

# THE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICY AWARDS

## 2018 SHOWCASE





Images courtesy of: PHAIWA

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced by any process without prior written permission from PHAIWA.

To obtain further copies of this publication you can contact the following:

PHAIWA  
GPO Box U1987  
Perth WA 6845  
Website: [www.phaiwa.org.au](http://www.phaiwa.org.au)  
Email: [phaiwa@curtin.edu.au](mailto:phaiwa@curtin.edu.au)  
Phone: (08) 9266 2489

Note the document may be accessed electronically from:  
[www.phaiwa.org.au](http://www.phaiwa.org.au)

ISBN number: 978-0-9924807-6-9

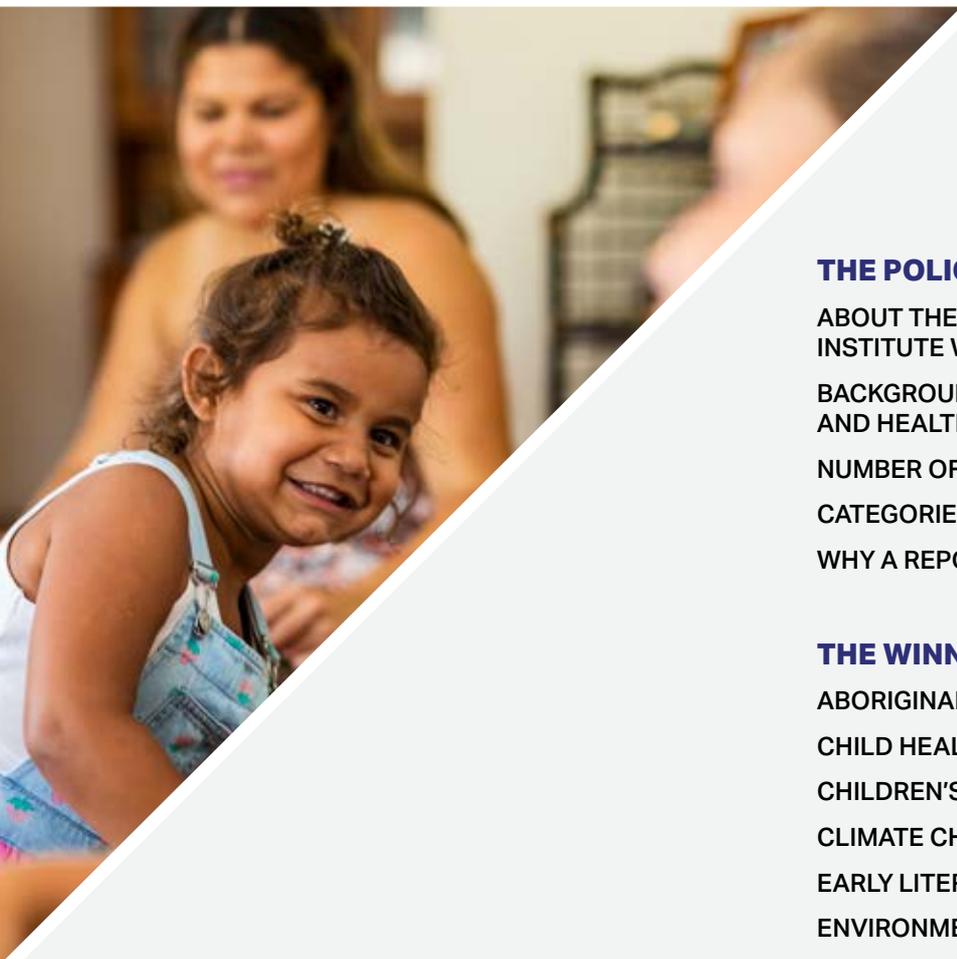
© October 2018 Public Health Advocacy Institute WA

### **Acknowledgements**

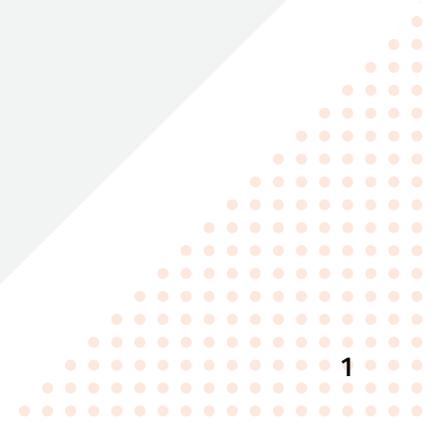
PHAIWA would like to thank Healthway, the WA Local Government Association, the Commissioner for Children and Young People WA and Cancer Council WA for their support and financial contributions towards the development and implementation of the Children's Environment and Health Local Government Policy Awards.

Finally, PHAIWA would like to sincerely thank all Local Government Officers and representatives who participated in the Report Card Project.

