



# Bright Futures

A Strategy for Children and Families



# Contents

Acknowledgements	3
Council's Commitment, Vision and Mission	4
Executive Summary	5
Community Snapshot	6
Shire Map	7
Guiding Principles	8
Goals	14
Priority Projects	15
Strategic Landscape	16
Policy Framework	18
Role of the Shire	19
Role of the Shire Colouring In	20
COVID response	21
Australian Early Development Census	22
Consultation and Engagement	24
Bright Futures – Action Plan	30
References	46





# Acknowledgement of Country

The Shire of Harvey acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.

**We acknowledge that our local Aboriginal communities have always understood the importance of raising children who are connected to family, country and community.**

## Special thanks

We would like to acknowledge the contribution of our Early Years Strategy Working Group, Harvey Early Years Network, WA Country Health, local daycares, primary schools and service providers. These members have been active in the development of this strategy and without your contribution, this project would not have been possible.

## Child Safe Organisation

The Shire of Harvey is committed to the safety of all children and has zero tolerance of child abuse.





# Council's Commitment

Council is committed to working together so our children can have an even brighter future.

## Vision

Our vision is for every child to have opportunities to grow in a safe environment where their physical and mental wellbeing is nurtured.

## Mission

Children and their families are supported with a holistic approach to ensure their views are listened to and respected.



# Executive Summary

**Bright Futures is the first early years strategy for children aged 0 to 9 years and their families living in and visiting the Shire of Harvey. We aim to place a focus on strengthening families and on creating an even better community in which children can thrive.**

Opportunity begins before a child is born, with research telling us that the first 1,000 days are critical in a child's life determining future health and wellbeing outcomes. Bright Futures is a five-year action plan that responds to the priorities, aspirations and challenges of children, as identified by our families and early childhood professionals.

The latest data available to the Shire states 34% of our residents are couples with children with our largest age group being 5 to 9 year olds. This data highlights it is more important than ever that our families feel safe, valued, respected and know that they belong in a Shire that is family friendly.

Bright Futures reflects what we have heard from children, parents, community members, teachers and experts in education, child development and health.

**The strategy has four key goals which are:**

- Making Stronger Connections.
- Supporting Families.
- Child-Centred Decisions.
- Active and Healthy Opportunities.

The strategy will guide the implementation of actions under the four goals and has been developed to be an adaptable document during unprecedented times and to accommodate for the changing needs of our growing community over the next five years.

The Bright Futures action plan will be one of two plans that outline the way the Shire will work alongside essential stakeholders and the community to achieve the visions set for children and young people. Voices of Youth was adopted in 2021 and addresses key priorities for improving outcomes and partnering with young people aged 10 to 18 years to ensure we meet their current and future needs.

The Shire has an important role in supporting, continuing and creating new services that are cohesive, prevention-focused and evidence based, and will be designed to best reflect our region and diverse communities, this will not only assist early childhood development now, but well into the future.

Cr Paul Gillett  
Shire President

Annie Riordan  
Chief Executive Officer



# Community Snapshot

## Who are We?



**27,975**  
People



**3,854**  
Children aged 0 to 9  
years old live in the  
Shire of Harvey

Number of children in the Shire's main localities

Location	0 to 4 years	5 to 9 years
Australind	1208	1252
Binningup	74	111
Brunswick	51	70
Harvey	173	221
Leschenault	122	164
Myalup	18	21
Yarloop	29	22



**7.8%**  
of total persons  
are male aged  
0 to 9 years old



**7.1%**  
of total persons  
are female aged  
0 to 9 years old



**34%** **31%** **30%**  
Shire WA Australia  
Couples  
with children



**8.4%**  
One parent  
families with  
children under 15



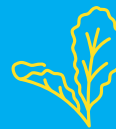
**3.5%**  
of children aged 0 to 9  
need assistance  
with core activities



**\$1,549**  
Median weekly  
household income



**28%**  
of children in the  
Southwest aged 0 to 15  
years old eat less than  
the recommended  
serves of fruit daily



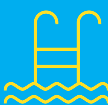
**89%**  
of children 5 to 15 years old  
in the Southwest eat less  
than the recommended  
serves of vegetables daily



**124** babies were born to  
mothers aged 15 to 24 years  
old over a five-year period  
(2013-2018)



**\$77,726<sup>35</sup>** funded  
by DLGSCI Kidsport for  
children in the Shire to play  
community sport in 2021



**2,932** babies and  
children up to 9 years old  
were enrolled in school  
term swimming classes at  
Leschenault Leisure Centre  
in 2020-2021



