



SHIRE *of*
CAPEL

MARCH 2020 - 2024

**YOUTH
STRATEGY**

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Profile

The Shire of Capel is a predominantly rural municipality situated on the Indian Ocean coast approximately 200 kilometres south of Perth in the south west of WA. The towns of Capel and Boyanup are located in rural settings a short drive to Indian Ocean beaches, wineries, Jarrah, Marri and Tuart forests and the retail centre of Bunbury. The recently developed urban area of Dalyellup is located immediately south of Bunbury. The Shire also contains the distinct population centres of Peppermint Grove Beach, Gelorup and Stratham.

Capel and surrounding areas are the traditional lands of the Wardandi people and were settled by Europeans in the 1830s.

The population of the Shire in 2016 was estimated at 17,123 by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), a 243% increase on the 2001 population of 7,136. The Shire is one of the fastest growing local government areas in Western Australia, with an average annual growth rate of 4.4% between 2001 and 2015. Industries active in the Shire include dairy and beef farming, horticulture, viticulture, forestry and mineral sands mining. Urban development, particularly in Dalyellup, is influencing the demographic and cultural profile of the Shire's population.

Executive Summary

The Shire of Capel Youth Strategy has been developed for young people between the ages of 10 and 19 years. Young people make up 17.3% of the Shire's population. The Shire regards young people as an integral part of the community and we need to foster the wellbeing of our young people, because they are our future.

Each young person, in accordance with their age, requires different engagement and guidance and this strategy aims to provide a foundation to support a young person at different stages of their development between 10 and 19 years of age.

The Shire in partnership with young people developed this strategy to be able to better understand how we can develop core actions to support our young people, now and into the future. This strategy identifies key issues, as identified by young people in extensive consultations. The strategy identifies outcomes to engage young people in the community and ensure our youth are given every opportunity to be positive contributors to society.

Improving the wellbeing of our youth is a core priority set out in key action items within this strategy document. While the region is surrounded by rare and beautiful natural assets, our youth face unique challenges in which all youth agencies need to work collaboratively together to address.

Mission Statement

"To provide opportunities to support young people to grow up as resilient, healthy, happy individuals."

Introduction

Over a period of six months a series of community consultation sessions were undertaken with youth in the Shire. More than 150 youth were consulted at schools in the Shire and at community consultation sessions. The sessions targeted transport, safety, communications, programs, services and events.

Youth Strategy Development

The Youth Strategy was developed as follows:

1. A review of the community profile including the demographic and economic trends of the region,
2. A review of existing and former Shire of Capel youth plans and strategies,
3. A review of current youth services within the community to determine their effectiveness, appropriateness & accessibility,
4. Consultation with schools, the general community and key stakeholders,
5. Formulation of actions and set goals and targets,
6. Consultation with the Community on the draft plan,
7. Integration of key findings, actions and desired outcomes into the Youth Strategy.

Community Consultation

Community consultation for the development and review of this plan was conducted over a series of different engagement strategies.

These strategies included the following:

1. Specific youth meetings as part of the Shire's Strategic Community Plan (2018-2028) development,
2. Informal discussions with local people on each of the key youth strategy areas,
3. Youth specific community engagement workshops,
4. Site visits by staff to other regional and metropolitan local governments to consider methods of service delivery, programs and activities,
5. Discussions with youth specific service providers and face to face consultation through primary and high schools. Dalyellup Primary, Dalyellup College, Tuart Forest Primary and Capel Primary schools were consulted face-to-face.

Please refer to the attachment section of this report for documented outcomes from these consultations, which helped form key actions within the strategy.

Snapshot of the Region

The South West of Western Australia comprises an area of approximately 24,000 square kilometres. In 2016 the region had a resident population of 172,179 across twelve local government areas. The South West is expected to grow to over 200,000 people by 2026 according to projections published by the State Government in WA Tomorrow. Most of this growth is forecast to occur along the coastal strip between Australind and Busselton.

