



Shire of
CARNARVON
catch a *taste* of the great life

Youth Strategy Plan

2022 - 2025



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Youth Strategy Outcomes	2
GOVERNANCE	3
SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING	3
PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP	3
LEARN AND WORK.....	3
SOC Youth Strategy Implementation Plan 2022-2025	4
GOVERNANCE.....	4
SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING	8
PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP	12
LEARN AND WORK.....	15
Conclusion	17
INTRODUCTION TO FINDINGS	18
SHIRES COMMITMENT TO YOUTH	18
Demographic snapshot	20
What we have found	23
Approach.....	23
Our findings.....	24
What is important to youth.....	30
What is lacking	31
Our Vision.....	31
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	32



OUR VISION

“Youth thrive in their community through positive development and opportunities”

opportunities,
through positive development and
opportunities in their communities.

Our Vision

To focus effort into this strategy a Vision has been developed. The Youth Strategy aligns with the national and state youth strategies and is designed to support the implementation of the Shire of Carnarvon's Strategic Community Plan. This Youth Strategy supports other health and wellbeing strategies and provides the Shire of Carnarvon with the impetus to take the community leadership role to achieve long needed community rebuilding.

Approaches will be tailored to the cultural norms of Carnarvon. Prior communication of any reform or research activities to key players is good practice and gives the respondents time to understand, clarify issues, prepare, and provide more valuable information so as not to delay the schedule and production of the deliverables.

Our research identified four key priority themes:

- 1. GOVERNANCE**
- 2. SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING**
- 3. PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP**
- 4. LEARN AND WORK**

The themes, strategies, and action outline are detailed in the next two sections of this strategy.



YOUTH STRATEGY OUTCOMES

Strategic Fit

Each Key Priority Area is linked

Synergistic Approach

Each of the four Key Priority Areas and Outcomes, and their Strategies create synergy across the Youth Strategy. Each strategy has a connection.

1. Governance

Outcome 1. The Shire of Carnarvon leads the community through strong leadership and advocacy that contributes to sustainable youth and community outcomes.

2. Safety, Health & Wellbeing

Outcome 2. Youth feel safe, respected and have access to services in their community.

3. Participation & Leadership

Outcome 3. Youth are engaged and contribute to their community.

4. Learn & Work

Outcome 4. Youth are engaged in positive learning environments that equip and prepare them to build their skills, resilience and be work ready.

The Youth Strategy is intrinsically linked to the Shire of Carnarvon (SoC) Strategic Community Plan 2018 to 2028 and supports some key actions in that plan.

The Youth Strategy is based around four key priority areas and outcomes with 10 strategies that outline how the outcomes will be achieved.



GOVERNANCE

Outcome 1. *The Shire of Carnarvon leads the community through strong leadership and advocacy that contributes to sustainable youth and community outcomes.*

Strategies:

- 1.1: Build and maintain strategic partnerships that respond to the current and merging needs of youth within Carnarvon and its outskirts.
- 1.2: The SoC uses its position and influence to advocate on youth and community issues in Carnarvon

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Outcome 2. *Youth feel safe, respected and have access to services in their community.*

Strategies:

- 2.1: A Youth Safe Hub is established that services Youth at Risk and their parents/carers.
- 2.2: Key service providers are focused on delivering coordinated services that meet youth and community outcomes.
- 2.3: The SoC through the DLGC and key service providers support and promote local and government initiatives for positive health and wellbeing.

PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

Outcome 3. *Youth are engaged and contribute to their community.*

Strategies:

- 3.1: Promote and support youth involvement in community leadership, decision making and projects.
- 3.2: Establish and support a Youth Advisory Council of diverse youth.
- 3.3: Establish regular youth engagement forums and communication.

LEARN AND WORK

Outcome 4. *Youth are engaged in positive learning environments that equip and prepare them to build their skills, resilience and be work ready.*

Strategies:

- 4.1: Youth are supported in mainstream educational and alternative learning development.
- 4.2: Support youth in partnership with local and regional employers to be employment ready.



SOC YOUTH STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2022-2025

GOVERNANCE

Outcome 1. *The Shire of Carnarvon leads the community through strong leadership and advocacy that contributes to sustainable youth and community outcomes.*

Strategy 1.1: Build and maintain strategic partnerships that respond to the current and merging needs of youth within Carnarvon and its outskirts.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
1.1.1	District Leadership Group Committee (DLGC) Focus Reestablish the Carnarvon DLGC led by the SoC that focuses on community strategy and outcomes to enable Carnarvon to be become a safe, secure, and resilient community.	Shire of Carnarvon	a. A Carnarvon DLGC is established inclusive WAPOL, DCP, Health & Education. b. Action register is kept, and actions are completed within the designated timeframes.	TBD	2022/2023
1.1.2	DLGC Focus Determine the DLGC membership to enable timely decision making based on programs, initiatives, and resources that address local youth issues.	Shire of Carnarvon	a. The DLGC committee comprises of decision makers able to make decisions on behalf of their organizations.	TBD	Ongoing
1.1.3	DLGC Focus Determine programs and services funding criteria based on community strategy and outcomes.	Shire of Carnarvon	a. Community review of youth related issues undertaken. b. Consulted with stakeholders on possible solutions to address issues on hand. c. Develop specific draft operational plans for the shire and DLGC in	TBD	2022/2023



			<p>order to address emerging issues as required.</p> <p>d. Operational plan resourced, funded, and implemented.</p>		
--	--	--	---	--	--

Strategy 1.2: The SoC uses its position and influence to advocate on youth and community issues in Carnarvon.

Actions	Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame	
1.2.1	Continue to inform and lobby State and Federal Government on issues affecting youth in Carnarvon.	Shire of Carnarvon President/DLGC	<p>a. Communication/Lobby Strategy developed and implemented.</p> <p>b. Regular engagement with Stakeholders & community groups is maintained/recorded and marketed appropriately.</p>	TBD	2022/2023
1.2.2	Advocate for the provision of affordable and responsive services and resources that effectively support the health and wellbeing of youth and contribute to community outcomes.	Shire of Carnarvon President/DLGC	<p>a. Reference provided on key delivery agencies.</p> <p>b. Identify and catalogue key Agencies.</p>	TBD	Ongoing
1.2.3	Collaborate with KSPs and community agencies in Carnarvon to ensure youth and their families feel confident and safe to use the range of services, opportunities, and information that are available.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Services Coordinator	<p>a. Development of the Community Connectors Program (Night Patrol) four nights per week subject to ongoing funding 2022 - 24</p> <p>b. Opening of the Youth Hub three afternoons a week.</p>	\$100,000 \$55,000	2022/2023
1.2.4	Advocate for youth participation in public consultation and SoC issues.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Services Coordinator	<p>a. Youth Advisory Council established.</p> <p>b. Delivery of an Annual YAC Event</p>	TBD	Ongoing