**208** Rhymetime  
and Storytime Sessions  
were held at Shire  
Libraries in 2021

**38** playgrounds

**6** Skate parks

**28** Junior Sporting Clubs

**7** Day cares

**12** Primary Schools

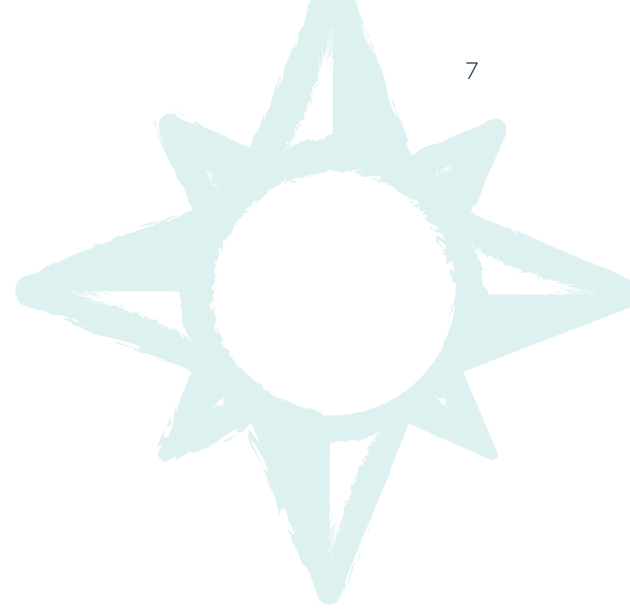
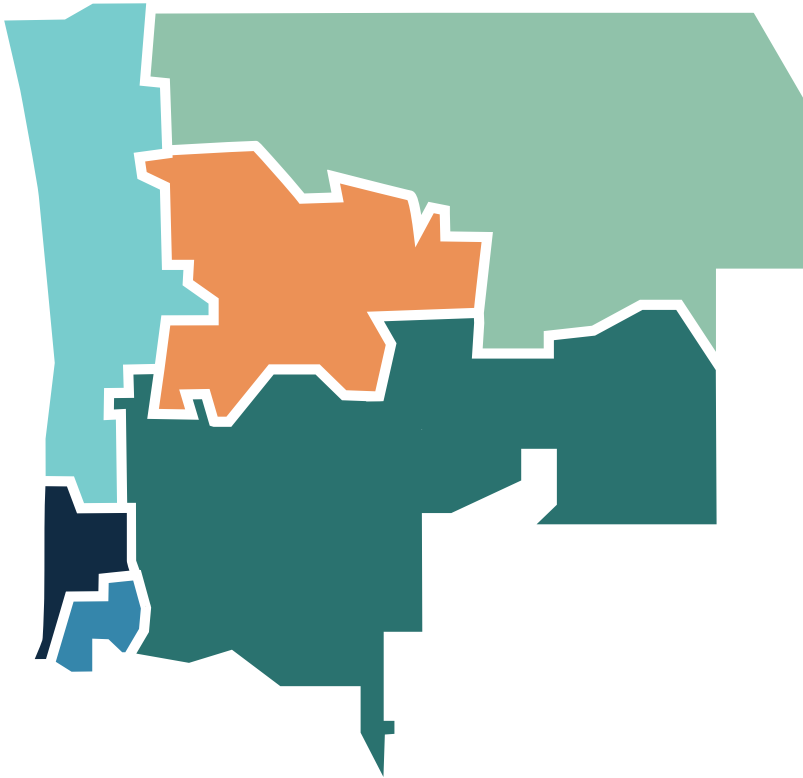
**6** Playgroups

### References

ABS Census 2016; Department of Health, Epidemiology Branch 2021; WA Country Health 2018; Telethon Kids Institute, Child Development Atlas



# Shire Map



## Australind/Leschenault

### Minutes to nearest City Centres

Mandurah – 1 hour 1 minute  
Bunbury – 17 minutes

- Six primary schools
- Five daycares and OSHC
- Four playgroups
- Two child health centres

## Harvey District – Harvey, Uduc, Warawarrup

### Minutes to nearest City Centres

Mandurah – 56 minutes  
Bunbury – 39 minutes

- Emergency hospital
- Two primary schools
- Two daycares and OSHC
- Two playgroups
- Community Resource Centre
- Child Health Centre

## Rural North – Cookernup, Hoffman and Yarloop

### Minutes to nearest City Centres

Mandurah – 46 minutes  
Bunbury – 50 minutes

- One primary school
- Community Resource Centre
- Child Health Centre

## Rural South – Brunswick

### Minutes to nearest City Centres

Mandurah – 1 hour 4 minutes  
Bunbury – 23 minutes

- Two primary schools
- One OSHC
- One playgroup
- Community Resource Centre
- Child Health Centre

## Coastal Myalup

### Minutes to nearest City Centres

Mandurah – 49 minutes  
Bunbury – 31 minutes

## Binningup

### Minutes to nearest City Centres

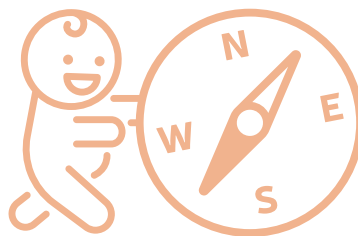
Mandurah – 51 minutes  
Bunbury – 28 minutes

- One daycare
- One playgroup.





# Guiding Principles



**Bright Futures is based upon an evidence based framework developed by the Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) – the Nest Agenda.**

THE NEST AGENDA is the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) framework for improving the well-being of Australian children. It identifies six interrelated components of a child's life that need to be "going well" for their opportunities and positive trajectories to be maximised. It builds on existing

frameworks and programs, and bridges the critical gaps between them.

*It is based on the understanding that governments alone cannot meet all the needs of children – and the significant issues facing young Australians cannot be improved by one 'magic' program, one policy, or one organisation working in isolation*

As a blueprint for supporting children and families across the Shire, this strategy highlights the six domains of The Nest Agenda as guiding principles.





## Principle 1 Valued, Loved and Safe

Being valued, loved, and safe means having loving, trusting relationships with family and friends. It involves a child or young person feeling valued by teachers and other adults in their life and knowing that they are important to others and that others are caring and supportive of them.

It involves feeling safe at home, in the community and online. Safety also means feeling safe about their future, which includes the knowledge that the environment and climate are a priority and are being protected.



## Principle 2 **Material Basics**

Children and young people who have material basics have the things they need. They live in suitable, secure, stable housing, with appropriate clothing, nutritious food, clean water and clean air. They have access to transport, to required local services (e.g. plumbing) and to open spaces in nature. Their family has enough money for necessities. They have the material items needed to develop as an active member of society such as school supplies, suitable technology or sporting equipment.

## Principle 3 **Healthy**

Healthy children and young people have their physical, mental, and emotional health needs met. All of their developmental health needs are provided for in a timely way. They receive appropriate health services, including preventative measures to address potential or emerging physical, emotional and mental health concerns.

