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Above: Julia Jean-Rice, Shire President, and Andrea Selvey, Shire Chief Executive Officer

It is with great pride that I present the Shire of Augusta Margaret River's Strategic Community Plan 2025-35. This plan is the result of years of community conversations, deep listening and collective visioning. It reflects the hopes, values and aspirations of the people who live, work and care for this remarkable part of the world.

Council is proud to endorse this plan, which serves as a guiding framework for the future of our shire. It sets out a clear direction that balances environmental stewardship, social wellbeing, cultural richness and economic resilience.

Thousands of people have contributed to the development of this plan through community workshops, sector conversations, written submissions, online consultation and project-specific engagement over many years. We thank everyone who took the time to participate, and in particular the members of our local Reference Group who brought expertise, passion and lived experience to the table.

Throughout the process, we heard a strong and consistent call to protect and restore the natural environment. We also heard from our agricultural community, who shared their desire to be better understood, recognised and supported as stewards of the land. These voices, among many others, have shaped a plan that we believe truly reflects the diverse character and shared values of our community.

At the heart of this document is a new Vision Statement, one that captures the spirit of the region and our collective commitment to a thriving future, "One community, standing together with nature."

This is a bold and hopeful vision, and we are excited about the path ahead. The Strategic Community Plan will guide our decisions and actions over the coming years, ensuring that our community continues to flourish while staying true to what matters most.

We invite you to explore the plan, reflect on the goals we have set together, and join us in making this vision a reality. Thank you for your continued commitment to our region and community.

Julia Jean-Rice

Shire President, Shire of Augusta Margaret River

# Foreword

Since our last Strategic Community Plan was adopted four years ago, our Shire has experienced significant change. We've heard from many in our community about the pressures of population growth on housing, the environment, local services and infrastructure, and the need for services that better reflect the realities of our changing population. We've also heard a clear desire for more listening opportunities and stronger connections between the Shire and the people we serve.

This plan has been shaped through those conversations. It reflects our shared hopes for the future and our commitment to looking after our place and one another. What makes our community special is twofold: what we have in common, and the diversity of perspectives and experiences that strengthen us. Whether you're here for lifestyle, work, business, culture or connection to nature, there is a shared belief that this region is something worth protecting and investing in.

The plan is built around three key community focus areas, identified through your feedback and grounded in what matters most to our people. These focus areas include clear outcomes, measures of progress, and examples of what success could look like. Supporting these are a set of guiding principles, our promise to work with integrity, transparency and in partnership with our community.

The Shire plays many roles. Sometimes we lead and deliver directly. Sometimes we advocate, partner, or regulate. It's our job to deliver on community priorities while balancing the realities of budgets, legislation, workforce capacity and the delivery of essential everyday services - roads, waste management, libraries, parks, arts, events, rangers. The list is long and diverse, reflecting the breadth of what we do.

Through this plan, we are making some clear commitments: to strengthen community connection and wellbeing, to protect and restore our natural environment, to plan for sustainable growth, and to act responsibly for the future.

We are optimistic about the path ahead. This Strategic Community Plan offers a strong foundation for collective action, grounded in shared values, meaningful engagement, and a vision we can all stand behind.

Thank you to everyone who shared their insights, experiences, and ideas. We look forward to delivering this plan with you and for you.

**Andrea Selvey** 

Chief Executive Officer, Shire of August Margaret River







Above: Elected members of Council

# **Together Towards 2035**

This Strategic Community Plan is our rallying call to our community, who on so many levels have been instrumental in contributing to what we present here.

This plan is the result of community consultations involving more than 3,200 residents, surveys online and workshops in person, expert insights, Council consultations, and collaborative sessions with our Reference Group who generously gave their time to ensure this Strategic Community Plan focuses on the right things, is achievable and uniquely ours.



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This plan is the result of community consultations involving more than 3,200 residents, surveys online and workshops in person, expert insights, Council consultations, and collaborative sessions with our Reference Group who generously gave their time to ensure this Strategic Community Plan focuses on the right things, is achievable and uniquely ours.

There are three focus areas that all of this information gathered fits into. In the following sections we dive deeper into how we will:

- 1. Care for our natural environment
- 2. Manage our built environment
- 3. Look after our growing community

We'll discuss what you, our community, has told us, share key trends that will impact us over the next 10 years, and how we plan to respond.

We'll go deeper into the practicalities of bringing this plan to life, including how we will work as an organisation as we set our sights on the future.

**Our journey** 

**Previous Strategic Community Plan** 

> Community consultations

> > Perception survey

**Discussion Paper** community feedback

**Reference Group** 

consultation

Community workshops

**Draft Strategic Community Plan** community feedback

consultation

Launch Strategic **Community Plan** 2025-35

September 2021

Feb-Mar 2025

Above: Community members at Augusta and Margaret River engagement workshops

2021-2025

2023

consultation Council

Trends analysis

Reference Group consultation

Council

June 2025

**July 2025** 



- Arts Margaret River
- Augusta Community Resource Centre
- Creative Corner
- Department of Education, Western Australia
- Headspace
- Lower Blackwood LCDC
- Lower South West Growers Group
- Margaret River Business Network
- Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association
- Margaret River Community Centre
- Margaret River Environment Centre
- Margaret River Regional Producers Association
- Margaret River Wine Association
- Mindful Margaret River
- Nature Conservation Margaret River

## **Our place**

Nestled in the heart of Western Australia's South West, the Shire of Augusta Margaret River is a place of extraordinary natural beauty and cultural richness. Framed by ancient forests, dramatic coastlines and worldrenowned surf, our region is celebrated for its natural environment and vibrant biodiversity.

