

Moved W.Cox, seconded D. Bell that Bird Cameron Ballarat be accepted as Roadsafe Wimmera auditors for 2017-18. Further quotes to be sought for 2018-19 year including West Currie consultants Edenhope/Nhill.

Moved R. Armour, seconded C. Cockroft - Basham, that business arising from minutes be accepted.

**4. Correspondence June 18<sup>th</sup>. 2018***Inwards.*

| Number | Date      | To                         | Issue  |
|--------|-----------|----------------------------|--|
| 1.     | May '18   | Di Nevett                  | 2018 – 19 grant application advice/succession planning discussion. |
| 2.     | May '18   | Regional Accounting firms  | Quote request for Roadsafe Wimmera audit.                          |
| 3.     | May '18   | Stawell Secondary College  | Fit2Drive and LAOM.  |
| 4.     | May '18   | Nhill College              | Look After Our Mates   |
| 5.     | June '18  | To Dimboola & Kaniva Lions | Unsuccessful application for funds                                 |
| 6.     | June ' 18 | Horsham Community Radio    | Safe Drive information – safer cars.                               |

*Outwards.*

| Number | Date      | To                         | Issue  |
|--------|-----------|----------------------------|--|
| 1.     | May '18   | Di Nevett                  | 2018 – 19 grant application advice/succession planning discussion. |
| 2.     | May '18   | Regional Accounting firms  | Quote request for Roadsafe Wimmera audit.                          |
| 3.     | May '18   | Stawell Secondary College  | Fit2Drive and LAOM.  |
| 4.     | May '18   | Nhill College              | Look After Our Mates   |
| 5.     | June '18  | To Dimboola & Kaniva Lions | Unsuccessful application for funds                                 |
| 6.     | June ' 18 | Horsham Community Radio    | Safe Drive information – safer cars.                               |

David Rule

Complete as at 2.30 p.m. 18<sup>th</sup>. June 2018Moved C. Cockroft-Basham, Seconded M. Duke, that correspondence be accepted. Carried**5.****9<sup>th</sup>. April 2018 to June 18<sup>th</sup>. 2018****For Approval****Balance****\$32,807.10**

|          |  |          |        |
|----------|--|----------|--------|
| 8/5/2018 | ACE Radio Broadcasters - Lifestyle magazine        | 733.32   | 201332 |
| 8/5/2018 | Fairfax media - Road Rules                         | 176.00   | 201333 |
| 8/5/2018 | Telstra  | 48.99    | 201334 |
| 8/5/2018 | Program delivery April 2018                        | 2,833.00 | 201335 |
| 8/5/2018 | Travel costs and recoups - Feb. 13. To Mar. 19-'18 | 256.75   | 201336 |
| 8/5/2018 | West Wimmera Advocate                              | 100.00   | 201337 |

|          |                       |          |        |
|----------|-----------------------|----------|--------|
| 8/5/2018 | West Office Equipment | 254.75   | 201338 |
| Total    |                       | 4,402.81 |        |

**Balance****\$28,404.29****For Ratification****For Approval** To be completed**Balance****\$28,404.29**

|           |  |          |        |
|-----------|--|----------|--------|
| 18/6/2018 | ACE Radio Broadcasters - Lifestyle magazine        | 366.66   | 201339 |
| 8/5/2018  | Fairfax media - Road Rules                         | 352.00   | 201340 |
| 8/5/2018  | Telstra  | 48.99    | 201341 |
| 8/5/2018  | Program delivery April 2018                        | 2,833.00 | 201342 |
| 8/5/2018  | Travel costs and recoups - Feb. 13. To Mar. 19-'18 | 273.00   | 201343 |
| Total     |  | 3,873.65 |        |

**Balance****\$24,530.64**

*Note: - Outstanding Fit2Drive accounts for Wimmera Colleges will reduce the balance once they are presented.*

David Rule

Complete as at 2.30 p.m. 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

Moved, R. Armour, seconded C. Cockroft-Basham, that accounts paid be ratified and accounts to be paid be passed for payment. Carried

**7 . RSO report for 13<sup>th</sup>. Novembers 2017.**

- Succession planning.

Moved R. Armour, seconded M. Duke, that a sub- committee be formed to develop a succession contract, advertisement and documented interview process checklist for consideration at the next meeting. Sub – committee to be Exec. Off., Daniel Bell, Nola Smith. Jean Wise to be invited to participate.

- End of Year reporting – to be carried out by Exec. Off.
- 2018-19 program

Moved R. Armour, seconded D. Bell that Roadsafe Wimmera sign off on the 2018 – 19 agreement. Carried

### Special Item

Member Wally Cox presented a written summary of ideas to promote safe emergency stopping procedures for the trucking industry. Discussion followed and the following agreement reached: -

Moved M. Duke, seconded R. Armour, that the Executive Officer write to Worksafe Victoria regarding the possibility of their organisation running an emergency stoppage truck safety day in the Wimmera region. Letter text to be agreed between W. Cox, N. Austin and the Exec. Off. Carried

### General Business

#### Member Contributions

##### Noel Austin

##### Road Transport Representative, Kaniva

- *Disappointing to note misuse of fog-lights common on the roads – either on when there is no fog or off when there is fog. Supported by W.Cox when truck driving. “Road Rules” features the rules around fog light usage and is published during the winter months.*
- *Vehicles with one light seem to be on the increase. Most members agreed.*

##### Daniel Bell

##### Road Trauma Support Services

- *Provided copies of RTSS material for members information and referral.*
- *Shine a Light program – raised \$1000.00.*
- *Current statistics indicate that 87% of participants in RTSS programs do not re-offend. Programs are generalist only – do not include drink/drug offenders.*

##### Rhonda Armour

##### Driving Instructor – light

- *Disappointed to see quite a lot of incorrect signage. It was suggested that ringing the VicRoads Traffic Hazard number 131170 is the best place to pass the information on to.*

### Next Meeting – AGM

Our next general meeting will be preceded by the Annual General Meeting. The meeting agreed to invite Community Road Safety Officer Western Region Di Nevett and a member of the central team to attend. Exec. Off. to arrange finger food.

**Next meeting: - August 13<sup>th</sup>. 2018 – Horsham SES building.**



## **MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Thursday 14 June, 2018**

**Council Chambers, Horsham Rural City Council, 12.45pm**

File Ref: F18/A13/000001

### **1. PRESENT**

#### **Committee Members:**

Mr Geoff Price (Chair)  
Mr Vito Giudice (Teleconference)  
Cr Pam Clarke  
Cr David Grimble

#### **Also in Attendance: (Exofficio)**

Mr Sunil Bhalla, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Graeme Harrison, Director Corporate Services  
Mrs Heather Proctor, Finance Manager  
Ms Diana McDonald, HR & Risk Co-ordinator  
Mr John Gavens, Crowe Horwath Internal Auditor  
Mr Nathan Barber, Richmond Sinnott & Delahunty Auditor (Teleconference)

### **2. WELCOME**

Welcome to Sunil Bhalla, Councils new CEO

### **3. APOLOGIES**

Mr Roy Henwood

### **4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

### **5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 22 March, 2018**

**Moved Pam Clarke seconded David Grimble that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 March, 2018 be confirmed as an accurate record.**

**CARRIED**

### **6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

#### **6.1 Update from ICT Co-ordinator regarding compliance with requirements of the new data breach reporting requirement (#8.1a)**

Graeme Harrison updated the Committee on a process regarding any breaches, and that there is a process in place to report breaches if we learn of them.

Also that an internal check on all staff with access to Payroll in Civica has been completed and putting in place confidentiality agreements for these staff to sign, noting access is limited to these identified employees only.

**6.2 Report back regarding Council's Payroll system capacity to meet ATO new reporting requirements for One Touch Payroll compliance with 1 July 2018 timeline (#8.1b)**

Civica Payroll Users been granted a 90 day deferral by the ATO which was applied for by Civica, to enable them to thoroughly test the system following the last minute changes implemented by the ATO.

**6.3 Update from Management after having considered the proposal of high risk audit actions being KPI aligned against the responsible offices performance plan (#8.3)**

This was tabled at a recent EMG meeting, and Management intend to link high risk items to the relevant Managers for future audits.

**6.4 Update from ICT regarding communications to staff regarding appropriate use of social media and IT" scheduling around patch management, and compiling a Register of Incidents in regard to social engineering frauds (#9.3)**

Council currently has a "draft" Social Media Policy which is out for comment and feedback at the moment. Patch Management scheduling is still underway and the IT Department have rebuilt the server as part of that process, they have also rebuilt the Mail server. This is a work in progress.

Cyber security management, we have upgraded the software system, and our IT Manager is reviewing the reporting options that can be provided to both Management and at a Governance level.

John Gavens mentioned that it is good to have some KPI's to track and improved reporting to monitor.

Vito Giudice asked how specific breaches are reported back to the Audit Committee, is there some common trends, do we need some further resources to improve this?

Would like to see a Breach Report, Report against Risk Appetite, and provision of a high level analysis.

**Reports noted for (Section 6)**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

N/A

**8. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS**

**8.1 Internal Audit Progress Report – Crowe Horwath**

The quarterly progress report submitted by Crowe Horwath was tabled, with John Gavens informing that all is on track and that the work on the Food Act Compliance and Follow Up reviews will commence in two weeks.

**Moved David Grimble seconded Pam Clark that the Committee receives the Internal Audit Progress Report.**

**CARRIED**

**8.2 Strategic Internal Audit Plan 2017/18**

The Strategic Internal Audit Plan (SIAP) was tabled with the updates and amendments made to capture previous audit reviews conducted back until to 2010.

Vito raised that we should incorporate Conflict of Interest in with the proposed Corporate Governance review scheduled for 2020.

**ACTION:** Sunil Bhalla to come back to the Committee with a recommendation on the Corporate Governance review.

**Moved Pam Clark seconded David Grimble that the Committee receives the Strategic Internal Audit Plan for 2017/18 to 2018/19.**

**CARRIED**

### **8.3 Purchasing Card Review – Final Report**

The Purchasing Card Review final report was tabled with four recommendations in total; two high, one moderate and one low recommendation. The recommendations have been provided to strengthen the controls and processes in this area.

Overall the Auditors found that the current controls in place over the purchasing cards maintained by Council are adequate with opportunities for further improvement, and that there were also three areas of strength identified.

Heather Proctor has communicated all of these actions to the relevant staff who have responsibility for these actions.

Management to continue to review processes in the procurement area, and in particular card allocation.

**Moved David Grimble seconded Vito Giudice that the Committee approves the Internal Audit Plan for 2017/18 to 2018/19.**

**CARRIED**

### **8.4 Internal Audit Actions Report – Council**

Graeme Harrison provided an update on the Internal Audit actions, and reported that there were 30 actions that have been completed during the last quarter which was a significant improvement from the previous quarter, (where there was 19). There are now 49 actions overall that are outstanding, of these 38 are overdue, previous quarter there were 58 overdue.

There are now only 7 high risk items outstanding, which is a big improvement.

A new table was provided in this report classifying the actions we “must do” and then also those that we “will do as time permits” with the analysis showing there is 29 in the category of “we must do”.

John Gavens noted that it is very pleasing that all this progress has been made in completing actions. Sunil said the progress shown has been great achievement.

**Moved Vito Giudice seconded David Grimble that the Committee receives the above Internal Audit Actions report**

**CARRIED**

## **9. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

### **9.1 Compliance & Legislation**

#### **9.1.1 Audit Strategy Year Ending 30 June 2018**

The Audit Strategy provides an overview of the external auditors approach to the annual audit of Council’s financial report, with key risks and areas of audit focus identified and reported on.

**9.1.2 Interim Management Letter Year Ending 30 June 2018**

The external auditors have completed the interim phase of the 2017/18 audit and noted that they did not identify any matters that need to be brought to the attention of management or the audit committee.

And that 6 out of 8 outstanding items and recommendations have now been completed and closed off.

**Moved Pam Clarke seconded David Grimble that the Committee receives the above report**

**CARRIED**

**9.1.3 VAGO Draft Annual Plan 2018/19**

Report noted for information of the Committee

**9.2 Reporting****9.2.1 Quarterly Financial Report – 31 March 2018**

The quarterly financial report was tabled and the Committee noted that HRCC continues to be in a good financial position.

**9.2.2 2018/19 Budget Update**

Graeme updated all on the budget and informed the Committee that 8 submissions were received on the draft 2018/19 budget.

This year Council conducted additional communication strategies in an attempt to get more comments and feedback from our ratepayers.

These included:

- Facebook Question and Answer Session which gained 3,000 hits, and was very successful
- Drop In session at the Civic Centre (had no one attend this)
- Information Sessions at the Horsham Plaza

**Reports noted for Section 9.2****9.3 Risk Management****9.3.1 Risk Management Report**

Key points from Risk Management Committee Meeting held on 22 May 2018, with the theme for this meeting Continuous Improvement:

- Cambron Governance System discussion
- JAMPP Property Insurance - Educational Workshop / Biennial Review
- Risk Assurance Mapping Masterclass
- MAV Risk and Insurance Conference (April 2018) updates
- Targeted Risk Appraisal conducted by MAV Insurance:
  - Event Risk Management (Workshop)
  - Contractor Management (Desktop Exercise)

**9.3.2 Strategic Risk Register (SRR) Report by Risk Owner**

Tabled for the information of the Committee. Noting that the four suggested strategic risks (from the meeting on 30 November 2017) were discussed at the Risk Management Committee meeting on 26 March 2018 with two new strategic risks now incorporated into the SRR.



**9.3.3 Insurance Update**

The confidential insurance report was discussed for March, April and May 2018. Noting that there were two under excess motor vehicles claims, and there were two JMAPP Property Claims received, one being over excess and the other one under.

As in the previous quarters, the public liability claims continue to be the area that is receiving the highest lodgement of claims and cost, one recently didn't settle at mediation so will be heard in the County Court, Warrnambool at a later date.

**Moved Pam Clarke seconded David Grimble that the Committee receives the above reports**

**CARRIED**

**9.4 Governance****9.4.1 Policies reviewed and adopted (1 Jan - 31 May 2018)**

There were 10 policies reviewed and/or updated for this quarter.

**Above report noted for the information of the Committee**

**10. GENERAL BUSINESS****10.1 Audit Committee Membership – Roy Henwood**

The Committee will advertise the member vacancy shortly following Roy Henwood's term expiry.

**ACTION:** To extend an invitation to Roy at the beginning of the next meeting to thank him for his service to the Audit Committee.

**10.2 Organisational Realignment**

Currently in the consultation period, before Management finalise the restructure.

**10.3 Accounting Standard Changes - Revenue and Contributions**

The Accounting Standard Changes will be a change to the way we recognise our Revenue, but won't change the way Government Grants are processed.

**10.4 Local Government Act Review Update**

Presently before Parliament now.

**Reports noted for Section 10**

**11. INTERNAL AUDITOR CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSION****11.1 Meeting with Internal Auditors excluding Officers**

Nil

**12. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Audit Committee meeting will be Thursday 13 September 2018 at 12 noon, in the Council Chambers, Council Offices.

**13. IN CONFIDENCE**

Nil

**14. CLOSURE**

Meeting closed at 2.45pm

GRAEME HARRISON  
**Director Corporate Services**

Minutes signed as correct: (Chair) Mr Geoff Price .....

Date: .....



Wednesday, 14 September 2016

Horsham Rural City Council  
council@hrcc.vic.gov.au

To Whom it may concern,

### **Planning Scheme Amendment – Artist in Residence site**

Barengi Gadjin Land Council (BGLC) is supportive of the above proposal.

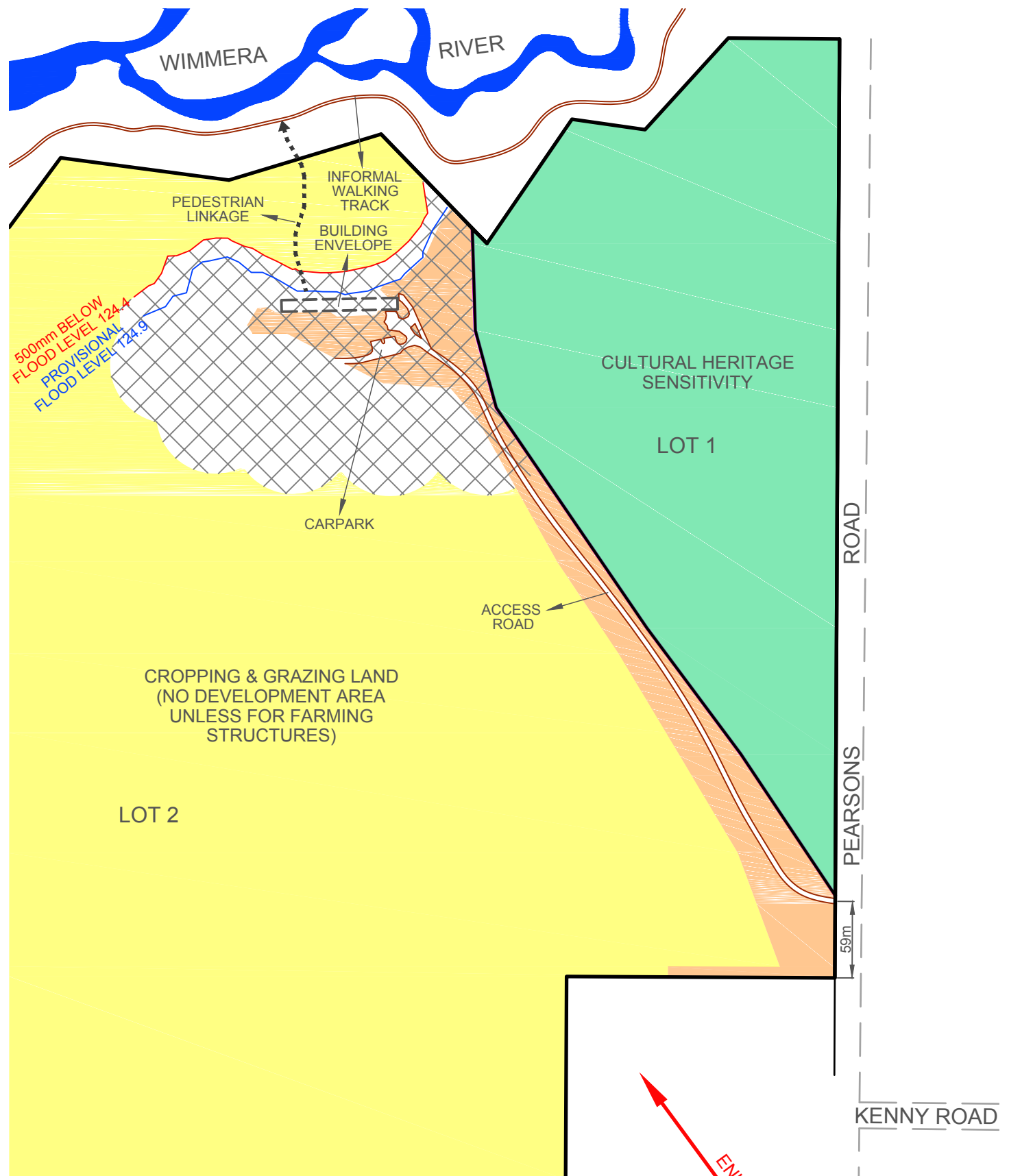
BGLC has been strongly engaged during the concept discussion and planning for the Artist in Residence and applaud the respectful way in which engagement has been undertaken with cultural views, assets and knowledge having been considered and incorporated within the planning phase.

However, were Council to continue entertaining the idea of a bridge in the Pearsons Road / Curran Road area this would greatly detract from the purpose of the Residency and we strongly advise again that BGLC is against any such crossing in or near this location.





An Artist in Residence at the proposed location will give local and visiting artists the opportunity to be inspired by the natural beauty that Horsham has to offer and BGLC looks forward to the cultural and educational benefits that will be realised.

Yours sincerely,

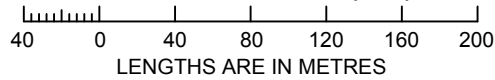
Michael Stewart  
Executive Officer



**LEGEND**

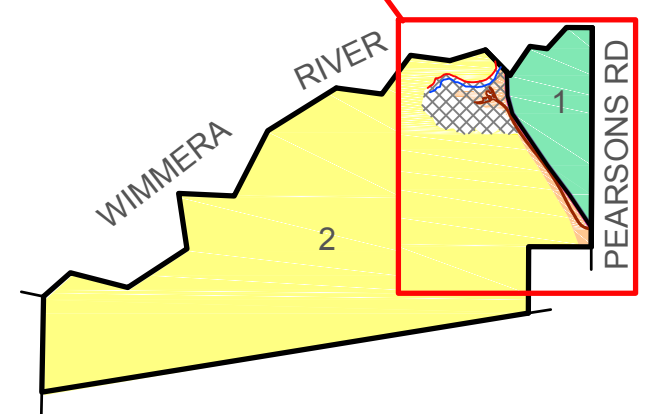
-  ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE CURTILAGE
-  PROPOSED LANDSCAPING
-  CROPPING & GRAZING LAND
-  CULTURAL HERITAGE SENSITIVITY

**SCALE 1:4000 (A4)**



**NOTATIONS**

REFER TO ADDENDUM TO THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR A DETAILED RESPONSE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SCHEDULE 8 TO CLAUSE 43.04 DEVELOPMENT PLAN OVERLAY.



**DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**HORSHAM ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE**

STAGE 1: EXCISION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SENSITIVITY AREA (PROPOSED LOT 1)

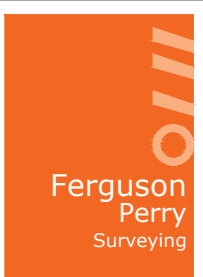
PEARSONS ROAD, HAVEN

Ferguson Perry Surveying Pty Ltd  
 62 McLachlan Street Horsham,  
 Victoria 3400  
 ABN 76126 194 483

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 F (03) 5381 1544  
 E admin@fergusonperry.com.au

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**H008517**  
 18-04-18  
 DRAWN BY: C.B.

OFFICE USE ONLY

ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE **A3**

Our Ref: H008517

## Addendum to the Development Plan

### SCHEDULE 8 TO CLAUSE 43.04 DEVELOPMENT PLAN OVERLAY

Shown on the Horsham Planning Scheme map as **DPO8**.

### HORSHAM ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

#### 3.0 Requirements for development plan

*A development plan must include the following requirements:*

- *General consistency with the development concept plan as shown in Figure 1.*

The boundaries of the proposed Lot 1 on the Development Plan have been designed to accord with the cultural heritage sensitivity area boundary as defined on the development concept plan.

- *An overall development plan for the Horsham Artist in Residence site, showing how the facility and its immediate curtilage are to be developed.*

As this proposal only intends to excise an area of cultural heritage sensitivity, it is considered that a development plan should be addressed in a future stage of this development.

- *A Site Management Plan that addresses;*
  - *Each use proposed to operate from the site.*
  - *Operating hours for each use.*
  - *Carparking requirements for each use.*
  - *An emergency management response.*
  - *The ongoing management and maintenance of any unsealed road or accessway.*
  - *Staging of development.*
  - *All car parking areas to be located in the vicinity of the Horsham Artist in Residence building.*

It is considered that a Site Management Plan is not applicable to stage 1 of this development being the excision of land defined as cultural heritage sensitivity.



- *Identification of how cultural heritage matters are to be managed through subdivision.*

The sole purpose of this subdivision is to contain an area of cultural heritage sensitivity abutting Pearsons Road in order to transfer the land to its traditional owners, thus ensuring the preservation of this land whilst accommodating development of the artist in residence in a future stage.

- *Connectivity to existing road network via internal vehicle access ways constructed to an all weather standard. The access roads and internal accessways are to be constructed to a minimum load limit of 15 tonne with a trafficable width of 4 metres, and to be provided with 20 metre long by 6 metre wide passing bays every 200 metres.*

Council's Technical Services Department have advised on the basis that no residence will be associated with this particular subdivision, Council will not be seeking any change in the status of Pearsons Rd as part of the subdivision.

- *Internal vehicle and pedestrian circulation.*
- *Vehicle entry point to be located at least 60 metres north of the shared boundary with Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 308873 on Pearsons Road.*
- *Provision of appropriate arrangements for necessary physical infrastructure, including waste water management, drainage works, retention and management of storm water, power and telecommunications.*
- *Provision of an overall landscaping plan, including screen planting of vehicle entry points, and screen planting of the common boundary with Lot 1 on PS308873W.*
- *Identification of proposed water supplies, storages and systems required for fire fighting purposes.*
- *Identification of how environmental risks relevant to the land (fire and flooding) are to be addressed and managed.*
- *Identification of how the development responds to other land uses in the area.*

As there are no works or construction proposed by this application, it is considered that the above points are not relevant to stage 1 of this development. The creation of an additional lot to contain an area of cultural heritage sensitivity seeks only to safeguard this land and will have no impact on the current land use.



**Barengi  
Gadjin**  
LAND COUNCIL  
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC  
ICN: 4395

Thursday, 21 June 2018

Horsham Rural City Council  
council@hrcc.vic.gov.au

To Whom it may concern,

### **Development Plan – Artist in Residence site**

Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BGLC) is supportive of the above proposal.

BGLC has been strongly engaged during the concept, discussion and planning for the Artist in Residence and applaud the respectful way in which engagement has been undertaken with cultural views, assets and knowledge having been considered and incorporated within the planning phase.

An Artist in Residence at the proposed location will give local and visiting artists the opportunity to be inspired by the natural beauty that Horsham has to offer and BGLC looks forward to the cultural and educational benefits that will be realised.

The subdivision of the land will allow for a parcel, within the cultural place Wopetbungandilar, to be gifted to BGLC on behalf of Wotjobaluk Traditional Owners.

We look forward to the continuing engagement of & with BGLC during the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the development of the Artist in Residence, which will ensure that construction of the access track that crosses the cultural place, Wopetbungandilar, and any associated works required for the development, are carried out in the same respectful way.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Stewart  
Executive Officer

## HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL

## INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION (1)

**HORSHAM REGIONAL ART GALLERY COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

In exercise of the power conferred by Section 86(3) of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act"), the Horsham Rural City Council ("Council") delegates to the special committee established by resolution of Council passed on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2012, the powers, duties and functions set out in the Schedule, and declares that

- (1) this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council, passed on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2012, and
- (2) the delegation
  - (i) comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to this Instrument of Delegation;
  - (ii) remains in force until Council resolves to vary or revoke it;
  - (iii) is subject to any conditions and limitations set out in the Schedule; and
  - (iv) is to be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts.

THIS COMMON SEAL of the Mayor,


Councillors and Citizens of the

Horsham Rural City Council was

affixed to this Instrument of Delegation

on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2012, in the

presence of:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Executive Officer





## HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL

**SCHEDULE****HORSHAM REGIONAL ART GALLERY COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**1. MISSION AND VISION

The Horsham Regional Art Gallery aims to be at the centre of visual arts activities in the Wimmera. Increased awareness and appreciation of the visual arts in the Wimmera region will be achieved through developing and presenting high quality exhibitions that explore the best of Australian art practice, and highlight the activities of our community.

We will provide opportunities for increasing understanding and enjoyment of our diverse cultural heritage, region, and the development of Australian photographic practice through the professional management, interpretation, and development of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection. We will engage and energise our community through opportunities to come together to share knowledge, skills and a passion for the visual arts.

2. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

The Committee shall be empowered on behalf of the Council:-

- a) To set the aims and objectives of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery in consultation with the Director.
- b) To oversee the good management of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery and its collection.
- c) To raise the profile of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery and its activities for the benefit of the community.

3. DUTIES

- a) To develop and endorse the strategic plan for the Art Gallery and present to Council.
- b) To ensure that the Art Gallery is fit for purpose and meets standards for accreditation.
- c) To encourage and increase membership and visitation of the Art Gallery.
- d) To endorse an annual budget application to Council focusing on significant changes to collection management, exhibitions, education and programming aspects of the Art Gallery budget.

- e) To monitor income and expenditure and compare against Council projections.
- f) To submit to Council each year an annual report of the Committee.
- g) To provide to Council a copy of minutes of all meetings of the Committee.
- h) To raise funds, including donations, grants and any other contributions for the Gallery and its activities.
- i) To appoint members of the Acquisition Committee.
- j) To meet with Council on an annual basis.

#### 4. ROLE OF COUNCIL

Council's responsibilities in respect to the Committee include:-

- a) It may request reports and advice on matters relating to the operation of the Art Gallery.
- b) The Council shall not determine, modify any major capital works program to be undertaken within the Art Gallery without first obtaining advice from the Committee. Council shall take into account comments from the Committee in making such decisions.
- c) Council will maintain the finances of the Art Gallery and provide monthly reports of Income and Expenditure for the information of the Committee.
- d) Council will provide administrative and secretarial services to the Committee.
- e) Ensuring provision and management of professional staff to ensure delivery of Art Gallery programs.

#### 5. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- a) The Committee shall consist of 8 persons being appointed in name by Council from time to time.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Art Gallery Director   | (1) |
| Community Representatives  | (3) |
| Volunteer Representative   | (1) |
| Trustees Representative  | (1) |
| Elected Council Representative                                     | (1) |
| Management representative nominated by the Chief Executive Officer | (1) |

- b) The Committee shall hold a meeting annually. The annual meeting shall also conduct such business as is normally conducted at annual meetings. The normal business of annual meetings includes, but is not limited to, consideration of annual reports.

After the annual meeting the Committee shall elect a Chairperson.

6. OTHER

- a) The Committee of Management may invite other parties with observer status to attend Committee of Management meetings on a regular or irregular basis.
- b) Community representatives will be entitled to hold office for three years and the timing of the positions will be staggered so that all three positions are not called at once.
- c) The place of any member of the Committee may be declared vacant if, for three consecutive meetings, the member is absent without leave.
- d) The Committee shall meet not less than six times per year.

7. RELATIONSHIPS

The Committee of Management reports to Council on the activities of the two independent bodies that support the development of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection.

The Trustees of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery are appointed under deed to manage Trust funds to acquire artworks and improve the facilities of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery and its Collection.

The Acquisitions Committee is a skill based committee that develops policy around acquisitions and recommends artworks to be acquired for and gifts accepted into the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection.



## Administrative Policy

### HORSHAM REGIONAL ART GALLERY COLLECTION

#### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the acquisition and de-acquisition of all art works be it through purchase, bequest, gift or donation, to the permanent collection of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery (HRAG).

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

This policy ensures the Horsham Regional Art Gallery meets industry standards and ensures a transparent process for management of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection. This policy is to be used in conjunction with the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection Procedure.

#### 3. SCOPE

This policy guides how artworks enter and leave the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection and guides the work of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Acquisition Committee and the Council officers that manage the Horsham Regional Art Gallery.

#### 4. DEFINITIONS

**Accession** – the act of placing an artwork within the collection

**Acquisition** – a new artwork to be placed within the collection

**Deaccession** – the act removing an artwork from the collection

**De-acquisition** – an artwork to be removed from the collection

## 5. PRINCIPLES

### 5.1 Policy Aims

**5.1.1** To describe the significance and cultural material contained in the Collection.

**5.1.2** To establish the direction and focus for acquiring items for the permanent collection of Horsham Regional Art Gallery.

**5.1.3** To meet the vision and objectives of the Gallery:

- Increase appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts in the Wimmera region
- Enhance the permanent collection – making it the regions finest
- Strengthen attendance and audience engagement by increasing understanding of our diverse cultural heritage and contemporary art

### 5.2 Collecting Criteria

**5.2.1** Established Australian artists and artists who have had a significant impact on the development of Australian cultural material.

**5.2.2** Each acquisition should have significant connection to complement, complete or extend existing collections.

**5.2.3** Established artists from this region.

**5.2.4** Works of significance to our region.

**5.2.5** Photographic technical equipment of relevance to the development of Australian photography and significant artists represented in the collection.

### 5.3 General Collecting Principles

**5.3.1** Collection shall be carried out in the public interest.

**5.3.2** Challenging or difficult art should not be avoided.

**5.3.3** All reasonable precautions will be taken to avoid acquiring works that are offered as gains through illicit trade in compliance with the U.N.E.S.C.O Cultural Convention of 1970.

**5.3.4** The gallery should be able to obtain clear and valid ownership title to all works it accepts into the collection.

**5.3.5** The gallery will avoid accepting works that bear inappropriate or unacceptable restrictions to their use, but will honour such restrictions if it does accept such works.

**5.3.6** The Gallery will follow the guidelines established by the ICOM Code of Professional Ethics, regarding acquisition and disposal of the collection.

**5.3.7** The proposed work will be in a condition for research and display.

#### 5.4 Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection

The Horsham Regional Art Gallery was formed through the development of the communities desire to have a visual arts facility within our city. Its first acquisitions were made up of artistic items in the community's possession. In 1976 after a period of external engagement with the larger visual arts sector the Horsham Regional Art Gallery decided to focus its collection on Australian photography. An emergent medium at the time, it was also a cost effective way of collecting Australian art practice by leading artist and photographers and was relatively simple to store. This was reinforced by a statewide directive for the regional art galleries to concentrate on a single collection practice allowing the state funded galleries to support all art practice of Victoria.

In 1976 we acquired Max Dupain's *The Meat Queue* already an iconic image of the great depression by a master Australian photographer. At the same time we purchased the 1975 work *Vale Street* by emerging female photographer Carol Jerrams. A piercing document of the counter culture of the day that has also grown to hold iconic position in Australian photographic practice. With these two acquisitions we were looking to acquire the best recognised practice we could afford and a work by an emerging photographer dissecting our current social environment. It is looking back, looking forward and taking risks that informs our collecting today. It is our collection of Australian photographic practice from its inception in Australia to today that is unique to our collection and solidifies the unique experience offered by our institution.

In 1986 we received our first gift from Mack Jost. The Mack Jost Gift of his collection to the City of Horsham transformed our institution and professionalism of its development by Council. Over the course of his lifetime and on his death Mack Jost donated 324 works of Australian painting, printmaking and drawing to the collection. Consisting mainly of works from his artistic circle, the Mack Jost Collection also holds works by leading Australian artists, these works are considered to be secondary examples of celebrated artists' outputs. These works give our community access to high quality artworks by leading artists but the Mack Jost Collection does not illustrate a complete history of Australian art practice, or offer a unique experience to our visitors. We honour Mack's gift by continuing to collect paintings and works on paper selectively that build on the concerns of the artists held within this collection.

The priority of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection is to continue to build a nationally significant collection of Australian photographic practice. Our collection does acknowledge technological shifts in this field, to include a lens based practice. We also honour the work and legacy of those who have built the collection and continue to collect artworks that enhance those which we are already custodians of; works that look back but also pierce the society we live in today.