## Principle 4 **Learning**

Children and young people learn through a variety of experiences within the classroom, the home and the community in which they live. Their individual learning needs are addressed to allow them to realise their full learning potential. Families are engaged in their child's learning. Children and young people are supported and encouraged to learn in a wide variety of settings, including formal education. They have opportunities to participate in a breadth of experiences where their learning is valued and supported by their family and in the wider community.









## Principle 5 Participating

Participating is about children and young people having a voice, being listened to, and taken seriously within their family and community. It means having a say in decisions that impact them. It is being empowered to speak out and express themselves. Participating includes involvement with peers and groups through a variety of activities, including online communities. Participating means being an active member of society.





## Principle 6 Positive Sense of Identity and Culture

Having a positive sense of identity and culture is central to the wellbeing of all children and young people. This is important for all, regardless of background, but in Australia, especially for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people. It encompasses having spiritual needs met, a sense of cultural connectedness, belonging and acceptance at home and in the community – and confidence that their identity, culture and community is respected and valued. It involves feeling safe and supported in expressing one's identity, regardless of gender, sexuality, culture or language.



# Goals

This strategy aims to capture the voices of children, students, parents, early childhood professionals and the broader community to ensure early childhood programs respond to their needs and aspirations.

Bright Futures sets out to achieve four goals with supporting actions and outcomes. These goals are aimed at empowering children and families through providing opportunities to thrive.

-  **Making Stronger Connections** Nest Theme: Material Basics  
Advocate and partner to ensure the voices of our children and families are valued.
-  **Supporting Families** Nest Theme: Valued, Loved and Safe  
Connecting opportunities that contribute to strong family foundations.
-  **Child-Centred Decisions** Nest Theme: Participating  
Promote the participation of children for a more inclusive, empowered, child friendly community.
-  **Active and Healthy Opportunities** Nest Theme: Healthy  
Strengthen the health and wellbeing of children and families through the importance of play.







# Priority Projects

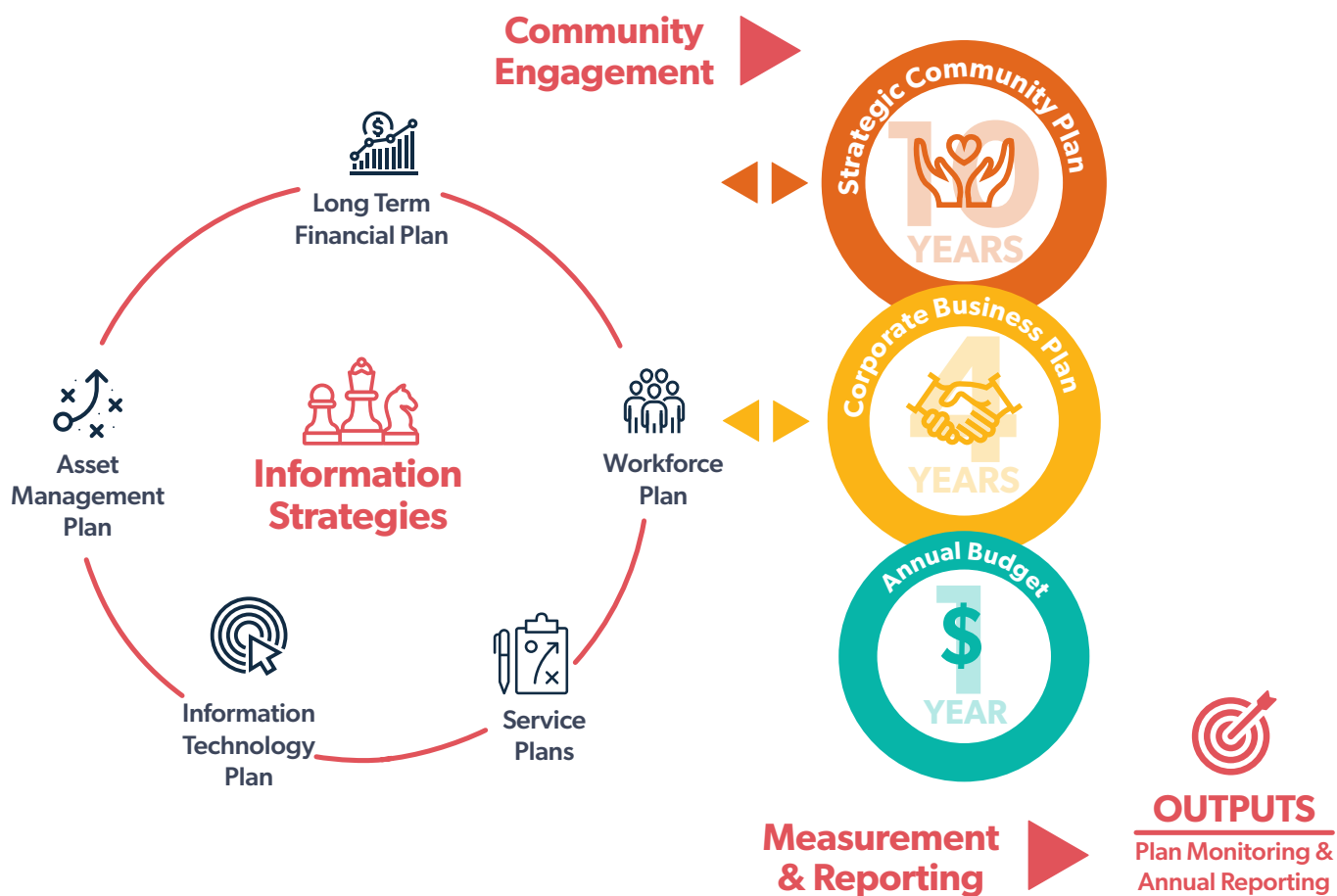
Bright Futures highlights five priority projects which are to be achieved over the next five years. These are to:

- 1** Implement a long term playground replacement and renewal plan.
- 2** Activate strategic locations in the Shire to positively engage children and families.
- 3** Grow and retain our skilled and committed early years workforce.
- 4** Establish school readiness workshops with experts in education, child development and health.
- 5** Develop an annual children's expo in strategic locations within the Shire.





