



Shire of  
**Nannup**  
rest • connect • grow



# Youth Strategic Plan

## 2013-2015

*'A young person will not be able to build essential skills and competencies and be able to feel safe, cared for, valued, useful, and spiritually grounded unless their family and community provide them with the supports and opportunities they need along the way. Thus, youth development is also a process in which family and community must actively participate.'*

## Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary .....	1
2. Why are we doing this? .....	2
3. Current Resources and Activities .....	3
4. Priorities from the Strategic Consultation Period and Youth Workshops ...	5
5. SWOT – Identified priorities .....	7
6. Future Issues and Goals .....	8
7. Youth Action Plan .....	9
8. Nannup, About us .....	12
Location .....	12
9. About this document .....	13



“THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY.”

— [MAHATMA GANDHI](#)

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## 1. Executive Summary

Not only is youth important in the general make up of the community but it is an extremely important time in a person's life development.

Youth are often a representation of the current trends and influences that are circulating in the market and society. The goals of this plan is to empower the young people at an influential time so that they can engage and create the most out of their life both in the present and in the future. The goals will best facilitate these young people while honouring the times and society that they are living in to do this. We need to consider how we help protect them and educate them in a way that what they do in their youth, does not have to define them as an adult.

The Nannup Youth Strategic Plan (YSP) addresses the core issues faced by the young people in the Shire of Nannup at present. The Plan attempts to balance the physical and emotional needs of our young people and attempts to match appropriate actions and events that will best work with the community, families and young people.

Key priorities identified by the young people were;

1. The need for public transport
2. A Youth Space
3. Gym and water confident programs

Key objectives from consultation include;

1. Youth space developed
2. Ensure children and youth have opportunity to fully participate in community life
3. Youth actively manage and coordinate events and camps
4. Assist economic development opportunities for young people
5. Transport issues are resolved

Some of these objectives are already underway and others have been achieved since the time of consultation.

As a whole the YSP is strong and well on its way to achieving its objectives in a proactive and realistic way. There is a strong need for this document to stay current and up to date as the trends, needs and demands on youth are forever changing and the needs of today quickly become yesterdays, as these young people grow and evolve others come in to take their place bringing with them their own unique criteria's and collective needs.

## 2. Why are we doing this?

If we were to look at communities as if they were a complex living organism then youth would make up a major organ that keeps the system functioning. Without youth then the system will fall apart, if we nurture the development of the young people in a creative and inclusive way then we offer the opportunity for the whole system to flourish.

Not only is youth important in the general make up of the community but it is an extremely important time in a person's life development. Youth is a time where young people are ready to put into action the theory of what they have learnt in life so far and develop independent actions around this learning.

Current society changes, economics, family structures and stereotyping along with social media have made it increasingly difficult for young people to develop and express themselves in a way that nurtures the individual in a creative and proactive way. Although every generation faces their own challenges, it is important not to compare one to the other, but to listen to the unique needs and act in accordance to what is appropriate to best nurture the young at this crucial time in life.

### 3. Current Resources and Activities

#### **Youth Officer (YO)**

The Youth Office's aim is to engage with young people and provide programs that will enhance their life in Nannup. The Youth Officer also works with the community, parents, councillors, Nannup District High School and other organisations so that their voice and needs of the young people are best met in balance with the rest of the town.

#### **Community Development Officer (CDO)**

The Community Development Officer supports the youth in advocating for youth friendly practices in the broader community, working in with government schemes such as the Kids Sports program and supporting the Youth Officer where possible.

#### **Youth Advisory Council (YAC)**

Nannup YAC currently works in a relatively informal manner. Council hold informal weekly (school term only) meetings, where young people address any interests and views about relevant topics, such as the school holiday program. Generally there is not too much emphasis on formalities at the meetings but it is used more for continual engagement between Youth Officer and young people.

#### **Youth Space**

The Shire of Nannup has facilitated the conversion (still in progress) of the backstage of the town hall into a youth space. This Youth Space is a youth friendly space that allows weekly YAC engagement to be conducted, various workshops and skill development to occur. It also symbolises that youth are valuable members of the community and have the right to a space to operate.

#### **Camps**

Camps have been offered on an annual basis and are targeted towards the specific needs of the groups at the time. Camps offer a medium for young people to be exposed to opportunities that are not available, or cannot be offered in the Shire of Nannup. The camps aim is to build cohesion amongst the young people, confidence and leadership qualities. The camps provide an excellent opportunity for engagement and getting to know the young people on a more personal level.