1.2.5	Pursue grant and other funding opportunities to progress youth and community development initiatives.	Shire of Carnarvon Executive Manager Community Services Coordinator	a. Applications for suitable grant opportunities lodged.	TBD	Ongoing
1.2.6	Collaborate with key stakeholders in Carnarvon to facilitate and enhance recreational/sport facilities and programs for Youth.	Shire of Carnarvon DLDC Community services Coordinator	a. Increase opportunities to participate in sporting and recreational activities. b. Increase participation creating a more active and healthier community. c. Identify gaps and promote opportunities amongst community members to deliver more sport and recreation. d. Increase information sharing via a regular updated community sporting recreational database.	TBD	Ongoing
		DLGSC	a. Carnarvon Club Network established and meets bi-annually.	TBD	2022
1.2.7	Promote available funding opportunities and assist clubs access funding that will enhance service delivery and increase youth engagement in sport and recreation	Shire Of Carnarvon DLGSC Community services Coordinator	a. Improved delivery of existing activities and program and increased accessibility leading to increased youth engagement/membership in sport and recreation clubs and community groups. b. Monthly updates provided to stakeholders on grant opportunities.	TBD	2022/2023



			c. Completion of four suitable grants annually.		
1.2.8	Promote and celebrate the diversity of youth in Carnarvon through strengthening whole of community relationships.	Shire of Carnarvon DLGC Community services Coordinator	a. Implementation and delivery of the Shires RAP. b. Delivery of specific events aligned with the annual youth week festivities.	\$15,000	Ongoing



SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Outcome 2. *Youth feel safe, respected, and have access to services in their community.*

Strategy 2.1: A Youth Safe Hub is established that services youth at risk and their parents/carers.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
2.1.1	<p>Lobby the State Government to establish a Carnarvon Youth Safe Hub that as part of the Night Patrol provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safe and temporary youth accommodation• Medical and hygiene• Youth counselling• Youth case management• Referral and remediation involving parents/carers. <p>Reason: No temporary youth accommodation exists within Carnarvon for youth at risk. Where a young person cannot be returned home due to parental or home environment issues, they can be placed in temporary accommodation provided by the Safe House. Currently, all non-placed young persons are referred to the DCP that places unnecessary pressure on the system, police, and parents. This initiative would draw on locally funded KSP for necessary services.</p>	Shire of Carnarvon President/DLGC	a. A feasibility study is developed by December 2022.	TBD	Ongoing
2.1.2	Monitor and review the Night Patrol to enhance its ability to meet emerging issues.	Shire of Carnarvon DLGC Community Services Coordinator	a. Night Patrol capacity and capability enhanced by increasing patrols to four evenings per week. b. A formal review is completed by June 2022 providing details that address Objectives and outcomes.	TBD	Ongoing



Strategy 2.2: Key service providers are focused on delivering coordinated services that meet youth and community outcomes.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
2.2.1	Key Service Provider (KSP) Focus Undertake mapping of all KSPs with Carnarvon to identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not-for-profit type• Service delivery type• Capacity• Operating hours• Outcomes• Key administration	Shire of Carnarvon DLGSC Community Services Coordinator	a. A readily accessible directory of KSP services is developed.	Existing	2022/2023
2.2.2	Develop a KSP service matrix showing service delivery specialism.	Shire of Carnarvon Community services Coordinator	a. KSP service matrix developed, monitored, and upgraded.	Existing	2022/2023
2.2.3	Establish a SoC KSP Network Coordinator to liaise with KSPs on services, delivery, and funding for community outcomes. Reason: A dedicated coordinator under the management of the SoC will enable better collaboration and coordination with KSPs, including consortium funding development for Carnarvon outcomes.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer	a. SoC KSP Coordinator established	Existing	2022/2023
2.2.4	Establish DLGC/SoC program funding criteria for KSPs based on community outcomes with an emphasis on consortium approaches for consideration by the DLGC.	Shire of Carnarvon DLGSC Executive Manager Community Services Coordinator	a. Criteria and pro forma developed (refer to 1.1.3).	\$5,000	2022/2023



2.2.5	Assist where required a DLGC led proposal to implement programs based on elements of the T120 State Government Program for youth at risk.	Department of communities DLGC	a. Programs implemented	Based on T120 Funding	2022 to 2025
-------	---	---------------------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	--------------



Strategy 2.3: The SoC through the DLGC and key service providers support and promote local and government initiatives for positive health and wellbeing.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
2.3.1	Support and promote government initiatives on positive health and wellbeing that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drug and alcohol awareness• Positive sexual health• Parenting support• Mental health and resilience support• Act Belong Commit• COVID 19 and vaccinations	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer DLGSC	a. A readily accessible directory of state-wide services is developed, updated, and communicated.	Existing	Ongoing
2.3.2	Promote KSPs services through SoC and other forum communication platforms to the community.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer	a. Communication/Marketing Strategy developed and adopted by the community partners.	TBD	Ongoing
2.3.3	Promote and facilitate parenting education that support family wellbeing and guidance in youth development.	Shire of Carnarvon Youth Service Coordinator library Ngala	a. Communication/Marketing Strategy developed with the Shire of Carnarvon's marketing team and parenting organizations.	TBD	Ongoing
2.3.4	Promote and develop a youth RESPECT initiative aimed at improving the image of Carnarvon youth and influencing better behavior.	Community Development Officer Youth Services Team	a. Youth RESPECT initiative developed in unison with Marketing Strategy.	TBD	Ongoing



PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

Outcome 3. *Youth are engaged and contribute to their community.*

Strategy 3.1: Promote and support youth involvement in community leadership, decision making, and projects.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
3.1.1	Promote and support youth being involved in SoC decision making processes that relate to youth and community.	Shire of Carnarvon DLGSC Community services Coordinator	a. Youth Advisory Council established and operated by youth supported SoC. b. Bi-monthly meetings conducted with representation from the DLGC. c. Establishment of On-line face book page d. Annual presentation to council	Existing	2022/2023
3.1.2	Identify methods and principles of diverse youth involvement, with youth, to ensure that youth are effectively engaged.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer Youth Services Team	a. Refer 3.1.1 b. Commencement of new sporting events such as Surfing and Boxing for 2022-23 c. Deliverance of two artistic based programs in 2022-23	Existing	Ongoing



Strategy 3.2: Establish and support a Youth Advisory Council of diverse youth.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
3.2.1	Establish a Youth Advisory Council (YAC) within SoC governance that considers the views and opinions of diverse youth.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer DLGSC	a. Youth Advisory Council established and operated by youth supported SoC. (Refer to 3.1.1)	Existing	2022/2023
3.2.2	Continue to promote and support the YAC and ensure a diversity of background that enables the SoC being better informed on whole of community youth issues.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer	a. Established Youth Advisory Council operating effectively. (Refer to 3.1.1 & 3.1.2)	Existing	Ongoing
3.2.3	Promote the YAC by engaging with the SoC diverse cultural groups to enable whole of community input.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer	a. Two Youth forums undertaken annually.	\$5,000	2022/2023

Strategy 3.3: Establish regular youth engagement forums and communication.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
3.3.1	Improve communication methods with youth and the community to enhance effective engagement and two-way communication.	Community Development Officer Youth Services Team DLGSC	a. Youth Engagement and Marketing Strategy developed and implemented.	Existing	2022/2023



3.3.2	Regularly engage with the community and KSPs to identify and inform the SoC on current and future needs for services, facilities, and recreational spaces for youth.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer DLGSC	a. Two community engagement forums undertaken annually focusing on youth related issues inclusive of programs and infrastructure needs. b. Carnarvon Club Network established and meets bi-annually.	Refer 3.2.3	2022/2023
-------	--	--	---	-------------	-----------



LEARN AND WORK

Outcome 4. Youth are engaged in positive learning environments that equip and prepare them to build their skills, resilience, and be work ready.