# Strategic Landscape





**Bright Futures will be embedded into the Shire's integrated planning and reporting framework to ensure that what is planned is delivered through robust financial and resource allocations.**

This framework is governed by the actions of the Shire's Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan.

Children and families have a focus within these plans and is outlined below.



## Strategic Community Plan

*Strategic Direction 2:  
Connected Communities*

2.1 People are supported through all stages of life.

*Strategic Direction 4:  
Sustainable Built Environment*

- 4.1 Playgrounds and parks are vibrant, accessible and well maintained
- 4.2 A connected and well maintained network of local roads, footpaths, cycle ways and trails



## Corporate Business Plan

*Strategic Direction 2:  
Connected Communities*

2.1.5 Early Years Services

- Develop an Early Years Strategy
- Continue leasing arrangements for a childcare service at the Harvey Recreation and Cultural Centre.
- Provide the Out of School Care program and School Holiday Program at LLC and HRCC
- Provide crèche services at the LLC

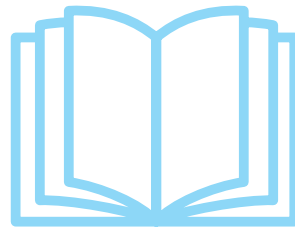
Outcomes of the strategy will be captured through the measurement of key performance indicators and reported to Council and community in quarterly and annual reports. An annual desktop review of the strategy, together with a major five yearly review, will ensure it is up to date and relevant with the changing environment within the Shire and the broader region.

**Bright Futures, a Strategy for Children and Families is interlinked with a number of other Shire plans and strategies that have an impact on improving the well-being of our youngest residents.**

- Voices of Youth 2021-2026
- Play Space Strategy 2021-2026
- Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2021-2026
- Communications and Engagement Plan 2021-2026
- Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2026
- Age Friendly Plan 2022-2027
- Tourism Road Map 2031 Implementation Plan
- Creative Communities Strategy 2021
- Economic Development Strategy 2020- 2025



# Policy Framework



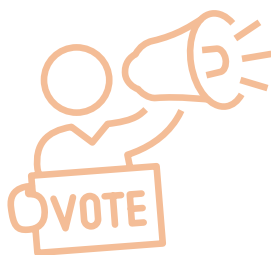
**The following policy frameworks and strategic context has been considered in the development of this strategy. These documents provided guidance and understanding with regard to the current priorities raised by stakeholders during consultation.**

- *Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth: The Nest Outcomes Framework*
- *Investing in the Early Years—A National Early Childhood Development Strategy*
- *Proposed National Early Language and Literacy Strategy*
- *Belonging, Being & Becoming: The early years learning framework for Australia*
- *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*





# Role of The Shire



## **As a local government the Shire is connected to the community.**

Elected council members monitor the changing needs and aspirations of community to design and implement strategies to meet those needs. Concerns are also communicated to other tiers of government.

The Shire's strength is its closeness to the community and its ability to listen and respond to local community perspectives and initiatives.





# Colour in our Community



As a local government, the Shire is connected to the community in lots of ways.  
Bring the Shire of Harvey to life with some colour!





# COVID response

**The COVID-19 crisis which has impacted the world for over 24 months will have specific impacts upon children in Western Australia and within the Shire over the next five years.**

While at this stage only some WA children and young people have been directly impacted by COVID-19 as the result of the illness or death of an important person in their life, almost all will have been impacted by the steps taken to protect our community from the spread of this disease.

A report developed by The Commissioner for Children and Young People WA identified key themes and priorities through the voices of children and young people. More than 800 children shared how they were feeling during the COVID-19 pandemic and the many and varied impacts it had on their lives.

These themes are:

Mental health	Education
Connection to friends	Family relationships
Recreation	Material basics
Information about coronavirus	Future impacts

