

## ATTACHMENT 3

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR YOUTH SERVICES

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### SUMMARY

This attachment outlines current services and support available to young people in the City as provided by the Youth Services sub unit of the Community and Health Services Business Unit, together with the proposed future directions for Youth Services.

### CURRENT SERVICES AND SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

The current services and support provided by the Youth Services Team to young people include:

#### *The HYPE Program*

Located at the Woodvale Boulevard Shopping Centre and Hillary's Marina (seasonally), and the Whitfords shopping centres, detached youth workers engage young people congregating in these areas in order to reduce anti-social behaviour. This program currently involves a pool of ten casual youth workers who are employed by the City but paid for by the shopping centres. The HYPE Program is a joint initiative between the City, Department of Family and Children's Services, the Police and local business.

It is proposed to develop HYPE 2, which builds on the strengths of HYPE 1. It will include three workers two nights per week to be centre based and have the ability to provide follow up support work in the community. This will form part of a request for Council funds for the 2002/2003 financial year.

#### *Family Liaison Service*

This service employs a full time counsellor who provides a mediation and counselling service to young people and their families. Support to families is also provided through the facilitation of support groups for both young people and parents and through monthly information sheets addressing issues that commonly arise in families. This service commenced in January 2001 and already has assisted 20 families through mediation and counselling and provided support and information to the City's fifteen high schools.

#### *Anchors Youth Centre*

This service provides a range of activities and programs for young people two afternoons per week and five days per week during school holidays. Activities include:

- drop in;
- computer activities;
- outings;
- play station;
- pool;

- camps; and
- sporting and recreational opportunities.

An integrated school holiday program is also offered at Anchors and includes five young people with special needs each day that the school holiday program operates.

A total of three casual youth workers are employed to run the centre which is currently overseen by the Youth Development Officer.

### ***Mobile Service***

The YMCA Bus offers recreational activities as well as support and information. It is currently contracted by the City to locate in the areas of Kinross, Kingsley and Woodvale, one night each per week during school term.

### ***Youth in Government***

The Program includes a range of initiatives that incorporate:

- two Youth Advisory Councils – Joondalup North and Joondalup South;
- a one week intensive Youth Council Program based at the City of Joondalup;
- involvement in State Youth Parliament; and
- involvement in Federal Youth Parliament.

The main objectives of the program are:

- to provide an opportunity for young people throughout the City of Joondalup to raise, discuss and advocate on issues which are of significance to them; and
- to provide opportunities for young people to learn about and participate in the decision making process of all levels of Government.

### ***Projects***

- Youth Information Page: This provides a list of youth services and agencies, information on projects for young people run by community groups and a calendar of events, with a focus on the City's school holiday program. (currently under review)
- Road Smart: This is an educational project funded by the Office of Youth Affairs to raise awareness of road safety amongst young people.
- Youth Rally: This provides an opportunity for young people to become involved in the Telstra Rally Australia and gain skills in the area of mechanics, driving and working within a team environment.
- Music Program: This program has three components – (i) learning to play an instrument; (ii) developing band skills; and (iii) organising a music event. This is an annual program conducted over a six month period.

- Skating Competitions: This offers young people the opportunity to enter a skating competition where trophies are awarded. It provides spectators with an exciting day out.
- Surfing: Under this initiative, support is provided to the North End Board Riders Association, a group of young people who organise surfing competitions in the City.
- The Extreme Youth Festival: This is offered in conjunction with Leisure and Rangers. This annual event provides extreme and mainstream activities for young people together with bands.
- The Joondalup Festival: Youth Services work with Cultural Development to ensure the needs of young people are catered for during the festival. For example, this year's festival included a Youth Lounge.

The City also provides a range of other initiatives in support of young people such as leisure services, BMX facilities, a cultural development program, mural arts program and the Education 2001 Program. This report relates only to the Youth Services Sub-unit within the Community and Health Services Business Unit.

## **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

The Youth Action Plan identified four key strategic directions:

- Coordination and Development
- Youth in Government
- Youth Activities Program
- Community Education and Information

It is suggested that the Youth in Government and the Community Education and Information strategic directions be combined to form the strategic direction of Youth Participation and Community Education. This would enable efforts to be focussed in the three main areas of:

- Coordination and Development
- Youth Activities Program
- Youth Participation and Community Education

Within each of these strategic directions, it is necessary to develop short, medium and long term strategies to address identified issues and concerns. These are documented in the table below.

From the table it can be seen that additional youth facilities are proposed to be established in Woodvale and the Southern Suburbs from 2002/2003 in addition to the youth activities that will form part of the Currumbine Community Centre. There are proposals before Council for funding in the 2002/2003 financial year for Woodvale and the Southern Suburbs services. These proposals will need to be considered in the context of the outcomes of the community needs analysis which will be completed in the current financial year.

STRATEGIES	SHORT	MEDIUM		LONG TERM			
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTION – Youth Activities Program</b>							
Anchors Youth Drop In Centre – Heathridge							
Woodvale Youth Facility and Programs							
‘Southern Suburbs’ Youth Facility and Programs							
Youth Activities – Currambine Community Centre							
Additional Centre Based Youth Activities							
HYPE Program – Woodvale, Hillarys, Whitfords		Subject to on-going external funding					
Additional HYPE Program Venues							
Youth Rally		Subject to on-going external funding					
Music Program							
Skating Competitions							
Surfing							
Extreme Youth Festival							
Joondalup Festival – Youth Participation							
Support to Joondalup Police District to establish and provide a ‘nightclub and music orientated’ PCYC.							
Additional Youth Activities							
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTION – Youth Participation and Community Education</b>							
Youth in Government Program							
Youth Advisory Council participation in development of youth crime prevention strategies.							
Youth Information – Poster/Website/Other Strategies							
Family Liaison Service							
Roadsmart Project							
Joint Summit with Joondalup Police – working with schools to support ‘at risk’ young people.							







## STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE - YOUTH AFFAIRS

There is currently no formal mechanism in place for Council to oversee the strategic coordination of all youth issues across Council. Neither is there a formal mechanism for the Youth Advisory Councils to feed into the City’s planning processes and the strategic directions being developed for young people across the City of Joondalup. During discussions between a Councillor and Officers from the Community Development Directorate, it was suggested that the establishment by Council of a Strategic Advisory Committee - Youth Affairs, in which the Youth Advisory Councils would play a significant role, would provide the required formal mechanism. Attachment 4 (Strategic Advisory Committee – Youth Affairs, Terms of Reference) to this Report outlines the proposed Terms of Reference and Membership of the Committee. The following figure provides a diagrammatic representation of work flows to Council via the Strategic and Advisory Committee – Youth Affairs.