# CONTENTS



|                                                                                    |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>THE POLICY AWARDS</b>                                                           | <b>2</b> |
| ABOUT THE PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCACY INSTITUTE WA                                      | 2        |
| BACKGROUND TO THE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICY AWARDS | 2        |
| NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS                                                              | 3        |
| CATEGORIES                                                                         | 4        |
| WHY A REPORT CARD?                                                                 | 4        |
| <br>                                                                               |          |
| <b>THE WINNERS' SHOWCASE</b>                                                       | <b>5</b> |
| ABORIGINAL CHILD HEALTH                                                            | 6        |
| CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT                                                       | 7        |
| CHILDREN'S CONSULTATION                                                            | 8        |
| CLIMATE CHANGE                                                                     | 9        |
| EARLY LITERACY                                                                     | 10       |
| ENVIRONMENTS PROMOTING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY                                           | 11       |
| HEALTHY AND SAFE FOOD                                                              | 12       |
| INJURY PREVENTION                                                                  | 13       |
| NATURE PLAY                                                                        | 14       |
| PLANNING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES FOR CHILDREN                                          | 15       |
| ROAD AND ACTIVE TRANSPORT SAFETY                                                   | 16       |
| SHADE IN PUBLIC PLACES                                                             | 17       |
| SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENTS                                                            | 18       |
| YOUNG PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN COMMUNITIES                                    | 19       |



# THE POLICY AWARDS

## ABOUT THE PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCACY INSTITUTE WA [PHAIWA]

Following establishment in 2008, PHAIWA has contributed to raising the public profile and understanding of public health in the Local Government sector through influencing public health policy and political agendas. The key priority areas for PHAIWA include; child health, Local Government, environment and health, alcohol and tobacco, obesity and Aboriginal health. Our purpose is to develop, promote and support public health advocacy in Western Australia. We aim to translate relevant research and project findings to policy makers with the purpose of generating change and action.

## BACKGROUND TO THE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH REPORT CARD PROJECT

The Children's Environment and Health Report Card Project was developed to illustrate the important role that Local Governments play in promoting happy and healthy children and young people. Healthy environments for childhood have a positive impact and influence on the future health of children as well as the surrounding community.

Young people should have the opportunity to express their views and influence decisions that are made about their community with the involvement of young people in decision making fundamental to this project.

The Children's Environment and Health Local Government Policy Awards aim to promote positive environmental change and integrate children's environment and health issues and voices within policies and plans in the Local Government sector.

The project recognises the strategies that Local Governments are undertaking in order to improve and promote child health.

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and Healthway have been partners in this project since 2012. The 5th edition of the project saw a new partnership develop with the Commissioner for Children and Young People Western Australia who individually sponsored the Children's Consultation category. The Cancer Council WA added their support in 2016 sponsoring the Smoke free Environment and Shade in Public Places categories.





## NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS

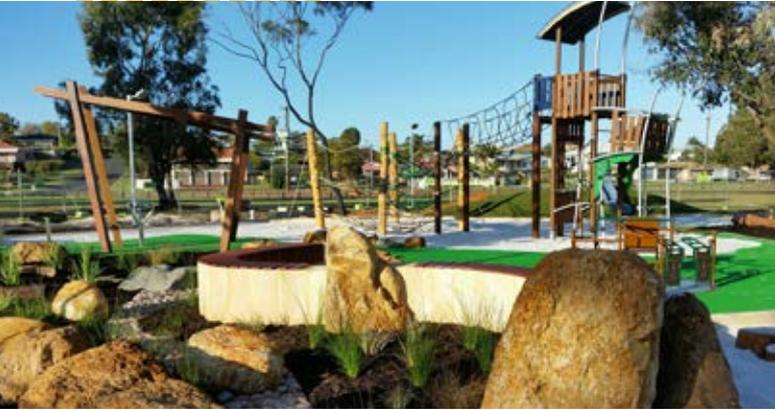
Since the beginning of the project in 2011, 72 Local Governments (47 regional and 25 metropolitan) have submitted their policies to be reviewed by a report card. It is estimated that this project has reached over 580,000 people aged 0-19 years old.