## **5.5 Guidelines**

### **5.5.1 Australian Photography**

Statement – Our Collection of Australian Photography consists of works by early photographers, key 20th century photographers with a focus on the emergence of photography as an art practice post 1970. It includes a significant holding of indigenous photographers and artists who consistently use the medium of photography in their practice. As artistic practice is evolving HRAG considers photography to encompass a broad definition of photography, a lens based practice, with a focus on the printed image. This component of our Collection is of national significance due to its breadth, depth and location within a regional environment. It is our greatest strength, offers a unique visitor experience and is the primary focus of developing the collection.

Direction - Through industry engagement and the presentation of photographers practicing today, within the HRAG Exhibition Program we will continue to purchase outstanding work that illustrates technical engagement, process and subjects that build on our holdings that document the development of Australian society.

Where possible the Gallery should acquire vintage historical photographs, rather than contemporary reprints. Photographs printed at a later date under the supervision of the artist are acceptable. With a focus on printed material we will consider all work and outputs that are embedded within a lens based practice. The development of the Australian Photography Collection is the primary focus of activity for our collecting.

### **5.5.2 Mack Jost Collection**

Statement - The collection includes work by many significant Australian artists from the colonial period to 1994 and was accepted under the conditions that a significant component of this collection is permanently on exhibit in the gallery. The Mack Jost Bequest provides for the continuation of the Mack Jost Collection.

Reflecting the taste of only one person, this collection predominately consists of domestic scale works on paper and paintings. This collection represents some major art movements in Australia.

Direction - To complement or extend the existing thematic threads of the Mack Jost Collection with works by significant contemporary/established Australian artists that reflect the materiality and scale of works held within this collection.

### **5.5.3 The Wimmera and its artists**

Statement - The collection predominately includes paintings, works on paper and photography. The thematic threads of the collection reflect the people and landscape of the Wimmera and other regional communities. It is comprised of works by artists from the Wimmera region and work by artists who have used this region as a point of inspiration.

Direction - HRAG will continue to work with, and display the work of our regions artists, and those inspired by our region through the HRAG Exhibition Program and to purchase outstanding works by these artists that build on our collection of their peers.

#### **5.5.4 General Collection**

Statement – Throughout our history artworks have entered the Collection which stand outside the three key areas of collection outlined above. These works provide a context and appreciation of the totality of Australian art practice. A key component of this part of the Collection is the Mann Collection of Wildlife Art. This collection, the result of the collection of a single family, surveys this stream of art activity during the period of their collecting.

Direction - With our limited budget for the development of the HRAG Collection, new acquisitions into this part of the Collection should be sought through gift or bequest. Australian paintings, drawings, prints and objects should take a high priority and should represent the forefront of practice at their time of production. Please see associated Procedure for details.

#### **5.6 De-accessioning Criteria**

Any object held by the Gallery and/or listed in gallery records may be de-accessioned if it:

- does not comply with the collecting areas specified in the Acquisition Policy
- is of no artistic, historical or archival value
- is damaged beyond repair
- is stolen or otherwise missing beyond reasonable hope of recovery. In this case, all reasonable efforts to recover the work shall have been undertaken. E.g. police informed, searches made, advertisements placed, etc. where applicable

#### **5.7 Guidelines for proposing to De-accession**

De-accessioning takes place only after due and proper consideration.

De-accessioning will not be seen to adversely affect the Gallery's ability to attract future donations of art works or financial assistance towards the purchase of art works.

De-accessioning is not undertaken as a means of augmenting Gallery operating costs.

#### **5.8 Guidelines for the disposal of a De-accessioned object**

The method of disposal shall be approved by the Committee of Management and shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act.

Any funds received from the sale of a de-accessioned object shall be used for the purpose of acquiring works of art for the Gallery collection.



In the case of a donated object, any funds received from the sale shall be used to purchase a work(s) that will be credited to the donor of the de-accessioned object. No member of the Gallery staff, Committee of Management or Horsham Rural City Council shall be eligible to purchase or otherwise obtain a de-accessioned object.

## 6. COMMUNICATION

This policy will be presented to Horsham Regional Art Galley Staff, members of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Acquisition Committee, and members of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Advisory Committee. It will be available on HRCC's internet site.

## 7. RESPONSIBILITY

**Policy Owner:** Art Gallery Director

## 8. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

| Document  | Location |
|---|----------|
| Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection Procedure | Intranet |

## 9. DOCUMENT CONTROL

| Version Number | Approval Date | Approval By | Amendment    | Review Date |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| 01             | 2018 TBA      | Council     | • New Policy |             |



# Terms of Reference

## HORSHAM REGIONAL ART GALLERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### 1. PURPOSE

The Horsham Regional Art Gallery Advisory Committee ('the Committee') has been established to provide advice and recommendations on:

- The development and implementation of strategies to ensure the Horsham Regional Art Gallery is the centre of visual arts activities in the Wimmera;
- Priorities in the development of the annual budget, focusing on the management of the collection, exhibitions, education and programming;
- The development and implementation of the framework used to produce the Horsham Regional Art Gallery exhibition program;
- The development and implementation of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection Policy with its focus on our nationally significant holdings of Australian photography, the Mack Jost Gift, and the artists and artworks of the Wimmera;
- Improvements and practices to ensure the Art Gallery is fit for purpose, meets standards of accreditation and governance;
- The development and implementation of the framework used to produce the Horsham Regional Art Gallery education, public and workshop programs.

### 2. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Horsham Regional Art Gallery Advisory Committee is an Advisory Committee of Council and has been established under the framework of the *Local Government Act 1989*, S3 (1) 'definition' and S76AA 'Assembly of councillors'.

The Committee is empowered to do the following:

- Provide input into the development of the strategic plan for the Art Gallery,
- Encourage and increase membership and visitation of the Art Gallery,
- Oversee the implementation of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Collection Policy and

**Terms of Reference No: TR04/0xx**

the appointment of members to the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Acquisition Committee,

- Raise funds, including donations, grants and other contributions to the Gallery and its activities,
- Provide oversight of Art Gallery budget,
- Participate in activities that the benefit of the community and that raise the profile of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery.

The Committee does not have the power to commit Council to any decision or action, or to direct council staff in their duties. The Committee may make recommendations for consideration by Council, but Council reserves the right to accept or reject recommendations from the Committee.

**3. MEMBERSHIP**

Committee membership shall consist of a maximum of six people, being single representatives unless identified otherwise, from the following groups:

- Councillor, Horsham Rural City Council,
- A volunteer, from Horsham Town Hall
- Representative of the Horsham Regional Art Gallery Trust,
- Community Members (3).

**Ex Officio attendees**

- Art Gallery Director, or Art Gallery Curator
- Community Services Director or Community Development Manager

**Participating Organisations**

Nominated member organisations will be contacted by the Chairperson (or nominee) and invited to identify a representative for the Committee.

**3.1 Selection of Community Representatives**

Representatives of the Committee will be selected through an application process, advertised in accordance with Council's engagement principles, and in local newspapers and on Council's website.

Applications should include details of community involvement, previous experience of Committee membership, relevant skills and reasons for nominating for the Committee.

If the number of applications does not exceed the number of vacancies, the Council's Delegated Officer will approve nominations. In the event of more than the required number of applicants for the available positions, nominations will be forwarded to Council for determination.

### **3.2 Alternative Representatives**

As required, an alternative representative may attend meetings on behalf of the named user groups/members. Alternative representatives are entitled to vote if the named representative is not present at the meeting.

### **3.3 Council endorsement of nominations**

Recommendations regarding the filling of any vacancies of the Committee will be submitted to Council for approval, subject to the requirements of Section 3: *Membership* being met.

### **3.4 Specialist advice**

Individuals and groups may be invited to attend Committee meetings to provide specialist advice. They must not be involved in the decision making process and cannot vote on any issue.

### **3.5 Council Officer**

Council Officers drawn from the following list, (Art Gallery Director, Art Gallery Curator, Community Services Director, Community Development Manager) will attend all meetings.

Council Officers are not members of the Advisory Committee and are not eligible to vote.

### **3.6 Term of Office for Community Representatives**

Membership shall generally be for a term of three years.

A meeting shall be held in July of each year, where Community Committee Membership will be considered and shall be declared vacant if a term has expired.

Members are given the opportunity to re-nominate to the Committee for a second or term.

Maximum membership will be two terms.

### **3.7 Resignations**

Committee members who resign prior to the end of their appointment should submit their resignation in writing to the Chairperson.

If a vacancy occurs within two months of the end of the term of the Committee, the vacancy will not be filled. In all other instances, the vacancy will be filled to reflect the composition of the Committee as identified in Section 3.

If a vacancy occurs before the completion of half a term, the replacement member's tenure will be recorded as a full term. If a vacancy occurs after the completion of half a term the member's tenure will begin at the completion of the original term.

#### **4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### **4.1 Council**

Council will:

- Document minutes of each scheduled meeting and distribute minutes to members,
- Ensure the confirmed and signed copy of the minutes is tabled at the next practicable Council meetings,
- Ensure Council officers or delegates are present at all Committee meetings, wherever possible,
- Report details of acquisitions and de-acquisitions to the Committee,
- Advertise in local newspapers and on Council's website for nominations to the Committee,
- Notify the Committee of approved Committee membership,
- Provide regular reports to Council regarding Committee recommendations;
- Provide timely feedback (and if applicable timelines) of Council's consideration of recommendations approved by Committee,
- Respond to requests/letters from the Committee as per Council's Customer Services Charter,
- Provide additional support as required to ensure the effective operation of the Committee,
- Every four years or earlier if required, review the function and purpose of the Committee and determine if the Committee should continue.

##### **4.2 Committee**

The Committee will:

- Appoint a Chair and Deputy Chairperson, (*See also 4.7*)
- Recommend a schedule of meetings and notify the Council representative,
- Distribute information of relevance from the Committee to the member organisations,
- Confirm the accuracy of minutes at the next meeting of the Committee. The

Chairperson must sign a copy of the confirmed minutes,

- Actively participate in activities that support the achievement of the purpose and responsibilities of the Committee.

#### **4.3 Attendance at meetings**

It is expected that members will attend all meetings. In the event of a Committee member missing a meeting they should contact the Minutes Secretary with notice of their absence and this will be recorded in the minutes.

If a member of the Committee misses three consecutive meetings without explanation the Chairperson or nominee, will contact the member to determine if they wish to continue their participation on the Committee.

If a member resigns from the Committee, their position will be filled by a representative from the same sector or group.

#### **4.4 Confidentiality**

Information discussed, received, used or created by the Committee may be confidential. A Committee member must not disclose, discuss or otherwise make public confidential information, unless authorised by the Officer supporting the Committee.

Council may terminate a Committee member's appointment if they have been found to breach confidentiality requirements.

#### **4.5 Conflicts of Interest**

Conflicts of interest must be declared and the declaration must be recorded in the minutes.

The person declaring the conflict of interest must leave the meeting while the identified topic is being discussed and shall not vote on the issue being considered.

#### **4.6 Media**

The Chairperson is authorised to speak to the media with the approval of the Manager Community Development.

In the absence of the Chairperson, the Manager Community Development or approved delegate is empowered to be spokesperson for the Committee.

Media releases, flyers, brochures, pamphlets or other sources of information distributed by the Committee must be first approved by the Manager Community Development, or nominee.

#### **4.7 Chairperson**

All members of the Horsham Art Gallery Advisory Committee are eligible to be elected to the position of Chairperson.

Voting will be by a show of hands.

A Deputy Chairperson should also be nominated by the Committee and will perform the duties of the Chairperson if the Chairperson is absent or unable to perform their duties.

### **5. OPERATING PROCEDURES**

#### **5.1 Meetings**

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Committee will agree on a regular schedule of meetings.

Meetings will generally be held five times each year.

Additional, special meetings may be called as required. Committee members must be provided with two days' written notice of a special or additional meeting and the purpose of the meeting must be clearly stated.

#### **5.2 Electronic Meetings**

Meetings of the Committee may be held through the use of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment provided that all members participating in the meeting can communicate with each other. Participation in a meeting in this way constitutes attendance at the meeting.

#### **5.3 Quorum and Decision Making**

The quorum is a minimum of four Committee members.

No formal business shall be conducted by the Committee unless a quorum exists. If a quorum is not present, the Chairperson may decide that the Committee meet for discussion only.

Consensus decision making is preferred. However, all members are entitled to vote and a matter may be voted upon at the discretion of the Chairperson. Committee members shall have one vote. The Councillor must vote.

If there is an equal division of votes, the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote.

**5.4 Minutes**

The Responsible Council Officer must ensure that the minutes are available to be at the next practicable Ordinary Council Meeting,

**5.5 Councillor report**

The Responsible Councillor may choose to give a verbal report of the key issues at this meeting.

**5.6 Recommendations and Actions**

The Manager Community Development will authorise actions within their delegated authority and will refer other recommendations and requests to Council departments and/or Council for discussion and approval.

**6. EVALUATION AND REVIEW**

The composition, activities and Terms of Reference of the Committee will be reviewed at least every four years, or as required.

The results of any review shall be reported to Council prior to the fourth year of operation or earlier, if a quorum is unable to be formed for three successive meetings.

The report shall consider:

- The Committee's achievements,
- The purpose and responsibilities of the Committee,
- Composition of the Committee,
- Whether there is a demonstrated need for the Advisory Committee to continue,
- Any other relevant matter.

**6.1 Cessation**

An Advisory Committee ceases to exist at the conclusion of the period specified in the Terms of Reference, unless Council resolves that it continue.

Council may also disband a Committee at any time, following a review of its operation or if Council Policy or strategic direction alters significantly.

**7. RESPONSIBILITY**

Responsible Officers:      Manager, Community Development



**8. DOCUMENT CONTROL**

| <b>Version Number</b> | <b>Approval Date</b> | <b>Approval By</b> | <b>Amendment</b>                                |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---|
| 01                    | TBC 2018             | Council            | <input type="checkbox"/> New Terms of Reference |



HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL

## Background research to inform the HRCC Youth Strategy

June 2018

Report Title: Horsham Rural City Council Youth  
Strategy – Background Research Report

Client: Horsham Rural City Council

Version: Final Report

Date: 19 June 2018



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## Summary of Key Findings

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The purpose of this report is to provide the desktop and background research to inform the development of Horsham Rural City Council's Youth Strategy. A multi-staged community and stakeholder engagement program with youth services, government agencies, Horsham Rural City Council (HRCC) and young people was also delivered to inform the Youth Strategy.

Unless otherwise indicated, data for this background research is from the 2016 ABS Census, via Profile.id.

A number of key themes have emerged from this desktop research report that will inform the development of Council's first Youth Strategy, including:

### Young people aged 10 – 25 years make up 18.9% of the Horsham community.

In 2016, there were 3,725 young people aged 10 to 25 years living in Horsham Rural City Council local government area (Horsham), of which the majority live in Horsham Township (2,612). There are also smaller pockets of young people living in smaller localities within the LGA. Around 7.2% of Horsham's young people are aged 12 to 17 years and 18.9% are aged 10 to 25 years.

### Migration to Ballarat and Geelong

Across the Wimmera region, there was a small net migration of young people aged 12 to 17 out of the area (-78 people, primarily to Ballarat), and a large net migration of young people aged 18 to 24 out of the area (-688 people aged 18 to 24, primarily to Ballarat, Geelong and Melbourne). This reflects general trends in Australia, where rural areas lose young people to cities with more tertiary education and employment opportunities (Profile.id).

### Young people are a great resource for the Horsham community and play an active role in their community, but face some challenges

- Young people are volunteers at sports clubs, arts groups, and community groups (27% of local young people 15 to 25 volunteer).
- Young people are part of the workforce (44% of young people 12 to 17 and 68% of young people 18 to 24 are employed).
- Community engagement completed for this study indicated that local young people have many strengths, including being resilient, optimistic, ambitious and knowing their way around 21st century technologies. They contribute energy and creativity to Horsham and are proud of living in a tight-knit community.
- Some areas of Horsham have concentrations of disadvantage, with a lower SEIFA index in particular in areas to the north of the train line in Horsham Township
- High rates of teen pregnancy – Horsham has the third highest teenage birth rate in Victoria (27.1 births per 1000 compared to 14.3 in Victoria) (Victoria Women's Health Atlas, Women's Health Grampians, 2012).

- High rates of sexually transmitted infections – Horsham as a whole has significantly higher rates of chlamydia than the state average, most prevalent in the 15 – 24 old age group. (Sexual and Reproductive Health Snapshot, Women’s Health Grampians, 2017).
- Highly impacted by domestic violence - Young people in Horsham are much more likely to witness domestic violence, with family violence incidents occurring at twice the rate of Regional Victoria (Royal Commission into Family Violence, Women’s Health Grampians, 2015).
- High rates of young offenders – The number of young people (12-18 years) on community-based supervision orders (2012-2013) was over nine times that of the state average (22.5 per 1,000 compared to 2.4) (Wimmera PCP Population Health and Wellbeing Profile, 2016).
- Limited transport options – Public transport options include VLine buses to Ararat, and buses to townships throughout the area. However, the passenger train line only operates three services to or from Melbourne per week. Young people without access to a car face significant transport barriers, both within Horsham (particularly for young people in small areas outside of Horsham Township where there is no public transport on weekends) and to cities (such as Ballarat and Melbourne) with more work and employment opportunities.
- Limited career paths – Community engagement indicates that there are limited career paths available for young people in Horsham with many leaving the area to pursue opportunities elsewhere.
- Limited post-school education options – There are limited tertiary education options in Horsham. There are two tertiary education providers, Longerenong College and Federation University, however these provide limited courses.

### Council’s youth services model and comparison to neighbouring and similar councils

Council outsources its youth services by providing funding to Grampians Community Health Services, which operates the Nexus Youth Centre a Council-owned building in the town centre. Council provides this building at no rent. Council also delivers a large of range of services through all departments that either directly or indirectly impact on outcomes for young people, including providing facilities (aquatic centre, sporting grounds), services (maternal and child health services, library services) and advocacy (advocacy for public transport, internet connections).

Differences between Council’s youth services model and that of neighbouring councils include:

- While Council outsources a youth services to Grampians Community Health, four out of six neighbouring councils have a funded youth worker on staff.
- Council does not have a Youth Council. Five out of six neighbouring councils have a Youth Action Council or other formal youth engagement mechanism.
- Five out of six neighbouring councils have or are currently working on a Youth Strategy or Charter. Horsham Rural City Council is currently developing the first Youth Strategy for the shire.
- Horsham Rural City Council has a dedicated stand alone single purpose youth centre and is the only council in the area with this type of facility.

Through service mapping, comparisons were made between youth services offered in Swan Hill Rural City Council, Mildura Rural City Council, City of Ballarat and Horsham Rural City Council. Key differences are:

- City of Ballarat, Mildura Rural City Council and Swan Hill Rural City Council each have a Youth Strategy or Charter, Youth Council, and in-house youth workers.
- Council and Swan Hill Rural City Council have dedicated youth centres, while City of Ballarat has moved away from the youth centre model towards an outreach program model. Mildura Rural City Council does not currently have a youth facility.
- While Swan Hill, Mildura and Ballarat have sexual health services or nurses for young people, Horsham does not. Mildura and Ballarat have dedicated programs for young people at risk of homelessness, neither Swan Hill or Horsham have dedicated youth homelessness programs or crisis accommodation.

### Horsham has a range of services and facilities for young people, but there are some gaps

Within Horsham, there are three youth-specific services, five community services organisations with programs for young people, seven education institutions, two employment services, one recreation service, one service for Indigenous young people, and three health services available for young people. Horsham also has a new town hall (with theatre productions and programs), a dedicated Youth Centre (Nexus), a library, a swimming pool, a skate park, and football/netball clubhouses amongst other facilities for the general community and young people.

Research indicates a number of service gaps for young people:

- **No crisis beds for young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness** - There are no crisis beds available for at risk young people aged under 18.
- **No sexual and reproductive health services for young people** – There are no sexual and reproductive health services for young people available in Horsham.
- **No out of hours activities for young people** – There are no structured/recurring generalist out of hours programs/activities available for young people in Horsham on Friday and Saturday nights.
- **No mental health beds for young people** – There are no mental health beds available for young people aged under 18.

### Key trends in best practice youth service delivery include a focus on:

- Reaching young people via outreach services, including detached and mobile outreach delivered on an ‘as needed,’ flexible basis to a variety of community locations where young people are, including schools and public places
- Offering flexible hours that respond to the patterns of activity of young people, including by providing after-hours activities
- Offering a range of options for accessing services, both in person (including drop-in, outreach and after hours) and online

- Building the capacity of and empowering young people to be actively involved in shaping and delivering services for young people . Designing service delivery environments with the needs of young people in mind (including young people of various ages and genders)
- Using technology, including to engage rural/remote families (for example use of social media and/or websites to provide general information), and
- Offering incentives and reducing barriers to attend services/programs such as transport and food, particularly when targeting vulnerable and at risk young people.

### Key trends in engaging with young people include a focus on:

- Providing ongoing mechanisms for and building the capacity of young people to be directly involved in decisionmaking
- Giving young people an opportunity to help shape and deliver places that meet their needs, including by taking a co-design approach to placemaking
- Engaging with young people in the places where they gather (i.e. parks, shopping centres)
- Using technology to engage with young people, including social media channels, and
- Offering incentives to participate in engagement activities.

### Best practice in youth facilities is to provide multipurpose and co-located facilities

The benefits of multipurpose facilities are that they:

- Provide a variety of spaces suitable for a range of activities and user groups of different ages and all abilities
- Promote social interaction between different users
- Are designed for a range of life cycle groups likely to use the facility now and in the future (e.g. nappy change areas, children’s play areas, youth friendly spaces, features for older people with limited mobility)
- Encourage partnerships between organisations and programs. Joint programs are also more easily facilitated by staff/volunteers as they are in close proximity to each other
- Allow more flexible management of changing needs
- Are more sustainable in terms of ongoing maintenance, energy use, and community involvement in management and delivery of programs, and
- Are more cost effective in terms of the Council’s investment.

Co-locating services within one facility involves shared or joint use of facilities and often the integrated delivery of some services. Co-location enables:

- Pooling of resources to provide better facilities
- The concentration of compatible services and facilities to create a community focal point
- Improved access and safety for users who can access a range of services at a single location
- More integrated and innovative delivery of services, and



- More efficient use of land, for instance through shared, rather than separate, parking areas.

### Youth policy and strategy drivers

Nationally, there is a strategic focus on education, employment and health and wellbeing for young people. Victorian Government has a focus on empowering young people to input into government services, policies and programs through youth engagement. The State Government supports programs and services for young people in regional and rural areas. Locally, Council plans recognise that young people in Horsham face health and wellbeing challenges, particularly when it comes to drugs and alcohol use and abuse, family violence, teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, crime and mental health.

# 1. Introduction

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Horsham Rural City Council local government area (Horsham) is a vibrant and diverse regional city, strategically situated on the Western Highway approximately 300 kilometres north-west of Melbourne and north of the Grampians National Park, in the heart of the Wimmera region of Victoria. The municipality has a population of 19,279 and covers an area of 4,267 square kilometres. Almost three quarters of residents live in the urban area of Horsham (Horsham Township). Horsham Township is the largest urban centre in the Wimmera Southern- Mallee region and as such is a focal point for industry, health, sport and education in the region.

Around 3,725 young people aged 10 to 25 years live in Horsham. While young people make up 18.9% of the total population, Horsham Rural City Council (HRCC/Council) has not previously had a strategic document to provide direction for the organisation's actions to best support young people.

## 1.1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the desktop and background research to inform the development of Council's first Youth Strategy. A multi-staged community and stakeholder engagement program with youth services, government agencies, Council and young people was also delivered along with this background research.

Council engaged Cred Consulting to work collaboratively with Council, local young people and services to develop a Youth Strategy that provides Council with the approved strategic directions for the delivery of contemporary youth services that meets the needs of a diverse regional city population. The purpose of the Youth Strategy is to:

- Provide Council with a service delivery map of the current services that are available to young people in Horsham and surrounds
- Identify opportunities for young people to be empowered to make decisions on service delivery that suits their needs
- Increase meaningful engagement opportunities with Council, and
- Provide Council with contemporary and future facing, equitable and accessible, models for youth service delivery that reflects the needs of a diverse regional city population.

## 1.2. About Horsham

Located on the traditional lands of the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Japagulk and Wergaia peoples, Horsham is a community of 19,817 people, approximately 300 kilometres north-west of Melbourne CBD, in the heart of the Wimmera region of country Victoria. Despite stretching 4,267 square kilometres, almost three quarters of residents live within the urban areas of Horsham clustered around the banks of the Wimmera River (Horsham Township).

Sharing boundaries with Hindmarsh Shire in the north, Yarriambiack Shire in the north-east, Northern Grampians shire in the south-east, Southern Grampians Shire in the south and West Wimmera Shire in the west, Horsham is the major provider of retail, community and government services within the Wimmera region. The main industry is dryland, broadacre agriculture.

Characterised by its agricultural industry and natural assets including recreational lakes, wetlands, the Wimmera River and the Grampians National Park only 30 minutes away, Horsham is a vibrant and unique place for young people to grow up.

While the community typically consists of people with Australian and English ancestry, Horsham is starting to grow and change, becoming increasingly diverse with the settlement of new communities from India, the Philippines and China that together contribute to the diverse and vibrant city that Horsham is today.

## 1.3. Methodology

The methodology used for this report is:

- Community profile of young people living in Horsham and its small areas
- Strategic context analysis of Victorian Government and Council's local plans and strategies
- Audit of services available to young people in Horsham and interviews with local service providers
- Comparison with services provided in comparable rural/regional cities including Ballarat, Mildura and Swan Hill
- Audit of youth service delivery models of neighbouring councils including Northern Grampians Council, Yarriambiack Shire Council, West Wimmera Shire Council, Northern Grampians Council, Ararat Rural City Council, and Southern Grampians Council, and
- Current best practice approaches in youth service delivery and youth engagement practices.

## 2. Horsham's young people

This section provides a profile of the young people (aged 10 – 25 years) living in Horsham. For the purposes of this report, 2016 census data from Profile.id is used to provide baseline data, with other reports referenced as relevant. Throughout the report, Horsham is compared to the Wimmera Region and Regional Victoria, with comparisons to Horsham Township and Victoria as relevant.

### 2.1. Total population of young people

A similar proportion of young people compared to Regional Victoria and the Wimmera Region

According to the 2016 census, there are 3,725 young people aged 10 to 25 years living in Horsham (18.9%). As shown in Table 1, Horsham has a similar proportion of young people compared to the Wimmera Region (17.7%) and Regional Victoria (18.7%).

**Table 1 Horsham youth age profile (Source: Profile.id)**

| Age group (years) | Horsham      |              | Wimmera Region | Regional Victoria |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|
|                   | Number       | %            | %              | %                 |
| Aged 10 – 11      | 494          | 2.5%         | 2.4%           | 2.4%              |
| Aged 12 – 17      | 1,413        | 7.2%         | 7.2%           | 7.4%              |
| Aged 18 - 24      | 1,574        | 8.0%         | 7.1%           | 7.9%              |
| Aged 25           | 244          | 1.2%         | 1.0%           | 1.1%              |
| <b>Total:</b>     | <b>3,725</b> | <b>18.9%</b> | <b>17.7%</b>   | <b>18.7%</b>      |

### Migration to Ballarat and Geelong

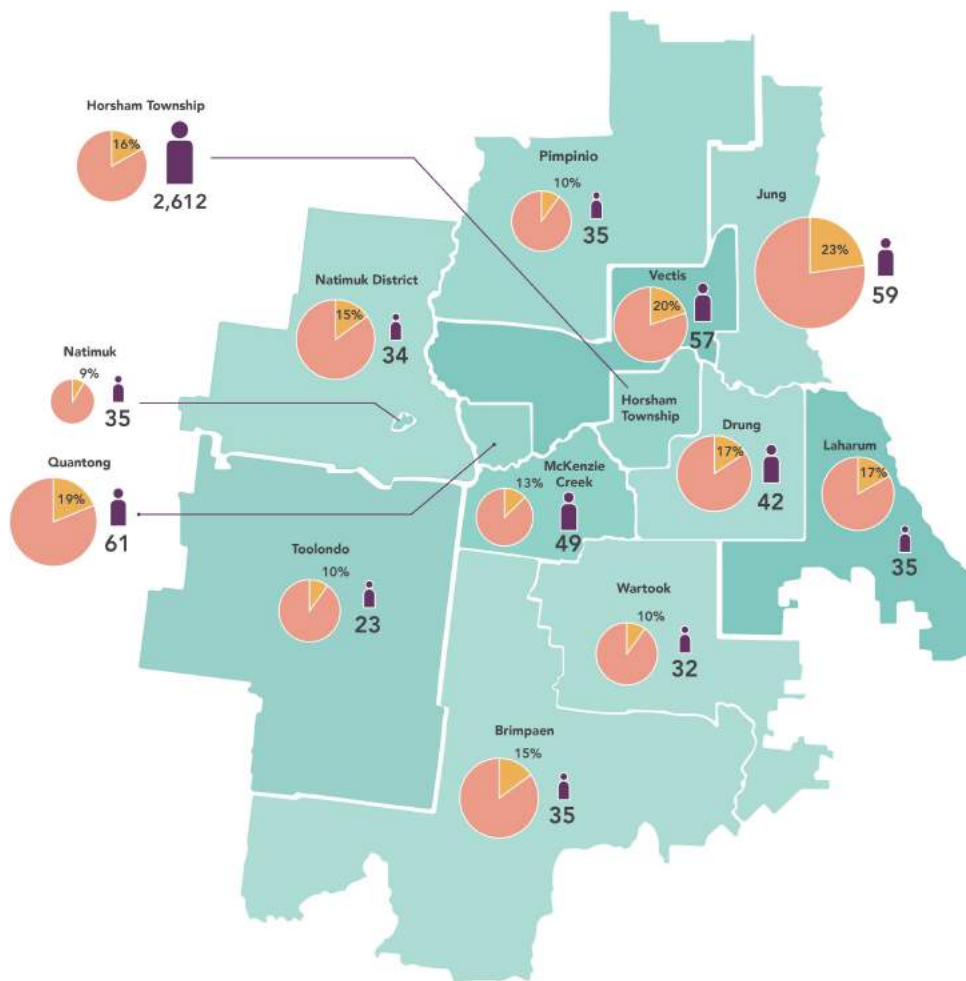
Across the Wimmera region, there was a small net migration of young people aged 12 to 17 out of the area (-78 people, primarily to Ballarat), and a large net migration of young people aged 18 to 24 out of the area (-688 people aged 18 to 24, primarily to Ballarat, Geelong and Melbourne). This reflects general trends in Australia, where rural areas lose young people to cities with more tertiary education and employment opportunities (Profile.id).

### Much lower population growth forecast for young people compared to Victoria

The Victorian State Government population forecast for young people in Horsham aged 10 – 24 years is low, increasing only by 143 people or 3.7% over a twenty-year period (2011 – 2031). This is a significantly lower than the projected growth of young people across Victoria (+28%) (see Appendix 1 for detailed tables) (Victoria in Future, 2016). Information about projected growth of young people in Regional Victoria is unavailable.

Figure 1 shows the distribution of young people living across Horsham.

Figure 1 Distribution of young people in Horsham



**Where do young people live?**

- Proportion of Young people of the total suburb's population (% of the suburb's population)
- Number of Young people aged 12 - 24 living in each suburb

## 2.2. Health and wellbeing

### A very high proportion of young mothers compared to Victoria

With a teenage birth rate of 27.1 per 1000, Horsham is ranked the third highest local government area in the state for teenage births, almost double the Victorian average of 14.3.

Data from the 2016 Census shows that there are 64 young mothers aged between 15 and 22 living in Horsham Area (7.1% of the total number women aged 15 to 22). Of this group of women, 40.9% are living with their partner, and 39.4% are single mums. 57.1% of young mothers within Horsham have completed year 12, however, 83.9% are unemployed and are living on a median weekly gross income of \$425.

### A much higher rate of sexually transmitted disease

Horsham has significantly higher rates of chlamydia than the state average. Females are over double the state average (44.1 per 10,000 v. 19.4) and males are roughly the same as the state average (13.97 per 10,000 v. 13.1). Chlamydia is most prevalent in the 15 – 24 old age group (Sexual and Reproductive Health Snapshot, Women's Health Grampians, 2017).

### Much higher rates of alcohol and drug clients compared to Victoria, with high rates of alcohol-related ambulance attendance for young people

The number of alcohol and other drug clients per 1,000 in Horsham is estimated to be 14.1 which is substantially higher than the Victorian measure at 5.1, and indicates that Horsham has the second highest rate of drug and alcohol clients in the state (Department of Health, 2012).

The ambulance attendance rate per age group is close to double that of Victoria's average for the age groups 15-64 year olds. Treatment episodes for care rates for alcohol are over 2.5 times that for Victoria (and predominantly comprise of males). It is higher for each age group and eight times higher for 0-14 years than Victoria's figure.

The initial scoping research completed by the Centre for eResearch and Digital Information for the Horsham Youth C.A.N (Changing alcohol norms) project, found that there was an influence of rurality on young people's attitudes and beliefs relating to drinking behaviours.

From surveying over 200 Horsham teenagers, it was found that 48% of young people said that drinking to the point of getting drunk is a normal part of small gatherings. The vast majority of the sample (95%) responded that the main aim of parties was to get drunk.

Scoping research also found that many young people in Horsham viewed alcohol as a way to have fun where there are limited options for entertainment. For most local teenagers and young adults, drinking until drunk was not only accepted but in many cases expected.

Supporting the information provided in the C.A.N project, a recent community survey conducted by the Wimmera Drug Action Taskforce also found that out of 119 respondents 75% of people suggested that alcohol was a big issue in the community. Reasons for these responses included the violence and domestic disruption related to

school, alcohol being accessible and an acceptable drug to abuse, alcohol accepted as the norm in the community despite the impacts on families and individuals, and the culture and peer pressure around partying and drinking at a young age.

From the same survey, 69% of respondents expressed an interest in attending an alcohol and other drug forum and the majority were interested in knowing where to go for help, followed by teenage use and prevention, personal stories and information about different drugs.

## 2.3. Connectivity

### Similar rates of car ownership - but a high proportion of people experience transport limitations

The ability of young people to access services and employment is strongly influenced by their access to either private or public transport. The number of motor vehicles per household in Horsham quantifies access to private transport, which if living in more remote areas of the rural city, is important for young people (either with licenses, or with an adult) to have access to a vehicle in order to access shops, services employment and education. In 2016 the majority of Horsham households (86.8%) had at least 1 motor vehicle, this is a similar proportion to the Wimmera Region (86.6%) and Regional Victoria (87.5%).

According to the VicHealth Indicators Survey 2011, transport limitations were experienced by 32% of people living in Horsham in the previous year, compared to 24.6% of people living in the Grampians Region and the Victorian state average of 23.7%.

Community engagement and interviews with stakeholders suggest that a lack of public transport connections within Horsham and to other areas is a significant barrier for young people in the area.