Home to a welcoming and diverse community, it offers a highly desirable lifestyle shaped by creativity, sustainability, and connection to nature. From our world-renowned winemakers and fresh food producers to our thriving arts scene and unique heritage, the Shire is as inspiring to visit as it is to live in where every corner tells a story and every season brings something new.



Average age



50/50

% male/female split



1.4%

First Nations people



22.5%

Born overseas



23%

Live in rental homes



24%

Volunteer



12%

Work in accommodation and food services



Wine

Most valuable export



1 in 5

People on holiday in the region on any given day

8



56%

Completed year 12 education or equivalent



8%

Youth disengagement with education and employment



Milk

Most valuable agricultural export



Cowaramup 2,889

**Population** (2024)19,410

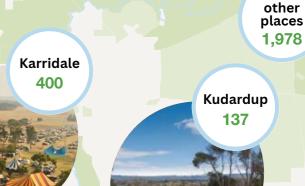
Projected population (2035) 27,665













**Scott River** region **52** 











From agriculture to windsurfing, our community is deeply connected to and defined by the natural environment that binds us together.

It's more than where we live, it's who we are.









There are many facilities across the shire that our community and visitors make use of. There are over 600 of these assets that require Shire staff to regularly inspect and maintain.



**Parks** 

Reserves

Dog

exercise

areas

**Animal** management 1

facilities

**Sports** fields and ovals

facilities

Sports club facilities

Recreation

centres

A CANADA

Arts and culture centres

Libraries

Community halls

Holiday parks

Admin buildings

boat ramps

© Car parks

**☐** Bridges

Sealed roads

609

km

Playgrounds

Aero-

dromes

Amenity blocks





Storage sheds

Unsealed

roads

49

km



Cemeteries



Paths and 175 trails

#### Did you know?

#### **Our services**

We provide a range of services that directly or indirectly contribute towards achieving the outcomes described in our Strategic Community Plan.

	Caring for our natural environment	Managing our built environment	Looking after our growing community	Shire support functions
Administration				
Arts & Economic Development				
Asset Services				
Communications				
Community Building Maintenance				
Community Development & Resilience				
Community Emergency Services				
Corporate Planning and Reporting				
Customer Services				
Environment and Landcare				
Environmental Health				
Finance				
HEART Support				
Holiday Parks				
Information and Systems				
Legal and Governance				
Libraries				
Outside School Hours Care				
Parks and Gardens				
People, Culture and Safety				
Planning, Building and Development				
Rangers				
Sport and Recreation Services				
Waste	•			
Works, Construction and Technical	•	•		

Support functions support all focus area outcomes.





#### Above: Western Pygmy Possum

# What we heard from our community

From agriculture to windsurfing, our community is deeply connected to and defined by the natural environment that binds us together - it's more than where we live, it's who we are. We strongly believe that nature underpins our lives, and when nature thrives, we thrive.

There is continuing demand to not only preserve our precious bushland, waterways and coastal areas, but to restore and revegetate where possible, paying special attention to wildlife corridors and management of non-native and invasive species. This also extends to our marine environment, with a call to better protect ocean health and marine biodiversity as part of our broader commitment to environmental stewardship.

Many expressed concerns about habitat loss and environmental pressures stemming from changes in land use, and a desire to ensure all residents are

# Caring for our natural environment



encouraged to share the environmental values of the region, whether through education campaigns or strong planning rules.

There are calls to mitigate climate and bushfire risks, but also a concern with the environmental impacts of bushfire prevention and large-scale renewable energy projects. There is a need to carefully consider how we manage these, drawing on Indigenous practices where appropriate.

Your voices reflect a deep commitment to protecting our special home, and we all have a role to play to keep it that way.

## Key trends

that will impact our lives in the region over the next 10 years.



Climate change is affecting our shire, including a 20% decline in rainfall since the 1970s. A further decrease of 15% is forecast by 2030.



Tourist behaviour is changing, with visitors keen to get 'off the beaten track' and deeper into nature.



Disease and pest pressures such as Marri canker, dieback and polyphagous shot-hole borer are threatening our unique biodiversity.



Busselton Margaret River Airport could see increased visitation from the newly announced Perth route, joining the two interstate routes introduced over the past three years.



Precious and iconic animals are under threat, with the Western Ringtail Possum, Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo, and Hairy Marron amongst the 13 locally listed Critically Endangered animals.

# What this means for our region

Our natural environment is facing increasing pressures, both from direct environmental changes and our own activities. In fact, Australia has lost more biodiversity than any other continent over the last 200 years. Climate change is already altering local ecosystems through declining rainfall, rising fire risks and the need for intensified bushfire mitigation measures, which can themselves impact

Population growth is amplifying these pressures, leading to habitat loss, increased groundwater extraction and further strain on biodiversity. The Shire doesn't control how many people move to the region, but through our planning framework we aim to positively influence how growth is managed to achieve the best social and environmental outcomes.