In 2018, submissions were received from 13 metropolitan and 23 regional Local Government areas. Participating Local Governments included:

- ▶ City of Albany
- ▶ City of Armadale
- ▶ City of Bayswater
- ▶ Shire of Brookton
- ▶ Shire of Bruce Rock
- ▶ City of Busselton
- ▶ City of Canning
- ▶ Shire of Capel
- ▶ City of Cockburn
- ▶ Shire of Collie
- ▶ Shire of Dardanup
- ▶ Shire of East Pilbara
- ▶ City of Fremantle
- ▶ Shire of Gin Gin
- ▶ Shire of Goomalling
- ▶ Shire of Harvey
- ▶ City of Kalamunda
- ▶ Shire of Kondinin
- ▶ City of Kwinana
- ▶ Shire of Laverton
- ▶ City of Mandurah
- ▶ Shire of Manjimup
- ▶ Shire of Menzies

- ▶ Shire of Merredin
- ▶ Shire of Narrogin
- ▶ Town of Port Hedland
- ▶ City of Rockingham
- ▶ City of South Perth
- ▶ City of Subiaco
- ▶ City of Swan
- ▶ Town of Victoria Park
- ▶ Shire of Wagin
- ▶ City of Wanneroo
- ▶ Shire of Waroona
- ▶ Shire Williams
- ▶ Shire of Yalgoo





## CATEGORIES

Local Governments can apply to show case their policies across 14 different categories. In 2018 we received the following number of submissions across the categories:

- ▶ Aboriginal Child Health (5)
- ▶ Children's Consultation (13)
- ▶ Child Health and Development (17)
- ▶ Climate Change (8)
- ▶ Early Literacy (12)
- ▶ Environments Promoting Physical Activity (12)
- ▶ Healthy and Safe Food (7)
- ▶ Injury Prevention (4)
- ▶ Nature Play (5)
- ▶ Planning Healthy Communities for Children (10)
- ▶ Road and Active Transport Safety (7)
- ▶ Shade in Public Places (6)
- ▶ Smoke free Environments (4)
- ▶ Young People Making a Difference in Communities (11)

## WHY A REPORT CARD?

A report card is an easy way to illustrate how well a Local Government is doing in relation to developing and implementing policies that promote health and wellbeing of children and young people. Our report is used to assess policy, evaluate program quality, promote program improvement and inform and advocate for programs in many settings including schools, urban planning and health services.

Applications and supporting documentation are submitted to one of the 14 categories of which they consider their policies are most suitable. The marking and reviewing process utilises information from each submission to assess the strategy against:

- ▶ Forward planning – how the Local Government planned within this category specifically targeting children in policy development or strategic planning (scored out of 5).
- ▶ Implementation – how the plans were implemented in the community (scored out of 4).
- ▶ Consultation – was there consultation within the community (specifically with children) to determine their needs and highlight gaps in services (scored out of 2).

The marking format is similar to that used in academic grading on any report card.

| GRADE | SCORE        |
|-------|--------------|
| A     | Excellent    |
| B     | Good         |
| C     | Satisfactory |
| NE    | No Evidence  |



# THE WINNERS' SHOWCASE

The Winners' Showcase acknowledges and celebrates the Local Governments who have embraced and included children in their decision making processes and have provided supportive environments for children and young people.

The Showcase presents the details of the strategies for the winning Local Government of each category and demonstrates the innovation within their policies to address the health and wellbeing of children. These positive outcomes of the Local Government strategies encourage other Local Governments to integrate children's environment and health into their policies.

## OVERALL WINNER: City of Cockburn



## REGIONAL AWARD: Shire of Waroona



## OVERALL CATEGORY WINNERS

### Aboriginal Child Health:

Shire of Waroona

### Child Health and Development:

Joint Winners Shire of Capel and Shire of Manjimup

### Children's Consultation:

City of Albany

### Climate Change:

City of Kalamunda

### Early Literacy:

City of Rockingham

### Environments Promoting Physical Activity:

City of Bayswater

### Healthy and Safe Food:

City of Kwinana

### Injury Prevention:

City of Mandurah

### Nature Play:

Shire of Merredin

### Planning Healthy Communities for Children:

Shire of Kondinin

### Road and Active Transport Safety:

City of Cockburn

### Shade in Public Places:

Shire of Capel

### Smoke free Environments:

City of Rockingham

### Young People Making a Difference in Communities:

Joint Winners Shire of Goomalling and Shire of Laverton

# ABORIGINAL CHILD HEALTH



## WINNER: Shire of Waroona

The Shire of Waroona partnered with over 40 community organisations, health service providers, government agencies and businesses to deliver its first ever 12 month Aboriginal youth health program named *Baldja* (a Noongar word meaning strongly united).

*Baldja* aims to enhance and integrate health services more effectively at a local level, focusing on social and emotional wellbeing, suicide prevention, and alcohol and drug services. The program centres on connection to culture, building the capacity of Aboriginal people, improving cultural awareness, and developing effective partnerships to improve quality of life and achieve health equity.

As part of this holistic program, Aboriginal young people participated in a range of activities including cultural camps, youth mental health workshops, sporting clinics, cultural 'Amazing Races', yarnning sessions and school holiday programs. The most popular activity was Camp Hero – a week-long youth mental health camp that combined physical activities such as abseiling and rock climbing with suicide prevention skills and awareness.