The City of Bunbury and the adjacent Shires of Capel, Dardanup and Harvey (known as the Greater Bunbury Region) had a population of 89,628 in 2016. Inland areas in the South West have remained generally stable in terms of population with generally modest growth rates.

The Aboriginal (Noongar) people of the South West represent approximately 4 per cent of the regional population and 2.2% in the Shire's population.

Table one: Residential Population – South West WA

LGA	2006	2011	2016	Average. annual growth rate 2006-16
Augusta-Margaret River	11,052	12,228	14,258	2.9%
Boyup Brook	1,563	1,617	1,701	0.9%
Bridgetown-Greenbushes	4,134	4,421	4,660	1.3%
Bunbury	31,450	32,580	31,919	0.2%
Busselton	26,711	31,523	36,686	2.8%
Capel	10,666	15,060	17,123	6.1%
Collie	9,012	9,343	8,798	-0.2%
Dardanup	10,837	12,852	14,033	2.9%
Donnybrook-Balingup	4,951	5,462	5,870	1.9%
Harvey	20,450	23,878	26,553	3.0%
Manjimup	9,718	9,463	9,250	-0.5%
Nannup	1,282	1,304	1,328	0.4%
South West Region	141,826	159,730	172,179	2.1%

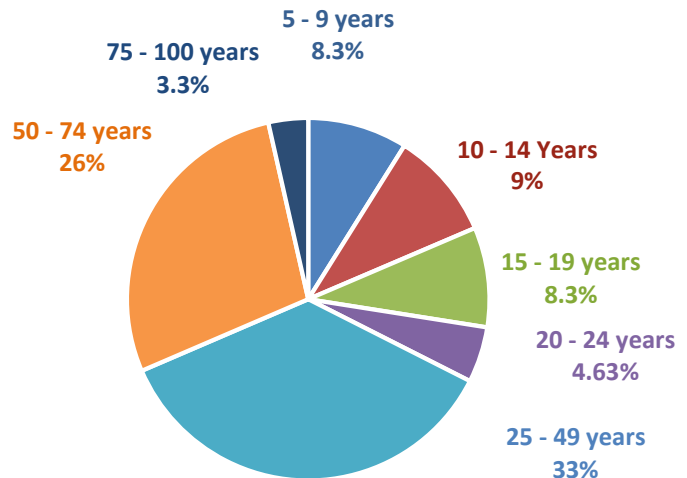
Source: ABS Census 2016

FIGURE 1 INDICATES THE POPULATION OF THE SOUTH WEST ALONG WITH AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES BETWEEN 2006 AND 2016. THE SOUTH WEST HAD AN AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF 2.1% BETWEEN 2006 AND 2016 WHILE THE SHIRE OF CAPEL HAD THE HIGHEST AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE IN THE REGION, MORE THAN DOUBLE THAT OF ANY OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA IN THE SOUTH WEST.

Community Profile Population

The South West region has the second largest population outside of the Perth Metropolitan Area after the Peel region. In 2016 the region had a resident population of 172,179 people, most of whom live within a reasonably contiguous urban/semi urban area. The Shire of Capel consists of seven distinct localities, with over 52% of the total Shire's population in the suburb of Dalyellup.

Shire of Capel Population Demographic



Resident by Locality

In 2016, 49% of residents in the Shire were male and 51% female compared to the figures for Australia of 49.3% male and 50.7% female.

The 2016 Australian Census indicated that 2.3% of Shire residents were Indigenous persons, compared with 2.8% in Australia, and the median age of indigenous persons in the Shire was 20.

There were 4,681 families in the Shire in 2016 and there was an average of 1.9 children per family, while the average household size was 2.8 persons.

