

Greater Shepparton Youth Strategy and Action Plan Review

Review Period – 1st January – 31st December 2020

1. To be loved, healthy and safe					
	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
1.1	Greater Shepparton has access to additional resources to enable further delivery in mental health services	Advocate to the State Government for more mental health resources in Greater Shepparton.	Greater Shepparton City Council (GSCC) GSLP (GSLP) Existing and new service providers within the youth sector Mental Health Service Providers currently this includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headspace - Child and Youth Mental Health Service 	Year 1-4	Council Input and support was provided to headspace for a funding application for an additional full time practitioner in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The application was successful with an additional full time practitioner employed at headspace as a result.
1.2		Advocate to the Department of Health and Human Services for more female doctors in region to better meet the needs of young women (particularly those of the Islamic faith).	GSCC GSLP Goulburn Valley Health	Year 1-4	Ongoing support is provided to the GV Health Careers Expo showcasing the variety of opportunities within the local health industry to young people.
1.3	Young people have accessible information and education made available to them and	Provide programs, services, facilities and recreational events that promote physical and	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers	Year 1-4	The following opportunities for participation were provided for young people throughout 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Potter Trivia Night

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
	feel engaged in their community.	mental health and wellbeing, promote respect, diversity and inclusion and that are free of drugs and alcohol. This includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug and Alcohol information workshops throughout sporting communities • National Youth Week activities and events • Freeza Events • 3630 Concrete Jungle Skatepark Competition 	within the Youth Sector this can include Headspace The Bridge The Salvation Army Berry Street The Youth Foyer Mind Australia Kildonan Uniting Care Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers Victoria Police		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word and Mouth TV • Furphy Literary Awards • Nelson Mandela Youth Summit • COVID-19 education campaign • Kindness Campaign • 16 Days of Activism • Riverlinked Live • Word and Mouth Live • Australian Youth for International Climate Engagement The following scheduled events were cancelled due to the restrictions of COVID-19: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shepparton Festival – Youth Art Program • Nerdmania • Cultural Aboriginal Leadership Program
1.4	Young people have access to a broad range of local, safe, free / low cost and inclusive events that meet their needs.	Evaluate the FReeZA program ensuring that it provides a diverse range of drug and alcohol free events, programs and activities of various sizes for young people between 12-25 years of age and in various locations around the municipality.	GSCC GSLP Arts groups/Bands Existing and new service providers	Year 1-4	FREEZA funding was not sought by Greater Shepparton City Council in 2019. Any future application to the funding program will be reviewed by the Youth Committee and in alignment with the Youth Strategy. Performers were sourced and support to participate in Word and Mouth Live in November with over 100 young people participating in this three week series.

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
1.5	Young people who present at GSCC front desk seeking help are provided with suitable support and information to assist them.	To provide training for GSCC front desk staff to provide information for young people seeking help.	GSCC	Year 1	Training for our Customer Service Team members provides for skill development within this area.
1.6	Young people are exposed to healthier eating choices at Council owned sport and recreation facilities.	To support the Municipal Health and Wellbeing plan specifically the implementation of a healthy eating policy at Council owned sport and recreation facilities to reduce the amount of junk food that young people have access to.	GSCC Sport and recreation clubs	Year 1-4	This action continues to be advanced via the Municipal Public Health Plan.
1.7	Young people and their parents feel as though they are confidently able to make well informed choices impacting the lives of young people.	To provide information sessions for parents and young people on issues of concern such as drugs, alcohol and safe partying; bullying / cyberbullying; respectful relationships; stress, anxiety and depression; transitions through life stages	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector Victoria Police CoolHeads Training organisations Local Sporting clubs	Year 1-4	Promotion of programs delivered by partner agencies, who have the staff qualified to deliver these programs, is continually provided to young people.

