



Chief Executive Officer Attachments
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
Wednesday 20 February 2019

REPORT NUMBER	REPORT TITLE AND ATTACHMENT DESCRIPTION	PAGE NUMBER(S)
9.4.1	John Glenn Skate and BMX Park Concept Plan 1. John Glenn Park Skate & BMX Development prepared by Three Chillies Trail Design	1 - 12
9.4.2	Community Health and Wellbeing Needs Consultation 1. Shire of Chittering Community Health and Wellbeing Needs Consultation Report prepared by Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA	13 - 32

CONCEPT PLAN JOHN GLENN PARK SKATE & BMX DEVELOPMENT

Paul Neve

Three Chillies Trail Design

Contact Details:

E: paul@tctraildesign.com.au

M: 0418 830 370

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



The Shire of Chittering wish to acknowledge the Government of Western Australia, Department of Communities for their assistance through the Youth Engagement Grant Program. Funds available, via this program, enabled the Shire to undergo the process of developing a concept plan for the upgrade and redevelopment of the John Glenn Park Skate & BMX track.

A special mention and thanks also, to the Chittering Youth Krew and other local young people who formed the Focus Group for this project. Your enthusiasm, maturity and passion for your community were very evident throughout this project. It was a privilege working on this with you.

And finally, thank you to Paul Neve of Neve Contracting – Three Chillies Design. Your passion is infectious and your patience enormous. Thank you for working alongside the young people on this project and helping them to bring their ideas to light.

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Design Overview	3
Design Principles	4
Dirt Jump Area	5
Construction requirements.....	5
Options for Construction	6
Material Requirements	7
Pump Track Area.....	8
Construction requirements.....	8
Materials required	8
Skate Park Area.....	9
Construction requirements.....	9
Materials required	9
Costings & Materials	10
Signage.....	10

John Glenn Park Skate and BMX Concept Plan

Introduction

The following Skate and BMX Concept Plan for the John Glenn Park, Muchea proposes a well-planned, fun and challenging recreational cycling and skate area that can cater for a wide range of users and become an asset to the Shire of Chittering.

This concept provides an overview of each of the three separate areas - the dirt jumps and pump track; and the skate park area. The enhancement and refurbishment of the John Glenn Park will provide an engaging and friendly environment for a perfect practice and recreational facility for the local and surrounding community.

Design Overview

The John Glenn Park Skate and BMX Concept Plan design includes a dirt jump area, pump track and a refurbished skate park. Both the skate park and dirt jumps are within the existing footprint areas of the park, while the pump track area is proposed to be situated alongside the dirt jump area. A further detailed design phase will be required following this concept plan to fully detail the design of each of the components for the park area – the Skate Park, Pump Track and Dirt Jumps. This will form the Design and Construction phase and will allow for final planning to be determined, identification of material requirements and planning for the construction.



Figure 1: Design Overview

Design Principles

There are a number of site-based considerations that have influenced the proposed design of the facility. The most notable of these include:

Diversity- the area has been designed to include both small and large level dirt jumps with features to challenge beginner and expert riders alike, and a pump track area that caters to all level of riders and a skate park with a number of skate park features.

Existing area footprint- the design has been influenced by the existing footprint of the area, being both the dirt jump area and the existing skate park area.

Family Friendly- The pump track area has been located directly alongside and near the stake park area, allowing for users and family groups to be located nearby. This location also has no visual obstacles between the proposed areas.

Maintenance Minimisation for the Jump Tracks include- Concrete features included as constructional requirements are necessary to minimise long-term maintenance. Lips of dirt jumps are typically the most maintenance-heavy features of dirt jumps; by constructing the lips from cast concrete, long-term maintenance is minimised and maintenance funding can be re-directed towards trail grooming and other aspects of the trails. Furthermore, by constructing the lips from coloured concrete closely matching that of the clay base material for the construction of the landings, visual discontinuity of the castings is minimised, and the “soul” of the feature (i.e a dirt jump, as opposed to a concrete skate park) is not compromised. More importantly, the facility will remain fit for purpose for a much greater length of time, maximising asset value in terms of how many riders can utilise the facility and guarantee a positive riding experience.

Use of concrete in the landings of jumps is not recommended.

We recommend and have costed into the estimates of all the Jump Track options a polymer stabilised hard surfacing, PolyPave this is created by mixing a polymer solution DirtGlue into quarry fines or a quality screened 12mm road base to make a hard-wearing surface treatment.

Dirt Jump Area

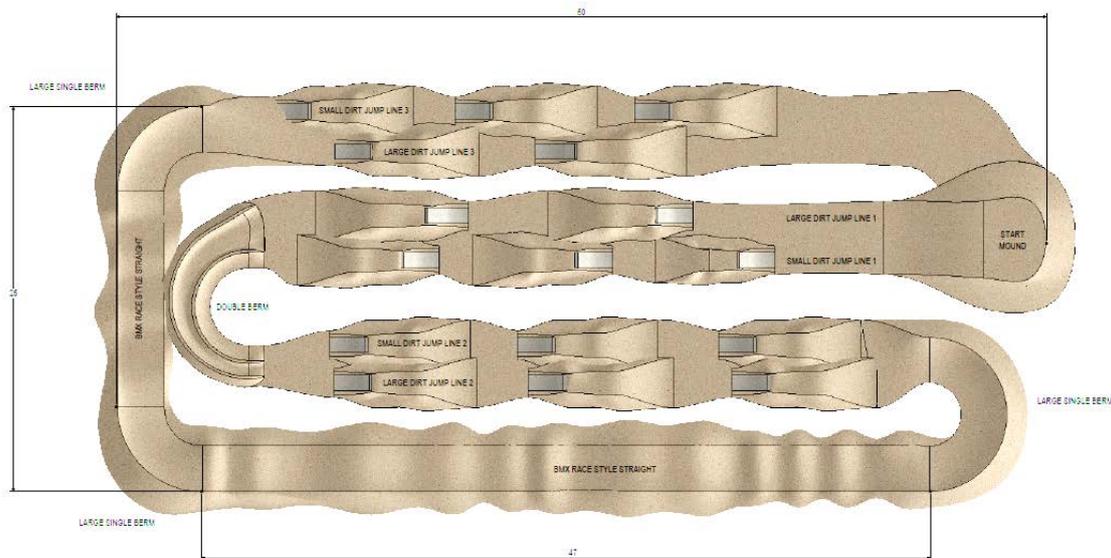


Figure 2: Dirt Jump Area

The dirt jump area, proposed to be situated at the existing, dirt jump area footprint, has been designed as a double line of approximately 240 linear meters each, including a start mound. As shown in Figure 2, the start mound is a raised area approximately 1.5 meters high that will provide riders with initial momentum to negotiate the first of jumps, into a double berm – a berm for each jump line, the small line on the left and large line on the right. The two jump lines continue, alongside each other into a single large berm followed by two BMX style straights, with a final series of jumps in the final section that ends back at the start mound.

The dirt jump lines and features have been designed to provide both small/beginner level jumps and large/advanced jumps to enable riders to choose lines based on their ability and skill level. This design provides challenging features that riders can progress their ability, remaining interesting and exciting for many years. Another definitive feature of this design is that the small and large jump lines have been placed side by side, into a loop style, that can create fun challenges and opportunities for competing and racing.

Construction requirements

Undertake initial site assessment and site preparation, including preparation for site drainage. In terms of drainage, the most important aspects in this design would be to ensure free drainage as much as possible. If required undertake additional laser level checking to ensure free drainage. The design includes elements to minimise potential water issues particularly avoiding long term pooling.

Drainage considerations include: substrate drainage and piping in the berm area if required, ride surfaces to be crowned, water bars and minimising barriers to allow for the site to free drain.

PolyPave landings are proposed for all of the jump features as well as the ride lines linking all the jumps as well as the BMX style track section. This will provide long lasting and durable landings and ride lines that ensure the facility can be fit for purpose for as long as possible.

John Glenn Park Skate and BMX Concept Plan

Options for Construction

If required, it is possible for the construction of the dirt jumps to be separated into various stages. As such a number of options have been proposed, as detailed below and approximate costings for each option have been provided further in the document.

Option 1

The small dirt jump line only, including the single part of the double berm and the return trail to the start mound – blue area in Figure 3.

