

Youth Action Plan 2022-2027



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri people as the traditional owners of this land on which we meet and work. We respect and acknowledge their spiritual connection as the custodians of this land and that their cultural heritage beliefs are still important to the living people today.

We recognise the living culture and combined energies of the Ngarrindjeri people our global pioneers and community members today for their unique contribution to the life of our region.

“The power of youth is the common wealth for the entire world. The faces of young people are the faces of our past, our present and our future. No segment in the society can match with the power, idealism, enthusiasm and courage of the young people.”

Kailash Satyarthi

Introduction

The Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB) understands that our community places a high value on having young people who are thriving and who are actively engaged in the life of our community.

The RCMB has embedded a number of initiatives, programs and supportive infrastructure through strategic planning and annual business delivery cycles.

The RCMB has a number of roles in this including advocate, lobbyist and facilitator, enabler, service and facility provider. Specifically, RCMB provides sporting and recreational facilities, education and self-development opportunities, volunteering and work experience opportunities and specifically targeted events, programs and spaces.

While these specific offerings are the vehicle, our goal is always one of Youth Development: to open young people's minds and to encourage them to aspire to what they could have never envisaged they could achieve. Embedded in the programs and services is the aspiration that these offerings strengthen the social, mental and physical health and wellbeing of our young people and that our offerings have a positive impact on all parts of their lives.

Context

There are approximately 3319 young people (12-25 years) living in the Rural City of Murray Bridge. Our young people have always been dynamic and vibrant participants in the community and actively contribute to the city's social, economic and cultural vitality. It is important for Council to continue to engage young people to hear their ideas, capture their opinions and provide opportunities for them to thrive.

This Youth Action Plan (YAP) is the second YAP and reviews the 2013 plan. The plan sought the views of young people through consultation workshops with young people and agencies and an online survey over a 3 month period and this information was used to inform the development of this plan. The plan will be used to guide Council's youth focused priorities and investment through identifying a clear direction and set of actions moving into the future.

Young people have been instrumental in the development of this plan. They have worked closely with Council staff to identify the vision and four key focus areas:

- What's good for you?
- Learning and what comes next
- Get involved and lead
- Spaces and Places

Extensive consultation was undertaken for this document in the form of the Word Up Survey conducted in 2011, Imagine 2020 Community Consultation, 2019 Review and Strategic Plan review and "Lets Talk" Strategic Plan Review 2020. A visioning exercise was undertaken by key staff that work with youth in RCMB. It is recognised that the implementation of the YAP will require extensive partnering with external organisations; hence the involvement in key youth focused service providers have been consulted for this plan.

RCMB plays a significant role in responding to the needs and aspirations of young people through:

- Advocacy
- Planning and development
- Coordination and collaboration
- Service delivery
- Funding and support

The effective implementation of this plan will require a *whole of community* approach with involvement from all parts of the community that have an interest in the health and wellbeing of young people in Murray Bridge.

Aims

The aims of this Youth Action Plan are to:

- cultivate a whole of Council and whole of community approach to youth development
- provide a planned strategic approach to service coordination for young people
- articulate council role in relation to responding to local youth needs and issues

Youth as participants in development

There are many reasons to involve young people in development of plans that are for young people, some of which are to:

- strengthen young people's abilities to meet their own needs
- prevent/reduce vulnerabilities to political, economic and social instabilities
- build young people's commitment to solutions, promoting ownership and sustainability of interventions
- enable the exercise of citizenship, promoting learning, empowerment and greater control over lives

Definition: what is youth?

There is no single definition that distinguishes youth from children or adults. However, the South Australian Office for Youth defines young people as those aged between 12 and 25 years and this is the definition used in the preparation of this document.



Strategic Context

National Youth Policy Framework

The National Youth Policy Framework outlines how Australian Government policies and programs help improve the lives of young Australians. It aims to give young people a voice in policies that affect them.

Goals of the National Youth Policy Framework will:

- capture the voice of young people on policies that affect them
- help make it easier for young people to find Australian Government services
- be the first important step in ensuring young people have a greater say on the policies and programs that impact and are important to them.

SA Youth Action Plan – Strong Futures 2020 - 2022

Strong Futures is South Australia's Youth Action Plan 2020 – 2022. It is the plan for building stronger futures for all young South Australians.

Our Vision

“A South Australia that is safe, inclusive and sustainable for all young people, now and into the future”



A plan that delivers for all young South Australians will:

- Listen to young people's needs and aspirations and positively involve them in decisions that impact them and their communities
- Coordinate efforts across government agencies and key stakeholders to provide young people with real opportunities now and for their futures
- Support young people in context, whether through initiatives in metropolitan or regional communities, or by supporting them at critical life crossroads
- Recognise and support the youth sector that supports young people

Principles

Every aspect and stage of the Plan will strive to:

- Involve young people
- Make real change
- Focus on priorities

Strong Futures Priority Areas have been informed directly by young South Australians. These priority areas represent the four pillars that we must invest in to create a bright future for all young South Australians.