Strategy 4.1: Youth are supported in mainstream educational and alternative learning development.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
4.1.1	Identify and support key service providers to establish mentoring programs to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth, including father role models.	Shire of Carnarvon DLGC	a. A readily accessible directory of Local services providers able to deliver mentoring is developed and communicated accordingly.	Existing	2022/2023

Strategy 4.2: Support youth in partnership with local and regional employers to be employment ready.

Actions		Responsibility	Measure of Success	Budget	Time Frame
4.2.1	Collaborate with local employment service providers and businesses to target youth job opportunities.	Shire of Carnarvon Community Development Officer Youth Services team	a. Youth employment opportunities identified and marketed through relevant KSPs.	Existing	2022/2023
4.2.2	Contribute to the development of area-wide employment forums for youth in collaboration with local businesses.	Shire of Carnarvon DLGC	a. Two Employment Forums undertaken.	Existing	Ongoing



		Chamber of Commerce Employment Agencies			
4.2.3	Establish business networks to assist youth to locate local employment and assist youth to develop skills required to be job ready.	Employment agencies Real Futures	a. Business network established in liaison with KSP such as Real Futures.	Existing	2022/2023
4.2.4	Promote and support a SoC youth work experience program, as well as youth internships and traineeships where appropriate.	Shire of Carnarvon Governance HR Manager	a. Youth Work Experience Program. b. Four Trainees employed by the SoC. c. Two school-based trainees employed by the SoC.	\$56,000	2022/2023



CONCLUSION

Resource forecasting is important to ensure that the strategies are actioned in a timely manner and the outcomes achieved. Flexibility must be built into the strategy to allow for adjustments to unplanned or environmental events.

The Youth Strategy will be monitored on an annual basis to track its implementation progress. The progress report will be furnished by the Shire of Carnarvon as part of its transparency. It will be

important for youth to be involved in the review to enable a more accurate picture of actual progress viewed by them.

Council will continue to actively engage with young people and stakeholders throughout the implementation of the Youth Strategy, ensuring that young people are always at its heart.



Our Vision

"Youth thrive in their community through positive development and opportunities"



INTRODUCTION TO FINDINGS

The COVID-19 pandemic crisis and easing of emergency restrictions presents opportunities to explore better strategy across the community that will position Carnarvon and outer area youth to be more resilient and become valued community members and leaders.

Young people and key service providers have had the opportunity to have their say in shaping a Carnarvon Youth Strategy to enable and encourage ownership of the actions needed to achieve the outcomes. Young people need to believe and feel empowered along with their community to drive the strategy forward. Without that ownership and desire the strategy will not succeed and become another imposed valueless document. In total, 13 Key Service Providers (KSP) and 46 youth participated.

The strategy engagement process identified a range of issues faced by both youth and the community, including the negative profile of Carnarvon youth that is

portrayed within the community and media forums; alcohol, drugs and domestic violence; lack of education; lack of parenting; unsafe home environment; building positive and self-esteem; the need for more activities; employment pathways; having a voice/connection in community decision-making; enhancing the Night Patrol; better services coordination; and establishing a Youth Safe Hub.

Four key priority areas and outcomes with 10 strategies have been identified for action. Some will be achieved in the short term, whilst others are medium to long-term to resolve long-standing issues.

Importantly, the leadership and coordination of programs and KSPs is identified as a major hurdle to progressing timely, resourced, and action-orientated initiatives. The Shire of Carnarvon's (SoC) vision is for youth to thrive in their community.

SHIRES COMMITMENT TO YOUTH



"We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land where we live, the Inggarda, Baiyunga, Thalanji, Malgana and Thudgarri people and pay respects to their Elders past, present and their future leaders. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Carnarvon (Kuwinywardu) and this region. We also acknowledge the Elders past, present and future of all communities and cultural groups of Central Australia that identify Carnarvon as part of a broader Indigenous community."

The Shire of Carnarvon (SoC) is committed to working collaboratively with others to ensure young people are valued, empowered, and supported to reach their full potential and are connected to community. Young people have unique perspectives, aspirations, and needs. For them to reach their full potential the approach must be targeted to different ages and stages of development.

Over the past three months, the SoC has undertaken community consultation, research, and analysis to assess the extent to which the current youth services model and facilities meet the needs of young people and community; this research will ensure that Youth Services offer inclusive services to all young people.

The SoCs commitment to youth is demonstrated in the Strategic Community Plan 2018-2028, Objective 3. Social, Item 3.5 Youth Engagement, with commentary on youth engagement challenges in the community. The engagement findings and its Strategy compliment the Strategic Community Plan Vision.

In 2020 the SoC has increased its Youth Services capacity and capability to establish the inaugural Night Patrol that is mandated to intervene with youth at risk within the Carnarvon townsite during evenings. Further, a temporary safe youth haven has been sourced, staffed with approved night patrol staff and youth workers to meet emerging needs and community issues.

There is a plethora of Youth Strategies that have been developed by other jurisdictions, some with similar outcomes. It is important for the Shire of Carnarvon to reflect the actual current and progressive needs of youth through identifying Carnarvon community outcomes that can be achieved based on the extent of Shire resources and community service providers.

The SoC is understanding of the need for improved collaboration and a collective approach by key services. The SoC is now able to take the lead in community issues supported by government and non-government key service providers and volunteers.



DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT

The Shire of Carnarvon is located 902 kilometers north of Perth, overlooking the Indian Ocean and in the centre of the Shark Bay and Ningaloo World Heritage areas. Its main localities are Carnarvon and Coral Bay. Occupying a land area of approximately 46,000km², the Shire borders four other Local Government Areas consisting of the Shire of Exmouth to the north, Shire of Ashburton to the north east, the Shire of Upper Gascoyne to the east, and the Shire of Shark Bay to the south.

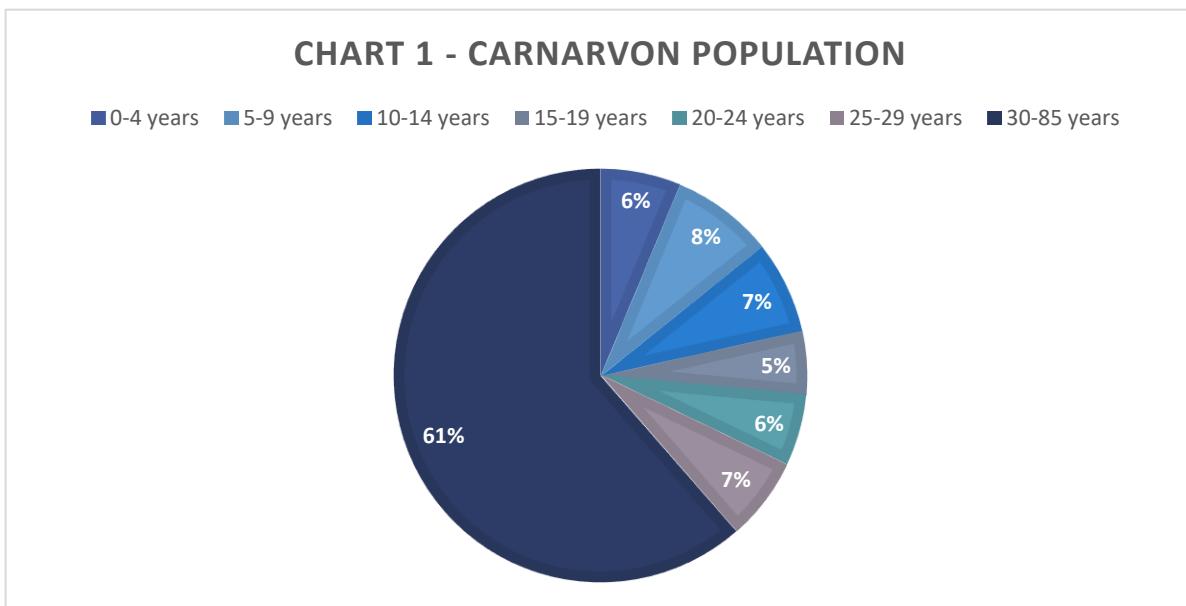
The Youth Strategy will only focus on the Carnarvon township and outskirts that has a majority diverse youth population. Further, a means to focus all effort from

both government and non-government services on the Carnarvon youth issues through a whole of community approach with a strong resolve in remediating current youth needs and issues.

