



Shire of
Wyalkatchem

DRAFT FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

COUNCIL PLAN 2026-2036

*Incorporating the
Strategic Community Plan,
Corporate Business Plan,
and Public Health Plan*

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners in the Wyalkatchem region, the Ballardong Noongar people. We acknowledge the wisdom of Elders past, present and emerging and recognise the positive contribution of First Nations people to the health and wellbeing of our communities through care for Country, cultural heritage, values and beliefs.

Appreciation

The Shire of Wyalkatchem thanks everyone who contributed to this plan. We look forward to working together as we continue to pursue the community’s vision.

Prepared with the assistance of Localise.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



On behalf of Council, I am pleased to present the Shire of Wyalkatchem Council Plan. It brings together our Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan into one clear document, setting out where we are heading as a Shire.

We took the opportunity to check in with our community and make sure our priorities continue to reflect the needs and aspirations of the people who live, work and invest in Wyalkatchem.

The priorities that continue to stand out include housing, health, industrial development, town centre revitalisation, emergency management, supporting social activities and community groups, opportunities for our young people, and improving waste management. For the first time, our Council Plan also incorporates a Public Health Plan, recognising the Shire's key role in that area.

We also need to be realistic about what our community can afford. Keeping rates and costs manageable is important, particularly for a small community such as ours. Many of the priorities over the next four years will rely on grants, partnerships and working alongside other organisations. Council will continue its strong advocacy for Wyalkatchem to help turn these priorities into reality.

We will continue work on our Long-Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plans and Workforce Plan. They help ensure that the services and assets our community relies on today remain sustainable well into the future.

There is some exciting work ahead. Council will continue to explore opportunities for industrial development and the revitalisation of our town centre, while working on a regional approach to waste management.

In 2028, Council will undertake a major strategic review. This will provide another opportunity to have meaningful conversations about the future of Wyalkatchem. This work will help shape our next Council Plan, ensuring our vision and priorities continue to reflect where our community wants to go.

I am proud of the way Council continues to work together, with healthy and respectful discussion informing our decisions, and a shared commitment to achieving the best possible outcomes for Wyalkatchem. We also value the strong working relationship between Council and our Administration, which allows us to focus on delivering positive outcomes for our community.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the development of this Plan. A Council Plan is not simply a document; it is a commitment to our community and a guide for the work ahead.

There is plenty to do. No doubt there will be challenges along the way, but also opportunities. I look forward to continuing to work alongside our Councillors, staff, community, local organisations, regional partners and agencies to make Wyalkatchem an even better place to live, work, visit and call home.

Councillor Christy Petchell
Shire President

PART A: STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

Introduction

What is the Council Plan?

This plan is the centre piece of the Western Australian Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework. Under the framework, the community's vision and priorities are key inputs into the Council's plans. The Council is responsible for delivering the best results possible within available resources.

The Council Plan (this document) incorporates the Strategic Community Plan and the Corporate Business Plan. Part A, the Strategic Community Plan, outlines the big picture, showing the long-term vision and goals, and the medium term priorities.

Part B, the Corporate Business Plan, shows the informing strategies, services, key actions, and measures for each goal for the first four years of the plan.

This is followed by a section on managing and resourcing the plan. Each Annual Budget follows the plan.

While this is a ten-year plan, it is not static. Rather, it is a "rolling" plan. Part A is reviewed every two years. The reviews alternate between a minor review (desktop) and a major review, which involves re-engaging with the community on the vision. Part B is reviewed annually.

The Council Plan was adopted at an Ordinary Council Meeting on XX XXXX 2026. It was a minor review, focusing mostly on Part B. There will be a major strategic review of the whole plan in 2027/28.

Community engagement

The Shire undertook extensive community engagement in the development of the previous Strategic Community Plan during 2024. For this review, the community was invited to participated in two opportunities to drop-in and give feedback on priorities for the updated Council Plan. In addition, the draft plan was released for public comment 7 – 18 September 2026.

How will the Council Plan be used?

The plan will be used to:

- ensure our strategies and plans give effect to the community's vision and priorities
- align our annual work programs and budgets
- underpin our partnerships, advocacy and grant applications
- provide the basis for regular monitoring and reporting