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
1.8	Young people are confidently and frequently utilising public spaces	To ensure GSCC utilises tools such as Crime Prevention Through Environment Design (CPTED) principles (which may also incorporate lighting and CCTV cameras) are used when designing or upgrading public spaces such as parks, facilities, shopping areas, bus stops, etc to improve public safety.	GSCC Victoria Police Neighbourhood Watch	Year 1-4	<p>Working in collaboration with partners, young people designed and implemented the Kindness Campaign throughout all areas of the municipality. This campaign will continue to be developed and implemented.</p> <p>The activation of Youth Spots has been postponed to 2021 due to COVID 19 restrictions.</p> <p>Young people have been actively engaged in the consultation in relation to the bike jumps within the municipality and three young people have joined this reference group to have input on the future of biking with Greater Shepparton.</p>

2. To have access to material basics					
	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
2.1	Young people have convenient and affordable public transport options within the municipality and to other locations outside the municipality for education, work and leisure.	To advocate to the Department of Transport to implement timetables and routes that more effectively meet the needs of young people both within Shepparton and in outlying towns.	GCSS GSLP VicRoads Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources	Year 1-4	Work within this space is currently being undertaken as part of the bus route development for the Greater Shepparton Secondary College.
2.2	Young people are able to use active transport to access the key areas in the community that they need for education, employment and leisure.	To continue developing safe, well connected walking / cycling paths to destinations throughout the municipality that young people need to access, e.g. schools, sports facilities, shopping areas, etc.	GSCC GSLP Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources	Year 1-4	Young people have been actively engaged in the consultation in relation to the bike jumps within the municipality and two young people have joined this reference group to have input on the future of biking with Greater Shepparton.
2.3	Young people have access to free Wi-Fi in key locations in Shepparton and outlying towns to enable them to connect for educational and recreational purposes.	To support free Wi-Fi locations in public spaces such as libraries, shopping areas and parks throughout Shepparton and outlying towns to enable young people to access the internet.	GSCC Internet providers Chamber of Commerce	Year 1-4	Infrastructure to provide free Wi-Fi at the Youth Spots in Murchison and Toolamba has been installed. Wi-Fi at infrastructure at other Youth Spots has not be included due to costs and access.

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
2.4	Young people accessing Council's website can find information about youth-specific services.	To maintain a link to the community directory developed by the GMLLEN on its website.	GSCC GMLLEN	Year 1-4	<p>A direct link is located on the youth section of the Council's website redirecting young people directly to the Youth Directory.</p> <p>A new youth specific email address has been included on the Council's website (youth@shepparton.vic.gov.au) to ensure young people have a central point of contact for the Youth Development Team.</p>

3. To learn and develop skills					
	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
3.1	Young people have access to relevant information about careers, training opportunities and further education at times when they need it.	To continue working with GSCC's Economic Development and People and Performance departments to deliver information about careers, training opportunities, further education opportunities and business establishment in a mode of delivery that best meets the needs of young people (based on results of evaluations with young people).	GSCC Shepparton Business Centre GSLP GMLLEN Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1	Ongoing work within this area is occurring by way of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced work placement processes and opportunities within Council. Development of opportunities for Industry Links visits across Council. Council officers are members of the Careers Day Out committee and are actively engaged in the planning and implementation of this program. A partnership with further education providers delivering youth work programs has been developed to provide greater placement opportunities.
3.2	Young people have access to meaningful student placements within GSCC and in the community.	To provide support to help young people gain student placement opportunities and work experience both within GSCC and externally where possible, utilising the available resources.	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the youth sector Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	The Youth Development Coordinator is working with the Team Leaders - People and Development to design and implement a new process for work experience and work placement that provides a more streamlined application and experience process. Links have been made with The GSLP, GMLLEN and People and Development Team for the Industry Tours to commence in 2021 across all the areas of Council.

