



Shire of Wongan - Ballidu

Strategic Community Plan and Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Review

Engagement Report

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1.0 Introduction

The Shire of Wongan–Ballidu is undertaking a review of its **Strategic Community Plan (SCP)** and **Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP)** to ensure both documents remain responsive and reflect current and emerging community priorities. This review provides an important opportunity to assess progress against existing strategies, respond to changing local conditions, and confirm a shared long-term vision for the Shire’s social, economic, environmental and organisational development.

This engagement report documents the approach, delivery and outcomes of consultation undertaken as part of the SCP and DAIP review. Engagement activities were designed to be inclusive, accessible and representative, and were delivered across multiple townsites and formats. Consultation included facilitated workshops with Council, staff and community members; targeted engagement focused on disability access and inclusion; youth engagement through the local school; and a community-wide survey available both online and in hard copy formats.

Across the engagement period:

- **More than 70 community members** participated in workshops and facilitated sessions;
- **145 survey responses** were received from residents across the Shire;
- Participants represented a broad cross-section of the community, including people with disability, carers, young people, seniors, volunteers, service users and local organisations.

The engagement process confirmed strong alignment across Council and community on the existing Vision and Mission, while also identifying clear priority areas for the next four to ten years. Key themes emerging consistently through engagement included:

- The critical importance of **aged care services, childcare sustainability, and land release for housing;**
- The need to address **key worker accommodation** shortages impacting service delivery and workforce attraction;
- Strong support for **community infrastructure upgrades**, particularly parks, public toilets, footpaths and community facilities;
- Ongoing emphasis on **economic development**, town centre revitalisation and supporting local businesses; and
- Clear expectations for continued improvement in **accessibility, inclusion and universal design** across facilities, information and services.

Results from the community survey further reinforced these priorities, with medical services, long-term planning, bush fire services and financial management rated as the most important Shire services, and aged care, childcare and land release ranked as the highest-priority projects for future focus.

The purpose of this report is to:

- Demonstrate how community and stakeholder input has been gathered in a transparent, inclusive and structured manner;
- Present a clear summary of engagement findings, priorities and emerging issues; and
- Provide an evidence base to inform the final review and update of the Shire’s Strategic Community Plan and Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

The outcomes outlined in this report directly inform recommended changes to both plans and support Council and the community in shaping a shared, achievable and inclusive direction for the Shire of Wongan–Ballidu over the coming years.

Image 1: Shire of Wongan - Ballidu Office



2.0 Engagement Plan

2.1 Community Engagement Plan

Project: Strategic Community Plan (SCP) and Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 4-Year Review

Client: Shire of Wongan-Ballidu

Prepared by: Ella Budrikis

2.2 Engagement Objectives

- Ensure community and stakeholder voices are central to shaping the updated SCP and DAIP;
- Reflect diverse perspectives, including people with disabilities, carers, and regional residents;
- Strengthen community ownership and understanding of the Shire's future direction; and
- Gather evidence-based feedback to inform revisions and updates to existing strategies and actions.

2.3 Engagement Principles

- **Inclusive:** Activities will be designed to reach all groups, including people with disabilities, youth, seniors, and culturally diverse communities;
- **Accessible:** Engagement sessions and surveys will be easy to understand, physically accessible, and consider a variety of communication preferences;
- **Transparent:** Participants will be informed about how their feedback will be used and the outcomes of the process; and
- **Place-based:** Engagement will occur in different towns across the Shire to ensure equitable access and representation.

2.4 Stakeholder Groups

Internal: Shire staff, executive team, Councillors (new and existing).

Community members: Residents of the towns and localities of Ballidu, Burakin, Cadoux, Kondut, Lake Hinds, Lake Ninan, Mocardy and Wongan Hills.

Key groups: People with disabilities, carers, support organisations, community groups, sporting clubs, residents and ratepayers.

Identified community groups: Wongan Hills Sport and Recreation Council, Ballidu Greater Sports Council, Cadoux Sports Council, Wongan Hills Tourism Group, Ballidu Heritage Centre, Ballidu Contemporary Arts Society, Wongan-Ballidu Seniors Recreation Centre, Wongan-Ballidu & Districts Men's Shed, Wongan Arts Society, Wongan Hills Progress Association, Wongan Hills Apex, Wongan Hills Rotary Club, Wongan Hills CWA, Wongan Hills District High School, Wongan Cubby House (child care), Wongan Hills Museum, Ballidu Progress Group, and Wongan Hills Medical Centre.

Regional stakeholders: Community organisations, service providers, and businesses.

2.5 Roles and Responsibilities

The table below sets out the roles and responsibilities linked to both the SCP and DAIP review projects:

Task	Responsibility	Notes
Workshop content design and facilitation	Ascentive Consulting	
Survey design and analysis	Ascentive Consulting	Electronic version managed by Ascentive.
Promotion and logistics	Shire of Wongan-Ballidu	Ascentive will support however all marketing of engagement to be completed by Shire.
Final document design and delivery	Ascentive Consulting	
Survey distribution and collection	Shire of Wongan-Ballidu	Hard copy to be collated by Shire as per proposal.

Table 1: Project Roles and Responsibilities

3.0 Engagement

3.1 Engagement Plan

The following table outlines the approved engagement plan for the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu SCP and DAIP engagement.