Community Profile

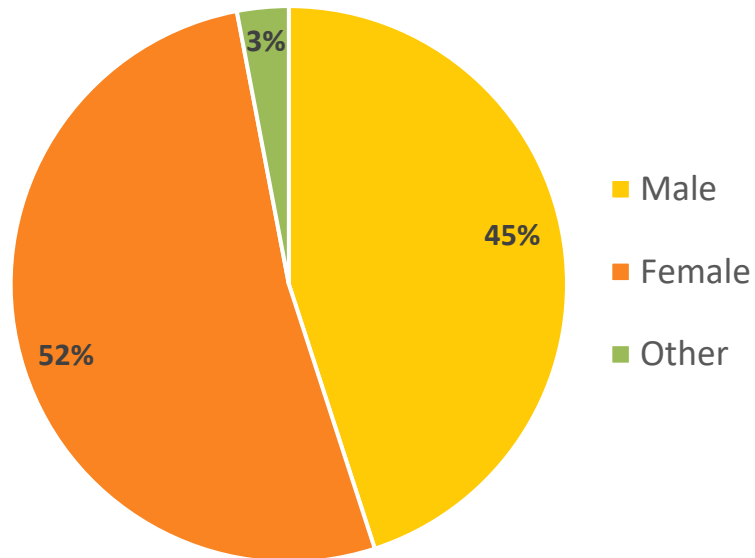
	2016	2021	Change	2036 (forecast)*	Change
 Population	516	470	-9%	490	4%
 Median age	53	54	2%		
 Families	116	106	-9%		
 Indigenous	2.5%	6.2%	3.7%		
 Median weekly household income	746	916	23%		
 District High School	1	1	nil		
 Employed full time	58%	60%	2%		
 Employed part time	30%	25%	-5%		
 Unemployed	9%	5%	-4%		
 Main industries by employment	Agriculture, Education, Health Care	Agriculture, Education, Public Administration	—		
 Volunteering	34%	33%	-1%		
 1 or more long term health conditions	—	39%	—		

*WA Tomorrow Population Forecast

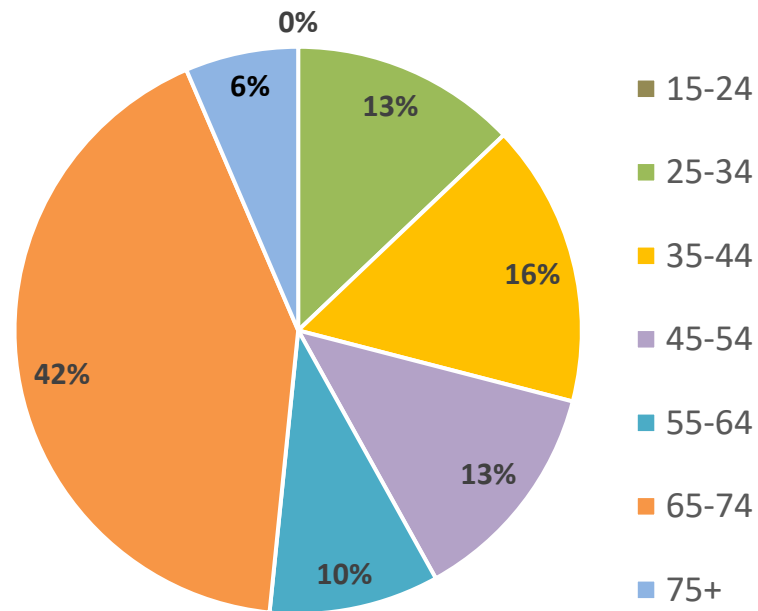
Community Engagement Results

31 community members took up the invitation to drop in to one of two sessions. The demographic profile of the participants is as follows:

Gender



Age Groups



The participants were asked to indicate their priorities for the coming years, from a checklist. Participants were also shown a list of priority areas already being implemented or planned.

The results showed a clear pattern. In the graph on the next page, the highest ranked community priorities are shown in green: allied health services hub (where the Shire has a facilitation role), local roads, mainstreet improvements, and youth leadership and engagement. These four all had support from over a third of the participants. The majority of additional comments provided also featured health services.