#### **School Holiday Program**

The School Holiday Program offers a diversity of programs both in and out of Nannup. The activities often reflect the needs and interest of the young people at the time.

#### **Volunteers/ Community Members**

YAC relies upon proactive youth and appropriate community members to help assist in roles and/or to facilitate workshops. It is important that the individuals that do this work have good communication and personal relation skills with young people.

All volunteers and people working with young people need to have a working with children card; this is kept on file at the Shire.

**Budget**

The Shire of Nannup allocates an annual amount of funding for the School holiday Program and Family Fun Day. The majority of the funding for events comes from grants sourced and applied for either from the YO or the CDO. Other sources of income that goes towards youth events are YAC fundraising throughout the year and Family Fun Day.

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## 4. Priorities from the Strategic Consultation Period and Youth Workshops

The Strategic Consultation Period was conducted in a variety of methods to best engage the young people then identify priorities and draw out more information.

The information that has been fed into this plan has been gathered over a period of time and strategic approaches were used to firstly require participation and secondly to build trust between the young people and the facilitators to best draw out and represent the young people's current needs and views.

The different methods of consultation included;

1. Youth Dinner (aimed at ages 13-16)
2. Paintballing (aimed at 15 – 20 year olds)
3. Youth Workshop (all ages)
4. General consultation (all ages)
5. Online survey (all ages and parents)

From the consultation process the key issues identified were;

1. Transport issues
2. Youth Space
3. The need for a Gym in town
4. Sporting and Recreational needs
5. Greater Swimming/Water confidence and awareness
6. Youth employment

The key objectives from Consultation that were identified during this process were:

1. The need for a Youth Space that would be conducive for young people to hang out in a group away from stigma.
2. Ensure children and youth have opportunity to fully participate in Community life, festivals and have a sense of belonging within these arenas.
3. Develop youth camps and activities that offer opportunities that are not offered in Nannup
4. Assist economic development opportunities for young people
5. Resolve transport issues that could allow young people access to other towns and areas within the shire
6. Develop a Gym
7. Increase water confidence

8. A choice of public schooling options offered in year 11 and 12

The youth unit relies heavily on grants to support projects. One of the major roles that the Youth Officer does is source, and apply for funding. The Community Development Officer also looks at inclusion of youth development in bigger projects and applies for grant funding.

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## 5. SWOT – Identified priorities

Strengths	Weakness
<p>Proven record in sourcing grants</p> <p>Good communication skills</p> <p>Ability to develop and execute projects and events</p> <p>Youth Space development</p> <p>Community knowledge</p> <p>Community Support and donations</p> <p>Volunteering networks and links to organisations</p> <p>Industry networks</p> <p>Good networks with funding bodies</p> <p>Supportive and proactive CEO</p> <p>Finance knowledge</p>	<p>Financial constraints and reliance on grant funding and conditioning</p> <p>Time and Resource constraints</p> <p>The organisation does not always understand the value of Youth projects without visible results</p> <p>Higher education opportunities available in Nannup</p> <p>Transport</p> <p>Young people who are seeking skilled employment</p> <p>Access to services</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>Greater Community/Parental Support</p> <p>Funding for specific activities and strategic projects</p> <p>Mentoring individuals with specific needs</p> <p>Creative ventures</p> <p>Developing relevant programs</p>	<p>Further budget and resource constraints</p> <p>Grant availability and success</p> <p>Time management of numerous small projects within the 2 days per week allocation</p> <p>Small participation or interest groups</p> <p>Health, Occupational and Safety (number of young people to supervisors)</p> <p>Stereotyping of youth</p>

## 6. Future Issues and Goals

Youth often are a representation of the current trends and influences that are circulating in the market and society. Although there will always be continual ongoing issues such as bullying, peer pressure, stereotyping and youth employment, the prediction of how these and future issues will present themselves is futile.

The goals are to empower the young people at an influential time so that they can engage and create the most out of their life both in the present and in the future. The goals are how do we best facilitate these young people while honouring the times and society that they are living in to do this. We need to consider how we help protect them and educate them in a way that what they do in their youth, does not have to define them as an adult.