Whilst the Shire of Carnarvon incorporates other localities (Coral Bay and other Aboriginal Communities), the SOCCP will focus its service within the Carnarvon townsite. The Shire of Carnarvon has a population of (as at 2016) 5,528. Some aspects of the Carnarvon townsite demographics as 2016 are shown in the following charts.

CARNARVON DEMOGRAPHICS BASED ON 2016 CENSUS

Chart 1 – 32% of the Carnarvon population were aged between 0-29.



[^]Australian Bureau of Statistics (2 March 2021). "Carnarvon (L) (Urban Centre/Locality)". 2016 Census QuickStats.



Chart 2 – Of the Carnarvon population of 5,528 people, (2,889) 52.2% were male and (2,641) 47.8% female. 18% of the total population were of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.

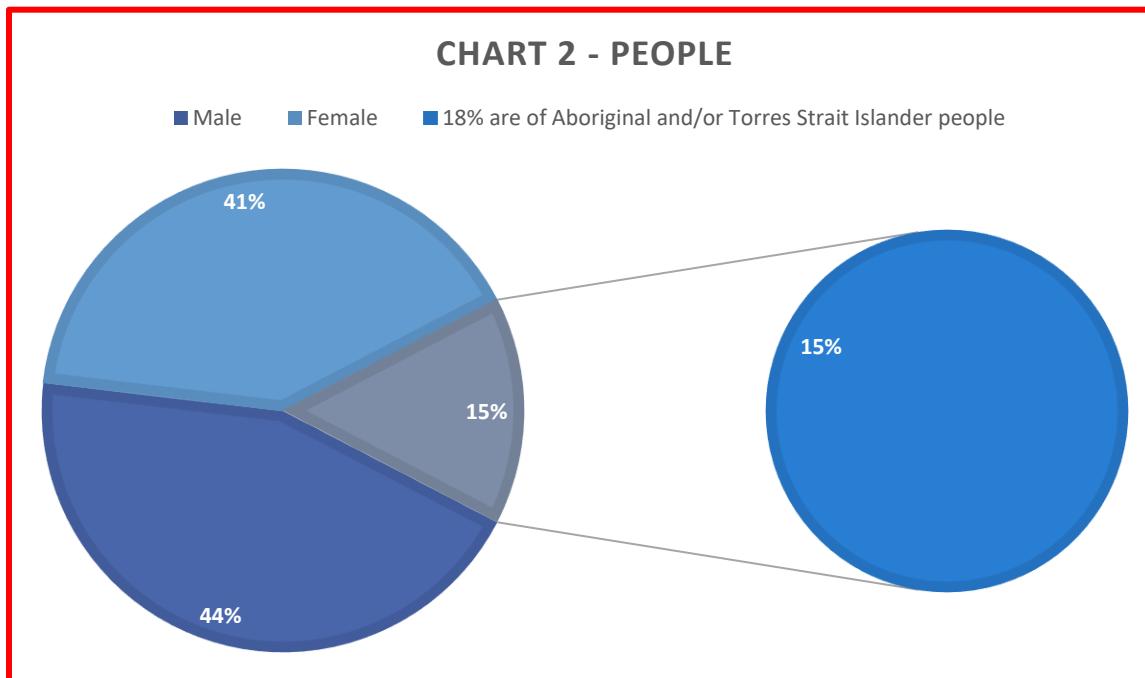


Chart 3 – Note that 944 people, 52%, did not state. 32.9% of the population were attending an educational institution. Of these, 23.8% were in primary school, 13.3% in secondary school and 5.7% in a university/tertiary or TAFE institution. 1% were in other.

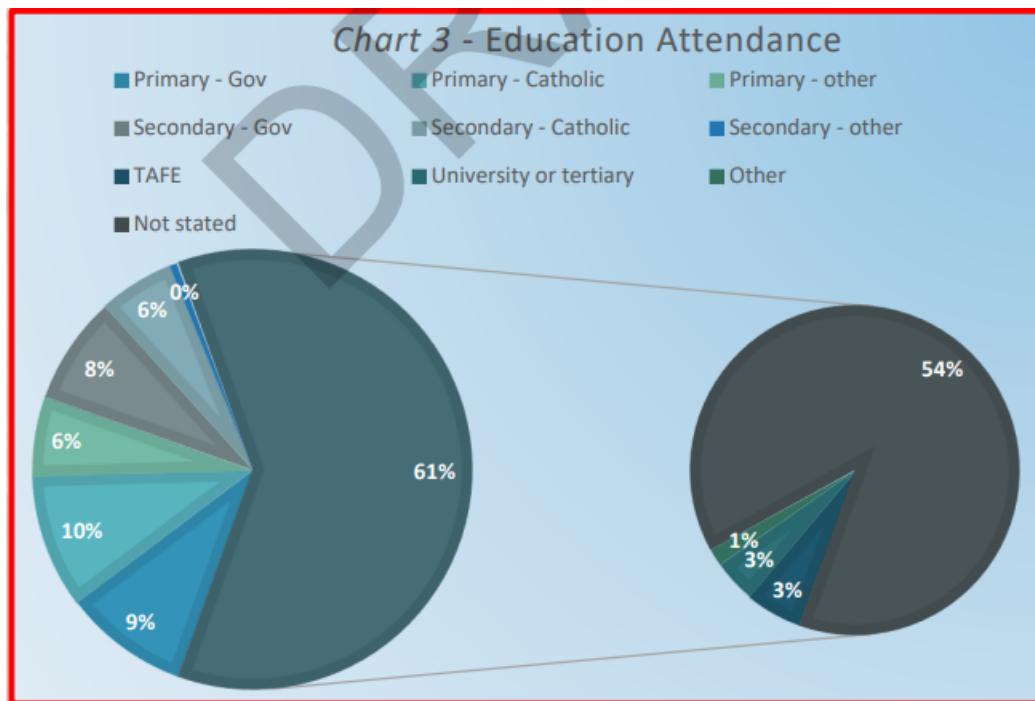




Chart 4 – For the 15 years and over, 13.3% reported having completed Year 12 as their highest level of educational attainment, 16.3% had completed a Certificate III or IV and 5.5% had completed an Advanced Diploma or Diploma.