### Similar proportion of households with internet connection compared to Regional Victoria, but much lower than Victoria

Internet connection is now an important utility for households in Australia, particularly for young people in regional areas not only to access information for study or to take part in the digital economy, but also as a social connector to stay in touch with friends. Australia-wide in 2016, nearly 80% of all households had internet access. A lack of internet access is likely to indicate a level of disadvantage and could be related to socio-economic factors, age or geographical isolation.

In 2016, 72.5% of households in Horsham had an internet connection, while a higher proportion than the Wimmera Region (70.3%), it is a slightly lower proportion than Regional Victoria (73.5%) and much lower than Victoria (79.6%) indicating a level of disadvantage, particularly if households with young people do not have access to the internet. By comparison, 81.7% of households in Greater Melbourne had an internet connection in 2016.

## 2.4. Diversity

### Low levels of cultural diversity

In 2016, 90.8% of Horsham residents spoke only English at home, with 3.8% speaking a language other than English (5.5% not stated). This is a similar proportion of non-English speakers compared to the the Wimmera Region (90.3%), however much lower than Regional Victoria (86.6%).

The dominant language spoken at home other than English was Italian with 0.4% or 85 people speaking this language at home. Despite the low proportion of people who speak a language other than English at home, this is changing. Since 2011, there has been a slight increase in the multicultural character of the area, including the increase in number of people who speak Malayalam, Filipino/Tagalog and Mandarin. This is also reflected by 'born overseas' data that shows an increase in the number of people who were born in India (+33), the Philippines (+59) and China (+15) between 2011-2016. (See Appendix 1 for detailed tables)

### Low number of people born overseas

In 2016, 5.9% of people living in Horsham were born overseas, with 3.6% of people originating from countries where English was not their first language. This is a similar proportion to the Wimmera Region with 6.2% of people born overseas and 3.4% born in non-English speaking countries, and a significantly lower proportion than Regional Victoria (11.0% and 6.1% respectively).

The largest migrant groups living in Horsham were born in:

- The United Kingdom (296 people or 1.5%)
- India (115 people or 0.6%), and
- The Philippines (108 people or 0.5%).

(See Appendix 1 for detailed tables)

### The highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Wimmera region

Horsham is home to the largest Indigenous population (295) within the Wimmera region, representing 1.5% of Horsham's total population, and 1.7% of Horsham Township's total population – a higher proportion than the Wimmera Region (1.3%) and slightly higher proportion than Regional Victoria (1.6%).

In 2016 there were 81 Indigenous young people aged 12 – 25 living in Horsham, representing only 2.2% of the total youth population, yet a significant 27.1% of the total local Indigenous population. It is also important to note that together, Indigenous children and young people aged 0 – 25 made up more than half (54%) of Horsham's total Indigenous population.

Education and family outcomes for Indigenous youth are also changing in Horsham. Trends identified by the 'Statistical Data for Victorian Communities', provide insight into schooling completion rates and young mums from 2006 to 2016. Over this ten-year period, the proportion of 15 to 25 year old women who had given birth has fallen from 30.8% in



2006 to 19.0% to 2016. Over the same period, the proportion of 20 to 24 year old's who had left school before completing year 11 has fallen from 75% of students, to 50%.

### A similar proportion of people with a disability compared to the Wimmera region and Regional Victoria

In the 2016 census 1,175 people or 6.0% of the population in Horsham reported needing help in their day to day lives due to disability in 2016 (See Appendix 1 for detailed tables).

The proportion of young people reporting need for assistance is lower than Horsham as a whole, with young people aged 10 to 25 accounting for 111 or 9.9% of the total number of people living with a disability in Horsham. Despite the lower rate or representation of young people, it is critical that youth services are inclusive of all abilities. The youth age group with the largest proportion of people with a disability are 12 to 17 year old's, with 57 people of high-school age needing assistance with their day to day lives in 2016.

It is important to note that these figures should not be viewed as the total population with a disability, as many people with a disability do not require assistance and would therefore likely answer "no" to these questions. Beyond the census, further community engagement is required to better understand the experience of young people with a disability in Horsham and their needs. (See Appendix 1 for detailed tables)

## 2.5. Disadvantage

### Lower levels of disadvantage than the Wimmera Region and Regional Victoria, but higher levels of disadvantage in Horsham Township

According to the 2016 Australian Socio Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA), Horsham has a ranking of 980, a higher score than both the Wimmera Region 967.7 and Regional Victoria 974.0.

The index is derived from attributes that reflect disadvantage such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment, and jobs in relatively unskilled occupations. A higher score means a lower level of disadvantage, while a low score indicates a higher level of disadvantage.

While Horsham scores higher than the Wimmera and Regional Victoria, Horsham Township is ranked lower than both these areas (958.3), with areas of more disadvantage to the north of the train line. Considering that the majority of Horsham's residents live within the Horsham Township, this is important to consider, especially when providing youth services that seek to enhance young people's job and income prospects, as well as quality of life.

### Almost one third of households earning less than \$740 a week

Household income is one of the most important indicators of socio-economic status. With other data sources, such as qualifications and occupation, it helps to reveal Horsham's socio-economic status and economic opportunities. Household income levels are not comparable over time because of the influences of economic change such as wage level fluctuations and inflation. The income quartile method is a powerful and objective way of looking at income data and in particular, how it is changing

In 2016, 65.9% of households in Horsham are in the lowest, or medium lowest group, meaning that in 2016 the majority of households in Horsham were earning less than \$1,416 a week. Despite the high proportion of residents in the lowest two quartiles, there is a lower proportion of households in Horsham in the lowest group than the Wimmera Region, and Horsham shares a similar proportion to Regional Victoria in all groups. (See Appendix 1 for detailed tables.)

## 2.6. The role of young people in Horsham

### A high proportion of young people volunteer

According to the 2016 census, 683 or 27% of young people aged 15 to 25 living in Horsham volunteered for an organisation or group. This is a lower proportion than the proportion of people of all ages volunteering in Horsham (32.4%), however is still significantly higher than Regional Victoria (24.3%) and Victoria overall (19.2%). This high rate of volunteering within young people indicates a strong and cohesive community, with young people readily contributing to Horsham.

### A similar proportion of Primary and Secondary school students

In 2016, 2,273 (6.3%) of people living in Horsham were attending secondary school and 1,779 or 5.0%, of those attending secondary school were in Government schools. As shown by Table 2, Horsham shares a very similar proportion of primary and secondary schoolers with both the Wimmera (7.9% and 6.3% respectively) and Regional Victoria (8.0% and 6.3%).

**Table 2 Education institution attending (Source: Profile.id)**

| Education institution          | Horsham |      | Wimmera | Regional Victoria |
|--------------------------------|---------|------|---------|-------------------|
|                                | Number  | %    | %       | %                 |
| <b>Primary School</b>          | 2,850   | 7.9% | 7.9%    | <b>1.5%</b>       |
| <b>Primary – Government</b>    | 1,967   | 5.5% | 5.5%    | <b>8.0%</b>       |
| <b>Primary – Catholic</b>      | 486     | 1.4% | 1.4%    | <b>2.0%</b>       |
| <b>Primary – Independent</b>   | 397     | 1.1% | 1.1%    | <b>0.7%</b>       |
| <b>Secondary School</b>        | 2,273   | 6.3% | 6.3%    | <b>6.3%</b>       |
| <b>Secondary – Government</b>  | 1,779   | 5.0% | 5.0%    | <b>3.6%</b>       |
| <b>Secondary – Catholic</b>    | 374     | 1.0% | 1.0%    | <b>1.7%</b>       |
| <b>Secondary – Independent</b> | 120     | 0.3% | 0.3%    | <b>1.0%</b>       |

| Education institution | Horsham       |             | Wimmera     | Regional Victoria |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <b>TAFE</b>           | 345           | 1.0%        | 1.0%        | <b>1.6%</b>       |
| <b>University</b>     | 549           | 1.5%        | 1.5%        | <b>2.6%</b>       |
| <b>Other</b>          | 226           | 0.6%        | 0.6%        | <b>0.7%</b>       |
| <b>Not attending</b>  | 26,557        | 73.9%       | 73.9%       | <b>70.8%</b>      |
| <b>Not stated</b>     | 1,313         | 6.7%        | 7.4%        |                   |
| <b>Total:</b>         | <b>35,935</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b>       |

As shown by Table 3, as of February 2017, there were 3,182 students enrolled in either primary or secondary school within Horsham. Horsham West and Haven Primary school had the highest enrolments out of the 4 primary schools in the LGA, while Horsham College – the only secondary public school in the region, had the highest number of enrolments out of the secondary schools.

**Table 3 Schools and enrolments in Horsham (Source: My School)**

| School   | Enrolments Feb 2017 | Girl:Boy ratio | Indigenous Students | ESL Students | School ICSEA Value |
|--|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| <b>Horsham Primary School</b>                    | 452                 | 48:52          | 10%                 | 4%           | 949                |
| <b>Horsham West and Haven Primary School</b>     | 655                 | 51:49          | 3%                  | 6%           | 1002               |
| <b>Holy Trinity Lutheran College (Prep - 10)</b> | 479                 | 51:49          | 0%                  | 22%          | 1006               |
| <b>St Michael and John's Primary School</b>      | 250                 | 48:52          | 0%                  | 4%           | 1038               |
| <b>Horsham College (Secondary)</b>               | 866                 | 49:51          | 5%                  | 5%           | 961                |
| <b>St Brigid's College (Secondary)</b>           | 385                 | 50:50          | 2%                  | 3%           | 997                |
| <b>Horsham Special School</b>                    | 95                  | 33:67          | 9%                  | 1%           | -                  |

## A higher proportion of young people completing Year 12 than the Wimmera, and a slightly lower proportion than Regional Victoria

Horsham has a higher proportion of high school completion rates compared to the Wimmera region, and a slightly lower proportion than Regional Victoria. In 2016, 37.0% residents aged over 15 years had completed year 12 compared to 33.5% in the Wimmera Region and 38.9% in Regional Victoria.

## A slightly lower proportion of young people attending TAFE or University

As Table 2 shows, in 2016, 345 students (1.0% of Horsham's total population) attended TAFE and 549 students attended University (1.5%). This is lower than the proportion of people attending tertiary education institutions in the Wimmera Region (2.5% attending TAFE and 3.7% attending university), as well as Regional Victoria (1.6% attending TAFE and 2.6% attending university).

## A higher number of young people aged 20 – 24 employed, than in education (2011)

'Statistical Data for Victorian Communities,' a data collaboration between the City of Greater Dandenong and the Victorian Local Government Association, gives an insight into the employment and education pathways of young people from the 2011 census by gender.

There are higher numbers of young women studying at a tertiary educational institution than men.

However, there are almost the same number of women caring for children (70) as there are at university (72).

Conversely, the number of men employed but not in education is significantly higher than the number of women.

Young men are also almost three times as likely to be not in employment or education than young women.

## Similar proportion of disengaged young people compared to the Wimmera Region and Regional Victoria with higher rates in Horsham Township

Young people, particularly those aged between 15 to 24 are generally expected to be starting out in life, either studying, looking for work, employed, or a combination of both. Young people aged 15 to 24 who are not in either of these categories are a particularly vulnerable group who may have failed to engage with either the employment or education system. Large numbers of people in this category can indicate a lack of access to employment or education facilities in an area, or a population in need of targeted services to assist them find a study or employment pathway that they are interested in and would like to pursue.

In 2016, 11% of 15 to 24-year olds living within Horsham were not employed or attending an education institution. As shown by Table 4, this is a slightly higher proportion of disengaged young people than the Wimmera Region (10.8%), Regional Victoria (10.6%), and a higher proportion than Victoria (8.2%).

Over the last census period (2011 – 2016), the number of disengaged young people in Horsham increased by only 6 people, however due to the lower amount of young people in total living in Horsham in 2016, the percentage of disengaged young people rose from 9.9% to 11.0%. Over the same period, Horsham Township saw an increase of 27 young people who were neither in work or studying.

Consequently, the percentage of disengaged young people rose from 10.2% in 2011 to 12.8% in 2016, one of the highest rates in the region.

As Table 4 shows, with the majority of disengaged young people (87.4%) living within Horsham Township in 2016, access to the provision of services and programs within the Township that help young people find their future career path is particularly important.

**Table 4 Disengaged Young People in the Wimmera Region, 2016 and 2011 (Source: Profile.id)**

| Area                    | 2016                              |                            |              | 2011                              |                            |              |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
|                         | Number of disengaged young people | Total people aged 15 to 24 | % disengaged | Number of disengaged young people | Total people aged 15 to 24 | % disengaged |
| <b>Horsham</b>          | <b>247</b>                        | <b>2,241</b>               | <b>11.0%</b> | <b>241</b>                        | <b>2,440</b>               | <b>9.9%</b>  |
| <b>Horsham Township</b> | <b>216</b>                        | <b>1,682</b>               | <b>12.8%</b> | <b>189</b>                        | <b>1,857</b>               | <b>10.2%</b> |
| Hindmarsh Shire         | 48                                | 566                        | 8.5%         | 61                                | 543                        | 11.2%        |
| West Wimmera Shire      | 34                                | 349                        | 9.7%         | 36                                | 323                        | 11.1%        |
| Yarriambiack Shire      | 80                                | 618                        | 12.9%        | 92                                | 663                        | 13.9%        |
| Warracknabeal           | 39                                | 237                        | 16.5%        | 36                                | 229                        | 15.7%        |
| Wimmera Region          | 409                               | 3,774                      | 10.8%        | 430                               | 2,969                      | 10.8%        |
| Regional VIC            | 17,684                            | 167,326                    | 10.6%        | 17,245                            | 167,769                    | 10.3%        |
| Victoria                | 62,820                            | 770,432                    | 8.2%         | 58,068                            | 720,642                    | 8.1%         |
| Australia               | 287,962                           | 2,988,372                  | 9.6%         | 275,305                           | 2,866,000                  | 9.6%         |

When breaking down the youth disengagement data for Horsham into age groups, as shown by Table 5, 18 to 24 year olds have the highest proportion of young people who are disengaged, with 242 or 15.4% of the total number of 18 to 24 year olds living in Horsham not participating in either study or work.

**Table 5 Disengaged young people in Horsham by age category (2016) (Source: Atlas.id)**

| Age Group     | # of disengaged young people | Total # of young people | % disengaged |
|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Aged 15 – 17  | 14                           | 715                     | 1.96         |
| Aged 18 - 24  | 242                          | 1,576                   | 15.4         |
| Age Group     | # of disengaged young people | Total # of young people | % disengaged |
| Aged 25       | 25                           | 239                     | 10.5         |
| <b>Total:</b> | <b>281</b>                   | <b>2,291</b>            | <b>12.3</b>  |

### Lower rate of youth unemployment than Regional Victoria and higher rate than the Wimmera region

Youth unemployment is defined as those aged 15 -24 who in the week prior to Census night, did not have a job but were actively looking and available to start work.

In the 2016 census, 156 young people (10.6%) living in Horsham aged 15 to 24 years were classed as unemployed. This is a slightly higher rate of unemployment compared to the Wimmera Region (9.9%), yet a lower rate than Regional Victoria (12.7%), and a significantly lower rate than Victoria (15.2%).

As shown by Table 6 the youth unemployment rate has risen by 3 percentage points since 2011, a trend in keeping with state and national trends, however a slightly higher rate of increase than the Wimmera Region.

**Table 6 Youth Unemployment in the Wimmera Region, 2016 and 2011 (Source: Profile.id)**

| Area             | 2016                      |                            |                           | 2011                      |                            |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
|                  | Unemployed young people # | Total people aged 15 to 24 | Unemployed young people % | Unemployed young people # | Total people aged 15 to 24 | Unemployed young people % |
| Horsham          | 159                       | 1,533                      | 10.4%                     | 123                       | 1,663                      | 7.4%                      |
| Horsham Township | 143                       | 1,175                      | 12.2%                     | 126                       | 1,400                      | 9.0%                      |
| Wimmera Region   | 235                       | 2,367                      | 9.9%                      | 198                       | 2,505                      | 7.9%                      |
| Regional VIC     | 13,097                    | 103,664                    | 12.6%                     | 11,620                    | 104,546                    | 11.1%                     |

When analysing the data by service age groups, as shown by Table 7, in 2017 a low proportion (5.3%) of 15 – 17 year olds living in Horsham were unemployed, 7.1% of young people aged 18 – 24 years and only 3.3% of 25 year olds were unemployed – all significantly lower rates than Regional Victoria (12.6%) and Victoria (15.2%).

As shown by Table 7, of those looking for work in Horsham, most 15 to 17 year olds were looking for part-time work, while the majority of young people aged 18 and over were looking for full time work.

**Table 7 Employment Status in Horsham (Source: Profile.id)**

| Employment status                   | Aged 15 – 17 |              | Aged 18 – 24 |             | Aged 25    |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
|                                     | Number       | %            | Number       | %           | Number     | %            |
| <b>Employed</b>                     | <b>313</b>   | <b>43.8%</b> | <b>1,073</b> | <b>68.1</b> | <b>195</b> | <b>81.6%</b> |
| Full time                           | 18           | 2.5%         | 632          | 40.1        | 133        | 55.6%        |
| Part time/casual                    | 281          | 39.3%        | 416          | 26.4        | 54         | 22.6%        |
| <b>Unemployed</b>                   | <b>38</b>    | <b>5.3%</b>  | <b>112</b>   | <b>7.1%</b> | <b>8</b>   | <b>3.3%</b>  |
| Looking for full time work          | 5            | 0.7%         | 70           | 4.4         | 5          | 2.1%         |
| Looking for part time work          | 33           | 4.6%         | 42           | 2.7         | 3          | 1.3%         |
| <b>Not in the labour force</b>      | <b>341</b>   | <b>47.7%</b> | <b>292</b>   | <b>18.5</b> | <b>26</b>  | <b>10.9%</b> |
| <b>Employment status not stated</b> | <b>33</b>    | <b>4.6%</b>  | <b>81</b>    | <b>5.1</b>  | <b>13</b>  | <b>5.4%</b>  |

Young people living in Horsham are most likely to be employed in the retail trade or accommodation and food services with 30.2% of 15 to 17 year olds, and 22% of 18 to 24 year olds employed in these industries. There is some differentiation in the 25 years category, with 10.9% employed in Education and Training and 12.1% in Health Care and Social Assistance. (See Appendix 1 for detailed tables).

## 2.7. Crime and safety

According to Wimmera Primary Care Partnership's Population Health and Wellbeing Profile 2016, the number of young people (12-18 years) on community-based supervision orders (2012-2013) was over nine times that of the state average (22.5 v. 2.4). In 2014-2015, the crime rate in Horsham was more than three times the state average for both crimes where the offender was a child or young person and crimes where the victim was a child or young person. This document does not provide any further information or reasons for this high rate.



## Children and young people twice as likely to witness domestic violence in Horsham than other areas in the state

Family incidents are defined as an incident attended by Victoria Police where a Risk Assessment and Risk Management Report (also known as an L17 form) was completed. This report is completed when family violence incidents, interfamilial-related sexual offences, and child abuse are reported to police.

Data from the Victorian Police shows that family incidents in Horsham occur at twice the rate of Victoria. Horsham's rate of family incidents is 2,470.6 per 100,000, while the Victorian rate is 1,242.4 per 100,000 (Crime Statistics Agency 2017).

While most victims are aged 35 years and over, more than 27 per cent of Horsham victims were aged less than 25 years. Comparison of per population rates of victims aged less than 25 years indicate that Horsham population in this age group are much more likely to be victims compared to the regional Victoria average. This also means that children and young people are twice as likely to witness domestic violence than in other parts of the state. Flow on effects can occur on young people who witness family violence, including those who choose to leave home and, in the process, become homeless.

## Women and girls face higher risk

In rural areas women and children can face particular circumstances that compound their disadvantage and experience of family violence compared to metropolitan areas. Women's Health Grampians have identified particular challenges that include (2015, p. 8):

- Conservative patriarchal values
- Rigid gender stereotypes reinforced by long held traditions such as farming property passed through generations of sons
- Lack of anonymity for reporting family violence and increased visibility if remaining in the area after leaving
- Poor access to legal services, transport, housing and healthcare
- Increased gun ownership
- Physical isolation making immediate response difficult and,
- Lack of community understanding of the issues associated with family violence and a tendency to blame women.

## 3. Horsham youth services mapping

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In order to understand which services are available to young people in Horsham, a service mapping exercise was undertaken.

### 3.1. Key findings

- Council outsources its youth services through funding to the Grampians Community Health service, which operates the Nexus Youth Centre in a Council-owned building in the town centre. Council provides this building at no rent.
- Service gaps include:
  - There is no youth-specific sexual and reproductive health service in Horsham.
  - There is no crisis accommodation for young people aged under 18 years in Horsham.
  - Most services for young people are only accessible during on weekdays between 9am and 5pm.
- Horsham is a service centre for surrounding areas, with all services located within the Horsham Township. Accessing these services can be a barrier for young people living further away.
- There are limited public transport services, both within Horsham and to areas outside of Horsham. This is particularly an issue on weekends where there is limited public transport servicing the area.
- Young people participate in a number of sporting activities within football and netball clubs in town.

### 3.2. Council's youth services model

Council's model for youth service delivery is currently:

- Council funds Nexus (Grampians Health Service) \$90,000 annually to deliver generalist youth services for Horsham's young people. These services include youth groups (FReeZA and Young G), recreational events, art projects, youth workshops and hospitality training, volunteering opportunities, careers expo and traineeships.
- Council owns and maintains the Nexus building and provides it to Grampians Community Health at no cost.
- Council does not have a service agreement with Grampian's Health Service about expected outcomes to be delivered through the Nexus Youth Centre.

In addition to funding Nexus, Council also delivers a large of range of services through all departments that either directly or indirectly impact on outcomes for young people, including providing facilities (aquatic centre, sporting grounds), services (maternal and child health services, library services) and advocacy (advocacy for public transport, internet connections). These are shown in Table 8.

**Table 8 Council services, facilities and programs delivering youth outcomes (Source: Council staff workshop)**

| Direct services/facilities and programs   | Indirect services/facilities/programs  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Playgrounds / spaces</li> <li>▪ Work experience / recruitment</li> <li>▪ Arts programs (including for young people with intellectual disability, after school and holiday programs, immersive art camps for VCE students)</li> <li>▪ Volunteering opportunities (eg meals on wheels, Portsea camp)</li> <li>▪ Programming for young people at Horsham Town Hall</li> <li>▪ Youth CAN project</li> <li>▪ Skate parks</li> <li>▪ L2P learner driver program</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensuring community safety (roads, lighting, CCTV)</li> <li>▪ Providing infrastructure (eg school crossings, bike paths, universal design principles, ANZAC bridge)</li> <li>▪ Sports and recreation spaces and services</li> <li>▪ Supporting, funding and partnering with other organisations that provide programs, events and festivals targeting young people</li> <li>▪ Advocacy around homelessness, domestic violence, transport, drugs and alcohol</li> <li>▪ Free Wi-Fi in the CBD</li> <li>▪ Library service</li> <li>▪ New parents group / maternal health support</li> <li>▪ LGBTQI programs</li> <li>▪ Parks and gardens</li> <li>▪ Streets and street furniture</li> <li>▪ Beautification of city, gardens, rubbish collection</li> </ul> |

### 3.3. Services for young people in Horsham

Services were audited through searching Community Directory, Council's existing knowledge, interviews and surveys with service providers, and reviewing service provider's web pages.

As shown in Figure 2 overpage, there are 22 youth-specific services and services providing programs for young people in Horsham. These include:

- 3 youth-specific services, including:
  - Nexus
  - Headspace, and
  - Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning & Employment Network (LLEN).
- 5 community services organisations offering programs for young people, including:
  - Uniting Wimmera
  - Centre for Participation
  - Grampians Community Health
  - Red Cross, and
  - Wimmera Drug Action Taskforce.
- 7 education services, including:
  - Alternate Pathways (operated by Horsham College)
  - Federation University

- Longerenong Agricultural College
- Horsham College
- Horsham Special School
- St Brigids College, and
- Holy Trinity Lutheran College.
- 2 employment services offering programs for young people, including:
  - Skillinvest and - AXIS.
- 1 recreation service:
  - Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly.
- 1 service with programs aimed at Indigenous young people:
  - Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative.
- 3 health and wellbeing services available to young people:
  - Wimmera Primary Care Partnership
  - The Sexual Assault and Family Violence Centre, and - [Wimmera Health Care Group](#).

Services are also provided by State and Federal Government agencies, including Victoria Police, Department of Justice, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Council also owns a number of facilities where youth-specific programs are currently delivered, including Nexus Youth Centre and Horsham Town Hall.

**Figure 2 Location of community and youth services in Horsham**



**Location of community and youth services in Horsham**

\*Service located off shown map, see key for address

Table 9 provides a more detailed service map of services available in the Horsham.

| <b>Table 9 Services supporting young people in Horsham</b> |   |                          |   |   |   |
|--|---|--------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Service Name</b>  | <b>Type</b>                             | <b>Service Catchment</b> | <b>Description</b>  | <b>Specific youth programs</b>  | <b>Opening hours</b>                              |
| <b>Youth services</b>                                      |   |                          |   |   |   |
| <b>Nexus Youth Service</b>                                 | Youth Service (Generalist)              | Horsham LGA              | Council-owned facility, operated by Grampians Community Health. Promotes education, employment, housing, health safety and recreation opportunities for local young people. | Youth groups including FReeZA committee and Young G; Youth space; Alcohol and other drug services   | -   |
| <b>Headspace</b>   | Youth service (mental health)           | Wimmera Region           | Provides counselling, support and drop in to young people aged 12 to 25 years.  | Youth groups including Rainbow group for LGBTI+ young people, and Reference group.<br><br>Counselling & support relating to issues such as drug and alcohol; relationships mental health; work and study. | M 10 to 6: T 9 to 5:<br>W 10 to 6;<br>T&F 9 to 5. |
| <b>Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN</b>                        | Youth Service (learning and employment) | Wimmera Region           | Brokers relationships to support schools and improve the retention of young people in education.  | Youth mentoring programs.<br><br>Assists schools and employers with work experience, structured workplace learning and school based apprenticeships and traineeships.                                     | M to F:<br>9am–5pm                                |

| <b>Education</b>                                 |  |                          |   |  |                      |
|--|--|--------------------------|---|--|----------------------|
| <b>Service Name</b>                              | <b>Type</b>  | <b>Service Catchment</b> | <b>Description</b>  | <b>Specific youth programs</b>   | <b>Opening hours</b> |
| <b>Federation University</b>                     | Education - TAFE courses and limited Bachelor courses    | Wimmera Region           | Art and design, nursing and computer training. TAFE training conducted in business, further education automotive, electro-technology, community services, individual support, nursing and hairdressing. Bachelor courses in Social Sciences, Business, masters programs and PHD research. | -  | -                    |
| <b>Alternate Pathways - Horsham College</b>      | Education - Secondary School and targeted youth programs | Horsham LGA              | The Alternative Pathways program at Horsham College operates 5 different programs to help students who struggle with mainstream education to find productive outcomes for their lives.  | Young parents program; Satellite VCAL; Connected; Advance; Licensing the Wimmera | -                    |
| <b>Longerenong Agricultural College Victoria</b> | Education (Vocational)                                   | Victoria                 | Offers vocational education in agriculture including shortcourses, apprenticeships and VET in schools   | -  | -                    |
| <b>Horsham College</b>                           | Education – Secondary School                             | Horsham LGA              | Secondary School of approximately 900 students.   | -  | -                    |
| <b>St Brigids</b>                                | Education – Secondary School                             | Horsham LGA              | Secondary School of approximately 385 students.   | -  | -                    |

| Service Name                                 | Type   | Service Catchment | Description   | Specific youth programs   | Opening hours     |
|--|--|-------------------|---|---|-------------------|
| <b>Holy Trinity Lutheran College</b>         | Education – Secondary School   | Horsham LGA       | Secondary School of approximately 479 students.   | -   | -                 |
| <b>Horsham Special School</b>                | Education – Secondary School   | Wimmera Region    | Educational programs for students aged 5-18 years displaying mild; moderate and severe                  | -   | -                 |
| <b>Employment</b>                            |  |                   |   |   |                   |
| <b>AXIS</b>                                  | Employment service   | Horsham LGA       | Offers disability employment, recruitment and supported disability services.                            | Transition to work program  | M to F: 9am – 5pm |
| <b>Skillinvest</b>                           | Employment service   | Wimmera Region    | Offers employment, education and training services.   | Traineeships and schoolbased career information programs.   | M to F: 9am – 5pm |
| <b>Indigenous</b>                            |  |                   |   |   |                   |
| <b>Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative</b> | Community Health Centre – Medical Clinic and Indigenous allied health services | Wimmera Region    | Medical centre delivering health and wellbeing services to the Aboriginal community across the Wimmera. | Youth Justice; Sexual education nurse; healthy lifestyle initiatives aimed at children and families; Aboriginal family-led decision making program, youth groups. | M to F: 9am – 5pm |



| Health   |   |                   |  |  |                      |
|--|---|-------------------|--|--|----------------------|
| Service Name   | Type  | Service Catchment | Description  | Specific youth programs  | Opening hours        |
| <b>The Sexual Assault and Family Violence Centre</b> | Health Service (sexual assault and family violence counselling) | Wimmera Region    | Provides counselling for women, young people, children and men who have experienced sexual assault/family violence and to non-offending parents, partners, family and friends. | No youth-specific programs, but counselling service attends Headspace Horsham each Friday.   | M to F:<br>9am – 5pm |
| <b>Wimmera Health Care Group</b>                     | Health services   | Wimmera Region    | Health promotion and prevention services.  | Mentoring and health services; puberty information evenings; youth events.   | -                    |
| <b>Wimmera Primary Care Partnership</b>              | Health service  | Wimmera Region    | Health and disability services   | Mental health first aid.   | -                    |
| Recreation   |   |                   |  |  |                      |
| <b>Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly</b>              | Sports community organisation                                   | Wimmera Region    | Volunteer based organisation established to support the growth, development and promotion of sport and recreation at the grass roots level.                                    | School holiday program; Access All Abilities; Sports star; annual Club Leadership Program; Sports Health and Wellbeing Program; annual Active Girls brunch | -                    |
| <b>Horsham Arts Council</b>                          | Community performing arts organisation                          | Horsham LGA       | Volunteer based organisation active in producing theatre performances.   | No youth-specific programs, but young people are involved  | -                    |

| General community services                      |                                |                   |  |  |                   |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|-------------------|
| Service Name                                    | Type                           | Service Catchment | Description  | Specific youth programs  | Opening hours     |
| <b>Centre for Participation</b>                 | Community Service (generalist) | Grampians         | Centre for Participation supports local opportunities in community support, volunteering, learning and partnerships.               | Licensing the Wimmera; homework club; language class; VET in schools; pre-accredited learning; community gardening;        | M to F: 9am – 5pm |
| <b>Wimmera Uniting Care</b>                     | Community Service (generalist) | Wimmera Region    | Operates Headspace. Also offers family counselling and support services, disability support services, and housing services (but no | Aim For Independence; Creating Connections; School Focused Youth Service; Youth Outreach                                   | M to F: 9am – 5pm |
| <b>Grampians Community Health</b>               | Community Service (generalist) | Wimmera Region    | Provides services in Aged Care, Disability, Mental Health, Family Violence and Drug/Alcohol Addiction.                             | Social groups for younger adults; aboriginal family violence housing support; intensive case management – youth 18 or over | M to F: 9am – 5pm |
| <b>Victorian Police Horsham</b>                 | Community Service              | Horsham LGA       | Local police department.   | Spirit of sport awards program   | -                 |
| <b>Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub</b> | Community Service              | Horsham LGA       | Provides advice and support to parents of young children.  | No youth-specific program, but available to young parents.   | -                 |

| Service Name                         | Type                           | Service Catchment | Description  | Specific youth programs  | Opening hours  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Horsham Library</b>               | Community Service              | Horsham LGA       | Local library, with free internet access. interlibrary loans, home library service                       |  | M to F:<br>10am - 5:30pm<br><br>Sat:<br>9:30am - 1pm |
| <b>Red Cross</b>                     | Community Service (generalist) | Horsham LGA       | Provides services and works with other services to provide community support, including youths specific. | Youth-specific workshops around mental health, health and wellbeing, drug and alcohol use and abuse. | -  |
| <b>Wimmera Drug Action Taskforce</b> | Community service (consortium) | Wimmera Region    | Information, education and support to reduce the harms caused by alcohol and other drugs                 | Drug education programs for schools, sporting clubs.   | -  |

### 3.4. Public transport

The ability of young people to access services and employment is influenced by their access to public transport.

Community engagement and interviews with stakeholders suggest that a lack of public transport connections within Horsham and to other areas is a significant barrier for young people in accessing services, education and employment.

Table 10 provides an overview of public transport connections in Horsham.

**Table 10 Public transport in Horsham (Source: Public Transport Victoria)**

| Type       | Route                              | Times  |
|------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Bus</b> | Route 1: Horsham via Urquhart St   | M – F: Hourly, 9am–6pm<br>Sat: Three services, 9am–1pm                   |
| <b>Bus</b> | Route 2: Horsham via Dooen Rd      | M – F: Six services, 9am – 5:30pm Sat:<br>Three services,<br>9am-12:30pm |
| <b>Bus</b> | Route 3: Wawunna Rd via Francis St | M – F: Four services, 10am-5pm Sat: Two services,<br>10am-12pm           |

| Type  | Route  | Times   |
|-------|--|---|
| Bus   | Route 4: Horsham via Mardon Dr   | M – F: Five services, 9am-6pm Sat: Three services, 9am-1pm                                      |
| Bus   | Route 5: Horsham via Bennett Rd  | M-F: Six services, 9am-5pm Sat: Three services, 9am-1pm   |
| Bus   | Route 6: Horsham via Stawell Rd  | M – F: Three services, 10am-3pm Sat: Two services, 10am–12pm                                    |
| Bus   | Route 7: Roberts Ave   | M – F: Four services, 12pm-2:15pm Sat: One service  |
| Bus   | Horsham - Birchip via Warracknabeal and Dooen  | We: One service   |
| Bus   | Horsham - Donald via Dooen, Murtoa, Rupanyup and Minyip  | We & Th: One service  |
| Bus   | Horsham – Kaniva via Pimpinio, Dimboola and Nhill  | We: One service   |
| Bus   | Horsham - Naracoorte via Quantong, Natimuk, Mitre, Gymbowen, Goroke, Edenhope, Apsley, and Hynam | M – F: One service  |
| Coach | Adelaide – Melbourne via Horsham, Dimboola and Bendigo   | M-F: One service<br>Weekend: One service  |
| Coach | Nhill to Melbourne via Horsham   | M-F: Four services<br>Weekend: Three services daily   |
| Train | Nhill to Melbourne via Horsham   | Monday and Friday: One service to Melbourne<br>Tuesday and Saturday: One service from Melbourne |

### 3.5. Community facilities

Council owns a number of facilities where youth-specific programs are currently delivered or that are frequented by young people, as outlined in Table 11.