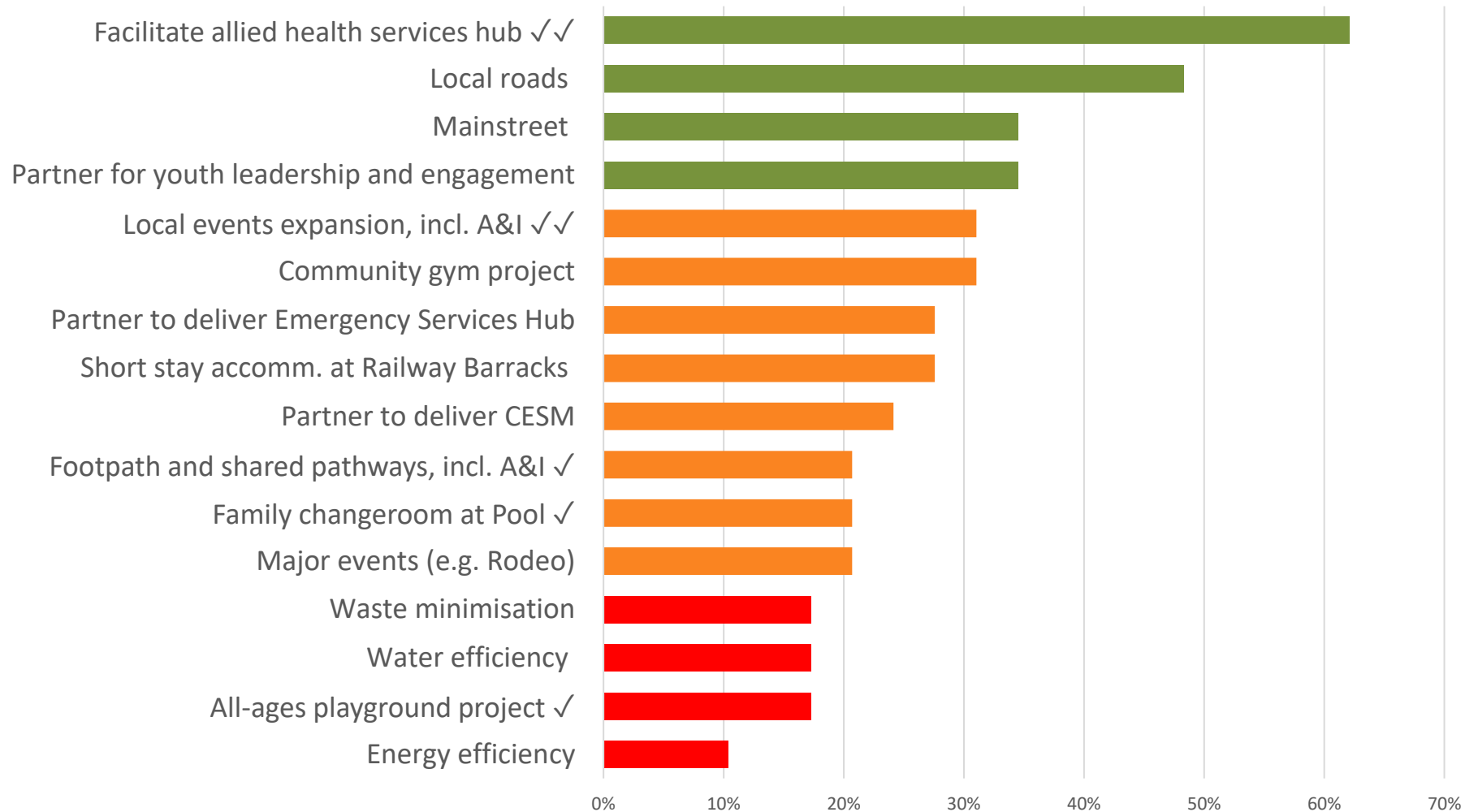
The areas already earmarked by the Shire also prominently featured health and wellbeing services.

These included the expansion of CEACA independent living units, maintenance of Medical Centre and GP services, upgraded community bus, disability upgrade of the pool, continued provision of community facilities and environmental health services.

The medium ranked priorities are shown in orange. These had the support of between 20% and 31% of participants. The lowest ranked priorities are shown in red.



Community* Priorities



* Note that one tick denotes that the item is also included in the Disability Access and Inclusion (A&I) Plan and a second tick denotes that the item is also included in the Public Health Plan (see next section).

Public Health Engagement

This Council Plan encompasses the Shire's Public Health Plan. The Plan is shown on pages 24 – 26. Two engagement processes shaped the public health component of this plan:

- Community engagement on this Council Plan (identifying public health items specifically – see previous section)
- Engagement with local health professionals: members of the Local Health Advisory Group, Health Services Manager/Director of Nursing at the Wyalkatchem Hospital, and a senior volunteer with St John WA.

Community public health priorities

Community engagement on Council Plan

- Maintenance of Medical Centre and GP services
- Allied health services hub
- Local events expansion, including disability access and inclusion
- Expansion of CEACA independent living units
- Upgraded community bus
- Accessibility upgrade of the pool
- Continued provision of community facilities and environmental health services

Local health professionals' priorities

- Promote active seniors
- Social activities/groups
- Falls prevention program
- Food education
- Advocacy
 - affordable, available, fresh food
 - reduce wait time for drug and alcohol services
 - police presence



Strategic Direction

Our Vision

A well serviced and growing community; with high quality of life, opportunity and a strong sense of belonging.

Our Principles

- Completing our work with pride and maintaining a high level of consistency in all our efforts.
- Maintaining what we already have and continually striving to improve our community.
- Doing our best with the resources we have, being collaborative, proactive and positive.
- Encouraging everyone to get involved and be part of something greater within our community.
- Having open and transparent communication, ensuring it flows both ways for better understanding and trust.
- Acting with integrity, honesty and accountability.
- Employing local people, building their confidence and capacity.
- Recognising our history.



Our Outcomes and Goals

Economy	Community	Environment	Civic leadership
Outcomes			
Local industry is sustained and can expand with critical and enabling infrastructure. The visitor economy diversifies our local economy, and we enhance our community profile.	Our community is inclusive, it is a place where people feel valued and have access to opportunities to build their own capacity, lead healthy lifestyles and stay connected.	Our environment is protected and enhanced	We have inspirational, dynamic leaders providing well managed, transparent governance
Goals			
1. Our transport network responds to the accessibility and connectivity needs of all. 2. Essential services and infrastructure enable local economic growth. 3. Support entrepreneurship. 4. The length of stay for visitors and tourists in Wyalkatchem is extended.	1. A safe and healthy community for all ages. 2. Retain young people in Wyalkatchem. 3. Minimise risk and impact of natural disasters.	1. High standard of environmental health and ranger services. 2. Resource efficiency.	1. Consult and engage with our community and strategic partners. 2. High standard of governance.

PART B: CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN

Roles

Like all local governments, the Shire does more than provide services. It also advocates, facilitates, funds, partners and regulates.

These roles are described in the table below.

