

Strategic Objective :**1.7 Recreation and Community Development****Description :**

To facilitate the provision of a range of recreation facilities across the Shire and assist the community Committees to best service their communities and continue to enhance our townships through Town Place Plans

Strategy: 1.7.1.01 Implement Community Grants program			
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Community Grants Program (17/18) was opened during February 2017. 51 grants received. Council adopted the \$145k budget in round 1 of budget workshops. Detailed list of grants to be recommended to Council on April 11 workshop.

Strategy: 1.7.1.04 Implement the Youth Development Strategy			
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Council already supports work experience opportunities through a partnership with GRVEC in the southern part of the Shire. HR has been working with the Youth team to further develop the program.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Plans are underway to utilise the iVan to promote youth employment platforms. 4 school visits will be made in Term2 & 3. The Youth Development team is working with the Eco Dev unit to encourage local business to employ local youth.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development partnered with leadership students from Phoenix P-12 Community College to deliver a three week 'Technology Help' program to members of the Planned Activity Group at the Haddon Community Centre. The program aimed to match the strengths of young people with the needs of the elderly community, by having the young people teach the elderly how to use basic technology including ipads, iphones, PC's and digital cameras.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Working with Economic Development to promote the benefits to local businesses of taking on local young people for work placement. This is being achieved through articles in the EDQ publication. Next steps will be to attend Economic Developments Business Breakfasts and build relationships with local business owners. We also work closely with Geelong and Highlands LLEN who identify local businesses suitable for work placement. The LLEN has established an easy to use online portal that lists all work placement opportunities in a specific area.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Youth Development staff have established a Youth Services Network who meets quarterly to discuss the needs, challenges and opportunities for local young people. Work experience and employment opportunities are key priorities for this group. Engaging local business owners in this network would significantly improve access to local jobs and placements. Economic Development have continued to support Youth Development staff in developing relationships with local businesses. Opportunities to attend network meetings and a regular article in RDQ have made this possible.

	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	A youth transport policy has been established to provide improved access for young people attending youth development programs, most of which have an employment or skill development focus. It is hoped the youth transport policy will be broadened out to allow volunteers to transport local young people to job interviews, education, training and/or work. iVan is currently being used to transport employees to and from Council's Technology Help Program Tech, Tea and Tales.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Working with Economic Development to promote / profile local young business owners through the EDQ publication.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Four day workshop delivered in the June/July school holidays by Geelong's Chamber of Commerce for local young people interested in starting up their own business. Workshops were conducted over a full day (9 - 4) at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre. Three local young people registered.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Will use two 2017 programs (The Whitten Project and Intergenerational Tech Help) to identify suitable candidates to establish a youth business network. Will continue working with Economic Development to advertise and promote in EDQ publication.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Feedback from local young people indicated that more business / entrepreneur training programs were required before it was viable to establish a youth business network. Consequently, a young entrepreneurs training program has been organised for three days in the April school holidays, It is hoped that participants will be interested in trialling a local youth business network once they have the skills, knowledge and confidence to start developing their own business.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Will be achieved in 2017 through The Whitten Youth Leadership and Intergenerational Tech Help Program. Has been achieved on a small scale through two community events in 2016 as part of the People of Golden Plains program where young and old connect through storytelling
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	16 local young people are currently being mentored through councils Technology Help Program 'Tech, Tea and Tales'. Young people have been employed to teach elderly members of the community how to use basic technology. In addition to remuneration, the young people are mentored by the program contractors, youth development staff and elderly program participants who are encouraged to share their life experiences and stories with their younger counterparts. 15 local young people have been selected to participate in councils new Youth Leadership Program delivered by the Western Bulldogs. Young people will be mentored throughout the program by council staff and Western Bulldogs players, coaches and officials.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Workshop for youth in enterprise held in partnership with the Small Business Smart Business.