Our region is becoming more accessible. A large share of our visitors come from Perth, so as Perth's population grows, so too does tourism in our region. New flight routes open additional tourism markets, bringing economic opportunities along with potential environmental risks, particularly around biosecurity for our natural environment and agricultural sectors.

The community's concerns underscore a strong desire for leadership in addressing these challenges, ensuring that growth does not come at the cost of the region's natural beauty and ecological integrity.

While much of the region's natural environment is managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), we can play an important role in managing our own reserves, advocating for adequate funding of our National Parks, partnering with conservation groups and landowners for on-ground works, regulating and enforcing sensitive use of land, and funding natural resource management efforts.

Below: Boranup Forest



#### **Community feedback**

We must protect our natural environment and landscape character. It is difficult, if not impossible, to recover once destroyed.

# Caring for our natural environment

Where we want to be In 2035...



Natural landscapes are protected and managed to preserve and restore their biodiversity and cultural values.

New development is concentrated within clearly defined areas to avoid impacts on remaining farmland and ecosystems.

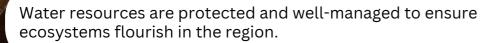


Waste is minimised with a focus on keeping resources in circulation.

The Shire and community are committed to climate action, reducing carbon emissions and achieving net zero.



Industry, government, community and visitors understand, respect, and steward the environment.





Strong community partnerships support environmental initiatives and projects.

## How we'll get there

Achieving these outcomes requires reliable research and planning to guide our actions. This planning is undertaken through issuespecific strategies and plans that help us care for our natural environment, such as:

- Local Biodiversity Strategy (draft)
- Climate Action Plan
- Climate Adaptation Plan
- Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan

Our plans describe what actions we'll take, including what we provide directly, how we partner with other groups to deliver, what we regulate, and how we advocate to other tiers of government for more support. To dive a little deeper read the **Outcomes in Action** section on page 38.

These are only some of the plans used to guide our work. Check out our website at amrshire.wa.gov.au to view and download a range of these important documents.

#### What we'll measure



Quantity and quality of local natural areas



Amount of waste diverted from landfill



Net emissions across Shire and community



Water availability for ecosystems



# **Project spotlight**

# Protecting and managing the Wadandi Track The Shire's efforts in weed control and revegetation have enhanced a strategic ecological linkage along the Wadandi Track not only for our human residents but

Wadandi Track not only for our human residents but for a host of local species, too. With over 6250m² of revegetation so far, we have been creating habitat and foraging opportunities for our precious black cockatoos.

Approximately 2,000 native seedlings have gone in the ground so far, and an additional 1.5kg of local native seed has been direct seeded. This is just one of many strategic revegetation projects throughout the shire.





Above: Riflebutts accessible playground

# What we heard from our community

As more people are drawn to the lifestyle offered here, we're starting to feel the strain on the places and spaces that define how we live. Our community is concerned about the rapid pace of new development, and it's impact on our natural environment and unique local identity. At the same time, we've heard the lack of affordable housing is affecting an increasing number of long-time locals.

As our region grows, so too does the need to improve roads and pathways for cars, cyclists, pedestrians and those who rely on mobility aids. We heard that smaller townsites, like Witchcliffe, need special consideration to improve liveability and reduce the need to drive to more developed towns such as Margaret River. In addition, the lack of public transport continues to be a challenge for those unable to drive, and agricultural communities are calling for better infrastructure, such as quality

# Managing our built environment



roads and telecommunications towers, to ensure they stay connected to the wider community.

With more people calling this region home, our public spaces are under pressure. There are calls for better playgrounds, car parks, dog exercise areas, versatile community venues and outdoor courts to support growing interest in sport. At the same time, the community is clear that new investment must not come at the cost of maintaining the well-used facilities we already have.

Balancing growth with sustainability, accessibility and liveability is a shared priority. The challenge ahead is ensuring that as our region and each townsite grows, our infrastructure and public spaces reflect the needs of all who live and visit here, keeping it safe, connected and welcoming for generations to come.

# Key trends

that will impact our lives in the region over the next 10 years.



The cost of construction is 31% higher than pre-pandemic levels.



Decreasing control by local government of planning decisions in favour of state government centralisation.



Median house rental prices are increasing, going from \$420 per week in 2020 to \$740 per week in 2025



Popularity in sports and recreation is growing, with significant increases in basketball, hockey and in overall female participation in organised sports.



Library use is rapidly growing as people seek out air-conditioned work and study options.

# What this means for our region

Our built environment is under growing pressure from both environmental and social changes. Rising costs of materials and labour is hindering our ability to maintain existing assets, further compounded by the availability of skilled tradespeople across the region. In addition, as planning decisions become more centralised at the state level, ensuring our townsites retain their unique character will be increasingly challenging.

