

Four Year Youth Strategy Plan										Comments	
Youth Strategy - Key Zone 1: Community & Cultural - Merredin is rich in cultural diversity, performing and fine arts and a variety of sports available for both residents and visitors.											
SCP Key Priority 1.7 – Providing support to local organisations which seek to enhance engagement and opportunities available to early years and youth in Merredin region.											
CBP Key Action – 1.7.1 – Develop a Youth Strategy and Engagement Plan to deliver a range of youth programs.											
Priorities	Key Objectives	Key Action Number	Key Actions	External Funding Reliant	Stakeholders	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23		
1.0 Youth Engagement and Inclusion	1.1 Develop the profile and capacity of the Youth Council to provide a young person's perspective to Council and regional activities	1.1.1	Identify, support and empower emerging young leaders to increase their leadership skills.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Camp Kulin Merredin College Avon Youth WA Police	X	X	X	X	Bi monthly Youth Council Meetings that encourage the active participation of all councillors.	
		1.1.2	Initiate/continue to implement actions from the Youth Council	Reliant on external funding and resources	WA Dept. Training and Workforce Development AMA Traineeships & Apprenticeships TAFE WA	X	X	X	X	Recent projects include: Blue Tree Project and the formation of the Blue Light Committee	
		1.1.3	Partner with young people to develop Youth "app" or expand the shires current social media platform to include additional functions.	Internal allocations Budget	Officers Time			X			Not to commence until 2020/21
	1.2 Increase the profile of volunteering to young people	1.2.1	Develop increased opportunities for young people to volunteer in their community	Internal allocations Budget	Avon Youth Merredin College		X	X	X	X	Identifying events and projects for youth to volunteer with working group
		1.2.2	In partnership the volunteer sector raise the profile of volunteering and increase awareness of volunteering opportunities	Internal allocations Budget	Officers Time Merredin Show Shire events Cummins Theatre			X	X	X	Not to commence until 2020/21
		1.2.3	Promote the value of volunteering within the community (i.e. coaching and umpiring) and providing information about how to become a volunteer	Internal allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	MRCLC TAFE WA Merredin College Merredin Police Officer Time	X	X	X	X	X	Planning 'Nighthoops' a 6 week program of different sporting activities. Opportunities for volunteer umpires will be created.
	1.3 Encourage greater communication between young people, stakeholders and the Shire	1.3.1	Identify opportunities for the Shire and regional stakeholders to engage with young people in Merredin and surrounds.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Avon Community Services Officer Time Merredin Police Cummins Theatre Merredin Swimming Pool	X	X	X	X	X	Linking Avon Community Services with Belgravia to identify opportunities for collaboration
		1.3.2	Use social media more effectively to communicate with young people and the interagencies	Internal allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Officer Time			X	X	X	Not to commence until 2020/21
		1.3.3	Develop a collaborative approach that can deliver a multipurpose Youth Space supporting specific interest groups, pop up events, innovation and programs, workshops, meetings, co-working opportunities and individual youth services support.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Officer Time Avon Youth			X			Not to commence until 2020/21
2.0 Health and Wellbeing	2.1 Provide a healthy community and a broad range of lifestyle options.	2.1.1	Shire provide support for youth programs and environments that promote wellbeing and social connections	Reliant on external funding and resources	Holy Oake Officer Time	X	X	X	X	Mental Health Grant application submitted for a wellbeing corner at Games Day	
		2.1.2	Keys for Life program (access for Learners permit) via DoT	Ongoing	Wheatbelt Driving School Officer Time	X	X	X	X	Action to commence in November	
		2.1.3	Healthy eating initiatives and food associated with youth leadership programs.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Avon Youth Officer Time Primary Health Amity Health	X		X			Food provided to youth at programs and events is healthy and in association with grant funding guidelines
		2.1.4	Developing the capacity of sporting clubs	Officer time	Sports Council MRCLC	X	X	X	X	X	DCEO working with Sports Council and relevant sports groups to assist in advocating levels to increase existing numbers to some of the sports groups.