In the sections that follow, the roles are shown beside the priorities and indicative projects/key actions, so it is clear where the Shire is directly responsible, and where the responsibility sits partly or entirely with others.

Role	Description	Directly Responsible?
Provider	Directly delivering a range of services and facilities to meet community interests and needs	Yes
Funder	Directly supporting local groups to further the aspirations of the community	Yes
Regulator	Upholding high community standards in relation to planning, building and public health and safety	Yes
Advocate	Acting as the leadership voice, promoting our community's priorities to government, seeking grants/funding	No
Facilitator	Encouraging and enabling others to respond to community priorities	No
Partner	Forming strategic alliances and collaborative partnerships to achieve more	No



Focus

The Shire will focus on the four-year priorities identified in the next section. However, these are not to the detriment of 'business-as-usual' activities, especially responsible maintenance and renewals of our infrastructure assets and facilities, and delivery of local services.

The following sections show the organisation structure and staffing that deliver for the community, and the Shire's services.

The commitments for the next four years are then shown for each pillar, including:

- Outcome
- Goals
- Four-year priorities
- Informing strategies
- Success measures
- Service delivery
- Indicative projects/key actions over the next four years

The pillars also include the priorities from the Public Health Plan (shown on pages 24 – 26).



Four-year priorities

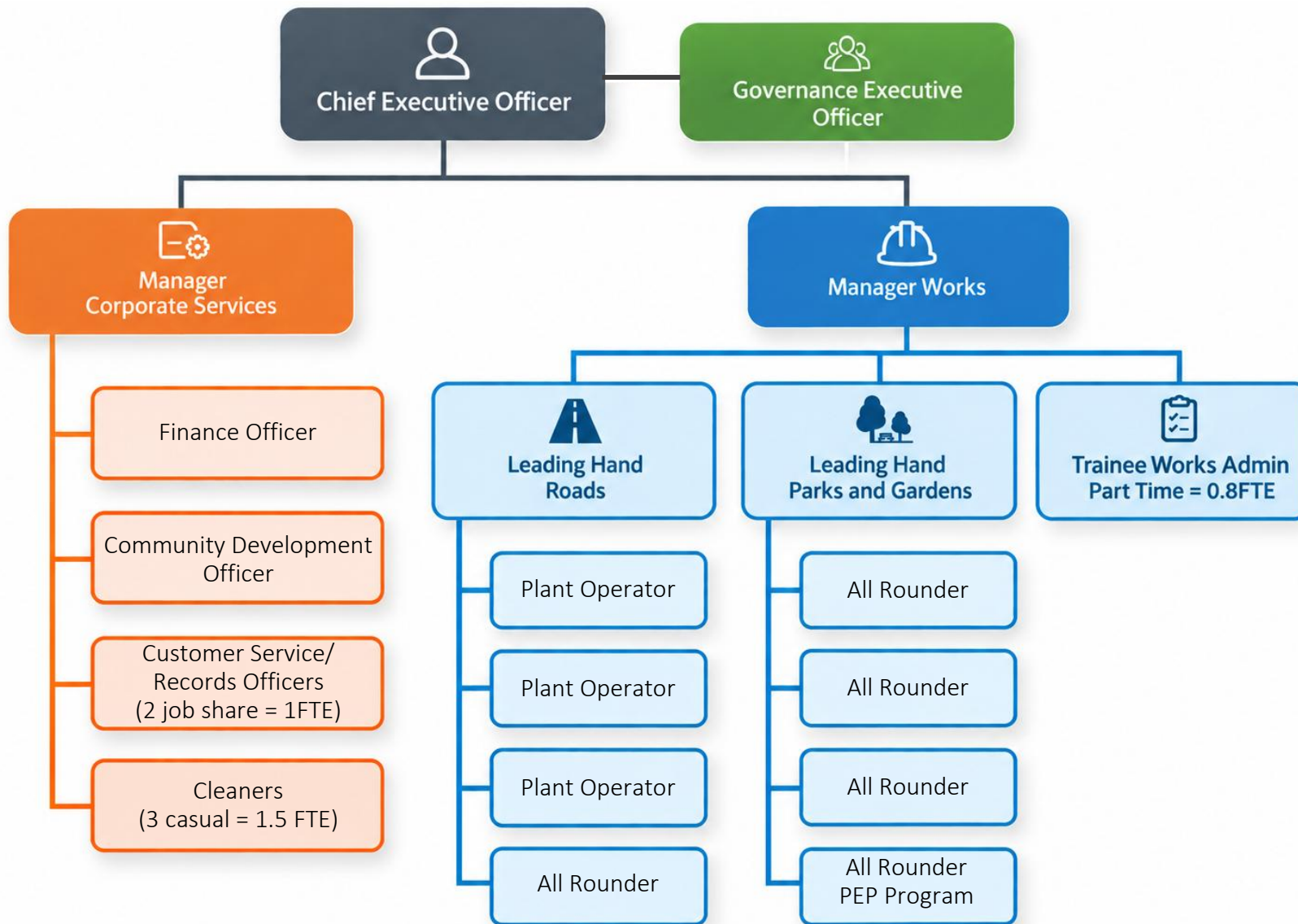
Responsibility	Directly responsible			Not directly responsible		
	Provider	Funder	Regulator	Advocate	Facilitator	Partner
Economy						
Support increased housing		✓	✓	✓		✓
Deliver Wheatbelt Secondary Freight network upgrades (subject to funding)				✓		✓
Develop Wheatbelt rail trail with North East Wheatbelt Travel (NEWTRAVEL)				✓		✓
Create industrial development strategy*	✓					
Create town centre revitalisation plan*	✓					
Community						
Engage a Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)						✓
Upgrade community bus	✓					
Complete swimming pool upgrades	✓			✓		
Town Hall improvements and accessible entrance to administration building	✓			✓		
Create Community Facilities Plan*	✓					
Promote active seniors					✓	✓
Facilitate community-led social activities/groups					✓	✓
Facilitate falls prevention program					✓	
Facilitate food education					✓	

