



Rural City of Wangaratta Youth Strategy

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Introduction

The Wangaratta Rural City Council is committed to supporting and enhancing the positive physical, emotional, educational and vocational development of its young people.

Over many years, Council has worked towards ensuring that our residents – including our young residents – are provided with the physical and social infrastructure required for their health, well-being, safety and enjoyment of life.

We continue to strive to make better connections with and better outcomes for, our young people. To that end, we are constantly working to:

- increase youth consultation to ensure that we know what our young people want and need;
- improve partnerships with relevant agencies and organisations; and
- consider the knowledge gathered from both when planning for the future.

This Youth Strategy will:

- contribute to Council achieving the outcomes and actions outlined in the Council Plan
- outline Council's priorities, direction and future initiatives

As with other strategies of this nature, changing circumstances and different needs, both within the community and Council, may impact on the implementation of the Youth Strategy. It is important that flexibility within the Strategy is maintained so that existing ideas can be built upon and new ideas incorporated. This will help to ensure that the best possible outcomes can be achieved for local young people.

Who we are

Located in North East Victoria, the Rural City of Wangaratta is 235 kilometres north east of Melbourne and 647 kilometres south of Sydney on the Hume Freeway.

Wangaratta is the municipality's largest urban centre, with approximately 18,000 residents. Everton, Glenrowan, Oxley, Milawa, Moyhu, Peechelba, Springhurst, Whitfield, Whorouly and Eldorado are some of the larger rural centres. In the 2006 Census the Rural City of Wangaratta's total population was approximately 26,007. Of this population young people aged 12 – 25 years make up approximately 16.4% (4259) of the population.

The municipality provides a wide range of sporting, recreational, commercial, educational, tourism and health facilities which serve the surrounding region which offer diverse industry and business opportunities.

The municipality is well served by schools and education providers. This includes secondary schools, one specialist school and one TAFE Institute. There is also a Centre for Continuing Education which incorporates both traditional and non-traditional learning programs, including programs for young people.

The Rural City of Wangaratta is also home to a number of government and non-government welfare agencies and organisations.

The 2006 Census indicated a slight increase in the population for people aged 18 – 24 years. This age group had been declining since 1991 from 2264 (9% of the population) to 1809 (7.1% of the population) as young people moved away for education or work. The 2006 Census showed that this age group has increased in population from 1809 (7.1% of the population) to 1869 (7.2% of the population). This is attributed to increasing opportunities in this region which encourage some young people to stay or attract others from elsewhere.

Our Vision, Mission and Values

Our Vision

The Rural City of Wangaratta “*the ultimate in liveability.*”

Our Mission

We will provide the leadership necessary to

- ensure the long term financial security of the Council
- deliver quality Council services
- facilitate a growing and sustainable economy and employment base
- promote a cohesive, dynamic Rural City of Wangaratta community
- maintain open communication and consultation
- preserve and enhance our heritage and environment

Our Values

Excellence:

We aim to achieve the highest standard in everything we do.

Trust:

We have confidence in the ability and commitment of others and ourselves

Respect:

We see all people as being valuable acknowledging individuality, opinions, needs and abilities.

Openness:

We foster community engagement in our decision making process and encourage honest communication in all dealings.

Fairness:

We treat all colleagues and customers fairly and consistently. We promote equality and ensure resources are allocated according to need.

Enjoyment:

We promote a harmonious and productive workplace by celebrating achievement in an environment where everyone feels they belong

Fit within the Planning Context

As part of its ongoing planning process, each Council develops a Council Plan which outlines its commitments and priorities for the coming four years. This Plan coincides with the life of an elected Council. Councils are also required to develop a Community Health and Wellbeing Plan for the same period. These Plans are developed in consultation with the community. A number of strategies, including the Youth Strategy, provide information for these plans and identify actions which will allow these Plans to be achieved.

In 2008, Council developed a vision for the longer term future. The Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision was developed after extensive consultation with the community. It provides a vision for this community in 2030. This Vision serves as the starting point for current plans and strategies.

Scope of the Strategy

In order to see successful outcomes for all young people in our local area, we, as a community, will rely heavily on across-the-board collaboration from all sectors of the community. This includes local police, educational facilities, councils, youth agencies, health organisations, community groups, churches, media, sporting clubs, employers, businesses, the wider community and, of course, the young people themselves.

