



COMMUNITY

YOUTH ACTION PLAN 2018 - 2023

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ACTING MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I am delighted to introduce our Youth Action Plan for 2018-2023.

The City of Holdfast Bay is inclusive and supportive of all members of our community and this includes our youth. We want our young people to have safe places to play and fun places to hangout so that they can have a happy and healthy start to life.

We have implemented a number of programmes and attractions for our youth ranging from wonderful playspaces and parks through to entry to employment schemes. These programmes cater for the very young through to those about to enter the work force.

Our ongoing challenge to provide relevant programs and services to meet the changing needs of our youth demographic that provides stimulating, current and beneficial outcomes.

Outlined in the Youth Action Plan are a number of strategies the City of Holdfast Bay will utilise for the next five years that aims to meet these challenges and give our youth services and programs they will find valuable.

The Council looks forward to working with all its stakeholders to make the vision a reality.

Amanda Wilson

Acting Mayor
City of Holdfast Bay



This document has been prepared by the Youth Affairs Councils of South Australia in partnership with the City of Holdfast Bay.





1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Holdfast Bay Youth Action Plan 2018-2023 outlines Council's commitment to fostering and promoting the contributions and achievements of young people throughout the community and empowering young people to share their views and opinions around issues that affect their lives. For the purpose of this plan, young people or youth, refers to person falling between the ages of 12 to 25 years who live, work, study or spend time in Holdfast Bay.

The development of the plan included an analysis of contemporary approaches to youth development in a local government context and a review of previous Council plans and activities.

Young people contributed enthusiastically to the plan through a series of school-based consultations as well as an online survey. They demonstrated significant pride and connection to the area and a genuine interest in being involved in community events and activities, as well as Council decision making and priority setting. They also identified practical solutions to issues that will benefit the whole community.

Council acknowledges that young people have a right to be involved in local affairs and in the decision making process of matters that affect them. Young people have a diversity of strengths, needs, interests, and aspirations reflective of their differing social, economic, and cultural backgrounds and are active stakeholders in our community.

This document outlines the focus areas and objectives Council will progress to strengthen young people's participation and engagement in all aspects of Council business and community life over the next five years.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 DEMOGRAPHICS

The City of Holdfast Bay is one of the smallest metropolitan council areas with a population of 36,399 people of which 4,155 (or 11.4%) are young people aged 10-24 years. However, what is unique about the City of Holdfast Bay is the number of visitors that the area hosts as one of South Australia's leading tourist attractions. According to the Holdfast Bay 2016-2017 Annual Report, 1.3 million people visited the region from across the state, across the nation and internationally.

2.2 POLICY CONTEXT

Council endorsed a new Youth Policy in 2017 to provide direction for future provision of youth activities across Council. The purpose of the youth policy is to both recognise the significance and value of young people in the Holdfast Bay area while also providing the guiding principles that will underpin and drive the development of the youth action plan. This extends to how the plan develops programs, services, and engagement activities with young people.



Our Place 2030 Strategic Plan

In 2017, Council released Our Place 2030 Strategic Plan that sets priorities and charts the goals and targets of the council leading up to the year 2030. Specifically, the plan outlines Council's commitments in relation to services, activities, programs, and strategic directions. The plan provides the basis for identifying emerging trends, opportunities for new initiatives, programs and services, and assists in Council decision making.

The plan is based upon the following five "pillars":

- Community: A healthy, creative, connected community
- Environment: A community connected to our natural environment
- Economy: A diverse and resilient local economy
- Placemaking: An accessible, lively and safe coastal city that celebrates our past to build for our future
- Culture: An effective customer-centred organisation

Youth Survey Report

In 2014 the council conducted a consultation with 191 young people to ascertain their interests, issues, and concerns and to determine their interest in joining a Youth Advisory Committee (YAC).

The objective of the survey was twofold; initially the information provided by survey respondents would inform the activities and programs young people would like to see the council deliver while also collecting the issues and concerns expressed by young people to feed back to schools and local service providers.

One of the recommendations inspired by the information provided by respondents was the development of a City of Holdfast Bay Youth Action Plan to ensure the Council's capacity to plan, coordinate, and deliver improved outcomes for local young people.

The development of the Youth Action Plan included a benchmarking report that identified current service provision levels, resourcing, and focus areas of youth development across metropolitan councils as well as an exploration of current and future trends impacting the youth sector.