* Implementation roles will be determined as part of the strategy/plans

Responsibility Roles	Directly responsible			Not directly responsible		
	Provider	Funder	Regulator	Advocate	Facilitator	Partner
Environment						
Develop Transfer Station with North East Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils (NEWROC)		✓		✓		✓
Partner with NEWROC to deliver regional waste project				✓		✓
Civic leadership						
Facilitate allied health services hub					✓	✓
Public health advocacy				✓		
Strengthen partnerships: - Community Resource Centre for economic and community development - School for youth leadership development						✓
Create Community Engagement Charter	✓					
Complete Informing Strategies	✓					
Develop IT and Customer Service Roadmap and review Shire website accessibility	✓					



Organisation Structure



Services

Council will deliver and support ongoing services that contribute to achievement of the vision and each goal, as detailed in the following sections.



Economy

- Economic development and tourism
- Strategic land management
- Town planning (contractor)
- Building (contractor)
- Infrastructure and project management
- Roads
- Drainage
- Footpaths
- Plant and fleet
- Airstrip



Community

- Events
- Community bus
- Community grants
- Swimming pool (run under contract)
- Library (run under contract by the CRC¹)
- Emergency management
- Facilities and property maintenance
- Leasing and property management



Environment

- Environmental health (contractor)
- Ranger (contractor)
- Waste services
- Landfill
- Cemeteries
- Public open space



Civic leadership

- Governance
- Regional collaboration and partnerships
- Advocacy
- Integrated Planning and Reporting
- Communications and engagement
- Human resources and workplace health and safety
- Finance
- Record keeping
- Information technology
- Customer service

¹ Community Resource Centre



Pillar 1: Economy

Outcome

Local industry is sustained and can expand with critical and enabling infrastructure. The visitor economy diversifies our local economy, and we enhance our community profile.

Goals

- 1.1 Our transport network responds to the accessibility and connectivity needs of all
- 1.2 Essential services and infrastructure enable local economic growth
- 1.3 A positive environment for local entrepreneurs
- 1.4 The length of stay for visitors and tourists is extended

Informing strategies

- Local Planning Strategy
- Local Planning Scheme
- Recycled water management plan
- Industrial development strategy (to come)
- Town centre revitalisation plan (to come)

Four year priorities

- Support increased housing
- Deliver Wheatbelt Secondary Freight network upgrades (subject to funding)
- Develop Wheatbelt rail trail with NEWTRAVEL
- Create industrial development strategy
- Create town centre revitalisation plan

Success measures

- Increased housing supply
- Delivery of Wheatbelt Secondary Freight network upgrades (subject to funding)
- Delivery of Wheatbelt rail trail
- Completion of Industrial Development Strategy
- Completion of Town Centre Revitalisation Plan

Service delivery

Service	Description	Level of service in next four years
Economic development and tourism	Business grants, regional tourism and marketing, facilitate increased housing supply, enhance town centre	Increase
Strategic land management	Ensure the Shire plans for current and future residential, commercial, industrial and community land use	Increase
Town planning (contractor)	Administer the Town Planning Scheme	Maintain
Building (contractor)	Administer building regulations	Maintain
Infrastructure and project management	Ensure capital projects are well managed – delivered on time, to the specified standard, and within budget	Maintain
Roads	Construction, maintenance and renewal of the Shire's road network	Increase
Drainage	Construction, maintenance and renewal of the Shire's drainage network	Maintain
Footpaths	Construction, maintenance and renewal of the Shire's footpath network	Maintain
Plant and fleet	Maintain and replace the Shire's plant and fleet	Maintain
Airstrip	Operation of an airstrip with two sealed runways, one of which has pilot activated lighting	Maintain

Indicative projects/key actions over the next four years

Project/action	Role/s	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30
Undertake key worker and staff housing project with NEWROC	Advocate, Partner	●	●	●	●
Undertake land and housing development initiatives with WA Country Health Service (WACHS)	Advocate, Partner	●	●	●	
Expand CEACA independent living units	Advocate, Partner	●	●	●	●
Infrastructure planning headworks/rezoning projects to support housing expansion	Regulator, Advocate	●	●	●	●
Deliver Wheatbelt Secondary Freight network upgrades (subject to funding)	Advocate, Partner	●	●	●	●
Develop Wheatbelt rail trail in partnership with neighbouring Shires	Advocate, Partner	●	●		
Create industrial development strategy	Provider		●		
Create town centre revitalisation plan	Provider		●		



Pillar 2: Community Outcome

Our community is inclusive, it is a place where people feel valued and have access to opportunities to build their own capacity, lead healthy lifestyles and stay connected.