As an organisation which is central to the local community, Council is well placed to help to facilitate liaison and collaboration between relevant agencies, organisations and young people and to advocate on behalf of others. However, given the specific expertise and funding opportunities provided to local educational and welfare organisations, it is appropriate for Council to play a supportive role for these services, rather than to undertake provision of similar services.

Council's focus is the needs of the wider youth population, ensuring that opportunities for their educational and social development are provided, that opportunities to maintain health and wellbeing are provided and that the value of young people as community members is recognized and encouraged. Council's role is to provide safe and effective community infrastructure and assets, support community initiatives, provide social, artistic and cultural opportunities, support leadership development and to ensure that youth issues and needs are actively considered in the planning and delivery of all Council services.

Youth Consultation

It is vital to establish dialogue with our young people, find out what they need and want and listen to their ideas and concerns if the best possible outcomes are to be reached. This requires a multi-faceted approach by all relevant parties.

Word of mouth, media, school information systems, websites, surveys, education programs, focus groups, youth groups and a myriad of other communication approaches are our current means of disseminating and gathering information. These are met with varying degrees of success and therefore it is crucial that we understand what information young people want to be given and receive and how they want to do this so that our communications can be relevant and valued by all concerned. To do this better is a challenge for all, but is possibly the single most important thing we do as a community.

Connecting positively with our young people is the only way to build community awareness and inclusiveness and to prepare our young people for the responsibility of taking their community into the future.

In December 2009, the current Wangaratta Youth Council held a Youth Forum of which over 60 young people attended. This Forum gave the Rural City of Wangaratta Council and Youth Council a chance to hear first hand issues that are affecting young people in the Rural City of Wangaratta. Information gathered from this forum has led to the outcome outlined in this Youth Strategy.

Local Services

Agencies & Organisations

A number of support agencies and government bodies work with young people within the Rural City of Wangaratta including:

- North East Support and Action for Youth (NESAY)
 - North East Health
 - Ovens and King Community Health Service
 - Rural Housing Network
 - Department of Human Services (DHS)
 - Employment & Training Agencies
 - Department for Planning and Community Development (DPCD)
 - Victoria Police
 - North East Tracks Local Learning Employment Network (LLEN)
 - Regional Development Victoria (RDV)
 - Department for Sustainability & the Environment (DSE)
 - RoadSafe North East
 - Mind Australia – North East Integrated Group Project (NEIGP)
 - Workways – Youth Connections
 - Centre for Active Recreation Network (CARN)
 - The Centre
 - Goulburn Ovens Institute of Tafe (GOTAFE)
 - Department of Justice
 - Villa Maria
 - Big Brothers Big Sisters Wangaratta
 - Centrelink
 - Women’s Health Goulburn North East
 - High County Library
 - Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)
 - School - Wangaratta High School, Galen Catholic College, Cathedral College and Borinya Community Partnership
 - Anglicare; and
 - Church, recreation and community organisations.
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Key Areas of Our Young People's Lives

Youth Welfare

Providing our young people with the infrastructure, facilities, education and support they need to learn, grow, enjoy life and become valued community members is the objective of any caring community and the Rural City of Wangaratta is no exception. The Rural City of Wangaratta Council continually strives to ensure that these positive outcomes are achieved – both in the services we provide directly and through our partnerships and collaboration with other organisations and agencies. However, whilst a large percentage of our youth population is able to utilize and enjoy what our community has to offer, unfortunately there are those who are struggling with often complex issues and who need extra community support.

According to information gathered at the 2009 Wangaratta Youth forum there appear to be a number of social issues which are negatively impacting on the lives of some local young people. These include:

- High rate of youth homelessness
- Drug and/or alcohol addiction
- Underage drinking
- Family dysfunction/alienation from family
- School disengagement
- Perceived apathy (non-engagement in local events, disinterest in community activities)
- Bullying/peer pressure
- Pressures of changing technology

Many intervention and support programs continue to be developed and implemented by the welfare agencies in the region. Programs such as the School Engagement Program implemented by NESAY in 2001 and the Borinya Community Partnership have achieved positive results for local young people and bear testament to the vital role of support agencies in rural areas.

Our high rate of local youth homelessness is of major concern to both agencies and young people and with few options for emergency accommodation currently available in the local area, the need to establish a local facility is critical. Accommodation options to help address this problem are currently being investigated by NESAY and other community agencies.