Council documents were also reviewed during the development of this plan including:

- Playspace Research and Guidelines
- Open Space and Public Realm Strategy



3. YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

The youth engagement component of the project included consultation workshops with eight primary and secondary schools, a HoldUp Youth Committee focus group, and an online survey via YourView. In total, 283 young people were consulted to identify what they value about the area, issues of concern, and solutions. The information gathered was translated into key themes and actions for Council to implement over five years.

The Youth Action Plan project was presented to the Acting Mayor and eight Elected Members who provided feedback on the progression of the project and the youth engagement preliminary findings.



City of Holdfast Bay Youth Action Plan Consultations 2018

Key information:

Youth Action Plan consultations were conducted between 27th of March and 6th of April and were facilitated by the Youth Affairs Council of South Australia.

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Schools visited

- Brighton Secondary School
- Glenelg Primary School
- Marymount College
- Paringa Park Primary School
- Seacliff Primary School
- St Leonards Primary School
- St Peters Woodlands Primary School
- Sacred Heart College

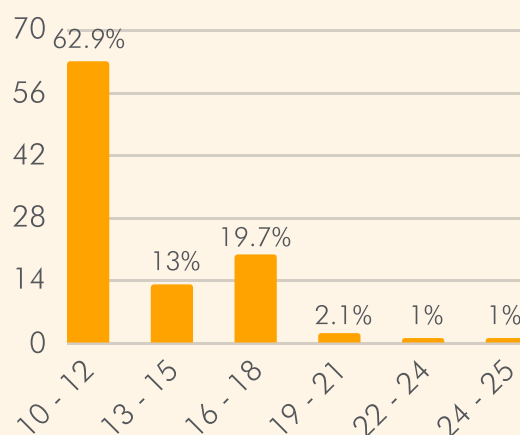
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Youth action plan survey respondents

283

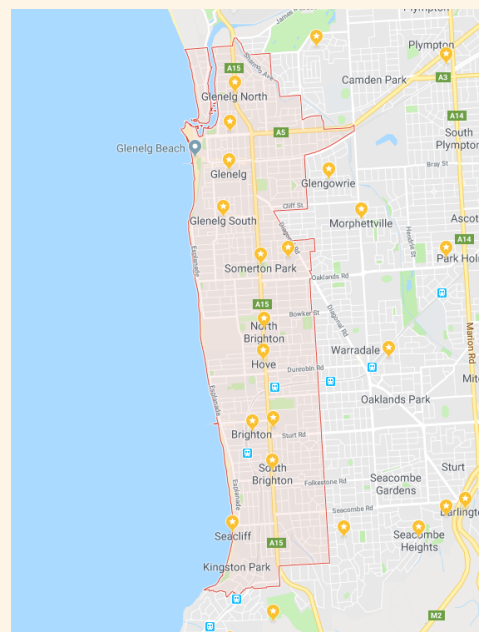
Young people consulted

- 62.9% of participants were 10-12 years (n=178).
- 13% of participants were 13-15 years (n=37).
- 19.7% of participants were 16-18 years (n=56).
- 2.1% of survey respondents were 19 to 21 (n=6).
- 1% of survey respondents were 22 to 24 (n=3).
- 1% of survey respondents were 24 to 25 (n=3).



66.7%

189 of the 283 young people consulted (66.7%) live within the City of Holdfast Bay Council boundaries.



City of Holdfast Bay Youth Action Plan Consultations 2018

Key themes:

Strong connection and involvement with community

Young people in Holdfast Bay have a strong connection to their community. Participation in activities like sport and volunteering were consistently high. Young people feel connected to their public spaces. Young people are very involved in their community.

A gap for people aged 12-15 years

It was consistently identified by young people that there is a gap within the community for people aged 12-15 years. Young people felt that events, spaces and opportunities are designed for young children or people aged 18+. Young people felt that their needs were not being catered for in many areas. Things that are designed for them were found to be tacky and/or expensive.

Opportunities that are free, or affordable, as important for young people

Young people consistently mentioned that they felt financially excluded. The exclusion extended mainly to events, shops and food. Young people asserted that, when it comes to events, they need free options in order to participate.

Unstructured activities

Young people value opportunities to be themselves, express themselves, and develop social relationships with others. Young people identified that programs and events designed for young people should be unstructured and allow freedom.

Young people need co-designed spaces

Young people repeatedly mentioned that areas that are designed for them, or are meant to include them, are often poorly designed to suit their needs. Young people would value the opportunity to be included in the design process when it came to creating spaces that aim to include young people.