Climate change is predicted to impact roads, buildings and public spaces through storm damage, bushfires and extreme heat, increasing the cost and urgency of maintaining critical infrastructure. Demographic shifts are also reshaping community needs. An ageing population requires more

accessible infrastructure and services, while the rise in numbers of children and youth is increasing demand for family-friendly spaces and targeted youth services.

Steadily increasing house and rental prices and lack of available and suitable, affordable housing, will continue to affect our most vulnerable community members and requires special attention to ensure no-one in our community is left behind.

These trends highlight the need for careful longterm planning to ensure that our built environment remains safe, functional and sustainable, balancing growth with current financial realities so that future generations can continue to enjoy the amenity these facilities provide.

Below: Old Augusta Jetty



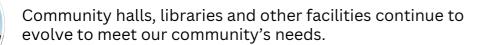
#### Community feedback

Development needs to be managed so that it supports non-car-based travel. So many developments are out of town meaning that families are restricted to car travel to reach schools and shops.

# Where we want to be In 2035...

Townsites develop in a manner that retains their unique identity and encourages community connection, safety and vibrancy.

Active lifestyles are supported through a range of facilities, sports and recreation opportunities and public open space.



A well-connected network of paths, cycle trails, roads and transport options allows safe movement through and between townsites.

Residents and seasonal workers have access to a diverse range of housing options that meet their needs and budgets.

Our built environment is functional, sustainable, accessible, safe, and sympathetic to the surrounds.

## How we'll get there

Delivering on these outcomes relies on well-informed decision-making. Through strategies and plans focused on managing growth, we shape a built environment that meets our community's evolving needs, such as:

- Local Planning Strategy
- Local Planning Scheme
- Leisure Plan
- Public Open Space Strategy
- Asset Management Plan

Our plans describe what actions we'll take, including what we provide directly, how we partner with other groups to deliver, what we regulate, and how we advocate to other tiers of government for more support. To dive a little deeper read the **Outcomes in Action** section on page 42.

These are only some of the plans used to guide our work. Check out our website at amrshire.wa.gov.au to view and download a range of these important documents, including specific character studies and design guidelines to help retain townsite character.

#### What we'll measure



Local pride in townsites



Affordability of housing



Ease of residents in getting around



Satisfaction with community facilities



# Project spotlight

#### Gloucester Park Clubhouse Upgrade

Built in 1984, the Gloucester Park clubhouse supports soccer, cricket and rugby, but lacks inclusive and accessible facilities. With growing female participation in sport, the upgrade will deliver new, gender-inclusive changerooms, accessible entry and connection to the town sewer system.

A new viewing deck will provide sightlines to the Lower Western Oval, improving the spectator experience and supporting future community sporting needs.





# Looking after our growing co



# MARGS YOUTH CELL ECTIVE

**Above**: Margs Youth Collective

# What we heard from our community

We've talked about the natural and built environment, now it's time to talk about our community, the people, that make it special.

There is a strong desire to maintain our values of being a fair and inclusive place, where no-one is left behind, however homelessness and mental health challenges are affecting our most vulnerable community members.

There is concern over how fast we are growing. Strains are showing on local services that many of us rely on, such as childcare, aged care, recreation spaces, high schools and libraries, where demand is outpacing capacity. Augusta is home to an older demographic, and there are calls for greater support that allows people to remain at home or find suitable care facilities.

There is also a concern about the impact of rapid growth on our community connections, values and

heritage, with farmers in particular calling for greater recognition and support for their role in the community.

The need for locally accessible mental health and social support services, diverse employment opportunities and meaningful representation, particularly for agricultural communities and First Nations Wadandi people, reflects a community striving to be equitable for all.

Building upon our strong sustainability reputation, we've heard the economy needs to evolve and diversify, supporting small businesses to thrive and grow, creating training and employment for young people.

Across the shire the message is clear. As we grow, we must ensure that community wellbeing remains at the heart of decision-making, strengthening our sense of place and belonging for those here now, and generations yet to come.

# Key trends

that will impact our lives in the region over the next 10 years.



The local population is increasing 3.5% year-on-year, placing us within the 20 fastest growing local government areas in the country, and is expected to grow a further 35% by 2035.



Health and social services are being centralised in Bunbury.



The number of retirees and seniors is growing faster than any other demographic.



Real wages are 4.8% lower than before COVID and grew for the first time in 2024.



Adoption of AI is increasing in business, with 35% adopting AI as part of operations.

# What this means

# for our region

We live in a desirable area, that's a big positive that has drawn many of us here over the years. As our population continues to grow, so will the demand for essential services local families rely on, like childcare, aged care and recreational spaces. A culture of volunteering will continue to play an important role in bringing our community together through the arts, recreation, events, conservation initiatives and emergency services.

The growth in people living and visiting over the next 10 years will bring challenges in managing bushfire risks, road safety, animal-related incidents and risks to public health.

New technology and increasing shifts to online services highlights the need for digital connectivity, particularly in more remote areas.

There is a need to balance growth that complements our strong economy with pathways to training, stable employment and fulfilling careers for locals in alternative sectors, particularly for young people.

To maintain a fair and inclusive community, we need equitable housing solutions, meaningful representation for all and for community services to be available locally.

