



**Shire of Derby /
West Kimberley**

Council Plan 2026-2036

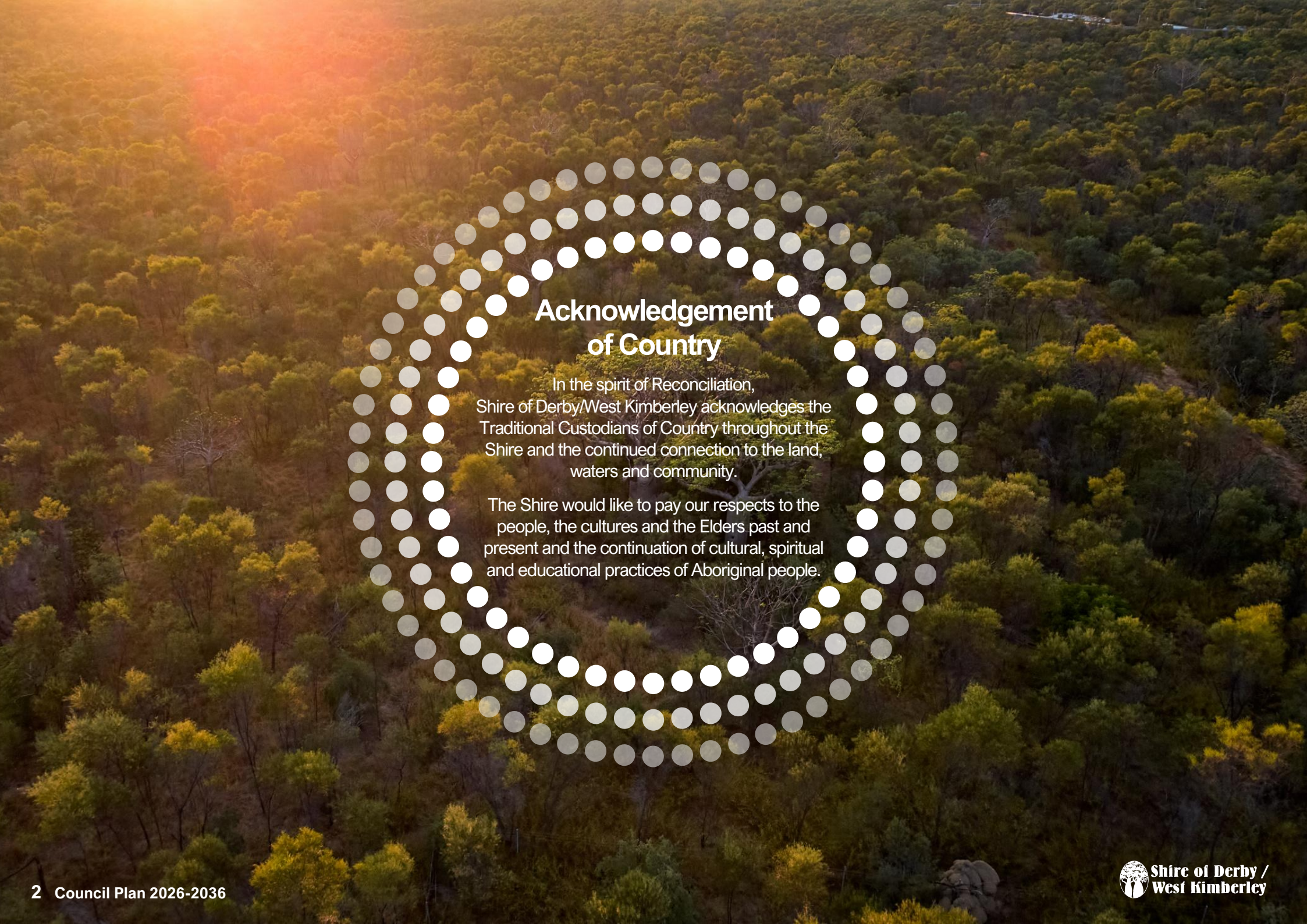
Our plan for the future



An integrated Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Plan and Public Health Plan

Revision 1 – August 2026

FUTYR



Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of Reconciliation,
Shire of Derby/West Kimberley acknowledges the
Traditional Custodians of Country throughout the
Shire and the continued connection to the land,
waters and community.