Young people are proud of their community, and value its environment

Young people consistently steered conversations towards environmental issues such as litter, recycling and renewable energy. Young people in Holdfast Bay are proud of the beaches and the parks, and took great issue with the amount of litter seen at both. Young people were keen to explore ways in which litter could be addressed.

Spaces are packed, expensive and not designed for young people

Young people repeatedly referred to a sense of exclusion when it came to the most popular areas in the council area.

Seating, shade and water

A common theme in the consultations was young people identifying ways in which spaces could be adapted to maintain the fantastic outdoor experience, but increase the comfort of the experience. In all public spaces, young people asked for more shade, more seating, and more water fountains.

Access to equipment

Young people discussed ideas about increasing the amount of equipment or structures within public spaces that would enhance their ability to enjoy the spaces. Young people mentioned outdoor gym facilities, hoops, goals and equipment rentals as elements that would help them use space actively and socially.

Safety

Young people brought up safety in regards to a range of elements throughout the consultations. Young people mentioned that public spaces, particularly the beach, can feel unsafe when alcohol is prevalent. Young people discussed that public transport stops and stations can be adapted to increase their safety. Young people also mentioned that lighting along beaches and footpaths could help them feel safer in some instances.



4. BUDGET

The Youth Action Plan implementation will be funded from existing resources. Any additional funding will be requested through the annual business plan and budget process.

External funding sources may be identified, for example SA Youth Week and the DPTI Open Space and Places for People grant program*.

* At time of writing grant funding at the state level could not be confirmed due to a change of government.

5. FOCUS AREAS

























Young people identified a range of issues that fall into 3 clear categories:

1. Participation & Engagement
2. Events & Activities
3. Public Places & Spaces










































The results align with the vision of Our Place 2030 which includes delivery of “high- quality public spaces and services to build a welcoming, safe, and active community where resident, visitor and business prosperity meet”



























































IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2018 - 2023

What young people told us <i>Young people in the City of Holdfast Bay have a strong connection to their community.</i> <i>Young people value opportunities to be themselves, express themselves, and develop social relationships with others.</i> <i>Young people want to participate in Council planning and decision making and have good ideas for improvements that would benefit the whole community.</i>	FOCUS AREA 1: PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT					
	Objective: 1.1 Strengthen youth engagement mechanisms to ensure Council business is informed by young people					
	Action	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
	1.1.1 In partnership with young people, review existing mechanisms (e.g. HoldUp Youth Committee) and address limitations or gaps and promote					
	1.1.2 Evaluate formal and informal methods for connecting with schools and address limitations or gaps and promote					
What Council will do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empower young people to share their views and opinions on issues that affect their lives. Provide sufficient resources to work with and to support the development of young people in the community. Continue to maintain and further develop its relationship with local primary and secondary schools and their Student Representative Council's, within our area, to improve services for young people in our community. 	1.1.3 Educate young people about Council's role and how young people can participate and evaluate					
	1.1.4 Develop and review mechanisms for strengthening connections to junior sporting and recreation clubs					
	1.1.5 Resource and support a consultation with and for young people					
	1.1.6 Engage young people in the monitoring and evaluation of the Youth Action Plan and publish results					
	Objective: 1.2 Ensure community engagement mechanisms are inclusive of young people					
	Action	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
	1.2.1 Undertake an audit of existing mechanisms to determine relevance to young people and address limitations or gaps					
	1.2.2 Identify and address staff training and development needs to improve youth engagement					
Legend  Annual completion/review  Ongoing activity	Stakeholders: Youth & Recreation Officer ≈ Elected Members ≈ Council Staff ≈ Schools ≈ Sporting Clubs ≈ Community Groups					