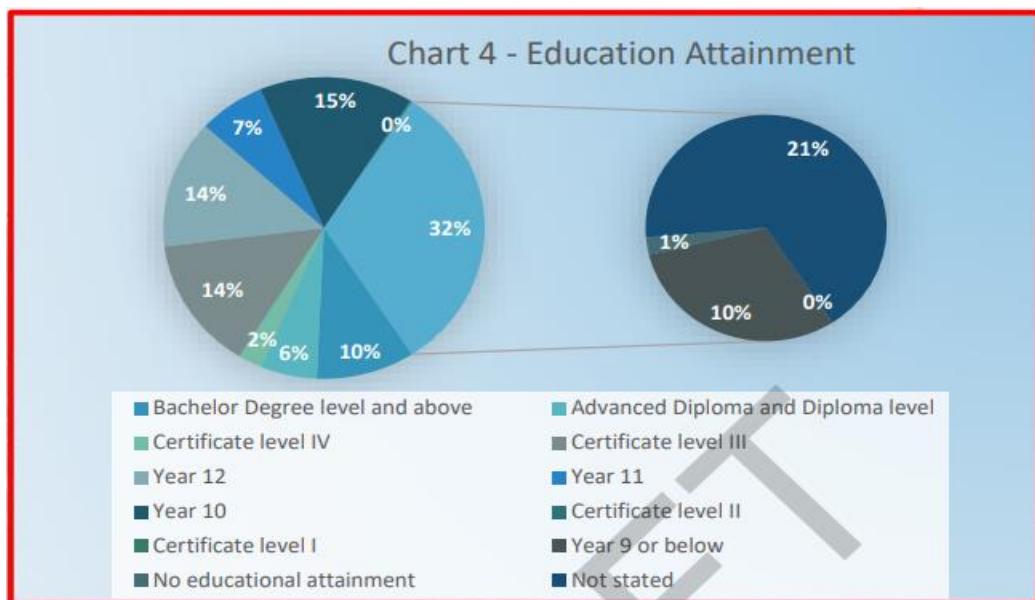
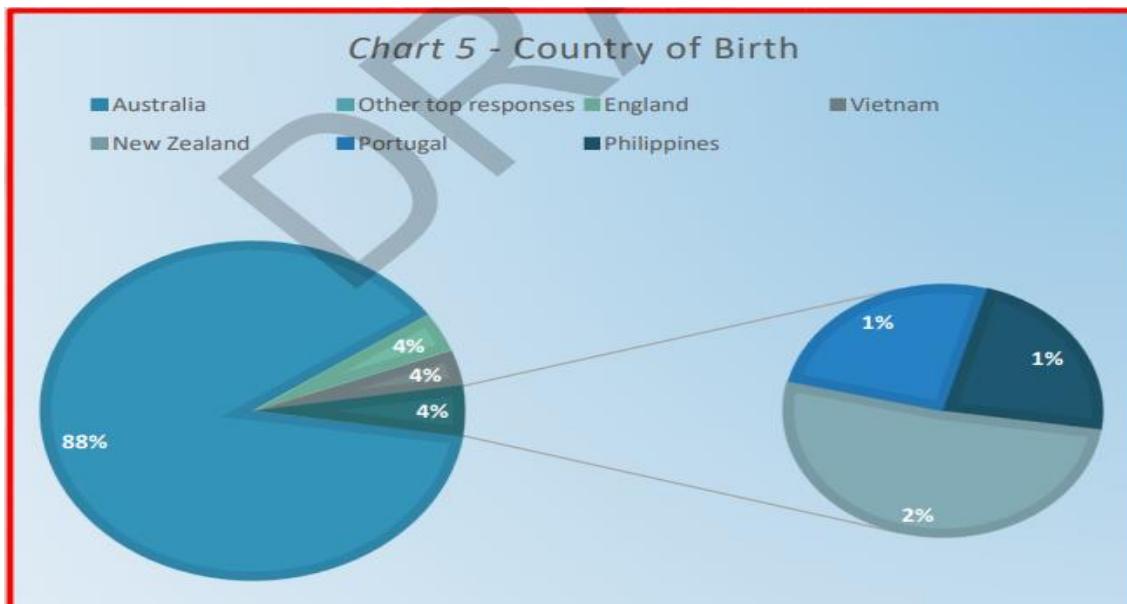


Chart 5 – 65.8% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were England 2.8%, Vietnam 2.6%, New Zealand 1.8%, Portugal 0.9% and Philippines 0.8%.



The Mungullah Aboriginal Community is situated on the outskirts of the townsite.

There are some supporting organizations within the townsite that provide service to youth, such as Carnarvon Trustees Aboriginal Corporation (CTAC),

PCYC, Carnarvon Medical Aboriginal Corporation and Elders, including the Shire of Carnarvon. The need for more coordinated communication is necessary to ensure collaboration and agreement on supporting this strategy and the ongoing SoC Night Patrol operations.



WHAT WE HAVE FOUND

The development of the Youth Strategy was informed by extensive consultation and research approach.

The approach involved research through a literature review of youth related issues, concerns, and strategies across Australian local governments and youth organization surveys, and the collection of relevant statistical and demographic information informed strategy direction over eight months.

Analysis of the data was undertaken through coding – identifying and ranking the frequency and percentage of categories and themes that informed the outcomes and strategies.

APPROACH

13 Key Service Providers that comprised Government agencies and representatives were approached.

Key Service Providers	
Carnarvon Community College Principal	Edmund Rice Foundation
Vince Catania MLA, Member North West Central	Helping Minds
Men's Shed (Aboriginal elders)	Cultural Centre
ABC Program (Aboriginal Elder)	Dept of Child Protection
PCYC Carnarvon	Dept of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Real Futures	Post Suicide Response and Support Coordination
Ngala	WA Police

- ❖ One-on-one interviews were undertaken with KSPs. Each interview session opened with a view that '*current funded initiatives are not working*' and asking two questions:

Question 1: What do you see as the problems affecting youth in Carnarvon?

Question 2: What do you see as solutions that the Shire of Carnarvon can action?

Schools were approached to undertake a group interview approach with age groups of young people.

Schools	
Carnarvon Community College (Including the Clontarf Academy and Shooting Stars)	Carnarvon Christian School
Carnarvon School of the Air	St Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic School

- ❖ Group interviews of school and youth clusters were undertaken through the school system using a prepared 12 question group interview package. An online survey had been developed but the personal group interview approach was used to enable broader identification of views and opinions by youth not able to access schools or technology. The school interviews were conducted in partnership with the school administrations, and youth clusters through peer groups and alternative learning areas.



Youth Groupings situated in differing environments within Carnarvon were engaged.

Youth Groupings	
SoC Youth Worker Team	Village Team
Work Experience Youth	

- ❖ A group interview approach was undertaken to explore their views and opinions from an adolescent, young adult perspective.

OUR FINDINGS

The following tables and graphs detail the youth factors contributing to problems and identification of solutions from the KSPs, and factors and improvements from an eclectic mix of young people from schools and the Carnarvon community. The frequency of coding based on context was used to determine rankings.