Fire ceremony at Aboriginal youth camp



## COMMENDABLE: City Of Cockburn

The City of Cockburn's third *Reconciliation Action Plan* has a strong focus on engaging and strengthening relationships with schools, specifically developing an Aboriginal School Engagement strategy with an emphasis on ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) students are 'school ready' with uniforms and supplies as well as supporting career paths and work experience placements.

The City participates in the South West Metro Partnership Forum's Imagined Futures (Youth Initiative) which also recognised children not being 'school ready' as a barrier to attending school. It aims to increase school attendance at both primary and secondary school by building resilience in children in primary school and providing support in their transition to secondary school. The Rocketeers, a group of disengaged young people at a Cockburn Primary School were mentored by a group of nearby high school students to help with their successful move to high school.

Other City initiatives have included an optional (ATSI) graduation award to complement a mainstream student graduation award for every Cockburn school with the uptake of this award increasing from nine schools in 2013 to 24 schools in 2018.



The Kwinana Adventure Park

# CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT



## JOINT WINNER: Shire of Capel

The *Capel Youth Collective Drama Club* has been a vehicle to develop strategic planning by providing opportunities for young people to learn and develop life skills to help them to achieve their goals. The program has developed the knowledge, confidence and skills young people need to be actively involved in the community and respond to issues which impact their lives.

The initial phase culminated in a full-scale local drama production at an auditorium in Dalyellup attended by more than 130 people with the group then developing into the *Capel Youth Collective* who have a say in projects, events and issues in the community. It has expanded into a weekly hang-out zone, where young people can meet and take part in various activities, weekly art workshops focused on improving mental health and also a monthly meeting with young leaders in the community. The group has been the driver for youth engagement across the Shire because of the broad scope of youth involved, targeting those who want to take ownership of a project, allowing young people the flexibility to modify projects and programs.



The Capel Youth Collective Drama Club



## JOINT WINNER: Shire of Manjimup

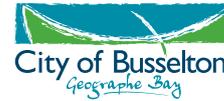
The Shire of Manjimup Youth Network organised The Young Women Empowered Expo, in response to school teachers, local businesses and counsellor's concerns around the level of self-harm in young women in the community.

Over 300 young women attended this free event which featured keynote speakers and ran activities to promote positive mental health including self-esteem, self-appreciation as well as how to maintain good mental health. Complimentary transport was provided to those in the Shire and the surrounding areas.

The event was positively received with two young women seeking help on the day and disclosing their self-harm behaviours and two community organisations planning to replicate the event in the future.



Macramé jewellery making at The Young Women Empowered Expo



## COMMENDABLE: City of Busselton

The development of children and young people is strongly supported by the *City of Busselton's Community Strategic Plan* and the City's Social Plan 2015-25 which outlines children and family services as a key priority.

After successfully applying for funding to implement the *Time to Play* program, a Messy Play Day was held to gather feedback from parents. Targeting children 0-6 years, stall holders were invited to provide an activity for the children whilst informing parents of available services. The event hosted over 350 children and 200 adults and while children engaged in storytelling, mud play, spaghetti painting, play dough and messy art, parents were asked their opinion on the activities and what early year's services they would like to see in the future. Responses included more free organised events that are relatively unstructured with a focus on nature and social aspects.

The data and feedback from this event was used to develop the *Shire's Community Engagement and Consultation Policy*. The *Time to Play* project has since been developed with further input from parents and carers on their ideas about future events, services and programs.



Loose parts play at The Messy Play Day

# CHILDREN'S CONSULTATION



## WINNER: City of Albany

The City of Albany has developed a strong plan to engage and consult with children and young people, and has clear strategies and timeframes around hearing the voices of the young people of Albany. The development and implementation of the *Youth Friendly Albany Strategy* has placed greater emphasis on providing programs and events that meet the needs and aspirations of Albany youth.

This engagement led to The City working with young people to facilitate *Colour Dash Events* and the *2018 Youthfest* which is a music festival held in the Albany Town Square. The festival involving performers, sound technicians, volunteers and attendees was predominately youth run.

The City also runs a well-attended youth school holiday program with activities identified by young people which includes a 3 x 3 Basketball Competition, Laserscape, Anime Movie Night, and MAD-D Pool Party.



Young volunteers at 2018 Youthfest



## COMMENDABLE: City of Rockingham

The City's *Strategy for Children and Young People* includes their vision for Rockingham's children and young people to be, '*valued as a resource who can contribute to the growth of an inclusive, participatory, diverse strong and healthy community*'.

The City of Rockingham delivers the *Junior Council* program each year for local Year six students, engaging students from all local primary and alternative education settings with the high level of participation resulting in representation from every pocket of the community.