1 Earn and Learn

Young South Australians are ready for work and life

2 Fair and Inclusive

Young South Australians are included and reach their potential

3 Wellbeing and Environment

Young South Australians are safe, healthy and resilient

4 Connect and Grow

Young South Australians are engaged and have influence



Rural City of Murray Bridge

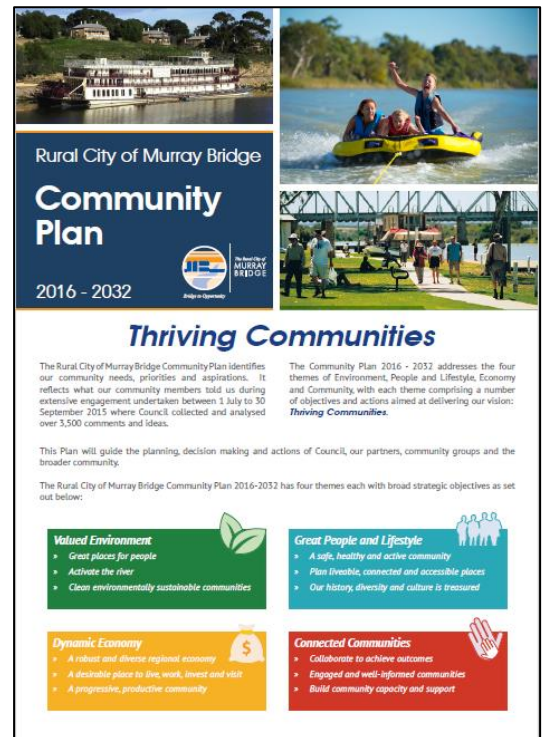
The Rural City of Murray Bridge **Community Plan 2016 - 2032** *Thriving Communities*

Identifies community needs, priorities and aspirations. It reflects the views of the community through an extensive consultation process.

The Community Plan 2016 - 2032 addresses the four themes of Environment, People and Lifestyle, Economy and Community, with each theme comprising a number of objectives and actions aimed at delivering our vision:

Thriving Communities

The community plan influences the Strategic Plan which the Council uses to frame all of its decisions.



The Rural City of Murray Bridge **Strategic Plan 2020 - 2024** Make It Yours outlines Council's strategic objectives over four years and states how Council will achieve its vision, Thriving Communities.



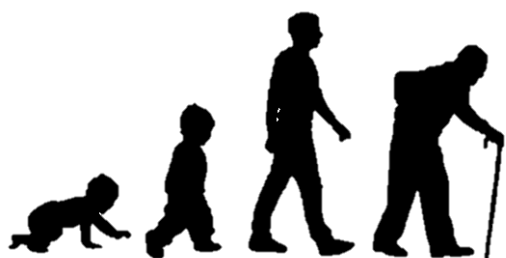
This Strategic Plan is a commitment to deliver on the aspiration of the Community Plan as well as other Council strategic plans. All strategic documents are informed by the community and extensive community consultation was undertaken in the development of the Plan.

Consistently with the community plan the four themes of the Strategic Plan are:

- Valued Environment
- Great People and Lifestyle
- Dynamic Economy
- Connected Community

Demographics

A snap shot



Population Profile

30% under 25

By 2041 the largest age group by population will be the 25-55 groups.

- Under 25 30%
- 25-55 38%
- over 55 32%
- born overseas 14.7%
- indigenous 4.6%

The three largest ancestries in the Rural City of Murray Bridge in 2016 were English, Australian and German

Youth 12 – 25 years approx.

3,319 nearly **15%**

of total population **22,847** ERP, 2020

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander represent

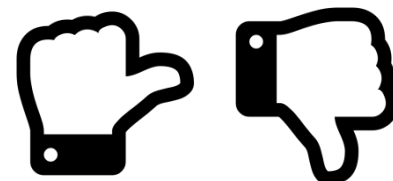
4.6% of the population

Source: ABS 2019 estimated

Average household income

\$973

in 2016



SEIFA Index of Disadvantage

894

This places Murray Bridge as one of the most disadvantaged communities in the state

Source: Population id.



Number of dwellings

9,664

Average household size of 2.38 persons

Median house values

House **\$241,000**

Unit **\$185,000**

FOOTPATHS

240 km



COUNCIL AREA

1,832 km²

ROADS

998 km



80 Km to Adelaide

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

22



EDUCATION

23% of residents have

tertiary qualifications

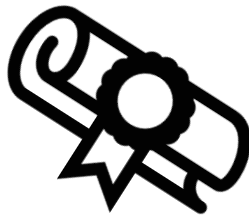
Attained yr 12 13.6%

Cert III or IV 18.3%

Diploma 6%

Degree 7%

Source: Population id.



EMPLOYMENT

13,000

**ADDITIONAL JOBS
BY 2026**

there were 9,725 residents employed
10,730 jobs located in the Rural City of
Murray Bridge in the year ending June
2019

Source: Forecast ID 2019



**COUNCIL
VOLUNTEERS**

266

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

*Of the total labour force aged
15-24*

16%

Source: Population id.



DISENGAGED YOUTH

*15-24 not employed or in
education*

14.9%

Source: Population id.



RECLAIMED WATER

87 ML

(2019-20)



**RECYCLED
WASTE**

3,431 T

per year

green and recycled
waste (2019-20)

Recent Research

Mental Health

Headspace Murray Bridge has grown in recent years, requiring a move to a larger premises and a review of the model of service delivery to reduce wait times. Demand is at its highest seen in their 13 years with a record of 66 referrals in the month of August 2021. The model of service delivery sees young people at the centre of help seeking and enables a young person's goals and needs to be responded to in a very timely manner (often within a day or two of referral).

Headspace Murray Bridge has also attracted additional funding to provide the Individual Placement and Support program to job seekers aged 12-25 years alongside of mental health supports.

