

# **Bass Coast Shire Council**

## **Youth Action Plan**

### **2016-2020**



# youth action plan 2016-2020

***Bass Coast Shire Council acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the first Australians and recognises that they have a unique relationship with the land and water.***

***The Shire also recognises that we are situated on the traditional lands of the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung, members of the Kulin Nation who have lived here for thousands of years. We offer our respect to their elders past and present and through them, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people.***

## Introduction from the Mayor

Half of the world's population is under 25 years of age.

They can change the future of our world and community with their well-being and courageous behaviour. They are here to show the rest of us a different way of seeing.

Although our young people sometimes get a bad wrap as being problems of society, they are really important assets for the economic, political, social and cultural life of our communities.

Over 830 young people, along with parents, carers and service providers, have created this Youth Action Plan 2016-2020.

Some of the feedback, input and answers showed that for the most part young people had a strong connection with their physical environment, with their peers and with their communities.

We do, however, have a disproportionate number of young people, when compared to state and regional averages, that are not travelling so well in areas of mental health, drug and alcohol, homelessness and unemployment.



Projects span the education, recreation, arts, health and enterprise spectrum. With some already in train, we look forward to implementing some innovative programs, introducing change-making opportunities and advocating for much needed services with, and for, our young people in the Bass Coast region.

Cr Jordan Crugnale

## Acknowledgements

To the young people, parents, carers, service providers, school staff and community members who generously gave their time and expertise to assisting the development of this Youth Action Plan, through interviews, focus groups, filling out surveys, surveying or just liking the Facebook page, we thank you.

## About the Youth Action Plan 2016-2020

The Bass Coast Shire Youth Action Plan has been developed over a 12 month period and focuses on young people aged 12 to 25 years living, studying and/or working in Bass Coast.

The Plan identifies the aspirations of our young people and their vision for the future, what young people see as the community's assets, strengths, and where there are opportunities for improvement.

An extensive consultation process was undertaken by and with young people in the municipality. Parents, carers, service providers, schools and general community members were also consulted. Demographic and health data as well as state-wide plans have also supported the development of this Action Plan. It builds on the work of previous Youth Action Plans.

This Action Plan will provide a framework for how we will work with young people, the broader community and agencies to support young people in our community over the next four years. Bass Coast Shire Council recognises that there is a system of community, schools, networks, services and agencies that support young people within the municipality. Through this Plan we hope to outline positive aspects and areas for improvement in youth service provision as well as opportunities to engage in a wide variety of social, economic, cultural, recreational, learning and civic activities.

The Plan has been shaped by the voices of over 830 young people, representing 20% of the young people aged 12-25 years living within our municipality. The Plan provides the feedback in themes; it details what young people said and what we know from data for each of the themes. Actions and activities to improve or act on issues under themes are presented. Some of the issues identified will be addressed by our partner and specialist agencies/services in Bass Coast.

Through this Action Plan we will develop targeted and meaningful opportunities for young people to engage with Council and assist in making decisions about our community. We hope to build capacity and partnerships toward achieving better outcomes for young people around each of the themes identified.



## Why a Youth Action Plan?

Quality of life and sense of community are two important factors in the development of a young person's identity. 'Local councils have a direct ability to impact the lives of children in their community. Most importantly, councils can actively foster community awareness and culture that recognises children and young people as equal citizens with rights, voices and important contributions to make,' (Communities, n. d.).

*'By working alongside young people: Councils are more effective in their planning and decision making; Connections are built between community and young people; Mutual understanding is enhanced, and stereotypes are challenged; The energy, leadership and fresh perspectives of 20 per cent of the population become more effectively engaged in social, economic, cultural and environmental renewal. Young people and communities grow into active citizenship in order to tackle social problems and act on opportunities. Inclusion and fairness is promoted for all sections of the population', (Department for Victorian Communities 2004).*

## The Good Stuff

As part of our consultation, young people were asked 'What do you like most about where you live?' the main responses related to 'the coast' and 'nature'. Around 46% of young people used these words to describe their environment. Words like 'peaceful and quiet' also featured a lot.



Young people felt a sense of community 'everybody knows everybody'. Comments describing where they live included, 'laid back, strong sense of community, safe and friendly', (survey respondent 13-15 yrs), 'beach and community', 'beach and friends' featured very heavily in feedback, 'It's a close, friendly and caring community', (survey respondent 16-18 years).

However, the fact that 'everyone knows everyone' was also viewed as a negative. 17% of young people thought their town was 'boring' and that there was 'nothing to do'. A further 24% thought that there was a lack of facilities/shops in the area.

## More to Do – The Plan of Action

The following section outlines the key areas and concerns raised by young people, parents/carers and service providers through the consultation process. These themes and areas are matched with information and data, where available, to assist in understanding the issues locally. Actions for the next four years are then outlined.

### **Areas raised and included are:**

1. Other Drugs
2. Bullying
3. Mental Health
4. Alcohol
5. Family Violence / Family issues
6. Public Transport
7. Sexual Health
8. Education
9. Housing
10. Recreation
11. Where To Get Help
12. Youth Voice' (Youth Leadership)

## 1. Other Drugs

### What we heard...

More than half of youth survey respondents rated 'other drugs' as the top issue affecting young people. Approximately 80% of parents/carers survey respondents also rated 'other drugs' as an issue of concern for young people in Bass Coast.

Focus group sessions 'teased out' the issue of other drugs with parents/carers and young people, and while 'ice' (methamphetamine) and marijuana were commonly mentioned, it was found that participants had not often experienced 'ice' first hand and presented hearsay stories.

Parents/carers linked the (perceived) increase in 'other drug' use, particularly 'ice', with a lack of recreational opportunities for young people. Service providers rated 'other drugs' as one of the top five issues. They also linked 'other drug' use with mental health and family issues.

### What the data tells us...

Adolescence is typically a period of experimentation, irrespective of parenting skills and influence. It is known that cannabis is the most common illegal drug used by teenagers, one in five have tried it at least once. However, national data for other illicit drugs such as ecstasy, methamphetamines, cocaine and hallucinogens, approximately 2 to 5% of young people aged 15-18 have tried them, (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2011).