Activity	Participants	Purpose	Location/Format	Timing	Status/Notes
Initial Planning Meeting	Shire Executive	Confirm scope, milestones, and engagement plan	Virtual	Project Commencement	Complete
Workshop 1 - Staff Session	Shire Staff	Review progress, gather insights	Shire Office	Site Visit 1 – Day 1 AM	Complete
Workshop 2 - Council Session	Councillors	Review progress, gather insights	Shire Office	Site Visit 1 – Day 1 PM	Complete
Workshop 3 – Community SCP Workshop	Community	Discuss vision and priorities for SCP	Ballidu	Site Visit 1 – Day 2 PM	Complete
Workshop 4 – Community DAIP Workshop	Community	Collect feedback on access and inclusion	Wongan Hills	Site Visit 1 – Day 3 AM	Complete
Workshop 5 – Community SCP Workshop	Community	Discuss vision and priorities for SCP	Wongan Hills	Site Visit 1 – Day 3 PM	Complete



Workshop 5 – Community SCP Workshop	Community	Discuss vision and priorities for SCP	Wongan Hills	Site Visit 1 – Day 4 AM	Complete
Workshop 6 – Community SCP Workshop	Community	Discuss vision and priorities for SCP	Cadoux	Site Visit 1 – Day 4 PM	Complete
Community Survey	Community	Broader input on SCP and DAIP	Online + Hard Copy	Following Site visit 1, survey open for 21 days	Complete
Workshop 7 – Final Review Workshop	Staff and Council (AM), Community (PM)	Present draft plans, confirm direction	Shire Office and Wongan Hills	Site Visit 2, 28 day review period	

Table 2: Engagement Plan

3.2 Promotion and Communication Strategy

To maximise participation, the following communication channels will be used:

- Community newsletter / local newspaper;
- Shire website and social media;
- Posters in libraries, community centres, shops;
- Direct outreach to disability support networks and key stakeholders; and
- Email notifications to local organisations and groups.

Accessible formats and options will be provided including:

- Plain language versions of the survey and promotional material;
- Hard copy and online survey options; and
- Interpreters or support for people with disabilities (upon request).

3.3 Feedback and Reporting

- **Interim Updates:** Brief updates will be provided after each site visit, summarising key themes and feedback;
- **Draft Plans:** Will incorporate direct input and be tested with community and Council in the final workshops; and
- **Final Plans:** Designed, accessible documents incorporating validated feedback.

3.4 Evaluation

- Attendance and participation levels at workshops;
- Assessment criteria and categories;
- Number and diversity of survey responses; and
- Evidence of community priorities reflected in final SCP and DAIP.

4.0 Initial Findings

4.1 Strategic Community Plan Initial Findings

Following initial document review, the following preliminary recommendations have been identified within the SCP:

- The application of a numbering system for Themes, Goals, Strategies and Actions to support increased clarity and inform performance measurement;
- Minor improvements to language to support increased clarity and purpose; and
- Consistency across wording in Goals – these should reflect what it is community wish to see, not how they will get there.

The table below presents review notes for comment and feedback following the initial document review of the Shire’s Strategic Community Plan.

Theme	Recommendation
1. Our Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor improvements to language to support increased clarity and purpose of Actions and Strategies • Identify actions for all strategies, or combine with similar/ create new
2. Our Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor improvements to language to support increased clarity and purpose of Actions and Strategies
3. Our Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor improvements to language to support increased clarity and purpose of Actions and Strategies • Identify actions for land release and development incentives
4. Our Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review relevance and reallocate to applicable area as all existing content is operational in nature

Table 3: Initial Findings - Strategic Community Plan

4.2 Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Initial Findings

Following initial document review, the following initial recommendations have been identified within the DAIP:

- The application of a numbering system for Actions to support increased clarity and inform performance measurement; and
- Minor improvements to language to support increased clarity and purpose.

The table below presents review notes for comment and feedback following the initial document review of the Shire’s Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

Area	Review Notes
Organisational Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include opening statement referencing Shire’s commitment to access and inclusion • Add detail regarding Shire’s DAIP-related achievements and other works that contribute to overall liveability
Community Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include demographic statistics as an infographic
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details the DAIP requirement – opportunity to move this to the glossary
Definition of Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest moving to glossary
Policy Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest moving to Organisational Overview
Findings from previous consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare summary based on current DAIP content
Consultation Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document engagement methodology
Consultation Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per results – present clearly and engagingly using a mix of high contrast infographics and copy

Area	Review Notes
Survey Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As per results – present in a clear and engaging manner using a mix of high contrast infographics and copy
Key Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Document, and include imagery where available
Suggestions for Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare summary based on community feedback

Table 4: Initial Findings - Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

5.0 Risk Mitigation

5.1 Engagement Risks and Mitigation

The below table outlines the risk in relation to engagement outcomes and the applicable mitigations. This has been developed to support appropriate planning for both the engagement sessions and applicable advertisement/notice periods.

Risk	Mitigation	Notes
Low participation in workshops	Early promotion, accessible venues, multiple towns, survey alternative	
Limited feedback from people with disabilities	Targeted DAIP session, outreach to disability networks	
Misalignment between Council and community views	Separate workshops, collaborative review at the final workshop	
Lack of representation from diverse community groups	Proactive outreach to multicultural, youth, elderly, Indigenous, and minority communities;	Ensures engagement outcomes are inclusive and reflect the whole community
Digital exclusion/barriers to online survey access	Provide an offline version (printed surveys)	Not all participants have internet or digital literacy, which is essential for inclusive access
Short or insufficient notice periods	Announce sessions well in advance; use multiple communication channels; avoid major holidays or events	
Overrepresentation of specific interest groups	Target underrepresented voices; monitor demographics of participants	

Table 5: Engagement Risk Mitigation

6.0 Timeline

6.1 Engagement Schedule

A draft engagement schedule has been developed in accordance with the existing project timeline and is awaiting client approval.