In 13 years we have provided 20,605 sessions to young people in the Murraylands region. Of this number 10.3% identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, 4.3% identify as culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and 19% identify within the LGBTIQ+ community.

Headspace continues to see a high number of young people presenting predominantly with low mood and /or anxiety and family/friend related relationship concerns. Domestic violence and abuse continue to be something of concern within the lives of the young people they meet with.

The strength of headspace is not only its youth focused approach to service delivery but its many partnerships within the community of Murraylands. It is through these partnerships they can provide more and reach increasingly diverse youth populations.

Drugs and Alcohol

The Child Development Council's "How are they faring?" - South Australia's 2020 Report Card for children and young people found that:

While there has been a steady and consistent decline in rates of tobacco use and illicit drug use over the last 20 years, the current rates of 10% (smoking tobacco) and 14% (taking illicit drugs) require attention as they represent behaviours that are potentially very detrimental to health outcomes. Similarly, that more young South Australians (57%) have engaged at some time in potentially unsafe or binge-level alcohol drinking behaviour (compared with 44% nationally) is of concern.

Planet Youth

A pilot of the Planet Youth drug and alcohol early intervention program commenced with a survey of year 10 students at Murray Bridge schools in November 2019. This was followed by a community forum which explored the survey findings in February 2020.

The intervention looks to influence young people through their connections in 4 domains. These are family, school, peer group and leisure time.

Some key observations from the survey included:

General

- Alcohol was consumed by year 10 students of Murray Bridge more significantly than any other drug
- 63% used **alcohol** once or more in their lifetime
- 26.7% drank alcohol for the first time at **13 years or younger**
- 21.5% drink alcohol sometimes or often at the **home of others**

Family

- Low parental monitoring – Parents not knowing where their kids and friends are
- Perceptions and boundaries – Parents not setting boundaries and expectations that adolescents are likely to adhere to

School

- Poor attitude to school and, schoolwork is common among Murray Bridge adolescents
- Murray Bridge students who have a poor attitude toward school or want to change schools are more likely to use cannabis or drink alcohol

Peer Group

- Peer perceptions and wanting to be like their friends influences year 10 substance use
- There is peer pressure to drink in the Murray Bridge Community and substance use for peer acceptance is high

Leisure Time

- Low level of participation in sport and extracurricular activities
- Murray Bridge adolescents have higher rates of substance use when participating in physical activity or sport with a club or team more often
- Murray Bridge adolescents who were outside late at night were more likely to use substances

Additional Data

- Murray Bridge adolescents have a low level of satisfaction with social activities available in their community
- Significant amount of time spent on screens for Murray Bridge adolescents
- Higher amount of social media use correlated with higher likelihood of substance use although, more time spent playing video games correlated with less substance use

A Planet Youth Project Officer was appointed in May 2021 and will lead the work responding to findings from the survey. The Project Officer is based at The Station and will work closely with the youth development team.

At the time of this review the 2021 survey was delivered to schools and the results are being formulated and will be released shortly. Comparisons to the previous study will be evaluated and work flows will be considered as a result of the findings and further community forums.

Active lives

The Child Development Council's "How are they faring?" - South Australia's 2020 Report Card for children and young people found that:

"...evidence exists to support the social, physical, academic and emotional benefits of engaging in creative and cultural activities.

Dance, for example, develops creative thinking skills and self-confidence to overcome challenges and teaches about music, rhythm and beat. Dance helps children to develop an understanding of spatial relationships, learning to think with both sides of the brain and to build group and social skills such as cooperation and sharing.

Art, creativity and dance are also used therapeutically to assist children and adults with addressing trauma. Data for children and young people participating in cultural activities or attending cultural events are limited. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) definition of cultural activities includes performing arts, singing or playing a musical instrument, dancing, writing, visual art activities and craft activities; the definition of cultural events includes attending libraries and archives, art galleries, museums, cinemas, live music concerts, theatre, dance and other performing arts.

Arts groups, sporting clubs and community organisations can give children and young people experiences that benefit their social competence and participation in structured after-school activities can boost competence and self-esteem, school engagement and personal satisfaction.

In 2016, the City of Playford set out to understand the elements that allowed a young person to successfully transition to a positive social and economic outcome. “Playford Youth a new story” found that 10 years of age proved to be a pivotal age for change and there were three core catalysts for change: volunteering, being engaged in sports and recreational activities and being engaged with arts and culture.”

Moving towards employment

The same study noted:

“Responses from 745 young people (12 to 18 years) to the CCYP’s survey about being ‘future work ready’ identified five topics that young people would like to know more about including: skills required for specific jobs, educational requirements for particular careers, career pathways and subject selection, variety of jobs available and future jobs that match personal interests. Young people also highlighted a number of challenges to accessing work experience and getting advice on future career aspirations. Young people who have difficulties getting or keeping a driver’s licence may find it harder to compete for jobs, further their study or remain socially engaged especially in regional locations. Gaining the skills for independent living is important for young people who wish to leave home and have a successful transition to living independently. The timing of leaving the family home depends on a variety of reasons such as moving closer to work or study or leaving because of conflict or restrictions.”



Education

There is one public high school, 1 private R-12 school and one private early learning -12 school in Rural City of Murray Bridge. There are also 7 primary schools, 5 within Murray Bridge, 1 in Mypolonga and 1 in Jervois.