Table two: Resident Population of Selected Localities

	2006	2011	2016
Capel	2,151	2,201	2,509
Boyanup	615	785	806
Peppermint Grove Beach	374	385	466
Gelorup	2,193	2,181	2,299
Dalyellup	3,359	7,109	8,998
Shire of Capel	10,209	14,637	17,123

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)

SEIFA is a product developed by the ABS that ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. The indexes are based on information from the five-yearly Census. For each index, every geographic area in Australia is given a SEIFA score, which shows relative advantage and disadvantage compared with other areas in Australia. The index of relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage is a continuum of advantage (high values) to disadvantage (low values). The lower the score the higher the level of disadvantage.

Rankings on SEIFA index of relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage.

Table three: SEIFA Scores Per Local Government Area

LGA	Score	Ranking in Australia	Ranking in WA
Augusta – Margaret River	1005	425	99
Boyup - Brook	974	330	64
Bridgetown - Greenbushes	959	270	33
Bunbury	941	194	33
Busselton	993	399	89
Capel	1009	429	103
Collie	899	73	12
Dardanup	980	356	73
Donnybrook - Balingup	980	353	71
Harvey	984	373	78
Manjimup	944	211	36
Nannup	951	243	45

The Western Australian average SEIFA score is 1015.

Table four: SEIFA Scores Per Locality

Suburb	Score	Ranking in Australia	Ranking in WA
Capel	943	3258	233
Dalyellup	1005	7838	636
Stratham	1067	12019	1218
Peppermint Grove Beach	1057	11573	1150
Boyanup	994	6922	530

The average SEIFA score for all regional local governments in Western Australia was 950 and 993 in the South West region, indicating that the metropolitan local governments have a greater socio-economic advantage. The Shire of Capel overall exceeds these averages with a score of 1009, however as indicated in table four there are localities with low populations scoring high including Peppermint Grove Beach and Stratham that have skewed the data.

The localities that contain a significantly larger proportion of the Shire’s population, such as Capel, Dalyellup and Boyanup, scored much lower and represent a more accurate reflection of the general population’s socio-economic state. The delivery of youth services to our community is partially shaped by where the SEIFA index data is indicating the demand exists.