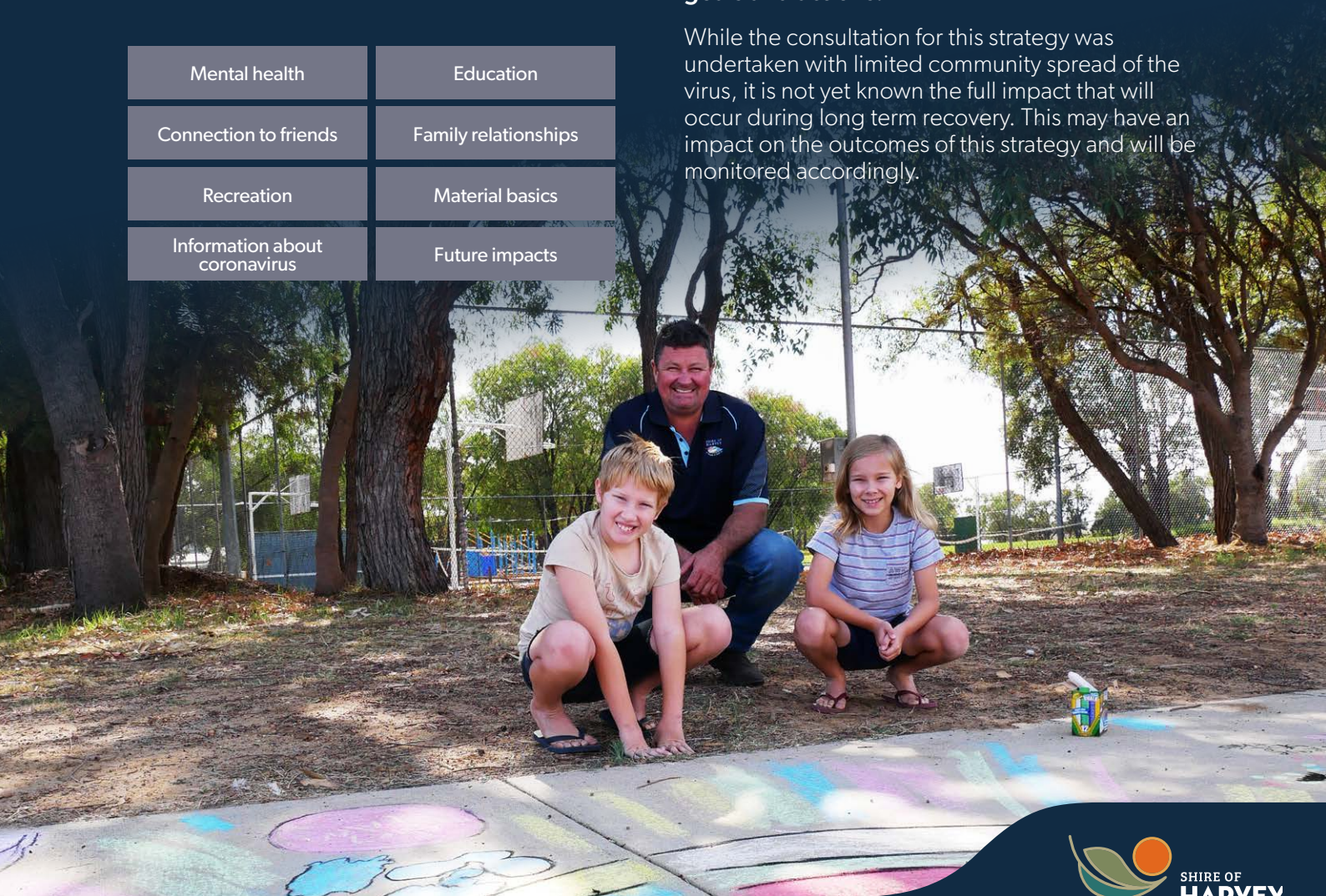
**Research indicates some vulnerable groups of children and young people will be at greater risk as a result of the pandemic.**

- Aboriginal children and young people, particularly those living in remote communities
- Children and young people with a history of mental health issues
- Children and young people experiencing poverty and homelessness
- Children and young people living in unsafe family environments

**It is important to ensure the Shire partners and advocates to support these children and young people and that this remains accessible during the response and recovery phases.**

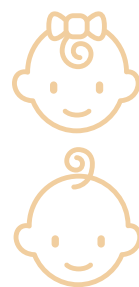
**Elements of these themes have been highlighted through the guiding principles, goals and actions.**

While the consultation for this strategy was undertaken with limited community spread of the virus, it is not yet known the full impact that will occur during long term recovery. This may have an impact on the outcomes of this strategy and will be monitored accordingly.





# Australian Early Development Census



**The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) gives us valuable insight into how children in their first year of school are tracking on 5 key domains:**

- **Physical health and wellbeing** - children's physical readiness for the school day, physical independence and gross and fine motor skills.
- **Social competence** - children's overall social competence, responsibility and respect, approach to learning and readiness to explore new things.
- **Emotional maturity** - children's pro-social and helping behaviours and absence of anxious and fearful behaviour, aggressive behaviour and hyperactivity and inattention.
- **Language and cognitive skills (school-based)** - children's basic literacy, advanced literacy, basic numeracy, and interest in literacy, numeracy and memory.
- **Communication skills and general knowledge** - children's communication skills and general knowledge based on broad developmental competencies and skills measured in the school context.

These essential development areas predict future health, wellbeing and educational success. When children benefit in these areas, we all benefit. Quality early childhood education has a ripple effect – children improving their social, emotional and cognitive skills, enhances their school and life outcomes. This benefits these children, their parents and carers, as well as the broader community.

The most up to date AEDC data is due to be released sometime in 2022. The Shire will ensure this data is highlighted during the yearly desktop review and may require specific actions in the strategy to be monitored.

## Our Children

The AEDC local communities that make up the Shire of Harvey community are:

**Australind, Leschenault, Binningup, Harvey and surrounds, Uduc, Brunswick/Roelands.**

*Note: Across the 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018 AEDC data collections some local communities may not have always been included in a Community Profile due to there being insufficient AEDC data available for reporting purposes in any particular year.*

**Local communities reported in some but not all years:**

Leschenault, Binningup

**Local communities not reported in any years to date:**

Uduc

According to the AEDC, 21.4% of children in the Shire of Harvey are vulnerable on one or more domains and 9.8% of children are vulnerable in two or more domains.

**This makes the goals outlined in Bright Futures vital to achieving the strategy's vision for every child to have opportunities to grow in a safe environment where their physical and mental wellbeing is nurtured.**



	2009		2012		2015		2018		Significant change	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	2009 vs 2018	2015 vs 2018
Vulnerable on one or more domain(s)	98	30.6	94	23.7	97	23.8	81	21.4	Significant decrease	No significant change
Vulnerable on two or more domains	40	12.5	49	12.3	48	11.8	37	9.8	No significant change	No significant change

### Physical health and wellbeing

	2018	2015 vs 2018
On track	75.9%	Decrease
At risk	11.4%	Increase
Vulnerable	12.7%	No change

### Social Competence

	2018	2015 vs 2018
On track	76.2%	No change
At risk	16.4%	No change
Vulnerable	7.4%	No change

### Emotional maturity

	2018	2015 vs 2018
On track	77.5%	Increase
At risk	13.5%	Decrease
Vulnerable	9%	No change

### Language and cognitive skills (school-based)

	2018	2015 vs 2018
On track	81%	Increase
At risk	13.2%	No change
Vulnerable	5.8%	Decrease

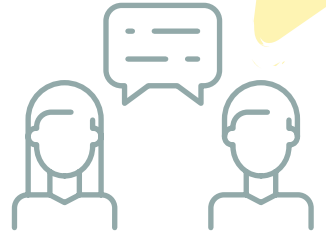
### Communication skills and general knowledge

	2018	2015 vs 2018
On track	85.2%	No change
At risk	10.1%	No change
Vulnerable	4.8%	No change

Reference: AEDC Community Profile 2018



# Consultation and Engagement



**Bright Futures recognises that children are contributors to the community in which they live and play, and acknowledges that the participation of children in community life is largely influenced by the decisions of adults. Consultation and engagement valued that children are decision makers so they were encouraged to contribute in creative ways towards the development of this strategy.**

The Community Development team undertook consultation in late 2021 and acquired a significant amount of input from children, families and early childhood professionals about what is good about living in the Shire of Harvey and how to make it even better.