Murray Bridge has a TAFE that works closely with the high schools both public and private offering school based apprenticeships and training. Vocational Education Training programs contribute to a student's overall SACE scores. TAFE also offers a variety of certificate courses offering skills training toward employment opportunities.

The Murray River Study Hub, opened in 2019, provides opportunities for regional students to pursue tertiary education and VET alternatives without having to travel or relocate outside of the region. Courses are offered online and mixed mode by education partners, CQUniversity Australia, Flinders University and TAFE SA. This allows school leavers, current/previous university students and mature aged students the flexibility to choose from a bigger range of courses and a mode of study to suit their lifestyle and work commitments.

Mission Australia

The Mission Australia Youth Survey is an annual survey of young people in Australia. The Youth Survey aims to identify the values, aspirations and issues of concern to young people. In 2021, 20,207 young people in Australia age 15 to 19 years participated in the youth survey.

Most important issues and the impact of the issues reported by survey participants are:

Issues		
COVID 45.7%	The Environment 38%	Equity and Discrimination 35.4%
Impact Details		
Participation in activities 68.3%	Climate change 26.6%	Gender 37.3%
Education 62.3%		Mental Health 27.6%
Mental health 50.3%		Race/Cultural background 27.8%

For more information view the Mission Australia Youth Survey Report 2021 on the Mission Australia website, www.missionaustralia.com.au.

Given the above statistics and study information, the focus areas listed below will be relevant in relation to youth development programs going forward:

- Youth employment
- Education and skills development
- Healthy Lifestyles and Activities
- Equity and Accessibility
- Transport

YAP Review Engagement Process

RCMB Youth Action Plan 2013—2018 was reviewed by an analysis of the key performance indicators and a targeted analysis of The Station facility and programs.

Information to inform the review was gathered through:

- A consultation workshop with key RCMB staff
- Interviews with Council staff operating within the youth services division of Council
- Interviews with services collocated at The Station facility
- An agency survey sent to the local network of youth agencies
- Interviews with key youth services who use the space
- A consultation workshop with young people who regularly utilise the space
- An online survey targeted at young people in the community
- A consultation space at a local high school youth expo
- Video interviews with young people involved in the music program
- Observations of space at The Station and the work of the programs

The consultation workshops, the interactive space at the youth expo and the online surveys were designed to ask similar questions to determine:

1. Young people's awareness of the programs that are offered by RCMB
2. The current usage of those programs
3. General perceptions of The Station facility, who can use it and what happens there
4. Strengths and challenges for The Station and its music programs
5. The impact The Station and its music programs have on young people.



Assessment of RCMB Services and Programs

Key performance indicators in the Action Plan point to the development of partnerships and other networking opportunities to effectively deliver services. They also indicate a desire to increase the awareness young people have to services in the area.

Analysis of Results

The services offered by RCMB are well-networked and experience a strong collaborative approach with other services in the region. Co-locating of services and working together with alignment around the promotion of well-being in young people is evident in the sector.

There is a desire for more cross collaboration between Council facilities and services. This includes the arts program, library and The Station programs.

There is a clear need for awareness raising as young people indicated interest in the programs when they knew more about The Station, the arts, major events and the volunteering program.

Future Directions

Some suggestions for future directions to support the work of the Council include:

- Develop an awareness campaign for The Station, Music Program and Arts Programs
- Build on current initiatives in the library to include The Station music program.
- Develop a strategy that further links the arts programs with The Station.
- Encourage arts programs to use The Station space for youth exhibitions or masterclasses
- Look at ways to engage with the new migrant communities
- Develop strategies to invite, encourage Indigenous young people in programs
- Further explore co-location of other services in The Station building

The Station Facility

Information sought focused on the use of the facilities, the perceptions of who the centre was catering to and the quality of the services being delivered. Throughout the process data was also gathered regarding people's ideas for the future development of the Station building itself and the programs housed within it.

Analysis of Results

There is considerable evidence in the results in this report that the focus on music at The Station has been very successful and the continued focus on enhancing and providing more in the performing arts space would be advantageous to the local community.

Future Directions

Suggestions for future directions include:

- Continued support of the facility as a youth service
- Increase staffing to increase the programs offered whilst maintaining the quality of delivery and authentic links to industry.
- Maintain and strengthen the focus on music and performance. Some like the idea of fitness being offered but young people were very clearly focussed on music and performing arts.
- A marketing campaign that targets young people and their families to increase participation across a broader youth audience.

- Continue to work on the building and its surrounds to become more inviting for the general population of young people. Signage and sculptures with the music theme in the forecourt of the building.
- Attract a highly visible music ambassador for the centre and regular performances by well-known South Australian bands and solo artists.
- Enhance the relationships with the local primary and secondary schools including teacher in-service visits
- Further support of other groups utilising the space, increasing connections with the community
- Increased connection with the community
- Consider the use of the recording studio for commercial use with high profile musicians. This lifts the profile of the space and can offset some of the free services offered to other young people.
- Consider running more major music events that get young people in the door
- Keep building opportunities to normalise the service and its link with Headspace and other youth service agencies.
- Bring the Arts to The Station more often including artists in for workshops – masterclasses that maintain the professional nature of the programs offered and legitimate links to the arts industry.

The results of this review suggest that the RCMB's decision to support the development of a dedicated music program at The Station as has been a highly successful initiative that has driven excellent results across the Action Plan.

The results also indicate that the primary focus for the future should be to grow the focus of youth participation in music and performing arts as the council's contribution to a vibrant youth community.