Specialist agencies such as NESAY, Ovens and King Community Health Service, Community Support North East and Borinya Community Partnership continue to support local young people with drug and alcohol, disengagement, family disconnection, disability and other social issues. The Rural City of Wangaratta offers support to, advocates on behalf of and enters into partnerships with many of these local welfare groups and agencies to help enhance service funding and delivery opportunities and ensure that our community infrastructure supports the needs of young people.

Health

A variety of generalist, specialist and non-traditional health services exist within the Rural City of Wangaratta inclusive of two hospitals, a number of private GPs & specialist medical practices, a psychiatric facility, psychological and family counseling services and alternative health options. Barriers to youth knowledge of, and access to, mainstream health services continue to be identified and finding solutions to overcome this problem has become a key objective of many organisations and community groups such as Ovens and King Community Health, Mind Australia and also the newly established Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee at Council.

Sport and Recreation

Whilst the municipality boasts a variety of high quality sporting facilities, information gathered as part of Council's Recreation Strategy in 2005 indicates that participation levels at the time were well below the State average. This may have far-reaching implications for the health and well-being of our young people and poses some real challenges to the community around increasing participation of young people in healthy physical activities.

A review of the recreation plan in 2010/11 will assist in identifying current active participation rates of young people. The plan will also determine issues affecting participation rates and consult with young people in relation to strategies to overcome these issues.

Cost and transport issues were identified in the Recreation Strategy as impacting on participation by young people. Multi use walking/cycling paths have since been further developed linking key community facilities throughout Wangaratta. The development of a walking/cycling strategy for the municipality will research the needs of young people in relation to the current network and any planned additions both in Wangaratta and rural areas. A major upgrade to the skate park is being undertaken and events encouraging an increase in participation have successfully been held. Further events need to occur to maintain momentum in promoting skating and BMX activities which are low cost and accessible to all no matter what age, ability or socio-economic status.

The key role that local sporting clubs often play in creating social connections – particularly in small communities - was also highlighted in the Recreation Plan and it is vital that these clubs receive ongoing advice, support and assistance to ensure that their ability to engage our young people is not diminished. The Recreation Strategy makes a number of recommendations to help increase participation and involvement of young people in healthy, physical activities. For example, working closely with community groups to establish and support local area responses to local area issues & promoting benefits of an active lifestyle. A number of rural recreation reserves have now completed strategic plans which recognise young people as the key to sustaining the future of these reserves, facilities, programs, events and the subsequent social connections.

Entertainment, Community and Culture

Local entertainment and leisure opportunities for young people include:

- Creative Youth (FReeZA funded) events (including arts, culture, skate and music events)
- Youth Performance groups
- Wangaratta Players
- Music tuition and performance opportunities
- Various activities-based clubs (e.g. Scouts, Girl Guides etc)
- Summer in the Parks entertainment program
- Church Youth Groups
- Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre
- High Country Library
- School-based activities and events (e.g. concerts, productions etc)
- Art and cultural opportunities (e.g. art exhibitions, projects (street art etc))
- Sporting events and club participation (e.g. football, tennis, gymnastics, netball, swimming, fishing, motor sports, BMX and scooter competitions and other water sports etc)
- Wangaratta Festival of Jazz & Blues
- Bicycle & walking facilities and clubs
- Dance groups
- Swimming pools - the Olympic pool and Yarrunga
- Wangaratta Indoor Sports and Aquatic Centre – Gym facilities and programs (e.g. aerobics, step classes etc), swimming
- Privately organized musical events (e.g. musical events at Eldorado, Milawa)
- Youth Council organized events (e.g. Unplugged concert, movie nights, camps, forums, Youth activities and trips away in School Holidays etc)
- Wangaratta Blue Light Youth Club events and activities (e.g. snow trip, discos etc)
- Horse-riding clubs and facilities
- Computer/media groups etc.

Whilst the above list is by no means exhaustive, it does clearly highlight that young people in the Rural City of Wangaratta have a number of options for entertainment, community and cultural opportunities. Engaging greater numbers of young people appears to be the larger challenge and, once again, requires a collaborative approach from all sectors of the community to ensure that what is on offer is well advertised and accessible to our young people. There needs to be ongoing consultation with young people around their preferences for entertainment and leisure. There is also a need to ensure that the needs of young people with disabilities are considered in the planning of events and sporting activities so that they too are encouraged to participate.

Objectives of the Youth Strategy

The Rural City of Wangaratta Council's role in local youth development is defined in the following four objectives:

Objective 1

Council will consult regularly with local young people to ensure that their ideas and concerns are considered when planning across all relevant areas of Council.