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
3.3	Young people continue to develop independent living skills.	To provide a range of life skills training to further improve the skills of young people in areas such as financial management, cooking, car maintenance, job preparation, accessing legal documents, etc.	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the youth sector this can include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headspace - Mind Australia - Brayton Youth and Family Services - The Shepparton Youth Foyer - Berry Street - Kildonan Uniting Care Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	The WAM TV series provided young people with a range of speakers that aimed to assist and connect them to a range of services within this action area. Physical events in relation to living skills were not able to be conducted due to COVID 19 restrictions.
3.4	Young aspiring leaders develop the skills to enable them to be more engaged in	To continue providing a range of opportunities for young aspiring	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers	Year 1-4	Opportunities and support for young people to be engaged in skills and leadership development have been provided to young people within the

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
	civic life and to take on more roles in voluntary organisations, education or businesses and their communities.	leaders to develop their leadership skills.	within the youth sector Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers		COVID-19 restrictions. A number of these opportunities have been online and young people have participated in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Furphy Literary Awards • COVID-19 safe messages targeting young people • Nelson Mandela Youth Summit • Australian Youth for International Climate Engagement • 16 Days of Activism • WAM Live
3.5	Members of the Word and Mouth Committee are skilled in delivering events.	To continue working with the Word and Mouth committee to develop their event management skills through the planning and delivery of FReeZA events.	GSCC Word and Mouth	Year 1-4	An application for FREEZA funding was not submitted by Council in 2019. The WAM Youth Committee delivered and/or provided youth representation at the following programs during 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Potter Trivia Night • Word and Mouth TV • Furphy Literary Awards • Nelson Mandela Youth Summit • COVID-19 education campaign • Kindness Campaign • 16 Days of Activism • Riverlinked Live • Word and Mouth Live • Australian Youth for International Climate Engagement

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
3.6	Young people who may not otherwise have access to driving instruction are supported to get their driver's licence.	To continue supporting the L2P program to enable young people to undertake driver training in order to get their probationary licence.	GSCC VicRoads Berry St	Year 1-4	Youth Development Coordinator is a member of the L2P Advisory Committee
3.7	Young people have access to a broad range of volunteering opportunities which enable them to 'give back to the community' and to develop skills that are transferrable to the workplace.	To support the work of the Greater Shepparton Volunteer Strategy and to promote and support opportunities for young people to volunteer in the community to develop their skills and to provide assistance to individuals, groups and initiatives.	GSCC GSLP	Year 1-4	<p>Youth Development Coordinator has developed policies and procedures to provide staff, young people and their families with clear guidelines in relation to their expectations and safety as Council Volunteers with a focus on Child Safe Standards.</p> <p>Opportunities to participate are promoted and encouraged by young people via direct contact, social media platforms and partner agencies.</p> <p>The updated Greater Shepparton Volunteer Guide is printed and provided to young people who do not have access to a computer or the internet.</p> <p>Youth partner GSLP provides a range of opportunities for young people to participate in and young people are encouraged and supported to engage in these opportunities.</p>
3.8	Young people support one another and	To develop a program for peer to peer	GSCC GSLP	Year 1-4	Partner agencies work closely within this space to provide opportunities for

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
	share their skills and expertise.	mentoring opportunities to enable young people to network amongst themselves, share their skills and support one another.	Existing and new service providers within the youth sector		<p>mentoring and connection between young people and young people, young people and the community.</p> <p>The WAM Youth Committee provided a platform for this during the year as well.</p> <p>The WAM Live series provided an opportunity for over 100 young people to connect, showcase and celebrate their skills and expertise.</p>
3.9	More young people are able to remain in Shepparton to study the tertiary course of their choice where possible.	To advocate to and also where possible on behalf of local Universities to increase the range of courses delivered from Shepparton campuses.	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the youth sector Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	<p>New ways of learning online have presented as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Further education providers have proven they can deliver their courses through online learning, providing an increase in the course and study options for young people to remain at home and study online.</p> <p>This method of learning does not increase the opportunities for face to face learning within the further education sector but does increase course and study opportunities for young people.</p> <p>It is also recognised that young people wish to pursue their further studies outside of Greater Shepparton and have the experience of living</p>