Research was undertaken to identify the best practice for strategy development and what

is the most efficient way to engage with our diverse communities. A place based approach has been implemented and this process enabled Officers to understand the experience of children and their families in the context of the localities where they live, work, learn and play.

Engagement opportunities included utilising recommendations from Commissioner for Children and Young People participation guidelines, community engagement principles from the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) and reviewing neighbouring Local Government plans with similar challenges and opportunities in regards to early childhood development.








# Engagement Process

School Visits	Focus Groups	Age-Appropriate Surveys for Children Aged 3 to 9	Surveys for Families and Early Childhood Professionals	Daycare and Playgroup Visits	Community Engagement Pop-ups
					

## What we were told

Top Priorities from children				
 <b>Water play</b>		 <b>Playgrounds</b>		 <b>Skate parks</b>
 <b>Ice cream and lolly shops</b>			 <b>Zoos and animal farms</b>	

The voices of children have been captured with colourful images of what they like about where they live and to make it even better. These surveys will be developed into a book and presented to each primary school that participated in the consultation and will be displayed in Shire libraries.



### Top Priorities from families



**Playgrounds**



**Accessibility to health and  
early years' services**



**Play opportunities  
for under 5**



**Children and  
family events**



**Mental health  
support**

### Top Priorities from Early Years Professionals



**Family health hubs**



**Playgrounds**



**Early intervention  
initiatives**



**Family friendly  
footpaths**



**Mental health**

### The biggest challenges facing families with children 0 to 9 years old

Accessibility to services such as speech, occupational therapy and psychologists.

### What we are doing well

- Early years programs at Shire libraries.
- Communication through Shire social media platforms and website.
- Families feel connected in the community.
- Families feel safe in the community.









A huge playground!!

We love Harvey

Submarine

A water shoot Slide.

A Lookout

A health hub - From the Parents.

Lily

Tree house

St Michael's - Pre Primaries 2021

Harvey water fountain

Ice Skating



A sea playground

Tunnel

A zoo!

500

sprinkler park.

tracks  
creek  
things to climb through

real trees to climb  
under cover  
Play Area  
for winter.

Water park

cubby house

Colbie

Camp at the Harvey Dam.





# Action Plan

2022-2027



## Understanding Bright Futures, Early Years Strategy Action Plan

### 1 Goals

To reach our vision, the strategy concentrates on four goals – **Making Stronger Connections, Supporting Families, Child-Centred Decisions** and **Active and Healthy Opportunities**.

### 2 Objectives

An objective sits under each goal. The objective has been developed from consultation data and will be implemented over the duration of the plan.

### 3 Actions

Under each objective is an action describing the approach the Shire will take in practical terms to achieve the objectives via projects, initiatives and partnerships.

## Role of The Shire of Harvey

The Shire of Harvey exists to provide, facilitate and advocate for services, infrastructure and facilities to improve quality of life for everyone. It has varying roles to play when working towards the vision and goals set for the community.

### Lead

Plan and provide direction through policy and practices.

### Advocate

Being the voice for the local community, promoting local interests, responsible development and more.

### Partner

Form strategic alliances and collaborate with external stakeholders to deliver services and projects.

### Facilitate

Helping to make it easier to meet community needs.

**“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way it treats its children.”**

Nelson Mandela





# Goal 1

## Making stronger connections

Objective 1.1: Advocate and partner to ensure the voices  
of our children and families are valued



## OBJECTIVE 1.1 Connecting opportunities that contribute to strong family foundations

	Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
●	<b>1.1.1</b> Strengthen relationships between playgroups within the Shire and develop opportunities to partner on programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnerships with key stakeholders are strengthened</li> <li>Key stakeholders are informed and engaged</li> </ul>	Community and Lifestyle Local playgroups	Partner	●	○	○	○	○
● ●	<b>1.1.2</b> Explore partnerships with local schools around use of school grounds outside of school hours and during school holidays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased delivery of family initiatives or events</li> <li>Increased collaboration with early years' stakeholders</li> </ul>	Community and Lifestyle Primary Schools	Partner	●	○	○	○	○
● ● ●	<b>1.1.3</b> Participate in national, state and local forums and advisory committees regarding children and families as required		Community and Lifestyle State Government Peak bodies Early Years Organisations	Partner	●	○	○	○	○
★ ● ● ●	<b>1.1.4</b> Grow and retain our skilled and committed early years workforce		Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO TAFE	Advocate Partner	●	○	○	○	○
● ● ●	<b>1.1.5</b> Explore opportunities to become a UNICEF Child Friendly City		Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO UNICEF	Partner		●			