An emerging area for consideration is that of broader skills development programs and partnerships. The Station has the physical attributes to be a key youth hub for a range of youth focussed activities, events, programs and information sharing as well as being a safe and youth friendly destination.



Case studies

This is what young people said about The Station's programs through the review engagement:

What do you like most about coming to The Station?

"This place is like family to me, makes me feel at home"

"Good people, good vibes, just keeps me out of trouble"

"Going to The Station and being involved was like a relief"

"Having a bad day at school or at home, can just come to The Station and just jam out with some friends, it helps"

How has the Station impacted your life?

"It's been good for my general mental wellbeing cos I have somewhere to go every week I can do what I love doing, pretty positive part of my week, definitely one of my favourite things"

"I have actual friends now"

"I built my confidence right up, I trust myself, less critical of my decisions and thoughts and things like that. It's really helped with, a lot, my mental health, my depression and things like that don't affect me so much"

Staff Workshop

Key staff working with youth at RCMB participated in a visioning workshop. A broad discussion was undertaken as well as a visioning exercise. Key themes that arose from this workshop include:

Marketing and Promotion: It was acknowledged that there are many opportunities for youth in RCMB and a focus on getting the word out was recommended. This was supported by the YAP Review discussed above.

Skill Development: Although there are many opportunities available for skill development there could be a greater focus in this area on many levels. Skill development leading to employment, life skills/independent living skills, wellbeing, entrepreneurial skills and skills in recreation or sport were identified. The music program is highly regarded and it should be continued and built upon.

Youth voice: Listening to the views of young people in every aspect of councils work but especially allowing young people to lead the way in the opportunities made available to them. Throughout this review young people have let us know what they want from council and the youth programs and it is councils challenge to listen to the voice.

Transport: Transport is always an issue for our regional centre. Just getting around town is difficult for young people and it is so important for employment to have a licence. Advocating for improved transport network is an ongoing priority as well as continuing to support driver training programs.

It was noted that the current work has a positive influence in the community and is highly regarded by the participants as well as in the youth sector. We should continue to provide the programs and activities we are currently providing.

It was also highlighted that simply having The Station as a youth focused space was a huge benefit for RCMB. There are not many regions that have a specific youth space available to the community. This space is available to run our programs and activities from but also available to youth focused providers to deliver their programs. Ongoing partnership with external service providers is seen as a good way to provide opportunities to young people in Murray Bridge.

Resourcing

Current programming fully utilises youth officer resources. Given that this plan recommends that the successful core programs and services are retained and strengthened, the recommended expansion of services scope would require consideration of additional staff resources.



THE PLAN

Vision:

That in the next 5 years the young people of the Rural City of Murray Bridge will be engaged, valued and celebrated and will influence the decisions that shape their community.

This will be achieved through strong partnerships with other like-minded organisations and informed by genuinely paying attention to the voices of our young citizens.



Strategic Alignment

<i>RCMB Youth Action Plan Objectives</i>	<i>RCMB Strategic Plan 2020-2024</i>	<i>National Youth Policy Framework 2021</i>	<i>Strong Futures SA Youth Action Plan 2020-2022</i>
<p>What's good for you?</p> <p>1.1. RCMB youth and safe, healthy and resilient</p> <p>1.2. RCMB youth are supported to access events, services, information and programs</p>	<p>Great people and lifestyle</p> <p>SECURE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES A well prepared community that is safe, supportive and resilient</p> <p>HEALTHY ACTIVE COMMUNITIES Our community are active, healthy and participation in recreational activities is accessible to them</p>	<p>Safety, Inclusion, Respect and Acceptance</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing</p>	<p>Wellbeing and Environment Young South Australians are safe, healthy and resilient</p>
<p>Learning and what comes next</p> <p>2.1. RCMB young people are supported to complete school and move into meaningful further education training and employment</p> <p>2.2. RCMB young people develop the skills and attributes to build resilience in a changing vocational environment</p>	<p>Dynamic Economy</p> <p>SKILLED WORKFORCE Building our local workforce to meet the needs of key industry sectors</p>	<p>Navigating the System</p> <p>Opportunity and Security</p>	<p>Earn and Learn Young South Australians are ready for work and life</p>

<i>RCMB Youth Action Plan Objectives</i>	<i>RCMB Strategic Plan 2020-2024</i>	<i>National Youth Policy Framework 2021</i>	<i>Strong Futures SA Youth Action Plan 2020-2022</i>
<p>Get involved and lead</p> <p>3.1. Young people are engaged and involved in the community</p> <p>3.2. RCMB young people are involved in decisions that influence their life and community</p> <p>3.3. RCMB young people have opportunities to volunteer and contribute to their community</p> <p>3.4. The achievements of RCMB young people are recognised and promoted</p>	<p>Connected Communities</p> <p>ACTIVE CITIZENS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS</p> <p>Our community is engaged through decision making, leadership, active citizenship and volunteerism</p>	<p>Youth Empowerment and Engagement</p>	<p>Connect and Grow</p> <p>Young South Australians are engaged and have influence</p>
<p>Spaces and Places</p> <p>4.1. There are specific spaces and places in RCMB for youth and families</p> <p>4.2. RCMB spaces and places are inviting to young people and families</p> <p>4.3. Spaces and places for youth are accessible</p>	<p>Great people and Lifestyle</p> <p>ALL AGES AND CULTURES ARE CELEBRATED, ACCOMMODATED AND VALUED</p>	<p>Environment</p>	<p>Fair and Inclusive</p>

Key Focus Areas

1. What's good for you?

It is important for young people to be aware of their health and lifestyle needs. Positive messages around drugs and alcohol, sexual health, disability, mental health, and nutrition are critical for long term health and wellbeing and resilience.