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
3.10	Young people have access to meaningful employment opportunities locally.	To work in partnership with local businesses to ensure that employment opportunities are available for and promoted to young people.	GSCC GSLP Shepparton Business Centre Local businesses and organisations	Year 1-4	<p>away from their community. Working with industry to encourage and support our young people to return to our region once their studies have been completed and this is an area to explore further through this action.</p> <p>Workshops were coordinated in conjunction with the GSLP, Greater Shepparton Secondary College and the Working for Victoria Project Officer at Council to encourage and support young people completing school in 2020 to apply for the positions available under this program. A total of 27 applications were made by young people to this program.</p>

4. To have a voice					
	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
4.1	The Word and Mouth Committee is recognised by Council as a key voice of young people in the community and its views are regularly sought by Councillors and units within Council.	To expand the role of the Word and Mouth Committee to have a greater advisory role for GSCC on youth related issues and schedule a twice yearly update with Councillors.	GSCC Word and Mouth	Year 1-4	During 2020, engagement and input was sought from the Word and Mouth Youth Committee on the following campaigns, plans and programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Safety Campaign • Community Plans • Youth Spots • Multicultural Action Plan • Volunteering • Diversity and Inclusion • 16 Days of Activism Campaign • Victorian Youth Strategy
4.2	Effective two-way communication between students and Council occurs through the Youth Ambassador's program.	To train several young people in schools to become youth ambassadors for GSCC so that they can report back on issues that matter to young people and also promote any GSCC initiatives within schools, e.g. FReeZA events, festivals, etc.	GSCC Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	Strong networks within schools, youth and community agencies provide forums for the distribution and sharing of information, initiatives and activities. The WAM Youth Committee, school and agency leadership forums provide a platform for input to be sought and feedback to Council.
4.3	Young people have a greater say in what is happening or being planned in their communities.	To work with community planning groups to provide greater opportunities for young people to have a say about their local communities.	GSCC GSLP Community planning groups Existing and new service providers	Year 1-4	The WAM Youth Committee met with all members of the Greater Shepparton Community Strengthening Team to discuss ways in which they can be engaged in the development and implementation of Community Plans.

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
4.4	Young people's feedback is sought and included in all relevant Council programs, services, facilities or strategies that are developed.	To develop a formalised process whereby relevant Council programs, services, facilities or strategies that are developed seek the views of young people in their design.	within the Youth Sector GSCC	Year 1-4	<p>Young people have provided direct into the following programs during 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riverlinked Live • Word and Mouth Live • Activities in the Park program for 2021. <p>Through a connection made in late 2020 with Tom Saxton, Shepparton young person and a 2020-21 Victorian Youth Congress Member, increased involvement and participation of young people to have a voice has been made.</p>
4.5	Young people's achievements are recognised within the broader community.	To provide an opportunity for an annual awards program recognising the achievements of young people in the community.	<p>GSCC GSLP Local Businesses Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector this can include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headspace - Mind Australia - Brayton Youth and Family Services 	Year 1-4	<p>Youth are recognised as part of the Greater Shepparton Volunteer Awards.</p> <p>Discussions were held in 2020 with youth partners headspace and the GSLP in regards to the development of an ongoing program that acknowledges the contribution of young people to our community, with the celebration of these achievements being celebrated as part of the Greater Shepparton Volunteer Awards. This will be pursued in 2021.</p>

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Shepparton Youth Foyer - Berry Street - Kildonan Uniting Care 		Through the coordination of the Council Youth Development Team, young people were support to make and application for one of their peers to the 2020 Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Youth Awards. Whilst the nominee was not selected as the Award recipient was recognised for their significant contribution to making positive changes for young people in Greater Shepparton.
4.6	There is a positive perception of young people's contributions to society by the local community.	To promote positive achievements of young people in the community across internal social media platforms and external news platforms.	GSCC GSLP Local media outlets Existing and new services providers within the Youth Sector	Year 1-4	Young people's engagement and participation was celebrated throughout 2020 on various media and social media platforms. Examples of this include media coverage of the WAM Live series and the Kindness Campaign.