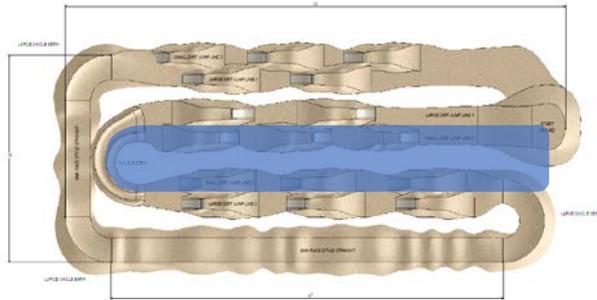


Figure 3: Option 1 – Small dirt jump line, up to the start mound.

Option 2

The small and large dirt jump lines, including the double berm and the return trail of both the single and double jump lines up to the start mound – orange area in Figure 4.

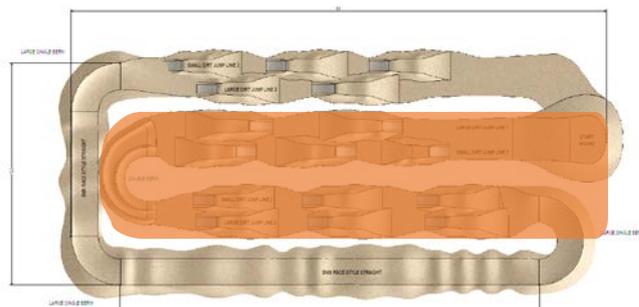


Figure 4: Option 2 – Small and Large dirt jump lines, up to the start mound

Option 3

The entire track of the small dirt jump line - green area in Figure 5.

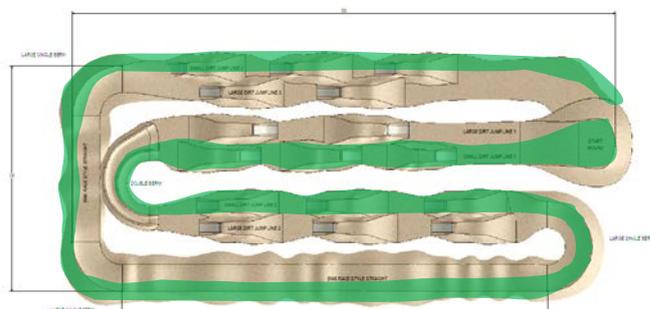


Figure 5: Option 3– Entire small dirt jump line, up to the start mound

Option 4

The entire track, both the small and large dirt jump lines – as per Figure 2.

Material Requirements

The approximately linear meterage for the ride surfaces including the berms for the jump lines and return trail is approximately 240 linear meters. For the small jump line, the proposed ride surface width has been designed to be 1.5 meters tapering out at the base of the landings. For the large jump line, the proposed ride surface width is 1.8 meters tapering out at the base of the landing. The BMX style trac sections are designed to be a minimum ride line width of 3 meters.

The base for the dirt jumps is proposed to be constructed from 75mm crushed limestone compacted in lifts. Additional material requirements will include coloured concrete for the take off ramps for the jumps; PolyPave hard surfacing to all ride areas; and polymer spray sealer for exposed batters ie sides of jumps.



Photo 1: Example of two dirt jump lines side by side, Sussex Bend, Shire of Chittering

Pump Track Area

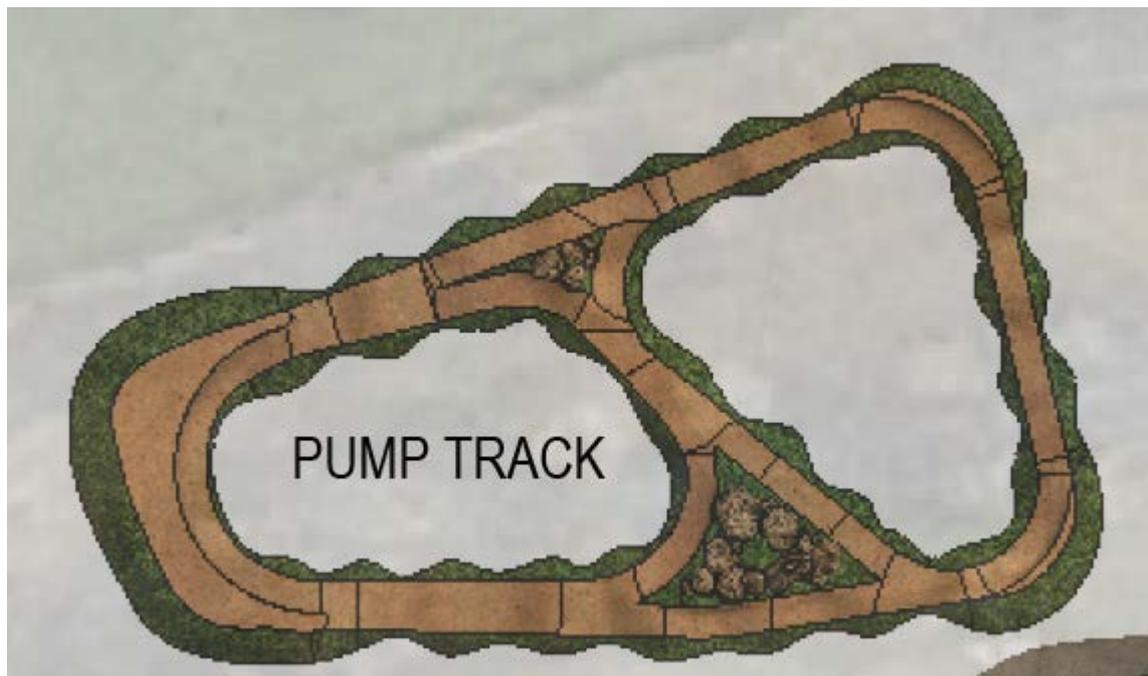


Figure 3: Pump Track Area

The Pump track has been designed to cater for a wide range of abilities and ages.

The pump track has been designed to fit within the site area, maximising useable space while allowing ample space for the dirt jump area.

The pump track has been particularly designed for beginner riders as it is designed with more consistent pump spacings to develop rider ability and skill in pumping.

The design philosophies that we have used in this design will keep this area fresh and interesting for the riders for years to come.

Construction requirements

Undertake initial site assessment and site preparation, including preparation for site drainage. In terms of drainage, the most important aspects in this design would be to ensure free drainage as much as possible. If required undertake additional laser level checking to ensure free drainage.

The design includes elements to minimise potential water issues particularly avoiding long term pooling or creation of erosion issues due to fast run-off. Drainage considerations include: ride surfaces to be crowned, water bars and minimising barriers to allow for the site to free drain.

Materials required

The base for the pump track is proposed to be constructed from 75mm crushed limestone compacted in lifts. Additional material requirements will include PolyPave hard surfacing to all ride areas.

Skate Park Area

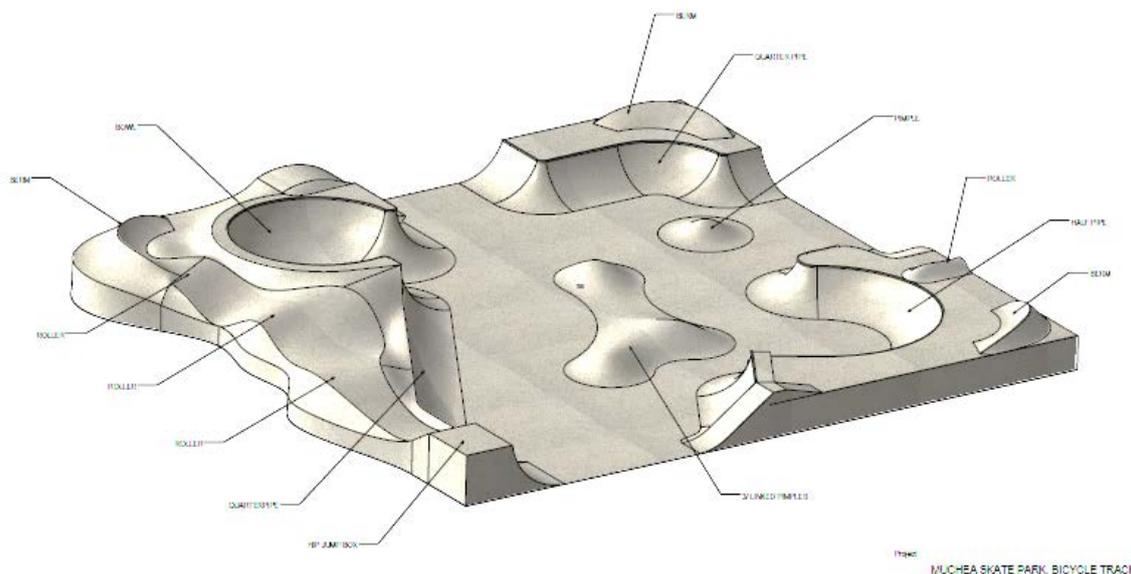


Figure 4: Skate Park Area

The existing skate park area has been redesigned to include a number of built in features to create a new contemporary skate space. The refurbishment of the skate park area is over the current skate park area footprint, using the existing concrete slab as the base for the new features. This is a relatively small area of approximately 25m² by 25m². However, consideration has been given to ensure that the choice and placement of the various features maximises the space and provides fun and challenging features for various ability levels and users such as skaters, scooters and bikers.