Parents typically worry about their child being exposed to drugs, such as methamphetamines (speed and 'ice'), ecstasy, heroin and cocaine. However, the more likely threat to any teenager's health is the use of legal drugs such as alcohol and tobacco, (Drugs- teenagers, 2015).

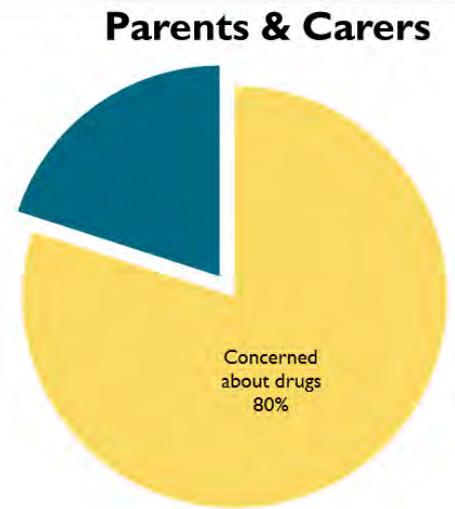
Locally, service providers indicated that 'ice' is less of an issue than the broader community perceives, suggesting 'alarmist' conversations, forums and media reporting has contributed to the incongruence in perception versus reality. However, there can still be significant and complex impacts related to the use of this drug on young people, their families and community.

Illicit drug use in the 15-19 year age group nationally is reported at about 26.4%. Approximately 75% of survey respondents were in the 13-18 age bracket. For the 20-24 year age group, use percentages increase markedly to 45%, (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2011).

## 2. Bullying

### What we heard...

Bullying was listed as the second highest issue for young people in Bass Coast. Service providers listed it as eighth and parents and carers did not list it in their top eight concerns. Of the 59 service provider surveys,



62% thought that bullying was a significant issue (rating it second when compared to transport). Bullying was raised as a significant issue for young people in Bass Coast.

### **What the data tells us...**

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychologically aggressive behaviour by a person or group directed towards a less powerful person or group that is intended to cause harm, distress or fear (Victoria State Government 2014).

Approximately one in four Year 4 to Year 9 students (27%) nationally report being bullied every few weeks or more often (considered to be frequent) during the last term at school. Frequent school bullying was highest among Year 5 (32%) and Year 8 (29%) students (Bullying No Way! n. d.).

## **3. Mental Health**

*Alcohol and mental health issues are two prominent things which we are facing in our community and there needs to be an approachable outlet for this. We need to take away the stigma to initiate change within our community. (Survey respondent,*

### **What we heard...**

Young people rated mental health as the third issue of concern in the surveys, and through focus group sessions said there was a lack of services and information on mental health issues.

Service providers identified youth mental health as a significant issue, and the lack of support services in youth mental health as a major issue. The Bass Coast Youth Assist Clinic opened in February 2015 and provides support and referral around youth mental health.

Surveys indicated that 8% of student respondents did not know where or who to go to for help if they were concerned about themselves or a friend. Focus group

sessions indicate that parents/carers have a low level understanding of what mental health support services are available. In terms of local data, youth mental health treatment often occurs outside Bass Coast, due to a lack of service provision options in the area.

There was a need identified by service providers for increased services and support for young people experiencing mental health issues themselves and/or within the family. In interviews with secondary school senior staff, mental health was raised as a serious issue of concern, both within the context of the family (parents/carers having mental health issues) and amongst the student cohort.

### **What the data tells us...**

In Bass Coast during 2009-2010, there were 3.6 psychiatric hospitalisations per 1,000 adolescents. This is lower than the Gippsland region and state-wide average, (Department of Education and Early Childhood Development 2010). However, data on youth mental health is often not accurate or available for the municipality because services are provided outside of Bass Coast. The Youth Assist Clinic established in 2015, may improve information collection about youth at risk and mental health issues.

## 4. Alcohol

### What we heard...

Alcohol was listed as the fourth on the priority list of issues for young people in Bass Coast. It was an issue across all age groups 12-25 years. Service providers and parents also listed this in their top five concerns related to young people.

### What the data tells us...

In Bass Coast approximately 13% of young people aged 10-25 years are at high risk of short term alcohol related harm over their lifetime. Young people are initially exposed to short term risks due to alcohol consumption. Short term risk from alcohol includes alcohol poisoning, blackouts, blurred vision, drowning, injuries associated with falls, accidents and violence, lack of coordination, nausea and vomiting etc. (Alcohol on the flip side, n.d.). Both men and women aged 18-24 years are particularly vulnerable to engaging in risky drinking (*Department of Health 2013*).

## 5. Family Violence / Family Issues

### What we heard...

In regard to family violence, service providers expressed parenting and family issues as a major area of concern (alongside mental health). Family violence support also ranked highly in service providers' view of service gaps. While family violence was not raised as an issue by young people in the consultations, Family Issues was ranked as the fifth highest issue of concern to young people. We know that Family Violence is a difficult topic to discuss.

### What the data tells us...

There are a high number of Child Protection substantiations in Bass Coast. The key indicator measures substantiated child protection reports concerning adolescents aged 10 to 17 years. In 2009 - 2010, the rate of child protection substantiations (child found to be in need of protection) in Bass Coast was 8 per 1000 adolescents. This was greater than the Victorian rate of 4.4 per 1000 adolescents.



## 6. Public Transport

### What we heard...

Approximately 67% of service providers stated access to transport was a 'very significant' issue for young people. Public transport was also viewed as significant by many young people, particularly those from smaller towns. In the surveys 20% of young people and 7% of parents thought that transport was an issue.

*Public transport is ridiculously absent in the area. Which in remote places is both a social and practical problem on the population of these areas. (Survey respondent, 16-18yrs)*

Inability to access affordable, reliable and regular public transport options played a role in accessibility to social, sporting and employment opportunities. There was a sense of isolation for some young people who lived in places where there were few of their friends or other young people.

### What the data tells us...

Only 88 of 1200 families with children living in Bass Coast do not have access to a car. Data on whether 'access to a car' meets the needs of families is not available.

Public transport is available in Bass Coast, however, in small towns it runs at limited times or does not exist. There is no data which identifies the needs of young people in relation to transport.