There are many services and agencies in Murray Bridge and it is important that the Rural City be aware of, support and work alongside these institutions and avoid duplication.

Young people will have access to timely and relevant information on issues that are important to them. RCMB is aware of the role that technology plays in the delivery of this information.

Activities, events and services should be inclusive and accessible.

2. Learning and what comes next

RCMB recognises the ages of 12 – 25 include a significant period of change in young persons' life. There is transition from primary to secondary education and then on to tertiary education and/or employment.

Education can be the major impact on a person's future. Young people spend a large amount of time at school and this is a major focus of a young person's life. Many of them get their sport and recreation activities, their friends and social engagement through school. Some even use school for their support needs through teachers and school counsellors.

It is critical that young people are supported to achieve higher performance in school, to transition to higher education or employment. RCMB can play a role in the development of skills for young people through its programs and partnerships.

3. Get involved and lead

Young people of today are our future community leaders. RCMB acknowledges the unique perspective of young people in our region and endeavors to both listen and find opportunities for development. Young people will be engaged in planning and decision making to encourage inclusiveness and future leadership potential.

RCMB will make available youth friendly environments and opportunities for young people to take a leadership role and have their say in the community.

RCMB will continue to offer and expand opportunities such as the Youth Action Committee, the Youth Council and volunteering at events and within programs.

4. Spaces and Places

RCMB is committed to improving safety and wellbeing for its citizens. As citizens, young people should be able to feel safe in their community. They should be involved in the decision making for places and spaces designed specifically for them.

The Station youth centre's space and youth programs are to be designed for young people and in partnership with young people.

Youth Action Plan 2022 Work Plan Table

The Plan

The Youth Action Plan has four key focus areas:

Area 1: What's good for you?

Area 2: Learning and what comes next

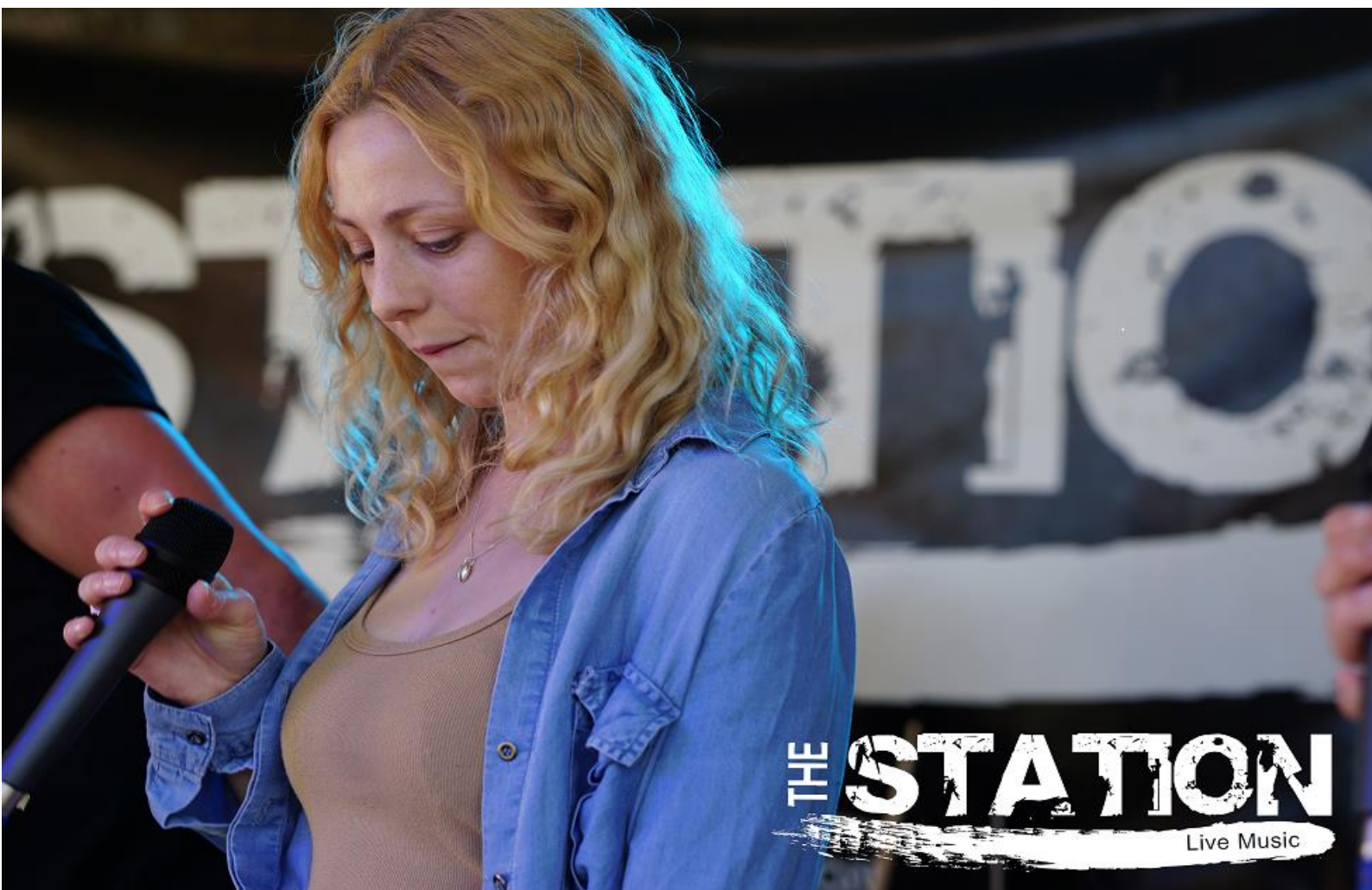
Area 3: Get involved and lead

Area 4: Spaces and Places

Requires extra resourcing: Those areas identified as opportunities for growth in the program offerings. They have been highlighted in **RED** in the table.