The design includes a loop style track around the outer edge, in particularly linking each of the corner features together. This can be seen in Figure 4, with the rollers, berms and hip jump box forming the outer loop track providing users with an opportunity to use the facility in a continuous loop.

In addition, other features include a bowl, two quarter pipes, a half pipe and pimple style rollers.

The skate park has been designed to allow for users to ride the space in separate zones to control heavy use times/ conflict during peak/ popular times – minimise conflict. These zones include the half pipe to the 3 linked pimples to the opposite quarter pipe bank.

Construction requirements

Undertake initial site assessment and site preparation, including preparation for site drainage.

Materials required

The full details of materials required will be determined as part of the detailed design for the Skate Park. However, as a general guide to material will include 40 mpa concrete, mesh as per engineers specifications, steel coping as required, limestone/sand to be compacted in lifts, hand rails as per concept design and limestone blocks.

Costings & Materials

The following table provides approximate costs (exc GST) for the various components presented in the Concept Plan. These costings should be treated as a guide only.

	Item	Details	Approximate costs
1	Dirt Jump Area – Design and Construction	Option 1	60,000.00
		Option 2	120,000.00
		Option 3	120,000.00
		Option 4	230,000.00
2	Pump Track Area – Detailed Design and Construction		65,000.00
3	Skate Park Area – Detailed Design and Construction		283,000.00

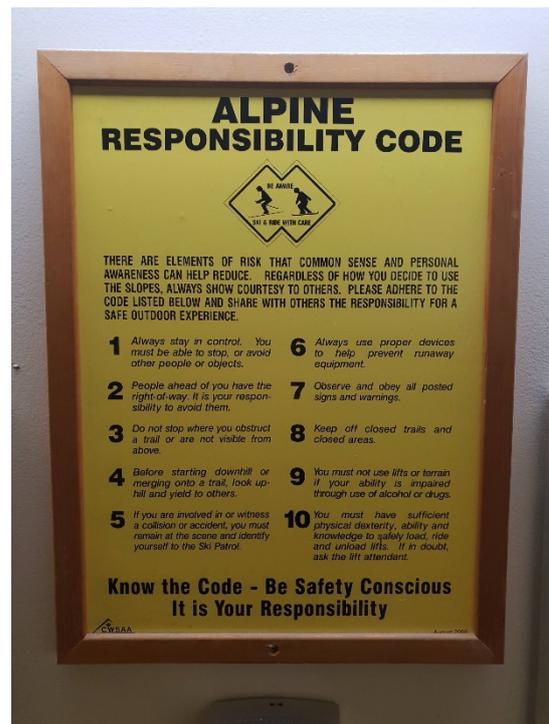
Signage

Signage serves several purposes:

1. Creating a sense of place. The John Glenn Park signage should identify the various elements within the area as a cohesive precinct.
2. Providing information and difficulty rating for the facilities. Each area should be diagrammed, indicating entry/exit points, direction and difficulty rating if applicable. It should enable users to see where they are, what the different areas are and how they are to be used.
3. Providing emergency information and contacts. Such as contact numbers and local emergency services information, eg ambulance.
4. Guiding visitor behaviour. Informational messages can provide the detail to guide visitor behaviour, trail direction for the dirt jumps, advice on etiquette and use of the separate areas, courtesy to other users and the requirement to not litter.
5. Empowering a sense of pride and care. Associating the precinct with the local Muecha and Chittering community if possible, can encourage users to treat the precinct with respect.

John Glenn Park Skate and BMX Concept Plan

The following are examples from similar facilities:



SHIRE OF CHITTERING

Community health and wellbeing needs
consultation report

Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA



Curtin University

Contents

Introduction	2
Demographic profile.....	3
Population.....	3
Health and Wellbeing of School Students	5
Reported criminal offenses.....	6
Community Consultation	8
Who responded?.....	8
Living in the Shire of Chittering	9
How could \$200,000 be spent in the next 12 months?	10
Healthcare and wellbeing needs	14
Community Opinions of the Shire of Chittering	15
Room for improvement	16
Conclusion.....	19

Public comments have been included verbatim. No changes other than spelling have occurred. Comments in no way reflect the Shire of Chittering or the consultant’s opinions and are offered as individuals’ perspectives and opinions.

Introduction

The Shire of Chittering is keen to determine the direction of the City's policies, guidelines and planning strategies with regards to health and wellbeing needs, issues and priorities of the community. The Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA, Curtin University was engaged to facilitate the consultation through face to face discussions and an online survey. This report identifies the key findings from the consultation which occurred throughout September and October 2018.

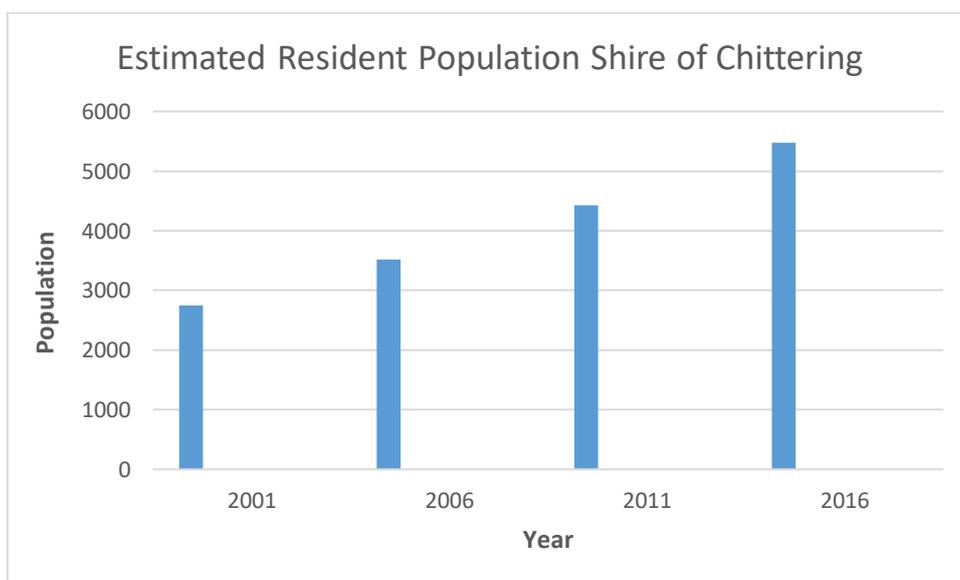
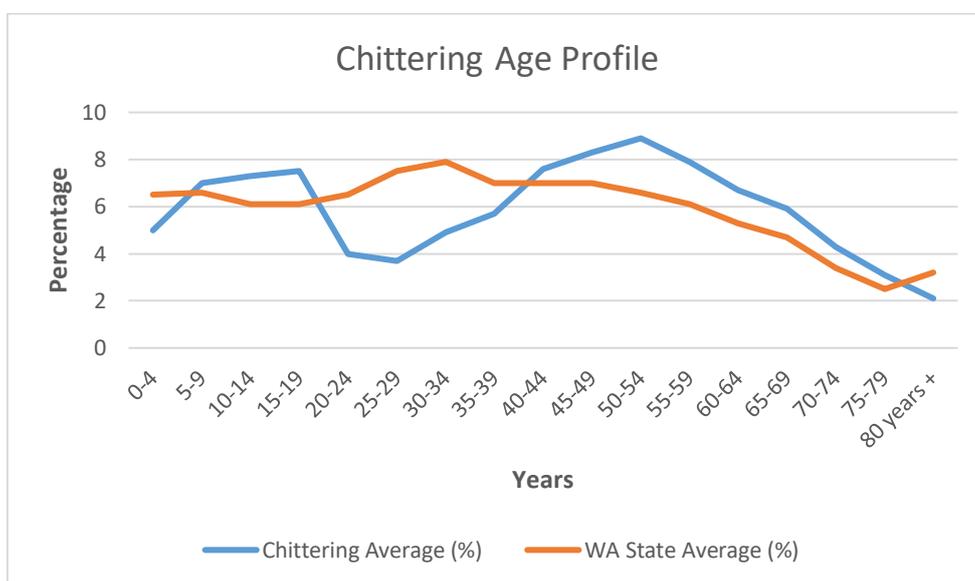
Recommendations and ideas for change have been included in the report to guide future activities by the Shire of Chittering to support health and wellbeing of their residents.