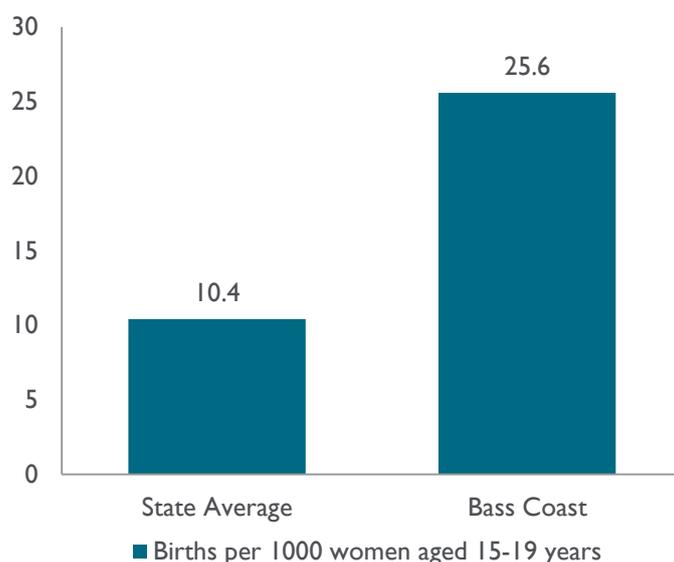
## 7. Sexual Health

### What we heard...

Sexual health was seldom raised in the focus groups undertaken with young people and not raised at all in the youth surveys. Parents and carers ranked this seventh out of the top 10 issues of concern about young people in Bass Coast. This issue ranked 10<sup>th</sup> amongst the issues of concern for service providers.

### What the data tells us...

The number of teenage women giving birth in Bass Coast aged 15-19 years was two and half times the Victoria state average in 2012, (*Victorian Child and Adolescent Health Monitoring System, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development 2012*). 'Teenage childbearing is often related to increased adverse health, social and economic outcomes for teenagers and their children (AAP 1999). Young mothers may be more likely to drop out of school, be unemployed or low paid, to live in poor housing conditions, to suffer from depression and require government assistance', (UNCF, 2001), Department of



Education and Early Childhood Development (pg. 41, 2012).

Rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in Bass Coast for 12-17 year olds are 2.7 times that of the Victorian average, (Department of Education and Early Childhood Development 2012). Contracting a STI can have adverse effects on sexual and reproductive health, including the development of cervical cancer, infertility and recurrent pain (Department of Education and Early Childhood Development 2012, p. 130).

There is a level of concern about the issue of sexual health being relatively silent in the youth survey, given the statistics for the Bass Coast area.

## 8. Education

### *What we heard...*

Over 60% of young people engaged in consultations had aspirations to attend university, TAFE or undertake an apprenticeship when they finished secondary school. However, 10% of young people and 10% parents/carers identified education/TAFE/university as an issue (without further clarification). Service providers identified access to education/training as both an issue of concern and a service gap.

Many young people who filled out the survey believed they had a 'good' chance of achieving their educational aspiration (428 young people) with a further 193 believing they had an 'average' chance.



### *What the data tells us...*

Bass Coast has one public and one private secondary school as well as a Prep to Year 12 specialist school. There is one TAFE offering a small range of courses and no university. A limited range of certificate courses are offered at Bass Coast Adult Education and community/neighbourhood houses.

Bass Coast has lower than state average completion rates for higher education qualifications and a higher percentage of young people who do not complete Year 12. In 2013, just over 60% of students did not complete Year 12 in Bass Coast. This figure is high when compared to the Victorian average of 43.7% (Department of Health, Local Government Area Profiles 2013).

It appears that young people in Bass Coast are not fulfilling their education aspirations. The Bass Coast Education Plan recognises this as an area of concern and aims to understand and take action on higher school participation and completion rates.

## 9. Housing

### What we heard...

A small number of young people raised housing as an issue for young people in Bass Coast. Whilst it was raised by less than 3% of survey respondents, focus groups shared that the instability of their situation was a source of extreme distress and disruption and felt there was a genuine lack of services or supports in the local community.

### What the data tells us...

Anecdotally, youth service providers state that youth housing and homelessness is an issue of concern in Bass Coast. It is known that couch surfing, sleeping rough or basic housing distress may not be accounted for in homelessness data, particularly if the young person isn't linked in to a support service.

There is no crisis youth accommodation in Bass Coast and while there are temporary, short term accommodation options, such as local caravan parks, these accommodation options often place young people at risk of further disengagement and/or harm.



## 10. Recreation

### What we heard...

Parents/carers, service providers and young people themselves all identified the lack of 'youth spaces' in the community (where young people can gather to spend time and socialise at little or no cost) as a significant issue. Young people felt that when they 'hang out' in the streets they are stigmatised or looked down upon by the wider community, but indicated there were few other options (especially in winter when the survey was undertaken).

In focus groups, young people talked about their involvement in formal sports as a main form of recreation. Skating and surfing were also popular along with less formal activities such as spending time with friends or online activities (gaming and/or social networking). Young people who were not interested in sport shared that it was difficult to access options such as the arts or non-church affiliated youth clubs.

In the survey young people were asked what they would like to do locally but could not currently access. The main answers to this question were more or better sporting options and facilities and/or entertainment venues (i.e. pool, stadium, cinemas, bowling, 'Bounce' - indoor trampoline park, etc.) and more/better skating options/skate parks.

For the survey question, 'Is there anything else you would like to say?' the highest number of responses related to a wish for more youth facilities and activities. Approximately 21% of survey responses stated that they enjoyed skating in their free time, especially the 13-15 year age group. In free text comments, young people indicated they wanted a skate park or a better skate park. These comments were from right across the municipality.

In 2014 community consultation for the Bass Coast Shire Arts and Culture Plan was undertaken. Part of the consultation was specifically targeted to young people. There were 435 surveys returned by young people as part of the consultation. It showed that the types of arts that young people enjoyed most were music and festivals. For school aged children approximately 25% had participated in school performance/productions/musicals. Cultural festivals and dance (organised - schools) had the next highest participation rates.

*The young people are struggling, the older people are too – our parents. We need places to connect with each other and get help, more things for us to do about town that aren't going to cost anything and we just have access to do it or get help whenever we need'.*



Young people stated that, 'the arts brings the community together, makes Bass Coast a more vibrant and colourful place', 'the arts entertains and is fun'. Forty respondents thought that there should be more music festivals for under 18's.

