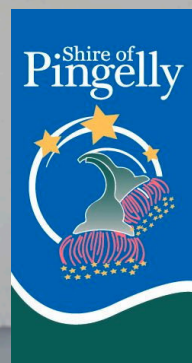


Draft Youth Strategy 2021-25



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This document can be made available in alternative formats on request.

Summary

The Pingelly Youth Strategy 2021-25 is the Shire of Pingelly's commitment to supporting young people in Pingelly. For the first time, a whole of community, structured framework has been developed to inform the Shire of Pingelly's involvement in youth services and ensure the needs of young people are formally considered in future planning.

Local Government has a leadership role in understanding and responding to the needs of young people in the community and representing their interests to other spheres of Government and the broader community. The priorities outlined in the Strategy will be used to inform the program of work undertaken by the Shire and local youth service providers.

The Shire values, supports and respects our young people, as well as recognises the important role young people fulfill within community life. The transition from childhood to adulthood is a significant period of change, so this Strategy formally acknowledge the rights of young people to participate in local matters and recognise the need to support their involvement in decision making and future planning for Pingelly.



A Vision for a Youth Friendly Community

The Department of Communities defines a Youth Friendly Community as one “where young people are treated with respect and where they feel safe, welcome and included. It is a community that encourages and recognises the participation and contributions of young people, supports youth development and provides youth-friendly services, facilities and programs”.

A Youth Friendly Community is guided by the following principles:

1. Local Government support
2. Partnerships in the community
3. Building relationships with young people
4. Diversity of young people
5. Ownership by young people
6. Holistic approach when consulting young people
7. Flexible approach to consulting young people
8. Fun and innovation
9. Evaluation and feedback
10. Views of young people embedded in community strategic planning

These principles link back to UNICEF’s “Child Friendly Cities” Framework (UNICEF, 2004).



Background

What can the Shire do for young people?

Planning

Work with service providers, community stakeholders and young people to support an integrated service at various levels of planning to identify and respond to service and facility gaps and opportunities.

Service Provision

Deliver services and programs directly to young people that focus on promoting positive participation in community life.

Facility Provision

Provision of hard infrastructure, in accordance with policy standards and requirements, to deliver services and programs to young people that focus on promoting positive participation in community life and provide prevention and early intervention services to improve young people's health and wellbeing.

Facilitation

Collaborate with all levels of government and service providers in the youth sector in coordinating services and developing partnerships to respond to identified gaps and opportunities by others.

Advocacy

Represent the needs and priority areas of concern that affect young people to all levels of government and within the service sector.

What can the Shire do for young people?

In 2019, consultation to inform the Shire's Strategic Community Plan 2020-30 indicated 'youth engagement' is the most critical challenging impeding Pingelly into the next decade. While the Shire has always had an ongoing commitment to young people, until now there has been no Strategy to guide this commitment. The Pingelly Youth Strategy 2021-25 provides strategic direction for the Shire to guide our involvement in servicing and supporting the needs of young people.

How will the Pingelly Youth Strategy make an impact?

Bound by the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, the Shire's service delivery to the community is guided by two key documents. Firstly, the Strategic Community Plan is a high-level document that reflects the long term (10+ year) community and local government aspirations and priorities. Secondly, the Corporate Business Plan activates the Strategic Community Plan by setting out the short to medium term actions to achieve the objectives and aspirations of the community within organisational capacity. Importantly, these Plans are informed by several other key strategy documents. The Pingelly Youth Strategy 2021-25 is one of these.

How was the Pingelly Youth Strategy developed?

The Shire of Pingelly formed the Pingelly Youth Network, a steering group comprising of community partners and stakeholders to guide the planning and implementation of the consultation, analysis and delivery phases of the Strategy. The formation of the Pingelly Youth Network provided an informed starting point to clarify understanding into 'what we already know'. Therefore, the consultation process was informed by asset-based community development (ABCD) principles, including:

Partnerships

With key community leaders
With government agencies
With service providers
With schools

Inclusion

A 'whole of community' focus with an emphasis on increasing community control over decision making that impacts their lives

Sustainability

Integrated, multi-disciplinary approaches to increase the likelihood of ongoing success and resourcing of programs and services

Equipped with the knowledge of current trends and issues impacting local young people, the Shire consulted with members of the Pingelly Youth Network to co-design the focus areas for the Strategy, as well as the consultation processes to engage the 10 – 25 years cohort.

Consultation methods were designed to be interactive, stimulate discussion as well as consider Pingelly's literacy and numeracy levels. The Future Starts With You'th consultation series comprised of workshops, forum discussions, have your say boards, pop-up booths and surveys. Consultation was conducted in formal settings and in more youth friendly settings including Pingelly Primary School and the school bus stop within the Town Centre.



Focus Areas

Through consultation and research, the Pingelly Youth Network established four focus areas to inform the scope of the Pingelly Youth Strategy 2021-25. The focus areas were determined based on:

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

The key priorities for young people living in Pingelly are:

Participation

Health and Wellbeing

Safety

Future Aspirations



Participation

Vision

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

Context

Young people tell us it is important for them to feel represented by the local government and be included in decision-making that affects them.