Each month the Junior Councillors run a meeting in the same format as an ordinary council meeting, with two students voted as Junior Mayor and Deputy Junior Mayor. The students in these leadership positions facilitate monthly meetings and represent the City at functions relevant to families, children and young people.

The process allows for an interactive learning experience for Junior Councillors, but more importantly, an opportunity for young people to provide written recommendations to the key decision makers in their community.



The Rockingham Junior Council program

# CLIMATE CHANGE



## WINNER: City of Kalamunda

Consultation when developing the *City of Kalamunda's 2017-2022 Youth Plan* revealed that local young people have a keen passion and interest for the environment which lead to the City's Youth Team hosting an eco-themed event for WA Youth Week.

*The Eco-Festival* was held alongside the Kalamunda Night Markets and gave young people and their families the opportunity to take part in a fun, inclusive community event.

The theme of the event was "Small changes can make a big difference! Reduce your environmental footprint whilst having a sweet time at Kalamunda's Eco Festival".

It was estimated that over 500 young people and their families attended the event which featured:

- A pop-up cinema, screening eco-themed clips and the family favourite movie *Wall-E*
- Pedal-powered 'Bin-no-no' smoothies - free for anyone bringing a reusable cup
- A Recycle Right station, giving simple ideas on how to reduce waste
- Eco-friendly giveaways, and a
- Replenish Raffle

The event was planned and delivered in partnership with a core group of 10 local young people aged 12-17, providing them with valuable experience in volunteering, teamwork and event management.



The Eco Festival Flyer



## COMMENDABLE: Shire of Collie

The importance of the natural environment is highlighted in the Shire of Collie's *Community Strategic Plan* focusing on sustainability, environmental protection initiatives and collaborative approaches to environmental management.

Through collaboration with the Rotary Club of Collie and community volunteers – including large school groups - the Shire helped establish the 'Friends of the River Group' facilitating community planting days to rehabilitate and revitalise the Collie River and carry out weed and litter control.

A 'Scrap Battle' competition was held at The Collie Public Library which involved children creating artistic sculptures from recycled goods. The challenge was designed to encourage children to see the value in recycled goods and to reduce waste in their own environment.

In addition, the Shire presents an annual 'Environmental Warrior' award to school aged children, nominated by their teachers, in recognition of their strong commitment to their environment.



River rehabilitation tree planting

# EARLY LITERACY



## WINNER: City of Rockingham



Children engaged in Storytime

The *Paint Rockingham REaD* (PRR), part of the national *Paint the Town REaD* project, has been developed in partnership with members of the Rockingham Early Years Group (REYG) to address gaps in service delivery in early childhood development. It is a collective, community capacity building strategy that encourages all areas of the community to read, talk, rhyme, and sing with children from birth; to create conditions for lifelong learning and better future achievement.

The City ran a competition among Year five students to design a mascot to be used in the official campaign logo. The program encourages children and parents to read to the program's 'egg' to make it grow and then write their name on a red paint splotch and stick it to the egg. Eventually, the egg will be covered with layers of children's names and the mascot will hatch from the reading egg at an event held during Children's Week. The mascot will then become the face of the campaign.



## COMMENDABLE: Shire of East Pilbara



Storytime immersed in an art installation

The Shire of East Pilbara oversees the operations of three libraries within the Shire providing an inclusive environment where activities are delivered to children and families to encourage play and the opportunity to engage in experiences that promote lifelong learning.

The Shire has been running many child-focused programs including *Lego*, *Gumnuts Rhyme Time* and *Coder Dojo* but last year, they took the program out of the library and into the community to take advantage of events or new facilities occurring in the town.

A popular addition was *Storytime in The Square*, a new community-based facility in the centre of town, and a collaboration between The Art in the Heart exhibition where throughout the exhibition *Storytime* ran from the new East Pilbara Arts Centre. Books were chosen to reflect topics around the art and children were immersed into the middle of the artwork installation during storytime which generated discussion and learning around the artwork and visiting artist.

# ENVIRONMENTS PROMOTING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



## WINNER: City of Bayswater

The City of Bayswater's *Master Plan for Morley Town Centre* identified Russell Street Park as the 'central essential' park in an ideal location near a local high school to address the critical lack of green space in the area.

The City of Bayswater and the Water Corporation revitalised a fenced-off drainage area into the Russell Street Park adding shaded parkland, a community art mural painted by local high school students, and a living stream to improve the quality of the water flowing into the Swan River.

With the focus on children and teenagers, the City built a 10 station obstacle course based on the popularity of Parkour and inspired by the TV show 'Ninja Warrior'. This is the first course of its kind in Western Australia and is proving to be hugely popular with children of all ages, as a fun and challenging way to encourage physical activity.

To engage teenagers in this initiative, The City partnered with John Forrest Senior High School's *Community Art* program involving Year 10 students in the design and painting of the mural. The program included an educational and youth development component with the school reporting a significant improvement in attendance and engagement of the students participating in the program.