Demographic profile

Population

Chittering has a population of 5,472 people. Of these 50.8% are male and 49.2% are female. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up 2.2% of the population. The median age of people in Chittering is 43 years as compared with the state average of 36 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 19.3% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 15.4% of the population.

The Shire of Chittering has a number of age groups above the state average as highlighted below:



There are 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Chittering, which is 2% lower than the State average. The median age is 14 years compared to the State median of 23 years of age.

Chittering has a higher than state average of:

- young people in preschool (5.2%) compared with the WA average (3.9%);
- students in secondary government schools (12.2%) compared with the WA average of 11.5%;
- people with a Certificate IV and III (24.2%) compared with WA average of 17.1%;
- students in Year 11 and 12 (23.5%) compared with WA average of 21.4%;
- people with English heritage (13.2%) compared with WA average of 7.8%;
- people whose mother was born overseas (6.6%) compared with WA average of 5.8%;
- people where both parents were born overseas (45.4%) compared with the WA average of 38.3%;
- people who speak Croatian (0.8%), Hebrew (0.4%) and Czech (0.3%) compared with WA averages of 0.2%, 0% and 0% respectively, and
- people who work full time (61.5%) compared with WA average of 57%.

Unemployment rates (3.5%) are much lower than the state average (7.8%). There is a higher than state average in the employment categories of:

- Technical and trade (SoC = 20.4%; WA = 16.2%)
- Managers (SoC=16.1; WA=12%)
- Clerical (SoC=14.5%; WA=13%)
- Labourers (SoC = 12.5%; WA = 9.7%)
- Machinery Operators/Drivers (SoC = 10%; WA = 7.5%)

Of the employed people in Chittering (State Suburbs), 5.2% worked in Local Government Administration. Other major industries of employment included Road Freight Transport 4.6%, Iron Ore Mining 3.7%, Site Preparation Services 2.9% and Primary Education 2.9%.

The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over in Chittering was \$711 which is a little lower than the state average of \$724.

Of the families in Chittering, 45.6% were couple families with children, 51% were couple families without children and 3.5% were one parent families.

SEIFA index for Chittering is 1034. The index is derived from attributes that reflect disadvantage such as low [income](#), low [educational attainment](#), high [unemployment](#), and jobs in relatively unskilled [occupations](#). When targeting services to disadvantaged communities, it is important to also look at these underlying characteristics as they can

differ markedly between areas with similar SEIFA scores and shed light on the type of disadvantage being experienced.

A higher score on the index means a *lower* level of disadvantage. A lower score on the index means a *higher* level of disadvantage.

For comparison, the highest scoring local government in WA is Peppermint Grove at 1123 with the lowest being the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku (559)¹. The Shire of Chittering is 24th on the list of WA local governments, making it one of the more advantaged jurisdictions.

Health and Wellbeing of School Students

The following is a precis of data on the developmental health and wellbeing of all children starting school in the following areas -Bindoon/Wannamal, Chittering, Lower Chittering and Muchea. The data were collected from 69 students, 12 schools and 16 teachers. The mean age of children at completion of the data collection period was 5.4 years of age. This is AEDC (Australian Early Development Census) data collected in 2015.² Overall, the results from the AEDC data for the Shire of Chittering with comparisons to WA and Australia are shown in the following table.

Geography	Physical i	Social i	Emotional i	Language i	Communication i	Vuln 1 i	Vuln 2 i
Australia	9.7	9.9	8.4	6.5	8.5	22.0	11.1
WA	9.9	8.4	8.5	6.6	8.0	21.3	10.5
Chittering	3.0	3.0	7.6	6.1	1.5	12.1	6.1

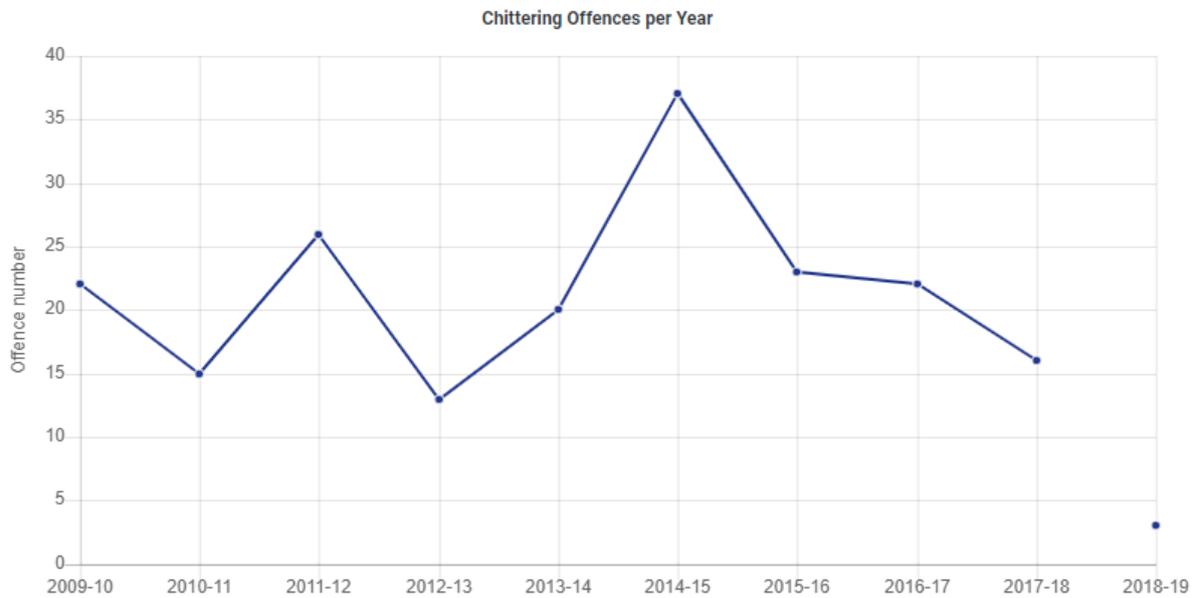
This data indicates that the percentage of children developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains (Vuln 1) is 12.1%. The percentage of children developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains (Vuln 2) is 6.1%. These are considerably lower than the state and national average.

¹ <https://profile.id.com.au/toodyay/seifa-disadvantage>

² <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=62401>

Reported criminal offenses

The reported crimes for Chittering are shown in the graph below. This graph shows the trends over the past ten years. These data were drawn from the WA Police Force Crime Statistics database.³



Reported offenses in Chittering over the past three years

Type of offence	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (YTD)
Homicide	0	0	0
Sexual offences	0	0	0
Assault (family)	3	1	0
Assault (non-family)	0	0	0
Threatening behaviour (family)	0	0	0
Threatening behaviour (non-family)	1	0	1
Dwelling burglary	6	0	1
Non-dwelling burglary	3	1	0
Car theft	1	3	0
Stealing	5	9	1

³ <https://www.police.wa.gov.au/Crime/CrimeStatistics#/>

Property damage	1	1	0
Arson	0	0	0
Drug offenses	0	0	0
Graffiti	0	0	0
Fraud	2	1	0
Total Offenses	22	16	3

When comparing to neighbouring local governments of a similar demographic, it can be seen that Chittering has a lower crime rate in all areas.

Local government	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (YTD)
Shire of Toodyay	200 Highest reported offences were drugs (42), fraud (36) and stealing (30)	163 Highest offenses were drugs (46), stealing (26), property damage (21)	25 Highest offenses were drugs (10 and stealing (9)
Shire of Gingin	60 Highest reported offences were stealing (15) and drugs (10)	97 Highest reported offences were drugs (33), breach of restraining order (20) and sexual offences (17)	16 Highest reported offences were drugs (7) and stealing (5)

Community Consultation

Who responded?