Local Government has a responsibility to understand and respond to the needs of young people in the community. Young people have an important role to play in the social, economic and community life in Pingelly and they have the right to participate in decision making around issues that affect them.

Engagement with young people must be meaningful and genuinely considered in the decision-making process. Token gestures can damage young people's trust in the organisation or project.

Of young people living in Pingelly:

- 33% feel their ideas are heard
- 35% feel they are involved in making decisions about the community
- 38% feel their ideas help the works of others in the community
- 54% feel there are events for young people
- 63% know where to find information about things happening in Pingelly
- 64% feel involved in the community
- 77% can access activities
- 80% feel welcome at activities



Actions	Lead Agency	Estimated Cost	Timeline
1.1 Integrate strategies to genuinely engage young people in all relevant community engagement and consultation conducted by the Shire of Pingelly.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	2021
1.2 Establish a Youth Advisory Group for the Shire of Pingelly with membership representing the cultural, social and economic diversity of Pingelly youth.	Shire of Pingelly	\$1,500	2022
1.3 Implement actions from the Youth Advisory Group	Shire of Pingelly	\$1,500	2023 and then annually
1.4 Establish a biannual Youth Forum to coincide with the Strategic Community plan Review and provide young people with a platform to raise local issues.	Shire of Pingelly	\$1,000	2023 and 2025
1.5 Develop a broader awareness of key events and activities for young people.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years
1.6 In partnership with the volunteer sector increase awareness of volunteering opportunities.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years
1.7 Increase profile of the Community Bus for youth service providers.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years



Health and Wellbeing

Vision

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

Context

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

Health and wellbeing incorporates a range of factors including physical health, mental health, sexual health, social and emotional wellbeing, family environment and tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. While some of these issues fall outside of Local Government's direct role or expertise, the Shire can advocate for these services and will actively support agencies who are delivering these services.

Sport, recreation, the arts and music opportunities are high priorities for young people, as they indicate they need 'more things to do'. Young people need access to a range of physical, cultural and creative activities to keep them engaged and stimulated, while also providing ideal platforms for positive health and wellbeing messaging.

It is important for young people to have access to safe, youth friendly spaces where they feel welcome and belong.

Of young people living in Pingelly:

- 93% consider sport important
- 86% say there are opportunities to stay fit and engage in physical activity
- 65% consider the arts important
- 48% say there are opportunities to participate in the arts
- 69% consider music important
- 43% say there are opportunities to participate in music
- 75% know who they can speak with when feeling stressed, overwhelmed or sad



Actions	Lead Agency	Estimated Cost	Timeline
2.1 Establish partnerships with key health providers and youth services to support the delivery of education and awareness programs that promote key health messages.	Shire of Pingelly Pingelly Youth Network	Nil	All years
2.2 Support agencies providing family support, mental health alcohol and other drug services.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years
2.3 Provide passive recreation opportunities for young people encompassing the arts and/or music.	Shire of Pingelly	\$1,000	2022 and then annually
2.4 Continue building the capacity of local sporting clubs and community groups to deliver youth activities.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years
2.5 Identify funding opportunities to upgrade the Pingelly Skate Park to meet local expectations.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	2022
2.6 Support the Pingelly Recreation and Cultural Centre adopt a welcoming and engaging environment for young people.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years
2.7 Engage the not for profit sector to consider facilitating holiday programs in Pingelly.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years



Safety

Vision

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

Context

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

Issues around safety can be considered as both actual experience as well as perceptions individuals have of their situation or community. Sometimes, perceived danger or threat can be worse than reality.

Racism, bullying and strangers have been identified as key concerns for young people in Pingelly. Young people are concerned for their own safety and wellbeing and have a strong awareness of social issues and desire to influence change for the benefit of the community. Young people are also concerned that the actions of a few young offenders create a negative stereotype for Pingelly young people as a whole.



Actions	Lead Agency	Estimated Cost	Timeline
3.1 Promote events and activities that have a focus on young people, or with a strong youth patronage, as alcohol and tobacco free.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	2021
3.2 Be a leader in promoting cultural sensitivity and awareness within the broader community.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years
3.3 Disseminate safety education resources to young people.	Shire of Pingelly Pingelly Youth Network	Nil	All years
3.4 Connect local residents with Safety House WA Inc.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	2022
3.5 Develop a Community Safety Plan.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	2024
3.6 Raise the profile of young people within local media.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years



Future Aspirations

Vision

Young people in Pingelly have access to a range of quality, flexible education and training opportunities, as well as employment pathways which engage and support them to secure lasting employment and develop the appropriate life skills to enhance their future. While completing high school in neighbouring communities, young people remain connected to their hometown.