Below: Readers & Writers Festival



#### **Community feedback**

The ageing population needs more support and access to specialists without driving to Bunbury or Perth, maybe more aged care facilities.

# Looking after our

# growing community

Where we want to be In 2035...



Our healthcare, childcare, aged care and education services are well-resourced and responsive to the needs of a growing and ageing population.

Young people feel valued, empowered and engaged, and have good opportunities for building a future here.



Our community's wellbeing is supported by a variety of services, programs and community groups that build strength and connection.

Farmers and local businesses feel valued and can thrive in a supportive economic and regulatory environment that acknowledges our responsibilities to future generations.



We are welcoming and inclusive to all, regardless of background and ability, and our multicultural community is enriched by Wadandi Pibelmen culture and knowledge.

The health, safety and resilience of our communities is supported through a coordinated approach of risk management, response and recovery.



Our vibrant arts and events showcase and celebrate our unique identity, bring public spaces to life, and create meaningful experiences for all.

## How we'll get there

To reach these outcomes, we depend on evidence-based planning and a clear understanding of community needs. Our approach includes strategies and plans that support the health, safety, and wellbeing of our community, such as:

- Public Health Plan
- Access and Inclusion Plan
- Jenna Yen Mundamung (Walking Together) Strategy
- Strengthening Community Capacity Plan
- Empowering Youth Plan
- Age Friendly Community Plan
- Bushfire Risk Management Plan

Our plans describe what actions we'll take, including what we provide directly, how we partner with other groups to deliver, what we regulate, and how we advocate to other tiers of government for more support. To dive a little deeper read the **Outcomes in Action** section on page 46.

These are only some of the plans used to guide our work. Check out our website at amrshire.wa.gov.au to view and download a range of these important documents.

#### What we'll measure



Timely and fit-for-purpose access to support services



Levels of business success



Residents' sense of belonging



Community resilience



# **Project spotlight**



#### **Advocacy Committee**

Following the 2023 Community Perception Survey, Council established the Advocacy Committee to lead focused and transparent advocacy efforts aligned with community values.

The Committee identifies key priorities and engages with all levels of government, partners and the community to drive outcomes that support wellbeing, resilience and environmental protection. It ensures local voices are heard and reinforces the Shire's commitment to long-term regional benefit.



#### How we work

Before we take a look at what we do at the Shire, we'd like to share how we work effectively as an organisation. The statements below describe how we will work to deliver the outcomes presented in this document.



#### **Community-first mindset**

responsibility of all staff.



#### **Effective communication**

Our communication reflects integrity, care, and a commitment to building enduring relationships with our community.



#### W3 Inclusive engagement

We actively listen, engage and collaborate with our whole community to better understand all perspectives to inform our decision-making.



#### Ethical leadership

We demonstrate ethical leadership at all levels in our organisation, making decisions in an open, transparent and accountable way.



#### **Bold thinking**

We embrace a courageous mindset to meet the unique challenges of our times, pursuing bold and creative ideas for a sustainable future.



#### Financial responsibility

We manage our finances responsibly, investing in services and assets that deliver sustainable, long-term value for now and the future.



#### High performing staff

We provide a supportive, empowering and safe environment that encourages Council and staff to deliver to their best potential.



### Continuous improvement

We ensure our processes, systems and services are fit-for-purpose and

# Supporting plans

As with each of the focus areas, there are a number of important plans that support the overall efforts of the organisation:

- Customer Experience Strategy
- Long Term Financial Plan
- Workforce Plan
- Overarching Sustainability Policy

You can read more on our website at amrshire.wa.gov.au

#### What we'll measure



Satisfaction with Shire interactions



Community participation in Shire consultations



Community levels of trust in Shire

# How it all fits together

Our Strategic Community Plan was created in collaboration with our community, Shire staff, Council and Reference Group (see page 6), and in line with the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework. It sets out our vision for where we want to be in the future across three focus areas, each including desired outcomes, measures and examples of intended actions.

For further details on our actions, please refer to the Corporate Business Plan and informing documents found at amrshire.wa.gov.au

10 years

#### Strategic Community Plan

**Corporate Business Plan** 

How we will work towards achieving the Strategic Community Plan priorities

The community's vision and priorities



Informing documents:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Asset Management Plan
- Workforce Plan
- Local Planning Strategy
- Internal and external issue-specific plans and documents

We monitor the success of the Strategic Community Plan through:

- Quarterly reporting
- Annual Reports
- Tri-yearly Community **Perception Survey**



years

#### **Annual Budget**

Our budget for the year



evolve to meet the diverse needs of all who use them.

## Let's talk money

About two-thirds of our money comes from rates. The rest comes from fees for services (like gym memberships and Yiradjinda holiday park bookings) and grants we secure from the state and federal government.