Over 100 community members were engaged across the face to face and online opportunities. All graphs represented in the report are based on the online survey results and all commentary is a combination of both face to face and online.

Meetings were held at The Brockman User Group, CWA, Immaculate Heart College, Edmund Rice and with the Kids Crew and children and parents attending the school holiday activity program. An online survey was also distributed through a range of channels including social media, the Shire of Chittering website and through local businesses.

Online survey demographics

The online survey was completed by 63 people. Of these 65% were female and 35% were male. Most respondents were aged between 35 and 74 years of age however there was a good span across all ages as indicated in Figure one. Only postcode of residence was requested to ensure the anonymity of respondents. The postcodes of respondents are illustrated in Figure two.

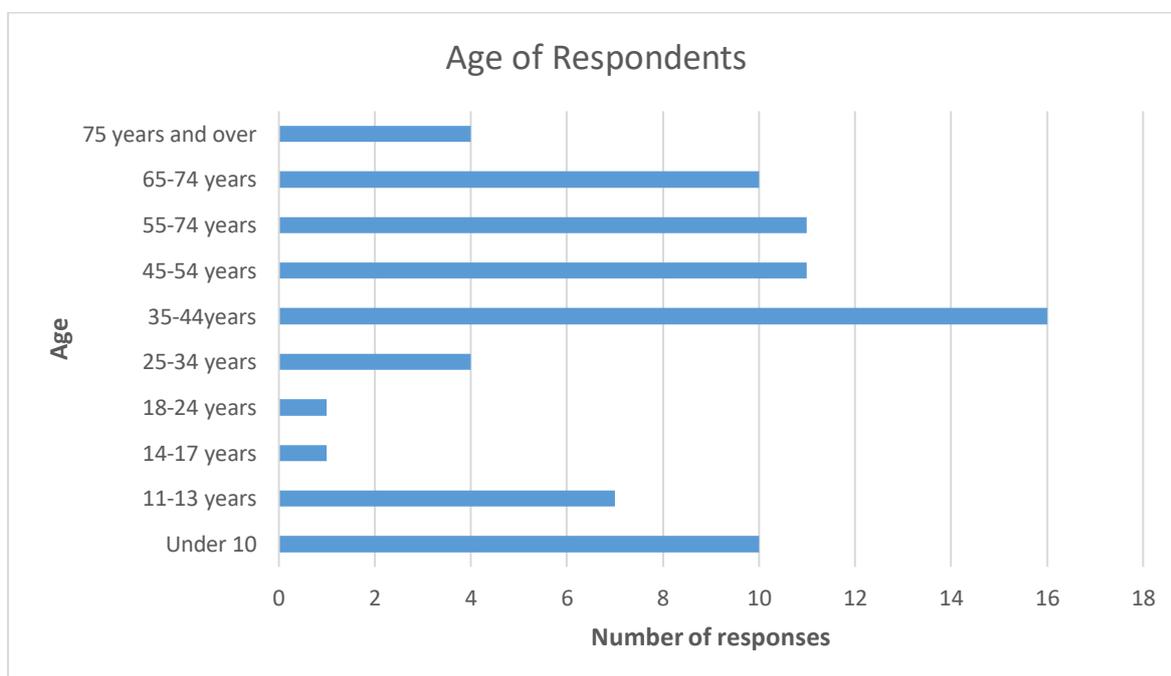


Figure 1 – Age of respondents

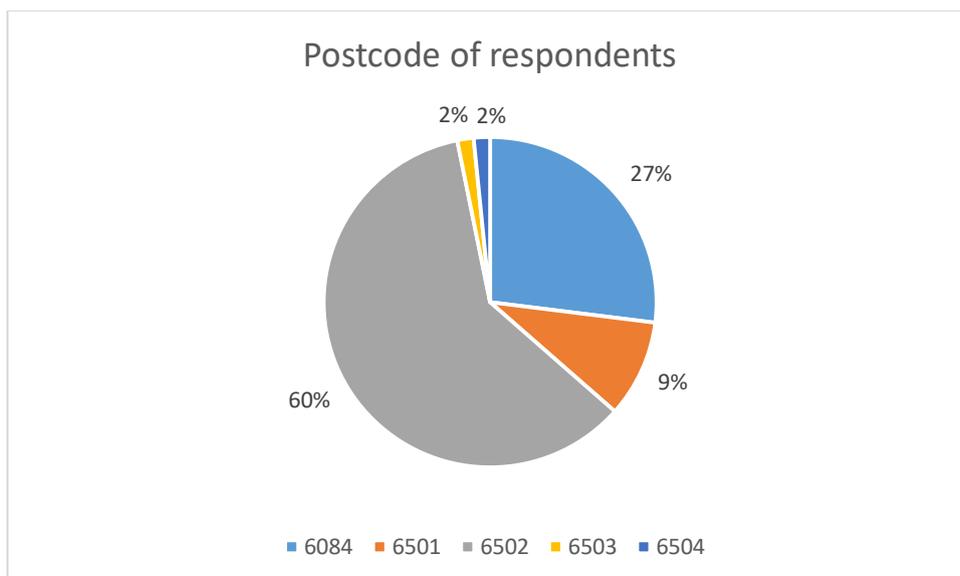


Figure 2 – Postcodes of respondents n=62

Living in the Shire of Chittering

Respondents were asked to describe what they most liked about living in the Shire of Chittering. The most common responses related to space, peace and quiet and being a part of a small and connected community. They enjoy the rural lifestyle with big back yards or acreage while still being in close proximity to Perth/Midland/Joondalup to access services. Figure three highlights the positive reasons for people living in Chittering.

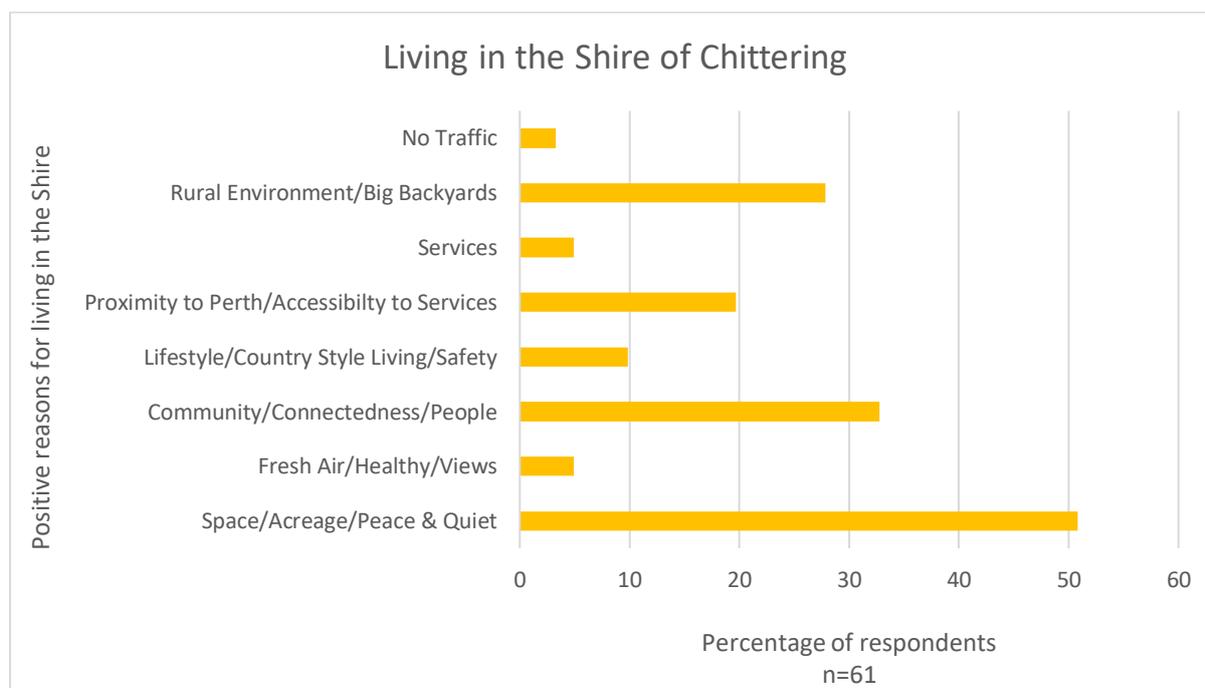


Figure 3 – Positives of Living in the Shire of Chittering

How could \$200,000 be spent in the next 12 months?