Goals

- 2.1 A safe and healthy community for all ages
- 2.2 Retain young people in Wyalkatchem (see also Pillar 4)
- 2.3 Minimise risk and impact of natural disasters

Informing strategies

- Local Emergency Management Arrangements
- Local Emergency Recovery Plan
- Access and Inclusion Plan
- Community Facilities Plan (to come)

Four year priorities

- Engage Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
- Upgrade community bus
- Complete swimming pool upgrades
- Town Hall improvements and accessible entrance to Administration building
- Create Community Facilities Plan
- Promote active seniors
- Facilitate community-led social activities/groups
- Establish falls prevention program
- Facilitate food education

Success measures

- Community Emergency Services Manager in place
- Community bus upgraded
- Completion of Swimming pool upgrades
- Completion of Town Hall improvements
- Completion of Community Facilities Plan
- At least one new active seniors program established
- At least one new community-led social group established
- Falls prevention program established
- Food education provided

Service delivery

Service	Description	Level of service in next four years
Events	An annual rodeo and several smaller events	Maintain
Community bus	An accessible transport option for hire for group travel, outings, events, etc	Increase
Community grants	Sponsorship and waiving of Council fees for local events and activities	Maintain
Swimming pool (run under contract)	Six lane 50m swimming pool with separate toddler pool and water feature, BBQ area, kiosk, and facilities	Increase
Library (run under contract by CRC)	Free membership, book lending, videos, free access to WA State Library digital resources	Maintain
Emergency management	Preparedness, response and recovery from natural disasters and other emergencies	Maintain
Facilities and property maintenance	Maintenance of Shire facilities	Increase
Leasing and property management	Management of staff housing, facility hire, leasing of Council property and pool	Increase

Indicative projects/key actions over the next four years

Project/action	Role	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30
Engage a Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM) in partnership with neighbouring Shires and DFES	Partner	●	●		
Upgrade community bus	Provider	●			
Complete swimming pool upgrades (heating, pool hoist)	Advocate, Provider	●	●		
Town hall improvements and restoration of accessible entrance to administration building	Advocate, Provider	●	●		
Create Community Facilities Plan	Provider		●		
Promote active seniors	Facilitator, Partner	●	●	●	●
Facilitate community-led social activities/groups	Facilitator, Partner	●	●		
Facilitate falls prevention program	Facilitator	●			
Facilitate food education	Facilitator	●			



Pillar 3: Environment

Outcome

Our environment is
protected and enhanced

Goals

- 3.1 High standard of environmental health and ranger services
- 3.2 Resource efficiency

Informing strategies

- N/A

Four year priorities

- Develop Transfer Station with NEWROC
- Partner with NEWROC to deliver regional waste project

Success measures

- Transfer station developed

Service delivery

Service	Description	Level of service in next four years
Environmental health (contractor)	Food safety, health standards, nuisance control, water quality testing	Maintain
Ranger (contractor)	Delivery of animal control and enforcement of local laws	Maintain
Waste services	Weekly kerbside rubbish collection for townsite residents using 240-litre mobile bins	Maintain
Landfill	Local waste facility located on Cemetery Road is open four days a week	Increase
Cemeteries	The current Wyalkatchem cemetery sits in cleared bushland with neat rows of graves and headstones. A niche wall and shade pergola are provided. There are two historic burial grounds in Korrelocking. The Shire also operates a pet cemetery	Maintain
Public open space	The Shire manages a number of designated parks, recreational grounds, and reserve areas	Maintain

Indicative projects/key actions over the next four years

Project/action	Role	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30
Develop Transfer Station with NEWROC	Funder, Advocate, Partner	●	●		
Partner with NEWROC to deliver regional waste project	Advocate, Partner	●	●	●	●



Pillar 4: Civic leadership

Outcome

We have inspirational, dynamic leaders providing well managed, transparent governance

Goals

- 4.1 Consult and engage with our community and strategic partners
- 4.2 High standard of governance

Informing strategies

- Risk Management Framework
- Procurement Policy
- Community Engagement Charter (to come)
- Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plan, Workforce Plan (to come)
- IT and Customer Service Roadmap (to come)

Four year priorities

- Facilitate allied health services hub
- Public health advocacy
- Strengthen partnership with Community Resource Centre for economic and community development
- Strengthen partnership with the school for youth leadership development
- Informing strategies
- Community engagement charter

Success measures

- Progress towards allied health services hub
- Public health advocacy initiated
- Partnerships progressed with Community Resource Centre and School
- Completion of Community Engagement Charter
- Completion of Informing Strategies
- Completion of IT and Customer Service Roadmap and Shire website accessibility review