#### **What the data tells us...**

Department of Health information indicates that 13% of young people in Bass Coast aged 18-24 years spend insufficient time doing physical activity each week.

In 2010, information about Victorian young people aged 15-24 years indicated that males spend similar amounts of time in organised (26% in e.g. football, golf) and non-organised (27.6%) physical activity. Females however spend more time undertaking non-organised sporting activity (31% e.g. cycling, running etc.), almost twice the amount of time they spend in organised sporting activities, (Australian Sports Commission 2010).

## 11. Where To Go For Help

### What we heard...

Around 45% of young people stated that they go to their parents or family for help, followed by approximately 18% seeking help at school. Worryingly there were around 8% of young people who felt they had no-one to approach for help or didn't know how to get help.

### What the data tells us...

There are a range of services and supports within Bass Coast, for young people, families and schools. Often people don't notice specific services and supports until they need them. Services and telephone support lines etc. should be easy to find and access when young people or their friends do need them.

## 12. 'Youth Voice' (Youth Leadership)

### What we heard...

Feedback from both survey respondents and focus group participants was both consistent and discouraging in their perceptions of opportunities for young people to 'have a say' locally or engage in meaningful youth leadership opportunities and/or events.

Less than 16% of survey respondents answered 'yes' to the survey question 'Do you feel you have opportunities to have a say about the things that impact young people in the community?' The remaining respondents answered that they only 'sometimes' had these opportunities (53%) or did not have these opportunities at all (31%).

Current leadership opportunities that young people did identify were with organisations such as the Scouts, sports clubs and Surf Lifesaving Australia etc. There were also three percent of all survey respondents who indicated that they would like to do volunteering in their community. The focus groups and survey were welcomed by young people, 'Thank you for giving me an opportunity to have my say', (Survey respondent, 13-15yrs).

*'Young people don't know where they can have a say – nor do they feel listened to. I have many ideas to help support the needs of young people and I would jump at the chance to have my say', (Survey respondent, 16-18yrs)*

### What the data tells us...

Youth participation can improve decision-making if young people are actively involved. It is argued that active and meaningful participation of young people in all aspects of their lives is a democratic right that underpins the development of peaceful, tolerant and productive communities. These ideas of rights are linked to arguments around 'youth development' as effective citizens and to the construction of young people's roles within society (Holdsworth et. al. 2006).

Information from young people tells us that we have a long way to go in providing a suitable leadership program and leadership participation opportunities. Young people in Bass Coast are interested in ‘having their say’ and what happens in their community. If we do not engage young people, how can we know their perspectives and issues. Young people aged 12-25 years make up 13% of our community.



## The development of the Youth Action Plan assists Council to work toward our community driven vision.

### **Council's vision**

'Bass Coast Shire will be recognised as a unique place of environmental significance where our quality of life and sense of community is balanced by sustainable and sensitive development, population and economic growth,' Bass Coast Shire Council Plan 2013-2017.

As stated earlier, quality of life and sense of community are two important factors in the development of a young person's identity.

### **Mission**

To take a leading role in partnership with other levels of government, businesses, community groups and individuals to make our community's vision a reality.

The Youth Action Plan will support the delivery of Council's mission. Council recognises that there is a system of family, friends, community, schools, services and agencies that support young people within the municipality. Council has the capacity to take a leading role strengthening and informing partnerships.

### **Values**

Customer Focus - We will continue to develop effective relationships with customers.

Continuous Improvement - We are committed to improving our processes and service delivery.

Pride - We take pride in and promote our achievements, our staff and our organisation.

Integrity - We act and make decisions that are fair, honest, open and accountable.

Respect - We treat people with dignity and respect.

Commitment - We value and recognise contributions towards achieving the Bass Coast Vision. We listen, understand, consult and respond to our community and staff. We provide accurate, timely and relevant information.

## Which other plans have informed this work?

Key strategies that provide a framework for this Plan include the Council Plan 2013-2017, the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 and the Bass Coast Shire Council Education plan 2013-2017.

### Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015-2019

*'Adolescence and young adulthood is a significant period of transition. Many of the physical, emotional and neural changes and development that occur can impact on health and wellbeing (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2014a). Youth is a critical time for developing modifiable risk factors (such as smoking) and protective factors (such as sports participation and healthy eating) because the patterns that develop when people are young often continue into adulthood. These factors can determine whether a person becomes a healthy adult, develops chronic illnesses or experiences the consequences of injury.'*

*The education system provides important opportunities to address bullying, including physical, verbal and cyber bullying, at every level of the school curriculum, to improve the health and safety of same-sex attracted and gender questioning students and address gender norms that negatively impact on the health behaviours of males and females.*

*Key transition points in adolescence and young adulthood include: puberty; starting and leaving secondary school; starting work or being unemployed; negotiating romantic and sexual relationships; driving; drinking alcohol and using drugs; starting higher education; and leaving home,' (source: [www.health.vic.gov.au/prevention](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/prevention) pg.26, accessed 3-9-15).*

The Victoria State Government is currently (November 2015) developing a Youth Policy Framework. Context and information from the final state government document will be incorporated into this Plan through the development of an annual work plan.

## **The Development of the Plan - Who did we talk to and how?**

The consultation process for the Youth Action Plan commenced in May 2015 and ran until the final focus groups in August 2015. The consultation aimed to engage with as many community members as possible and hear a range of voices of young people in a variety of settings. Focus groups were held in local primary and secondary schools, sports clubs, at the Bass Coast Shire Youth Service Providers Network, TAFE and other community settings.

A total of 20 focus groups were held, 16 with young people, two with service providers and two with parents/carers, reaching over 400 people. The consultation also used surveys to gather quantitative data and over 1000 surveys were completed as part of the process (on line and hard copy), of which 838 were completed by local young people aged between 12 and 25 years.

The main areas of enquiry in focus groups and surveys were recreation, aspirations, health and wellbeing, access to services and youth voice/leadership opportunities. For more detail see appendix two – Bass Coast Shire Youth Action Plan Consultation Report.

## **The Health and Wellbeing of Young People**

Included in appendix one is the Youth Action Plan Youth Profile 2015. This Profile documents the health and wellbeing issues for Bass Coast, focussing on the 12-25 year age group. A summary of the findings is included below.