The Shire would like to pay our respects to the
people, the cultures and the Elders past and
present and the continuation of cultural, spiritual
and educational practices of Aboriginal people.



Contents

Council Plan 2026-2036	1
Acknowledgement of Country	2
Introduction	4
A message from the President	5
The Shire at a glance	6
Our community vision	10
Community values	11
Strategic Community Plan 2026-2036	13
Community priorities	14
Community aspirations	15
Community outcomes	16
Objectives	17
Our role and responsibilities	18
Corporate Business Plan 2026/27-2029/30	20
Outcome 1	21
Outcome 2	22
Outcome 3	24
Outcome 4	26
Outcome 5	28
Outcome 6	30
Outcome 7	32
Outcome 8	35
Outcome 9	36
Outcome 10	40
Outcome 11	43
Public Health Plan	45
Public Health Plan overview	46
Supporting strategies and plans	47
Forecast Statement of Financial Activity	48
Development and reporting	49
Measuring success	50
Local Government Financial Index ratios	51
Contact us	52



Introduction

Welcome to our plan for the future

Shire of Derby/West Kimberley's inaugural **Council Plan** integrates our Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan and Public Health Plan.

It addresses statutory requirements, follows the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework and Guidelines, and adopts the FUTYR® approach for preparing a Council Plan.

Our plan for the future describes the community's 10-year vision, outcomes and strategic priorities and our 4-year plan to deliver services and priority projects to address community needs.

The Shire of Derby/West Kimberley collaborated with community members and local businesses to shape this plan through a series of meetings, surveys and workshops. There was a focus on understanding:

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be?
- How do we get there?

Key elements in the Strategic Community Plan, including community priorities, vision, outcomes and objectives, will undergo a minor desktop review once every two years and a major review once every four years. Key elements in the Corporate Business Plan, including priority projects and resourcing, will be reviewed and updated annually to ensure continued relevance in a changing environment.



Services and projects that support delivery of the **Public Health Plan** are highlighted with a heart symbol throughout this plan.



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A message from the President

In our first Council Plan, we are delighted to present the community's vision for the future and how Council plans to work with the community and key partners to achieve this vision.

Together, we will aspire to grow and strengthen our towns, communities and economy with access to quality housing, services, facilities and infrastructure.

In the face of economic challenges, including a national housing crisis and higher costs of living and doing business, Council must carefully consider how rates are spent when responding to community ideas and aspirations, prioritising what the Shire can and cannot afford.