		2.1.5	Provision and support outdoor events and sporting activities	Reliant on external funding and resources	MRCLC	X	X	X	X	X	Additional sporting activities planned for 2020 youth program
	2.2 Define the key health needs for our community and create ongoing dialogue with State and Federal Government's for the delivery of required facilities and services	2.2.1	Shire to broaden its networks with Aboriginal Youth community services; to increase awareness, community engagement and partner for occasional events.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Amity Health Avon Youth			X	X	X	Not to commence until 2020/21
2.2.2	Advocate partnerships, networks and opportunities to provide recreational opportunities via grant funding from State Govt.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Officer Time	X	X	X	X	X	Identifying opportunities and completing grant applications for youth program 2020		
2.2.3	Increase capacity of youth to undertake leadership roles in the community; by increasing awareness and access to coaching and leadership courses, such as those made available by the State Government's Department of Sport and Recreation.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Officer Time Interagencies			X		X	Not to commence until 2020/21		
3.0 Youth Spaces and Places (Activities, arts, recreation and sports)	3.1 Identify, develop and maintain youth friendly facilities	3.1.1	Map existing facilities and resources and identify options to increase "youth friendliness" and scope for non-traditional usage options ie night time and after hours options	Reliant on external funding and resources	Cummins Theatre MRCLC Merredin Police Avon Youth			X	X	X	Not to commence until 2020/21
		3.1.2	Engage young people in the creation of "youth spaces" within the Shire of Merredin's facilities and reserves.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Officer Time Youth Council	X	X	X	X	X	Gala Night 2019 youth stall will be a pilot 'youth space'
	3.2 Improve connectivity between places, spaces and people	3.2.1	Increase the "connectivity" of footpaths to ensure young people can move safely between spaces and places	Internal allocations Budget	Officer Time			X	X	X	Not to commence until 2021/22
	3.3 Encourage and support programs and events that celebrate diversity, identity and self-expression	3.3.1	Partner with youth agencies and young people to increase the number of free/affordable sustainable events/activities targeting young people throughout the year.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Merredin TAFE Merredin College Apprenticeship Agencies TAFE WA	X	X	X	X	X	Addressed at Youth Council, Interagency and Blue Light meetings
		3.3.2	In partnership with young people host a major live "all ages" music festival	Grant funded	Cummins Theatre - Isaiah	X				X	September 2019 - Isaiah Live and Beyond
		3.3.3	Identify funding opportunities to celebrate diversity through multicultural events and activities	Reliant on external funding and resources	Officer Time	X	X	X	X	X	Grant funding opportunities are being sought from the Office of Multicultural Interests
		3.3.4	Identify funding opportunities for youth events and activities	Reliant on external funding and resources	Officer Time	X	X	X	X	X	Events held in Youth Week and in line with the Youth Events for 2019. 2020 Events are being reviewed with grant funding to be submitted in the coming months
	3.4 Develop a sustainable year-around program of youth-focussed recreation and leisure activities and youth friendly events	3.4.1	Continue to fund and deliver activities and events for National Youth Week in partnership with young people and youth agencies	Reliant on external funding and resources	Officer Time	X		X			CLO working with funding bodies for the proposed Youth Program 2020
	3.5 Improve promotion of Shire news and community events	3.5.1	In partnership with young people develop targeted marketing and communication plan to promote all shire activities and events.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Youth Council Officer Time			X	X	X	Not to commence until 2020/21
	3.6 Leverage arts, culture and youth events to build a more cohesive community	3.6.1	Shire to provide and promote a Merredin and Regional Youth Services Directory in an electronic format, updated regularly and promoted broadly to youth and youth services in Merredin.	Internal allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Officer Time				X		Not to commence until 2021/22
		3.6.2	Develop a broader awareness of key events and activities for older youth 18-25 years and look for opportunities to build networks and create greater capacity for the engagement of this group.	Internal allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Merredin College Avon Youth Officer Time	X	X	X	X	X	Engaging with Merredin College to advertise through the newsletter and morning announcements