KEY SERVICE PROVIDERS

Table 1: KEY SERVICE PROVIDER YOUTH FACTORS			
RANKING	ELEMENTS	FREQUENCY	%
1	Lack of consistent service delivery by KSPs.	10	77
2	No coordination, collaboration between KSPs.	10	77
3	Lack of parent involvement, values, and control in youth development. Disrespect to culture, elders, and ethics.	8	61.5
4	Lack of education.	8	61.5
5	Government departments not working collaboratively with KSPs. Need to listen to solutions.	7	54
6	Kids being returned to unsafe environments (parents' situation – DV, drugs, alcohol).	5	38.5
7	Nothing is working.	5	38.5
8	Non-attendance at schools.	4	31
9	Welfare benefits not used appropriately (drugs, alcohol and gambling). Education fees, clothing, and food not being covered requiring further welfare support.	4	31
10	Centrelink payments contributing to people not working or seeking employment.	4	31
11	Biased assumptions of Carnarvon youth image in media leading to youth anti-social behaviour.	4	31
12	No Aboriginal cultural approach to assist KSPs with program implementation to enable Aboriginal and community buy-in (trust and respect).	4	31
13	Lack of father figure role models for youth.	5	23



Chart 6 - Youth Factors

■ Issues Identified through Key Service Providers %
■ Issues Identified through Key Service Providers Frequency
— Linear (Issues Identified through Key Service Providers Frequency)

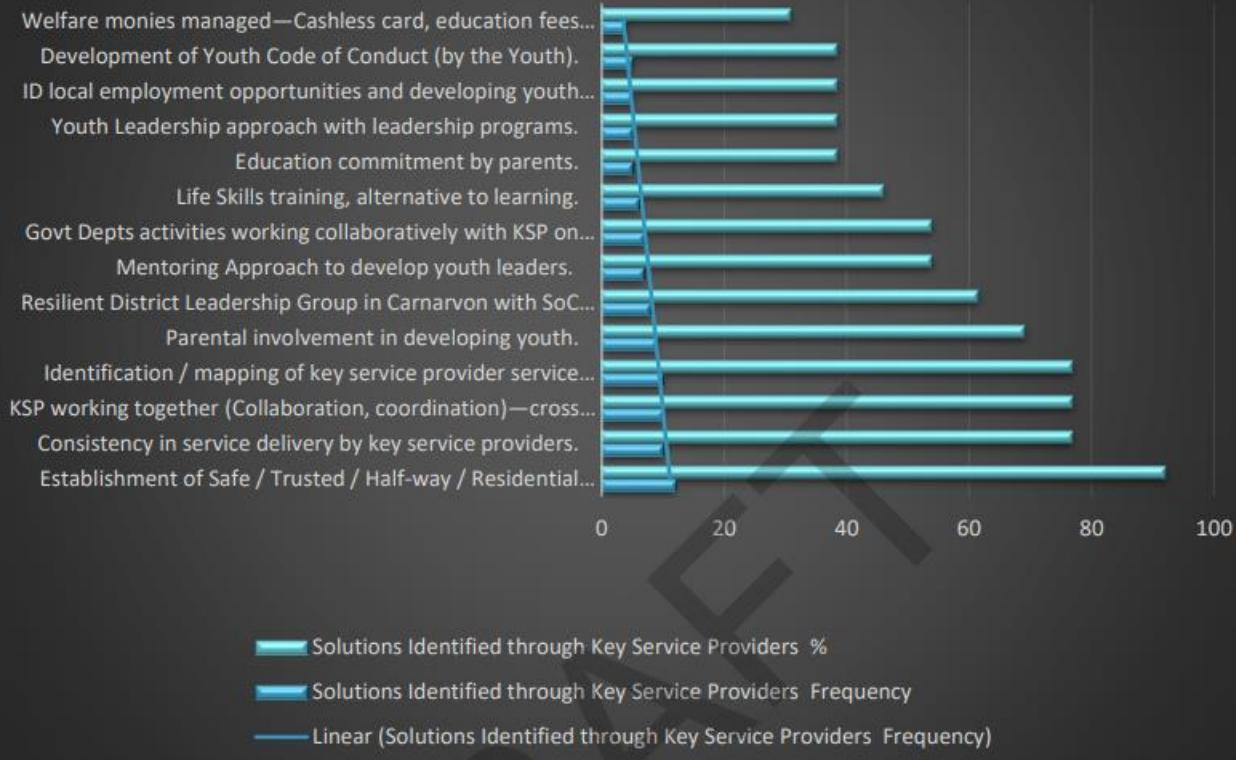


Table 1: KEY SERVICE PROVIDER YOUTH SOLUTIONS

RANKING	ELEMENTS	FREQUENCY	%
1	Establishment of safe/trusted/half-way/residential Youth House for youth at risk (shelter, hygiene, medical, counselling, and education pathway).	12	92
2	Consistency in service delivery by KSPs.	10	77
3	KSPs working together (collaboration, coordination)-cross-over for local programs.	10	77
4	Identification/mapping of KSP service delivery (what services do they provide).	10	77
5	Parental involvement in developing youth.	9	69
6	District Leadership Group (DLG) in Carnarvon with SoC support. Government departments through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) coordinate youth initiatives, contribute and manage funds for localised projects/programs that meet criteria using KSPs.	8	61.5
7	Mentoring approach to develop youth leaders (that will enable the future establishment of a Youth Advisory Council etc).	7	54
8	Government departments local activities focus on outcomes associated with working collaboratively with KSPs on local problems.	7	54
9	Life skills training, alternative to learning: life, literacy and skills for job readiness, rangers and plantation skills.	6	46
10	Education commitment by parents.	5	38.5
11	Youth leadership approach with leadership programs.	5	38.5
12	Identification of local employment opportunities and developing youth for local employment.	5	38.5
13	Development of Youth Code of Conduct (by the Youth).	5	38.5
14	Welfare monies managed – cashless card, education fees taken out. Parent's awareness raised.	4	31
15	Night Patrol enhancement.	4	31
16	Carnarvon Trustee Aboriginal Corporation (CTAC) or Cultural Centre Advisory Group takes cultural leadership role to promote and advise on Aboriginal interests and culture norms for KSP programs.	4	31



Chart 7 - Youth Solutions



The KSPs provided a consolidated consensus on several factors that contribute to youth behaviors within Carnarvon. Importantly, the majority of KSPs clearly indicated the need for a stronger, resilient action-orientated District Leadership Group Committee (DLGC) able to make timely decisions through collaboration and coordination of KSPs supported by coordination of funding arrangements and focused priorities for community outcomes. The need for the establishment of a Youth Safe House is an immediate initiative that provide support for youth at risk and wider community. Community initiatives that enhance and support parental involvement, better learning and development, and future employment opportunities would link into government development initiatives in building safer and resilient communities.



SCHOOLS AND YOUTH GROUPINGS

The following four charts show the surveys about what Carnarvon young people view what is important to them, what things are important to the community, what things need to be done to make Carnarvon a better place, and what they view as important for their future.