Objective 2

Through its Youth Development program Council will provide opportunities for young people to have a voice, to gain leadership skills, to assist with provision of youth entertainment and to participate in wider community activities.

Objective 3

Council will support and enhance partnerships with local youth providers and groups to ensure that the physical, emotional, spiritual, educational and vocational needs of our young people are being met and continue to evolve and improve.

Objective 4

Council will ensure that the physical infrastructure of the municipality is continually monitored, upgraded and maintained to meet the safety, convenience and lifestyle expectations of its residents, including its young people.

Table 1 – Youth Strategy Action Plan

Youth Strategy Action Plan – Table 1 indicates: Council’s current involvement over a number of youth related issues; who Council is liaising with on these matters; the level of youth consultation; plans for the future and likely outcomes for our young people.

Table 1 – Youth Strategy Action Plan

Objectives	Action	Performance Measure	Timeframe
1. <i>Council will consult regularly with local young people to ensure that their ideas and concerns are considered when planning across all relevant areas of Council.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing consultation via Youth Advisory Committee (Youth Council) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum eight formal Youth Council meetings per Youth Council term. Minimum three meetings between Youth Council and Senior Council per year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Council and Youth development Officer to make annual visit to schools to gauge general youth opinion and encourage engagement. Conduct at least one Youth Council meeting per year at each of the local secondary education institutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual visits
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct consultation with young people across all relevant areas of Council (e.g. planning matters which directly impact youth, Skate Park works, entertainment for youth etc). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people engaged in direct dialogue around works, projects and events which may directly affect them through consultation through secondary education institutions and on-site visits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating opportunities to consult with wider youth community and identify issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum one youth forum bi annually which invite participation from wider youth community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bi-annually
2. <i>Through its Youth Development program Council will provide opportunities for young people to have a voice, to gain leadership skills, to assist with provision of youth entertainment and to participate in wider community activities.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued development of the Youth Council program to ensure that it is relevant and effective in offering leadership and community engagement opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inviting Youth Council participation by young people aged 14 – 18 during term one each year (March) each year. Annual Report on each year’s program submitted by July each year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Youth Council Charter every three years.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating opportunities for wider youth community to engage in leadership and community activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite wider youth community to participate in planning community activities such as Australia Day, Community Pride Awards, Summer in the Parks program, street art projects, youth forums, youth awards etc. Invitations via secondary education institutions contact, public advertisement, Youth Councillors and direct contact where appropriate and achievable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing

Objectives	Action	Performance Measure	Timeframe
2. CONTINUED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of Creative Youth (FReeZA funded program) inclusive of ongoing participation by young people in planning, participation and event management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and deliver a minimum of five annual events under the FReeZA guidelines annually. Facilitate regular Creative Youth Committee meetings to ensure that young people have the opportunity to be involved with planning and coordination of the events. Incorporate arts, cultural, music and BMX activities into the events each year to be inclusive of the young people in our community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five events delivered annually in line with FReeZA funding and guidelines.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing administrative and leadership support for Youth Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing provision of Youth Development Officer Resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide young free events and activities for young people and increase accessibility to venues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and deliver a wide range of free or low cost events and activities to young people. Develop partnerships with local venues eg: Performing Arts Centre, to make them more accessible in price and entertainment for young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annually Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate with young people through a variety of ways to increase their participation in local youth events and activities and promote Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Council SCOPE newsletter Social networking sites eg: Facebook/MYSPACE Posters and flyer at school and in local shops. Articles and information in local news paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Weekly Ongoing Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote positive images of young people in the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly radio announcements by Youth Councillors Youth Council interviews with media networks Media releases monthly for local media outlets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly Monthly Monthly
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and delivery of an inclusive Youth Awards program which focuses on contribution and participation of young people in community life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bi-annual Youth Awards program involving Youth Councillors in evaluation of nominations, planning and hosting of event. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bi-annual program
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer in the Parks Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include at least one event per annum which has a youth (12 – 25 year age group) focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual youth-focused event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Youth Week program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek Government funding annually to host Youth Event/s during National Youth Week to help to celebrate young people and their contributions to our community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply annually for funding Annual event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performing Arts Centre Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include at least one show per annum which would be suitable for and appealing to young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual youth-friendly show