Priority populations: Some groups in the community disproportionately experience significant inequities or discrimination. In this YAP priority populations includes: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities and LGBTI communities.

Completion of actions is dependent on the availability of appropriate resources.



Area 1: What's good for you?

Objective	Action	Councils Role	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
1.1. RCMB youth are safe, healthy and resilient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide current youth program and events. Support Sport and Recreation clubs to provide active opportunities for young people (Promote the Regional field officer, Sport and Recreation and STARCLUB/Game on program). Work with and support local youth services in relation to health and wellbeing. Provide healthy catering options at council run youth events and programs. Support Headspace to educate and breakdown the stigma of mental health. Support youth services with a focus on drugs and alcohol (Promote and support the Planet Youth program). Prioritise support of youth services with a focus on safety, health and wellbeing of young people. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect) Service Provider (Part Funder) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian Information Provider/Promoter Initiator/Facilitator Advocate	Manager Community Services Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation Youth Development Officer Regional Field Officer Sport and Recreation Planet Youth Program Officer Community Safety, Wellbeing and Inclusion Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 success stories are created from the youth program. Regional field officer is well received by clubs 90%. 5 services are engaged. Planet Youth Officer Program established 2021, survey completed and findings disseminated. At least one healthy food option is available at council run youth events. 	Within existing budget
1.2. RCMB youth are supported to access events, services, information and programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All youth programs that are run by RCMB are no cost or low cost. Consider the locations of all RCMB youth events, programs and services so that they accessible to all. Provide youth opportunities that specifically designed to cater for priority populations (refer to definition in the Plan) Support youth services that focus on accessibility, equity and inclusiveness. Maintain & provide up to date information in relation to youth services. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect) Service Provider (Part Funder) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian	Manager Community Service Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation Youth Development Officer Team Leader Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of RCMB run youth focused programs and events are no cost or low cost. 85% of RCMB youth event, programs and services are in easily accessible locations. 5 priority population youth opportunities are supported. 	Within existing budget Additional resources required

Area 1: What's good for you?

Objective	Action	Councils Role	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support services that focus on priority population young people. Advocate for increased and suitable public transportation. 	<p>Information Provider/Promoter</p> <p>Initiator/Facilitator</p> <p>Advocate</p>	<p>Team Leader Communications & Tourism</p> <p>Office of the CEO and EM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth focused information to be available at Council locations. 	



Area 2: Learning and what comes next

Objective	Action	Priority	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
2.1. RCMB young people are supported to complete school and move into meaningful further education training and employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledge that school is an integral part of all young people's lives. Build stronger relationships between schools and Council. Partner and support organisations that support young people at risk of disengagement from school. Support work experience students to gain quality experience in a workplace environment. Collaboration with schools through access to The Station spaces and facilities. Promote the Murray Bridge learning hub as a pathway for tertiary study. Encourage use of library study facilities and resources. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect) Service Provider (Part Funder) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian Information Provider/Promoter Initiator/Facilitator Advocate	Manager Community Services Manager Organisational Development Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation Youth Development Officer Team Leader Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 3 approaches to schools are made by RCMB resulting in schools engaging in council programs and facilities. Partnering with 3 organisations around youth at risk of disengagement from school. 10 Work experience students facilitated. Information about library facilities and resources available at The Station. 	Within existing budget Additional resources required Support co-located services budget
2.2. RCMB young people develop the skills and attributes to build resilience in a changing vocational environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create The Station as a hub for skills development. Attract and support youth focused organisations to collocate and share The Station facility. Attract and support youth focused organisations to use The Station facility to deliver skill based programs. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect) Service Provider (Part Funder)	Manager Community Services Manager Organisational Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 skill development services and programs facilitated. 3 RCMB Traineeships. 	Within existing budget Additional resources required

Area 2: Learning and what comes next

Objective	Action	Priority	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCMB Traineeships. • Support organisations that assist young people in the transition from school to further education or employment. • Continue to coordinate and develop the youth program including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Art program ○ YAC ○ Skate Park. • Enterprise opportunities e.g. selling art, pay to use recording space, seeds from the garden, catering with garden space. 	<p>Service Provider (Agent)</p> <p>Owner/Custodian</p> <p>Information Provider/Promoter</p> <p>Initiator/Facilitator</p> <p>Advocate</p>	<p>Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation</p> <p>Youth Development Officer</p> <p>Team Leader Arts Development, Gallery Director</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 enterprise opportunities offered. • 10 YAC meetings per year. • 3 Skate Park events held. 	