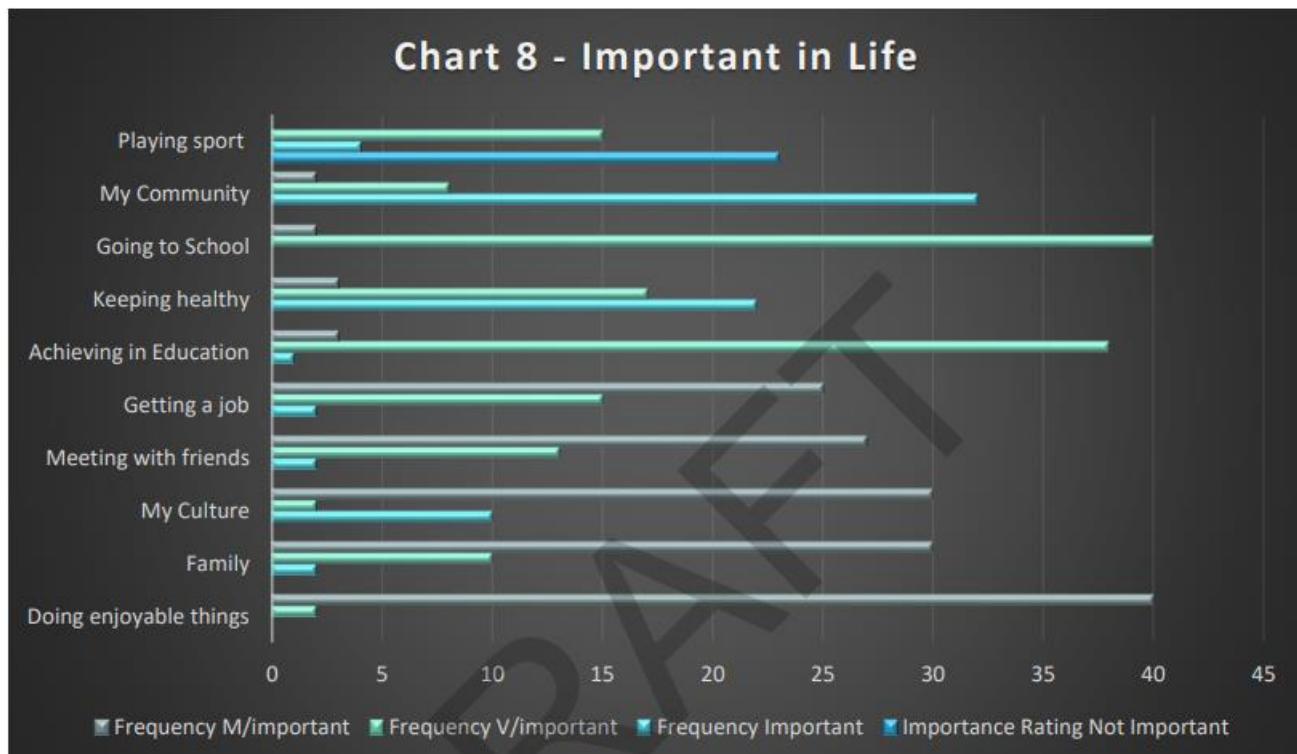




Chart 9 - Needed to Make Place Better

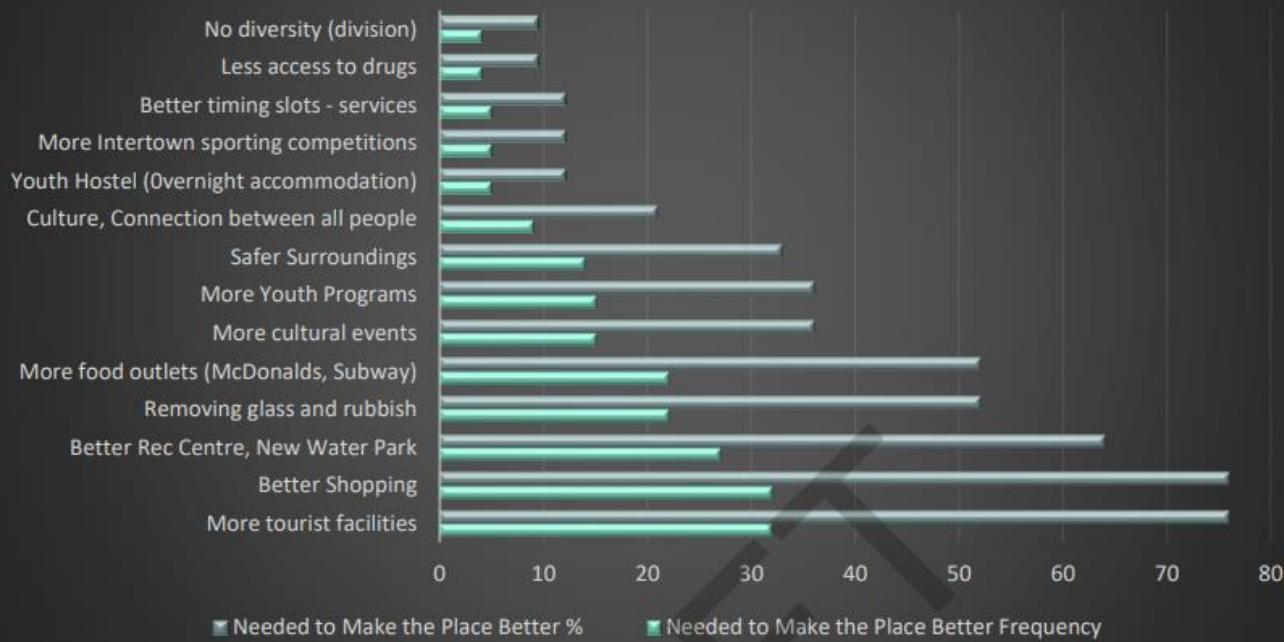


Chart 10 - Importance Rating to Make Place Better

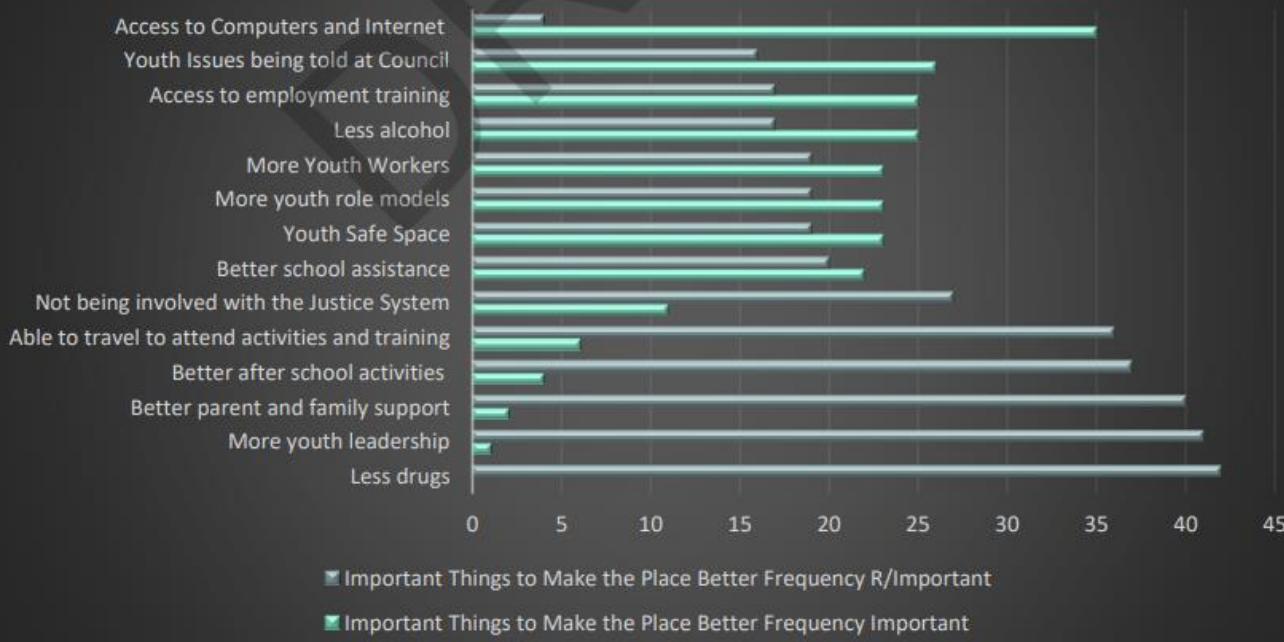
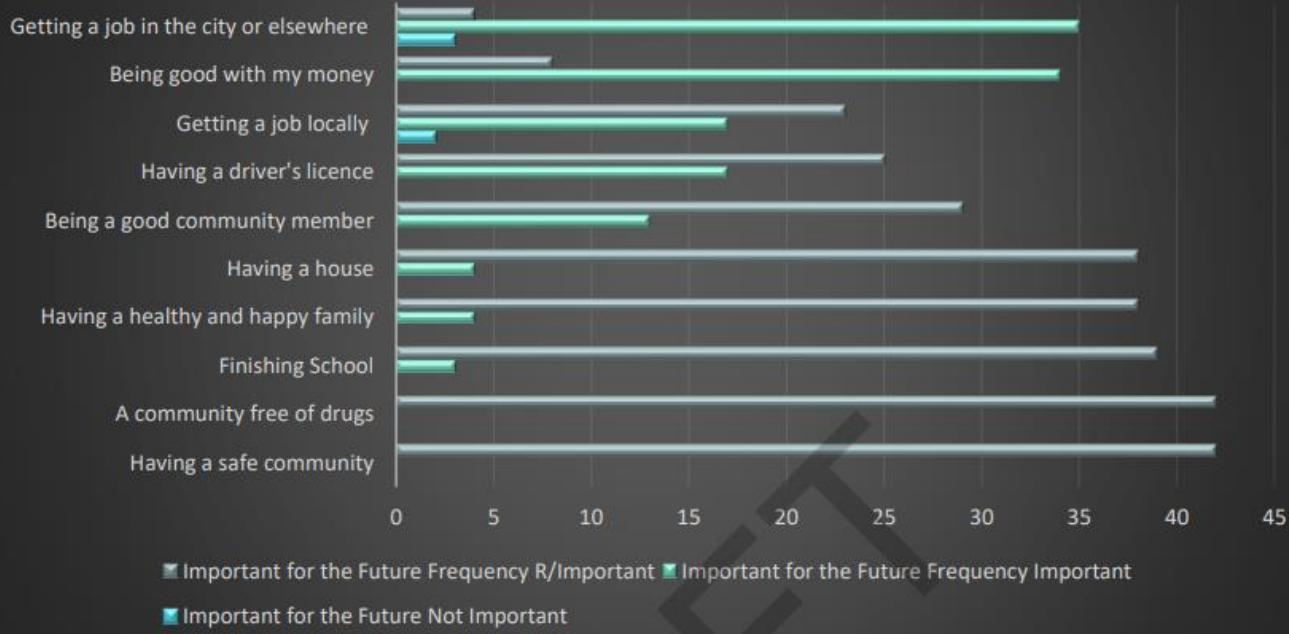