Russell Street Park



## COMMENDABLE: City of Albany

The City of Albany prioritises physical activity under both their *Community Strategic Plan 2023* and *Public Health Plan 2016* aiming to deliver 'vibrant places and spaces' to develop and promote a diverse range of local recreational facilities and activities.

The City recognised the need to upgrade an existing park which was previously under used. Following consultation with the local community, the site was developed to include a separate toddler and older children's play area, as well as a grassed and seating area for families to enjoy. The BMX pump track was upgraded which as well as being great fun is a key method of developing bike riding skills. The new design also includes a rideable path surrounding each area.

Since completion, the park has been very busy with between 20 to 50 children in the park before and after school with the pump track the main attraction. Up to 50 students from one of Albany's local schools use the pump track for bike education classes three times per week.



The new Pump Track at Milpara Park

# HEALTHY AND SAFE FOOD



## WINNER: City of Kwinana

The *Healthy Lifestyle Kwinana Plan* recognises the importance of supporting community involvement in activities. The City's Community Engagement team and Zone Youth team have worked closely with local schools to implement a variety of healthy initiatives including creating opportunities for children to have access to healthy and safe food.

The *Me and My Lunchbox* program was an innovative initiative to start conversations about the importance of food and food choices.

A professional artist worked with children and parents/carers to develop photographic portraits that captured the children's imagination about the food in their lunchboxes. Through workshops, students talked about the items in the lunchboxes, what they liked or disliked to eat and why. Interesting insights were gained into young children's food knowledge, what 'different' foods the children had tried and their understanding of where food comes from. The project culminated with an exhibition of large-scale portraits of the children with their lunchboxes during the City's Alcoa Children's Festival and is embedded within the community consultation policy.



Me and My Lunchbox portraits



## COMMENDABLE: Shire of Waroona

Many initiatives have been developed under the Society and Community Wellbeing section of the Shire of Waroona's *Community Strategic Plan* including partnering with the Community Resource Centre (CRC) and the Recreation and Aquatic Centre to deliver programs to children and their families.

A local farmer works with children and the community to maintain the community garden, educating children on what, when and how to plant a variety of fruit and vegetables. All the produce grown is used for community events such as the weekly *Community Kitchen* which serves lunch free of charge to whoever walks through the door.

In partnership with the CRC, the Shire also hosts a healthy eating program, the *Garden to Plate Workshop Series*, which covers companion eating and the growing of herbs for health and medicinal purposes.



The Community Garden

# INJURY PREVENTION



## WINNER: City of Mandurah

The City of Mandurah is committed to reducing alcohol related harms and the effects of alcohol misuse among young people in the community through their *Our Mandurah Community Youth Alcohol Strategy*. The three year strategic plan has three priority areas focusing on educating parents, increasing knowledge around the penalties and risks of supplying alcohol to minors, and promoting harm reduction and safety messages.

*Smart Generation* is an evidence based program aimed at reducing adolescent alcohol use, and was delivered to Years eight and ten students in three Mandurah schools in 2017. The program included classroom lessons about alcohol harm as well as information for parents to encourage conversations at home, with the vision of setting rules and boundaries to delay alcohol use until 18 years of age. The program was supported by alcohol information displays throughout the community, including libraries, recreation centres and schools. The displays have information for both parents and young people about the harms associated with adolescent alcohol use.



Our Mandurah Community Youth Alcohol Strategy Launch



## COMMENDABLE: City of Subiaco

The City of Subiaco has a comprehensive forward plan to reduce harm through injury and aims to create a safe and connected community as evidenced by the *Corporate Business Plan* and *Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan*.

Multiple programs focus on the protection and wellbeing of children including promoting the *Road Ribbon for Road Safety* initiative, *Neighbourhood Watch* and *Safety House* programs as well as a partnership with the Salvation Army to provide support for the homeless population.



# NATURE PLAY



## WINNER: Shire of Merredin

The Shire of Merredin has recognised the health benefits of nature play to promote physical activity, improve cognitive function, increase creativity and encourage children to engage with their families in natural environments which is shown by their partnerships with the community and schools to develop Lenihan Park.

*The Lenihan Nature Play project* was conceived through consultation with the community during the concept design phase and involved Merredin College and St Mary's Primary School. Their collective idea was to convert the neglected park into a natural play space. The nature playground includes a blend of modified creek beds, shelters made from branches, tunnels, small modified hills and various plants native to the Shire. St Mary's School has 'adopted' the park to give young people a sense of ownership and ensure they keep the park clean and litter free for the community to enjoy.