Respondents were asked how an amount of \$200,000 could best be spent in order to make the Shire of Chittering a better place for them and their family. This was broken down into the following categories: programs and events, services and environmental changes.

Preferred Events included:

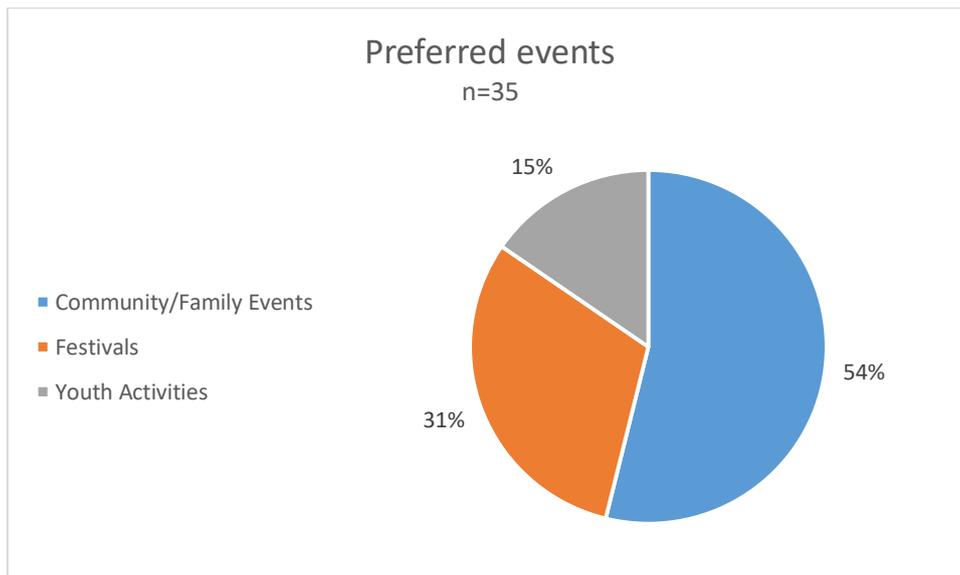


Figure 4 – Preferred events

Some community members thought that there were already enough events held in the Shire. Others suggested that a clearer calendar of events, with more engagement from the community in the planning stages, would be useful. Events to encourage community connectivity are very much valued within the Shire, however respondents would like programs held in all locations throughout the Shire rather than predominantly in Bindoon (as is currently the case).

Preferred Programs:

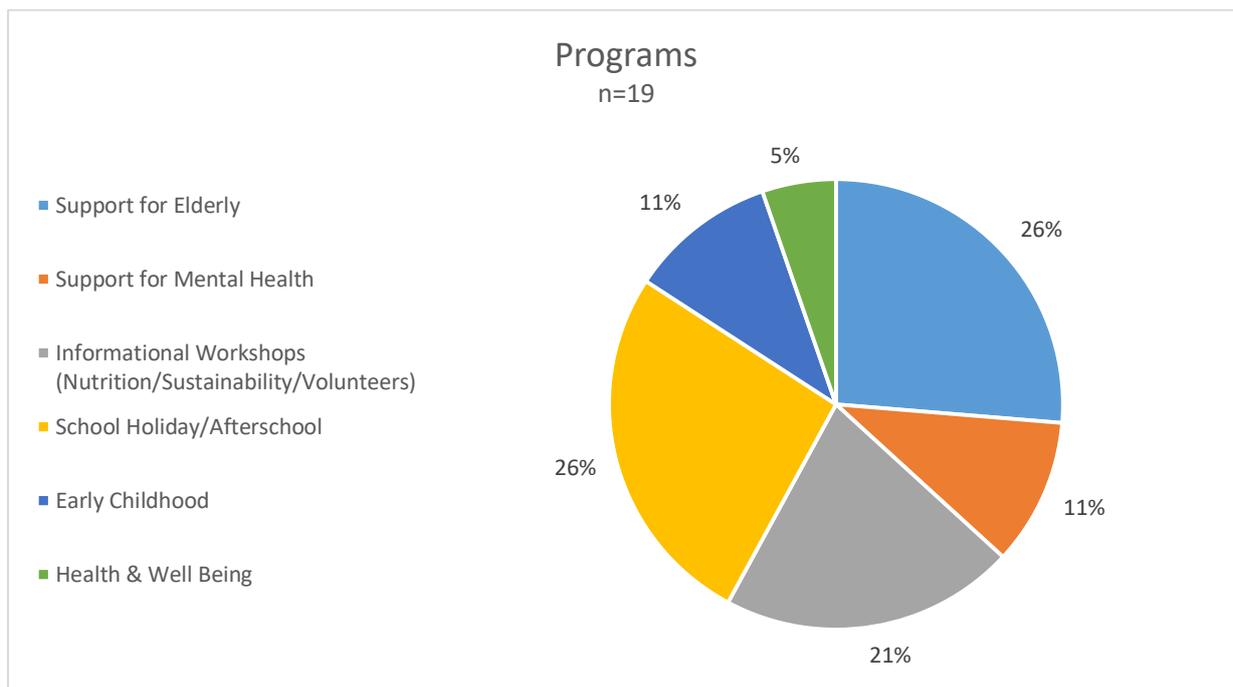


Figure 5 – Preferred programs

Respondents were asked which programs they feel are most needed within The Shire. Figure 5 provides an overview of the results and indicates that respondents would like to see more:

- Support for the elderly (26%)
- School holiday and after-school programs (26%)
- Informational workshops (for example, about nutrition) (22%)

Comments from respondents included:

‘Those volunteers working with the disabled and aged care ... happy to do it but need support and training and also travel cost reimbursement’

‘More support for elderly such as a drop in centre for elderly at Ferguson House.’

‘Programs that educate people on healthy eating habits and sustainability. Better range of local programs as you need to travel a fair way to get accessibility to certain programs.’

Preferred Services:

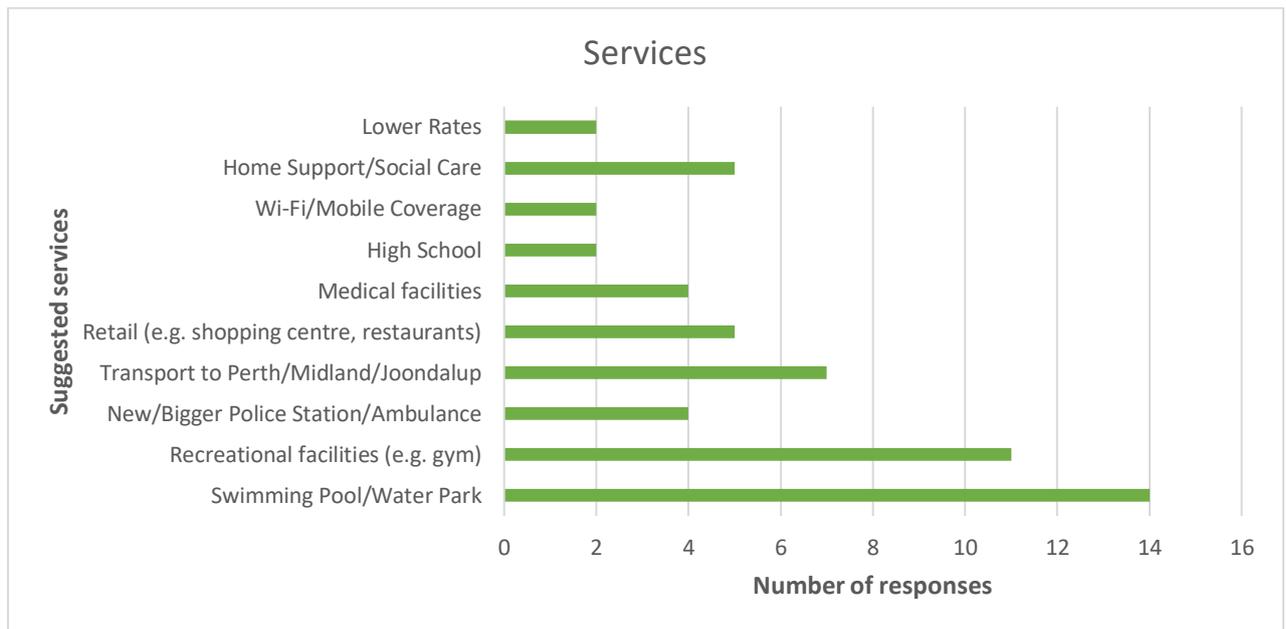


Figure 6 – Preferred Services

Community members were asked what services they felt would improve the Shire, as a place to live.