	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Detailed report completed by Kim Stanley identifying transport options throughout the Shire mainly focussing on school bus and VLine bus routes. Volunteer transport routes not included but difficult to record given the changing nature of their requirements.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Research around existing transportation options and well as investigating potential gaps has been carried out. The next step will be to research community transport options and determine a model to pilot. Once this model has been decided on, a communication plan will be developed to disseminate this information and test both the transport gaps and also if the suggested community transport model would work in practice.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Comprehensive report completed by Kim Stanley which identifies the many transport gaps for young people in Golden Plains Shire.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	This will be completed as part of The Whitten Youth Leadership Project in 2017 when participants present to council and various other community groups, organisations and agencies.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Youth Development staff regularly attend forums and network meetings in Geelong and Ballarat where they advocate for the transport needs of local young people. Youth Development staff are attending the State Governments first Youth Summit in March with four local young people who are passionate about improving access and transport throughout Golden Plains. In addition to this, Youth Development staff use social media to generate conversation and discussion regarding the need for expansion of public transport services throughout the Shire.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	L2P driver program still operating. Two young people passed their P's - Matthew Kinnia and Hannah O'Meara Three other young people currently participating are: Damien Cavanagh Jack Herd Tychial Lincoln
	Q2 Oct-Dec	75 %	Working with aged and disability to discuss the potential to offer volunteer transport to local young people. The ambiguity of the service makes organising and promotion of the service difficult but this seems to be the best model. Under the new child safety standards ride sharing is not a suitable option, nor is using the iVan. A trial of the volunteer transport program is yet to occur. We envisage this to happen in early 2017.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	A suitable community transport model has been sourced from a local government provider in northern NSW. Youth Development are currently working on a Community Transport Policy and subsequent trial of the program.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Discussions undertaken with youth unit staff to develop volunteer t-shirts and/or name badges to recognise involvement as a Council volunteer. National Volunteer Week events organised for May in which young volunteers will be invited to.

	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	A training for community groups has been schedule for later in 2016. This will be co-facilitated by the Youth Development team and local young people. The training will give community groups strategies to engage young people in community groups and in the planning of activities and events. The young presenters will also address how young people like to volunteer, be communicated with and what attracts them to <u>participate in community activities and events.</u>
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development partnered with students from Federation University to deliver 90 minute workshops at 12 local primary schools designed to ease the transition for primary school students moving into secondary school. The hands on workshops involved how to read a timetable and school map, how to organise your school bag and locker and how to open a combination lock.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Floor to ceiling mural painted in the Bannockburn Youth Lounge over the June/July school holidays. Five local young people participated in the design and painting of the mural.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Meeting with Communications in early January 2017 to establish a structured Youth Communications Strategy which will include promoting the benefits of community engagement for young people.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Youth Development have established a youth communications strategy with support from internal communications and marketing. In addition to this, a portion of the State Government funding for the painting of the Meredith and Inverleigh was used to film the process which also highlights the benefits of community participation for local young people. This short film will be screened at a National Youth Week event in April and used throughout the year to encourage local young people to engage in meaningful <u>activities in their community.</u>
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Will be completed in 2017 through The Whitten Youth Leadership Program. Drop in youth clubs have been trialled over 2016 without success.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	15 local young people have been selected to participate in councils new Youth Leadership Program delivered by the Western Bulldogs. The program will be delivered between March and September and will include fortnightly workshops in Bannockburn and Smythesdale as well as camps to Melbourne and Ballarat. This group will be a pseudo Youth Group as attempts to organise a structured 'council youth group' have been unsuccessful so far. Youth drop in programs have continued to be trialled without success. Local young people have clearly indicated they need a clear purpose or interest before they will commit to regular participation.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Will be achieved in 2017 through the Western Bulldogs youth leadership program. Specifically the Community Leadership Project element where participants are required to identify a community issue they are passionate about and deliver a small scale initiative designed to improve the issue.

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Youth Development promoted councils community grants program on social media and encouraged local young people to apply. No expressions of interest were received. To improve access to community grants Youth Development will meet with grant providers to explore strategies to increase take up.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Will be achieved in 2017 when we have a broader youth database courtesy of the Intergenerational Program and Whitten Youth Leadership Program. Once we ascertain the interests of a broad range of local people we can identify those suitable to be involved in representing the thoughts, views and opinions of other young people throughout the Shire.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Youth Development are currently working with the Community Engagement Officer to increase youth participation / representation in Council planning and decision making processes. Youth Engagement workshops / presentations delivered by local young people for council departments and community groups will be trialled throughout 2017 to enable council to better engage with young people.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Will be achieved in 2017 through the Western Bulldogs Youth Leadership Program. A key program element is participants presenting their achievements and outcomes at a Council meeting at the conclusion of the program.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	This will be achieved through the Youth Leadership Program where participants will present to council regarding their program experiences and outcomes at a regular council meeting in September/October. It is hoped this will be broadened out throughout the year to allow other youth groups to present to council.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Will be achieved in 2017. Youth Development are meeting with Communications in early January to establish a structured communications strategy that will include IT solutions for communicating with young people. Various opportunities throughout 2017 including the Phoenix Community College youth leadership forum to survey young people and seek feedback regarding their communication preferences.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Communications strategy completed with support from internal communications and marketing. Subsequent improvements in youth webpage function and social media engagement. In addition to this Youth Development will employ a local young person on a casual basis to support graphic design needs. It is expected the candidate will also contribute to IT solutions to better engage with local young people.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Electronic youth database established. Key priority for Youth Development staff in 2017 is to update and add to regularly. Data collection forms have been prepared to make collecting young peoples contact details much simpler.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Local young people are currently developing an online newsletter. A meeting with Communications has been organised in 2017 to provide the organisers with a structured framework and identify areas for support / contribution.