Youth Residents by Locality

Dalyellup: 1690

Stratham: 123

Gelorup: 494

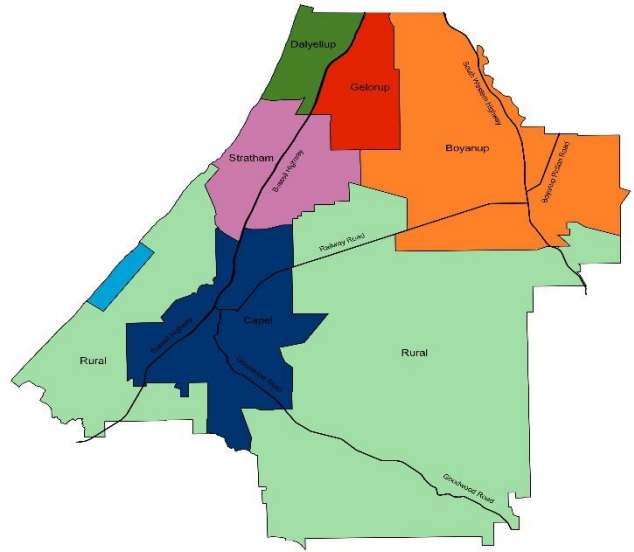
Boyanup: 203

Peppermint Grove Beach: 56

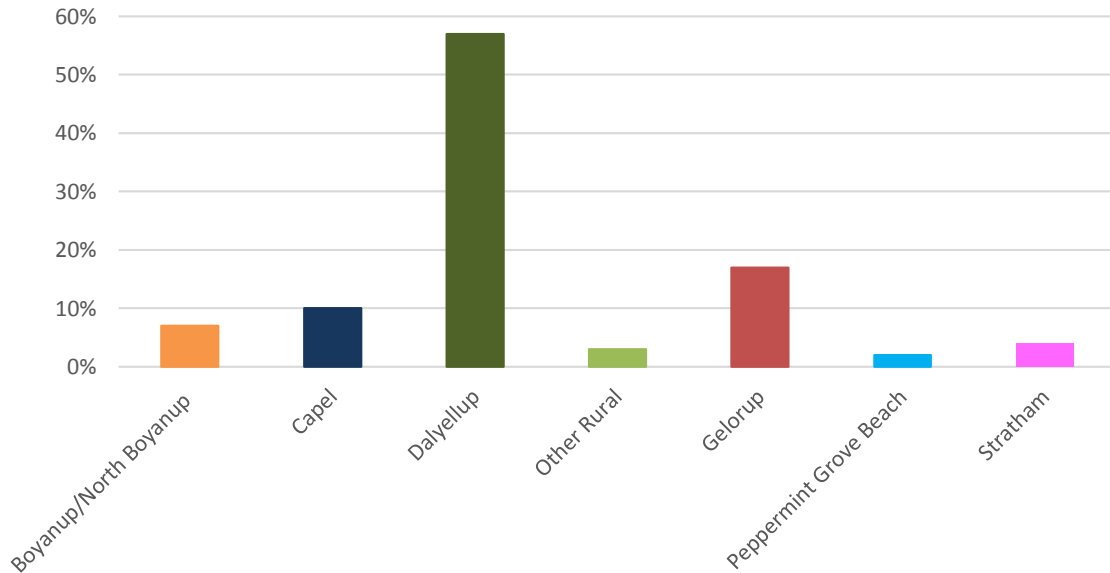
Capel: 317

Other Rural: 87

Young people aged between 10 and 19 years of age make up 17.3% of the Shire's population



Population of Youth in Shire Localities



Where the Strategy Fits In

Local

The Shire's Youth Strategy supports the delivery of many of the community's objectives identified in the Shire of Capel's Strategic Community Plan (2018 - 2028) and has strategic links to regional planning documents such as the South West Development Commission's Strategic Plan.

Actions where the Shire of Capel is the 'lead agency' will be individually assessed each year with other competing priorities of Council to determine how the Shire allocates its resources for associated budget development. These actions will be further reviewed and prioritised as part of the Shire's ongoing future financial and corporate planning processes.

State

The Western Australian State Youth Strategy is currently being developed by the State Government.

Better Choices: Youth in WA Report

There are three types of services within the youth service system:

1. Access and engagement services – designed to help people access mainstream services (such as school, education, hospitals) or engage in positive social activities.
2. Targeted intervention services – provide targeted intervention to a sub-set of young people in WA who may be vulnerable or at risk.
3. Redirection and re-entry services – these services provide highly targeted services that are designed to re-direct people away from crisis (tertiary) services or to enable re-entry for young people from crisis services.

National

National Strategy for Young Australians

The National Strategy for Young Australians articulates the Australian Government's aspiration for all young people to grow up safe, healthy, happy and resilient. It aims to guide future government policy making to ensure that this aspiration can become a reality for all young Australians. This strategy is a statement about how the Australian Government intends to make its vision a reality for all young Australians. It is a guide for future action and the basis of the continuing conversation with young people through the Australian Youth Forum. The strategy focuses on eight priorities: health and wellbeing, education, families, communities, online, work, early intervention and safety.

Developing the Strategy

Extensive consultation sessions formulated the aspirations of young people in the Shire of Capel and identified key issues affecting youth which has formed the basis for key action items in the strategy. More than 150 youth took part in consultation sessions at schools and community forums in the Shire, providing vital information to formulate and develop strategies for youth development.