Young people aged 12-25 years make up about 14% of the total population of Bass Coast. Based on the 2011 census, there are approximately 4200 young people aged 12-25 now living in Bass Coast. Bass Coast has a relatively stable population of young people which is expected to continue over the next five years.

The largest youth populations are in Wonthaggi, North Wonthaggi, Inverloch, Cowes and Cape Woolamai. Most households with children have 1-2 children and 96% of the Bass Coast population speak English exclusively or very well. In 2011 there were approximately 68 young people who identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. The ancestry of a large majority of people in Bass Coast is listed as English or Australian, followed by Irish, Scottish and Italian.

Around 13% of young people aged 18-25 years spend insufficient time on physical activity each week. However, more information is needed for the 12-25 year age group in terms of what types of physical activity they engage in or wish to engage in. A recent Bass Coast Shire Arts and Culture survey (2014) showed that young people enjoy music and festivals.

Nearly a third of 10-24 year olds do not eat enough fruit or vegetables (meet the recommended daily intake) and Bass Coast has a high rate of people who consume soft drink on a daily basis. The rates of overweight and obesity for our 10-25 year olds is around the state average, but this is still an issue as these young people are at greater risk of health issues than the general population.

Based on the 2011 Census there were 117 people who are now in the 12-25 age group, who required assistance with daily activities. Bass Coast has a lower than state average completion of higher education qualifications and a higher percentage of young people who do not complete Year 12.

Young people in rural areas are more likely to be sexually active than their metropolitan peers and Bass Coast has higher than state average numbers of sexually transmitted infections and teenage pregnancies. 13% of young people aged 10-25 years are at high risk of short term harm related to alcohol consumption. Bass Coast has almost twice the rate of child protection notifications when compared to the state average.

Adolescents living in Bass Coast did state that they had someone to turn to for advice, were satisfied with their quality of life and felt safe in their neighbourhood. These three indicators rated higher than state averages.

Key health and wellbeing issues for 12-25 year olds in Bass Coast include

- Insufficient physical activity
- Short term risk of harm from alcohol consumption
- Sexually transmitted infections and teenage pregnancies
- High rates of child protection substantiations
- Low rates of completion of education to Year 12
- Low rates of participation in higher education
- Insufficient consumption of fruit and vegetables
- Overweight and obesity
- High rates of young people requiring assistance with core activities within some towns in the municipality
- High rates of family violence

## **Outcomes of the Previous Plan 2011-2015**

Key learnings from the 2011-2015 Action Plan that should be carried through to the 2015-2019 Action Plan;

### 1.2.1.7 Youth engagement models

The Youth engagement model Future Leaders Influencing Community (FLIC) commenced under the 2011-2015 Plan. The group as a core were vibrant and active, but as educational commitments increased and members moved out of the municipality for work, regeneration of this group did not occur.

From this we learnt that our youth engagement model needs to ensure flexibility and that we need to have an approach that offers multiple opportunities for engagement. Membership of the group might be fluid. Young people may wish to engage on an item, event or issue of particular interest. We need to be flexible about where the group is held and explore opportunities for young people to engage electronically as well. Our engagement needs to be flexible and dynamic. We need to ensure that we are offering the appropriate engagement opportunities for young people and promotion of these opportunities.

The strength of a youth leadership model/program is enhanced if it is underpinned by dynamic and participatory relationships with schools and service providers. Access to and inclusion in youth led or youth participation projects, committees, programs and initiatives is stronger if schools are supportive.

#### 1.2.1.8 Communication with young people

Whilst a draft 'tool kit' was developed by the FLIC group in 2014, Councils Social and Community Planning team has been working to provide input and advice into the development of a whole of Council consultation and engagement strategy. More work needs to be done to refine the 'tool kit' and skill up Council staff to ensure that where community consultation is being undertaken, young people are offered the opportunity to take part.

In 2015 Council developed a Youth Action Plan Facebook page which has proven to be a very successful method of engagement with young people. It has been used as a method to provide information about the development of the 2015-2019 Youth Action Plan and how and where people can participate. Further development and programming of this Facebook page is planned for 2016.

#### 1.2.1.21 Crisis accommodation and crisis support services

Whilst some advocacy work was undertaken in this area in 2011 further work with service providers and government needs to be undertaken in this 2016-2020 Plan.

#### 1.2.1.15 Collaborate with key stakeholders to identify gaps and improve access to appropriate health and wellbeing services for young people

Whilst a lot of work was undertaken in 2011-2015, including the commencement of the Youth Assist Clinic, the Headspace Summer Pop-up to ensure the service gap over January was addressed, as a referral pathway and segue into the commencement of the Youth Assist Clinic and the condom vending machine project, further work to support the improvement of access to services and better health outcomes for and with our young people.

## Action Plan – Year one

All actions in this Plan assume the involvement of young people and/or their advocates. The objectives in the Action plan relate to young people aged 12-25 years, some actions will have a specific focus on vulnerable young people in this target group.

### Objective 1 – Enable our diverse community to be strong and healthy

Action	Partners	Measure	Resources
<b>Year one - 2016</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Bass Coast Health to investigate the issues and concerns of young people relating to alcohol</li> <li>Advocate local alcohol related issues to state government as opportunities arise</li> </ul>	Bass Coast Health Gippsport Sth Eastern Metropolitan Councils South Coast Primary Care Partnership	Participate in the Sth Eastern Metropolitan Councils Alcohol Density Harm Related project Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Action Plan 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 implemented Issues investigated	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with partner agencies to implement the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan specifically in relation to alcohol, other drugs, mental health and sexual health areas</li> </ul>	South Coast Primary Care Partnership Youth Assist Clinic	Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Action Plan 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 implemented	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with local schools to undertake the second year of the Resilient Youth survey in all schools across Bass Coast</li> <li>Work to include non-government schools in this initiative</li> </ul>	Bass Coast Health Schools, primary and secondary South Gippsland Shire Council Department of Education and Training	Resilient Youth surveys undertaken by schools and results analysed for trends related to alcohol, other drugs, mental health, sexual health	Within existing resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Resilient Youth survey, undertaken by all schools in the municipality in 2015 and work with Department of Education and Training around awareness raising and interventions related to alcohol, other drugs, mental health, sexual health</li> </ul>	<p>South Coast Primary Care Partnership</p> <p>Bass Coast Health</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Department of Education and Training</p>	<p>Targeted interventions planned with partner agencies/schools</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete installation of condom vending machine project and resources for schools and community to use in publicising machine locations</li> </ul>	<p>Gippsland Women's Health</p> <p>Department of Education and Training</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Young people</p>	<p>Machines installed, advertising and promotion completed.</p>	<p>Within current budget allocation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote safety messages related to harm from alcohol, other drugs and safe sex</li> </ul>	<p>Red Frogs</p> <p>Youth Assist Clinic</p> <p>Ambulance Victoria</p> <p>Victoria Police</p> <p>Local businesses</p>	<p>Safety messages promoted</p>	<p>Within current budget allocation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure gender equity issues for young people are considered in Council, funding, promotion, images and publications</li> </ul>	<p>Gippsland Women's Health</p>	<p>Gender equity is reinforced through Council publications</p>	