The top 3 services suggested were:

- A swimming pool/waterpark (25%)
- New or upgraded sporting facilities (19.6%)
- Regular transport to Perth/Midland /Joondalup (12.5%)

Other concerns included: improved home support and social care, particularly mental health and for the elderly; more retail options including a department store and food outlets; and an ambulance service and more police presence.

Preferred Environmental Changes:

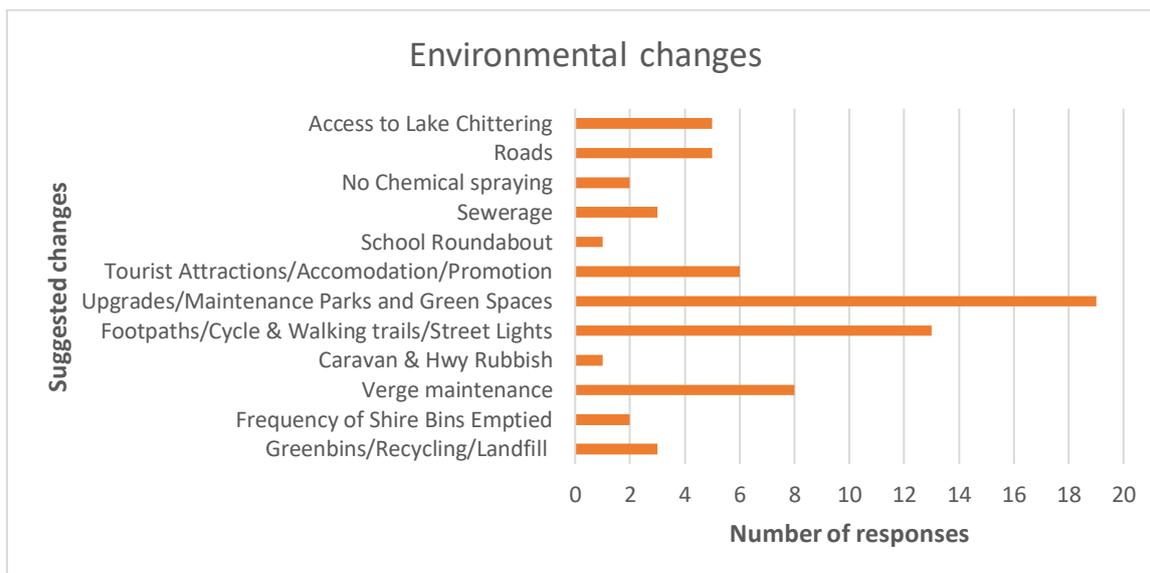


Figure 7 – Environmental changes

Responding community members were asked to comment on any environmental changes they felt needed addressing as indicated in Figure seven.

27.9% of respondents highlighted park and facilities upgrades and maintenance as a priority; 19.1% would like to see more bike paths, footpaths, cycle and walking trails; and 11.8% believed that improvements to verge maintenance and clean-ups are required.

Some respondent comments relating to these priority issues include:

‘Nature playground at Clune Park (see the one at Dallwaline) - would give young families to do on a visit through town and encourage more people travelling through to stay (particularly if visible from the road ie signage)’

‘More grass at Clune Park, more bike paths...’

‘Upgrade of Clune Park including skate park improvements and lawn upgrades.’

‘Park upgrades, skate parks, cater for the youth.’

‘Extend footpath up Gray Road. It’d dangerous for the many walkers who use it. Enhance the river foreshore areas more.’

‘Footpaths as we have a lot of walkers in the area and it’s quite dangerous negotiating traffic.’

‘Verges need to be cleaned, the entrance to the Wandena Rd tip is disgusting considering every time I go there the workers are just sitting in the site office. Entrance into Maryville

needs to be repaired at Hereford, the lighting needs to be fixed, the verges need to be poisoned and mowed.'

Verge clearing and maintenance- it is left to property owners to maintain verges to a safe level.

Do regular litter clean-ups along the road verges.

Maintaining road verges/street scapes in town sites & estates

'Better roadside and streetscape maintenance in the town sites and estates in keeping with bushfire preparedness - firebreaks need to be on both sides of the fence and roadsides are the introduction of the area to visitors and residents alike. If it looks like a tip people are more inclined to litter from vehicles and residents to not maintain their property frontages. Lead by example.'

'Better care of roadside vegetation.'

Healthcare and wellbeing needs

As indicated in Figure eight, youth centres (58.6%), aging in place (53.45%), community based activities (53.4%) and general medical services (50%) were all rated as a high priority to improve the health and wellbeing of respondents and their families.

New parents' services included playgroups and parental support groups.

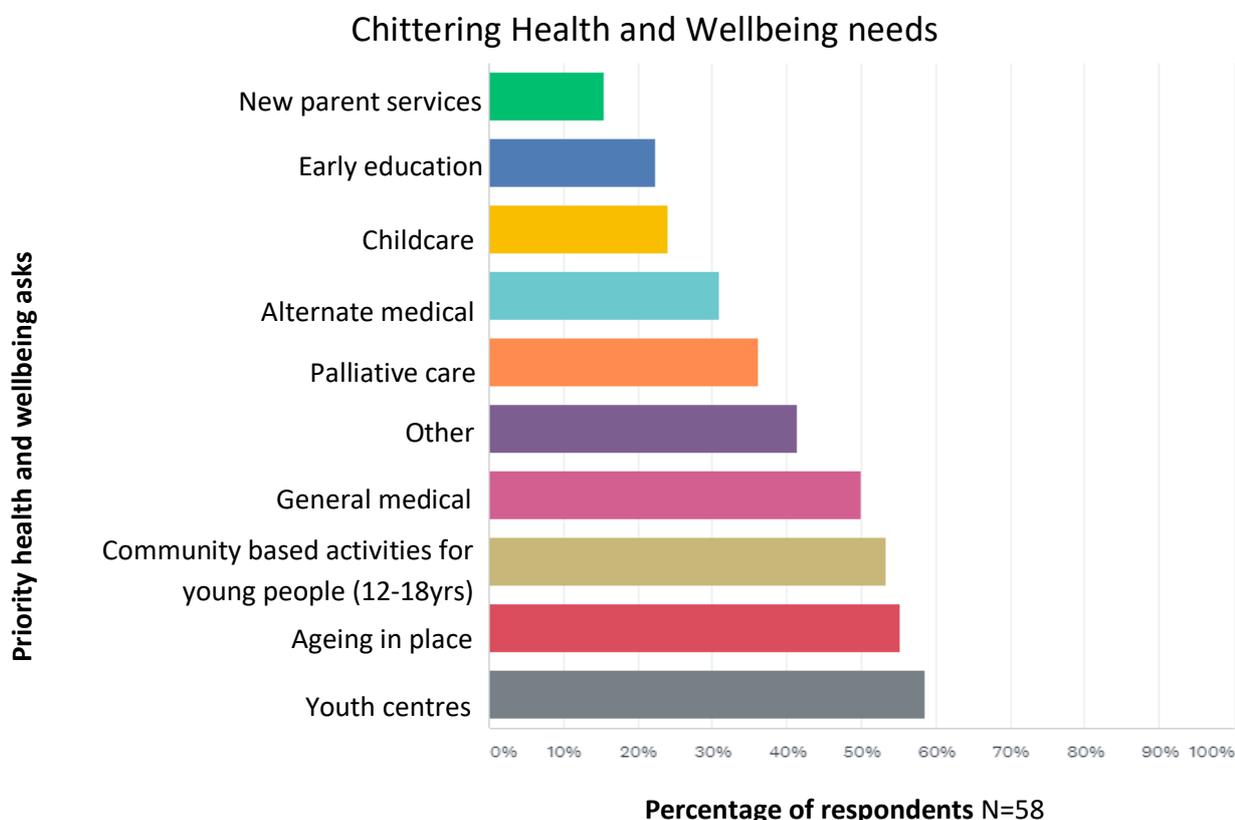


Figure 8 – Chattering Health and Wellbeing Needs

The importance of spaces where young people can ‘hang out’ and get involved in organised activities as well as activities to engage and keep children active.

Most comments concerning the General Medical Services requested more GPs, or a choice of GPs, to enable trust and relationships to be built as well as more appointment availability. Also requested were: visiting specialists; the need for a child nurse, and Clinipath services.