The information below reflects youth aspirations from the consultation sessions and states what the Shire is currently doing and what it will do in the future to support youth development. These aspirations link to the following most relevant community objectives of key focus areas in the Strategic Community Plan:

The Leadership Experience – Open, transparent, and effective good governance

- 1.3 Creating a more connected community
- 1.5 Council keeps in regular communication with residents, workers and stakeholders

The Community Experience – Facilities and services that accommodate the diverse needs of the community and providing a safe place to live, work and visit

- 2.1 Council works in partnership with the community in providing appropriate services and facilities
- 2.2 Celebrates the community's diversity of residents and visitors including their contribution to cultural and economic sustainability
- 2.4 Community safety is recognised as paramount

The Economic Experience – Responsible and progressive local economic development

- 3.3 Each Town Centre and its facilities meet the needs of residents and visitors and are presented to a welcoming standard
- 3.4 Promoting events, including arts, culture and sporting events to bring revenue into the Shire

The Infrastructure Experience – Ensure safe, sustainable and efficient infrastructure and transport networks

- 5.3 Working together to meet the needs of changing infrastructure requirements
- 5.4 Community needs a safe and efficient transport network and public transport

Safety and Wellbeing

Youth Aspirations	Shire's Understanding	Current and future actions	Reference to Strategic Community Plan
More programs and events to enable youth to feel safe and included in their community.	Whilst youth mostly feel safe and included in their community, bullying at school and crime were two major contributing factors to feeling unsafe.	<p>Develop programs to increase youth connectedness.</p> <p>Advocate for schools and external service providers to run more anti-bullying workshops.</p> <p>Develop bullying education programs.</p>	2.1
To have access to health and wellbeing services in the community, such as drug and alcohol prevention programs and sexual health and mental services.	There is a lack of service providers in the Shire to run health and wellbeing services.	<p>To advocate for health and wellbeing services in the Shire.</p> <p>Advocate for facilities to be available to run education programs.</p> <p>Partner with schools in the Shire to help facilitate programs.</p>	2.4

Programs, Events and Initiative

Youth Aspirations	Shire's Understanding	Current and future actions	Reference to Strategic Community Plan
Cultural activities	Youth want structured cultural activities, including art, drama, cooking, and music programs to participate in outside of school.	<p>Develop programs based on youth needs and demands</p> <p>Contracting and seeking expressions of interest for program providers to conduct programs in term and in the school holidays for cultural activities.</p>	2.2
Excursions	Due to the lack of high schools in some of our towns, youth want to participate in excursions to build friendships and experiences with other youth.	<p>Inzone school holiday program</p> <p>Youth team building camps</p>	2.1
Sports based events and programs	Youth want to participate in sports and active recreation-based events and programs outside of what is on offer at school and in community.	<p>Skateboarding and scooter workshops with external providers.</p> <p>Professional sporting clinics</p> <p>In term sports programs</p>	2.1
Broader scope of events, programs and activities	Youth want more opportunities than what is available locally.	<p>Cross collaboration with regional local governments and service providers.</p> <p>Continue partnerships with local service providers</p>	2.1
Technology based initiatives	Youth want to understand how technology can be used as a platform for development and communication.	Facilitate and support youth media skill workshops	2.1

Transport

Youth Aspirations	Shire's Understanding	Current and future actions	Reference to Strategic Community Plan
Increased pathways to be created in high density areas.	There is a lack of connectivity within urban areas and between localities.	Shire has the Program of Works – Paths and Trails 2019-26 plan. Shire needs to increase network connectivity with neighbouring LGAs and advocate for the Greater Bunbury Bike Strategy.	5.3
Bus shelters need to be improved	Shire needs to undertake regular audits and quality assessments on bus shelters.	Advocate for a bus shelter audit. Youth community arts project to transform bus shelters into an inviting space.	5.3
More bike racks required in town centre areas	There are not enough bike racks in high density localities and public spaces such as parks and recreation facilities.	Advocate for an audit of how many bike racks are located throughout the Shire.	3.3
Increased public transport running frequently in high density urban areas	A high percentage of youth surveyed get transported in a car.	Advocate with TransBunbury and the State Government to provide more frequent bus services.	5.4