As different generations move through YAC their individual and collective needs present themselves. One of the greatest opportunities is to be able to cater for the specific needs of the groups and create projects, camps and activities that help the individuals evolve into young empowered adults. One weakness is that YAC and youth projects works on a volunteer basis and often the young people that are at greatest risk are often disengaged from society. In the upcoming months the youth officer will try and work more closely with the school and parents to help promote and build relationships to build bridges towards YAC and other youth projects.

## 7. Youth Action Plan

*The Youth & Events Officer supervises youth activities and assists young people to develop skills, socialise and plan events for youth.*

Objectives	2013/14 Priorities	Actions	Funding Source	Policy Documents	Status	Priority
Youth Space	Complete youth area at rear of Town Hall	Consult with young people about need of the space	Count Me In	Shire of Nannup Forward Plan 2011/12 – 2015/16 Program 13.2C Economic Services and Tourism	Underway	Medium
		Complete fit out of space	Volunteers Grant		Underway	Medium
Ensure children and youth have the opportunity to fully participate in Community life	Develop and implement school holiday activities	Identify activities that promote skills development and social interaction	\$5000 Council budget Participant fees	Shire of Nannup Forward Plan 2011/12 – 2015/16 Program 13.2D Economic Services and Tourism	Underway and ongoing	Medium
	Family Fun Day	Develop and promote program to youth and visitors to the region	Count Me In Grant		Annual	Medium
	Increase Swimming/ Water/Ocean confidence and awareness	Camps and school holiday programs that provide for this need	Investing In Our Youth LDAG Lottery west		Ongoing	Medium

Objectives	2013/14 Priorities	Actions	Funding Source	Policy Documents	Status	Priority
			Strategic Crime Prevention Grant			
	Develop and implement school holiday activities at Scott River	Consult with residents and families  Develop plan for year and promote so that families can plan holidays around activities	\$2000 Scott River Ball funding  Count Me In			High
Youth actively manage and coordinate events and camps for youth	Youth Advisory Council meetings held and activities coordinated by youth for youth	YAC meet weekly (during school term)	Participant fees	Shire of Nannup Forward Plan 2011/12 – 2015/16 Program 13.2C Economic Services and Tourism	On going	Medium
		Count Me In & LDAG meet quarterly to review grant program and coordinate programs	Count Me In  Investing In Our Youth  Local Drug Action Group		On going	High
		Work with Festivals to increase youth components and participation by young people	Lottery west		On going	Medium
		Fundraise for youth events and to raise the profile of YAC	Strategic Crime Prevention Grant		On going	Medium

Objectives	2013/14 Priorities	Actions	Funding Source	Policy Documents	Status	Priority
Assist economic development opportunities for young people	Develop a Youth Strategy	Prepare youth strategy and present to Council for adoption and implementation	\$1000 SWDC  The Shire of Nannup	Shire of Nannup Forward Plan 2011/12 – 2015/16 Program 13.2C Economic Services and Tourism	Consultation concluded, survey underway	High
		Encourage Youth Employment / traineeships and apprenticeships	CRC  Local Businesses  The Apprentice and Training Centre		Meetings commenced	Medium
Transport	Increase public transport to adjoining towns	Advocate for improved public transport for our youth	Advocacy meetings held with relevant agencies	Advocate		High
Partner the Nannup District High School to become a school of choice for all	Work in partnership with the Nannup District High School	Regular partnering meetings with the school				High
		Encourage sustainability and kitchen gardens	Hotrock program			Low

## 8. Nannup About us

*“Nestled in a peaceful environment, the Shire of Nannup is a supportive, connected community that encourages the unique aspirations of those who engage in it.”*

### Location



Nannup is situated 288km south of Perth, and is geographically in the centre of the South West. The Shire of Nannup covers over 3,000 square kilometres, with a total population of 1,262 (2011 Census). Eighty-five percent of the Shire is under forest, however the rich soils, high rainfall and an excellent climate also provides ideal conditions for farming. Environment and heritage play a large role in the community’s culture. Nannup boasts a variety of successful industries including beef cattle, horticulture, tourism, arts and crafts, floriculture, aquaculture, viticulture and timber processing.

## 9.About this document

<b>Effective From:</b>	1 July 2013
<b>Expires on:</b>	30 June 2015
<b>Next Review:</b>	June 2014
<b>Adopted by Council:</b>	To be inserted

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