Chart 11 - Importance Rating for Future Things





WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOUTH

Each age group overwhelmingly identified the importance of family, friends, home, and diversity within their community. The need to have and complete education rated highly, as well as doing enjoyable things with family and friends. Importantly, all age groups viewed culture as being *especially important* within a diverse community and the need to relate to that through learning and tolerance. Interestingly, sport was identified as being not important amongst the adolescent female gender. Having access to upgraded facilities such as the pool, Skateboard Park and basketball areas was important for activities. The decline in sport interest may be contributed by not having enough competition, with basketball having a raised profile. Remarkably, having more youth programs was more important to all age groups rather than having youth centres.

There were predicted marked differences between the school aged youth and older youth based on their stages in life, such as, whilst everyone wanted to do enjoyable things, education and keeping healthy was highlighted by the older youth. Wellbeing and health and employment opportunities were deemed important, especially having access to specialised services, and locally sourced jobs that enable and maintain a connection with Carnarvon. Surprisingly, technology was viewed important but not as important as activities with family and friends.

The importance of youth advocacy in decision making, especially at local government level rated most important, an initiative that the Shire of Carnarvon need to continue.

What is available?

The Shire of Carnarvon through its Community Development Plan, consultation, and planned future initiatives outlines a vision that has the potential to transform the townsite and surrounds and contribute to a sense of community. The improvements in the Fascine and overall townsite are creating a more desirable community for adults and young people.

The introduction of the Night Patrol, Youth Hub, and a focus on youth services by the Shire of Carnarvon demonstrates a strong willingness to remedy current issues in the achievement of community outcomes.



The proposed improvement works for the Skateboard Park and other youth facilities and space in harmony with improved community space and tourist facilities will prove effective in meeting youth needs.



WHAT IS LACKING

Community leadership requires honing. This responsibility falls to the Shire of Carnarvon who takes the lead for community outcomes through the DLG and KSP coordination.

The immediate need for some form of local established Youth Safe House or hostel that will enable youth at risk to seek temporary accommodation and development remaining connected with family and country, rather than being formally removed from familiar environment and support.

More positive profiling of youth requires a considerate and committed approach to negate the poor Carnarvon youth perceptions that are fuelled by social media and wider media.

Carnarvon is home to a diverse group of cultures; cultures that need to mix, collaborate, and build a strong sense of community. Developing in cultural silos does not allow a community to fully integrate and grow.

The lack of diverse shopping and eating icons, community events that are youth orientated such as movie nights and inter-town sporting competitions within the Carnarvon township are key things that vitalise youth and the community.

Importantly, our research² highlighted causal factors that contribute to youth entering the Justice System. A number of these factors were identified in our consultation, having relevance in the Carnarvon community. The significant factors being:

- ❖ The use of alcohol and drugs
- ❖ The link between alcohol and domestic violence, and property crime
- ❖ Lack of education
- ❖ Neglect and mistreatment
- ❖ Negative peer influences; and
- ❖ Unemployment and lack of local job opportunities

OUR VISION

To focus effort into this strategy a Vision has been developed. The Youth Strategy aligns with the national and state youth strategies and is designed to support the implementation of the Shire of Carnarvon's Strategic Community Plan. This Youth Strategy supports other health and welling strategies and provides the Shire of Carnarvon with the impetus to take the community leadership role to achieve long needed community rebuilding.

Approaches will be tailored to the cultural norms of Carnarvon. Prior communicaton of any reform or research activities to key players is good practice and gives the respondents time to understand, clarify issues, prepare, and provide more valuable information so as not to delay the schedule and production of the deliverables.

Our research identified four key priority themes:

- 1. GOVERNANCE**
- 2. SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING**
- 3. PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP**
- 4. LEARN AND WORK**

The themes, strategies, and action outline are detailed in the above sections of this strategy.





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Shire of Carnarvon acknowledges the support and assistance provided in researching this strategy by schools, youth groups, and key service providers within the Carnarvon townsite. Without that support we would not have been able to understand what young people see as important or not important to them.

Key Service Providers

- Carnarvon Community College Principal (Ryan Govan)
- Vince Catania MLA, Member Northwest Central (National Party)
- Men's Shed (Aboriginal elders)
- ABC Program (Aboriginal Elder)
- PCYC Carnarvon (Bree Maher)

- Real Futures (Sean Challis)
- Ngala (Katie, Ros and Reynolds)
- Edmund Rice Foundation
- Helping Minds
- Cultural Centre
- Department of Child Protection
- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (Benita Perkins)
- Gail Bellotti (Post Suicide Response and Support Coordination)

Schools

- Carnarvon Community College
- Carnarvon Christian School
- Carnarvon School of Air
- St Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic School

Shire of Carnarvon

3 Francis Street

Carnarvon WA 6701

Phone: +61 8 9941 0000

Fax: +61 8 9941 0099

Email: shire@carnarvon.wa.gov.au

39306_key2creative_0718 www.carnarvon.wa.gov.au