	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Facebook is currently our best platform for connecting with local young people. Our page likes are steadily growing but we would welcome a greater following. We intend to achieve this in 2017 through a school bus stop advertising campaign. A priority for Youth Development staff in 2017 is to make the youth webpage more appealing and drive young people through the site. Eventually we would like this to be the first landing site for young people looking for information.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development staff have established a 'good news story' register to record all of the wonderful achievements and contributions made by local young people. They are then promoted through the youth Facebook page, Councillor Bulletin and Gazette.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Each youth development program / initiative now has a celebration component built in to recognise and showcase the participants achievements and contributions. Social media and the Gazette is another avenue in which to promote the achievements of young people to the broader community.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development staff have created a 'good news story' register to track the achievements and contributions of local young in order to share these with the local community. Social media and the Gazette are the best avenues to achieve this and have been utilised to showcase achievements. Meeting with Communications in early January to establish a structured strategy to better promote the achievements of local young people.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	supported committees to organise FReeZA events including: Barwon South West Skate League, Battle of the Bands, Live @ Turtle Bend, Seniors Week Festival, People of Golden Plains storytelling events
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Committees received training from Meredith Music Festival Staff and attended the Live @ Turtle Bend event as an exposure to see how other community groups organise music events
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	the school holiday involved a movie day and several pop up youth van visits across the shire
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	a committee was formed to organise the National Youth Week People of Golden Plains Facebook page and event. Council received a visit from the Minister of Youth Affairs to launch the People of Golden Plains project
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	The youth development unit worked in partnership with several key stakeholders and community groups to deliver the 2016 youth program. These partners included: ESTIA health - Bannockburn Aged Care Facility YMCA Bannockburn YMCA Riverside Meredith Community Centre Haddon Community Centre Ballarat Federation University Humankind Enterprises Cotton On Meredith Music Festival

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Support for school holiday program was reviewed involving clients, users and staff who considered the types of support that best provides information to program users and advice to facilitators of program activities. It was decided that Child and Family Service team would continue to support particularly the sharing of event information and distribution of events calendars across social media, Primary Schools (for distribution) and Council Gazette. Child and Family Services Team would continue to support activity/program facilitators with information on community demographic, <u>documentation required and feedback on project.</u>
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	A number of meetings have been helped with Scope regarding the establishment of a regular 'youth program' for people with a disability and this continues to be explored in line with the NDIS commencing in January 2017. Discussions with a private provider to run some activities during the January school holidays has also commenced.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	75 %	A Golden Plains Youth Network meeting has been established to bring together a broad range of local services and agencies to form a more coordinated approach to dealing with the needs, challenges and opportunities for local young people. Youth Development staff are also actively involved in youth network meetings in Geelong, Surf Coast and Ballarat to advocate for Golden Plains. Advocacy for secondary school in the Shires North not completed.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Golden Plains Youth Services Network has been established and is well represented by local and neighbouring service providers. The group which has a current membership of 15 meets quarterly in Bannockburn to share information regarding opportunities for local young people. It is hoped the group will take a more targeted approach / action based approach moving forward where they will work collectively to address a major need i.e. planning for the opening of the secondary school. A local LGA network has been established for local Youth Development Officers to meet semi-regularly and discuss industry news and trends.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development are actively involved in regional youth networks including local LGA networks (Geelong, Surf Coast, Wyndham, Ballarat). Staff also attend relevant professional development and networking forums to advocate for the needs of Golden Plains Shire young people.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Ongoing conversation with Councils access and inclusion officer to support a local program involving young people with a disability. Although a suitable option is yet to be identified, school holiday programs is the most likely opportunity to achieve this.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Youth Development staff ensure that all programs are inclusive and accessible. This is a key focus during the planning and implementation of all Youth Development initiatives.