**Table 11 Council facilities where youth-specific programs and services are delivered**

| Facility                                 | Description   | Programs for young people   |
|--|---|---|
| Nexus Youth Centre                       | Youth centre including performance hall, internet & gaming area, kitchen, offices and outdoor recreation area.                              | Yes, operated by Grampians Community Health (See Table 9 for details).                        |
| Horsham Town Hall                        | Provides performance, visual arts and conferencing facilities.  | Programs for young people with intellectual disability and after school and holiday programs. |
| Horsham Aquatic Centre                   | Multi-purpose facility with five swimming pools, a gymnasium, a crèche, a recreation hall for group fitness classes and a community studio. | -   |
| Horsham skate park                       | Rectangular bowl with hips, extensions and BMX wall. Shaded picnic table.   | -   |
| Natimuk skate park                       | Metal street course with quarters flat banks, fun box etc. Shaded seating and pizza oven.   | -   |
| Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub | Includes a kindergarten and co-located maternal and child health services.  | -   |
| Horsham Library                          | Library facility located in town centre.  | -   |

### 3.6. Sports, recreation, arts and culture

Horsham has a large number of recreational groups (including sports clubs and arts/theatre groups) of which young people are members. While these groups do not deliver services, they are often at the heart of communities and serve as important gathering places where young people come together to make friendships and develop new skills, self-esteem, confidence and a sense of purpose and identity. They also create opportunities for young people to bond with their family and carers.

Moreover, it has been suggested in conversations with neighbouring councils that recreational groups can be good partners in delivering programs and events for young people, as they already have access to a network of young people.

**Table 12 Sports clubs in Horsham**

| Location                           | Name  |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Horsham Township / district</b> | Horsham District Football Netball League; Horsham Saints Cricket Club; Horsham Falcons & District Soccer Club; Horsham Panthers Rugby League Club; Horsham Lawn Tennis Club; Horsham Little Athletics Centre; Wimmera District Swimming Association |
| <b>Pimpinio</b>                    | Pimpinio Football Netball Club  |
| <b>Kalkee</b>                      | Kalkee Football & Netball Club  |
| <b>Natimuk</b>                     | Natimuk United Football Netball Club  |
|                                    | Natimuk and district Gymnastics Club  |
| <b>Quantong</b>                    | Noradjuha Quantong Football and Netball Club  |
|                                    | Quantong Cricket Club   |
| <b>Toolondo</b>                    | Noradjuha Toolondo Bullants Cricket Club  |
|                                    | Toolondo Tennis Club  |

| Location | Name                          |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| Laharum  | Laharum Football Netball Club |
|          | Laharum Cricket Club          |
| Jung     | Jung Tigers Cricket Club      |

### 3.7. Benchmarking service delivery in Ballarat, Mildura and Swan Hill

In order to understand how Council's youth engagement and services compare to similar rural cities, a benchmarking exercise was undertaken with the City of Ballarat, Mildura, and Swan Hill. These cities were primarily chosen for comparison based on their proximity to Horsham. Information was gathered through internet search and phone interviews with Council staff.

This benchmarking exercise examines similarities and differences in the youth engagement models and services available for young people of each rural city.

In terms of population size, as shown in Table 13, Ballarat is much larger than Horsham (101,588 compared to 16,792 residents), while Mildura is somewhat larger (30,016) and Swan Hill is smaller (9,684). This impacts on service delivery for young people in terms of pressure on and resources available to Councils and services.

**Table 13 Young people living in Ballarat, Mildura and Swan Hill (Source: Profile.id)**

|                              | #<br>aged 12-17 | #<br>aged 18-24 | #<br>Total population | %     |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Horsham Rural City Council   | 1413            | 1574            | 19,629                | 15.2% |
| The City of Ballarat         | 7,552           | 10,252          | 101,588               | 17.6% |
| Mildura Rural City           | NA              | NA              | 30,016                | NA    |
| Swan Hill Rural City Council | NA              | NA              | 9,684                 | NA    |

**Key differences and similarities between the rural cities with regards to Council's youth engagement models include:**

- Ballarat, Mildura and Swan Hill each have a Youth Strategy or Charter, while HRCC is currently developing a strategy.
- Ballarat, Mildura and Swan Hill have Youth Councils, while HRCC does not.

- Horsham and Swan Hill have dedicated youth centres, while Ballarat has moved away from the youth centre model towards an outreach program model. Mildura does not currently have a youth facility.
- Ballarat has four full-time positions specific to youth development, while Swan Hill has two. Mildura also has youth worker positions (number not provided).

Table 14 (overpage) shows council youth engagement models in Ballarat, Mildura and Swan Hill.

**Table 14 Youth engagement models in Ballarat, Mildura, Swan Hill and Horsham**

|                                     | Council Service Model   | Youth Council  | Youth Strategy                             | Youth Facility |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| <b>Horsham Rural City Council</b>   | Contracts Grampians Community Health to deliver youth services              | -  | TBC  | Nexus          |
| <b>The City of Ballarat</b>         | 4 youth development officers<br>Outreach program based at Ballarat Library. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Youth Development Team</li> <li>▪ Ballarat Youth Council</li> </ul> | Byou Youth Development Framework 2016-2019 | -              |
| <b>Mildura Rural City Council</b>   | Youth Engagement Service department   | Youth Action Committee   | Youth Charter                              | -              |
| <b>Swan Hill Rural City Council</b> | 2 Youth Support Workers   | NOVO Youth Council   | Youth Strategic Plan 2015-2019             | Youth INC      |

**Key differences and similarities between the rural cities with regards to services available to young people include:**

- While Swan Hill has a dedicated Youth Sexual Health Clinic, and Mildura and Ballarat have a sexual health nurse available at least fortnightly, Horsham currently has no sexual and reproductive health service for young people.
- While Mildura and Ballarat have dedicated programs for young people at risk of homelessness, neither Swan Hill or Horsham have dedicated youth homelessness programs or crisis accommodation.

Table 15 shows youth services supporting young people in Ballarat, Mildura and Swan Hill.



**Table 15 Youth Services in Ballarat, Mildura, Swan Hill and Horsham**

|                          | Horsham | Ballarat                         | Mildura                               | Swan Hill | Analysis  |
|--------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| <b>Youth services</b>    | 2       | 3                                | 1                                     | 2         | Each rural city has a LLEN. Horsham and Swan Hill have dedicated Youth centres. Ballarat also has a centre for multicultural youth.   |
| <b>Health</b>            | 1       | 1                                | 1                                     | 1         | Each rural city has a Headspace.  |
| <b>Drugs and Alcohol</b> | 1       | 2                                | 1                                     | 1         | Each rural city primarily provides drug and alcohol services for young people via Headspace. Ballarat also provides services for young people through Uniting Care.   |
| <b>Family violence</b>   | -       | 1                                | -                                     | -         | Berry Street provides family violence services aimed at young people in Ballarat.   |
| <b>Crisis beds</b>       | -       | 1                                | 1                                     | -         | While Mildura and Ballarat have dedicated programs for young people at risk of homelessness, neither Swan Hill or Horsham have dedicated youth homelessness programs or crisis accommodation.                                     |
| <b>Sexual health</b>     | -       | 1*<br>(available one day a week) | 1*<br>(available one day fortnightly) | 1         | While Swan Hill has a dedicated Youth Sexual Health Clinic, and Mildura and Ballarat have a sexual health nurse available at least fortnightly, Horsham currently has no sexual and reproductive health service for young people. |
| <b>Education</b>         | 1       | -                                | 1                                     | -         | Mildura's FLOConnect reengagement centre targets young people aged 12-18 years who have been out of school for 3 months or longer. Horsham's Alternate Pathways offers programs for disengaged young people.                      |

## 4. Comparison with neighbouring Councils

This section provides an audit and comparison of youth service delivery models of neighbouring councils, completed through phone interviews with neighbouring council's staff in April-May 2018.

### 4.1. Youth service model in neighbouring councils

HRCC shares a border with Northern Grampians Council, Yarriambiack Shire Council, Hindmarsh Shire Council, West Wimmera Shire Council, Southern Grampians Council, and Ararat Rural City Council.

Horsham is the largest council area, with the highest number and proportion of young people. Table 16 below shows the youth population (12-24) in each neighbouring Council.

**Table 16 Young people aged 12-24 in neighbouring councils (Source: Profile.id)**

|   | #<br>aged 12-17 | #<br>aged 18-24 | #<br>Total population | %     |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------|
| <b>Horsham Rural City Council</b>       | 1,413           | 1,574           | 19,629                | 15.2% |
| <b>Northern Grampians Council</b>       | 831             | 734             | 11,445                | 13.7% |
| <b>Yarriambiack Shire Council</b>       | 468             | 389             | 6,685                 | 12.8% |
| <b>Hindmarsh Shire Council</b>          | 416             | 353             | 5,729                 | 13.4% |
| <b>West Wimmera Shire Council</b>       | 293             | 225             | 3,910                 | 13.3% |
| <b>Southern Grampians Shire Council</b> | 1,236           | 1,093           | 15,948                | 14.6% |
| <b>Ararat Rural City Council</b>        | NA              | NA              | 11,600                | NA    |

Across the region, Councils engage with young people in a range of different ways. The majority of these councils have a direct service delivery model. As shown in Figure 3 and Table 16, key similarities and differences in the youth service delivery of neighbouring councils include:

- Five out of six neighbouring councils have, or are in the process of renewing, a Youth Strategy or Charter. HRCC is currently developing a Youth strategy.

- Four out of six neighbouring councils have, or are currently recruiting, a youth officer or a community engagement officer with a youth portfolio on staff. HRCC does not have a youth officer on staff, but instead outsources this role to Grampians Community Health.
- Four out of six neighbouring councils have, or are currently implementing, a Youth Council model. HRCC is the only council without a formal youth engagement process.
- HRCC does not have a Youth Council or other formal engagement mechanism. Five out of six neighbouring councils do.
- Three out of six councils, including HRCC have a Youth Award.

Figure 3 overpage shows key similarities and differences in the youth engagement models of neighbouring councils.

**Figure 3 Neighbouring councils service delivery for young people**



**What are neighbouring Council's doing for Young People?**

|   |  |   |                         |   |                    |
|---|--|---|-------------------------|---|--------------------|
|  | <b>Youth Worker</b><br><small>* Youth worker is outsourced to Grampians Community Health</small> |  | <b>Youth engagement</b> |  | <b>Youth Award</b> |
|  | <b>Youth Strategy or Charter</b>   |  | <b>Youth Centre</b>     |   |                    |

Table 17 provides a more detailed overview of neighbouring council youth service delivery models.

| <b>Table 17 Neighbouring council's youth engagement models (Source: Phone interviews with Council staff)</b> |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Council Name</b>  | <b>Youth Service Model</b>                                | <b>Youth Council/ Engagement</b>  | <b>Youth Strategy</b>   | <b>Other Council youth activities</b>   |
| <b>Northern Grampians Council</b>  | Currently recruiting a parttime Youth Officer             | Youth Action Council funded through Engage!<br><br>Council engages primarily through school-based programs.   | Intention to renew outdated Youth Strategy in the near future.                      | Youth Grants Program<br><br>Supports the Western Bulldogs Leadership program<br><br>Currently rolling out a schoolbased program focussing on year 9s, funded through Engage!  |
| <b>Yarriambiack Shire Council</b>  | Has a community engagement officer with a youth portfolio | Youth Action Council attends monthly meetings (attended by a Councillor), also doubles as a FReeZA committee  | Youth Plan 2014-2018 will be renewed soon.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Youth Summit attended by over 300 young people from across the Wimmera region</li> <li>▪ Young Achievers Awards</li> <li>▪ Annual film festival funded through FReeZA</li> <li>▪ Cooperates with HRCC on youth events and programs, including Youth Week skate park event, battle of the bands,</li> </ul> |
| <b>Hindmarsh Shire Council</b>   | Runs youth recreation programs through FreeZa Funding     | Youth Council (HSYC) is made up of 12 young people aged between 12 and 25, funded through Council. As part of the program, HSYC organise various community projects and events. | Youth Strategy 2016   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Youth Awards</li> <li>▪ Various recreation programs run through FReeZA Funding</li> </ul>  |
| <b>West Wimmera Shire Council</b>  | Youth Officer   | Currently implementing a Youth Council model.   | Currently undertaking a Youth Survey to inform the development of a Youth Strategy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Various recreation programs run through FReeZA Funding</li> <li>▪ The Push</li> <li>▪ L2P program</li> <li>▪ Mates Mentoring Program</li> </ul>  |

| Council Name                     | Youth Service Model | Youth Council/ Engagement | Youth Strategy                | Other Council youth activities  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Southern Grampians</b>        | -                   | -                         | -                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Crazy Ideas College</li> <li>▪ L2P program</li> </ul>                            |
| <b>Ararat Rural City Council</b> | -                   | -                         | No, but have a Youth Charter. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LLEN has launched a crowd funding campaigns for a youth hub in Ararat</li> </ul> |

## 5. Best practice in youth service delivery

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This section provides best practice case studies in youth service delivery, youth engagement and multipurpose facilities and co-located services for young people.

### 5.1. Youth service delivery models

Delivering services for young people can be challenging, especially in rural and regional areas. Young people may face all kinds of barriers in accessing services, including limited knowledge of which services are available and how to access them, or they may have to travel great distance to access quality care.

This means that organisations providing services for young people need to be flexible and innovative in the way they locate, promote and deliver services.

Key trends in best practice youth service include a focus on:

- Reaching young people via outreach services, including detached and mobile outreach delivered on an ‘as needed,’ flexible basis to a variety of community locations where young people are, including schools and public places.
- Offering flexible hours that respond to the patterns of young people, including by providing after- hours diversionary activities
- Offering a range of options for accessing services, both in person (including drop-in, outreach and after hours) and online
- Building the capacity of and empowering young people to be actively involved in shaping and delivering services for young people
  - Designing service delivery environments with the needs of young people in mind (including young people of various ages and genders)
- Using technology, including to engage rural/remote families (for example use of social media and/or websites to provide general information), and
- Offering incentives to attend such as transport and food, particularly when targeting vulnerable and at risk young people.

Outlined overpage are a number of examples of current best practice youth service delivery models.

‘The Bus’ – The Central Coast’s regional outreach youth centre <http://www.ryssbus.com.au>

*Winner of the Youth Service of the Year 2017 at the NSW Youth Action Awards*

‘The Bus’ is a regional outreach youth centre – on wheels. Featuring a 16-seat learning centre, back stage and a 2m screen for holding outdoor cinemas, The Bus allows Gosford’s Regional Youth Support Services (RYSS) to deliver

outreach services directly to the doorstep of the community, including information, advocacy and referral on issues as diverse as homelessness, mental health, violence and bullying.

The Bus is steered by a team of 5 Young Leaders, who were skilled up and supported to engage and enlist a BUS 'Crew' of 15 young volunteers (aged 12-25) from across the Central Coast region – via multimedia and youth festivals. These volunteers report back to the team about their local characters, issues and stories, then together, draft a timetable of BUS 'stops' across the Coast; delivering information, entertainment and assistance to young people where they are.

**Figure 4 Gosford's Regional Youth Support Service - 'The Bus'**



Midnight Basketball – positive diversionary activities for young people on a Friday and Saturday night

<https://www.midnightbasketball.org.au/>

Midnight Basketball is a high energy, fun and engaging community-run program aimed at 12-18 year olds that combines the benefits of team sport, education and civic participation to teach life skills and identify steps to education, training, employment and social inclusion.

The program offers dinner, compulsory life skills workshops and tournament basketball games for young people on Friday or Saturday nights, including dinner and, from 7:30pm till midnight, followed by a bus safely home, providing a fun, safe and motivating high expectations environment.



Midnight Basketball offers a positive and constructive diversionary activity away from negative and harmful activities such as crime, violence and drug and alcohol abuse, providing a safe place where young people can have fun, make social connections and build essential life skills.

**Figure 5 Midnight basketball - Darwin representative team**



### Dubbo Regional Council's Youth Week program

<https://www.dailyliberal.com.au/story/4795365/innovation-recognised-in-youth-week-program/>

*Nominated for Most Innovative Youth Week Program, Best Local Youth Week Program and NSW Health Play Safe Sexual Health Project Award at the NSW Local Government Youth Week Awards 2017*

Dubbo's Youth Week continues to be recognised for its innovative programming, having been nominated at the NSW Youth Week Awards six years in a row. In 2017, Council hosted 15 events in Dubbo and Wellington which were organised and run by local youth services in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and Dubbo City Youth Council. All the events are either free or require only a minimal donation or charge.

The Dubbo Youth Council have a direct responsibility for planning Youth Week which is one of the reasons it is so successful, according to Council's Youth Development Officer. "The Youth Council have worked with organisations such as PCYC Wellington, TAFE Western, Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre and many others to develop a varied and

exciting program of events.” “The events build connections among young people and encourages people to participate in positive community events and experiences,” he said.

**Figure 6 Dubbo Youth Week launch**



### Inner City Youth at Risk Initiative, Kings Cross, Sydney

[http://www.seslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/youth\\_health/InnerCity.asp](http://www.seslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/youth_health/InnerCity.asp)

The Inner City Youth at Risk Project (ICYAR) 2005-2014 improved immediate and long-term social, economic and health outcomes for young people in Kings Cross and surrounding areas, through the provision of brokerage and social housing packages for young people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. The Project increased collaboration between existing services for young people, through integrated service models that minimise duplication, promote collaborative ventures and the pooling of resources. The service model was regarded by partner agencies as effective and efficient, and their sustained participation over the life of the project reflects this.

ICYAR’s outreach activities involve sweeps to capture the characteristics and needs of at-risk young people who are present in inner city areas during the sweep period. The sweeps are based on an innovative model, which captures information and allows ICYAR to monitor trends and patterns of need in the community. This model embodies several elements of good practice in outreach and service integration such as:

- meeting young people in their environment and forming trusting relationships
- providing services or opportunities to connect to services, and
- offering a variety of services in different formats.

### ‘Chill out’ outreach youth recreation programs, Brisbane City Council

<https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-safety/community-support/young-people/youth-programs>

Chillout is one of Brisbane City Council’s most popular activity programs for young people and teenagers, offering a huge variety of free or low-cost recreational activities throughout the school holidays.

Activities range from skipping and hula-hooping to skateboarding, water sports and rock climbing for the more adventurous. There is something fun and active for everyone of all abilities, including parents and carers. Many activities are funded by the Australian Government and Queensland Government. **Good and innovative practice in service delivery to vulnerable and disadvantaged families and children**

<https://aifs.gov.au/cfca/publications/good-and-innovative-practice-service-delivery-vulnerable-and-disadvantaged/analysis>

“Good and innovative practice in service delivery to vulnerable and disadvantaged families and children” outlines a broad range of strategies employed by FSP funded organisations to improve the accessibility of services for vulnerable families and children. A number of best practice strategies include:

- Tailoring activities to fulfil needs of target group/s, in particular via the provision of services not otherwise available from existing services (i.e. preventing service duplication)
- Thoughtful setup of service delivery environments, such as providing soft entry points, non- threatening, indirect and informal service environments and adopting ‘no wrong door’ model of delivery.
- Meeting people where they are most comfortable via outreach services, including actively attending places where young people will be (ie parks and shopping centres).
- Promotion strategies that focus on effectiveness rather than quantity
- Incentives to attend such as transport and food, and
- Use of technology, including to engage rural/remote families (for example use of social media and/or websites to provide general information).

### YACVic Local Government Youth Services Forums

<https://www.yacvic.org.au/assets/Uploads/Final-Summary-of-LGA-Youth-Services-Forums-2014-15.pdf>

Between October 2014 and June 2015, YACVic held a series of 10 forums across metropolitan, rural and regional Victoria. These events brought together Local Government Area (LGA) youth services coordinators, LGA youth workers and other LGA team members to share good practice, network and discuss their priorities and concerns.

Some common suggestions to ensure stronger outcomes for young people at the LGA level included:

- Educating councillors, council staff and the community to improve understanding about young people's strengths, priorities and needs, to articulate the role and value of youth services, and to foster youth engagement across all of council.
- Embedding formal, systemic support for youth service delivery in local government.
- Funding LGA youth services to meet the need in their communities, and to develop innovative ways to address young people's concerns. They should be part of a wrap-around, 'no wrong door' model of service delivery, where universal services link to mandated and specialist services like Youth Justice. Young people should have a range of options for engaging, both in person (including drop-in, outreach and after hours) and online. LGA youth services teams also need more expert support to deal with emerging issues in their community, including family violence and cultural competence.

## 5.2. Youth engagement models

Best practice Youth Friendly City frameworks identify youth engagement as a central activity in creating youth friendly cities. In a youth friendly city, young people are active agents; their voices and opinions are taken into consideration and influence decision-making processes.

Key trends in youth engagement include:

- Providing ongoing mechanisms for and building the capacity of young people to be directly involved in decision-making
- Giving young people an opportunity to help shape and deliver places that meet their needs, including by taking a co-design approach to placemaking
- Engaging with young people in the places where they gather (i.e. parks, shopping centres) ▪ Using technology to engage with young people, including social media channels, and ▪ Offering incentives to participate in engagement activities.

### **Embedding young people in City of Parramatta Council's planning and engagement processes**

*Winner of the National Award for Planning Excellence 2017, Planning Institute of Australia*

The City of Parramatta is taking steps to embed engagement with young people in all Council planning activities. In 2016, Cred supported Council with two youth engagement projects, the Paint Your Parra forum, and a Needs of Young People in the CBD study.

The recommendations made are continuing to be integrated across all Council departments and included the first youth-led annual Parramatta Youth Forum which provides an ongoing mechanism to build community capacity in planning, to engage with young people across the IAP2 spectrum, and to inform major planning, design and policy decisions of council.

The approach used for the Paint Your Parra event planning and delivery was to work collaboratively and iteratively with Council, a team of local young people and Western Sydney Youth Action. As the inaugural forum, the project took

an iterative process including feedback after event team meetings, feedback from forum participants, and an in-depth evaluation of the full process to understand opportunities to deliver increasingly successful forums in future years.

Central to the approach was building the capacity of local young people to design and deliver the event including through training and practice in facilitation, photography, public speaking, videography and event promotions, while also learning from them about the best approaches to engaging with the City's young population, and how best to design and deliver future events. For example at the event team's suggestion the project delivered some "quick wins" through a participatory budgeting "Shark Tank" activity. 50 young people attended the forum, with very positive evaluations from participants, teachers, and the event team.

**Figure 7 The Paint Your Parra event team**



### **Tweed Shire Council's Youth Strategy and Youth Council**

<https://www.yoursaytweed.com.au/17426/documents/32548>

*NSW Award for Excellence 2013, Planning Institute of Australia*

An integral part of the development of the Tweed Shire Council's Youth Strategy was engagement with local young people from across Tweed Shire through the Speak Out Youth Engagement Campaign, which won the PIA NSW Award for Excellence and included project postcards sent to all local high schools, intercept surveys, vox pops, co- design workshops with schools, a website, Facebook page and Twitter feeds. Engagement was completed with young people, youth services and parents.

An initiative of the Strategy, the Tweed Shire Youth Council is comprised of 20 young people aged 15 to 18 years, representing each of the ten public and private high schools in Tweed Shire. The Youth Council meet on a monthly basis to express views on youth-oriented matters, while also providing opportunities for the development of communication, confidence and leadership skills.

Council provides administrative support to the Youth Council, which is facilitated by the Community Development Officer – Families and Youth. Council liaises with participating schools to ensure safe transportation is available for students to and from Youth Council meetings.

**Figure 8 Members of the Tweed Shire Youth Council attending Community Access before Council's Planning Committee Meeting**



### Growing up Boulder - Engaging children and adolescents in local decisionmaking (USA)

Growing up Boulder (GUB) empowers Boulder's children and young people by providing opportunities for inclusion, influence and deliberation on local issues that affect their lives. GUB emphasises the inclusion of young people from a diversity of income levels and ethnicities, while concurrently recognising that all children and adolescents deserve a voice in community decision-making.

GUB's iterative process, developed into a model, helps the team design consistent interventions or curricula across projects. For example, this youth engagement approach was taken to the redevelopment of a town centre. It is comprised of three phases:

- Establish young people as experts – A project begins by framing a problem for a group of young people: how should the city redesign the heart of downtown Boulder? What should a new city park look like? Why do these issues matter to young people and to the city? To answer questions like these, GUB begins with the assumption

that young people are experts in their community. They know best what it is like to be a child or adolescent today living and experiencing the city.

- Increase young people's competence – Next, GUB increases children's competence by expanding their knowledge in the topic area of study. For example, if the city wants to design a nature play area, what the best examples of nature play in the world and why? How do students feel about these precedents? Through slideshows, videos, field trips, independent research and conversations with experts, young people learn about more similar problems and solutions around the world
- Synthesize and share – The last step is for students to synthesize what they have learned from other with their own ideas then share their recommendations with key decision-makers. Students debate their ideas with peers, refine their thinking then present their projects to a wider audience.

**Figure 9 Young people brainstorming on City Planning as part of Growing up Boulder**



Lets make a park - co-designing places with young people

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Bf4vY-unx2k/?taken-by=letsmakeapark> Giving young people an opportunity to shape and deliver places that meet their needs is an important step to more inclusive cities and helps build useful skills.

Let's Make A Park (Melbourne) began when two young university students decided they'd had enough of the lack of public spaces for young people. Strathmore Railway Station is a particularly problematic area, with high numbers of students using the area and nowhere to gather.

Pulling together friends, local high school students, and young people working in the surrounding shops, they've transformed an overgrown grassy patch into a beautiful green space that encourages young passersby to water the plants, hang out with their friends, and take five in the shade.

Figure 10 “Let’s make a park” work in progress



## Exploring high quality engagement with young people

In April 2018, Brimbank Council’s Youth Citizens Jury explored ideas to improve the connection between Brimbank Council and local young people. Young people presented ideas to each other for discussion and debate, resulting in four ideas:

- “Firstly, a YEP (Youth Empowerment Participation) Strategy where young people could be empowered by Council to make certain specific decisions on its behalf. The young people on the day suggested such decisions could be around facilities or services for young people, youth strategies or policies and places to feel safe and part of the community
- The second idea discussed was around reverse mentorship, where young people could serve as mentors to Council Officers or Councillors on an ongoing basis, advising staff and Council on issues affecting young people
- A third idea raised was the 'kidference' format, where conferences, summits or events are held and run by young people, for young people with 'adult's, Council staff or Councillors in attendance to listen and hear what is said and what young people want. Engage 2 Act Youth held its first Kidference in January in partnership with Sunbury Community Health with great success. It is at this event where young people determined their rules of engagement, a terrific outcome of this event. Another kidference is being held at Ivanhoe Grammar School in Mernda on Friday 8 June in partnership with the City of Whittlesea, another wonderful opportunity for young people to be heard and influence the community in which they live, and



- Finally, the idea of a POW (Presence of Wisdom) was proposed, where young people are invited to Council Forums or meetings to deliver a short sharp (prepared) address on an issue they're passionate about. A POW is an opportunity for Council to hear wisdom and a personal perspective on a community issue by young impacted by the issue - a useful tool to receive information which packs a proverbial and powerful political punch." (Source: <https://www.engage2act.org>)

### 5.3. Multi-purpose facilities and co-located services

#### Multi-purpose and multi-functional spaces for diverse groups and services

Single purpose or standalone facilities are defined as being designed and built for one particular purpose or function, and to be used by one specific target group or service only. Single purpose facilities can be costly to maintain and often underutilised and under-activated. Current best practice in community facility design and provision is to provide a range of different spaces and functions within the one building. This is particularly the case in relation to target group specific spaces where intergenerational spaces rather than age-specific spaces are the current trend. Where in the past spaces for target groups would have been provided in standalone buildings, the benefits of co-locating these spaces onsite with a range of other services and activities has been recognised. The benefits of multipurpose facilities are that they:

- Provide a variety of spaces suitable for a range of activities and user groups of different ages and all abilities,
- Promote social interaction between different users,
- Are designed for a range of life cycle groups likely to use the facility now and in the future (e.g. nappy change areas, children's play areas, youth friendly spaces, features for older people with limited mobility),
- Encourage partnerships between organisations and programs. Joint programs are also more easily facilitated by staff/volunteers as they are in close proximity to each other,
- Allow more flexible management of changing needs,
- Are more sustainable in terms of ongoing maintenance, energy use, and community involvement in management and delivery of programs,
- Are more cost effective in terms of the Council's investment, and
- Provide an improved delivery of, and access to, services and programs.

#### Co-locate services in one facility

Co-locating services within one facility involves shared or joint use of facilities and often the integrated delivery of some services. Co-location enables:

- Pooling of resources to provide better facilities
- The concentration of compatible services and facilities to create a community focal point
- Improved access and safety for users who can access a range of services at a single location
- More integrated and innovative delivery of services, and

- More efficient use of land, for instance through shared, rather than separate, parking areas.

Issues to consider in co-locating facilities include:

- Arrangements for financing, ownership, management, governance and maintenance of shared spaces will impact on the success of the centre and its capacity to respond to changing demands, particularly where multiple agencies are involved
- Ensuring appropriate and ongoing community access to shared facilities has been found to be an issue in some co-located facilities, and
- Extensive negotiations and preparation and documentation of agreements are required between colocating partners to ensure the benefits of co-location are realised in practice.

### Co-locate facilities as part of a community hub

The opportunities and advantages of co-locating community facilities with related facilities and activities such as schools, libraries, shopping centres, recreation centres, childcare facilities and community health centres should be considered in the planning and design of future community facilities. The benefit of co-locating community facilities within community hubs is that it supports the integrated, efficient use of facilities, builds social networks, encourages service users to use other facilities and services co-located on site and reduces the number of motorised trips made to enhance sustainability. Community facilities and community hubs can include a range of community, commercial, and retail functions.

### Waterloo Youth Family Community Centre + Weave services, City of Sydney

Weave Youth and Family Services (City of Sydney, Waterloo) have recently had their office block (a former toilet block in the middle of a park) renovated into a multipurpose space connected to a skate park and youth plaza. The design of the space means that it blends in with its surroundings, provide surveillance of the skate park and plaza and is an aesthetically pleasing building and plaza. A formerly vandalised area and un-activated, the space is now highly used by local young people and families.



## Cromer Community Centre, Warringah Council

Cromer Community Centre is a large multi-purpose centre with a sports hall, lounge/loft room with access to outdoors area and kitchen, craft room and gallery. The centre is suitable for small and large meetings, playgroups and social functions. The Centre has access for people with disabilities. The Cromer Community Centre was renovated and given a makeover by the community through a 'Community Blitz.' The design is colourful, homely, and welcoming.



## Newlands Community Centre, NZ

The Newlands Community Centre is a community centre for the people in the outer residential suburb of Newlands, Wellington. The site is at the back of a small suburban shopping centre and immediately adjacent a tavern. The Newlands Community Centre includes: a toy library, cyber library, drop-in space, meeting rooms, performance area, and food bank. The drop-in lounge is open for the community to share a cup of tea or coffee, read the newspaper, or just relax and chat with others. The centre is regularly used by many community groups, including sewing and fitness classes, the local New Players Theatre Group, toastmasters, walking group, mah-jong, craft and knitting groups and play groups.



## Boyd Community Centre, Melbourne

Boyd is Southbank's first integrated community service space. The multi-use facility features the Southbank Library, Kere Kere cafe, family services, community meeting rooms and Creative Spaces artist studios. There's a council self-

service kiosk where people can renew their pet registration, pay rates and infringement notices, accounts and invoices. The Boyd Centre also has free Wi-Fi access, a history walk and space to relax. The design has preserved the original heritage character of the building, improved its sustainability and created new spaces to accommodate a range of community services and exciting new possibilities for the Southbank community.



## 6. Planning and policy context

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This sections summarises the national, State, and local strategies and policies that influence outcomes for young people in Horsham. The strategies are not only youth-focused, but also touch on other areas of life including sexual health, alcohol and drug consumption and family violence.

Where possible, the HRCC Youth Strategy should align with these strategic directions as well as identifying local gaps that exist in existing plans and policies, particularly considering the challenges associated with growing up in a regional area.

Having a clear understanding of the existing layers of youth plans and strategies in place will help Council to tackle some of the challenges young people in Horsham face and be well-equipped to provide and advocate for services that young people need.

### 6.1. Key findings:

- Nationally, there is a strategic focus on mental health and wellbeing.
- At the State Government level, there is a focus on youth engagement, education and health and wellbeing. The state government offers range of youth-specific grants and initiatives including:
  - Rural and regional local government youth engagement program - Engage!
  - FReeZA
  - Be heard! community radio program
  - Ready Set Go! program
  - Advance school programs, and
  - VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge grants.

Locally, HRCC plans recognise that young people face health and wellbeing challenges, particularly when it comes to drugs and alcohol use and abuse, teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease and mental health. Council's YouthC.A.N. program seeks to influence norms around parental supply of alcohol to teenagers.

### 6.2. National strategic context

The Australian Government provides Headspace centres. There is no office of youth.

#### Headspace centres

Headspace offers support for those aged 12 to 25 years old on a range of issues including depression, anxiety, stress, alcohol and drug use, sexuality, sexual health, personal or family relationship issues and bullying. Headspace is funded by the Australian Government (through the Department of Health and Ageing) under the Youth Mental Health Initiative. The Commonwealth Government funding allows for existence of the headspace site, including rent,

infrastructure and some salaried staff. The model relies on accessing other Federally-funded programs, to enable the fulfilment of co-located GPs and allied health professionals for example who are self funded through their billings against the MBS.

### 6.3. State Government strategic context

The Victorian Government is committed to engaging young people in decision making. Key policy and funding initiatives are summarised below and include:

- Youth Policy, 2016
- Rural and regional local government youth engagement program ▪ Engage!
- FReeZA
- Be heard! community radio program
- Ready Set Go! program
- Advance school programs
- Victoria's Ice Action Plan, 2015
- VicHealth Young people, health and wellbeing strategy (2017-2019) ▪ VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge grants, and ▪ Alcohol Culture Change Initiative 2016-2019.

Key relevant findings of these strategic documents include:

- A strong focus on empowering young people to input into government services, policies and programs through innovative youth engagement programs.
- The State supports programs and services for young people in regional and rural areas, including through funding initiatives relating to engagement, alcohol and drug use and abuse, health and wellbeing, work readiness, recreation and youth week.

**Youth Policy: Building Stronger Youth Engagement in Victoria (2016)** <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-327069514/pdf>

The Victorian Government's Youth Policy 2016 was informed by the views expressed by Young Victorians, through an extensive consultation process in 2015 – 16. The purpose of the Youth Policy is to create mechanisms, provide guidance and support initiatives to empower young people to input into government services, policies and programs that are important to them.

The policy includes three action areas for youth engagement (as shown in **Error! Reference source not found.1**):

- Amplifying the voice of Victorian youth in government priority setting to more systematically capture youth views on broad government actions and priorities
- Increasing youth participation in youth-focused policy, program and service design, and
- Empowering individual young people in their own care.