**Objective 2 – Facilitate support services that create safe and connected communities**

Action	Partners	Measure	Resources
<b>Year one 2016</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider youth homelessness or insecure housing and crisis accommodation as part of the review of Council's Affordable Housing Strategy</li> </ul>	<p>Office of Housing</p> <p>Department of Health and Human Services</p>	<p>Strategy reviewed, local issues identified</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with state housing providers and Department of Health and Human Services to understand local issues</li> </ul>	<p>Young people Parents and carers</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and promote the work of partners – who provide anti-bullying, anti-racism or respectful behaviours programs</li> <li>Investigate anti-bullying programs (best practice) in conjunction with schools and youth services</li> </ul>	<p>Schools GippSport Bass Coast Health Youth Assist Clinic Primary Health Network</p>	<p>Respectful behaviour interventions and programs planned and implemented</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the Prevention of Men’s Violence Against Women regional strategy</li> </ul>	<p>Gippsland Women’s Health South Coast Primary Care Partnership</p>	<p>Regional action plan implemented Annual awareness raising event undertaken White Ribbon Survey undertaken by Council staff and results analysed</p>	<p>Within current resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation – for Bass Coast Shire Council. Consider other agencies that could be involved in training or interventions, e.g. WGRLC</li> </ul>	<p>Gippsland Women’s Health South Coast Primary Care Partnership</p>	<p>Broader agency/group participation considered with key stakeholders</p>	<p>Within current resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold annual event raising awareness about prevention of violence as part of White Ribbon Day</li> </ul>	<p>Gippsland Women’s Health Youth Assist Clinic South Coast Primary Bass Coast Health Care Partnership Department of Human Services Schools YMCA Ramahyuck West Gippsland Regional Library Service</p>	<p>Event organised with partners and held</p>	<p>Within current resources</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resilient Youth survey undertaken in schools across Bass Coast issues related to including housing, bullying, family violence, racism and where to go to get help analysed against 2015 data</li> <li>Action plan created with partners – as appropriate</li> </ul>	South Coast Primary Care Partnership Bass Coast Health Schools Department of Education and Training	Targeted interventions planned with partner agencies/schools	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support road safety programs in Bass Coast that seek to reduce the road toll in young drivers</li> </ul>	VicRoads Victoria Police Ambulance Victoria State Emergency Service L2P Program Coordinator	Road Safety Committee supports programs aimed at young drivers	Within existing resources and external funding available for specific programs

**Objective 3 – Ensure the community has access to a range of educational opportunities to maximise their potential**

Action	Partners	Measure	Resources
<b>Year one - 2016</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of objectives in the Bass Coast Education Plan</li> </ul>	Education Plan Reference Group	Actions implemented	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify appropriate opportunities to engage with and link the voice of young people into the Education Plan</li> </ul>	Education Plan Reference Group	Young people engaged/have input into the Plan	Within existing resources

**Objective 4 – Foster wellness in a supportive, inclusive, healthy and active community**

Action	Partners	Measure	Resources
<b>Year one - 2016</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure Council led community consultations include opportunities for young people to contribute</li> </ul>	Young people in Bass Coast Youth service providers network	Opportunities for consultation with young people included	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the recommendations for young people from the Sport and Active Recreation Needs Analysis</li> </ul>	Sporting groups and representative bodies GippSport	Recommendations relating to young people investigated	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist in the implementation of the Arts and Culture Plan, ensuring that young people are included in developments and implementation of initiatives</li> </ul>	Strategy partners	Youth engagement/actions undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the library strategic plan</li> </ul>	West Gippsland Regional Library Corporation	Evidence of support for implementation	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with the youth service providers networks to understand the issues related to transport and access to services</li> </ul>	Youth Service Providers network Public Transport Victoria	Lobbying undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support young people to participate in the development of Council's skate strategy</li> </ul>	Youth service providers YMCA 4Shore Sk8	Engagement strategy developed and undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support young people to participate in the development of the Playspace plan</li> </ul>	Youth service providers	Engagement strategy developed and undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial free summer shuttle bus including access for young people. Aim is to improve access to transport. Trial site San Remo – Phillip Island</li> </ul>	Public Transport Victoria Bus lines Youth service providers	Service trialled, evaluation undertaken	Externally funded

**Objective 5 - Build leadership, skills and capacity within the community (for and with young people)**

Action	Partners	Measure	Resources
<b>Year one - 2016</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define youth leadership with young people</li> </ul>	Young people in Bass Coast  State-wide bodies and organisation such at the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria etc.  Schools  Youth service providers	Youth leadership definition created with young people	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with young people, schools and services to identify what youth leadership programs and experiences exist</li> </ul>	Young people in Bass Coast  State-wide bodies and organisation such at the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria etc.  Schools  Youth service providers	Investigation of the types of youth leadership opportunities available or of interest and value to young people undertaken  Communications and Engagement Strategy implemented	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Bass Coast Young Leaders Awards</li> </ul>	Young people in Bass Coast  Schools	Review of Young Leaders Awards undertaken and actions identified	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore creative ways to communicate and engage young people in leadership activities</li> </ul>	Schools  Youth service providers	Carry out digital media project to promote Youth Action Plan with and to young people	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Showcase skills and capacity of young people via Council communications</li> </ul>	<p>Schools Youth service providers</p>	<p>Communications and Engagement Strategy implemented</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and participate in National Youth Week activities</li> </ul>	<p>Young people Youth service providers</p>	<p>Youth Week activities developed and undertaken</p>	