	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development staff are diligent with the legal and regulatory requirements of the role including all adults working with young people to have a valid and up to date working with children's check, all committee members complete and return a volunteer application form and staff abide by Councils child safety code of conduct. Youth Development are currently working on a 'youth workers guide' which will house all information required to work safely with young people. This resource will include child safety standards, reporting mechanisms etc.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	50 %	Youth Development planning meeting scheduled for early 2017 to refine / establish a monitoring and evaluation plans for all programs. This will also include establishing an overarching evaluation mechanism to measure programs impact.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	50 %	Development of an overarching evaluation framework that is applicable and relevant for all Youth Development initiatives is in progress.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development are currently funded by FReeZA, Engage! and National Youth Week funding. Staff are notified regularly of the grant / funding opportunities available in the youth sector and will apply based on the connection and relevance to Councils youth development strategy.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development receive regular professional development invitations / offers and attend where relevant. Staff are attending 'Youth Pass' training in early 2017 along with youth officers from City of Greater Geelong and Surf Coast.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	100 %	Youth Development are linked into relevant local networks that share, promote and present information regarding youth development best practice. This ensures that best practice principles are incorporated across all relevant programming. Networks and funding bodies also regularly share information regarding new trends and emerging opportunities in the sector.
	Q2 Oct-Dec	75 %	Presentations to Council will commence in 2017 through the Western Bulldogs Youth Leadership Program. We expect to add an element of this to all programs based on the need and relevance. Showcasing achievements via social media and the Gazette are ongoing.
	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Through the youth communications strategy staff have a structured plan to showcase the achievements of local young people and groups. This is largely achieved through social media but also through Councils Australia Day and National Youth Week Awards.

Strategy: 1.7.1.08 Implement Recreation Strategy

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	See attached report. 10 S86COMs disbanded. 3 Have said no, but will be reconulted in 17/18. 5 more will transition by 30/6/17. 4 majors looking to be cluster managed. (two will enter interim management arrangements).
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Strategy: 1.7.1.09 Develop Northern Equestrian Centre as a state centre

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Council continuing support of the Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre through training, governance support and community grants. Council are exploring new management models to assist the volunteers to operate more efficiently. Interim Management Arrangement with the WYEA. Long term potential cluster model arrangement.
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Strategy: 1.7.1.10 Advocate and lobby for regional youth service providers to service the Golden Plains Shire

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Council staff regularly meet with regional service providers to develop and implement programs and services in the Golden Plains Shire. Examples over the past 12 months include entrepreneur training for young people, YMCA skate competitions, leadership programs by the Western Bulldogs, health clinics run by Barwon Health and many varied FreeZa programs.
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Strategy: 1.7.2.01 Implement Community Development Strategy

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Action has been taken on the 17 recommendations from the Community Planning review that occurred in 2015. This has included: 1. Council continues to invest in the Community Planning program 2. Council has acknowledged the success of the program in local media and through the 15 years of Community Planning Celebration. 3. Change the planning cycle to three years with \$7500 SEED funding 4. Instating a program design, monitoring and evaluation system for the program 5. Community Coordinator capacity has been built through training opportunities 6. Community Planning Reference Group established and meets quarterly 7. Community Coordinators manual updated 8. Options for public liability insurance are being investigated 9. Process for developing new community plans consolidated and included in Manual 10. Marketing of program has continued through a range of mediums 11. Community Planning in Bannockburn has commenced 12. Community Planning Newsletter produced quarterly and presentations to Council and SMT completed. 13. Project enquiry system in place, has been reviewed and improved. 14. Staff training delivered to provide information about how Community Plan can be integrated into Council Planning. 15. Community Planning Facilitator role has been retendered. 16. Tender documents were updated to ensure key performance indicators were included amongst other improvements. 17. Advisory group meets quarterly and implements actions to build common understanding of program
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Strategy: 1.7.2.03 Implement the Bannockburn Community & Recreation Infrastructure Development Plan

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Council have been successful in securing \$1.2M in Federal Funding which will see deliver of phase 1 of the Bannockburn Heart project, in conjunction with Council contributions. RDV funding has been applied for and decision pending. SRV Minor Facility funding has been successful for active recreation elements. Community Consultation has commenced. Car park and Fire services works commence on April 3.
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Strategy: 1.7.2.04 Advocate and lobby for increased funding for recreation and community infrastructure development

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Council staff meet regularly with the regional staff from the Department of Sport and Recreation to advocate for an increased level of funding for infrastructure. Council staff also raise this issue at relevant sport and recreation forums.
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Strategy: 1.7.4.01 Participate in the management of the Geelong Regional Library Corporation

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Council staff attend all board meetings of the Geelong Regional Library Corporation and regularly meet with the managers of the service to ensure that the needs of residents are being met.
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Strategy: 1.7.4.02 Advocate and lobby for increased funding for library services

	Q3 Jan-Mar	100 %	Council staff work with the Geelong Regional Library Service to advocate for an increased level of funding from the State Government.
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