Objectives	Action	Performance Measure	Timeframe
2. <i>CONTINUED</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of networks for young people aged 12 to 25. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued support for Youth Council program & local youth groups Support the establishment young adult networks in the municipality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage opportunities for young artists & performers to develop their skills and profile within the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation by young people in cultural development activities. Support local youth arts and youth performance groups and activities. Provide a stage for young performers to develop their performance skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing
3. <i>Council will support and enhance partnerships with local youth providers and groups to ensure that the physical, emotional, educational and vocational needs of our young people are being met and continue to evolve and improve.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating and maintaining strong links & partnerships with relevant organisations so that young people's needs be incorporated into Council planning. 	Active membership on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North East Regional Youth Affairs Network Wangaratta Blue Light Youth Club Steering Committee Big Brothers Big Sisters steering committee Wangaratta Youth Service Providers Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 weekly meetings Monthly meeting Ongoing Monthly
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with transport providers and relevant agencies towards improving transport access and networks for young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobbying for funding and support for flexible transport options. Develop partnerships with transport providers to provide better services for young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular liaison, dialogue and collaboration with Police regarding upcoming events and the minimization of antisocial public behaviors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued active liaison and collaboration with Police. Support Victoria Police Road safety campaigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance educational and employment opportunities for young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of the Wangaratta Learning Alliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support young people to be more informed about local employment and educational opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Council to include local employment opportunities in SCOPE and via social networking sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build partnerships with agencies to address local youth homelessness issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby for funding to support youth homelessness Support NESAY in finding alternative accommodation for young people who are homeless through a youth refuge Work in partnership with local agencies to implement strategies to address youth homelessness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing

Objectives	Action	Performance Measure	Timeframe
3. CONTINUED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and advocacy for youth welfare agencies to ensure that the needs of disenfranchised young people are met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership on North East Regional Youth Affairs Network. Advocacy on behalf of local welfare agencies Support for welfare agency funding submissions Advocate for equitable allocation of youth services with Hume Region. Support agencies and advocate for same sex attracted young people Increase information for young people about health and support services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing 6 weekly meetings Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with local alcohol distributors, Victoria Police and local youth agencies to raise awareness around the issues related to young people and alcohol use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop communication between agencies to minimise negative impacts of alcohol related issues on local young people. Support agencies to inform parents and caregivers about the issues of young people and alcohol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and implement strategies to ensure positive outcomes for young migrants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council will continue ongoing partnership with North East Multicultural Association (NEMA). Activities to celebrate cultural diversity as part of events program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing development of a Sport and Recreation Plan that consults with young people and relevant sporting clubs and organisations, and which incorporates the needs of, young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing implementation of the recommendations of the Sport and Recreation Plan Ongoing support for sporting groups and other relevant agencies to create & sustain opportunities for young people to engage in healthy physical activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan Complete Implementation of recommendations as relevant Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive school-based immunisation program for young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of immunization program/s in accordance with health legislation and guidelines. % of young people receiving immunization equal or better than state targets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In accordance with legislative requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support of young people with disabilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council continues to auspice case management programs to enhance quality of life for young people with disabilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In accordance with service charter.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain Community Grants program to assist local sporting clubs, community groups and individuals to achieve positive outcomes and create opportunities for young people to be engaged in positive activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Grants program offered annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual grants program

Objectives	Action	Performance Measure	Timeframe
<p>4. Council will ensure that the physical infrastructure of the municipality is continually monitored, upgraded and maintained to meet the safety, convenience and lifestyle expectations of its residents, including its young people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that community facilities and wider Council infrastructure including sports facilities, skate parks, bike tracks, parks and gardens are monitored, maintained, improved and developed to meet the needs of young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the development of an accessible community in which the needs of young people of all abilities are identified. Advocate for equitable access to support for homeless young people within the Hume region. Ensure outcomes in accordance with Council's Recreation Strategy capital works and discretionary works programs are inclusive of young people. Access for people with disabilities. Consultation/liaison with sporting clubs, community groups, businesses, individuals and general community in relation to young people and community needs. Develop a space for young people which is their own within the community to offer support services and activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing through annual budgetary process. Ongoing Ongoing through annual budgetary process. Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for and support local initiatives to improve access to crisis and appropriate longer term accommodation for young people including students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing liaison, advocacy and support of local youth accommodation initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council will work in partnership to ensure the safety of young people within the municipality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build greater partnerships with the Police to ensure young people are aware of how to contact Police and the process for crime and vandalism. Consult with young people about their use of sport and recreational facilities and their safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Ongoing