3.6.3		Youthfest - coordinate young people's involvement to actively participate and develop National Youth Week activities/events within the community.	Internal allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Officer Time Avon Youth Merredin Police	X		X			Funding being reviewed and 2019/20 budget has allocation for Youth Fest 2020	
3.6.4		NAIDOC Week celebrations - work in partnership with Aboriginal communities to assist in NAIDOC Week celebrations, including activities with Yorga & Nghiki ngak groups	Internal allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Amity Health MRCLC Merredin Police Merredin Library	X	X	X	X	X	Successful NAIDOC 2019. Application for funding for NAIDOC 2020. Working with other agencies and Aboriginal community to build on current success	
3.6.5		Harmony Week - coordinate a Harmony Week celebration activity for young people 11-25 years in partnership to increase community belonging	Internal allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Officer Time	X	X	X	X	X	The International Food Festival 2020 is being conducted in March 2020. Funding and participants to be reviewed in the coming months	

		3.6.6	Games Day - coordinate a day of activities that allows youth to build connections with the wider community	Internal Budget allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Cummins Theatre Officer Time	X	X	X	X	Games day to take place in October School Holidays at MRCLC and another Games Day scheduled into 2020 budget.
		3.6.7	Defensive Driving - work in partnership with Wheatbelt Driving School to develop youth self confidence and driving skills	Reliant on external funding and resources - Officer time for DOT only	Wheatbelt Driving School Officer Time	X		X		Event not yet activated, scheduled to occur in November 2019.
		3.6.8	Gala Night - coordinate the Youth Councils involvement to create a youth stall at the annual community christmas event	Internal Budget allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Youth Council Officer Time	X	X	X	X	Event not yet activated.
4.0 Education, training and employment	4.1 Increase and promote education, training and employment opportunities	4.1.1	Advocate for an increase in the diversity and number of vocational and tertiary courses available in Merredin.	Reliant on external funding and resources	Merredin TAFE Merredin College Apprenticeship programs/ Agency	X	X	X	X	Merredin College and TAFE
		4.1.2	Provide venue space and learning opportunities for alternative and training programs within the region of Merredin, ensuring that the Shire maintains ongoing dialogue to assist with a range of external youth organisations program growth and capacity.	Internal Budget allocations & reliant on external funding & resources	Merredin TAFE Merredin College AMA Traineeships	X	X	X	X	Not yet commenced with agencies
		4.1.3	Support student placements for secondary school and TAFE across the shire to support of local youth.	Officer time	Merredin Library Cummins Theatre Officer Time	X	X	X	X	Ongoing Activities via events through the CD team provide opportunities for youth to be actively involved in events and encouraged to participate Currently 1 secondary placement at Cummins Theatre Workplace 2 Merredin College students activated in July 2019
		4.1.4	Bring together local education and employment service providers to identify gaps in the service provision of supporting young people into education, training and work.	Officer time	Interagencies SoM Officer time	X		X		Continually collaborating with relevant agencies
	4.2 Provide opportunities for young people to work for the Shire	4.2.1	Maintain the number of opportunities for young people to complete work experience/work placements across the Shire.	Officer time	SoM Officer Time	X	X	X	X	Workplace program activated in July 2019 with Merredin College. Further work placements to be available in Nov 2019 during school holiday program.
		4.2.2	Explore opportunities to increase the number of young people employed by the Shire.	Officer time	SoM Officer Time	X	X	X	X	Recent employees assigned to operational and administration roles have been under the age of 25.
		4.2.3	Promote local government positions as potential career options.	Officer Time	Officer Time		X		X	Not to commence until 2020/21
		4.2.4	Identify and support a dedicated youth (18-24 years) traineeship positions within the Shire of Merredin	Reliant on external funding and resources	WA Dept. Training and Workforce Development AMA Traineeships & Apprenticeships Skilled Strategies TAFE WA	X	X	X	X	Currently not budgeted or funding opportunities have been activated with CRC's across the State