Area 3: Get involved and lead

Objective	Action	Councils Role	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
3.1. <i>Young people are engaged and involved in the community</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and encourage young people to run youth events. Events are inclusive and accessible to support attendance and participation. Become the benchmark for the promotion of youth events using social media in SA. Support and encourage young people to take leadership roles in the community. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect) Service Provider (Part Funder) Service Provider (Regulatory) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian Information Provider/Promoter Initiator/Facilitator Advocate	Manager Community Services Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation Youth Development officer Manager Organisational Development Team Leader Communication & Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 events run by young people. 500 young people attending events. Events promoted on social media. Programs or events are no or low cost for participants. Priority population events developed. 	Within existing budget Additional resources required
3.2. <i>RCMB young people are involved in decisions that influence their life and community.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively seek the opinion of young people in council decision making. Facilitate, support and implement the Youth Action Committee and Youth Council. Periodically review the role of the YAC where indicated. Actively encourage priority populations to join YAC. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect) Service Provider (Part Funder) Service Provider (Agent)	Manager Community Services Manager Organisational Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 YAC meetings per year. 10 Youth Council meetings per year. YAC TOR reviewed annually. 	Within existing budget Youth Council project budget

Area 3: Get involved and lead

Objective	Action	Councils Role	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek informal input from young people at events and programs. 	Owner/Custodian Information Provider/Promoter Initiator/Facilitator Advocate	Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation Youth Development Officer		
3.3. RCMB young people have opportunities to volunteer and contribute to their community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and encourage young people to volunteer in the community. Promote and provide volunteering opportunities to young people. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian Information Provider/Promoter Initiator/Facilitator	Manager Community Services Volunteer Coordinator Youth Development Officer Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 Young people volunteering. 	Within existing budget
3.4. The achievements of RCMB young people are recognised and promoted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate the achievements of young people. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Facebook Special event days e.g. Youth week. Support local youth initiatives. Support the 'Just Too Deadly' awards. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian Information Provider/Promoter	Manager Community Services Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 youth achievements celebrated. 4 Youth initiatives supported. Just Too Deadly awards supported. 	Within existing budget Additional resources required

Area 3: Get involved and lead

Objective	Action	Councils Role	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
		Initiator/Facilitator Advocate	Youth Development Officer Senior Community Development Officer Communications team		

Area 4: Spaces and Places

Objective	Action	Councils Role	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
4.1. <i>There are specific spaces and places in RCMB for youth and families</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop The Station's identity/brand; Deliver School Holiday Program; Continue to deliver the youth music program; Look for opportunities to expand the current youth offerings; and Make The Station available for youth and family friendly events and programs. Library: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the Library as a family and youth friendly place; Deliver activities of interest to youth; Deliver a School Holiday Program at the library; and Coordinate with the library for youth performance opportunities. Regional Gallery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to deliver the Youth Art Prize; and Develop ongoing partnership with the Regional Gallery and The Station in youth art initiatives. Support sport and recreation clubs to make them more youth friendly and inclusive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect) Service Provider (Part Funder) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian Information Provider/Promoter Initiator/Facilitator Advocate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manager Community Services Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation Youth Development officer Team Leader Arts Development Team Leader Library Manager Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about the library, its activities and events are displayed at relevant Council venues. Support STARCLUB promotion of youth friendly clubs. 3 programs and events are delivered at the Skate Park. 5 SHP events are delivered at The Station. 3 SHP events are delivered at the library. The Youth Art Prize is delivered at the Regional Gallery. 	<p>Within existing budget</p> <p>Additional resources required</p>

Area 4: Spaces and Places

Objective	Action	Councils Role	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop activities that activate the Youth Hub at Sturt Reserve. Explore the possibility of sharing resources with local schools e.g. sport and recreation areas. 				
4.2. RCMB spaces and places are inviting to young people and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles of CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) will be used when designing facilities for young people. Open space council plans will create youth and family friendly open space. Create an inviting environment for The Station, courtyard, carpark and entrance areas. Maintain and continually improve the appearance of the Skate Park and surrounds. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect) Service Provider (Part Funder) Service Provider (Regulatory) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian Initiator/Facilitator Advocate	Manager Community Services Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation Youth Development Officer Manager Assets Manager Infrastructure Open Space Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people are engaged in the design of any new youth focused spaces. 	Within existing budget Additional resources required
4.3. Spaces and places for youth are accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Station, as an available youth focused space is acknowledged as an important Council service. 	Service Provider (Direct) Service Provider (Indirect)	Manager Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spaces and places for youth are located in easily accessible areas. 	Within existing budget

Area 4: Spaces and Places

Objective	Action	Councils Role	Responsibility	KPI	Indicative \$
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the location of youth spaces and places for accessibility. E.g. dirt track. RCMB youth programs are no cost or low cost. Encourage youth service providers to use The Station space to deliver services, programs and events. General disability and inclusion considerations will include the needs of young people. 	Service Provider (Part Funder) Service Provider (Agent) Owner/Custodian Information Provider/Promoter Initiator/Facilitator Advocate	Team Leader Youth Sport and Recreation Youth Development Officer Open Space Coordinator Manager Assets Manager Infrastructure Community Safety, Wellbeing and Inclusion Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of RCMB run youth focused programs and events are no cost or low cost. Free use of the station for MYSN members, ILC and other youth focused organisation. Council is acknowledged for its provision of The Station for use by 3 youth focused organisations. 	Additional resources required

YAP Monitoring and Review Process

Review and monitoring of the YAP key performance indicators will be completed annually with a report prepared on progress