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2018 - 2023

What young people told us <i>Young people want to participate in whole of community events and activities but often feel excluded.</i> <i>Young people asserted public events and activities are often aimed at children or people aged 18+ years.</i> <i>Young people identified that programs and events designed for young people should be unstructured and allow freedom.</i> <i>Young people need free or affordable options in order to participate.</i>	Objective: 2.1 Ensure all relevant public events are inclusive of young people					
	Action	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
	2.1.1 Review event application and planning processes to meet the needs of young consumers with a focus on 12 – 16 year olds					
	2.1.2 Incorporate free or affordable options into all public events where appropriate					
	2.1.3 Build the capacity and resource young people to contribute to public events and activities as stall holders, performers, sellers, competitors, etc.					
2.1.4 In consultation with young people, develop, implement and evaluate appropriate methods for publicising events and activities and promote						
What Council will do <ul style="list-style-type: none">Foster and promote the contributions and achievements of young people throughout the community.Develop and promote opportunities for young people to engage in arts and cultural events and programs.Develop links within the community to encourage volunteering.Continue to work in association with community organisations, State Government, and the private sector to ensure that young people have access to a range of services that meet their needs and interests.	Objective: 2.2 Raise community awareness of young people’s contributions and talents					
	Action	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
	2.2.1 Plan and evaluate annual and ongoing events with and for young people to showcase their activities to the wider community					
	2.2.2 Celebrate and promote young people’s contributions in local and state media and Council publications					
	2.2.3 Celebrate high achievement of our young people through the continuation of the Youth Sponsorship Program					
	Objective: 2.3 Increase volunteering opportunities for young people					
	Action	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
	2.3.1 In consultation with young people, identify and promote suitable local activities and resource, support and recognise participation					
	2.3.2 Build the capacity of groups and organisations to appropriately engage and support young volunteers through training and development					
Legend  Annual completion  Ongoing activity	Stakeholders: Youth & Recreation Officer ≈ Elected Members ≈ Council Staff ≈ Schools ≈ Sporting Clubs ≈ Community Groups					

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2018 - 2023

<p>What young people told us</p> <p><i>Young people are proud of their beaches and parks and have a keen interest in environmental issues.</i></p> <p><i>Areas that are designed for young people, or are meant to include them, such as libraries and community centres, often do not meet their needs.</i></p> <p><i>Young people want public facilities, places, and spaces to be co-designed to better meet their needs.</i></p> <p><i>Young people identified a need for more shade, shelter, seating, and water fountains and would like access to outdoor gym facilities, hoops, goals, and equipment rentals to enhance their enjoyment and help them use space actively and socially.</i></p> <p><i>Young people identified a range of ways in which spaces could be adapted to maintain the fantastic outdoor experience and increase safety and the comfort of the experience throughout the year.</i></p>	<p>FOCUS AREA 3: PUBLIC SPACES AND PLACES</p> <p>Objective: 3.1 Activate recreation, community facilities and public spaces for young people</p> <table><tr><th>Action</th><th>18/19</th><th>19/20</th><th>20/21</th><th>21/22</th><th>22/23</th></tr><tr><td>3.1.1 Develop and promote mechanisms for young people to contribute to planning and decision making for all new facilities and public spaces and places</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3.1.2 In partnership with young people, review and integrate youth amenities into community facilities (libraries, community centres, etc.) to better meet their needs (i.e. free public WiFi, charging points, indoor spaces, etc.)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3.1.3 In consultation with young people, identify suitable equipment and infrastructure to increase use of playgrounds, parks and outdoor spaces by young people</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Objective: 3.2 Improve safety and amenity of public spaces for young people</p> <table><tr><th>Action</th><th>18/19</th><th>19/20</th><th>20/21</th><th>21/22</th><th>22/23</th></tr><tr><td>3.2.1 In partnership with young people, create an appropriate and accessible method for reporting problems</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3.2.2 Create and promote a process for young people to submit solutions to community issues that includes an optional program for young people</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Stakeholders: Youth & Recreation Officer ~ Elected Members ~ Council Staff ~ Schools ~ Sporting Clubs ~ Community Groups</p> <p>Legend  Annual completion/review  Ongoing activity</p>						Action	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	3.1.1 Develop and promote mechanisms for young people to contribute to planning and decision making for all new facilities and public spaces and places						3.1.2 In partnership with young people, review and integrate youth amenities into community facilities (libraries, community centres, etc.) to better meet their needs (i.e. free public WiFi, charging points, indoor spaces, etc.)						3.1.3 In consultation with young people, identify suitable equipment and infrastructure to increase use of playgrounds, parks and outdoor spaces by young people						Action	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	3.2.1 In partnership with young people, create an appropriate and accessible method for reporting problems						3.2.2 Create and promote a process for young people to submit solutions to community issues that includes an optional program for young people					
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<p>What Council will do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Engage young people during the planning process for all new recreation, community facilities, and public spaces.Work with young people, the community, the youth sector, government agencies, and non-government organisations to build a safe community for young people.Empower young people to act in ecologically sustainable ways.																																																