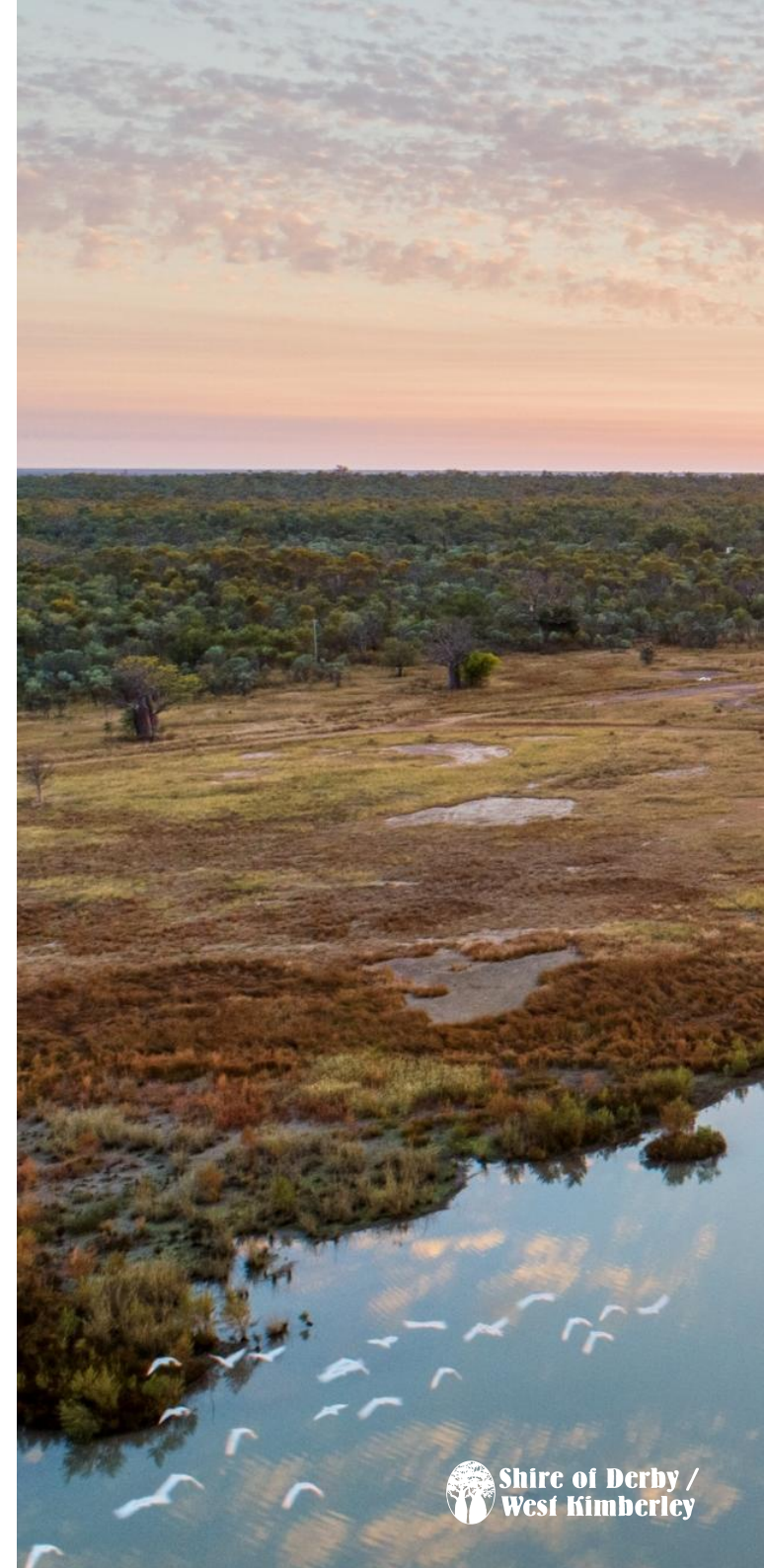
In the short term, Council will focus on debt reduction and sustainable spending to improve the Shire's overall financial health. During this phase, we will undertake service reviews to consider opportunities for viable divestment or best use of available resources for continuous improvement. We will also focus on the community's main priorities, including advocating for more housing, building our economy and improving road safety.

In the medium and long term, we will strive to complete projects to improve overall quality of life for residents, workers and visitors. This includes assessing the feasibility of a centralised recreation facility in Derby and developing a new service delivery model for library services in Fitzroy Crossing and remote Aboriginal communities.

We look forward to working with our key partners and the local community to deliver these important initiatives.

Peter McCumstie

President, Shire of Derby/West Kimberley



The Shire at a glance

Shire of Derby/West Kimberley is known for its rich Aboriginal heritage and rugged natural beauty.

We are Australia's Boab County.

Covering over 120,000 square kilometres, the Shire includes the towns of Derby, Fitzroy Crossing and Camballin and 54 remote Aboriginal communities.