Context

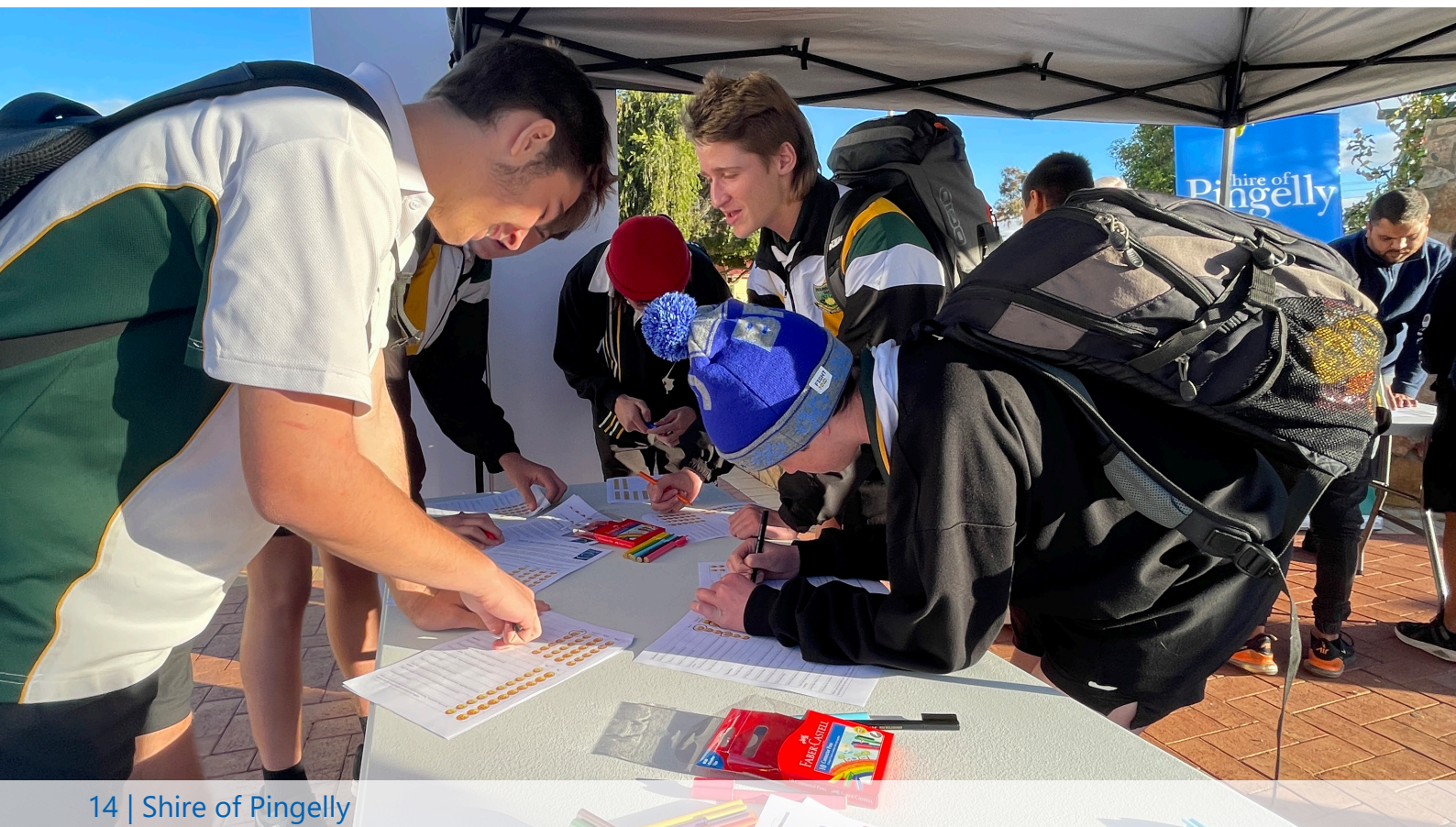
Many young people are not able to access education and employment opportunities close to home and need to leave the region to pursue them. There is a notable decrease in young people's confidence when comparing their desire to remain in Pingelly and the practicality of doing so.

Education and training underpins a wide range of opportunities for young people, however, there is a need to ensure that education and training programs align directly with real job opportunities, and employment pathways are available to young people in Pingelly.

A key concern for young people is remaining connected to Pingelly and maintaining friendships while completing high school in neighbouring communities. Support in the areas of events and entertainment are required in order for young people to remain engaged.

Of young people living in Pingelly:

- 63% have had opportunities to work with older people or Elders
- 72% interact with older people or Elders who aren't family
- 84% have goals for the future
- 82% would like to remain connected to Pingelly while completing high school in another community
- 61% would like to remain living in Pingelly after completing school
- 43% are confident they will have the opportunity to remain in Pingelly after completing school



Actions	Lead Agency	Estimated Cost	Timeline
4.1 Provide work experience and employment opportunities for young people within the Shire of Pingelly.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years
4.2 Establish partnerships with schools, education providers and employers to maximise opportunities for young people to pursue study and find employment in Pingelly.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	2023
4.3 Support intergenerational opportunities during Senior's Week, subject to funding.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years
4.4 Facilitate, support and promote events and activities involving young people.	Shire of Pingelly	\$2,000	2022
4.5 Provide advice and support to event organisers in Pingelly to encourage them to involve or consider young people in their events.	Shire of Pingelly	Nil	All years



Shire of Pingelly

Shire of
Pingelly



Safety
These questions are about how you
community and what support might be
help you make good choices

safe in the community

If I feel unsafe, I know where to get
help in the community

stars