Lenihan Nature Play project



## COMMENDABLE: Shire of Waroona

Nature play is supported under multiple strategies identified in the Shire of Waroona's *Strategic Community Plan*. The Shire embraces the benefits of nature play and increasing community awareness of parks, trails and natural picnic spaces.

When redeveloping the Drakesbrook Weir, the benefits of natural elements were valued over man-made structures with the Shire ensuring the area retained its original features. Other than shade shelters and barbecues, the waterfront, bushland and trails all remained untouched allowing children to play with mud, sand, water, leaves, sticks, gum nuts and stones, encouraging the use of their creativity, imagination and resilience. The space is now a wonderful nature playground where the children can indulge their adventurous spirit.



Young people enjoying the walk trail at Drakesbrook Weir

# PLANNING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES FOR CHILDREN



## WINNER: Shire of Kondinin

The Shire of Kondinin has shown excellent forward planning with a strong commitment to increasing opportunities for children, making the town family friendly and encouraging community involvement. It has achieved this outcome by creating a continuous outdoor and recreational precinct including the swimming pool, Skate Park and a community garden adjacent to the Primary School.

The conversion of the former Kondinin Swimming Pool into a community garden and nature play area has proven to be a great multi-use area enjoyed by a variety of ages with children involved in creating the sensory path and mud kitchen. Local Noongar Elders constructed Mia Mia's within the nature play space with their grandchildren. This year's Bike Week activity 'Tour de Kondinin' involved riding around Kondinin looking for clues and finishing at the community garden for a sausage sizzle.

The *Community Youth Mural* project engaged a local artist to run a series of workshops for both primary and high school students to paint the external walls at the community garden. Noongar artists, former residents of Kondinin, also undertook a three day workshop to paint poles to represent the six seasons which were installed in the nature play area.



Painting the poles to represent the six seasons



Helping out in the gourmet garden



## COMMENDABLE: Shire of Narrogin

As part of a commitment to a socially interactive and inclusive community, The Shire of Narrogin has planned a sensory garden to replace the old native garden and water feature alongside the library which has become overgrown and dangerous. The sensory garden will stimulate the five senses and has been designed to be a therapeutic space for both children and adults.

The garden will feature attractive rock walls bordering a lawn area with a gazebo, circle paths and sensory flower beds and a library sculpture of large, stacked concrete books, which will be suitable for children to climb on. There will also be slides running from the top and bottom levels of the garden. Thoughtful planning includes tough, waterwise, flowering plants and a large shaded area for reading and outdoor art and craft activities.



The existing garden to be transformed

# ROAD AND ACTIVE TRANSPORT SAFETY



## WINNER: City of Cockburn

The City of Cockburn's *Strategic Community Plan* and the *Bike and Walk Cockburn Plan* include many strategies to reduce traffic congestion and improve connectivity and infrastructure to facilitate safe, efficient and sustainable movement around the City.

The City's Travel Smart Officer coordinates active transport, educational, and promotional projects under the *Your Move* program. This Officer is a *Your Move* Champion, achieving Platinum accreditation in 2017 for promoting active travel, supporting the local community and encouraging local schools to join the program.

The Cockburn Road Safety and TravelSmart Group functions as an advisory group to the Council, to raise awareness of road safety issues and initiatives, identify community concerns, and facilitate and promote healthy transport opportunities, while balancing environmental impacts and community needs.



Balance Bike Clinics by Bikewise teaching kids to ride on two wheels



## COMMENDABLE: City of Subiaco

The *Corporate Business Plan* includes multiple strategies to create and maintain a safe environment, reduce the traffic impact on local roads and to improve and enhance the City of Subiaco's pedestrian and cycle networks. The City has also developed a *Draft Bike Plan* which includes constructing shared paths to make it easier and safer for children to ride to school.

The City of Cockburn encourages local schools to participate in the State Government's *Your Move* program, *Ride and Walk to School Days* and *Bike Education* to teach children the road safety skills needed to ride safely and confidently to school. A popular *Bike Week* activity was *Ride to Market* which supported the Subiaco Farmers Market and motivated families to cycle instead of driving.



Families enjoying Subiaco's safe riding environment

# SHADE IN PUBLIC PLACES



## WINNER: Shire of Capel

The Shire has reinforced its commitment toward reducing sun exposure by reviewing both its *Shade* and *Playground Shade* Plan. The *Playground Shade Sail* Plan was developed through a process of prioritisation using Cancer Council guidelines. Plans are now underway to install new shade sails within the Capel recreation centre over its existing playground with additional shade to be added to the remaining playgrounds in the near future.



Murtin Park Playground



## COMMENDABLE: City of Cockburn

In conjunction with the installation of shade sails, The City of Cockburn facilitates an ongoing tree planting program adjacent to playgrounds at local parks to ensure the provision of natural shade upon maturity.