Activity	Location/Format	Timing	Date
Workshop 1 – Staff Session	Shire Office	10 am – 12 pm 3 pm – 5 pm	3 rd November
Workshop 2 Council Session PM			
Workshop 3 – Community SCP Workshop	Ballidu	5 pm -7 pm	4 th November
Workshop 4 – DAIP Workshop	Wongan Hills	10 am – 12 pm	5 th November
Workshop 5 – Community SCP Workshop	Wongan Hills	5 pm -7 pm	5 th November
Workshop 6 – Community SCP Workshop	Wongan Hills	10 am – 12 pm	6 th November
Workshop 7 – Community SCP Workshop	Cadoux	5 pm- 7 pm	6 th November
Community Survey	Online + Hard Copy	Following Site visits	10 th November will be live for 21 days
Workshop 8 – Final Review Workshop	Shire Office and Wongan Hills	TBC	28 days open for review Feb TBC

Table 6: Engagement Schedule

7.0 Engagement Analysis

7.1 Assessment Tool

Utilising Ascentive’s strategic engagement assessment tool, projects identified through engagement were assessed across the following areas:

Category	Description	Weight
Community Support	Strength of quantitative (votes, selections) and qualitative (commentary) community endorsement.	40%
Strategic Alignment	Extent to which the project aligns with the vision, goals, and key focus areas of the Strategic Community Plan.	40%
Feasibility	Practicality, cost effectiveness, and can be delivered within existing or projected resources.	20%

Table 7: Project Assessment Criteria

Assessment of each project against the categories resulted in a total score out of 5.

The following rating levels were assigned to projects based on their combined assessment results:

Score	Classification	Description
3.5-5	Priority Project	Strong community support and clear alignment with strategic goals, feasible for implementation
2.5-3.5	Emerging Priority / Project	Supported and aligned but may require more development or resources
<2.5	Future Consideration	Limited community backing or low feasibility, may be investigated in future

Table 8: Project Rating Levels

7.2 Priority Projects

The following table provides the ranking of projects identified during engagement:

Project/ Program	SCORE	Classification
Land Release	3.75	Priority Project
Aged Care Programs and Services	3.5	Priority Project
Wongan Hills Community Park Redevelopment	3.5	Priority Project
Childcare Sustainability	3.35	Emerging Priority
Inflatable Obstacles and Equipment for the Pool	3.35	Emerging Priority
Short Stay Key Worker Accommodation	3.3	Emerging Priority
Economic Development	3.2	Emerging Priority
Youth Development and Programs	3.15	Emerging Priority
Road Safety Within the Shire	3.1	Emerging Priority
Youth / Teen Events, Excursions and Competitions	3.05	Emerging Priority
Main Street / Town Revitalisation	3	Emerging Priority
Refurbishment / Expansion of all Town Public Toilets	2.95	Emerging Priority
Mountain Bike Trails for Ballidu and Wongan Hills	2.95	Emerging Priority
Community Group Support	2.85	Emerging Priority
Tourism Development	2.85	Emerging Priority
Pioneer Museum Building Repairs and Maintenance	2.85	Emerging Priority
Long Vehicle/ Truck/ RV Stops	2.85	Emerging Priority
Water Management Plan	2.8	Emerging Priority
Small Scale, Locally Focused Events	2.8	Emerging Priority
Wongan Hills Pump Track	2.65	Emerging Priority
Facilities and Buildings Needs Assessment	2.6	Emerging Priority
Increased Access to Medical Services	2.6	Emerging Priority
Enclosed Dog Exercise Park (Wongan Hills)	1.8	Future Consideration

Table 9: Project Priority Assessment Results

8.0 Engagement Results

8.1 Council Engagement

Shire Councillors, including two former Councillors, took part in a facilitated workshop to review progress, identify new or updated priorities, and gather insights from the community.

8.1.1 Vision and Mission

The Council agreed to retain the existing Vision and Mission outlined in the current SCP. Sentiment was that this still reflected the community and how people wished to live within it.

8.1.2 General Feedback and Commentary

Council identified their support for current Executive team members and the CEO, and the improvements in communication between staff, Council, and the community. Expanding on outreach communication and services, both formal and informal, across all three townsites was noted as a way to enhance these improvements.

Retention of community members and preserving the current community culture was a priority, and the commitment and efforts of the many and varied community groups was acknowledged.

Like most rural communities, a shortage of available housing and residential land is impacting the delivery of services and programs. This affects community members needing to access programs and services provided by private enterprise, Local Government, and State Government. Council understands that housing construction and management are not core services of Local Government, but they may need to be considered as a last resort. The lack of quality key worker housing options is impacting service delivery and availability in healthcare, education, childcare, and professional services industries.

Economic development and sustainability planning was identified as a positive way to encourage businesses to stay, improve, and expand within the Shire. This included exploring ways to motivate shopfront owners in townsites to enhance and upgrade their facades, contributing to overall townsite aesthetics, supporting tourism, and boosting local employment.