Priorities also included more community involvement and consultation, as well as a community hub with monthly markets to help promote small business and enable locals to come together.

Community Opinions of the Shire of Chittering

Responding community members were asked if they thought The Shire is doing a good job or if there was anything they could do less of to promote a happy and healthy community.

Overall respondents had a positive view of the work the Shire of Chittering does to promote a happy and healthy community. Nearly 60% believed the Shire is doing a good job; 14.5% thought they were doing a poor job, and 27% were unsure.

Of the 23 comments relating directly to the respondents view of The Shire, 12 were negative and 11 were positive.

Some positive comments include:

‘Listening to the community, better in last few years but still room for improvement. Limited resources for such a large area, recognise challenges.’

‘Good CEO, very progressive but a few negative councillors.’

‘Doing a great job.’

‘Drastic improvement in last 2-3 years (promoting community).’

‘Good events, school holiday events and larger events done well.’

Of the 12 negative responses half related to reducing rates and half to the way The Shire allocates funding, including excess or overpaid Shire staff.

Of the 22% of respondents who commented on communication with the Shire, 6 of the 12 comments had a negative view and 6 had a positive view.

Concerns included:

‘Not aware of activities.’

‘Not listening to rate payers input, say you’ll do something but then not in budget etc.’

‘Lack of engagement with all residents the small groups continue ‘til people give up.’

'There is not a dedicated Community Development Manager, even though the surrounding shires of Toodyay and Gingin have one. There is a real disconnect between the community and the shire. There is an under representation of females on the Council. There is loads of promotion for bringing tourists into the region but nothing that is "just for" locals to bring them together.'

'I think they need to be better at customer service, there is always a problem with communication.'

Positive comments included:

'Information is now share more readily between professionals in town.'
'Proactive.'

'Loads of information on local events and activities, bush fire ready services and info, working with health and wellbeing services to increase access locally.'

'Loads of information on local events and activities, bush fire ready services and info, working with health and wellbeing services to increase access locally.'

Community respondents also commented on the need for less stringent restrictions and approvals process including fire breaks and bans.

Room for improvement

Respondents were offered the opportunity to suggest three things that they believed the Shire could do to improve Chittering. Table One illustrates the categories for all the answers and the response rates. The top three issues of concern were:

- Verge clean-up and maintenance
- Gardens, Parks and Street scapes
- Road Conditions

Issue	Number reporting	Examples - direct quotes from respondents
Road Conditions	11	'Fix the terrible condition of the road from the roadhouse to Muchea. It's a very dangerous piece of road in our area.' 'All ratepayers need to have decent drainage at junction of driveways and main roads.' 'Better maintenance such as drains and potholes on the roads.'
Security/Police	3	'Police presence in Bindoon i.e. Local Police Station if only on a part-time basis.'
Inclusiveness of Shires	4	'Spend money that is collected fairly and not just in the built up areas.' 'Connectivity between localities.' 'Include Muchea- Lower Chittering etc. in development, Chittering is not Bindoon alone - include whole Shire.'

Verge clean-up/maintenance	14	'Verge clearing and maintenance- it is left to property owners to maintain verges to a safe level.' 'Do regular litter clean-ups along the road verges.' 'Maintain council verges, firebreaks, roadsides throughout the whole shire.'
Retirement/Aged Care	4	'Aged car facility and progress lifestyle accommodation.'
Engagement/Communication	10	'Keep residents informed.' 'Encourage community involvement.'
Gardens & Parks/Streetscapes	13	'Parks and Gardens in the estates - more curb appeal.' '... beautify the town centre and surrounds with more shire native gardens.'
Events	4	'Provide better programs and events ... more family oriented.'
Tech/Power/Mobile Services	4	'Reliability of power supply.' 'Better Wi-Fi availability for phone coverage as many residents are upset at having very limited or no coverage.'
Rural Identity	4	'Keep rural feel, less population growth.' '...capitalise more on rural identity.'
Medical/Nursing/Mental Health	4	'Improved health care.' 'Local nursing service.' 'Help for those who need help in the home.'
Youth Services/Employment	5	'Infrastructure- facilities for youth and kids (making it a safe place).' 'Provide more community-based events for young adults.'
Food Options	4	'More choice of food options- subway, HJs, food truck (event), local food hall.' 'Allow food trucks.'
Transport	3	'Regular bus service.' 'More opportunities for transport for children to school.'
Bushwalking/Cycling trails/Footpaths	5	'Consider walk trails and communicating location of existence (walk trails in a more effective way)' 'More footpaths for safer walking in the area at the moment it is very dangerous for foot traffic, surprised no-one has been hit by a vehicle.' 'Walking trails upgraded.'
Recreation Facilities	6	'Swimming pool (Bindoon), Sports facilities.' 'More ovals (a good one with a running track).'
Rates	7	'Lower rates.' 'If you have high rates then provide more.' 'Show the community where their rates are going.'
Small Business support	7	'Promote and support small businesses in the area.' 'Encourage more local businesses for diversity.'
Childcare/Afterschool/Education	3	'Lobby for better education options.' 'Child care facility.'
Inclusive parks (young & disability)	4	'Provide a space for the areas disabled children to play safely.' 'Cater for younger kids at parks.'

Tourism	7	'New tourism ideas - star gazing, wild flower tours.' 'Promote Chittering area for tourism to attract visitors when Perth Darwin Hwy bypasses Bindoon.' 'Make towns more inviting for tourists.'
Lake Access	2	'Unimpeded access to the lake.' 'Try to showcase the beautiful lake, as in make it possible for people to enjoy it, which is virtually impossible at the moment.'
No changes/Positive View	4	'The Shire is doing a great job and I have no problems with the way it is managed.' 'All good.'

Table 1 – Community member's opinions where improvements could be made

Table two provides an overview of the results when respondents were asked the one thing they would change to make Chittering a healthier and happier community.

The most common findings were:

- Community connectedness, involvement and welfare
- Swimming pool and sporting facilities
- Park and facilities and upgrades
- Improvements to council including stricter regulations
- School improvements and student welfare

Issue	Number Reporting	Examples-direct quotes from respondents
Community connectedness/Involvement/Welfare	10	'More general community involvement in providing events. Not being so reliant on the same volunteers for everything.' 'Organise more neighbourhood events to enable the community to meet regularly and socialise with one another.' 'Educate new comers and those that don't become involved in the benefits and wonder of being involved on their community.' 'Make it more of a community rather than Bindoon verses Chittering.'
Local Business/Employment	3	'More shops.' 'Wine bar.'
Park & playground facilities /upgrades	5	'Seating, shelters, and BBQs in parks and gardens.'
Pedestrian/Cycling infrastructure	2	..'more footpaths and bike lanes (GNH is too dangerous for bikes so a purpose bike path next to the GNH but not on it would be great, especially connecting areas like Brockman Centre, Tea Tree Road, Hart Dr, Chittering Road etc.' 'Reduce road speeds in built up areas to encourage and enable safe walking/jogging where there are no footpaths.'

Public transport/Road safety	3	'Better public transport to the city.' 'Bus or train daily to Midland or Joondalup.'
School Improvement/Student welfare	5	'Improvements to schools and bullying.' 'School and education options.'
Social/ Community Events	4	'More family social events as well as movies.' 'More community events.'
Swimming pool/Sporting facilities	6	'Better sporting facilities in Bondoon including a pool.' 'Access to netball basketball courts for kids.' 'Inclusion of a swimming pool.'
Waste management	2	'Do not try and use a urban council planning and development model for a country area - the current trend over the past several years has been in that strain such as imposing rubbish bin collections. There needs to be due care given by shire to maintaining our country lifestyle.'
Improvements to Council/regulations	5	'Have a council which looks after the interests of the rate payer.' 'More effective works programs to benefit ratepayers.'

Table 2 – The one thing they would change to make Chittering a healthier and happier community

Conclusion

Respondents clearly value the rural identity of the Shire of Chittering, and particularly value access to open spaces, a close-knit community and other hallmarks of a 'country lifestyle.'

The top three priority areas related to health and wellbeing needs outlined by the community were having a youth centre and related community activities for youth, ageing in place and general medical services.

It was clear from the suggestions in the online survey and face to face visits that increasing the number of recreational facilities, activities and green spaces, improving the rubbish collection and verge maintenance, improving and increase the number of footpaths and cycle paths, improve roads and transport and providing greater connectedness of the community across the entire Shire would be valued.