The City has also mandated that all playgrounds being renewed are relocated or orientated in proximity to mature trees. This excellent initiative should result in approximately 25% of playgrounds not requiring shade sails in the future.



Botany Park shade sails

# SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENTS



## WINNER: City of Rockingham

The 2017/18 Summer Series was a program of 13 free family friendly, alcohol and smoke free events, held within a number of the City's reserves and public open spaces across the summer period.

The Summer Series provided a streamlined approach to promoting multiple events to the community to enhance and consolidate awareness and engagement across the entire program, promoting family friendly smoke and alcohol free activities.

The family friendly, alcohol and smoke free message is consistently promoted throughout the series promotion period and further endorsed with each events' promotion and during the opening speeches.



Summer Series signage



## COMMENDABLE: City of Cockburn

The City of Cockburn has multiple strategic plans and policies in place to ensure a smoke-free environment for communities, especially children, including specific objectives to reduce the residents' and visitors' exposure to second hand smoke.

The City's Recreation Services team has been working closely with the South Metropolitan Health Service to design signs to promote a smoke free lifestyle at local sporting and community centres.

The year-long project forms part of the City's aim to create healthier sporting club environments for the community, especially as the smoke free venues are popular with young people and families.

The City will roll-out the signage to all sporting clubrooms and reserves over the next 12 months and should this initiative prove effective after a trial and evaluation, signage will be implemented at all sixteen sporting clubs within the City of Cockburn.



Playground smoke free signage

# YOUNG PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN COMMUNITIES



## JOINT WINNER: Shire of Goomalling

The Shire of Goomalling undertook extensive consultation with young people to determine actions they could take to become a more youth-friendly community. The Shire of Goomalling's *Our Youth, Our Future Youth Friendly Community Plan* includes an action plan to host six events each year targeting young people or including strong youth elements.

#GOOMATOWN Fest is a collection of four elements to engage youth and celebrate people who have 'changed the game' and inspired their peers to be the best they can be against any odds. Within the Fest, there is 'The Hunger Maze' - inspired by the Hunger Games and *The Maze Runner* - where young people are challenged to navigate the labyrinth while enduring the onslaught of paint and goo launched by other districts and the Capitol.

Two awards were included in the 2018 program, *The Game Change Award* and the *Inaugural Zak Bohling Young Legend Award*. The first recognised an inspiring local young person, Kristina Perrin, the current Australian and Oceania Champion for under 16 Karate Kumite, who shared her story of adversity to overcome barriers and regain the confidence to 'change her game'. The *Zak Bohling Young Legend Award* recognised two young people for their contribution to the community and their kindness, which was a significant step toward youth recognition and encouraging further representation in decision making.



The Hunger Maze



## JOINT WINNER: Shire of Laverton

The vision for the Shire of Laverton's *Strategic Community Plan 2016 – 2026* aims to: '... strive to work with the community to fulfil their needs and support their aspirations while acting with fairness and demonstrating leadership.'

There is no high school in Laverton, and although many young people leave to study, those that stay make substantial contributions to their community through activities organised by the Shire, supporting them to build leadership skills, develop self-esteem and maintain cultural connections.

One of the initiatives introduced by the Shire was recognition for these young people through a points system, giving them the opportunity to earn points through various activities. These include: being *Bike Champions* supporting and helping younger children to repair and fix their bikes; attending *Camp Out* events where the Council and team empower the older youth to help run activities, encouraging participation and facilitating a DRUMBEAT session; going 'out bush' to collect fire wood to distribute to the Elders and baking for those in need – with one of the most popular menu items being damper to give to Elders and other community members.



'Out bush' collecting firewood



## COMMENDABLE: City of Swan

The City of Swan's *Youth Consultation Report* identifies the importance of youth engagement valuing the contribution of young people, their opinions and partnerships to improve and strengthen communities.

The *Hyper Series* is a City of Swan based arts program of large and small scale events and activities organised by a group of young volunteers and supported by a full-time program coordinator employed by the City. The series includes three main program areas: *HyperFest* – An annual large scale music festival held in Midland, *HyperVision* – an annual visual art exhibition and competition held in Midland and *Hyper Miniseries* – smaller scale music events held around the City of Swan.

The City is commended for their strong partnerships and the continual growth of the *Hyper Series*, making it the largest youth-led all ages free music festival in the state.



Hyperfest





If your Local Government area would like the opportunity to be involved and acknowledged as a leader in Local Government strategy, planning and development, please contact PHAIWA on 9266 2489 or email [lg-reportcard@curtin.edu.au](mailto:lg-reportcard@curtin.edu.au)

For more information on The Children's Environment and Health Local Government Policy Awards and to access previous showcase reports, please visit [www.phaiwa.org.au](http://www.phaiwa.org.au)

We encourage and invite all Western Australian Local Government areas to participate.