The population is predominantly Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, comprising over 60% of the population. There are 17 distinct language groups, each with their own seasonal calendar. This rich cultural heritage is central to the identity and future of our region.

The Shire is a gateway to some of Australia's most spectacular and unique natural attractions, like the Gibb River Road, Fitzroy River, Windjana Gorge, Devonian Reef and Horizontal Falls, all drawing tourists seeking adventure and unique cultural experiences.

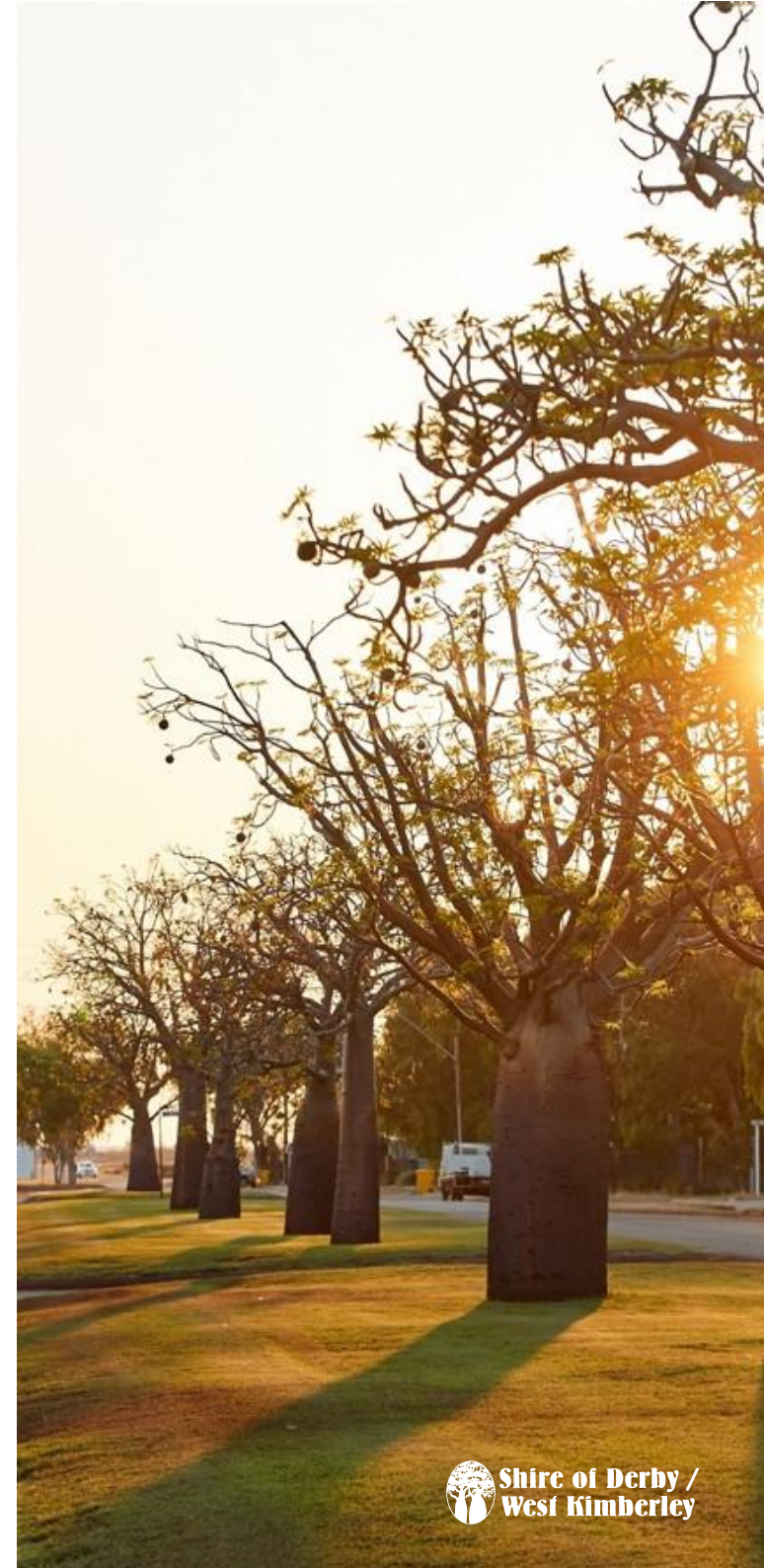
There is a wide range of public and community facilities, including libraries, swimming pools, town ovals, parks, a civic centre, recreation centres, and essential services like a waste management facilities and airports. These amenities support recreation, learning, transport and community engagement across both urban