Service	Description	Level of service in next four years
Governance	Democratic process and Council Member support, procurement, audit, risk and compliance	Maintain
Regional collaboration and partnerships	Membership and participation in NEWROC and NEWTRAVEL, and other collaborations	Increase
Advocacy	Promoting the community's interests to State and Federal Government and others; seeking grants/funding	Increase
Integrated Planning and Reporting	Strategic and corporate planning integrated with financial planning	Increase
Communications and engagement	Communications and community and stakeholder engagement	Increase
Human resources and workplace health and safety	Ensuring the Shire has the right people, in a safe and productive work environment	Maintain
Finance	Includes Annual Budget, rates, fees and charges, debtors and creditors, payroll	Maintain
Record keeping	Maintenance and security of records, Freedom Of Information (FOI) requests	Maintain
Information technology	Systems development, network and operations	Increase
Customer service	General enquiries, cat/dog registration and payments, bookings etc	Increase

Indicative projects/key actions over the next four years

Project/action	Role	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30
Facilitate allied health services hub	Facilitator, Partner	●	●	●	●
Public health advocacy: affordable, available, fresh food; reduced wait time for drug and alcohol services; police presence	Advocate	●	●	●	●
Partnership development: – with Community Resource Centre for economic and community development – with the school for youth leadership development	Partner		●	●	●
Create Community Engagement Charter	Provider	●	●		
Complete Informing Strategies – Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plan, Workforce Plan	Provider	●	●	●	
Develop IT and Customer Service Roadmap and review Shire website accessibility	Provider	●	●		

Public Health Plan

This Council Plan also encompasses the Shire’s Public Health Plan. All local governments in Western Australia are required to develop a Public Health Plan. It provides a useful lens to consider what the Shire does and potentially could do, to contribute to the health of the Wyalkatchem population. Local government Public Health Plans nest inside the Western Australia State Public Health Plan. The State Plan’s strategic direction is summarised in the diagram on the next page.

Local Public Health Plan requirements

The plan requirements are:

- ✓ identify public health issues
- ✓ strategies to improve public health (from prevention to services)
- ✓ strategies to identify and respond to new public health risks
- ✓ who will work with who to improve public health
- ✓ how the plan will be monitored, reported and periodically refreshed

Local government public health strategies need to be within its remit and will often encompass existing services and activities.

Wyalkatchem Public Health Issues

The statistics show that health status concerns in Wyalkatchem² are also present in most communities. They include:

- Nutrition and Dietary Habits
- Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour
- Overweight and Obesity Rates
- Tobacco Use and Vaping
- Tobacco-Attributable Hospitalisations and Deaths
- Alcohol Consumption and Related Harm
- Illicit Drug-Attributable Hospitalisations and Deaths
- Mental Health Conditions Prevalence
- Psychological Distress
- Injury Prevalence Among Children and Adults
- Injury-Related Hospitalisations and Deaths

Based on the statistics, input from the community and the Local Health Advisory Group and other health professionals, the plan focuses on the priorities (shown in blue text in the diagram on the next page) and strategies (shown on page 26) that best reflect the following criteria:

Criteria for inclusion in the Wyalkatchem Public Health Plan

- Community feedback
- Input from public health professionals on the key issues facing the Wyalkatchem community
- Fit with the Shire’s remit
- Potential for collaborations to maximise impact

² Epidemiology Directorate, Public and Aboriginal Health Division, Department of Health WA, January 2026, *Health and Wellbeing Profile; Shire of Wyalkatchem 2015 – 2024*

State Public Health Plan Vision, Objectives, Priorities and Principles

Vision		The best possible health, wellbeing and quality of life for all Western Australians – now and into the future			
Objectives	Aboriginal health and wellbeing				
	Equity and inclusion				
	Promote	Prevent	Protect	Enable	
	Foster strong, connected communities and healthier environments	Reduce the burden of chronic disease, communicable disease, and injury	Protect against public and environmental health risks, effectively manage emergencies, reduce impacts of disaster, and lessen the health impacts of climate change	Bolster public health systems and workforce and leverage partnerships to support health and wellbeing	
Priorities*	• Ensure public health risks are considered and addressed in planning and development policies and approval processes to facilitate healthy living and minimise impacts from public health hazards. • Optimise mental health and wellbeing. • Improve health literacy by ensuring accessible and appropriate health information is effectively communicated to all Western Australians. • Improve understanding and use of genomic information to promote population health.	• Reduce use of tobacco, vapes and related products. • Encourage and support healthy eating and active living to halt the rise in obesity. • Reduce harm due to alcohol use. • Prevent injuries and promote safer communities. • Reduce the harm due to illicit drug use, misuse of pharmaceuticals and other drugs of concern. • Improve access to and quality of population-based screening programs. • Expand immunisation program provision to prevent infectious disease.	• Manage the effects of climate change on people’s health and reduce the health system's environmental footprint. • Prevent, monitor and control notifiable infectious diseases. • Provide sustainable disaster and emergency management across prevention, preparedness, response and recovery phases. • Reduce harm due to current and future health hazards, including environmental, radiation and biosecurity risks. • Enhance pandemic preparedness and response to emerging communicable disease threats. • Ensure access to safe food and water.	• Enhance population health data, collection, management, analysis and reporting capability. • Foster research and innovation to improve our understanding of, and ability to address, public health issues. • Develop partnerships with key agencies and communities to enable the delivery of public health services. • Attract, develop and retain a public health workforce for the future.	
	Guiding principles				
Partnerships		Sustainable	Proportionate	Precautionary	

* The Shire of Wyalkatchem Public Health Plan focuses on the priorities shown in blue text.