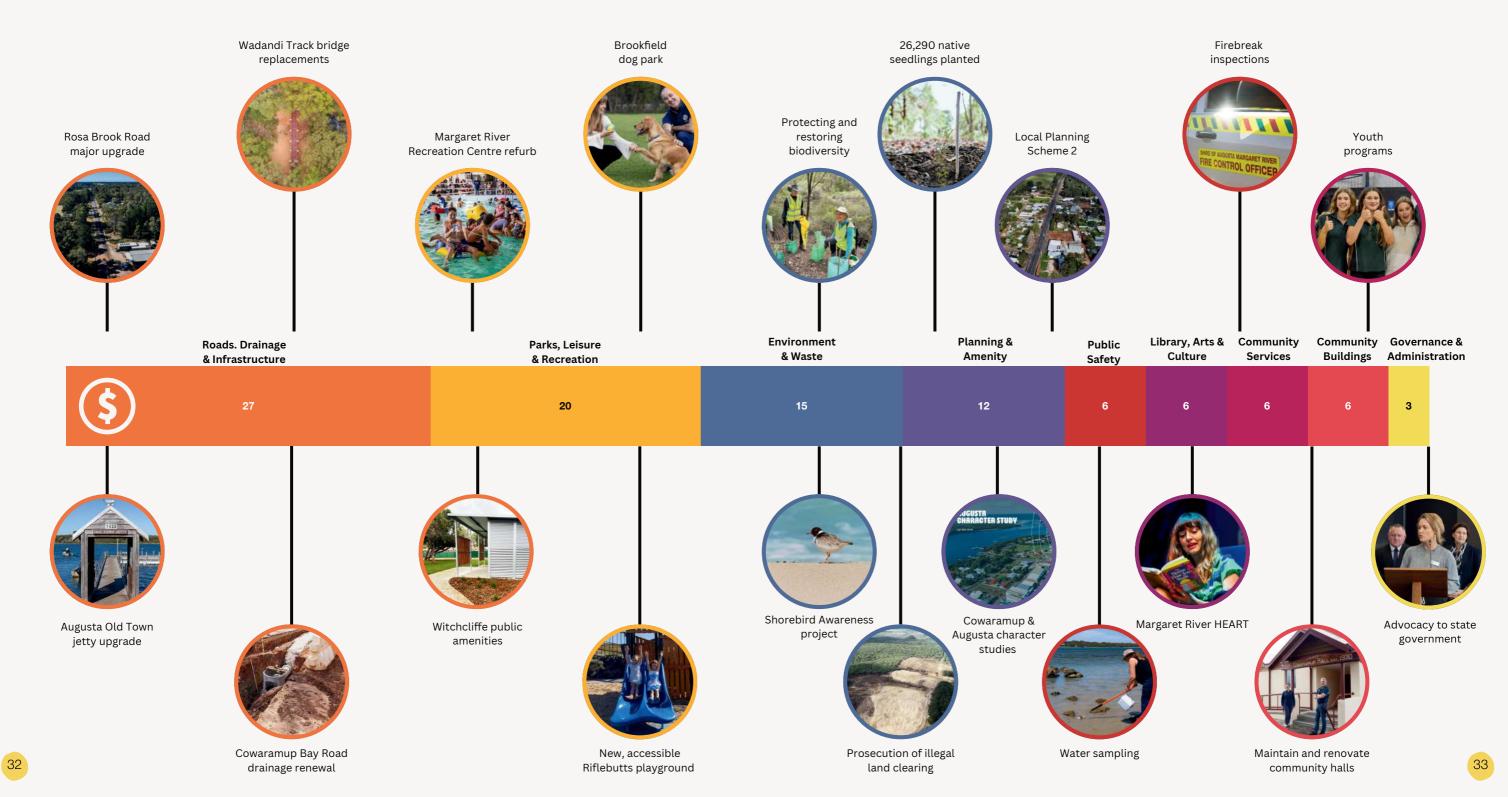
The chart below shows the range of services a typical \$100 in our budget covers, from maintaining and upgrading physical assets such as roads to running community services such as libraries and events for youth.

This diverse spread of work supports much of what makes our home special and illustrates the challenges we face when allocating time, money and resources to make them happen. We often need to make trade-offs between doing one thing or another.

You can find a full breakdown of our annual budget at amrshire.wa.gov.au/budget

The projects and services shown here highlight just some of the work we've done based on our last Strategic Community Plan.