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years

● Actions that target 3 to 6 years

● Actions that target 6 to 9 years

\$ Expenditure of Annual budget

● Commencement of action

○ Action ongoing

★ Priority project



**OBJECTIVE 1.1 Connecting opportunities that contribute to strong family foundations**

	Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
●●●	<b>1.1.6</b> Establish an Early Years Advisory Group to improve community engagement and inform the Shire of the needs and aspirations in the community as it relates to the early years		Community and Lifestyle	Facilitate	●	○	○	○	○
●●●	<b>1.1.7</b> Explore ways to celebrate Indigenous Cultures in early years public spaces in planning, design and activation of spaces		Community and Lifestyle Local Elders	Partner		●	○	○	○
●	<b>1.1.8</b> Establish a network of education and health professionals to mentor playgroup facilitators		Community and Lifestyle Child Health Professionals	Partner	●	○	○	○	○
●●●	<b>1.1.9</b> Develop and implement an incursion form for local primary schools to use for local government education visits		Community and Lifestyle Sustainable Development Infrastructure Services Primary Schools	Partner Facilitate	●	○	○	○	○
●●	<b>1.1.10</b> Continue to support the Harvey Early Years Network		Community and Lifestyle	Facilitate	○	○	○	○	○

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years

● Actions that target 3 to 6 years

● Actions that target 6 to 9 years

\$ Expenditure of Annual budget

● Commencement of action

○ Action ongoing

★ Priority project



# Goal 2

## Supporting Families

Objective 2.1: Connecting opportunities that contribute to strong family foundations



**OBJECTIVE 2.1: Connecting opportunities that contribute to strong family foundations**

	Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
●	<b>2.1.1</b> Complete an audit of baby change facilities within the Shire and implement improvements where required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilities and programs suit children and their families</li> <li>Families are connected and contribute to their Shire</li> </ul>	Community and Lifestyle Infrastructure Services	Lead		● \$			
● ● ●	<b>2.1.2</b> Explore opportunities to support hard-to-reach families to have their babies and children immunised as per the national immunisation schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased safe and supportive families, community, services and school environments</li> <li>Improved engagement with parents to connect to networks of support</li> </ul>	Community and Lifestyle Sustainable Development WA Country Health	Partner		●	○	○	○
★ ●	<b>2.1.3</b> Establish school readiness workshops with experts in education, child development and health		Community and Lifestyle Child Health Professionals	Partner	● \$	○	○	○	○
● ● ●	<b>2.1.4</b> Support community groups and families in the delivery of community-led early years events and activities		Community and Lifestyle Sustainable Development	Partner	●	○	○	○	○
● ● ●	<b>2.1.5</b> Investigate Shire facilities that can be utilised by early years providers		Community and Lifestyle Sustainable Development	Lead	●	○	○	○	○

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years

● Actions that target 3 to 6 years

● Actions that target 6 to 9 years

\$ Expenditure of Annual budget

● Commencement of action

○ Action ongoing

★ Priority project



**OBJECTIVE 2.1: Connecting opportunities that contribute to strong family foundations**

Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
<div>●</div> <b>2.1.6</b> Investigate spaces that are available to ensure all Shire facilities are equipped to be baby feeding friendly		Community and Lifestyle Breast Feeding Association	Lead	●				
<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <b>2.1.7</b> Explore provision for childcare benefits for staff and provide priority for their children to be cared for in Shire childcare centres		Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO	Lead		●			
<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <b>2.1.8</b> Advocate for a purpose built childcare centre in Binningup		Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO	Advocate	●	○	○	○	○
<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <b>2.1.9</b> Establish networking opportunities and support for Dads with babies and young children		Community and Lifestyle	Lead		●	○	○	○
<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <b>2.1.10</b> Continue to deliver and develop intergenerational programs through the Shire's libraries		Community and Lifestyle	Facilitate	●	○	○	○	○

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years

● Actions that target 3 to 6 years

● Actions that target 6 to 9 years

\$ Expenditure of Annual budget











● Commencement of action




○ Action ongoing

★ Priority project



**OBJECTIVE 2.1: Connecting opportunities that contribute to strong family foundations**

Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
   <b>2.1.11</b> Implement learnings from COVID-19, to explore innovative ways to deliver programs and information to families		Community and Lifestyle	Facilitate	●	○	○	○	○
 <b>2.1.12</b> Establish infant car restraint checks at selected Shire libraries		Community and Lifestyle	Lead	●	○	○	○	○
 <b>2.1.13</b> Establish Infant CPR classes at Shire aquatic facilities		Community and Lifestyle	Partner		●	○	○	○
   <b>2.1.14</b> Support, advocate and deliver innovative programs and activities targeting diverse parents, e.g. young parents, culturally and linguistically diverse parents, grandparents		Community and Lifestyle	Advocate Partner Facilitate		● \$	○	○	○
  <b>2.1.15</b> Develop an early literacy awards program through the Shire's libraries		Community and Lifestyle	Facilitate	●	○	○	○	○

 Actions that target 0 to 3 years    
  Actions that target 3 to 6 years    
  Actions that target 6 to 9 years  
 \$ Expenditure of Annual budget    
 ● Commencement of action    
 ○ Action ongoing    
 ★ Priority project



## OBJECTIVE 2.1: Connecting opportunities that contribute to strong family foundations

Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
<div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> </div> <b>2.1.16</b> Investigate State Government funding to deliver retention and attraction workforce packages for childcare workers		Community and Lifestyle State Government	Advocate	●				
<div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> </div> <b>2.1.17</b> Develop an annual survey for parents and families using innovative ways to encourage regular feedback		Community and Lifestyle	Lead		●	○	○	○
<div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> </div> <b>2.1.18</b> Continue to deliver early years programs through Shire Recreation Centres		Community and Lifestyle	Facilitate	○	○	○	○	○
<div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> </div> <b>2.1.19</b> Support, advocate and deliver innovative programs and activities for families that care for children with disabilities		Community and Lifestyle	Lead	●	○	○	○	○

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years    ● Actions that target 3 to 6 years    ● Actions that target 6 to 9 years  
 \$ Expenditure of Annual budget    ● Commencement of action    ○ Action ongoing    ★ Priority project





# Goal 3

## Child Centred Decisions

Objective 3.1: Promote the participation of children  
for a more inclusive, empowered, child friendly community