## Action Plan – Year Two

### Objective 1 – Enable our diverse community to be strong and healthy

Year two - 2017	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with partners and young people to educate young people about the risk of short term alcohol harm and risky drinking behaviours</li> </ul>	<p>Bass Coast Health Gippsport Sth Eastern Metropolitan Councils South Coast Primary Care Partnership</p>	<p>Participate in the Sth Eastern Metropolitan Councils Alcohol Density Harm Related project</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that alcohol related issues for young people are included in the new Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan development</li> </ul>	<p>Bass Coast Health Gippsport Sth Eastern Metropolitan Councils South Coast Primary Care Partnership</p>	<p>Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Action Plan implemented</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with local schools to undertake the third year - Resilient Youth survey across Bass Coast</li> <li>Support the implementation of actions based on Resilience Survey analysis</li> </ul>	<p>Bass Coast Health Schools Other Service providers Police South Gippsland Shire Council</p>	<p>Resilient Youth surveys undertaken by schools and results analysed for trends related to 'other drugs' Support for action plan implementation</p>	<p>\$3,000 for Resilience Survey contribution</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for increased local service provision around, alcohol, other drugs, mental health and sexual health where appropriate</li> </ul>	Specialist services	Evidence of advocacy undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support and linkages for local education and awareness raising campaigns</li> </ul>	South Coast Primary Care Partnership	Education and awareness campaigns undertaken	Within existing resources

**Objective 2 – Facilitate support services that create safe and connected communities**

<b>Year two 2017</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate issues raised in the Affordable Housing Strategy Review 2016 with young people, parents, schools and carers</li> </ul>	Office of Housing Department of Health and Human Services Young people Parents and carers	Local issues raised with young people, service providers and schools for confirmation and suggested actions.	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and promote work of partners – who run anti-bullying, racism or respectful behaviours programs</li> </ul>	Schools GippSport Bass Coast Health Youth Assist Clinic Primary Health Network	Work of partners supported and promoted	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work on service promotion with youth service providers within the municipality so that young people, schools, parents and carers are able to access information about options for help when they need it</li> </ul>	Youth Service Providers Network	Service promotion on annual agenda of the Youth Service Providers Network	Within existing resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify family violence issues/perceptions raised through the Resilient Youth survey</li> </ul>	<p>Gippsland Women's Health</p> <p>Youth Assist Clinic</p> <p>South Coast Primary</p> <p>Bass Coast Health Care Partnership</p> <p>Department of Human Services</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>YMCA</p>	Action plan developed	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council to gain accreditation as a White Ribbon Workplace with White Ribbon Australia</li> </ul>		Accreditation passed	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support road safety programs in Bass Coast that seek to reduce the road toll in young drivers</li> </ul>	<p>VicRoads</p> <p>Victoria Police</p> <p>Ambulance Victoria</p> <p>State Emergency Service</p> <p>L2P Program Coordinator</p>	Road Safety Committee supports programs aimed at young drivers	Within existing resources and external funding available for specific programs

**Objective 3 – Ensure the community has access to a range of educational opportunities to maximise their potential**

<b>Year two - 2017</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of objectives in the Bass Coast Education Plan</li> <li>Identify appropriate opportunities to engage with and link the voice of young people</li> </ul>	Education Plan Reference Group	<p>Actions implemented</p> <p>Young people engaged</p>	Within existing resources

**Objective 4 – Foster wellness in a supportive, inclusive, healthy and active community**

<b>Year two - 2017</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure Council led community consultations include opportunities for young people to contribute</li> </ul>	Young people in Bass Coast Youth service providers network	Opportunities for consultation with young people included.	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in the development of the Bass Coast Shire Council Recreation Strategy 2016-2020</li> </ul>	Youth service providers	Youth engagement strategy developed and undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of Council's skate strategy</li> </ul>	Youth service providers YMCA 4Shore Sk8	Support the implementation of actions as defined	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the Arts and Culture Plan</li> </ul>	Strategy stakeholders	Support the implementation of actions as defined	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of Council's Playspace Plan</li> </ul>	Youth service providers	Support the implementation of actions as identified	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with service providers and young people to identify transport specific needs, gaps and impacts on service delivery</li> </ul>	Youth Service Providers Network	Needs, gaps and impacts identified and analysed	Within existing resources

**Objective 5 - Build leadership, skills and capacity within the community (for and with young people)**

<b>Year two - 2017</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build on Council's Young Leaders Awards to create an annual program of leadership opportunities for young people across Bass Coast (youth leadership program)</li> </ul>	State-wide bodies and organisation such at the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria etc. Young people in Bass Coast Schools Youth service providers	Program developed and implemented	Within existing resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for funding or partner with other organisations to support leadership opportunities</li> </ul>	Multiple agencies/schools	Funding applications submitted as appropriate	Within current resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and participate in National Youth Week activities</li> </ul>	Young people Youth service providers	Youth Week activities developed and undertaken	Seek funds

## Action Plan – Year Three

### Objective 1 – Enable our diverse community to be strong and healthy

Year three - 2018	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with partner agencies to implement the 2017-2021 Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan</li> <li>Advocate local issues to state government as opportunities arise regarding alcohol, other drugs, mental health, sexual health</li> </ul>	Bass Coast Health Gippsport Sth Eastern Metropolitan Councils South Coast Primary Care Partnership	Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Action Plan implemented	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with local schools to consider resourcing and support for completing a third year of the Resilient Youth survey across the shire area</li> </ul>	Bass Coast Health Schools Other Service providers Police South Gippsland Shire Council	If supported and resourced, year four of survey undertaken  Action plan created with partners	\$10,000 for Resilience Survey contribution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for increased local service provision where appropriate</li> </ul>	Specialist services	Evidence of advocacy undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support and linkages for local education and awareness raising campaigns</li> </ul>	South Coast Primary Care Partnership	Education and awareness campaigns undertaken	Within existing resources