5. To be part of a community

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Priority
5.1	Young people feel valued and welcomed at all community events.	<p>To provide a diverse range of programs, services and facilities which encourage young people to participate in and engage with the community and which take into consideration their needs regardless of gender, culture and ability.</p> <p>To ensure that a variety of accessible, inclusive, multi-cultural and intergenerational events are offered in the community each year.</p>	<p>GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers</p>	Year 1-4	<p>COVID-19 impacted on the delivery of events within our community.</p> <p>A range of activities were offered for young people to engage as organisers, participants and supporters. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Potter Trivia Night • Word and Mouth TV • Furphy Literary Awards • Nelson Mandela Youth Summit • COVID-19 education campaign • Kindness Campaign • 16 Days of Activism • Riverlinked Live • Word and Mouth Live • Australian Youth for International Climate Engagement
5.2	Young people have access to a broad range of initiatives that meet their specific needs.	To continue delivering Youth Week activities for young people in partnership with other youth services.	<p>GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector currently this includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headspace 	Year 1-4	<p>Youth Week activities scheduled for May 2020 were cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions. The WAM Live series was delivered during the rescheduled National Youth Week held in November 2020.</p>

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Priority
			Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers		
5.3	Young people have access to a range of place-based outdoor facilities that meet their physical and social needs.	To continue developing youth related facilities in smaller towns in the municipality as per the Youth Recreation Strategy.	GSCC	Year 1-4	COVID-19 restrictions impacted on the ability to be engaged in the development of opportunities within this area. The activation of the Youth Spots in smaller towns was postponed as a result
5.4	Young people have access to resources that enable them to bring some relevant youth-related ideas to fruition.	To support and work with Council's current Matching Community Grants Program that enables young people, or community groups who work with young people to apply for seed funding to establish a specific initiative.	GSCC GSLP	Year 1-4	Information and support is provided to young people, youth and community agencies to make application under the Council's Community Matching Grants Program.
5.5	Young people who traditionally do not or are limited in terms of accessing youth programs, services or facilities are supported to do so.	To identify the needs of groups in the community who are under-represented in community programs, services and facility use, e.g. young people with dual diagnosis, disabilities, Indigenous community, CALD community –	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector this currently includes - Headspace - Rumbalara Aboriginal	Year 1-4	The Youth Development Coordinator has met with youth and community agencies to create a partnership for the inclusion of all young people within minority communities.

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Priority
		particularly Muslim girls, LGBTQI community, disengaged young people, etc and develop suitable participation and programming opportunities for them.	Co-Operative - GV CASA - Mind Australia - The Salvation Army Community leaders Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers		
5.6	Young LGBTQI+ members of the community feel valued by GSCC	To begin conversations around Council flying the Rainbow Flag outside the Council office to acknowledge that it is an inclusive organisation that supports diversity. To work closely with community agencies to ensure young members of the LGBTI+ community feel supported and included in their homes and in their places of work, study and recreation .	GSCC GSLP LGBTQI community Kildonan Uniting Care Diversity Group GV PRIDE Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	Planning for work within this space commenced at the conclusion of 2020 with key partner Kildonan Uniting Care. Planning for activities and programs that work towards this objective and action include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for all Youth Committee members delivered by Kildonan Uniting Care Diversity team. • Council's Youth Committee to apply a Rainbow Ready template to their Terms of Reference and all activities to be undertaken. • Youth led activities as part of the 2021 Out in the Open Festival.
5.7	Young people recognise that GSCC	To provide support to relevant national, state	GSCC GSLP	Year 1-4	Young people were involved in the following campaigns during 2020

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Priority
	supports inclusivity, diversity and safety of all of its residents.	or local initiatives that promote safety, inclusion, health, wellbeing, etc to demonstrate Council's commitment to a safe, diverse and inclusive community.	Community safety programs Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector White Ribbon Day Victoria Police		aiming to promote their actions and voice around safety and inclusion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 education campaign • Kindness Campaign • 16 Days of Activism
5.8	Young people will have the opportunity to share ideas and develop skills in cultural leadership, creative enterprise and cultural management.	To continue developing and implementing the Cultural Aboriginal Leadership Program within the community alongside our program partners.	GSCC Indigenous leaders Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-Operative Academy of Health and Sport Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector this currently includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headspace - GV CASA Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	The opportunity to review the Cultural Aboriginal Leadership Program was created through the inability to run the program during 2020 due to COVID restrictions. A full review of the program and recommendations for moving forward has been made by the planning committee. A new outline for the program in 2021 will be released early 2021 for the program to commence in Term 3.