8.1.3 Priority Projects

Through discussion and facilitated engagement, Council identified the following priority areas for additional work over the next 4-10 years. Councillors were provided the opportunity to vote, and the list below is in priority order:

1. Aged Care Services – strengthen existing programs and advocate for expanded aged care services, including additional beds at Lovegrove Lodge;
2. Land Release – Facilitate new residential and commercial land availability;
3. Childcare Sustainability – Support the long-term viability of local childcare services;
4. Facility and Building Needs Assessment – Conduct a comprehensive review to confirm community facility needs, to guide future investment in facilities and infrastructure;
5. Wongan Hills Community Park Project – deliver key features of the existing concept plan, including accessible public toilets, skate park, shaded areas, public art and an inclusive play space;

6. Town Site Revitalisation Plan – Investigate and develop a plan to enhance the appeal, accessibility and functionality of our three town centres;
7. Water Management Plan – Develop a management plan for sustainable local water use, storage and conservation;
8. Community Group Support – Assist existing community groups to ensure ongoing sustainability and participation; and
9. Tourism Plan – Develop a Tourism Strategy incorporating Astro tourism, heritage, arts and trail experiences.

8.2 Ballidu Engagement

The community was invited to attend the Ballidu Centre on Tuesday, 4th November, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Ten (10) community members attended and provided feedback.

8.2.1 Vision and Mission

The community identified that the existing Vision and Mission within the plan continue to reflect the community.

8.2.2 General Feedback and Commentary

Continued improvements in formal and informal communication opportunities from the Shire were acknowledged, with the community identifying a wish for more informal, workshop-style opportunities in the future. The continued efforts and dedication of local volunteers were congratulated, particularly around events, history preservation and the arts. It was also acknowledged that volunteer burnout and retirement were challenges, and proactive action was needed to support groups and individuals.

8.2.3 Priorities

Priorities specific to Ballidu included:

- Upgrades at Alpha Park (play equipment, soft fall sand and additional accessible ablutions);
- Additional footpaths where possible (concrete for long term sustainability);
- Town area maintenance (noted as primarily private land, but Shire can play a facilitation/advocacy role);
- Economic decline risk management (promotion of local business, economic development support, and retaining our current services);
- Housing (smaller accommodation options developed for Ballidu, promotion of residential vacant land)
- Balli Balli Rock walk trail (formalise as part of tourism planning, investigation of land tenure and management options); and
- Waste Management (identify opportunities to reduce waste from other towns ending up at Ballidu).

8.3 Cadoux Engagement

The community were invited to attend the Cadoux Sports Centre on Thursday, 6th November from 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm. Three (3) community members attended and provided feedback.

8.3.1 Vision and Mission

Attendees identified that the existing Vision and Mission within the plan continue to reflect the community.

8.3.2 General Feedback and Commentary

Attendees expressed that they still feel a little on the 'outer', with the Shire focusing more on Wongan Hills infrastructure and services. Improvements have been noted in communications and maintenance actions. Community-run events at the Sports Centre and Shop continue to provide valuable opportunities for community connection.

8.3.3 Priorities

Priorities specific to Cadoux included:

- Reduced speed entering Cadoux from the east to improve safety around the school (preference would be for speed to reduce to 70km/h prior to the S bends on the Cadoux-Koorda Rd);
- Maintain tidiness and community safety within the town through grounds maintenance;
- Upgrades at the Sports Centre playground (upgrade and offer expanded equipment);
- Upgrades at Federation Park (including gazebo, seating, planting and equipment); and
- Investigate the Masonic Lodge site for future redevelopment (tourist parking, acknowledgement of history at the site).

8.4 Wongan Hills Engagement

The community were invited to attend the CRC Function Room on Wednesday, 5th November, from 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm, and on Thursday, 6th November, from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm. Over the two sessions, twenty-seven (27) community members attended and provided feedback.

8.4.1 Vision and Mission

Attendees identified that the existing Vision and Mission within the plan continue to reflect the community.

8.4.2 General Feedback and Commentary

Attendees expressed their satisfaction with the ongoing improvements in communication from Council and the Executive, and with the work staff and Councillors are undertaking to improve the relationship with the community. The swimming pool, Seniors Recreation Centre, Lumen Centre, Rural Medical Immersion program, CRC staff customer service, local schools and vibrant community groups were all highlighted as working well within the town.

8.4.3 Priorities

Priorities specific to Wongan Hills included:

- Connecting local youth to employment through workplace learning and apprenticeship/traineeship opportunities;
- Short-term key worker accommodation options for visiting specialist services;
- Community Park upgrades;

- A permanent, fit-for-purpose space for the Seniors Recreation Centre;
- Managing mining impacts to support positive community outcomes;
- Supporting our ageing community through programs and services, and expanded offerings for aged care placements at Lovegrove Lodge;
- Economic development strategies and actions to support circular spend, buy local initiatives, and retention and expansion of private enterprise;

8.5 DAIP Engagement

The community were invited to attend the Seniors Recreation Centre on Wednesday, 5th November from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm. Twenty-two (22) community members attended and provided feedback on the Shire's progress and future priorities for the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

8.5.1 General Feedback and Commentary

Attendees expressed their overall happiness living within the Shire, and recognised the towns as safe, non-judgemental, caring and community minded.

8.5.2 Identified Priority Projects

The following projects were identified as a priority for attendees, noting that the Shire's role in undertaking a project may be through advocacy, facilitation, partnership or delivery:

- Accessible ablutions for community – including handrails and universal access to support assisted use;
- Continuing the footpath program – replacing existing brick with accessible concrete options, and expanding footpath construction within all towns;
- Increase First Nations recognition and celebration within our community;
- Delivering or encouraging the delivery of small entryway improvements at local facilities and businesses – addressing lips, steps, curbs and doorways;
- Promote and educate within the community around the availability of accessible documents and resources – Shire documents, library e-resources, online supports;
- Investigate transport options and services for accessing medical appointments not available locally;
- Street furniture throughout town to encourage mobility – a space to stop and sit while walking;
- Improvements in parking – reduce risks of falls and injury;
- Advocate for increased staffing at the hospital to improve access and available services; and
- Deliver community education around Companion Cards, and encourage uptake in the Companion Card program by local services.