Sporting and Recreation

Youth Aspirations	Shire's Understanding	Current and future actions	Reference to Strategic Community Plan
Clear pathways within organised sport to advance their skill level.	Club based sports are well catered for and is important to physical and cognitive development.	<p>Continue to administer Kidsport funding scheme for participation fees in organised sport.</p> <p>Develop a sports spaces plan for active sport in the Shire.</p> <p>Continue to provide small grants for club equipment and facilities.</p>	5.3
Increased opportunities to participate in sports and recreation.	Children are keen to explore new sport and recreational opportunities.	<p>Facilitate opportunities for youth to participate in sport and recreation activities.</p> <p>Engage and outsource providers of sport and recreation.</p>	2.1
Provision for youth activated recreational facilities.	Youth want opportunities for non-structured activities in localised facilities.	<p>Continue to undertake youth needs and feasibility analysis throughout the Shire.</p> <p>Schedule and manage projects in line with community and council expectations.</p>	5.3
Clear pathways within organised sport to advance their skill level.	Club based sports are well catered for and is important to physical and cognitive development.	<p>Continue to administer Kidsport funding scheme for participation fees in organised sport.</p> <p>Develop a sports spaces plan for active sport in the Shire.</p> <p>Continue to provide small grants for club equipment and facilities.</p>	5.3

Art and Culture

Youth Aspirations	Shire's Understanding	Current and future actions	Reference to Strategic Community Plan
Increased platforms for arts-based activities on a consistent basis in the Shire.	Younger youth in the Shire do not have access to extra-curricular arts and cultural activities and service providers for these sorts of programs are limited.	<p>Enhance arts and cultural awareness in the community through activating current spaces.</p> <p>Facilitate opportunities for young people to participate in arts and cultural based activities.</p>	2.2
Create events for young people to showcase their arts abilities across many arts and cultural forms.	There aren't enough events for young people to showcase their skills. This enables them to feel more connected to their community, improve wellbeing and build self-confidence.	<p>Advocate for more arts-based events and programs through school and service providers.</p> <p>Continue to look for funding avenues to develop new events and encourage greater youth participation in these events.</p>	3.4

Communication and Access to Information

Youth Aspirations	Shire's Understanding	Current and future actions	Reference to Strategic Community Plan
To have information more readily available on different social media platforms.	Young people use social media as their main source of information. Without an active presence on social media young people do not receive information, unless they are told via friends and family.	<p>Continue to build on the Capel Youth Collective brand identity through the use of Facebook, Instagram and Shire websites.</p> <p>Continue to publish regular updates across all social media platforms.</p> <p>Keep a regular up-to-date youth email database.</p> <p>Provide information to the community on external service providers for youth.</p>	1.5
Online bookings for events and activities.	Online bookings increase participation numbers in programs and events.	<p>To continue the booking process online for events, programs and activities.</p> <p>Keep informed with new and more effective booking processes.</p>	1.3
Improved communication from the Shire about youth related activities.	Young people want access to information 24/7 online.	<p>Continue to update: The Shire's Library and Community Services Website.</p> <p>Regularly update the youth services social media pages.</p>	1.5

Youth Strategy Principles

The key themes and action items in this strategy are underpinned by the Community Strategic Plan (2018 – 2028) (CSP) to achieve the goals and long-term vision for youth in the Shire of Capel. Through consultation with youth and other available data, youth related issues, challenges and opportunities for Shire of Capel youth became evident. The youth principles are a guiding framework, which directly relate to the CSP and form action items to respond to youth needs.

Community Strategic Plan Themes

To deliver on the youth principles there are five key aspects which represent the Shire's role and function in delivering the action items in this strategy. The actions will be monitored and updated to reflect youth trends and changes to fulfil the needs of youth in the Shire of Capel.

Facilitate

Ease the process of youth program delivery through sharing resources with other service providers, organisations, and all levels of government.