6. To engage the youth sector

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
6.1	Youth service staff are supported to improve their skills, share their expertise and to better connect to existing services.	To attend relevant professional development and networking opportunities to increase their skills and to share resources / expertise and also provide local professional development and networking opportunities for the sector.	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector People and Development Department Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	Youth Development Team staff participated in the following training, consultation and professional development during 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorian State Government Youth Strategy • Nelson Mandela Youth Summit • 2021 Careers Day Out • Network of Youth Services • GOTAFE Job Active Providers and Education Network • Professional Writing Professional Development
6.2	Partnerships with relevant service providers are formed and the outcomes of young people in the region are subsequently improved.	To seek opportunities to form partnerships with service providers where appropriate to develop improved outcomes for young people.	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	The Youth Development Coordinator met with the following agencies and partners within 2020 to explore opportunities to work in collaboration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSLP • Headspace • The Bridge Youth Services • Berry Street Youth and Family Services • Berry Street School • Goulburn Murray Local Learning and Employment Network • Regional Sports Victoria • Valley Sports • Family Care • United Kildonan • Victoria Police

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CASA • Greater Shepparton Secondary College staff • Shepparton & District Careers Network • Ethnic Council of Shepparton and District • Campaspe Shire Council Youth Development Team • Victoria University • Banyule Shire Council Youth Development Team • Commission for Children and Young People • Drug Action Group • Furphy Literary Awards Planning Committee <p>Professional membership was obtain with the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria (YACVIC).</p> <p>The Youth Development Coordinator accepted an invitation for membership to the Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Project Youth and Transitions Table.</p>
6.3	Additional resources are made available locally for young people, thereby improving their outcomes.	To assist the youth sector to advocate for additional resources required to provide improved services and access to services	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector	Year 1-4	Support was provided to headspace for an application for an additional staff member in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
		within the region as required.	Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers		
6.3i		To assist in sector funding applications including applying for funding on behalf of the sector to address issues current to the sector at that time and providing support letters where possible.	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector Secondary and Tertiary Education Providers	Year 1-4	Support was provided to headspace for an application for an additional staff member in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
6.3ii		To support local sector causes and where possible assist in fundraising opportunities.	GSCC GSLP Existing and new service providers within the Youth Sector	Year 1-4	Opportunities within this space were limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
6.4	GSCC staff to continue to collaboratively together on youth related issues and achieve better outcomes for young people.	To develop an internal GSCC youth working party which meets quarterly to encourage greater awareness, communications and collaborations between various Council units	GSCC	Year 1-4	The Youth Development Coordinator has met with a range of staff from across various departments and directorates.
6.5	Young people are more readily able to access electronic information about	To provide more information on Council's website about	GSCC	Year 1-4	A new youth specific email address has been included on the Council's website (youth@shepparton.vic.gov.au) to ensure young people have a central point

	Objective	Action	Partners	Priority	Progress
	youth services in the Greater Shepparton.	youth services in Greater Shepparton.			of contact for the Youth Development Team.



GREATER SHEPPARTON YOUTH COMMITTEE

GREATER
SHEPPARTON

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Greater Shepparton Youth Committee (Committee) is to provide a youth voice to the Greater Shepparton City Council (Council). The Committee will work collaboratively to develop initiatives and actions that represent and respond to the voice of young people.

2. Objectives of the Youth Committee

To be loved, healthy and safe

- ❖ We will recognise, value and celebrate the experiences, skills, knowledge and contribution of young people as experts in their own lives.

To have access to material basics

- ❖ We will listen and learn from young people, recognising and appreciating the unique situations and perspectives they bring.

To learn and develop skills

- ❖ We will provide training, upskilling, mentoring and leadership opportunities for young people.
- ❖ We will provide opportunities for young people to practice and demonstrate their passions, skills and talents.