8.6 School Engagement

The Wongan District High School hosted a facilitated session with 11 students on Wednesday, 5th November. The Principal selected students in attendance.

8.6.1 What We Love

Students identified the following as what they love most about living in their community:

- It's a small town;

- Sports;
- Spaces to hang out;
- The events for teenagers; and
- Space to ride mountain bikes and motorbikes.

8.6.2 What Needs to Change

Students identified the following as things they'd like to see change within the community:

- 'Kid drama';
- More sports choices;
- Share more notices at school so kids can see them and know about them;
- More inflatables at the pool – lily pads, individual floats and inflatable obstacle course;
- Pump track;
- Trails for mountain bikes and motorbikes, and skills and maintenance classes;
- Build a massive treehouse with different spaces to hang out;
- Build a water park;
- Drive-in movies;
- More camps/ excursions – overnight or day trips, shops, movies etc;
- More hangout spaces – inside and outside spaces;
- More events just for teens – gaming competitions, movie nights, table tennis

8.6.3 Our Priorities

Using a 'hands up' voting system, the following were identified as priority projects by the students:

- Events for teens – competitions, pop-ups, gaming competitions;
- Trails – mountain bike and motorbike, with classes for skills and maintenance;
- Camps and excursions; and
- Floaty equipment and obstacles for the pool.

9.0 Survey Results

The community survey was open from 17th November to 8th December 2025, with online and hardcopy options available. The Shire promoted the survey via social media, posters and community newsletters, and 145 responses were received.

Of responses received:

- 77% were female, and 23% male;
- 41% of responses were from the 25-49 years age group;
- 2.77% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent;
- 85% of responses were from residents of Wongan Hills; and
- 5.52% of respondents identified as a person with a disability, and 6.9% as caring for a person with a disability.

The following summaries provide data of the quantitative results.

9.1 Existing Facilities and Services

9.1.1 Importance of Shire Facilities

The five (5) most important facilities for the community are:

- Medical Centre;
- Appearance of Town Centres;
- Roads / verges / footpaths;
- Parks / gardens / ovals; and
- Airstrips and Public Toilets (equal).

The five (5) least important facilities are:

- Library;
- Heritage Assets;
- Cemetery;
- Employee Housing; and
- Community/ Town Halls

Facility	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very Unimportant	Weighted Average
Medical Centre	67	5	2	0	0	4.88
Appearance of town centres	41	28	4	1	0	4.47
Roads / verges / footpaths	40	27	7	0	0	4.45
Parks / gardens / ovals	37	30	5	1	0	4.41
Airstrips	40	23	9	2	0	4.36
Public toilets	40	24	7	3	0	4.36
Childcare Facilities	40	21	11	1	1	4.32

Facility	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very Unimportant	Weighted Average
Community Resource Centre (CRC)	37	22	14	0	0	4.32
Sport / recreation facilities	35	29	9	1	0	4.32
Water catchment and drainage	33	26	14	1	0	4.23
Swimming pool	28	34	8	3	0	4.19
Reserves / public open spaces	30	30	11	3	0	4.18
Waste Management Facilities	31	28	11	3	1	4.15
Street lighting	30	27	14	3	0	4.14
Community / town halls	25	33	14	2	0	4.09
Employee housing	33	20	16	5	0	4.09
Cemetery	21	33	17	1	2	3.95
Heritage assets	17	37	15	4	1	3.88
Library	11	37	22	4	0	3.74

Table 10: Importance of Shire Facilities

9.1.2 Satisfaction with Shire Facilities

The community are most satisfied with the following five (5) facilities:

- Medical Centre;
- Community Resource Centre (CRC);
- Public Toilets;
- Airstrips; and
- Sport / Recreation Facilities.

The community were the least satisfied with the following five (5) facilities:

- Employee Housing;
- Roads / verges / footpaths;
- Water Catchment and Drainage;
- Heritage Assets; and
- Childcare Facilities.

Facility	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Weighted Average
Medical Centre	38	29	6	1	0	4.41
Community Resource Centre (CRC)	35	31	8	0	0	4.36
Public toilets	23	38	10	3	0	4.09
Airstrips	25	26	21	1	0	4.03
Sport / recreation facilities	18	40	11	3	1	3.97
Parks / gardens / ovals	22	36	7	7	2	3.93
Cemetery	19	31	21	3	0	3.89
Reserves / public open spaces	14	44	12	2	2	3.89
Swimming pool	18	33	18	4	0	3.89

Facility	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Weighted Average
Appearance of town centres	16	42	6	8	2	3.84
Library	12	37	25	0	0	3.82
Waste Management Facilities	18	25	26	3	1	3.77
Community / town halls	10	33	25	6	0	3.64
Street lighting	9	35	22	6	1	3.62
Childcare Facilities	10	27	33	3	1	3.57
Heritage assets	8	29	33	4	0	3.55
Water catchment and drainage	8	27	34	3	1	3.52
Roads / verges / footpaths	10	30	23	7	4	3.47
Employee housing	4	13	37	15	5	2.95

Table 11: Satisfaction with Shire Facilities

9.1.3 Importance of Shire Services

The five (5) most important services for the community are:

- Medical Services;
- Bush Fire Services;
- Long Term Planning;
- Financial Management; and
- Roads Maintenance.