Strategies to improve public health

Public health issues and priorities were tested through the processes outlined in the public health engagement section as part of applying the criteria outlined on page 24.

The selected strategies for the Shire's Public Health Plan are listed below. These are included in the pillar sections.

The strategies are listed in two categories: existing Shire activity that is already contributing to the priorities and objectives, and new or enhanced activity that has resulted from applying a public health 'lens' more broadly.

Existing activity

- Provide and coordinate emergency management
- Maintenance of Medical Centre and GP services
- Facilitate allied health services hub
- Local events expansion, including disability access and inclusion
- Expansion of CEACA independent living units
- Upgrade community bus
- Accessibility upgrade of the pool

- Continued provision of community facilities and environmental health services
- Continue to work in partnership with other the Local Health Advisory Group and individual agencies to benefit the public health of the Wyalkatchem and regional community

New or enhanced activity

- Promote active seniors
- Social activities/groups
- Falls prevention program
- Food education
- Public health advocacy
 - affordable, available, fresh food
 - reduce wait time for drug and alcohol services
 - police presence

Monitoring and refreshing the Public Health Plan

The group that met for the public health professionals' engagement have agreed to convene annually to review progress and priorities. The Shire will re-engage with the community on public health priorities in its major strategic review.

Resourcing the Council Plan

Overview

Three key mechanisms for resourcing the Council Plan are the Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plans and Workforce Plan. These form part of Western Australia's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, and are programmed for review in the coming 18 months. Once they are complete, the Shire will have a more robust picture of its long term financial position. This will be a vital input to the major strategic review in 2027/28.

Long Term Financial Plan

The Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is a ten year 'rolling' plan. It is refined and updated through each year's Annual Budget. More substantial reviews occur every second year.

Identifying resourcing requirements is fundamental to prioritisation, which is how Council balances aspirations with affordability. This is essential to achieving and demonstrating financial sustainability.

The LTFP is a key tool in the prioritisation process and ensures the Council Plan is financially viable. The LTFP identifies key assumptions including demographic projections, rating base growth, consumer price index (or local government cost index), and interest rates.

Major capital and operational expenditure identified in the Council Plan are included in the LTFP. The LTFP also reflects the Shire's key financial policies.

Asset Management Plans

The effective management of assets is critical to the sustainable delivery of local government services. The Shire holds a large portfolio of long-lived assets, so it is critical to plan and prioritise the maintenance, renewal and eventual replacement of those assets, manage upgrades, and provide for the acquisition of new assets as required.

Workforce Plan

The Workforce Plan addresses the skills, expertise and knowledge required by the organisation; the desired organisational culture and how to develop it; what organisational structure will work best; recruitment and retention in the context of labour market challenges and opportunities; and the facilities and equipment needed to support a productive and inclusive workforce.

The Workforce Plan identifies the costs of the workforce, and also has regard to other regulatory requirements such as Workplace Health and Safety, Equal Employment Opportunity and the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

Staying on Track

Strategic Risk Management

The Shire of Wyalkatchem maintains a robust strategic and operational risk management system. The table below identifies key risks associated with this Council Plan and the applicable controls to mitigate those risks.

Risk	Risk controls	
Challenges in recruiting and retaining skilled staff	Workforce Plan (WFP)	Learning and development opportunities
Employee cost rises above assumption	- Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) - Workforce Plan (WFP)	Budget process
Breakdown in relationship amongst Council Members or between Council Members and CEO	- Code of Conduct and relevant policies - Councillor induction and training - Conflict resolution process	- Regular meetings CEO/ President - Regular Council briefings/workshops - CEO performance review process
Lack of community awareness of Council's direction	Effective engagement in major strategic review	Ongoing communications and engagement
Lack of available skilled contractors/suppliers	Tender and procurement process	
Increased contractor and/or materials costs putting pressure on capital program	- Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) - Asset Management Plans	- Budget process - Rigor of project management
Reduced external grants/funding	- Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) - Budget process	'Shovel-ready' projects - Lobbying and advocacy
Natural disasters and emergencies	- Business Continuity Plan - Local Recovery Plan - Local Emergency Management Arrangements	- Insured risk - Strategic reserves
Projects not delivered to quality, time or budget	- Project management - Budget process	Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP)
Exposure or loss resulting from a cyber-attack or data breach	- Insured risk - Access controls / Cloud base	- Audits and testing - Network design

Monitoring and Reporting

The Council will monitor progress against the Council Plan six monthly. These reports will be public. For the 2027/28 year, the focus will be on monitoring implementation. The new Council Plan (beginning 1 July 2028) will include monitoring of the impact of the plan against the goals.

The Shire's regular communication channels will be utilised to notify the community of progress or significant changes in connection with the Council Plan.

Annual updates on progress will be published in each year's Annual Report.





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