**Figure 11 Victoria Youth Policy (2016): Action areas**

| <b>Vision</b>   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| An inclusive society where all young people are empowered to voice their ideas and concerns, are listened to and are recognised for their valuable contributions to Victoria      |  |   |
| <b>Purpose</b>  |  |   |
| To create mechanisms, provide guidance and support initiatives to empower young people to input into government services, policies and programs that are important to them        |  |   |
| <b>Action Areas</b>   |  |   |
| <p><b>Amplifying the voice of Victorian youth in government priority setting</b></p> <p>To more systematically capture youth views on broad government actions and priorities</p> | <p><b>Increasing youth participation in youth-focused policy, program and service design</b></p> <p>To actively involve young people in the design of youth-focused policy, program and service design</p> | <p><b>Empowering individual young people in their own care</b></p> <p>By creating the expectation and building the capability of government and service providers to actively involve young people in decision-making processes that directly affect them</p> |
| <b>Flagship Projects</b>  |  |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual survey of young people in Victoria</li> <li>• Redevelopment of the Youth Central website</li> </ul>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Summit</li> <li>• Victorian Youth Congress</li> <li>• Social policy design labs</li> <li>• Capability building</li> </ul>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth barometer</li> <li>• Cross government partnerships to strengthen the voice of young people from diverse backgrounds</li> <li>• Symposium on co-design</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Success Factors</b>  |  |   |
| More young people having a say about issues that affect them  | More young people actively and directly influencing the design of government policies, programs and services   | More young people involved in decisions about the services they receive, ensuring their goals and circumstances are reflected   |
| <b>Outcomes</b>   |  |   |
| An outcomes framework including measures and indicators will be developed in consultation with young people   |  |   |

**Rural and regional local government youth engagement program** <https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/rural-and-regional-local-government-youth-engagement>

The Victorian Government recognises that young people from rural and regional Victoria, particularly young people who have not been well represented in the community, face additional challenges to get involved and be heard in local government and community decision making.

Under the rural and regional LGA youth engagement program, grants of up to \$30,000 are provided to support rural and regional local governments to develop youth engagement strategies, activities and solutions. It will fund rural and regional communities to develop innovative strategies, activities and solutions that engage young people who have not been well represented in their community and that strengthen their involvement in local decision making and change making in the community.

**Engage!**

<https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/engage>

Engage! is part of the Victorian Government's vision that every young person should have the opportunities and support they need to reach their full potential, including those who face disadvantage.

Engage! 2018–20 offers funding of between \$90,000 to \$150,000 over three years to local governments and community organisations to work with young people to develop and deliver activities that engage young people in their local community.

Engage! funds organisations that support young Victorians aged 12–25 years of age (especially diverse groups of young people) to:

- have a greater connection to and active participation in their local community
- build their skills and knowledge, and pathways to employment, training and education, and
- improve their health and wellbeing and social connections to friends, family and the community.

**FReeZA**

<https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/freeza>

The Victorian Government provides annual funding of \$2.4 million for FReeZA program, with local governments and community organisations receiving grants to deliver up to 15 events over three years, supported by a FReeZA committee made up of young people aged 12 to 25. Each year, these local FReeZA committees plan and stage over 400 events that are attended by more than 130,000 young people across Victoria.

**Be heard! community radio program**

The Victorian Government has committed \$200,000 over four years for rural and regional community radio stations to increase the participation of young people, particularly in production and broadcasting.



The Be heard! grant program will provide funding up to \$5,000 to community radio stations in rural and regional Victoria to increase the participation of young people aged 12-25 in producing and broadcasting radio programs, enabling skills and career pathways to develop.

**Victorian Youth Week** <https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorian-youth-week>

National youth week is a week-long celebration of young people held annually throughout Australia. The Victorian Government provides Victorian Youth Week grants to fund events that celebrate and recognise the contribution of young people to their community. Eligible organisations can apply for grants of up to \$2,000.

**Advance school programs** <https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/advance-schools-program>

Advance is a school-based program for young people to volunteer in their community. It is a partnership between the department, Victorian Government secondary schools and community organisations.

Through Advance, young people, schools and community organisations develop networks of relationships while achieving shared goals. The program also encourages communities to support and recognise young people's participation and positive role in society.

Advance gives young people a chance to do something great in their community based on their choice. Young people are able to plan projects, meet new people, build skills and make a difference in their community.

### **Ready Set Go! program**

The Ready Set Go! Program was commissioned by the Victorian Government to improve the work readiness of students in Years 7-10 in rural and remote Victorian government schools. The program offers a range of career activities that aim to build students' knowledge about the world of work and support their career aspirations and transitions.

**YACVic HEY Grants** <https://www.yacvic.org.au/get-involved/hey-grants/>

YACVic's HEY Grants support organisations (both specialist SSASGD/LGBTIQ+ and mainstream youth organisations) to undertake mental health promotion and community engagement activities which focus on SSASGD/LGBTIQ+ young people, aged between 14 and 25 years.

The HEY Grants are intended to assist in the development of new and innovative approaches to address and support the mental health of SSASGD/LGBTIQ+ young people. They will also support the implementation of tried and tested models in communities where existing support for SSASGD/LGBTIQ+ young people is limited.

**YACVic Rural Activators Program** <https://www.yacvic.org.au/yacvic-rural/activators-program/>

The Activators program empowers young people aged 18-25 who live, study, or work in rural or regional Victoria to collaborate with YACVic to accelerate young people's advocacy. Activators will receive support, training, resources, professional development and networking opportunities along with a \$1,000 honorarium and potentially up to \$1,000 in seed funding for their project.

### **VicHealth Young people, health and wellbeing strategy (2017-2019)**

<https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/vichealth-youth-strategy>

VicHealth's Young people, health and wellbeing strategy outlines a vision for a Victoria in which every young person (aged 12-25) is able to reach their full potential for mental and physical health and wellbeing. The Strategy focuses on five strategic imperatives: promoting healthy eating; encouraging regular physical activity; preventing tobacco use; preventing harm from alcohol; and promoting mental wellbeing.

**VicHealth Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge grants** <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/vichealth-youth-strategy>

VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge grants will provide funding for projects which promote community and young people's (12–25 years old) resilience, social connection and mental wellbeing. It provides funding at two tiers:

- Seed grants, up to \$50,000 for a period of 12 months.
- Horizon grants, focusing on the further development and implementation of projects funded in the first 2016 Bright Futures Challenge.

**Alcohol Culture Change Initiative 2016-2019** <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/programs-and-projects/alcohol-culture-change-initiative>

VicHealth's Alcohol Culture Change initiative is an evidence-based approach to change cultures of risky drinking within subpopulations in Victoria. HRRC's YouthC.A.N. project receives funding as part of this initiative.

**Ice Action Plan (2015)** <http://ice.vic.gov.au/>

The Ice Action Plan was released on 5 March 2015. The Plan delivers a package of \$45.5 million in new funding to reduce the supply, demand and harm of the drug ice. It has a focus on supporting young people who are unemployed or at risk of dropping out of school, and on awareness education for young people including through innovative use of technology.

As part of the Plan, the Victorian Government committed \$500,000 over four years for grants to support grassroots Community Ice Action Groups in regional, rural and urban growth areas to address ice related concerns at the local level.

## 6.4. HRCC strategic context

Horsham Rural City Council has a number of strategic plans and policies that are relevant to young people, including:

- Horsham Rural City Council Plan 2014 - 2018
- Horsham Rural City Council Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Horsham Rural City Council Disability Action Plan 2013 – 2016
- Horsham Rural City Council Community Engagement Policy, and
- Youth C.A.N. (Changing Alcohol Norms).

Key findings of these local strategic documents as relevant to the development of a youth strategy are a focus on:

- Attracting and retaining young people to the municipality
- Protecting, improving and promoting the health and wellbeing of young people, particularly in the areas of mental health, preventing family violence, improving sexual and reproductive health and strengthening education and economic development
- Reducing barriers for people with disabilities created by attitudes, practices and structures
- Changing alcohol norms around parental supply of alcohol to teenagers, and
- Engaging with and considering the needs and interests of all people, including young people.

### Horsham Rural City Council Plan 2014 - 2018

[https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/document-resources/community-services/have-yoursay/hrcc\\_council\\_plan\\_revised\\_dec\\_2014.pdf](https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/document-resources/community-services/have-yoursay/hrcc_council_plan_revised_dec_2014.pdf)

The Council Plan outlines Council's key strategic objectives and strategic directions as they work to build a better municipality by delivering better services, facilities and opportunities for the community. It includes a guiding principle around attracting and retaining young people to the municipality.

### Horsham Rural City Council Health and Wellbeing Plan <https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/Community-Services/Public-Health/Public-Health-and-Wellbeing-Plan>

The purpose of the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan is to protect, improve and promote public health and wellbeing within Horsham Rural City. In doing so, the plan identifies health and wellbeing issues and needs of the Horsham community, based on a range of data sources.

The Plan recognises a range of health and wellbeing issues affecting young people in the Horsham area, including high rates of teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, family violence and alcohol and drug use and abuse.

The Plan includes a number of health and wellbeing priorities for the entire Horsham community, including young people:

- Increasing healthy eating and active living
- Reducing harmful alcohol and drug use
- Improving mental health
- Preventing family violence

- Improving sexual and reproductive health
- Improving early years outcomes, and
- Strengthening education and economic development.

### **Horsham Rural City Council Disability Action Plan 2013 – 2016**

[https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/document-resources/community-services/have-yoursay/hrcc\\_disability\\_access\\_and\\_action\\_plan\\_approved\\_version\\_2013-2016\\_.pdf](https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/document-resources/community-services/have-yoursay/hrcc_disability_access_and_action_plan_approved_version_2013-2016_.pdf)

HRCC's Disability Access and Action Plan identifies goals and actions to reduce barriers created by attitudes, practices and structures, to ensure that all people can participate equally in the life of the Horsham community. The Plan explains that a person has a disability if they report that they have a limitation, restriction or impairment which has lasted, or is likely to last for at least six months and restricts everyday activities. It outlines the following goals:

- Goal One – Social Connection
- Goal Two – Information on Services
- Goal Three – Education and Awareness
- Goal Four – Employment
- Goal Five – Built Environment
- Goal Six – Transport, and
- Goal Seven – Housing and Living at Home.

### **Horsham Rural City Council Community Engagement Policy**

[https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/document-resources/our-council/policies-ampprocedures/community\\_engagement\\_policy.pdf](https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/document-resources/our-council/policies-ampprocedures/community_engagement_policy.pdf)

The purpose of the HRCC Community Engagement Policy is to ensure that Council effectively engages with the community when required and when the community expects to be engaged, and secondly to outline expectations for Council's engagement practice.

The Policy outlines that this will be achieved by:

- Ensuring that Council effectively engages with the community in relation to the Council Plan, budget and other strategic documents
- Providing a guide to the kinds of engagement that would produce better outcomes for Council's projects and operations and ensure that this engagement meets the expectations of the community
- Ensuring that the community is effectively engaged by Council and that barriers to participation are minimised
- Ensuring that the appropriate level of engagement is used by Council, and
- Providing a consistent approach to community engagement across the organisation through the use of the engagement toolkit that will provide tools for planning, conducting, evaluating, and recording of engagement.

The Policy outlines that benefits of successful engagement can include:

- Community input can improve the quality of policy being developed, making it more practical and relevant
- Community input can ensure services are delivered in a more effective and efficient way for that community
- Early notice of emerging issues puts Council in a better position to deal with those issues in a proactive way, instead of reacting as anger and conflict arise
- Good engagement enhances the reputation of the Council as open, accountable and willing to listen, and
- Engagement can foster a sense of belonging to community and considerable benefits from working together on behalf of the community.

While the Policy does not explicitly mention young people, it includes principles around facilitating process for a diverse range of perspectives to be heard.

### **Youth C.A.N. (Changing Alcohol Norms) - Horsham Rural City Council and Federation University**

<https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/Community-Services/Current-Projects/Youth-C.A.N-Changing-AlcoholNorms>

YouthC.A.N. is an evidence-based approach to changing cultures of risky drinking within the Victorian population and is a partnership between Horsham Rural City Council and Federation University Youth C.A.N works with teenagers (aged 12-18 years) and their parents in the rural area of Horsham.

This project seeks to influence norms around parental supply of alcohol to teenagers. The project includes a parent engagement program 'Its OK to say No' which includes Year 10 students writing and delivering a play about alcohol culture in their community, a parent support network, a community awareness social marketing campaign and a range of binge drinking deterrent activities for teenagers (community engagement).

## Appendix 1 – Community profile tables

This appendix contains tables as referenced in Chapter 2: Horsham's Young People.

**Table 1: Horsham area youth population forecasts**

| Horsham area  | 2011   |      | 2016   |      | 2021   |      | 2026   |      | 2031   |      | Change 2011 and 2031 |      |
|---------------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|----------------------|------|
|               | Number | %    | Number | %    | Number | %    | Number | %    | Number | %    | Number               | %    |
| 10 – 14       | 1,276  | 6.5  | 1,230  | 6.2  | 1,293  | 6.3  | 1,299  | 6.1  | 1,370  | 6.3  | +94                  | +7.4 |
| 15 - 19       | 1,376  | 7.0  | 1,261  | 6.3  | 1,239  | 6.0  | 1,301  | 6.2  | 1,312  | 6.0  | -64                  | -4.7 |
| 20 - 24       | 1,172  | 6.0  | 1,291  | 6.5  | 1,222  | 6.0  | 1,219  | 5.8  | 1,285  | 5.9  | +113                 | +9.6 |
| <b>Total:</b> | 3,824  | 19.5 | 3,782  | 19.0 | 3,754  | 18.3 | 3,819  | 18.1 | 3,967  | 18.2 | +143                 | +3.7 |

**Table 2 Car ownership in Horsham Area**

|                                 | 2016         |      |                |                   | 2011         |      |                |                   |
|---------------------------------|--------------|------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|------|----------------|-------------------|
|                                 | Horsham Area |      | Wimmera Region | Regional Victoria | Horsham Area |      | Wimmera Region | Regional Victoria |
|                                 | Number       | %    | %              | %                 | Number       | %    | %              | %                 |
| <b>No motor vehicles</b>        | 488          | 6.0  | 5.4            | 5.1               | 589          | 7.4  | 6.6            | 6.4               |
| <b>1 motor vehicle</b>          | 2,590        | 32.0 | 30.8           | 31.1              | 2,599        | 32.9 | 31.8           | 33.0              |
| <b>2 motor vehicles</b>         | 2,81         | 34.8 | 33.5           | 34.9              | 2,808        | 35.5 | 34.6           | 36.1              |
| <b>3 or more motor vehicles</b> | 1,609        | 19.9 | 22.3           | 19.2              | 1,504        | 19.0 | 21.5           | 18.4              |
| <b>Not stated</b>               | 582          | 7.2  | 8.0            | 9.6               | 408          | 5.2  | 5.5            | 6.1               |

|                         |       |       |       |  |       |       |       |       |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Total households</b> | 8,086 | 100.0 | 100.0 |  | 7,908 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|

**Table 3 Languages other than English spoken at home, 2016, 2011**

|                         | 2016         |     |                   |                      | 2011         |     |                   |                      | Change<br>Horsham<br>Area |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
|                         | Horsham Area |     | Wimmera<br>Region | Regional<br>Victoria | Horsham Area |     | Wimmera<br>Region | Regional<br>Victoria |                           |
| Language<br>spoken      | Number       | %   | %                 | %                    | Number       | %   | %                 | %                    | 2011 –<br>2016            |
| <b>Italian</b>          | 85           | 0.4 | 0.3               | 0.7                  | 90           | 0.5 | 0.3               | 0.9                  | -5                        |
| <b>Malayalam</b>        | 78           | 0.4 | 0.4               | 0.1                  | 36           | 0.2 | 0.2               | 0.1                  | +42                       |
| <b>Filipino/Tagalog</b> | 71           | 0.4 | 0.3               | 0.3                  | 38           | 0.2 | 0.2               | 0.2                  | +33                       |
| <b>Mandarin</b>         | 49           | 0.2 | 0.2               | 0.5                  | 15           | 0.1 | 0.1               | 0.2                  | +34                       |
| <b>Karen</b>            | 41           | 0.2 | 0.5               | 0.1                  | 14           | 0.1 | 0.2               | 0.1                  | +27                       |
| <b>Turkish</b>          | 27           | 0.2 | 0.1               | 0.1                  | 23           | 0.1 | 0.1               | 0.1                  | +4                        |
| <b>German</b>           | 26           | 0.1 | 0.2               | 0.2                  | 17           | 0.1 | 0.2               | 0.3                  | +9                        |
| <b>Hindi</b>            | 23           | 0.1 | 0.1               | 0.1                  | 18           | 0.1 | 0.1               | 0.1                  | +5                        |
| <b>Cantonese</b>        | 22           | 0.1 | 0.1               | 0.1                  | 17           | 0.1 | 0.1               | 0.1                  | +5                        |
| <b>Spanish</b>          | 19           | 0.1 | 0.1               | 0.1                  | 10           | 0.1 | 0.0               | 0.1                  | +9                        |

**Table 4 Population born overseas (2016-2011)**

|  | 2016         |                   |                      | 2011         |                   |                      | Change<br>Horsham<br>Area |
|--|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Horsham Area | Wimmera<br>Region | Regional<br>Victoria | Horsham Area | Wimmera<br>Region | Regional<br>Victoria |                           |

| Birthplace (other than Aus) | 2011   |     |     |     | 2016   |     |     |     | 2011 – 2016 |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|--------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
|                             | Number | %   | %   | %   | Number | %   | %   | %   |             |
| United Kingdom              | 296    | 1.5 | 1.7 | 3.2 | 304    | 1.6 | 1.8 | 3.5 | -8          |
| India                       | 115    | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 82     | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | +33         |
| Philippines                 | 108    | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 49     | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | +59         |
| New Zealand                 | 93     | 0.5 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 105    | 0.5 | 0.6 | 1.0 | -12         |
| Italy                       | 64     | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 75     | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.6 | -11         |
| Netherlands                 | 43     | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 74     | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.6 | -31         |
| China                       | 35     | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 20     | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | +15         |
| South Africa                | 31     | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 37     | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -6          |
| Myanmar                     | 25     | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 13     | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | +12         |
| United States of America    | 24     | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 18     | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | +6          |

Table 5 Need for assistance in Horsham Rural City compared to Wimmera and Regional Victoria

|                            | Horsham area |      | Wimmera Region |      | Regional Victoria |      |
|----------------------------|--------------|------|----------------|------|-------------------|------|
|                            | Number       | %    | Number         | %    | Number            | %    |
| Persons needing assistance | 1,175        | 6.0  | 1,175          | 6.7  | 1,175             | 6.0  |
| Not needing assistance     | 17,258       | 87.9 | 17,258         | 86.5 | 17,258            | 85.9 |
| Not stated                 | 1,205        | 6.1  | 1,205          | 6.9  | 1,205             | 8.0  |
| Total Population           | 19,638       | 100  | 19,638         | 100  | 19,638            | 100  |

Table 6 Household income quartiles

|  | 2016 | 2011 |
|--|------|------|
|  |      |      |



|   | Horsham Area |       | Wimmera Region | Regional Victoria | Horsham Area |       | Wimmera Region | Regional Victoria |
|---|--------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|
|   | Number       | %     | %              | %                 | Number       | %     | %              | %                 |
| <b>Birthplace (other than Aus)</b>                  |              |       |                |                   |              |       |                |                   |
| <b>Lowest group (\$0 to \$740 in 2016)</b>          | 2,225        | 31.8  | 35.4           | 31.9              | 1,967        | 30.2  | 34.5           | 31.1              |
| <b>Medium lowest (\$741 to \$1,416 in 2016)</b>     | 2,129        | 30.5  | 30.5           | 29.0              | 1,832        | 28.2  | 27.8           | 28.2              |
| <b>Medium highest (\$1,417 to \$12,394 in 2016)</b> | 1,665        | 23.8  | 21.7           | 23.0              | 1,739        | 26.7  | 24.7           | 24.7              |
| <b>Highest group (\$2,395 and over in 2016)</b>     | 969          | 13.9  | 12.4           | 16.1              | 965          | 14.8  | 13.0           | 16.0              |
| <b>Total households</b>                             | 6,990        | 100.0 | 100.0          | 100.0             | 6,505        | 100.0 | 100.0          | 100.0             |

**Table 7 Industry of employment for 15 to 25 year olds living within Horsham**

| Industry                                   | Aged 15 – 17 |      | Aged 18 – 24 |     | Aged 25 |     |
|--|--------------|------|--------------|-----|---------|-----|
|  | Number       | %    | Number       | %   | Number  | %   |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing          | 10           | 1.40 | 53           | 3.4 | 14      | 5.9 |
| Mining                                     | 0            | -    | 0            | -   | 3       | 1.3 |
| Manufacturing                              | 9            | 1.3  | 42           | 2.7 | 6       | 2.5 |
| Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 0            | -    | 14           | 0.9 | 5       | 2.1 |
| Construction                               | 10           | 1.4  | 144          | 9.1 | 19      | 7.9 |
| Wholesale Trade                            | 0            | -    | 37           | 2.3 | 3       | 1.3 |

|   |                     |            |                     |              |                |              |
|---|---------------------|------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Retail Trade                                    | 87                  | 12.2       | 190                 | 12.1         | 24             | 10.0         |
| Accommodation and Food Services                 | 129                 | 18.0       | 156                 | 9.9          | 13             | 5.4          |
| Transport, Postal and Warehousing               | 0                   | -          | 13                  | 0.8          | 6              | 2.5          |
| Information Media and Telecommunications        | 5                   | 0.7        | 21                  | 1.3          | 3              | 1.3          |
| Financial and Insurance Services                | 0                   | -          | 15                  | 1.0          | 0              | -            |
| Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services         | 0                   | -          | 10                  | 0.6          | 0              | -            |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Services | 0                   | -          | 25                  | 1.6          | 6              | 2.5          |
| Administrative and Support Services             | 0                   | -          | 17                  | 1.1          | 4              | 1.7          |
| Public Administration and Safety                | 0                   | -          | 45                  | 2.9          | 3              | 1.3          |
| Education and Training                          | 3                   | 0.4        | 29                  | 1.8          | 26             | 10.9         |
| Health Care and Social Assistance               | 17                  | 2.4        | 147                 | 9.3          | 29             | 12.1         |
|   | <b>Aged 15 – 17</b> |            | <b>Aged 18 – 24</b> |              | <b>Aged 25</b> |              |
| <b>Industry</b>                                 | Number              | %          | Number              | %            | Number         | %            |
| Arts and Recreation Services                    | 11                  | 1.5        | 21                  | 1.3          | 3              | 1.3          |
| Other Services                                  | 9                   | 1.3        | 59                  | 3.7          | 18             | 7.5          |
| Inadequately described                          | 7                   | 1.0        | 32                  | 2.0          | 4              | 1.7          |
| Not stated                                      | 3                   | 0.4        | 13                  | 0.8          | 0              | -            |
| Not applicable                                  | 397                 | 55.5       | 494                 | 31.3         | 47             | 19.7         |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>715</b>          | <b>100</b> | <b>1,576</b>        | <b>100.0</b> | <b>239</b>     | <b>100.0</b> |

**Table 8 Occupation of employment of young people in Horsham aged 15 - 25**

| Occupation                             | Aged 15 – 17 |              | Aged 18 – 24 |              | Aged 25    |              |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
|  | Number       | %            | Number       | %            | Number     | %            |
| Managers                               | 4            | 0.6          | 45           | 2.9          | 11         | 4.6          |
| Professionals                          | 0            | -            | 115          | 7.3          | 52         | 21.8         |
| Technicians and Trades Workers         | 19           | 2.7          | 262          | 16.6         | 30         | 12.6         |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | 53           | 7.4          | 143          | 9.1          | 20         | 8.4          |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers    | 0            | -            | 92           | 5.8          | 15         | 6.3          |
| Sales Workers                          | 123          | 17.2         | 195          | 12.4         | 23         | 9.6          |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers        | 0            | -            | 26           | 1.6          | 11         | 4.6          |
| Labourers                              | 105          | 14.7         | 161          | 10.2         | 31         | 13.0         |
| Inadequately described                 | 0            | -            | 4            | 0.3          | 0          | -            |
| Not stated                             | 3            | 0.4          | 12           | 0.8          | 0          | -            |
| Not applicable                         | 397          | 55.5         | 494          | 31.3         | 47         | 19.7         |
|  | Aged 15 – 17 |              | Aged 18 – 24 |              | Aged 25    |              |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>715</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>1,576</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>239</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

**Table 9 Family incidents recorded by police region and local government area, July 2012 to June 2017 (Source: Victoria Police Law Enforcement Assistance Program, Crime Statistics Agency)**

| LGA            | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>Horsham</b> | 341     | 450     | 535     | 569     | 494     |



# DRAFT HORSHAM YOUTH STRATEGY

JUNE 2018

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## Acknowledgement of Country

The Horsham Rural City Council acknowledges the five Traditional Owner groups of this land; the Wotjobaluk, Wergaia, Jupagalk, Jaadwa and Jadawadjali people.

We recognise the important and ongoing place that all Indigenous people hold in our community.

We pay our respects to the Elders, both past and present, and commit to working together in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect for the benefit of the broader community and future generations.

## Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in another format, please contact reception at the Civic Centre Municipal Office on telephone (03) 5382 9777 or email [council@hrcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@hrcc.vic.gov.au).

If you require an interpreter service, please contact the Translating and Interpreter Service (TIS National) on 131 450 and ask them to contact Horsham Rural City Council Reception on telephone (03) 5382 9777. Our business hours are 8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

## Thank you

This Strategy has been prepared by Cred Consulting and Horsham Rural City Council.

The Strategy was developed through engagement with local young people, community services and schools.

Horsham Rural City Council and Cred Consulting would like to thank all local young people, local high schools, community service providers, parents and carers, and community members who contributed their time and insights into the development of this Youth Strategy. The Project Control Group and Council staff who have contributed to the development of this Strategy are also acknowledged.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



I am proud to present the Draft Horsham Rural City Council Youth Strategy.

This important document contains Council's strategic directions for the delivery of contemporary youth services that meet the needs of our diverse regional city population.

Young people are our future. Listening and acting on what they have to say is crucial to the success of this strategy and making Horsham municipality a more youth-friendly place to live, work, study and play. Our young people have told us they are proud to live in Horsham municipality. We need to foster this sense of pride in our community.

Some of the issues identified are difficult, such as concerns around alcohol and drug abuse and use, bullying, mental and physical health and high rates of teenage pregnancy, but there are also many positives we can build on together. There is the Wimmera River, open spaces and a strong sense of community and feeling safe.

There will be changes. Changes in the way we deliver Council services, changes in how we engage with young people and changes to our advocacy platform. These changes are necessary for Horsham municipality to continue to grow and evolve as a vibrant, inclusive and youth-friendly community.

Thank you to the young people, parents, carers, services, schools, Council staff and my fellow Councillors, who provided valuable insight and knowledge into the development of the Youth Strategy.

On behalf of the Horsham Rural City Council, we look forward to working with you to implement this important strategy in our community.

Cr Pam Clarke

*Mayor, Horsham Rural City Council*

# INTRODUCTION

## WHAT IS A YOUTH STRATEGY AND WHY HAVE ONE?

Young people aged 10 to 25 years are an important asset to our community, making up around 19% of our population. The Horsham Youth Strategy is Horsham Rural City Council's (Council's) plan to empower and engage young people in Horsham municipality over the next 10 years and provides the strategic directions for the delivery of contemporary youth services that meet the needs of a diverse regional city population. It outlines a vision for Council to work alongside services, schools, young people and the community and to guide Council in engaging and empowering young people in decision making.

## HOW THE STRATEGY WAS DEVELOPED

This strategy was developed through engagement and collaboration with local young people, Council staff, services, schools, parents and carers, and the community. A Project Control Group with representatives from Council, Council staff, and local services coordinated the process.

Background research included:

- Horsham Rural City Council youth profile and demographics
- Review of national, state and Council plans and policies relating to young people
- Review of Council's current youth services delivery and comparison with neighbouring councils
- Audit and mapping of current services that are available to young people in Horsham municipality, and comparison with other Victorian councils, and
- Review of best practice youth service delivery and youth engagement.



Participants at the workshop with young people

## CALL TO ACTION

This strategy is a high level, 10 year document developed with four objectives:

- Provide Council with a service delivery map of the current services that are available to young people in Horsham and surrounds
- Identify opportunities for young people to be empowered to make decisions on service delivery that suits their needs
- Increase meaningful engagement opportunities for young people with Council, and
- Provide Council with contemporary and future facing models for youth service delivery that reflects the needs of a diverse regional city population. These models must take into consideration equity and access.

The strategy is also responsive to the emerging priorities of our young people. Community engagement highlighted two key priorities as important concerns for young people and the community and a call to action for Council and services. These are:

- Alcohol and other drug use and abuse, and
- Bullying.

## HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL MUNICIPALITY

This strategy applies to the whole of the Horsham Rural City Council municipality, including Horsham Township and rural areas.

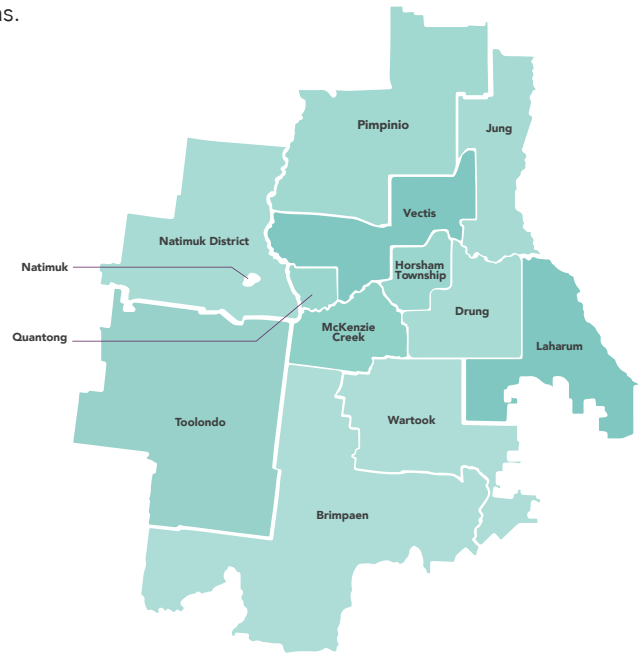


Figure 1 - Horsham Rural City Council municipality



Horsham Rural City Council's rural and urban areas



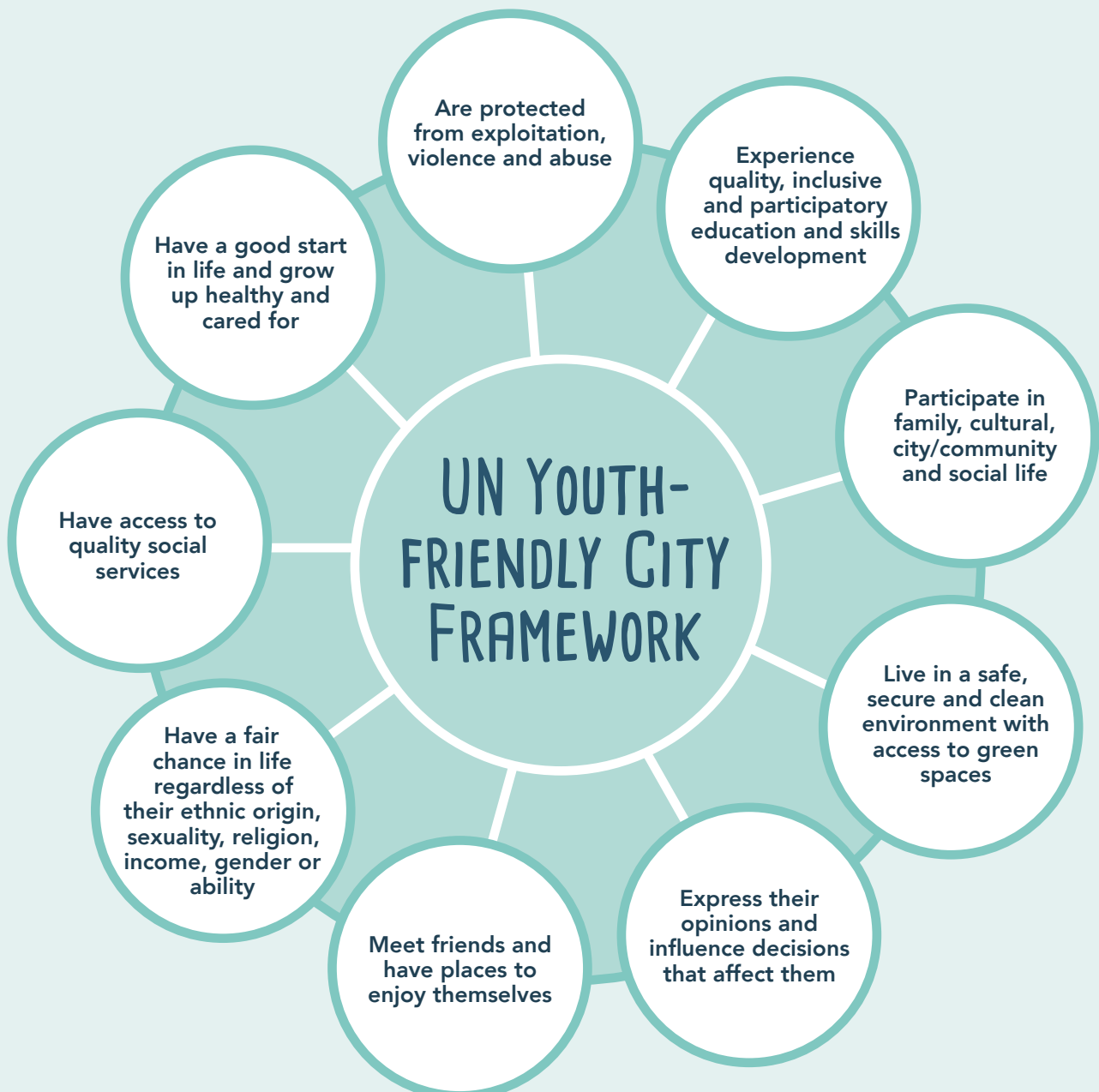
## YOUTH-FRIENDLY CITIES

This strategy is based on a rights-based, youth-friendly city framework.

Youth-friendly cities are committed to improving the lives of young people by realising their rights as articulated in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In practice, a youth-friendly city is a city in which the voices, needs, priorities and rights of young people are an integral part of public policies, programs and decisions. It is a city where young people:

Youth-friendly city frameworks identify engagement with young people as a central activity in creating youth-friendly cities. Where young people are active agents and their voices and opinions influence decision making processes.



# BACKGROUND

## GOVERNMENT FOCUS AREAS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Australian and Victorian Government have key policy and funding initiatives that influence outcomes for young people in Horsham.