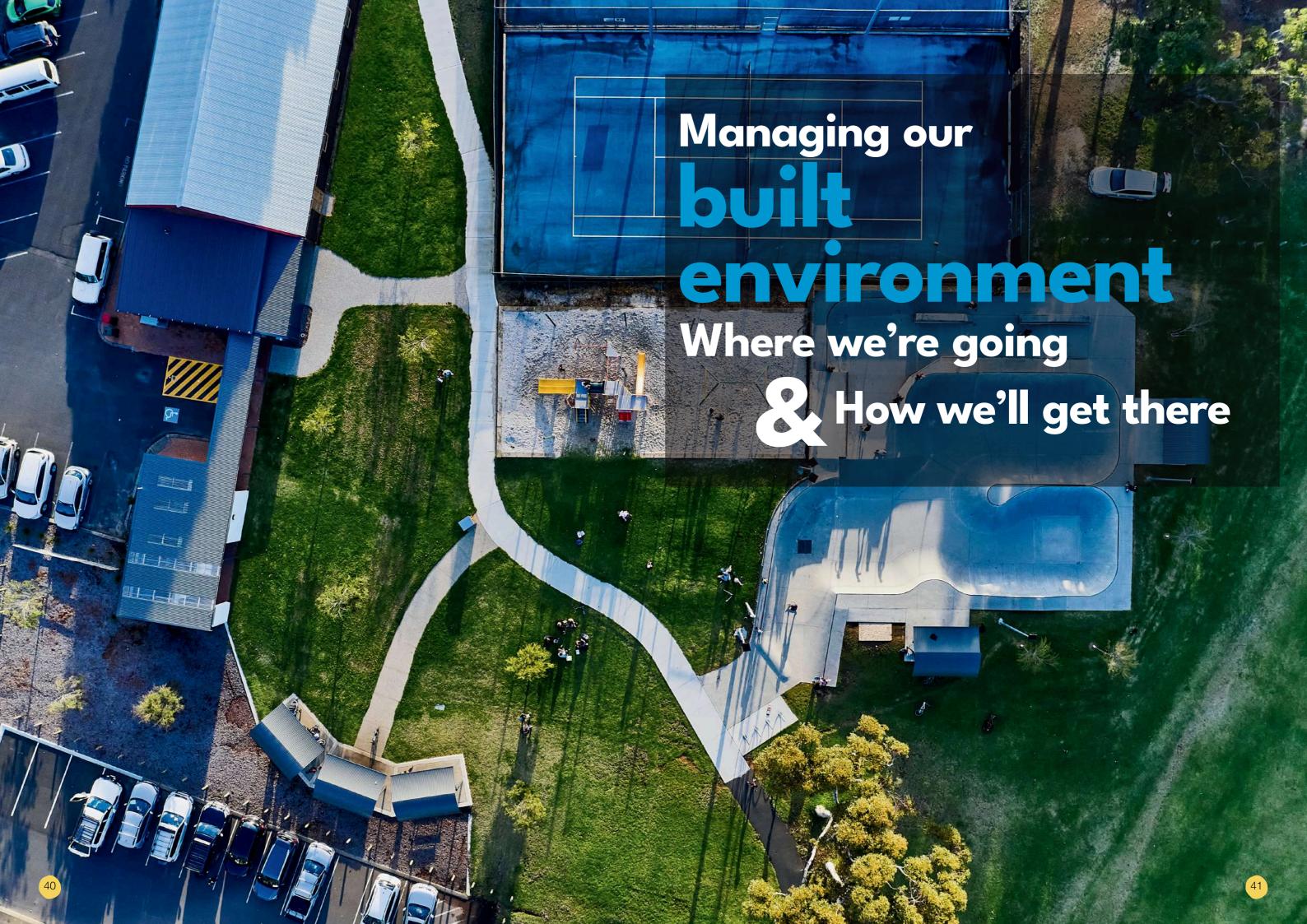
If you want to see the full list, check out our previous Corporate Business Plans and Annual Reports at amrshire.wa.gov.au/reports







		We will provide	We will regulate	We will partner	We will advocate
Lin	2035	Secretary Parameters			
E1	Natural landscapes are protected and managed to preserve and restore their biodiversity and cultural values.	Weed control and revegetation efforts, along with educational signage and infrastructure to safeguard our nature reserves.	By enforcing local laws designed to minimise the ecological impact of new developments, sediment runoff into waterways, and illegal land clearing.	With local landcare organisations, volunteers and 'Friends of' groups to share knowledge, and provide resources and funding for onground works.	For increased support from state government to manage visitation impacts on our environment and National Parks.
E2	New development is concentrated within clearly defined areas to avoid impacts on remaining farmland and ecosystems.		All new development applications in line with our Local Planning Scheme and Strategy, encouraging infill development in existing urban areas.		For greater ability to make planning decisions at a local level.
E3	Waste is minimised with a focus on keeping resources in circulation.	Community facilities and services that support responsible disposal and recovery of waste products.		With other local governments and state government authorities to deliver programs aimed at achieving a sustainable, lowwaste, circular economy.	For additional investment from state government to support the waste management needs of our growing community.
<b>E</b> 4	The Shire and community are committed to climate action, reducing carbon emissions and achieving net zero.	Renewable energy upgrades to Shire facilities, equipment and fleet, and education to assist the community to also transition to lower carbon energy sources.	Applications for renewable energy projects to maximise benefits to locals and minimise risks to our environment.	With community groups to promote sustainability and encourage low impact living.	For a stronger position and accountability on climate change at the state and federal level, and for investment into additional infrastructure to support our renewable energy needs.
<b>E5</b>	Industry, government, community and visitors understand, respect and steward the environment.	Education and information via signage, our website and social media to build awareness about how we all play an important role in preserving our region's unique landscape.	Via local laws and other government regulations to mitigate damage to our environment from illegal camping, dumping and other risks to flora and fauna.	With conservation, tourism and other local organisations to create a 'culture of care' for the environment.	For funding to manage impacts of our growing residential and visitor numbers on sensitive areas.
<b>E</b> 6	Water resources are protected and well-managed to ensure ecosystems flourish in the region.	A recycled water scheme, utilising treated wastewater for irrigation on our reserves.	By imposing development conditions that protect our waterways, and encourage waterwise parks and gardens.	With landcare and volunteer groups to protect and restore our waterways, and with the relevant authorities to expand our recycled water network.	For focused attention from state government authorities on future water security in this drying region.
E7	Strong community partnerships support environmental initiatives and projects.	Grant funding, equipment and expertise to build capacity in local environmental groups.	3 S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	With local 'Friends of' groups, providing assistance in grant applications, and involvement in large collaborative projects including hands-on work alongside Wadandi Cultural Custodians.	