The five (5) least important services are:

- Ranger Services;
- Building Control;
- Festival / event Management;
- Pest Control; and
- Regional Collaboration.

Service	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very Unimportant	Weighted Average
Medical services	61	12	1	0	0	4.81
Bush fire services	55	16	2	1	0	4.69
Long term planning	46	27	1	0	0	4.61
Financial management	46	25	2	0	0	4.6
Maintenance - Roads	48	21	4	1	0	4.57
Customer service	41	28	5	0	0	4.49
Water supply and management	40	25	9	0	0	4.42
Economic development	34	35	5	0	0	4.39
Community consultation / engagement	35	32	6	1	0	4.36
Support for volunteers	38	26	9	1	0	4.36
Town Planning	33	35	6	0	0	4.36

Service	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very Unimportant	Weighted Average
Health administration / inspection	34	33	6	1	0	4.35
Residential land access and development	37	28	7	2	0	4.35
Maintenance - Parks and Gardens	36	28	8	2	0	4.32
Industrial land access and development	30	30	11	3	0	4.18
Environmental initiatives	26	34	13	1	0	4.15
Waste management	27	32	12	3	0	4.12
Maintenance - Other infrastructure	25	32	17	0	0	4.11
Maintenance - Footpaths	25	33	14	2	0	4.09
Tourism management	20	39	10	3	1	4.01
Regional collaboration	24	28	20	2	0	4
Pest control	19	35	18	2	0	3.96
Festival / event management	17	38	16	1	1	3.95
Building control	13	38	21	2	0	3.84
Ranger services	15	32	19	7	1	3.72

Table 12: Importance of Shire Services

9.1.4 Satisfaction with Shire Services

The community is most satisfied with the following five (5) services:

- Bush Fire Services;
- Medical Services;
- Community Consultation/ Engagement;
- Customer Service; and
- Parks and Gardens Maintenance.

The community is least satisfied with the following five (5) services:

- Roads Maintenance;
- Industrial Land Access and Development;
- Residential Land Access and Development;
- Ranger Services; and
- Regional Collaboration.

Service	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Weighted Average
Bush fire services	29	35	8	2	0	4.23
Medical services	33	25	11	5	0	4.16
Community consultation/ engagement	21	35	17	1	0	4.03
Customer service	19	40	13	2	0	4.03
Maintenance - Parks and Gardens	18	36	14	4	1	3.9
Water supply and management	10	41	22	1	0	3.81

Service	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Weighted Average
Health administration / inspection	14	29	28	2	0	3.75
Financial management	14	33	22	4	1	3.74
Economic development	9	37	26	2	0	3.72
Waste management	11	34	27	1	1	3.72
Long term planning	8	35	27	3	0	3.66
Tourism management	7	36	30	1	0	3.66
Support for volunteers	9	31	28	4	0	3.63
Environmental initiatives	8	33	30	2	1	3.61
Festival / event management	9	34	23	7	1	3.58
Maintenance - Other infrastructure	6	34	27	6	0	3.55
Building control	5	33	31	5	0	3.51
Maintenance - Footpaths	3	41	23	5	2	3.51
Town Planning	7	24	39	3	0	3.48
Pest control	5	27	38	3	0	3.47
Regional collaboration	4	26	41	2	0	3.44
Ranger services	3	25	35	8	1	3.29
Industrial land access and development	3	23	38	9	0	3.27
Residential land access and development	4	25	32	13	0	3.27
Maintenance - Roads	4	26	26	15	3	3.18

Table 13: Satisfaction with Shire Services

9.1.5 Importance of Community Support Services and Facilities

Community support services and facilities are listed in priority order below:

- Community Resource Centre;
- Youth Services/ Programs;
- Senior’s Recreation Centre;
- Community Development Fund; and
- Staying In Place Program.

Service / Facility	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very Unimportant	Weighted Average
Community Resource Centre	43	25	6	0	0	4.5
Youth services / programs	40	29	3	1	0	4.48
Senior's Recreation Centre	40	24	8	1	0	4.41
Community Development Fund	34	28	10	1	0	4.3
Staying In Place program	35	22	15	1	0	4.25

Table 14: Importance of Community Support Services and Facilities

9.2 Council and Community Identified Potential Projects

During consultation, Council and the community identified potential new projects and programs for the Shire:

- Land Release - Investigate options to make more land available for new homes and businesses in the Shire;
- Childcare Sustainability - Looking at ways to ensure long-term access to quality childcare. This may include improving existing facilities or expanding services;
- Aged Care Programs and Services - Strengthening support for older residents. This may include upgrading the Seniors Recreation Centre (e.g., building extensions, improved toilets) and advocating for more aged-care services, including additional beds within the Hospital and at Lovegrove House;
- Wongan Hills Community Park Redevelopment - Proceeding with a staged, prioritised redevelopment of the community park based on the existing concept design;
- Community Group Support - Exploring how the Shire can better support local volunteer groups to remain sustainable—for example through training, partnerships, advocacy, or access to support from external organisations;
- Facilities and Buildings Needs Assessment - A Shire-led review of all community facilities and buildings to understand how they are used, identify gaps, and determine future priorities;
- Water Management Plan - Developing a long-term plan for water use and storage across the Shire to reduce reliance on scheme and groundwater, and improve resilience;
- Main Street/ Town Revitalisation - Planning the revitalisation of the three town centres to improve appearance, accessibility, and functionality for locals and visitors. Including minor park upgrades and maintenance for Ballidu and Cadoux;
- Tourism Development - Creating a tourism development plan to strengthen local attractions such as art and heritage trails, walking trails, marketing and promotion, wildflower tourism, and cultural experiences;
- Short Stay Key Worker Accommodation - Investigate options to develop short stay key worker accommodation in partnership with private enterprise;
- Youth Development and Programs - Developing a youth focused plan to support young people in the Shire with access to education, employment, recreation, and wellbeing opportunities; and
- Economic Development - Investigating and developing an Economic Development Plan to strengthen local business activity, support small business growth, encourage “buy local” initiatives, and improve consumer awareness.