**Objective 2 – Facilitate support services that create safe and connected communities**

<b>Year three 2018</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement 2016 Affordable Housing Strategy recommendations</li> </ul>	Bass Coast Shire Council Office of Housing Department of Health and Human Services Young people Parents and carers	Recommendations undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and promote work of partners – who run anti-bullying or respectful behaviours programs</li> </ul>	Schools Gippsport Bass Coast Health Youth Assist Clinic Primary Health Network	Work of partners supported and promoted	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create an action plan related to young people and family violence based on Resilient Youth Survey</li> </ul>	Gippsland Women's Health Youth Assist Clinic South Coast Primary Bass Coast Health Care Partnership Department of Human Services Schools YMCA Ramahyuck West Gippsland Regional Library Corporation	Annual action plan implemented	Within existing resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support road safety programs in Bass Coast that seek to reduce the road toll in young drivers</li> </ul>	VicRoads Victoria Police Ambulance Victoria State Emergency Service L2P Program Coordinator	Road Safety Committee supports programs aimed at young drivers	Within existing resources and external funding available for specific programs
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**Objective 3 – Ensure the community has access to a range of educational opportunities to maximise their potential**

Year three - 2018	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the review of the Bass Coast Education Plan</li> <li>Identify appropriate opportunities to engage with and link the voice of young people</li> </ul>	Education Plan Reference Group	Actions implemented Young people engaged	Within existing resources

**Objective 4 – Foster wellness in a supportive, inclusive, healthy and active community**

Year three - 2018	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure Council led community consultations include opportunities for young people to contribute</li> </ul>	Young people in Bass Coast Youth service providers network	Opportunities for consultation with young people included.	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the Bass Coast Shire Council Recreation Strategy 2016-2020 – specifically around recreation for young people 12-25 years</li> </ul>	Youth service providers	Support the implementation of actions as identified	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with partners to address identified issues on public transport</li> </ul>	Youth Service Providers Network Public Transport Victoria	Actions developed	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the Arts and Culture Plan</li> </ul>	Strategy stakeholders	Support the implementation of actions as defined	Within existing resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the Playspace Plan</li> </ul>	Youth service providers	Support the implementation of actions as defined	Within existing resources
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**Objective 5 - Build leadership, skills and capacity within the community (for and with young people)**

<b>Year three - 2018</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review youth leadership program</li> <li>Continue to coordinate youth leadership program</li> </ul>	State-wide bodies and organisation such at the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria etc.  Young people in Bass Coast  Schools  Youth service providers		Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for funding or partner with other organisations to support leadership opportunities</li> </ul>	Youth service providers  South Coast Primary Care Partnership		Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and participate in National Youth Week activities</li> </ul>	Young people  Youth service providers	Youth Week activities developed and undertaken	Seek funds

## Action Plan – Year Four

### Objective 1 – Enable our diverse community to be strong and healthy

Year four - 2019	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with partner agencies to implement the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan</li> <li>Advocate local issues to state government as opportunities arise</li> </ul>	Bass Coast Health Gippsport Sth Eastern Metropolitan Councils South Coast Primary Care Partnership	Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Action Plan implemented	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to contribute to education and awareness raising activities</li> <li>Evaluate effectiveness of Youth Resilience survey and data gathered in informing actions</li> </ul>	Bass Coast Health Schools Other Service providers Police South Gippsland Shire Council	Review of Resilient Youth survey and effectiveness of information and actions	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for increased local service provision where appropriate</li> </ul>	Specialist services	Evidence of advocacy undertaken	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support and linkages for local education and awareness raising campaigns</li> </ul>	South Coast Primary Care Partnership	Education and awareness campaigns undertaken	Within existing resources

### Objective 2 – Facilitate support services that create safe and connected communities

Year four 2019	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement 2016 Affordable Housing Strategy recommendations</li> </ul>	Office of Housing Department of Health and Human Services Young people Parents and carers	Recommendations undertaken	Within existing resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and promote work of partners – who run anti-bullying or respectful behaviours programs</li> </ul>	<p>Schools Gippsport Bass Coast Health Youth Assist Clinic Primary Health Network</p>	<p>Work of partners supported and promoted</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement White Ribbon, prevention of violence action plan</li> </ul>	<p>Gippsland Women’s Health Youth Assist Clinic South Coast Primary Bass Coast Health Care Partnership Department of Human Services Schools Ramahyuck YMCA West Gippsland Regional Library Corporation</p>	<p>Annual action plan implemented</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support road safety programs in Bass Coast that seek to reduce the road toll in young drivers</li> </ul>	<p>VicRoads Victoria Police Ambulance Victoria State Emergency Service L2P Program Coordinator</p>	<p>Road Safety Committee supports programs aimed at young drivers</p>	<p>Within existing resources and external funding available for specific programs</p>

**Objective 3 – Ensure the community has access to a range of educational opportunities to maximise their potential**

Year four - 2019	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of objectives in the Bass Coast Education Plan</li> <li>Identify appropriate opportunities to engage with and link the voice of young people into the Bass Coast Education Plan</li> </ul>	Education Plan Reference Group	<p>Actions implemented</p> <p>Young people engaged</p>	Within existing resources

**Objective 4 – Foster wellness in a supportive, inclusive, healthy and active community**

Year four - 2019	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure Council led community consultations include opportunities for young people to contribute</li> </ul>	<p>Young people in Bass Coast</p> <p>Youth service providers network</p>	<p>Opportunities for consultation with young people included</p>	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the Bass Coast Shire Council Recreation Strategy 2016-2020 – specifically around recreation for young people 12-25 years</li> </ul>	Youth service providers	Support the implementation of actions as defined	Within existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of the Arts and Culture Plan</li> </ul>	Strategy stakeholders	Support the implementation of actions as defined	Within existing resources

**Objective 5 - Build leadership, skills and capacity within the community (for and with young people)**

Year four - 2019	Partners	Measure	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to coordinate youth leadership program</li> </ul>	<p>State-wide bodies and organisation such at the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria etc.</p> <p>Young people in Bass Coast</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Youth service providers</p> <p>YMCA</p>		Within existing resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for funding or partner with other organisations to support leadership opportunities</li> </ul>	<p>State-wide bodies and organisation such at the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria etc.</p> <p>Young people in Bass Coast</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Youth service providers</p> <p>YMCA</p>		<p>Within existing resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and participate in National Youth Week activities</li> </ul>	<p>Young people</p> <p>Youth service providers</p>	<p>Youth Week activities developed and undertaken</p>	<p>Seek funds</p>

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