To have a voice

- ❖ We will provide an avenue for all young people to have a voice.
- ❖ We will build the capacity and empower young people to speak up and share their views.
- ❖ We will actively encourage young people to express their opinions and respect those of others.

To be part of a community

- ❖ We will invest in young people through opportunities to be connected and active members of their communities.
- ❖ We will provide safe and inclusive practices, programs and environments for all young people to engage with each other and their communities.

To engage the youth sector

- ❖ We will work collaboratively with partners who value the active voice and participation of young people.

3. Role of the Youth Committee

The Committee will be supported and overseen to perform their role by the Greater Shepparton City Council Youth Development Officer, to;

- ❖ Provide a youth voice into the development and delivery of Council policies, programs and activities.
- ❖ Lead and partner on the implementation of the Greater Shepparton City Council Youth Strategy.
- ❖ Lead and partner on youth consultation within the community.
- ❖ Make and lead recommendations to Council, peak youth organisations, government bodies and community partners on strategies to address youth issues.
- ❖ Provide a platform for upskilling of young people to increase their participation within all areas of community life.
- ❖ Actively promote and work within the objectives of the Committee.

4. Committee Conduct Expectations

Committee members are expected to:

- ❖ Act in accordance with the Greater Shepparton City Council Volunteer Policies and Procedures and all other legislated requirements.
- ❖ Develop and adhere to the Code of Conduct for the Committee.
- ❖ Actively participate in Committee discussions and offer their opinions and views.
- ❖ Be a positive advocate for young people.
- ❖ Treat all persons with respect and have regard to the opinions, rights and responsibilities of others.
- ❖ Act with integrity.
- ❖ Avoid conflicts of interest and the releasing of confidential information.
- ❖ Forward apologies to the Youth Development Officer prior to a meeting if they are they are unable to attend,
- ❖ Act in good faith and maintain the confidentiality of the matters discussed by the Committee and its members.

5. Committee Membership

Composition

The Committee will comprise of a junior committee with a maximum of 6 young people aged between 12 to 17 years (at the time of applying) and a senior committee with a maximum of 6 young people aged 18 to 25 years (at the time of applying). Applicants must live, live, work or study within Greater Shepparton.

The Committees will meet separately, coming together for:

- ❖ Regular combined meetings – a minimum of three per year;
- ❖ Meetings with Greater Shepparton City Council and youth partners;
- ❖ Upskilling opportunities, where appropriate;
- ❖ Working groups established to support the activities of the Committee.

All members will have voting rights.

Terms of appointment

Youth Committee members are appointed under the following terms:

- ❖ Appointment is for a twelve month period from 1st July to 30th June.
- ❖ All members will be appointed for a one (1) year term and are eligible for reappointment for one (1) additional term.
- ❖ Committee members are volunteers of Greater Shepparton City Council and as such, must complete the required paperwork and training and agree to the policies and procedures in relation to being a Council volunteer. Any breach of these policies and procedures by a Committee member may result in the termination of the young person's position on the Committee.
- ❖ All Committee members will receive an orientation pack upon commencement of their role and/or tenure. All Committee members will be required to participate in a Greater Shepparton Youth Committee Orientation Program.
- ❖ If a member does not attend a scheduled meeting of the Committee for more than three consecutive meetings without submitting an apology, membership may be reviewed by the Committee. When reviewing a membership, consideration of other factors such as participation on working groups or contributions to Committee activities aside from official Committee meetings. Any decision to revoke a member's appointment to the Committee will be based on a recommendation by the Committee.

6. Committee Meeting Frequency

- ❖ Each Youth Committee will meet on a monthly cycle. The time and day of the meetings will be agreed to by the Committee members and a schedule of meetings will be set.
- ❖ Meetings will be held face to face or via video conferencing platforms.
- ❖ Combined meetings of the Youth Committee will held every quarter to provide an opportunity to share, upskill and celebrate. These quarterly meetings will also be a forum for the Committee to hear from guest speakers and participate in joint training opportunities.