The survey asked the community to rank these in order of importance, and the projects are listed in priority order below:

Project	Ranking												Score
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Aged Care Programs and Services	18	20	12	9	4	3	0	3	3	1	0	1	9.74
Childcare Sustainability	12	18	15	8	6	5	1	1	0	2	3	3	9.09
Land Release	19	6	7	10	3	5	7	2	4	5	2	4	8.16
Community Group Support	1	5	5	15	17	7	5	6	4	3	4	2	7.19
Facilities and Buildings Needs Assessment	1	2	4	1	15	17	10	12	3	5	4	0	6.45
Wongan Hills Community Park Redevelopment	2	3	9	11	12	4	4	4	7	4	5	9	6.39

Project	Ranking												Score
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Main Street/ Town Revitalisation	4	5	6	3	3	7	8	17	8	10	0	3	6.23
Water Management Plan	2	1	4	5	2	12	17	8	7	6	2	8	5.68
Short Stay Key Worker Accommodation	5	4	4	4	2	2	7	1	9	11	16	9	4.96
Tourism Development	1	3	2	1	4	5	7	9	17	10	10	5	4.74
Economic Development	7	2	4	4	4	3	4	5	3	5	7	26	4.74
Youth Development and Programs	2	5	2	3	2	4	4	6	9	12	21	4	4.62

Table 15: Community Importance of New Identified Projects

9.3 Potential Projects for Investigation

During consultation, a number of potential projects were identified by community members as areas for investigation. The following table identifies how much the community agrees with the Shire investigating each project, in order of importance.

Project	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Weighted Average
Long vehicle / Truck / RV stops for all towns (potentially some with ablutions)	18	32	9	2	0	4.08
Small scale, locally focused events for all towns	16	30	11	3	1	3.93
Youth/ Teen events, excursions and competitions for Wongan Hills	17	24	16	2	1	3.9
Pioneer Museum building repairs and maintenance	15	30	9	4	2	3.87
Mountain bike trails for Ballidu and Wongan Hills	14	26	15	3	1	3.83
Refurbishment and/or expansion of existing public toilets for all towns	13	26	15	6	1	3.72
Enclosed dog exercise park for Wongan Hills	21	11	18	6	5	3.61
Pump Track for Wongan Hills	11	8	34	6	1	3.37
Inflatable obstacles and equipment for the Swimming Pool	8	16	28	5	3	3.35

Table 16: Importance of Potential Projects for Further Investigation

9.4 Location Specific Projects – Ballidu and Cadoux

9.4.1 Ballidu

Priorities identified by the Ballidu community were ranked by the community in the following order:

- Townscape revitalisation;
- Unsealed road maintenance;
- Land release for residential housing;
- Alpha Park upgrades; and
- Waste management.

9.4.2 Cadoux

Priorities identified by the Cadoux community were ranked by the community in the following order:

- Townscape/ verge maintenance;
- Long vehicle parking options;
- Investigate options for the old Masonic Lodge site;
- Federation Park upgrades, including covered seating, playspaces and vegetation; and
- Upgrading/ expanding Sports Centre playground.

9.5 Disability Access and Inclusion Responses

Questions 27 and 28 in the survey focused on the community’s experience with Shire access and inclusion indicators.