Nationally, there is a focus on mental health through the headspace centres.

At the State Government level there is a focus on:

- Youth engagement, education, and health and wellbeing
- Empowering young people to input into government services, policies and programs through innovative youth engagement programs, and
- Programs and services for young people in regional and rural areas, including through funding initiatives relating to engagement, crime prevention, alcohol and other drug use and abuse, health and wellbeing, work readiness, recreation and youth week.

Council has existing community and strategic planning that influence outcomes for young people, including:

- Attracting and retaining young people in the municipality through economic development activities
- Engaging with and considering the needs and interests of all people in decision making, including young people, and
- Protecting, improving and promoting the health and wellbeing of young people, particularly in the areas of mental health, preventing family violence, improving sexual and reproductive health and strengthening education and economic development.

## WHAT DOES COUNCIL DO NOW?

Across all its departments, Council delivers (either directly or indirectly) services and programs, facilities, infrastructure and advocacy that support outcomes for young people. Council is also an employer of young people, and provides work experience and volunteering opportunities.

- Infrastructure includes bridges, bike paths, streets and street furniture, CCTV and lighting, and free WiFi in the town centre.
- Council's advocacy work includes work around homelessness, telecommunications infrastructure improvements, transport, domestic violence and alcohol and other drugs.
- Facilities include sports and recreation facilities, skate parks, pools, libraries, parks, Horsham Town Hall, and playgrounds.
- Services and programs include maternal health support, programming at Horsham Town Hall, arts programs, homework clubs and learner driver programs.

Council's Community Services department also has a specific role in delivering services for young people including:

- Council's Youth C.A.N. program which seeks to influence norms around parental supply of alcohol to teenagers, and
- Under the "Nexus" brand, Council owns and maintains a youth centre building and contracts Grampians Community Health to deliver generalist youth services for Horsham's young people. These services include youth groups (FReeZA and Young G), recreational events, art programs, youth workshops and hospitality training, volunteering opportunities, and traineeships.

Figure 2 compares Council's youth service model with neighbouring councils.

# WHAT ARE NEIGHBOURING COUNCILS DOING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?



Legend

- 

**Youth Worker**  
\* Youth worker is outsourced to Grampians Community Health
- 

**Youth engagement**
- 

**Youth Award**
- 

**Youth Strategy or Charter**
- 

**Youth Centre**

Figure 2 - Neighbouring councils' engagement with young people

# YOUNG PEOPLE IN HORSHAM

## HOW MANY YOUNG PEOPLE LIVE IN HORSHAM MUNICIPALITY?

There are 3,725 young people aged 10 to 25 years living in Horsham municipality (or 18.9% of Horsham municipality's population). This includes:

- 3,231 young people aged 12 to 25 years, and
- 494 people in the transition age group, aged 10 to 11 years.

## DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT

Horsham municipality's young people are a diverse group, with many different interests, backgrounds, lifestyles, plans and needs. According to 2016 census data:

- 30% of Horsham municipality's young people aged 12 to 24 live in rural towns and areas
- 27% of Horsham municipality's young people aged 12 to 24 are volunteers, higher than the Victorian average
- Young people make up a large part of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community: 27% of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are young people aged 12 to 25
- Some young people live with disability, with at least 3% of young people aged 10 to 25 needing assistance with core activities
- There are increasing numbers of young people from culturally diverse backgrounds and young people who speak a language other than English at home, and
- Some young people identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Intersex (Youth Survey 2018).



# WHERE DO YOUNG PEOPLE LIVE?

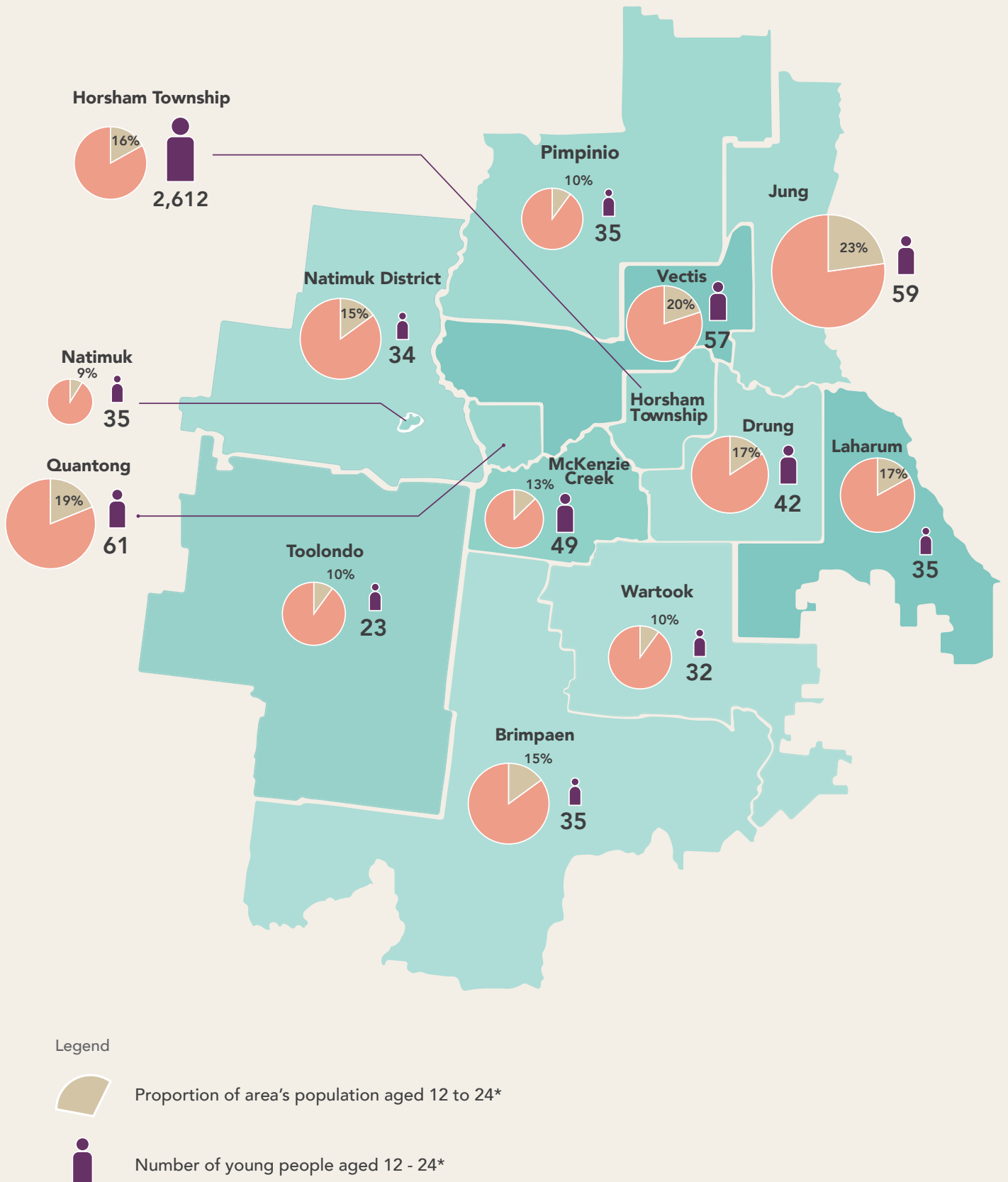


Figure 3 - Distribution of young people in the Horsham area

\*Population distribution data is only available for the 12 to 17 and 18 to 24 year old age groups.

## A SPECTRUM OF INTERESTS AND PRIORITIES

Young people across the 10 to 25 year age group have a spectrum of interests and priorities across life stages from primary school to young adulthood. They have changing needs and aspirations, and experience different levels of access to resources and services. Recognising and responding to these varying needs is key in developing appropriate and meaningful community engagement and services for Horsham municipality's young people.

TABLE 2 - SPECTRUM OF INTERESTS AND PRIORITIES

| AGE GROUP | LIFE STAGE                           | POPULATION (2016 CENSUS) | INTERESTS AND PRIORITIES   |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 10-11     | Primary education / Transition       | 494 people               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This age group is straddling childhood and adolescence. Friendships are starting to become more important and complex, but peer pressure may also be stronger. There is a focus on the transition to secondary school.</li> <li>Key priorities for the Youth Strategy are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bullying</li> <li>Alcohol and other drug use and abuse</li> <li>Education</li> <li>Youth-friendly public places and spaces, and</li> <li>Feeling safe in public places.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In this age group, people find out information through Instagram, school, parents and carers, Snapchat and Facebook.</li> </ul>  |
| 12-17     | Secondary education                  | 1,413 people             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young people this age are experiencing increasing independence from parents, and exploring their identity as a young adult. Some young people in this age group will be learning to drive and starting their first relationships.</li> <li>After age 15, young people may be leaving organised extra-curricular activities such as sport.</li> <li>Young people may be starting casual work, with 44% of young people in Horsham municipality aged 15 to 17 working.</li> <li>Secondary school is a focus, with 1,224 secondary school students in Horsham municipality.</li> <li>Top priorities for the Youth Strategy are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alcohol and other drug use and abuse</li> <li>Bullying</li> <li>Mental, physical and sexual health</li> <li>Things for young people to do, and</li> <li>Youth-friendly places and spaces.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Young people this age group want to find out information through Facebook, school, Instagram, Snapchat, and the local paper: The Weekly Advertiser.</li> </ul> |
| 18-25     | Tertiary education and young workers | 1,818 people             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Career paths are a priority, with 70% of young people 18-25 working.</li> <li>Tertiary education is a focus, with 551 TAFE or university students in Horsham municipality.</li> <li>Census data shows many young people this age are moving to Ballarat, Geelong and Melbourne– this reflects general trends in Australia where rural areas lose young people to cities with more tertiary education and employment opportunities.</li> <li>Top priorities for the Youth Strategy are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alcohol and other drug use and abuse</li> <li>Things for young people to do</li> <li>Employment</li> <li>Bullying, and</li> <li>Mental, physical and sexual health.</li> </ul> </li> <li>People find out information through Facebook, Instagram, school, Snapchat and local and community groups.</li> </ul>   |

## HORSHAM'S YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE MANY STRENGTHS AND ASSETS

Local services, schools, Councillors, Council staff, community members and young people identified the strengths and assets that young people contribute to the Horsham Rural City Council community.

- Young people are students, studying at local primary and high schools, VCAL, Longerenong College and Federation University.
- Young people are workers. Many local young people work casually while at school, and most work part time or full time when they leave school. They work in retail, food services, health care and social assistance; as well as in family businesses and farms.
- Young people are highly engaged in their community. More young people are volunteers in Horsham municipality than the Victorian average. Young people contribute their time and talents to creative and performing arts organisations and events.
- Young people are highly involved in sports and recreation and are leaders in local clubs and organisations, many going on to play at an elite level.
- Young people bring creativity, vibrancy and new perspectives to the community. They are optimistic and open-minded.
- Young people make up a large proportion of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Horsham municipality.
- Young people are resilient through adversity. They are adaptable to change and support each other. Young people are welcoming and accepting of diversity and change.

## BUT THEY ALSO FACE SOME CHALLENGES

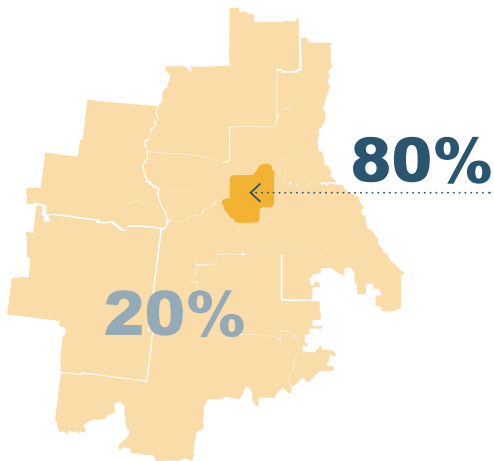
While Horsham municipality's young people have many strengths, they also face a number of challenges:

- Some areas of Horsham municipality have concentrations of disadvantage, in particular parts of Horsham North affecting young people across all age groups 10 to 25 years.
- There are high rates of teenage pregnancy. Horsham municipality has the third highest teenage birth rate in Victoria.
- Horsham municipality has high rates of sexually transmitted infections, particularly among young people aged 15 to 24 years.
- Horsham municipality has the third highest rate of bullying in Victoria. This is particularly an issue for young people aged 10 to 17 years.
- While young people said that they find Horsham municipality a safe place to live, some young people, particularly young women, identified feeling safer in public places and at home as an important priority.
- Young people in Horsham municipality are much more likely to witness or be a victim of domestic violence, with family violence incidents occurring at twice the rate of Regional Victoria.
- There are high rates of young offenders in Horsham municipality. Youth crime is linked to disengagement from school, mental health issues, experiencing violence or abuse, low income levels and poor family support networks.
- Some young people have unstable living situations, and may be homeless, couch surfing or living in an unsafe situation. In particular, there are no crisis accommodation beds for young people under 18.
- There are limited local and regional public transport options. Young people without access to a car face significant transport barriers which can affect work and employment opportunities.
- Some young people live in households without broadband internet connections, which can limit their access to education, employment, social connections and digital services.
- There are limited career paths and tertiary education options available for young people in Horsham municipality. Many young people aged 18 to 24 leave for Ballarat, Geelong and Melbourne seeking education and employment opportunities.
- While there are services for young people in Horsham, many are not open after hours or on weekends, or in locations that are ideal for young people.
- While young people are valued by the community, some young people such as LGBTQI young people and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds face judgement and negative perceptions.

# HOW WE ENGAGED

## WHO PARTICIPATED?

Community engagement for the Youth Strategy took place between April and May 2018.



80% of participants live in Horsham and 20% live in surrounding areas (including Haven, Natimuk, Quantong and Toolondo).

325

Over 325 young people, community members, services, Council staff and Councillors contributed to the conversation.



&



The two most popular methods of information delivery were **face to face conversations in public places** and sponsored **Facebook posts**.



The highest number of participants were aged between **12 and 17 years**.



Participants at the workshop with young people



## HOW DID THEY PARTICIPATE?

Community members helped shape the Youth Strategy in various ways.



**280**

280 people did the **online survey**  
(200 young people and 80 community members)

**100**

100 people spoke to us at **pop ups** and **intercept surveys**



14 **services** participated in **interviews**



**264**

264 people visited the **project website**



**21**

21 **services** did the **services survey**



**26**

26 people attended the **youth workshop**



**7**

7 **Councillors** participated in **interviews**

**25**



25 **Council staff** attended a **workshop**



**#Horshamyouth** - 33 photos and 3 videos were posted on Instagram



**20**

20 young people participated in **focus groups**



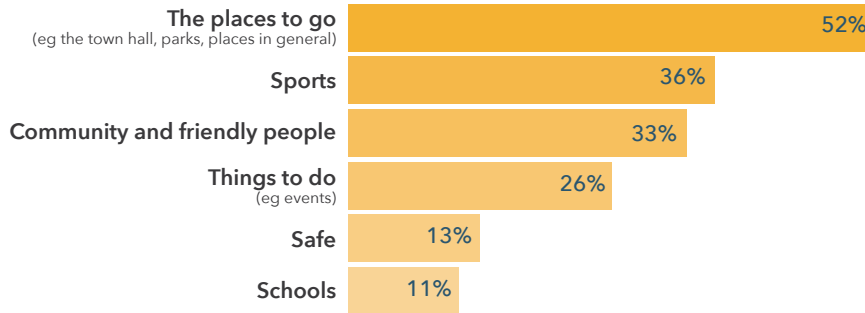
**16**

16 **services** attended the **services workshop**

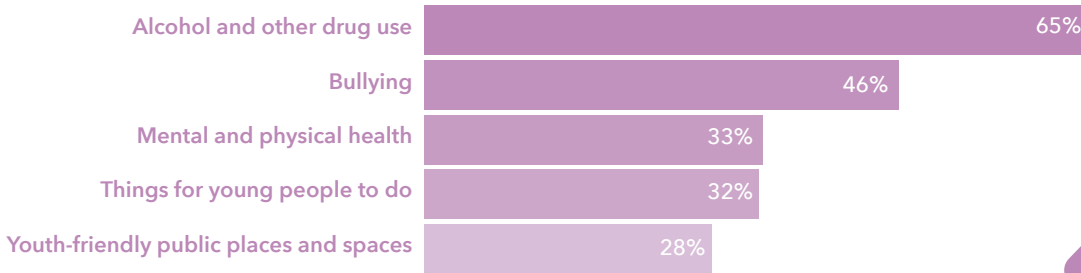
# KEY FINDINGS

These are the top priorities for the Youth Strategy as identified by young people in the online survey.

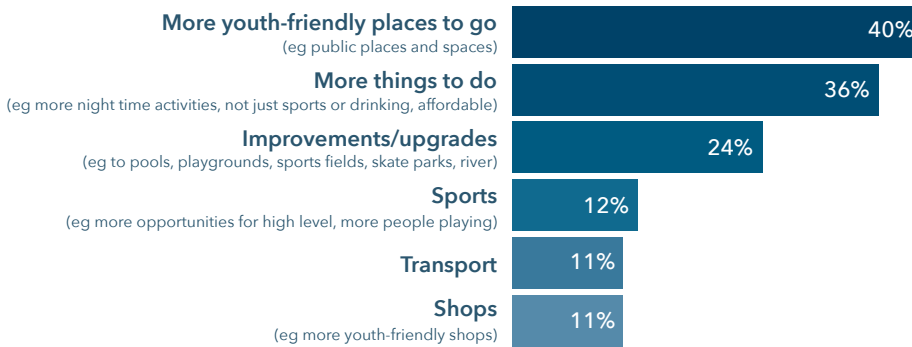
## WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT HORSHAM



## TOP 5 PRIORITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HORSHAM



## WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD CHANGE ABOUT HORSHAM



## WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE HANG OUT



## HOW YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO BE ENGAGED





Participants at the workshop with young people

## WHAT SERVICES SAID

21 services participated in the development of the Youth Strategy through surveys, interviews, the Project Control Group and a services workshop.

Priority areas for the Youth Strategy, identified by services across engagement types, were:

- Improving engagement with young people, and inclusive engagement
- Alcohol and other drug use and abuse; changing the drinking culture
- Mental health
- Things to do, and safe public places for young people to go
- Improving transport connections both within and out of the area
- Providing better employment and education opportunities to retain young people in the area
- Domestic violence
- Homelessness, and
- Bullying and building resilience.

Services identified a need for improved collaboration to deliver coordinated outcomes for young people. The main service gaps and opportunities identified by services included:

- Outreach service delivery including through online channels (eg skype, social media, websites)
- Local and regional transport services
- Sexual and reproductive health services
- Crisis beds for young people under 18, and
- Programs, services and activities for young people including out of hours programs.

Services identified improved engagement with young people as a priority and identified that future youth engagement models for Council could include a Youth Forum or Youth Council, or integrating consultation with young people in Council's existing strategic planning. Priorities for engagement were that it is inclusive, accessible and representative of all young people, that it includes outreach engagement 'on the streets,' and that there is accountability from Council to young people. Young people should also be involved in all of Council's engagement with the community including other committees, strategic planning and consultation.

## HOW THIS STRATEGY WILL WORK

This Strategy will guide how Council works with young people, services, schools and the community to support better outcomes for young people in Horsham.

The Strategy is responsive to the emerging priorities of young people and the community as they change over the next ten years.

Council's roles in delivering the Strategy include:

- Direct service delivery (providing infrastructure, facilities, programs and services directly)
- Facilitator (coordinating collaboration between partners and the community to deliver on outcomes)
- Funder (funding programs, facilities and places)
- Planner (planning for better outcomes), and
- Advocate (advocating to other levels of government and business).



Above: Intercept surveys at the River  
Below: Youth Week Skate park event

# THE STRATEGY

## VISION:



**Horsham municipality will be a youth-friendly rural city, with engaged and empowered young people who have access to the services and opportunities they need for a healthy, safe and happy life.**



## OBJECTIVES:

### OBJECTIVE 1.

Address service gaps as identified through service mapping of current services available to young people in Horsham municipality and surrounds.

### OBJECTIVE 2.

Identify opportunities for young people to be empowered to make decisions on service delivery that suits their needs and increase meaningful engagement opportunities for young people with Council.

### OBJECTIVE 3.

Identify and develop opportunities for youth-friendly places in Horsham municipality.

### OBJECTIVE 4.

Provide Council with contemporary and future facing models for youth service delivery that reflect the needs of a diverse regional city population and take into consideration equity and access.

# OBJECTIVE 1.

## ADDRESS SERVICE GAPS AS IDENTIFIED THROUGH SERVICE MAPPING OF CURRENT SERVICES AVAILABLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN HORSHAM MUNICIPALITY AND SURROUNDS.

Youth-friendly cities are places where young people can be healthy and cared for, have access to quality social services, education and skills development, and a fair chance in life regardless of their background.

While young people in Horsham have many strengths, community engagement and background research identified a number of challenges facing young people and emerging priorities for the Youth Strategy to address.

Service mapping of current services available to young people in Horsham and surrounds, and comparison to neighbouring and similar councils, also identified some service gaps. These emerging priorities and gaps will change over time as Horsham municipality's community and young people change.

| STRATEGY |   | AGE GROUP |          |          |
|----------|---|-----------|----------|----------|
|          |   | 10 TO 12  | 12 TO 17 | 18 TO 25 |
| 1.1      | Maintain a comprehensive map of services available to young people in Horsham municipality and surrounds and promote to young people online and in hard copy at services and schools. Monitor ongoing and changing service gaps over time. A current services map is provided at Appendix 1.  | X         | X        | X        |
| 1.2      | Address identified service gaps through advocacy and partnership including as identified in strategies 1.3 to 1.9.  | X         | X        | X        |
| 1.3      | Advocate for a local sexual health service specific to young people, emphasising ease of access and confidentiality, and including providing condom vending machines in public bathrooms.   |           | X        | X        |
| 1.4      | Advocate for increased provision of higher education programs in Horsham municipality, including additional courses at Federation University.   |           |          | X        |
| 1.5      | Continue to advocate for a more frequent timetable of train services to/from Melbourne and Adelaide.  |           | X        | X        |
| 1.6      | As part of Council's advocacy program, continue to advocate for improved broadband and telecommunications services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support young people who live in households without broadband connections and in rural areas</li> <li>To enable services to deliver digital outreach services (eg skype consultations), and</li> <li>To enable people to access study and work opportunities such as online courses.</li> </ul> |           | X        | X        |
| 1.7      | Advocate for crisis housing beds for young people under 18 years old in Horsham municipality.   |           | X        |          |
| 1.8      | Continue economic development actions to promote Horsham municipality as a great place to live and work.  |           |          | X        |
| 1.9      | Continue to offer employment, volunteering opportunities, mentoring, traineeships and apprenticeships to young people at Council including in partnership with local services.  |           | X        | X        |

## OBJECTIVE 2.

### IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE EMPOWERED TO MAKE DECISIONS ON SERVICE DELIVERY THAT SUITS THEIR NEEDS AND INCREASE MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH COUNCIL.

Young people are experts in their own lives, and care about their communities. They bring creativity, optimism and new ideas. In a youth-friendly city, young people are active agents; their voices and opinions influence decision making processes. Involving young people in decision making is important from a social justice perspective, and to create effective policy, programs and places. The Victorian Government and Council have a focus on engaging with and considering the needs and interests of all people in decision making, including young people.

In community engagement for this Strategy, young people and services wanted to see more involvement of young people in Council and community decision making. Young people and services want to see engagement that is ongoing, provides leadership opportunities, is inclusive, accessible, and representative of all young people, and includes outreach activities.

Community engagement should recognise that young people are a diverse group including different genders, sexualities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, people with disability, young parents, workers, students, low income young people and young people living in rural areas.

Best practice models of youth engagement include ongoing formal engagement such as youth councils; working with young people throughout a project in a co-design process; and empowering young people to make decisions. It is important that models include accountability from Council to listen and respond to young people's input.

| STRATEGY |   | AGE GROUP |          |          |
|----------|---|-----------|----------|----------|
|          |   | 10 TO 12  | 12 TO 17 | 18 TO 25 |
| 2.1      | <p>Establish a representative group of young people to respond to and advocate for issues relevant to young people, and support Council's engagement with young people including outreach and social media engagement. The Terms of Reference for the group could include that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is made up of young people aged 12 to 25, who reflect the diversity of young people in Horsham municipality</li> <li>Meets on a regular basis, with a Councillor present</li> <li>Has a focus on outreach and digital engagement, to represent all young people in Horsham municipality</li> <li>Delivers grassroots projects to deliver on emerging priorities, and advocate to Council on priorities for young people, and</li> <li>Provides directions on Council's Community Engagement Strategy and activities.</li> </ul> |           | X        | X        |
| 2.2      | <p>Establish an annual Youth Forum where young people's ideas and issues can be heard, and they can provide feedback to Council staff on projects relating to them. The Youth Forum should ensure that Council, schools and local services have an understanding of emerging priorities for local young people.</p>   | X         | X        | X        |
| 2.3      | <p>Include targeted engagement with young people for all major Council projects, including engagement across the IAP2 spectrum. Engagement activities should consider different ways to engage with young people across the age spectrum ie. 10 to 11 years, 12 to 17 years, and 18 to 24 years. Council should report back to the community on how engagement with young people has informed decision making.</p>  | X         | X        | X        |

## OBJECTIVE 3.

### IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH-FRIENDLY PLACES IN HORSHAM MUNICIPALITY

Young people, like all community members, have a right to public space. Participation in community life, living in a safe environment, and having places to meet with friends and socialise are all part of a youth-friendly city. Council provides many facilities and spaces that young people use, such as the riverfront, parks, streets, the Nexus building and the Horsham Town Hall – and the places to go and things to do in the Horsham area are some of the things that young people like best about living here.

However, young people and services identified that more youth-friendly places, and things for young people to do, are needed in the area. In particular, affordable places and activities for young people aged 15 and older, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, and young people

who are not involved in sport. There is a need for public spaces that are welcoming to young people where they can spend time in positive but unstructured activities, and a need for after hours recreation activities.

Best practice models include empowering young people to design places, services and activities; reflecting the diverse needs of young people, and offering flexible hours and out of hours activities and services.

| STRATEGY |   | AGE GROUP |          |          |
|----------|---|-----------|----------|----------|
|          |   | 10 TO 12  | 12 TO 17 | 18 TO 25 |
| 3.1      | Co-design with young people youth-friendly public spaces in Horsham Town Centre that address a range of age specific needs. Including spaces and facilities such as seating and spaces to hang out with friends, affordable cafes, multipurpose courts, play/parkour equipment, interactive and colourful public art, table tennis/games, food trucks, and spaces for events. | X         | X        | X        |
| 3.2      | Co-design with young people youth-friendly public spaces on the Wimmera River foreshore. Including spaces and facilities such as seating and spaces to hang out with friends, affordable cafes, multi-purpose courts, play/parkour equipment, interactive and colourful public art, table tennis/games, food trucks, and spaces for events.                                   | X         | X        | X        |
| 3.3      | Continue to create safe public places through lighting and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles, with a particular focus on creating safe places for young women.   | X         | X        | X        |



## OBJECTIVE 4.

### PROVIDE COUNCIL WITH CONTEMPORARY AND FUTURE FACING MODELS FOR YOUTH SERVICE DELIVERY THAT REFLECT THE NEEDS OF A DIVERSE REGIONAL CITY POPULATION AND TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION EQUITY AND ACCESS.

Council has a role to play in delivering, facilitating, funding, partnering and advocating for youth services. Council is a generalist service and is well positioned to coordinate and advocate for youth services and build community capacity. Neighbouring councils have different youth service delivery models, some of which include an internal role working with young people.

Key trends in best practice youth service delivery include a move away from centre-based youth services to programs and services delivered in a range of locations and formats across local areas through outreach models. This also supports collective impact outcomes, which focus on collaboration between existing services to minimise duplication and promote collaborative ventures, including co-location and pooling of resources.

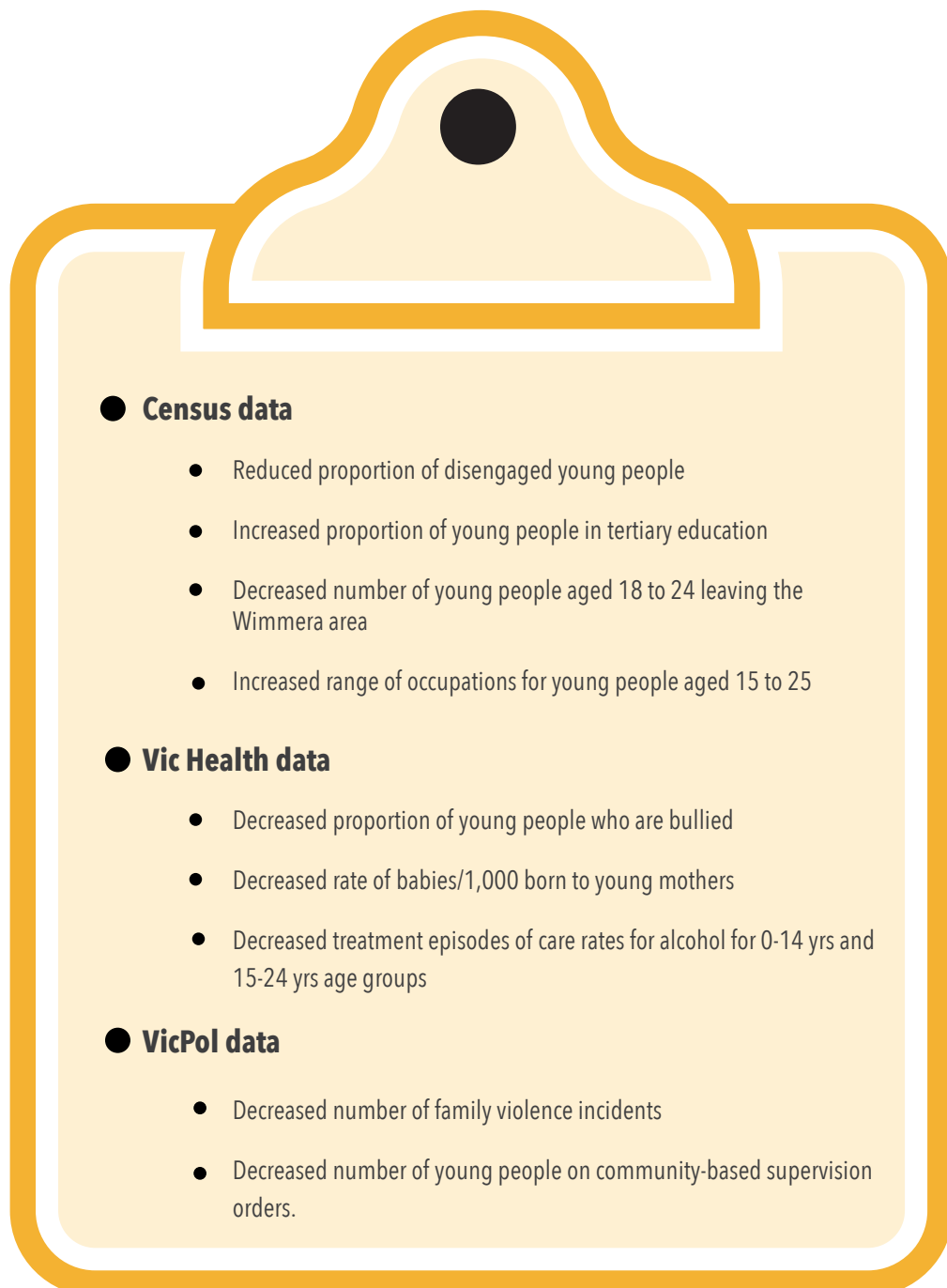
| STRATEGY |  | AGE GROUP |          |          |
|----------|--|-----------|----------|----------|
|          |  | 10 TO 12  | 12 TO 17 | 18 TO 25 |
| 4.1      | Transition away from a centre-based youth services model to an outreach and collective impact model through strategies 4.1a, 4.1b, and 4.1c.   | X         | X        | X        |
| 4.1a     | Resource an internal role within Council with a particular focus on young people, with coordination, partnership, and advocacy roles including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain and monitor the comprehensive service map</li> <li>Continue to support ongoing programs eg Freeza and Young G</li> <li>Coordinate data sharing between services, schools and Council</li> <li>Coordinate local services and schools under a collective impact model to deliver on emerging priorities for young people (particularly alcohol and other drug use; bullying; mental and physical health; things to do for young people; and youth-friendly public places and spaces)</li> <li>Coordinate the representative group of young people and Youth Forum and support engagement with young people across Council's projects</li> <li>Coordinate Youth Week with the representative group of young people</li> <li>Partner with services and schools to promote a positive perception of young people including supporting services and schools to promote good news stories about local young people in local media</li> <li>Apply for external grants and funding to support Council and partners to deliver on emerging priorities and identified service gaps, and</li> <li>Advocate to address service gaps as identified by service mapping, including at a regional level.</li> </ul> |           | X        | X        |
| 4.1b     | With Engage funding, in a range of locations across the Horsham municipality, auspice/partner with local services and schools to deliver affordable and free generalist recreation activities, events and programs for young people with a focus on after hours activities (eg Friday and Saturday nights).  |           | X        | X        |
| 4.1c     | Review the future role of the building at 16 Pynsent St, Horsham (currently Nexus) as a multipurpose space accessible to the community to deliver programs and services including for young people and out of hours services.  |           | X        | X        |
| 4.2      | Introduce a youth stream of Council's Community Development Grants Program to provide funding to support projects, activities and programs that support the emerging priorities of the Youth Strategy. Consider including selection of winning projects as part of the Youth Forum activities.   |           | X        | X        |

# KEEPING TRACK OF CHANGE

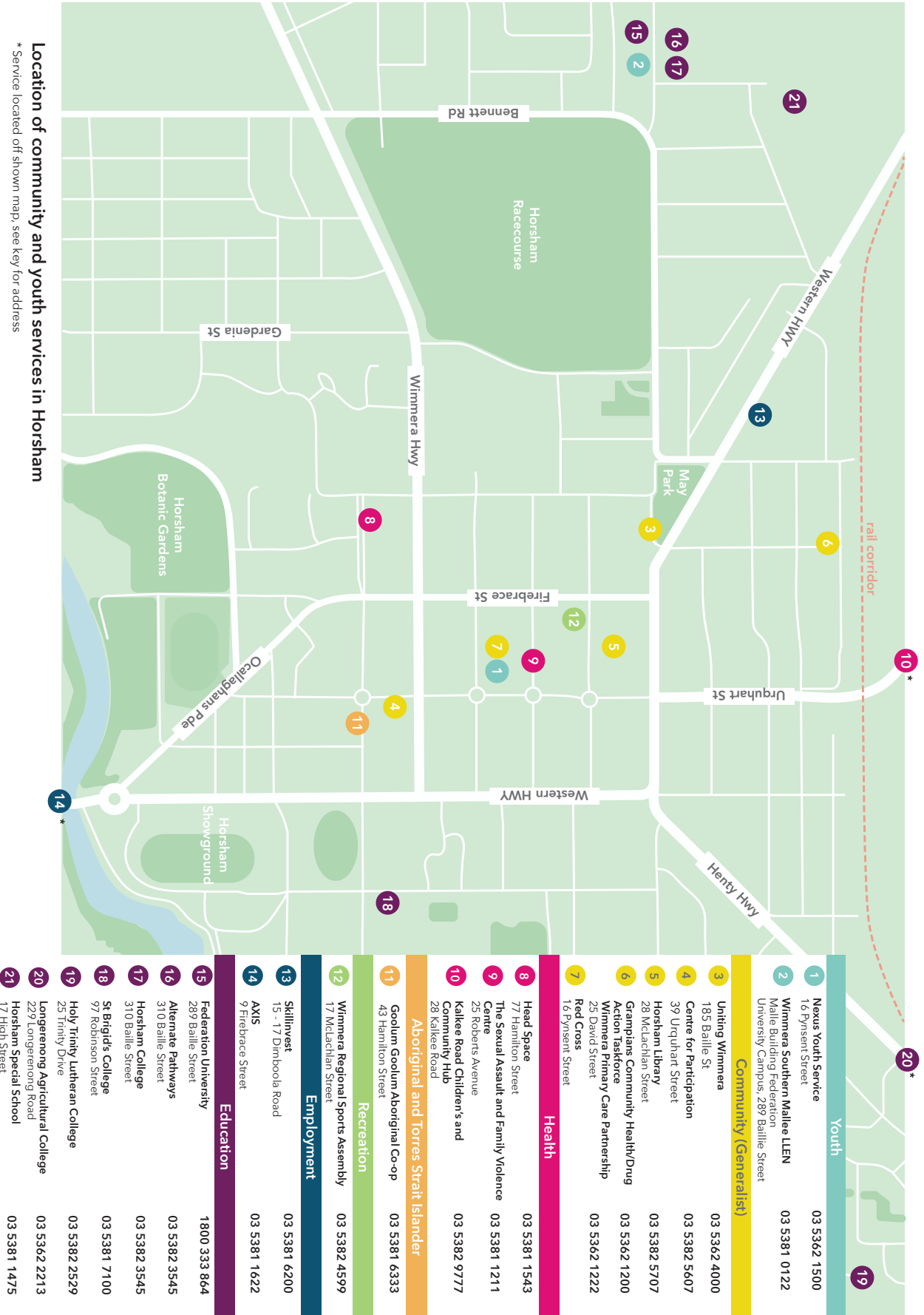
It's important to report back to the community on the Youth Strategy's progress, and to keep track of how activities completed as part of this Strategy make a difference in young people's lives.