### OBJECTIVE 3.1: Promote the participation of children for a more inclusive, empowered, child friendly community

Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
<div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> <div> <b>3.1.1</b> Develop engagement strategies to ensure children and families are included in the planning and development of local activities, services, programs and projects </div> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children are connected to their Shire</li> <li>Children are socially included</li> <li>Children develop a strong sense of culture and identity</li> </ul>	Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO	Lead	●	○	○	○	○
<div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> <div> <b>3.1.2</b> Activate strategic locations in the Shire to positively engage children and their families </div> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children have a voice that is valued</li> <li>Children are active and involved</li> </ul>	Community and Lifestyle	Lead	●	○	○	○	○
<div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> <div> <b>3.1.3</b> Explore a Children's Advisory model that is place-based to celebrate children's creative ideas </div> </div>		Community and Lifestyle	Lead		●	○	○	○

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years

● Actions that target 3 to 6 years

● Actions that target 6 to 9 years

\$ Expenditure of Annual budget

● Commencement of action

○ Action ongoing

★ Priority project



**OBJECTIVE 3.1: Promote the participation of children for a more inclusive, empowered, child friendly community**

	Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
● ●	<b>3.1.4</b> Develop an annual postcard to be distributed to children to have their say in creative ways		Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO	Lead	● \$	○	○	○	○
● ● ●	<b>3.1.5</b> Ensure the Shire's Code of Conduct includes child safe practices		Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO	Lead	●	○	○	○	○
● ● ●	<b>3.1.6</b> Investigate developing child friendly complaints guidelines in partnership with Commissioner for Children and Young People WA		Community and Lifestyle Corporate Services Commissioner for Children and Young People WA	Partner		●	○	○	○

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years    ● Actions that target 3 to 6 years    ● Actions that target 6 to 9 years  
 \$ Expenditure of Annual budget    ● Commencement of action    ○ Action ongoing    ★ Priority project





# Goal 4

## Active and Healthy Opportunities

Objective 4.1: Strengthen the health and wellbeing  
of children and families through the importance of play



**OBJECTIVE 4.1: Strengthen the health and wellbeing of children and families through the importance of play**

	Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
●●●	<b>4.1.1</b> Explore and promote activities, events and programs for children organised by external stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased communication on early years' activities</li> <li>Improved access to recreational activities</li> </ul>	Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO	Partner	●	○	○	○	○
★●●	<b>4.1.2</b> Implement a long term playground replacement and renewal plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children and families are engaged</li> <li>Improved collaboration and partnerships during family events</li> </ul>	Community and Lifestyle Infrastructure Services	Lead		● \$	○	○	○
★●●	<b>4.1.3</b> Develop an annual Children's expo in strategic locations within the Shire		Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO	Lead		● \$	○	○	○
●●●	<b>4.1.4</b> Investigate activating places for play within the Shire and promote play street initiatives		Community and Lifestyle	Facilitate		●	○	○	○

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years

● Actions that target 3 to 6 years

● Actions that target 6 to 9 years

\$ Expenditure of Annual budget

● Commencement of action

○ Action ongoing

★ Priority project



**OBJECTIVE 4.1: Strengthen the health and wellbeing of children and families through the importance of play**

Action	Outcomes	Responsible	Role	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
<div>●</div> <b>4.1.5</b> Promote the Better Health program at Shire-run events and pop-ups		Community and Lifestyle	Partner	●	○	○	○	○
<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <b>4.1.6</b> Implement recommendations as necessary from the Emerging Minds toolkit by the National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health		Community and Lifestyle	Partner	●	○	○	○	○
<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <b>4.1.7</b> Ensure safe playground fencing is considered during planning for all new developments		Community and Lifestyle Office of the CEO Infrastructure Services	Lead		●	○	○	○

● Actions that target 0 to 3 years    ● Actions that target 3 to 6 years    ● Actions that target 6 to 9 years  
 \$ Expenditure of Annual budget    ● Commencement of action    ○ Action ongoing    ★ Priority project



# References

Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census

[https://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census\\_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/UCL515015](https://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/UCL515015)

Department of Health

Epidemiology Branch 2021

WACHS Library: Health Statistics 2018

Telethon Kids Institute, Child Development Atlas

<https://childatlas.telethonkids.org.au/>

Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) – the Nest Agenda.

<https://www.aracy.org.au/the-nest-in-action/the-nest-overview>

Investing in the Early Years—A National Early Childhood Development Strategy

[https://www.startingblocks.gov.au/media/1104/national\\_eecd\\_strategy.pdf](https://www.startingblocks.gov.au/media/1104/national_eecd_strategy.pdf)

Proposed National Early Language and Literacy Strategy

<https://earlylanguageandliteracy.org.au/>

Belonging, Being & Becoming the early years learning framework for Australia

[https://www.acecqa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-02/belonging\\_being\\_and\\_becoming\\_the\\_early\\_years\\_learning\\_framework\\_for\\_australia.pdf](https://www.acecqa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-02/belonging_being_and_becoming_the_early_years_learning_framework_for_australia.pdf)

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

<https://www.unicef.org.au/our-work/information-for-children/un-convention-on-the-rights-of-the-child>

Australian Early Development Census

Community Profile 2018, Harvey WA

<https://www.aedc.gov.au/resources/community-profiles>

Commissioner for Children and Young People WA

COVID-19: As told by WA children and young people









**SHIRE OF  
HARVEY**  
*A Breath of Fresh Air*

### **Shire of Harvey**

102 Uduc Road, Harvey WA 6220  
PO Box 500 Harvey, WA 6220

### **Australind Office**

7 Mulgara Street, Australind WA 6233

**T:** (08) 9729 0300 • **F:** (08) 9729 2053

**E:** [shire@harvey.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@harvey.wa.gov.au)

**[harvey.wa.gov.au](http://harvey.wa.gov.au)**

 **Instagram**

 **Facebook**

 **LinkedIn**

**Document available in different formats by request**