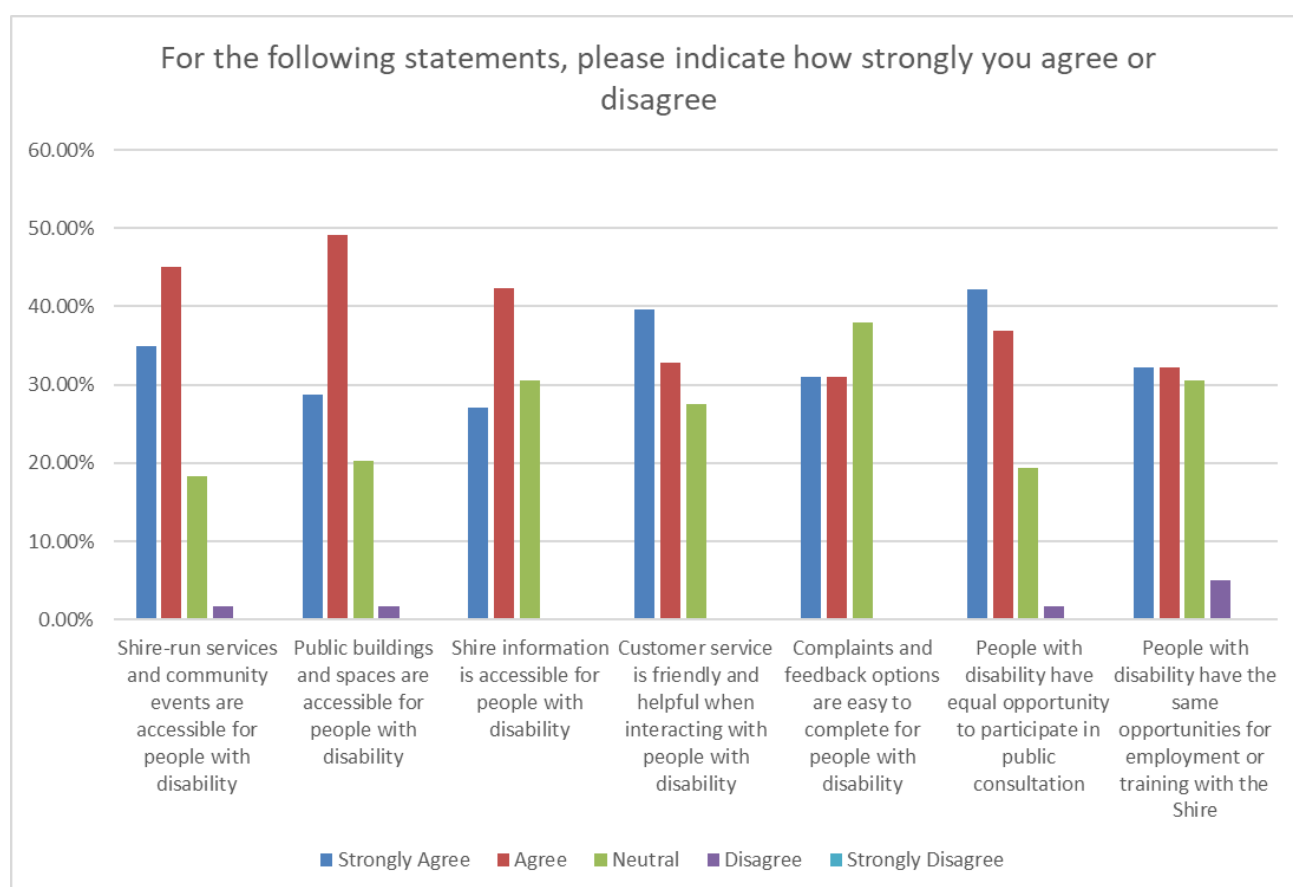


Figure 1: DAIP Responses

Open comments received to Question 28 (When considering how access and inclusion is supported by the Shire through events, facilities, information access, customer service, complaints and feedback, consultation, and employment and training, are there changes or improvements we could make to ensure those with disability have the same opportunities as others) provided the following general feedback:

- Improve access to privately owned businesses by installing ramps and rails;
- Identifying and implementing workplace adjustments for individuals with disability; and
- Increasing employment and training opportunities for those living with disability.

These actions require commitment from private enterprise within the community, and the Shire would take on an advocacy and educational role.

9.6 Overall Satisfaction with Shire Operations and Management

Question 29 asked the community to identify their level of satisfaction with the Shire across the following areas:

- Leadership;
- Governance;
- Transparency;
- Financial Management; and
- Communication and Engagement.

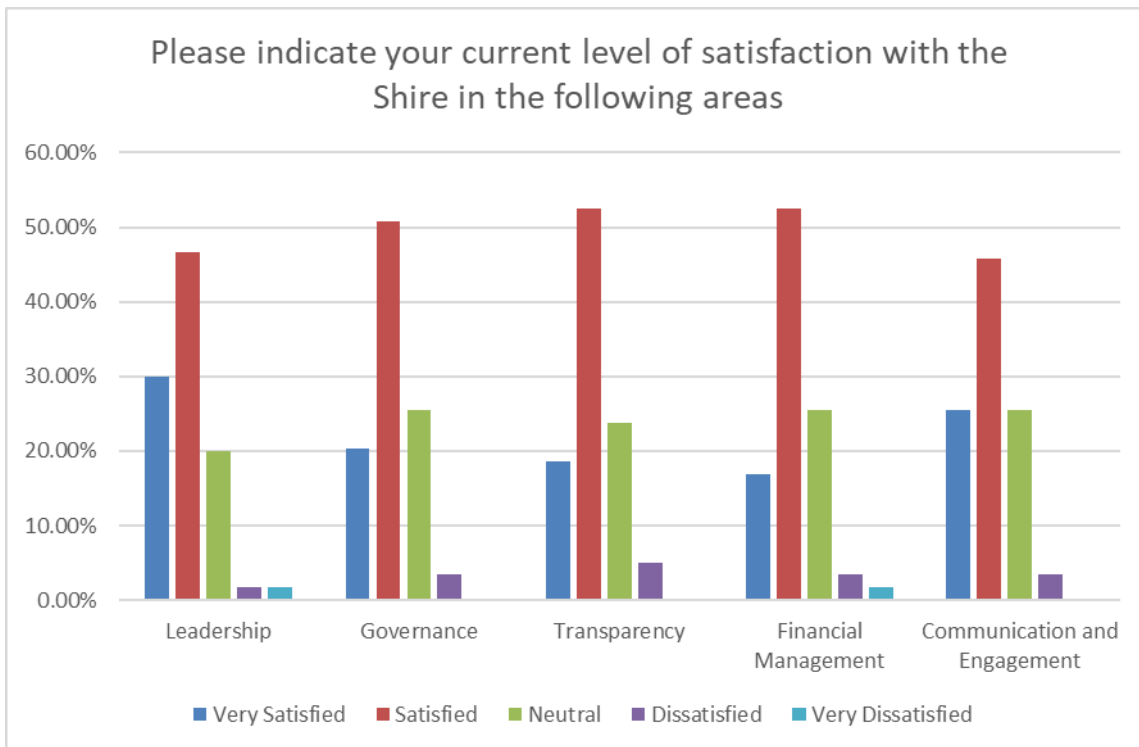


Figure 2: Satisfaction with Shire

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