Council staff will report to a representative group of young people every six months on the Youth Strategy's progress, including what actions have been completed and are underway. The group of young people will then feedback to Council their evaluation of the Youth Strategy's progress.

Council will monitor health and wellbeing indicators for young people and share findings with local services and the community to understand how Horsham's young people are doing, improvements in key areas, and any emerging issues. Indicators are based on available data collected regularly by government agencies, and where relevant are aligned with evaluation indicators in Council's existing strategic planning.



# APPENDIX 1: SERVICES MAP





HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL

# Youth Strategy Engagement Report

May 2018



**Report Title: Youth Strategy  
Engagement Report**

**Client: Horsham Rural City Council**

**Version: 1**

**Date: 23 May 2018**

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Prepared for:



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| <b>ENGAGEMENT WITH SERVICES</b>                | <b>29</b> |
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| Services interviews                            | 31        |
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Youth workshop participants

# Introduction

Council engaged Cred Consulting to work collaboratively with Council, local young people and services to develop a Youth Strategy that provides Council with the approved strategic directions for the delivery of contemporary youth services that meets the needs of a diverse regional city population.

### This report

This report provides an overview of a multi-stage community and stakeholder engagement program with youth services, government agencies, Horsham Rural City Council and young people to inform the Youth Strategy.

The purpose of the Youth Strategy is to:

- Provide Council with a service delivery map of the current services that are available to young people in Horsham and surrounds
- Identify opportunities for young people to be empowered to make decisions on service delivery that suits their needs
- Increase meaningful engagement opportunities with Council, and
- Provide Council with contemporary and future facing, equitable and accessible, models for youth service delivery that reflects the needs of a diverse regional city population.

### Engagement activities

Table 1 provides an overview of the engagement activities undertaken to inform the Strategy. The engagement activities were promoted through a range of print, online and social media tools including:

- Project page: [www.horshamyouth.com](http://www.horshamyouth.com)
- Council Facebook posts, receiving a total of 41 likes, 15 shares and 2 comments.
- Youth Strategy project Instagram hashtag (#Horshamyouth) saw 33 photos and 3 videos posted by 4 accounts, receiving a total of 158 likes (incentivised by chance to win \$100 Horsham Business gift card).

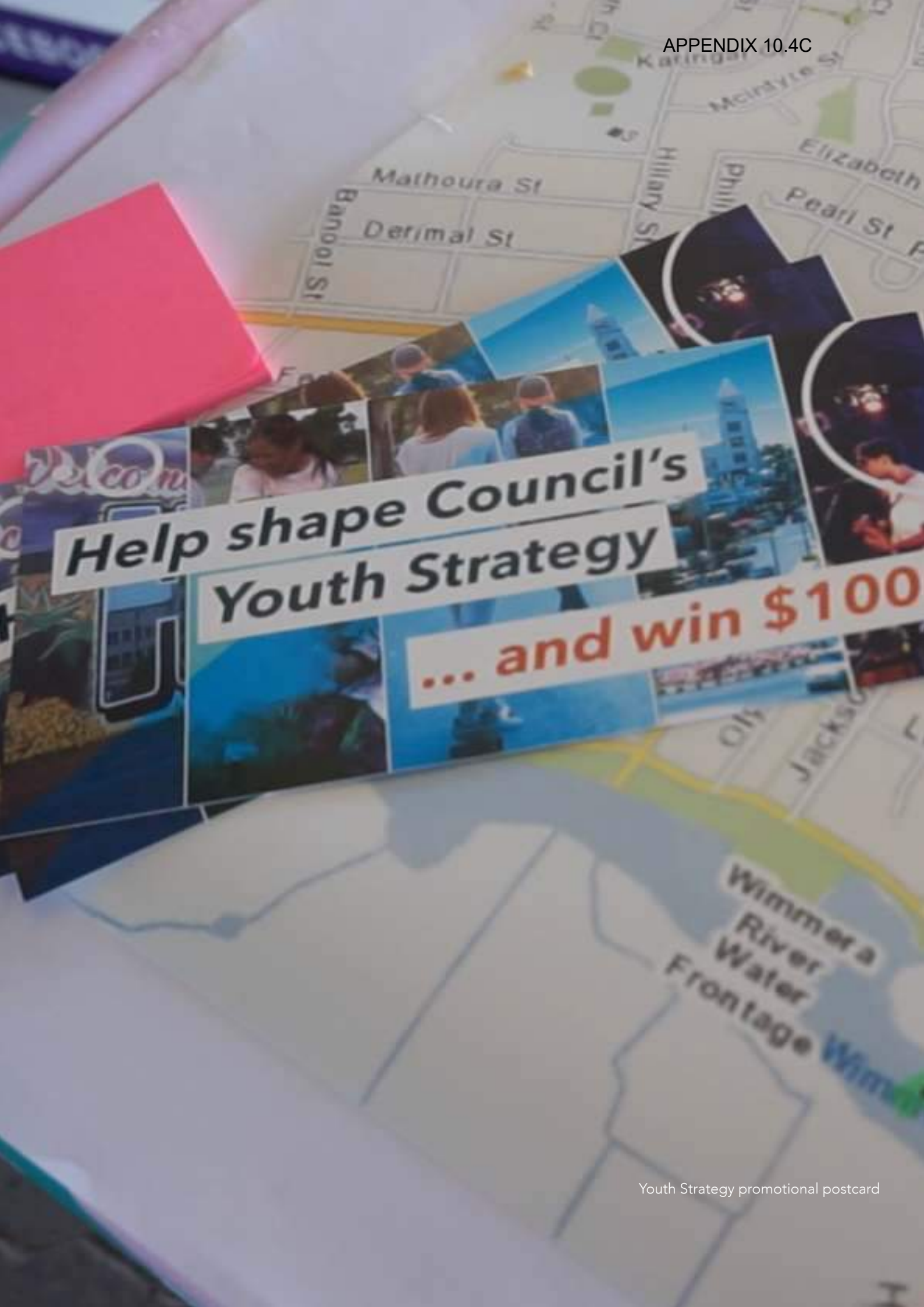


Figure 1 - Youth Strategy timeline



TABLE 1 - ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES HORSHAM YOUTH STRATEGY

| ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED                | DETAILS  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Online survey                       | 9 April to 18 May 2018<br>Delivered through intercept surveys and pop-ups<br>Completed by 198 young people aged 10 to 25 years, and 81 people aged over 25 years<br>Incentivised by chance to win \$100 Horsham Business gift card (8 available).  |
| Pop up stalls and intercept surveys | Town Hall lobby, 2-3pm and 7-8pm (21 April)<br>Horsham Demons Football and Netball Thursday night dinner (6.30-7.30pm, 19 April)<br>Horsham Demons home game (2.00-3.30pm April)<br>Intercept surveys conducted at various locations in Horsham township (at the river and the plaza) between 19 and 21 April and at Pimpinio Recreation Reserve (10.30-11.30am, 19 April) |
| Youth focus groups                  | Headspace Rainbow group (LGBTIQ)<br>Nexus Young G group<br>VETis Community Services student group  |
| Councillor interviews               | 7 interviews with Councillors  |
| Staff workshop                      | 19 April, 2.00-3.30pm at Council<br>Attended by 25 staff   |
| Services interviews                 | 14 face to face or phone interviews with services  |
| Services surveys                    | 21 surveys completed by services   |
| Stakeholder and staff workshop      | 17 May, 10.00-11.30am at Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub<br>Attended by 14 services as well as Council staff  |
| Young people's co-design workshop   | 18 May, 10.00-11.30am at Coughlin Park Community Centre<br>Attended by 26 young people from St Brigids College and Horsham College Alternate Pathways  |



**Help shape Council's  
Youth Strategy**

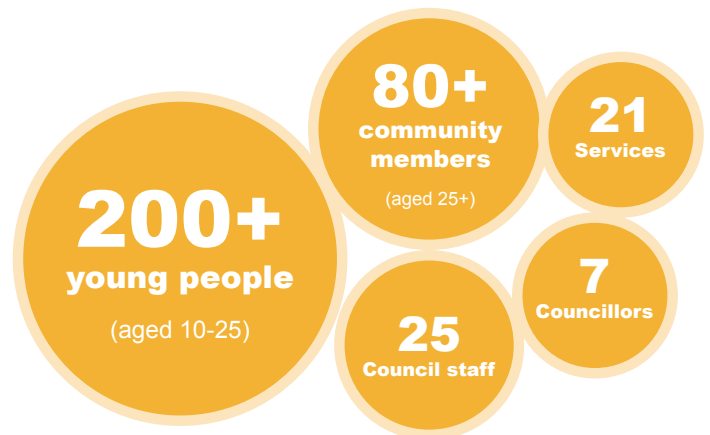
**... and win \$100**

# Key engagement findings

## WHO ENGAGED

Engagement for Horsham's first Youth Strategy was delivered between 9 April and 18 May 2018. During this time, engagement was completed with:

- 200 young people aged 10 to 25 years
- Over 80 community members aged over 25 years
- 21 community services/organisations
- Horsham Rural City Council staff, and
- 7 Horsham Rural City Council Councillors.



## WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE SAID

Consultation with over 200 young people (aged 10-25 years) through surveys, focus groups, pop ups and a workshop told us that some of the things that make the Horsham area a good place for young people are:

- Places like the town hall, the river and the plaza
- Sports
- The tight-knit community and friendly people, and
- Things to do such as events.

Young people want to see:

- More diverse places to go and more things to do for young people in Horsham (after school, on weekends, at night, not drinking and affordable)
- Upgrades to places like the pools, fields and skate park
- Better transport connections in the area, and
- More shops for young people.

They think the main issues facing young people in the Horsham area are:

- Drugs and alcohol use and abuse
- Bullying
- Mental and physical health
- Lack of things to do for young people, and
- Lack of youth friendly public places and spaces.

## EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE

We asked services and young people how we could empower young people in Council's decision making process. They told us that the best ways to let young people know what's going on are:

- Via social media (facebook, instagram and snapchat)
- Through school, and
- By taking face to face engagement to them in the places they spend time.

Young people like the Youth Council engagement model best, because they want to be involved in decision-making and organise the changes they want to see.

Services like the Youth Forum and the Youth Council engagement models best and think it is important to engage with a diverse range of young people so everyone's voice is heard.

## WHAT COMMUNITY MEMBERS SAID

Consultation with over 80 community members (aged over 25 years) through surveys and pop ups told us that some of the things that make the Horsham area a good place for young people are:

- Great schools
- Things to do such as sports
- Places like the river and the town hall, and
- Strong sense of community.

Community members want to see:

- More things to do that aren't focused on alcohol
- More engagement with young people, and
- Better transport connections.

Community members think the main issues facing young people in the Horsham area are:

- Drugs and alcohol use and abuse
- Bullying
- Employment
- Mental and physical health, and
- Things for young people to do.

## WHAT SERVICES SAID

Consultation with 21 services through interviews, surveys, and a workshop told us that some important service gaps and opportunities are:

- More awareness of what services are available
- Increased youth engagement (eg youth council)
- Outreach service delivery through online channels
- Local and regional transport, and
- Sexual and reproductive health.

Services think the main issues facing young people are:

- Drugs and alcohol use and abuse
- Mental health, and
- A lack of things for young people to do.

## WHAT COUNCIL STAFF SAID

Consultation with 25 Council staff told us that some of the strengths of young people living in the Horsham area are:

- Young people are strongly involved with sports, recreation and the arts, which in turn brings the wider community together
- Young people are optimistic, open-minded and accepting of change
- Young people are technology savvy
- Young people have high expectations of life and go above and beyond and achieve great things nationally despite barriers, and
- Other strengths include creativity, adaptability, respectful and supportive, enthusiasm, town pride, volunteering and working.

The top priorities for young people in the Horsham area as identified by Council staff were:

- Creating more youth friendly places and spaces in the area, for example in the town centre and along the river
- Engaging youth in Council's decision making, for example by creating a youth committee and building staff skills to engage with young people
- Improving access (eg public transport) within the area and to Melbourne to make it easier for young people to get around, and
- Creating employment opportunities for young people in the area, for example by offering and encouraging more traineeships and employment services.

## WHAT COUNCILLORS SAID

Councillors thought that the main issues facing young people were:

- Lack of transport connections
- Not much to do for young people
- A lack of places to hang out, and
- Drugs and alcohol use and abuse.

The also noted that young people are leaving the area.



#HORSHAMYOUTH

Intercept surveys with young people at the river

# Survey findings

This section summarises findings from the online survey. The purpose of the survey was to consult with young people on needs, opportunities and vision to inform to Youth Strategy. It was available online from 9 April to 18 May 2018 via the project webpage [www.horshamyouth.com](http://www.horshamyouth.com). People also completed the survey at 5 intercept surveys and pop-ups including at Horsham Town Hall, City Oval, Horsham Demons Football/Netball Club, the Wimmera river and the Plaza shopping centre.

In total, 280 people completed the online survey, of which 198 were aged between 10 – 25 and 81 were aged over 25. However, not every question was compulsory and a lower number of people may have answered individual questions.

Young people were incentivised to take the survey by the chance to win a \$100 Horsham Business gift card.

## Key findings from the online survey include:

- The most common places to hang out in the Horsham area are the river (30%), at home/friends houses (22%), the plaza (19%), parks (16%), and sports (14%).
- Survey respondents think that the Horsham area is a good place for young people because of the places to go (52%), sports (35%), the sense of community (33%), and the things to do (26%).
- Survey respondents think that the Horsham area would be a better place for young people if there were more places to go (40%), more things to do (36%), improvements to places (like the pool, playgrounds, sports fields, skate parks and the river (24%), more opportunities for sports (12%), better transport connections (11%) and more shops for young people (11%).
- According to survey respondents, the main issues facing young people are:
  - Drug and alcohol use and abuse (114 respondents, 65.1%)
  - Bullying (81 respondents, 46.3%)
  - Mental and physical health (58 respondents, 33.1%)
  - Things for young people to do (eg sports, events, arts & culture) (57 respondents, 32.6%), and
  - Youth friendly public places and spaces (49 respondents, 28%).

## RESPONDENT PROFILE

### Age

The majority of survey respondents were aged 12-17 (67.1%, 108 people), with a lower number of young people aged 10-11 (15.5%, 25 people) and aged 18-25 (16.8%, 27 people). Table 1 shows the age profile of survey respondents.

TABLE 2 - YOUTH RESPONDENT AGE PROFILE

| AGE     | RESPONSES (161) |     |
|---------|-----------------|-----|
|         | %               | #   |
| 8 - 9   | 0.6%            | 1   |
| 10 - 11 | 15.5%           | 25  |
| 12 - 17 | 67.1%           | 108 |
| 18 - 25 | 16.8%           | 27  |

### Area

The majority of survey respondents live in Horsham township (81.4%, 131 people), with a number of respondents living in smaller towns in the Horsham LGA (including Haven, Natimuk, Quantong, Toolondo, McKenzie Creek and Vectis) (18.6%, 30 people).

### Gender

The majority of survey respondents were female (58.9%, 93 people), with 41.1% male respondents (65 people).

### Diversity

Survey respondents were asked whether they identify as any of the below. As this question was not compulsory, a total of 45 responses were received. Of these respondents, a number identify as:

- Born overseas (23.4%, 11 people)
- Speak a language other than English (23.4%, 11 people)
- LGBTQI (10.6%, 5 people)
- Person with disability (4.3%, 2 people), and
- Young parent (2.1%, 1 person).

### Where are you living?

The majority of survey respondents are currently living with family or carers (91.8%, 146 respondents), with 3.1% living in a share house.

## DETAILED SURVEY FINDINGS

### What do you think are the main issues facing young people in the Horsham area?

According to survey respondents, the top five issues facing young people in the Horsham area are:

- Drug and alcohol use and abuse (114 respondents, 65.1%)
- Bullying (81 respondents, 46.3%)
- Mental and physical health (58 respondents, 33.1%)
- Things for young people to do (eg sports, events, arts & culture) (57 respondents, 32.6%), and
- Youth friendly public places and spaces (49 respondents, 28%).

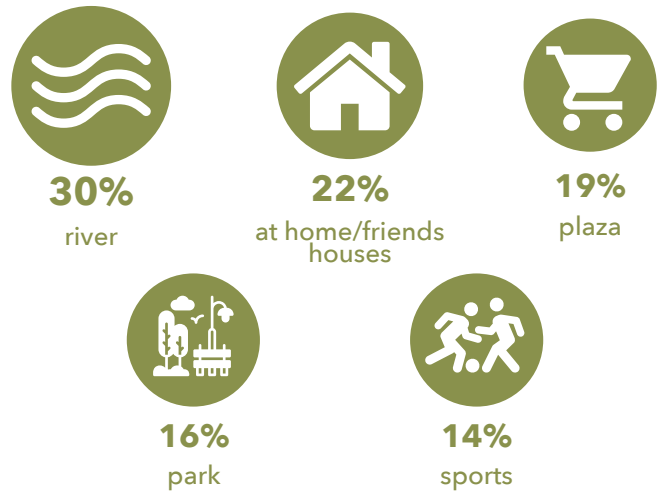
TABLE 3 - MAIN ISSUES FACING YOUNG PEOPLE

| ISSUES  | RESPONSES (175) |     |
|---|-----------------|-----|
| Drug and alcohol use and abuse                                    | 65.1%           | 114 |
| Bullying  | 46.3%           | 81  |
| Mental and physical health  | 33.1%           | 58  |
| Things for young people to do (eg sports, events, arts & culture) | 32.6%           | 57  |
| Youth friendly public places and spaces                           | 28.0%           | 49  |
| Education   | 25.7%           | 45  |
| Other (please specify)  | 25.1%           | 44  |
| Public transport and getting around                               | 22.3%           | 39  |
| Feeling safe in public places                                     | 20.6%           | 36  |
| Domestic violence   | 20.0%           | 35  |
| Employment  | 19.4%           | 34  |
| Involving young people in Council's decision making               | 14.3%           | 25  |
| Sexual health   | 10.3%           | 18  |
| Feeling safe at home  | 7.4%            | 13  |
| Sex education   | 7.4%            | 13  |
| Walking and cycling   | 6.9%            | 12  |
| Support for young parents   | 6.3%            | 11  |
| Homelessness  | 4.0%            | 7   |

### Where do you hang out?

According to survey respondents, the most common places to hang out in the Horsham area are:

- River (49 respondents, 30%)
- At home/friends houses (35 respondents, 22%)
- Plaza (31 respondents, 19%)
- Park (26 respondents, 16%), and
- Sports (22 respondents, 14%).



### What makes the Horsham area a good place for young people?

Survey respondents think that the following things make the Horsham area a good place for young people:

- The places to go eg the town hall, parks, places in general – (83 respondents, 52%)
- Sports – (58 respondents, 36%)
- Community and friendly people – (53 respondents, 33%)
- Things to do eg events – (42 respondents, 26%)
- Safe – (21 respondents, 13%), and
- Schools – (17 respondents, 11%).

## What would you change to make it a better place for young people?

Survey respondents would change the following things to make the Horsham area a better place for young people:

- Places to go (65 respondents, 40%)
- Things to do – (42 respondents, 36%)
- Improvements/upgrades eg to pools, playgrounds, sports fields, skate parks, river– (38 respondents, 24%)
- Sports eg more opportunities for high level, more people playing – (19 respondents, 12%)
- Transport – (18 respondents, 11%), and
- Shops eg less fast food, more shops - (17 respondents, 11%).

## Engaging with young people

As identified by survey respondents, the main ways to let young people know what's going on are:

- Facebook (59.9%, 97 respondents)
- Through school (48.8%, 79 respondents)
- Instagram (45.1%, 73 respondents), and
- Snapchat (38.3%, 62 respondents).

## Visited a youth service

The majority of survey respondents have never visited a youth service before (51.9%), with 10% having visited a youth service with school and 38.1% visiting on their own. Of those who had visited a service, 58% had visited Nexus on their own or with school. Of those who had visited a service on their own, 18% had visited Headspace and 9% were part of a church youth group.

## CROSS-SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

(see detailed tables in Appendix 1)

### Age

There were a number of differences in issues identified by young people in different age cohorts (aged 10-11, 12-17 and 18-25), including:

- Young people aged 18-25 were more likely to prioritise employment, things for young people to do, and involving young people in Council's decision making.
- Young people aged 10-11 and 12-17 were more likely to prioritise bullying.

Differences in issues identified by young people under 25 years compared to people aged 25+, include:

- Respondents aged 25+ were more likely to prioritise employment, mental and physical health, things for young people to do, youth friendly public places and spaces and support for young parents.
- Respondents aged under 25 were more likely to prioritise drug and alcohol use and use and feeling safe in public places.

### Gender

There were a number of differences in issues identified by young women and young men, including:

- Young men were more likely to prioritise employment (21.5% compared to 13.3%).
- Young women were more likely to prioritise youth friendly public places and spaces (46.7% compared to 23%), feeling safe in public places (23.3% compared to 9.2%), and feeling safe at home (10% compared to 1.5%).

### Rurality

There were a number of differences in issues identified by young people living in the Horsham district compared to those living in other areas, including:

- Respondents living outside Horsham district were more likely to prioritise domestic violence, youth friendly public places and spaces, drug and alcohol use and abuse, and things for young people to do.





Youth Week skate park event

# Youth workshops & pop ups

## POP UPS

Two pop-ups stall sessions were held on 20 and 21 April 2018 at the following locations:

- Skate park Youth Week event, Sunday 21 April, 11.0am-12.30pm.
- Horsham Demons Home Game, City Oval, Sunday 21 April, 1.00-3.30pm.

The pop up stall sessions included two activities:

### Activity 1: Love/change board

This dotmocracy activity featured an A0 board that invited young people to write down things that they love and things that they would change about Horsham. Young people could then vote for ideas they agreed with by putting a sticker behind them (8 comments received).

Things young people love:

- "Love the hangout spots (May park, plaza etc)"
- "We like the small size (its easy to get around and meet people)"
- "Sporting facilities," and
- "The people are friendly."

Things young people would change:

- "We need more places for older people to hang out"
- "We need more challenging playgrounds"
- "We need more free parking," and
- "There are too many issues with drugs."



Figure 2 - Youth week skate park event



Figure 3 - Youth week skate park event



Figure 4 - Pop up stall at City Oval

## Activity 2: Love/change map

Activity 2: Love/change map – This activity featured two A1 maps of Horsham township and of the Horsham LGA. Young people were encouraged to think about specific places they love and places they would change in the Horsham area. They were then asked to put either a green (positive) or a red (negative) flag-sticker on that place and write down on a post-it note with a corresponding number their reasons for doing so (25 comments received).

While this activity was available at both the skate park pop up stall and at the City Oval pop up stall, all comments were received at the skate park (25 comments total). As such, the majority of comments related to the skate park (7 comments), followed by May Park (5 comments) and the river (3 comments).



TABLE 4 - POP UP LOVE/CHANGE MAP ACTIVITY

| LOCATION                                    | COMMENTS  |  |
|---|---|--|
|   | LOVE  | CHANGE   |
| <b>Skate park</b><br>(7 comments)           |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More seating at the skate park for families with shade, tables and BBQ.</li> <li>Improved maintenance</li> <li>More programs and events</li> <li>More welcoming environment for girls</li> <li>Wish the skate park was bigger</li> <li>Have a power outlet/ phone charging station</li> </ul> |
| <b>May Park</b><br>(5 comments)             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The playground</li> <li>Peaceful, nice place to chill out</li> <li>Lots of things to do</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make the swings bigger for older young people</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Weir Park</b><br>(3 comments)            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relax and chill with friends</li> <li>Weir Park is fun</li> <li>Many different things to do</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>Swimming Pool</b><br>(2 comments)        |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make the outside pool open all the time, make the indoor pool bigger and less hot and humid</li> <li>Wish there were slides and more fun equipment</li> </ul>   |
| <b>City Oval</b><br>(2 comments)            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Love the tyre swings</li> <li>Love the City Oval</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>The Plaza</b><br>(2 comments)            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Love the plaza to eat, to hang out and to buy clothes</li> </ul>                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs more stores for young people</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Fast food restaurants</b><br>(1 comment) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Great gathering place with food</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>Other (3 comments)</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are lots of places to run around</li> <li>Love the activities at Lanes and Games</li> </ul>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need more challenging playgrounds and spots for different ages</li> </ul>   |

## YOUTH FOCUS GROUPS

Target focus groups were held with:

- Nexus Young G group (multicultural young people) (facilitated by Cred on Wednesday 18 April 2018, 6.00-7.00pm)
- Headspace Rainbow group (LGBTQI young people) (facilitated by service), and
- VETis Community Services year 2 students (facilitated by teacher).

The aim of the focus groups was to consult on current needs, opportunities and vision with young people from target groups. Table 5 gives an overview of discussion questions and responses.



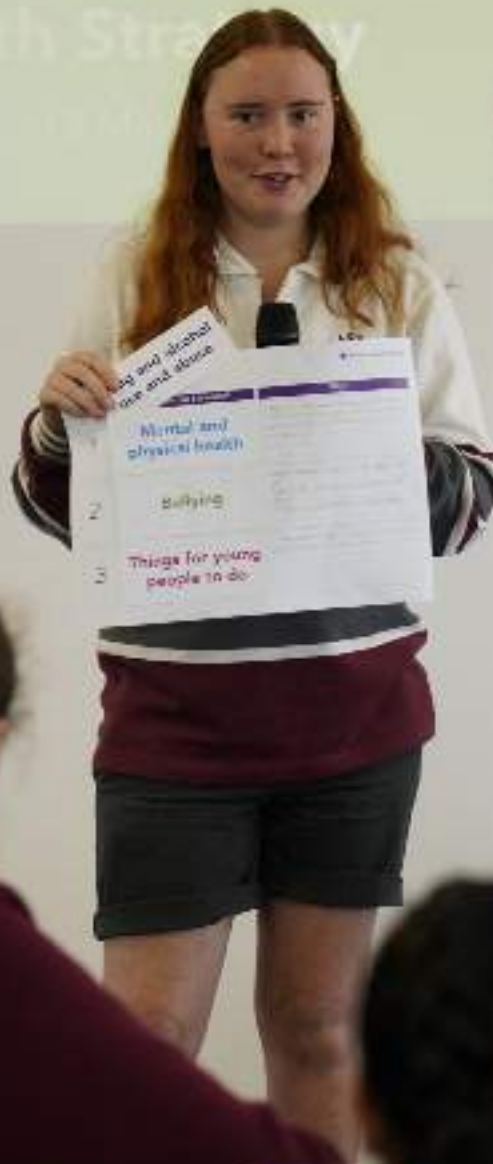
Figure 5 - Nexus Young G group members

TABLE 5 - FOCUS GROUPS OUTCOMES

| QUESTION                               | YOUNG G  | RAINBOW GROUP  | VETIS   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <b>Community perceptions</b>           | YP are a bit lazy<br>Addicted to technology<br>Involved in sports  | Majority of people in Horsham have a negative perception of LGBTQI young people  | YP are involved in drugs and alcohol<br>YP are party people   |
| <b>Strengths of young people</b>       | Many YP have jobs<br>Many YP volunteer<br>YP are smart<br>YP are involved in clubs and sports<br>YP bring life to the community  | LGBTQI YP are close-knit and resilient<br>YP bring new perspectives  | Nice people<br>YP have jobs<br>YP are involved in school or alternative programs<br>YP are involved in sports   |
| <b>Main issues facing young people</b> |  |  | Teen pregnancy<br>Skate park is a negative environment  |
| <b>Things we like</b>                  | Local employment for YP<br>Peaceful, safe, community<br>Places to go (parks, shops)<br>Activities (sports)<br>Services (like Headspace, Nexus)                         | LGBTIQ youth groups  | Local employment for YP<br>Good services (eg Headspace, Nexus, Connected)   |
| <b>Things to change</b>                | Better places (Horsham cinema, playgrounds)<br>More things to do (eg food trucks, music performances)<br>More shops for young people<br>More activities on the weekend | Respect and understanding for LGBTQI groups<br>More awareness of available services  | More places for YP to hang out (eg juice bar, skating rink, bounce, gym)<br>More things to do for YP (not alcohol or church related, affordable)<br>Better shops for YP |
| <b>Ideas for engagement</b>            |  | Inclusive demographics on surveys (male/female and other)<br>Q and A style forum<br>Online engagement<br>Outreach engagement with people in rural areas<br>Come to schools | Youth meeting<br>Youth Council<br>Council come to school to meet students<br>More online surveys<br>Use social media  |

# Help shape Council's Youth Strategy

Horsesham Youth Strategy



Youth workshop participant

## WORKSHOP WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

A workshop with young people took place on 18 May 2018 between 10.00am and 11.30am at Coughlin Park Community Centre. In total, 26 young people attended the workshop, including 10 students from Horsham College Alternative Pathways, 10 students from St Brigids College and 6 students from Horsham College. The purpose of the workshop was to consult with young people on current needs, opportunities and engagement models.

### Activity 1: Top priorities

In small groups, young people discussed and ranked the top 5 issues identified in the youth survey by ordering sheets of paper with the priorities written on them. Each group reported back on their motivations for their ranking. While each group acknowledged that the main issues identified in the youth survey were all interconnected, the top-ranking priorities identified across all groups were:

TABLE 6 - ACTIVITY 1: TOP PRIORITIES

| PRIORITY  | WHY?   |
|---|--|
| Drug and alcohol use and abuse<br>(ranked as top priority by 4 out of 6 groups) | <p>People don't have much to do in Horsham so most turn to drugs and alcohol for fun, if someone chooses not to drink they will be socially excluded.</p> <p>Easily accessible – Horsham is one of the top 3 ice towns – leads to a cycle of abuse – learned behaviour – drinking age is getting lower – if you don't drink you get judged – associated with lower socio-economic background – strong drinking culture – passed down from generations – social 'norm'</p> <p>Keep everyone safe for our health and wellbeing.</p>  |
| Things for young people to do<br>ranked as top priority by 2 out of 6 groups    | <p>Many people do drugs and alcohol because there are not many activities for youth to be involved in.</p> <p>Lack of things to do leads to drug and alcohol. Its important for young people to community and hang out – boredom + technology = other issues / isolation. Need casual sports / fun / community nights. Cinema and sport are the only interests. The skate park is for boys, need more female friendly areas.</p> <p>So kids don't get bored and keep them out of trouble. Keep active, which is good for their health. Away from technology (phones and video games). Socialise with others.</p>   |
| Mental and physical health prioritised by 5 out of 6 groups                     | <p>Many of the young people we know suffer from mental health issues and aren't getting the help they need, which is also linked with drug and alcohol use because they don't know how to cope.</p> <p>Lot of it is a result of drug and alcohol use and bullying. Everyone experiences or knows someone who experiences this so it's a very prominent issue in our community.</p> <p>Poor mental health leads to drugs and bullying and alcohol. Fast food hang outs aren't good for physical health. Nowhere to go and nothing to do leads to these issues.</p> <p>Linked to drugs and alcohol – mental health rates increasing – bullying – technology increases – taboo subject.</p> |
| Bullying<br>(prioritised by 4 out of 5 groups)                                  | <p>Everyone experiences bullying at some stage in their life. People in this community don't understand the effects. Bullying is more hidden on social media.</p> <p>Peer pressure, rumours spread faster as we are in a small town. Social media spreads things faster, social media can be taken home with you and can't be escaped.</p> <p>More supervision (keep an eye out for bullying)</p> <p>Suicide – bullying rates getting worse – cyberbullying – you can't get away from it – leads to drugs and alcohol and mental health issues – peer pressure.</p>  |
| Youth friendly public places and spaces<br>(prioritised by 2 groups)            | <p>May Park starts to feel unsafe after 5.30-6pm. Fast food outlets are close by but then nowhere safe to hang out. Not everyone feels like Nexus is a place for them. There's nowhere that's for everyone.</p>  |

## Activity 2: Co-designing places for young people

In small groups, young people chose a place in the Horsham area (either the River, the town centre, the skate park) and developed ideas to make that place better for young people to be. Using a collection of cut-out images depicting vibrant, youth-friendly places throughout the world, young people presented their ideas as a collage poster to the whole group.