	n 2035	We will provide	We will regulate	We will partner	We will advocate
B1	Townsites develop in a manner that retains their unique identity and encourages community connection, safety and vibrancy.	Upgrades to townsites and public spaces that emphasise what makes them special, including street furniture, landscaping and pathways.	Through character studies and place plans that encourage best possible outcomes.	With community members to seek input and feedback on new infrastructure plans such as playgrounds.	To the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) for greater input into local decision making and to improve local planning outcomes.
B2	Active lifestyles are supported through a range of facilities, sports and recreation opportunities and public open space.	A variety of high quality, bookable spaces that support individual, team, competitive and casual sports and leisure pursuits.		With state government, sporting associations, local clubs and businesses to build opportunities for sports participation.	
B3	Community halls, libraries and other facilities continue to evolve to meet our community's needs.	Functional spaces and supportive staff to build the capacity and wellbeing of our community, maintaining and renewing existing assets before building new ones.		With community groups to activate these spaces with programs, events and initiatives to meet community needs.	For greater financial assistance as a tourism destination to maintain the assets used by both community and visitors.
B4	A well-connected network of paths, cycle trails, roads and transport options allows safe movement through and between townsites.	Maintenance of existing roads and paths, and connection of missing pathways.		With RAC on a Safer Speeds Trial to improve road safety, and with local clubs and organisations to improve management of our trail network.	To the Department of Transport for additional funding to support infrastructure and public transport services.
B5	Residents and seasonal workers have access to a diverse range of housing options that meet their needs and budgets.		Short-stay accommodation to keep homes available for residents, and implement a planning framework that supports a range of housing types reflective of community needs.	With community groups to support better outcomes for community members experiencing homelessness.	To state government to intervene around homelessness and support construction of social housing.
B6	Our built environment is functional, sustainable, accessible, safe, and sympathetic to the surrounds.	Accessible, well-maintained community facilities that are easy-to-use, fit-for-purpose and adapt to our ageing population.	By enforcing standards of construction.	With landscaping, design and development professionals to share knowledge through robust design review processes.	



	We will provide	We will regulate	We will partner	We will advocate
In 2035			V	V PANE
Our healthcare, childcare, aged care and education services are well-resourced and responsive to the needs of a growing and ageing population.	A crèche and outside school hours care to support access to sports and recreation facilities for all.		With community organisations and service providers to support vulnerable members of our community.	To state government to adequately resource and locate services where most needed in our shire.
Young people feel valued, empowered and engaged, and have good opportunities for building a future here.	Traineeships, job and volunteering opportunities for young people, vibrant Youth Precincts, and range of inclusive youth events, programs and services.		With young people and youth experts to best understand their needs and challenges, and how we can support them.	
Our community's wellbeing is supported by a variety of services, programs and community groups that build strength and connection.	Library services, community events and townsite activations, workshops, training and support for local groups and volunteers.		With community groups, volunteers and training organisations to build capacity, provide grant funding, and collaborate on projects.	For additional state government investment in our local not-for-profit providing essential community support services.
Farmers and local businesses feel valued and can thrive in a supportive economic and regulatory environment that acknowledges our responsibilities to future generations.		On behalf of other tiers of government as well as our own local laws in a way that is clear, navigable and streamlined wherever possible.	With local industry groups, including through grant funding, to support farmers and local businesses and improve outcomes for the economy, environment and community.	To other levels of government to create a supportive environment for agriculture and small businesses to succeed in their vital role supporting our community and ensuring food security.
We are welcoming and inclusive to all, regardless of background and ability, and our multicultural community is enriched by Wadandi Pibelmen culture and knowledge.	Accessible facilities, acknowledgement of our local indigenous heritage, and inclusive events, training, services and information for the community.	Standards of construction to ensure it complies with national guidelines and meets disability requirements.	With Cultural Custodians, service providers and community groups to support diverse needs and cultural backgrounds.	Locally for the inclusion of minority groups as an integral part of our community.
The health, safety and resilience of our communities is supported through a coordinated approach of risk management, response and recovery.	Emergency management planning, environmental health inspections, evacuation centres and community recovery in the event of a disaster.	Ensuring compliance with events and commercial activity permits, fire permits and firebreaks, and other rules that safeguard public safety.	With multiple emergency services and government departments to ensure our community stays safe.	For greater state government support in local disaster preparedness.
Our vibrant arts and events showcase and celebrate our unique identity, bring public spaces to life, and create meaningful experiences for all.	Grants funding and promotional support for both major and community-led events, and direct funding, technical and production support to the Margaret River HEART (Nala Bardip Mia).	Fair use of public open spaces through events permits.	With local community and industry groups to deliver high-quality events, programs and initiatives that celebrate and reflect the unique values of our region.	





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