Plan

Develop strategic, operational and tactical plans, to collaborate with service providers and young people to identify issues and respond to opportunities.

Provide Services

Deliver programs and activities to engage young people in our community.

Advocate

Represent young people by addressing concerns and issues with service providers and at all levels of government.

Provide Facilities

Provide hard infrastructure for stakeholders to deliver services and programs for youth.

Youth Principles Action Items

Safety & Wellbeing

Action	Facilitate	Plan	Provide Services	Provide Facilities	Advocate
Develop programs to increase youth connectedness		✓	✓	✓	
Advocate for schools and external service providers to run more anti-bullying workshops	✓				✓
Develop bullying education programs	✓	✓			
To advocate for health and wellbeing services in the Shire	✓				✓
Advocate for facilities to be available for youth programming		✓			✓
Partner with schools in the Shire to help facilitate programs	✓				

Programs, Events & Initiatives

Action	Facilitate	Plan	Provide Services	Provide Facilities	Advocate
Develop programs based on youth needs and demands		✓	✓	✓	
Contracting and seeking expressions of interest for service providers to conduct programs in term and in the school holidays	✓	✓		✓	✓
Provide the Inzone school holiday program		✓	✓	✓	
Youth team building camps		✓	✓		
Engaging professional sport and recreation providers	✓				
In term sports programs		✓	✓	✓	
Cross collaboration with regional governments and service providers	✓				✓
Continue partnerships with local service providers	✓				✓

Facilitate and support youth media skill workshops

✓

✓

Transport

Action	Facilitate	Plan	Provide Services	Provide Facilities	Advocate
The Shire has the Program of Works – Paths and Trails 2019-26 plan					✓
The Shire needs to increase network connectivity with neighboring LGA's and advocate for the Greater Bunbury Bike Strategy					✓
Advocate for a bus shelter audit					✓
Youth community arts project to transform bus shelters into an inviting space	✓	✓			✓
Advocate for an audit of how many bike racks are located throughout the Shire					✓
Advocate with TransBunbury and the State Government to provide more frequent bus services					✓

Sport & Recreation

Action	Facilitate	Plan	Provide Services	Provide Facilities	Advocate
Continue to administer the KidSport funding scheme for participation fees in organized sport	✓				
Develop a sports spaces plan for active sport in the Shire					✓
Continue to provide small grants for club equipment and facilities					✓
Facilitate opportunities for youth to participate in sport and recreation activities	✓		✓	✓	
Engage and outsource providers of sports and recreation	✓				
Continue to undertake youth needs and feasibility analysis throughout the Shire		✓			
Maintain existing infrastructure to a high level					✓

Arts & Culture

Action	Facilitate	Plan	Provide Services	Provide Facilities	Advocate
Continue to develop programs to engage young people in arts and cultural activities		✓			
Enhance arts and cultural awareness in the community through activating current spaces	✓	✓		✓	
Facilitate opportunities for young people to participate in arts and cultural based activities	✓			✓	
Advocate for more arts-based events and programs through school and service providers					✓
Continue to look for funding avenues to develop new events and encourage greater youth participation in these events	✓				✓

Communication & Access to information

Action	Facilitate	Plan	Provide Services	Provide Facilities	Advocate
Continue to build on the Capel Youth Collective brand through the use of social media and Shire websites			✓		
Undertake a Shire of Capel youth services market outreach and branding audit and review	✓	✓			
Keep a regular up-to-date youth email database			✓		
Provide information to the community on external service providers for youth			✓		
To continue the booking process online for events, programs and activities			✓		
Keep informed with new and more effective booking processes	✓				
Continue to update the Shire's Library and Community Services Website			✓		
Regularly update the youth services social media pages			✓		

Special Thanks

The Shire of Capel Youth Development Team would like to thank the Capel Primary School, Dalyellup Primary School, Dalyellup College, and Tuart Forest Primary School for their contributions towards developing this strategy.