**Things we would like to see at the River:** Drive in movies – night markets – more seating – green grass – graffiti wall – free rowing club days – more piers – regular performances / busking – gym equipment (similar to around the race course) – giant chess board – community garden – O-bikes – more colour – artistic elements – more tables – community basketball court – (Waterfront) café / restaurant) – Food truck park or festival once a month – historical stuff – community downhill courts – bike racks – fake grass – permanent table tennis tables – camping sports – innovative seating

**Things we would like to see in the Town centre:** More and better shops – transport – more buses at better times – A relaxed café where you can eat and also just chill out – better shops like Nike and Adidas – pop events kind of like the show – more places that will hire casual workers – Better education / university opportunities – paint ball – outdoor cinema

**Things we would like to see in May Park:** Playground equipment needs to be designed for older kids so we can do monkey bars without our feet touching the ground – outdoor cinema nights – community garden – parkour jungle for big kids like American Ninja Warrior – a sandbox – playground equipment for older kids – chill out sport and a nice spot to talk and meet new people – create a lake in May Park.

### Ideas we like for the Horsham area:

A wave pool – flying fox – bounce trampoline park – milk bar – giant chess board – table tennis tables – boat hire / canoes / paddle boards – outdoor basketball court – markets – café/shops – outdoor cinema – live music

**We would love to have a Town Square:** Place to go after school with food – public sporting venues – free and safe – places after dark that we can feel safe – night markets like at surfers paradise – markets and festivals – public snapchat / IG that promotes events – through schools – hang out areas near food outlets – Saturday night youth groups with casual people (informal) – local dancing studios put on simple concert – free games – Horsham more colourful (paint and lighting) – public art wall, each school could have their art for a month like the Bondi wall – Free creative areas – public 'study' area to connect and study with other students from other schools – study help/informal hang out place where we can connect with others. Food. Fun. Tutors. Young people and older people to take interest in them – on weekends not weekdays – free waterparks like in Ballarat – Local youth photographs taking photos at youth events

### Ideas for youth-friendly places in the Horsham area:

Outside cinema – concerts and festivals for teens at the sound shell – graffiti wall / mural wall – more safety in parks – fun runs promoted more / more often – hire stand up paddle boards – gardens that grows fresh food and is available for anyone to eat and get healthy food – designated safe swim area – youth club that is always open and supervised and has facilities like basketball and table tennis that looks fun (offer counselling for children that might struggle and provide a safe place for them) – interactive area, visually appealing and colourful – Horsham show that is more affordable – places for teens to hang and feel safe



Figure 6 - Youth workshop participants



### Activity 3: Pitching youth engagement models

Following a short presentation on a number of different youth engagement models (youth council, youth forum, outreach engagement, co-design, presence of wisdom, reverse mentorship), small groups designed a model that would work for Horsham, using a worksheet to outline how they would like to engage with Council.

Each group then pitched their ideas to a panel of judges made up of teachers and Council staff. The most common model was a Youth Council (4 out of 6 groups), although each Youth Council model was unique. Co-design and outreach engagement were also popular models.

TABLE 7 - PITCHING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT MODELS

| ENGAGEMENT MODEL  | DESCRIPTION   |
|---|---|
| Model 1: Youth Council                                    | <p>Once a month youth council meeting with maximum term so people are always rotating, councillor/ staff propose ideas, let youth discuss by themselves and reply with own opinion, then propose at Council. Once a year hold a youth summit inviting all from youth community groups + all youth.</p> <p>Representatives from different groups and need to fill in a criteria to make sure all groups are covered so everyone can have a say. They ask for one representative from each group so they can come up with different ideas.</p> <p>Youth Council / Summit can propose own ideas to Council. Youth Council has meeting before town Council to finalise ideas.</p>   |
| Model 2: Youth Council                                    | <p>Rotating group of young people</p> <p>Social media run by the Council so everyone has an input</p> <p>Run surveys through schools</p> <p>Go to schools to see who would be interested</p> <p>Council representatives from younger demographics</p>   |
| Model 3: Youth Council                                    | <p>Nominate yourself and have vote (school vote)</p> <p>Constant representation and discussion</p> <p>Promote and organise activities</p> <p>Opportunity for young people to have a say</p> <p>Once a month at a school, rotating locations</p> <p>Morning tea/food/drinks</p> <p>Aged 15-20</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Sporting clubs</p> <p>Re-elect 1-2 years</p> <p>Engage with the public</p> <p>Council reps to help young people</p> <p>POW: Presence of Wisdom – young people are invited to have their say at the meetings.</p> <p>If events run get the community involved by making posters and helping in like planning / building/ Youth concert could be an event with buskers, dancers and talent in Horsham.</p> |
| Model 4: Outreach engagement                              | N/A   |
| Model 5: Youth Council and Reverse mentorship + co-design | <p>Suggest ideas for town activities</p> <p>Discuss current issues</p> <p>Share information</p> <p>Can organise the changes we want</p>   |



Youth workshop participant

# Council engagement

## COUNCIL STAFF WORKSHOP

A workshop was held with 25 staff from a range of Council departments to inform the Youth Strategy. The purpose of the workshop was to:

- Consult with staff around Council's current programs, services and facilities directly and indirectly provided for young people
- Discuss strengths of young people and issues and barriers facing young people in the Horsham area, and
- Explore priorities and opportunities for the Youth Strategy.

### Key findings:

The top priorities for young people in the Horsham area as identified by Council staff were :

- Creating more youth friendly places and spaces in the HRCC area, for example in the town centre and along the river
- Engaging youth in Council's decision making, for example by creating a youth committee, building staff skills to engage with young people
- Improving access (eg public transport) within the HRCC area and to Melbourne to make it easier for young people to get around, and
- Creating employment opportunities for young people in the HRCC area, for example by offering and encouraging more traineeships and employment services.



Figure 7 - Council staff workshop



Figure 8 - Council staff workshop

### Activity 1 – Programs, services and facilities for young people

Activity 1 required workshop participants to provide information on the programs, services, and facilities that Council provides that deliver outcomes for young people (either directly or indirectly). Table 15 shows the services, programs and facilities delivered by Council that either directly or indirectly impact on outcomes for young people.

TABLE 8 - COUNCIL SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS DELIVERING YOUTH OUTCOMES

| DIRECTLY DELIVERED   | INDIRECTLY PROVIDED   |
|--|---|
| Arts programs (including for young people with intellectual disability, after school and holiday programs, immersive art camps for VCE students) | Ensuring community safety (roads, lighting, CCTV)   |
| Programming for young people at HTH  | Supporting, funding and partnering with other organisations that provide programs, events, camps and festivals targeting young people |
| School crossings   | Universal design principles   |
| Youth CAN  | Advocacy around homelessness, domestic violence, drugs and alcohol, transport   |
| Provide public places for young people (playgrounds, sporting facilities, skate parks and basketball courts, pool)                               | Sports and Recreation spaces and services   |
| Employment, traineeships and volunteering opportunities  | Emergency management  |
| New parents group / maternal health support  | Cinema  |
| Library service  | Bike strategy   |
| Wimmera river projects   | ANZAC bridge increase north-south access  |
| Homework clubs – E2L   | Community grants (sports groups)  |
| Community project funding  | Public places (eg parks and gardens, streets and street furniture)  |
| Advocate for young people  | Increase mobile service   |
| Nexus building + contract services   | LGBTI programs  |
| Immunisation   | Wi-fi in the CBD  |

**Activity 2 - How does the community see young people?**

As part of the second activity, participants discussed the general community's perceptions of young people. Overall, participants mentioned:

- Five positive perceptions (including strongly involved in (sporting) activities, talented, well-informed), and
- Ten negative perceptions (including drugs and alcohol use, perceptions of skate park, and street art).

TABLE 9 - COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

| POSITIVE PERCEPTIONS  | NEGATIVE PERCEPTIONS   |
|---|--|
| We love them – they are fantastic<br>Media is fairly positive about young people (Wimmera mail / times human interest)<br>They are strongly involved in sports and activities<br>A level of artistic talent<br>More well informed | They aren't on the streets in the CBD – in part due to pick up culture and after school activities<br>Negative perception of young people who use NEXUS<br>Perceptions that they take drugs and drink alcohol<br>Perception that street art is related to disengagement<br>Young people are not welcome in public places<br>Social media obsessed<br>Negative perception of skate parks<br>Perception that youth cause public problems |

### Activity 3 – What are the strengths of young people?

As part of the third activity, participants discussed some of the strengths of young people in the Horsham area, including resilience, optimism, creativity, ambition, respect and tech skills – many agreed that they are motivated to help improve the community.

- Young people are strongly involved with sports, recreation and the arts, which in turn brings the wider community together (6 comments)
- Young people aren't cynical or aggressive but are optimistic, open-minded and accepting of change. (eg Wimmera Pride) (5 comments)
- Technology savvy (2 comments)
- Many have high expectations of life and go above and beyond and achieve great things nationally despite barriers (2 comments), and
- Other strengths include creativity, adaptability, respectful and supportive, enthusiasm, town pride and volunteering and working.

### Challenges facing young people

As part of the fourth activity, participants discussed some of the main challenges facing young people in the area, including access to higher education and employment, getting around the area, lack of youth friendly public places and spaces, things to do for young people, drug and alcohol use and abuse and a lack of life skills.

Challenges included:

- Drugs and alcohol use and abuse (4 comments)
- Transport (both regional and local) can isolate young people and limit opportunities (3 comments)
- Lack of pathways to higher education and employment (3 comments)
- Mental health (2 comments)
- Lack of places to hang out (2 comments)
- Lack of things to do after hours / weekends (2 comments)
- Lack of family support / role models (2 comments)
- High rates of teen pregnancy (2 comments), and
- Other challenges include bullying, discrimination, domestic violence, homelessness & couch surfing, and lack of family support.

### Activity 5 - Priorities for young people in the HRCC area

As part of activity 5, participants identified priorities for young people in the Horsham area. The top priorities were:

- Creating more youth friendly places and spaces in the HRCC area, for example in the town centre and along the river
- Engaging youth in Council's decision making, for example by creating a youth committee, building staff skills to engage with young people
- Improving access (eg public transport) within the HRCC area and to Melbourne to make it easier for young people to get around, and
- Creating employment opportunities for young people in the HRCC area, for example by offering and encouraging more traineeships and employment services.

## COUNCILLOR INTERVIEWS

All Councillors were contacted for an interview to inform them about the project, identify stakeholders for consultation and priorities for the Strategy. Seven interviews were conducted from 11 to 20 April 2018:

|                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| • Mayor Pam Clarke          | 11 April 2018 |
| • Councillor Alethea Gulvin | 14 April 2018 |
| • Councillor David Grimble  | 19 April 2018 |
| • Councillor Joshua Koenig  | 20 April 2018 |
| • Councillor Mark Radford   | 20 April 2018 |
| • Councillor Les Power      | 20 April 2018 |
| • Councillor John Robinson  | 20 April 2018 |

TABLE 10 - COUNCILLOR INTERVIEWS - COMMON THEMES

| THEME  | COMMENTS  |
|--|---|
| <b>Perceptions /strengths of young people</b>                          | Not much for young people to do (3 comments)<br>Sports minded (3 comments)<br>Mostly positive (2 comments)<br>Young people are leaving the area (2 comments)  |
| <b>Main issues facing young people</b>                                 | Lack of transport connections (3 comments)<br>Young people are leaving the area (3 comments)<br>Not much to do for young people (2 comments)<br>No places to hang out (2 comments)<br>Drugs and alcohol use and abuse (2 comment)<br>Lack of higher education (1)<br>Homelessness / lack of crisis beds (1 comment) |
| <b>Opportunities for Council to address issues facing young people</b> | More activities / things to do (3 comments)<br>Youth friendly places and spaces (3 comments)<br>Changing culture around drugs and alcohol use (3 comments)<br>Engaging young people (1 comment)   |
| <b>Council's role in delivering services, programs and facilities</b>  | Facilitating and supporting services through funding (3 comments)<br>Delivering facilities / youth-friendly places (3 comments)<br>Involving young people in decision making (Youth Council) (3 comments)   |
| <b>Engaging young people in Council's decision-making</b>              | Youth Council (3 comments)<br>Engaging through social media (1 comment)<br>Have a quota for hiring young people at Council (1 comment)<br>Outreach engagement (1 comment)   |
| <b>Other comments</b>  | Emphasis on inclusion and diversity (1 comment)<br>Emphasis on youth engagement (1 comment)<br>Emphasis on physical health (1 comment)<br>Emphasis on engaging with young people in rural areas (1 comment)   |

# Engagement with services

Overall, 21 services participated in a range of engagement opportunities:

- Interviews (either face to face, phone or email) – 16 services
- Online survey – 18 surveys, and
- Services workshop – 14 services participated.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The main priorities for the Youth Strategy as identified by services in the interviews were:

- Improving engagement with young people (prioritised by 7 services)
- Retaining young people (by providing better employment and education opportunities) (prioritised by 5 services)
- Changing the drinking culture (prioritised by 4 services)
- Improving transport connections both within and out of the area (prioritised by 3 services)
- Creating a safe place for young people to gather (prioritised by 3 services), and
- Being inclusive (gender, disability, disadvantage (prioritised by 3 services).

The main issues facing young people in the Horsham as identified by services in the online survey were:

- Drug and alcohol use and abuse (identified by 7 services)
- Public transport and getting around (identified by 7 services)
- Bullying (identified by 6 services)
- Things for young people to do (identified by 5 services)
- Domestic violence (identified by 5 services), and
- Mental and physical health (identified by 5 services).

The main issues facing young people in the Horsham identified during the services workshop were:

- Drug and alcohol use and abuse (prioritised by all groups)
- Mental health (prioritised by 2 out of 4 groups), and
- Things to do (prioritised by 2 out of 4 groups).

The main service gaps and opportunities identified during the services workshop were:

- More awareness of what services are available / comprehensive service map (3 groups)
- Improved engagement (eg youth council) (3 groups)
- Outreach service delivery through online channels (although internet connection is a challenge) (2 groups)
- Local and regional transport (2 groups), and
- Sexual and reproductive health (2 groups).

The preferred youth engagement models during the services workshop were:

- Youth forum (2 groups)
- (Inclusive) Youth council (2 groups), and
- Integrate consultation with young people across Council's strategic planning (1 group).

*“Many young people in Horsham are willing to offer up their time for the greater good of the community.”*

*“Youth councils can often be elitist - we would like to see a diverse cross-section of young people represented.”*

*“Programs work better when young people are involved in designing them - they have a sense of ownership.”*





Services workshop

## SERVICES SURVEY

In addition to the services interviews, services working with young people in the Horsham area were invited to do an online survey, which was completed by 18 services.

### What makes the Horsham area a good place for young people?

Services think the Horsham area is a good place to live for young people because of the good schools (5 comments), the strong community (4 comments), the things to do (4 comments) and the sporting opportunities (4 comments).

### What would you change to make it a better place for young people?

Services think the Horsham area would be a better place for young people if there were more things to do that were not alcohol-related (6 comments), if there were improved transport connections (6 comments), if there were more employment opportunities (5 comments) and there were more youth-friendly places and spaces (4 comments).

### Main issues for young people in the Horsham area

According to services, the main issues facing young people in the Horsham area are:

- Employment (prioritised by 9 services)
- Drug and alcohol use and abuse (prioritised by 7 services)
- Public transport and getting around (prioritised by 7 services)
- Bullying (prioritised by 6 services),
- Things for young people to do (prioritised by 5 services)
- Domestic violence (prioritised by 5 services), and
- Mental and physical health (prioritised by 5 services).

## SERVICES INTERVIEWS

16 services interviews were conducted between April and May 2018, with the following services:

- Nexus Youth Service
- Grampians Community Health
- Centre for Participation
- Uniting Wimmera
- Victoria Police
- Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative
- Wimmera Health Care Group
- Wimmera Sports Assembly
- Wimmera Drug Action Taskforce
- Headspace
- Federation University Australia – Wimmear
- LLEN (Local Learning and Education Network)
- Department of Justice
- Women's Health Wimmera
- Wimmera Health Care Group, and
- Red Cross.

TABLE 11 - SERVICES INTERVIEWS COMMON THEMES

| QUESTION   | COMMON THEMES   |
|--|---|
| Community perceptions of young people  | <p>Different perceptions depending on socioeconomic or family background / negative perception of young people from the North side of town (8 comments)</p> <p>Mostly positive (6 comments)</p> <p>The high achievers leave town (3 comments)</p> <p>Actively involved in the community (2 comments)</p> <p>Young people are 'lazy' (2 comments)</p> <p>Associated with drug and alcohol use and abuse (2 comments)</p> <p>Aboriginal young people don't feel welcome (1 comment)</p> |
| Strengths of young people  | <p>Resilient in face of disadvantage (4 comments)</p> <p>Willing to offer up their time to contribute to the community / volunteering / community minded (5 comments)</p> <p>Bring a new perspective and vibrancy (2 comments)</p> <p>Are more accepting of people who are different (2 comments)</p>   |
| What is working well about how Council delivers services for young people?         | <p>Outsourcing to external organisation (5 comments)</p> <p>Delivering good and upgrading places (eg skate park, pump track, May Park (3 comments)</p> <p>Events and activities (YouthCAN) (2 comments)</p>   |
| What's not working well?   | <p>Council support for street art projects</p> <p>Lack of data around young people</p> <p>Lacking engagement with young people (especially from disadvantaged backgrounds) (4 comments)</p> <p>Nexus doesn't have outcomes targets (2 comments)</p> <p>Lack of community awareness that Council delivers services for young people (2 comment)</p> <p>Lack of services outside work hours (1 comment)</p>   |
| Ideas for how Council could better deliver outcomes for young people in the future | <p>Increase engagement with young people / Have young people involved in decision making (8 comments)</p> <p>Having a youth-friendly, safe place for young people to go (4 comments)</p>  |
| Involving young people in decision making  | <p>Youth Council, targeting a broad cross-section of the community (7 comments)</p> <p>Council coming to young people / building familiarity and trust (3 comments)</p> <p>Youth Forum (2 comments)</p> <p>Co-design / empowering young people to make programs (2 comments)</p> <p>Youth-friendly formats / summaries (1 comment)</p> <p>Surveys (1 comment)</p> <p>Apply for Engage! Funding (1 comment)</p>  |
| Priority focus areas for the Youth Strategy  | <p>Engaging with young people / Establishing a Youth Council (7 comments)</p> <p>Retaining young people (higher education / employment) (5 comments)</p> <p>Changing drinking culture (4 comments)</p> <p>Transport connections (3 comments)</p> <p>Creating a safe place for young people to gather (3 comments)</p> <p>Inclusion (gender, disability, disadvantage (3 comments)</p> <p>Mental health (3 comments)</p> <p>Youth disengagement (3 comments)</p>                       |

## SERVICES WORKSHOP

A services workshop took place on 17 May 2018 at Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub from 10.00-11.30am. There were 16 participants from 14 services in attendance, as well as Council staff (see Table 33). The aim of the services workshop was to collaborate on strategies based on needs, gaps and priority areas, and to report back on findings from stage 1 engagement and desktop research. Services in attendance were:

- Grampians Community Health
- Victoria Police
- Centre for Public Participation
- Headspace
- Horsham College Alternative Pathways
- Department of Justice
- Wimmera Sports Assembly
- Women's Health Grampians
- Wimmera Health Care Group
- Wimmera Drug Action Taskforce
- Skillinvest
- Uniting Wimmera
- LLEN (Local learning and employment network), and
- Department of Health and Human Services.

### Key findings

The main issues facing young people in the Horsham identified during the services workshop were:

- Drug and alcohol use and abuse (prioritised by all groups)
- Mental health (prioritised by 2 out of 4 groups), and
- Things to do (prioritised by 2 out of 4 groups).

The main service gaps and opportunities identified during the services workshop were:

- More awareness of what services are available / comprehensive service map (3 groups)
- Improved engagement (eg youth council) (3 groups)
- Outreach service delivery through online channels (although internet connection is a challenge) (2 groups)
- Local and regional transport (2 groups), and
- Sexual and reproductive health (2 groups).

The preferred youth engagement models were:

- Youth forum (2 groups)
- (Inclusive) Youth council (2 groups), and
- Integrate consultation with young people across Council's strategic planning (1 group).



Figure 9 - Services workshop

### Activity 1: Identifying priorities

Small groups discussed and identified the top three issues facing young people in the Horsham area and reported back to the group. Top priority issues identified across multiple groups were:

- Drug and alcohol use and abuse (prioritised by all groups) –
  - Drinking to excess is a way of seeking acceptance in a social group
  - Has strong effects on the family
  - Is normalised in the community
  - Excessive use leads to sexual issues, pregnancy, homelessness, abuse, mental health.
  - Is a result of boredom, they are self-medicating
- Mental health (prioritised by 2 out of 4 groups)
  - Prevents participation in education, training and work
  - Related to bullying and social media
  - Can occur due to isolation and lack of purpose
  - Lack of access to mental health support services
- Things to do (prioritised by 2 out of 4 groups).
  - Lower socioeconomic can't afford activities
  - Activities are hard to get to
  - There needs to be a range of alternatives to sport
- Other priorities included regional and local transport connections, youth engagement, Services collaboration, Reliance on social media, and building resilience in young people .

### Activity 2: Service gaps and opportunities to address priorities

Small groups discussed and identified service gaps and opportunities for young people in the Horsham area and reported back to the group. Service gaps and opportunities identified by multiple groups were:

- More awareness of what services are available / need for a comprehensive service map (both for services and for young people) (3 groups)
- Improved engagement with young people (eg youth council) (3 groups)
- Outreach service delivery through online channels (although internet connection is a challenge) (2 groups)
- Local and regional transport (eg community transport to access services) (2 groups), and
- Sexual and reproductive health (eg sexual education in schools that is gender inclusive) (2 groups).

### Activity 3 – Youth engagement models

Following a presentation on best practice youth engagement models, small groups discussed which engagement model would work best in Horsham and reported back to the group.

The preferred youth engagement models were:

- Youth forum (2 groups)
- (Inclusive) Youth council (2 groups), and
- Integrate consultation with young people across Council's strategic planning (1 group).

TABLE 12 - YOUTH ENGAGEMENT MODELS

| ENGAGEMENT MODEL | DESCRIPTION   |
|------------------|---|
| Model 1          | <p>Youth forum as a starting point</p> <p>Engaging current reference groups</p> <p>Accountability/voice/power</p> <p>Includes co-design</p> <p>Young people creating their own agenda</p> <p>Engagement/feedback to organisations</p> <p>Include outreach</p> <p>Accessing across all young people/cultures</p> <p>Continual, ongoing, capacity building</p> <p>Other commentary:</p> <p>Youth Council would need to be out on the streets.</p> <p>Is a youth council model exclusionary of young people on the margins?</p> <p>Need a digital strategy</p> <p>Young people as advocates to hold older people accountable</p> |
| Model 2          | <p>HRCC Strategic Planning inclusive of youth consultation</p> <p>Have young people attend Council's existing strategic planning</p> <p>Important that consultation is on strategic planning across everything Council does, not just youth issues</p>  |
| Model 3          | <p>"Blended Council" model.</p> <p>Quota of young people on each committee of Council</p> <p>Inclusive models not separate models</p> <p>Outreach engagement</p>  |
| Model 4          | <p>Youth forum every 6 months on the issue of the day</p> <p>How engaged with the community is Council really? What level of engagement does Council want?</p> <p>Reverse mentorship</p>  |

# Social media

The Youth Strategy was promoted through multiple online channels including a project webpage (www.horshamyouth.com) and Council’s Facebook page.

In addition, young people were incentivised to post photos of places they like or things they would improve in Horsham on Instagram using the project hashtag #horshamyouth by the chance to win a \$100 Horsham Business gift card.

## FACEBOOK

Council posted twice on their Facebook account (11 April and 11 May), receiving a total of 41 likes, 15 shares and 2 comments.

Council also created two Facebook events for the pop up stall sessions on 21 April, with a total of 4 people ‘going,’ 19 people ‘interested,’ and 10 likes. Figure 1 shows Council’s two Facebook posts and comments.

## INSTAGRAM

In total, the #horshamyouth Instagram hashtag saw 33 photos and 3 videos posted by 4 accounts, receiving a total of 158 likes.



Figure 10 - HRCC Facebook post (posted 11 May 2018)



Figure 11 - HRCC Facebook post (posted 11 April 2018)



 **ooft.smd** • Follow

ooft.smd This event was done really nicely and everyone was really kind like I have social anxiety but when I was there it felt like no one was gonna judge it was just a zone to do what ever you want be yourself and strut your stuff 🤩 I honestly love events like this a lot not that I post a lot about it but since you guys asked I'll post what I genuinely thought about this event and where I usually like to go since living in Horsham and what I like about it 🍷 An of course some dislikes. I also posted a few photos of May Park on our way home. #HorshamYouth

corey\_field28 @savidgahm: I see u

17 likes

APRIL 22

Add a comment...

Figure 12 - Instagram post (Source: ooft.smd)



 **nikita\_photography1234** • Follow  
Horsham, Victoria

nikita\_photography1234 Circus oz #horshamyouth I love Horsham because it's small and you know a lot of people, there are a lot of cool shops and places to spend time with friends that's why I love Horsham 🍷

13 likes

APRIL 21

Add a comment...

Figure 13 - Instagram post (source: nikita\_photography1234)



Figure 14 - Instagram post (source: jeddy\_scoots\_012)



Figure 15 - Instagram post (source: ooft.smd)



# Appendix 2: Online survey

## 1. What is your age?

- I am under 25 - Complete Questions 2-8
- I am 25 and older - Only complete Questions 1, 2, 3 and 9

## 2. What makes the Horsham area a good place for young people?

<1.....>

.....>

.....>

<2.....>

.....>

.....>

<3.....>

.....>

.....>

## 3. What would you change to make it a better place for young people?

<1.....>

.....>

<2.....>

.....>

.....>

<3.....>

.....>

.....>

8. A bit about you... (under 25 years old)

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>Where do you live?</b></p> <p>Horsham and district</p> <p>Brimpaen</p> <p>Drung</p> <p>Haven</p> <p>Jung</p> <p>Lahanam</p> <p>McKenzie Creek</p> <p>Natimuk and district</p> <p>Pimpinio</p> <p>Quantong</p> <p>Toolondo</p> <p>Vect's</p> <p>Wartook</p> <p>Other:</p> <p>&lt; &gt;</p> | <p><b>Age:</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Gender (circle)</b></p> <p>m / f / prefer not to answer</p> <p>other:</p> <p>&lt; .....</p>   | <p><b>Where are you currently living?</b></p> <p>With family or carers</p> <p>In a share house</p> <p>I'm temporarily living at a friend's house</p> <p>I don't currently have a permanent home</p> <p>Prefer not to answer</p> <p>Other</p> <p>&lt; .....</p>  |
|   | <p><b>Are you currently studying or working? Choose any/all that apply</b></p> <p>I am studying in school</p> <p>I am studying in TAFE</p> <p>I am studying in university</p> <p>I am studying in Alternate Programs</p> <p>I am working casually</p> <p>I am working part time</p> <p>I am working full time</p> <p>No, neither studying or working</p> | <p><b>Do you identify as any of the following? Choose any/all that apply to you. This question is not required. This information will be kept confidential.</b></p> <p>Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Trans*/Queen/Intersex</p> <p>Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander</p> <p>Born overseas</p> <p>Speak a language other than English</p> <p>Person with disability</p> <p>Young parent</p> |

**THANK YOU**

You can read more about this project at: [horshamyouth.com](http://horshamyouth.com)

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>If you would like to go into the draw to win a \$100 gift voucher, please enter your contact details. This information will stay private. Unless you say it's ok, we won't use this information to contact you.</b></p> |  | <p><b>Do you want to know about more opportunities to tell Council your ideas for the Horsham area?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul> |
| First and last name   |  |   |
| Email address   |  |   |
| Phone number  |  |   |

Cred Consulting is collecting this information on behalf of Horsham Rural City Council. Information collected will be used to create a Youth Strategy for Horsham. This information will not be shared with any third party. You will be able to gain access to the information we collect about you. You can view terms and conditions for the Youth Strategy voucher draw at

**8. A bit about you... (under 25 years old)**

**Where do you live?**

Horsham and district

Brimpaen

Drung

Haven

Jung

Laharum

McKenzie Creek

Natimuk and district

Pimainin

Quantong

Toolondo

Verdis

Warook

Other:

.....?

**Age:**

---

**Gender (circle)**

m / f / prefer not to answer

other:

< >

**Are you currently studying or working?**  
Choose any/all that apply

I am studying in school

I am studying in TAFE

I am studying in university

I am studying in Alternate Programs

I am working casually

I am working part time

I am working full time

No, neither studying or working

**Where are you currently living?**

With family or carers

In a share house

I'm temporarily living at a friend's house

I don't currently have a permanent home

Prefer not to answer

Other

< >

**Do you identify as any of the following?**  
Choose any/all that apply to you. This question is not required. This information will be kept confidential.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Trans\*/Queer/Intersex

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Born overseas

Speak a language other than English

Person with disability

Young parent

**THANK YOU**

You can read more about this project at: [horshamyouth.com](http://horshamyouth.com)

**If you would like to go into the draw to win a \$100 gift voucher, please enter your contact details. This information will stay private. Unless you say it's ok, we won't use this information to contact you.**

First and last name

Email address

Phone number

**Do you want to know about more opportunities to tell Council your ideas for the Horsham area?**

- Yes
- No

# Appendix 2: Online survey

## cross-section tables

TABLE 13 - MAIN ISSUES - CROSS-SECTION RESPONDENTS AGED 10-11 COMPARED TO 12-17 AND 18-25

| Main issues   | 10-11 | 12-17 | 18-25 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| Drug and alcohol use and abuse                                    | 40%   | 67.6% | 70.4% |
| Bullying  | 44.0% | 52.8% | 33.3% |
| Employment  | 16%   | 12.0% | 40.7% |
| Things for young people to do (eg sports, events, arts & culture) | 24%   | 34.3% | 48.2% |
| Mental and physical health  | 12%   | 38.0% | 33.3% |
| Youth friendly public places and spaces                           | 28%   | 30.6% | 25.9% |
| Domestic violence   | 8%    | 27.8% | 0.0%  |
| Public transport and getting around                               | 20%   | 17.6% | 22.2% |
| Education   | 36%   | 25.9% | 14.8% |
| Other (please specify)  | 20%   | 23.2% | 25.9% |
| Support for young parents   | 4%    | 8.3%  | 0.0%  |
| Feeling safe in public places                                     | 28%   | 23.2% | 7.4%  |
| Involving young people in Council's decision making               | 12%   | 11.1% | 29.6% |
| Sexual health   | 0%    | 10.2% | 14.8% |
| Homelessness  | 8%    | 4.6%  | 0.0%  |
| Walking and cycling   | 28%   | 3.7%  | 3.7%  |
| Feeling safe at home  | 12%   | 9.3%  | 0.0%  |
| Sex education   | 0%    | 9.3%  | 11.1% |
| TOTAL RESPONSES   | 25    | 108   | 27    |

TABLE 14 - MAIN ISSUES - CROSS-SECTION RESPONDENTS AGED 10-25 COMPARED TO 25+

| Main issues   | 10-25 | 25+   |
|---|-------|-------|
| Drug and alcohol use and abuse                                    | 40%   | 58.2% |
| Bullying  | 44.0% | 47.3% |
| Mental and physical health  | 16%   | 41.8% |
| Things for young people to do (eg sports, events, arts & culture) | 24%   | 41.8% |
| Youth friendly public places and spaces                           | 12%   | 38.2% |
| Education   | 28%   | 23.6% |
| Other (please specify)  | 8%    | 23.6% |
| Public transport and getting around                               | 20%   | 27.3% |
| Feeling safe in public places                                     | 36%   | 12.7% |
| Domestic violence   | 20%   | 27.3% |
| Employment  | 4%    | 45.5% |
| Involving young people in Council's decision making               | 28%   | 12.7% |
| Sexual health   | 12%   | 9.1%  |
| Feeling safe at home  | 0%    | 1.8%  |
| Sex education   | 8%    | 1.8%  |
| Walking and cycling   | 28%   | 5.5%  |
| Support for young parents   | 12%   | 14.6% |
| Homelessness  | 0%    | 5.5%  |
| TOTAL RESPONSES   | 25    | 55    |

TABLE 15 - MAIN ISSUES - CROSS-SECTION GENDER

| Main issues   | Female | Male  |
|---|--------|-------|
| Drug and alcohol use and abuse                                    | 76.7%  | 73.9% |
| Youth friendly public places and spaces                           | 46.7%  | 23%   |
| Bullying  | 43.3%  | 38.5% |
| Things for young people to do (eg sports, events, arts & culture) | 40.0%  | 26.2% |
| Domestic violence   | 40.0%  | 27.7% |
| Education   | 33.3%  | 30.8% |
| Mental and physical health  | 33.3%  | 29.2% |
| Other (please specify)  | 33.3%  | 35.4% |
| Feeling safe in public places                                     | 23.3%  | 9.2%  |
| Public transport and getting around                               | 16.7%  | 18.5% |
| Employment  | 13.3%  | 21.5% |
| Involving young people in Council's decision making               | 10.0%  | 12.3% |
| Feeling safe at home  | 10.0%  | 1.5%  |
| Support for young parents   | 6.7%   | 7.7%  |
| Sexual health   | 3.3%   | 1.5%  |
| Homelessness  | 3.3%   | 3.1%  |
| Walking and cycling   | 3.3%   | 4.6%  |
| Sex education   | 0.0%   | 3.1%  |
| TOTAL RESPONSES   | 93     | 65    |

TABLE 16 - CROSS-SECTION RESPONDENTS LIVING IN HORSHAM COMPARED TO LIVING IN OTHER AREAS

| Main issues   | Live in the Horsham district | Live in surrounding areas |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Drug and alcohol use and abuse                                    | 61.1%                        | 76.7%                     |
| Bullying  | 47.3%                        | 43.3%                     |
| Things for young people to do (eg sports, events, arts & culture) | 31.3%                        | 40.0%                     |
| Mental and physical health  | 30.5%                        | 33.3%                     |
| Education   | 24.4%                        | 33.3%                     |
| Public transport and getting around                               | 23.7%                        | 16.7%                     |
| Other (please specify)  | 23.7%                        | 33.3%                     |
| Youth friendly public places and spaces                           | 22.9%                        | 46.7%                     |
| Employment  | 21.4%                        | 13.3%                     |
| Feeling safe in public places                                     | 19.9%                        | 23.3%                     |
| Involving young people in Council's decision making               | 15.3%                        | 10.0%                     |
| Domestic violence   | 14.5%                        | 40.0%                     |
| Sexual health   | 11.5%                        | 3.3%                      |
| Sex education   | 9.9%                         | 0.0%                      |
| Walking and cycling   | 8.4%                         | 3.3%                      |
| Feeling safe at home  | 7.6%                         | 10.0%                     |
| Support for young parents   | 6.1%                         | 6.7%                      |
| Homelessness  | 3.8%                         | 3.3%                      |
| TOTAL RESPONSES   | 131                          | 30                        |