and remote areas, while iconic locations like the Derby Jetty and community hubs enhance local lifestyle and tourism.

The main industries for employment are education and training and health care and social assistance, followed by public health and administration.

Continued investment in community development, health services, education, digital connectivity and housing – especially in Aboriginal communities – will be critical to improving long-term wellbeing and equity.

Building on its unique assets, the Shire has strong potential for inclusive and sustainable growth, making the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley a truly unique and vibrant place to live, work and visit now, and for the future.



Resident population

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
June 2024, ABS Estimate



8,536

Annual change: 2023-2024
1.2% increase

Socio-economic index for Australia (SEIFA)

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
2021, ABS Census

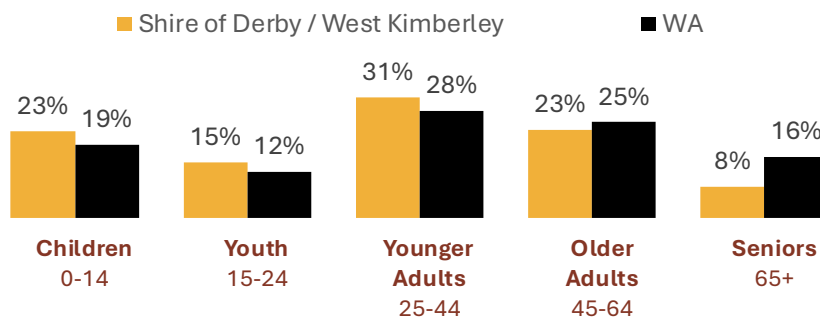


818

Rank: 4 out of 139
WA LGAs

Age profile

2021, ABS Census



Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
2021, ABS Census



60.3%

WA: 3.3%

Profound or severe core activity limitation

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
2021, ABS Census
(excludes not stated)



4.4%

WA: 4.9%

People who speak a non-English language

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
2021, ABS Census
(excludes not stated)



43.5%

WA: 19.6%

Cycle or walk to work

Among employed persons aged 15+ years, 2021, ABS Census
(base excludes work from home, did not go to work and not stated)



25.8%

WA: 3.2%

Long-term health conditions

% residents, 2021, ABS Census (excludes not stated)



Diabetes
(excluding gestational diabetes)

7.2%

WA: 4.8%



Asthma

4.9%

WA: 8.1%



Arthritis

3.9%

WA: 8.4%



Mental health condition
(including depression or anxiety)

3.8%

WA: 9.1%



Heart disease
(including heart attack or angina)

3.2%

WA: 3.9%



Kidney disease

1.6%

WA: 0.8%



Cancer
(including remission)

1.5%

WA: 3.0%



Lung condition
(including COPD or emphysema)

0.9%

WA: 1.7%



Dementia
(including Alzheimer's)

0.7%

WA: 0.7%



Stroke

0.7%

WA: 0.9%



Gross Regional Product

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
2024, REMPLAN



\$509.8M

Annual change:
+\$13.3M (2.7%)

Visitor economy: tourism jobs

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
2024, Kimberley Development Commission



155

5.9% of total jobs

Home ownership

Owned outright
or with a mortgage
2021, ABS Census
(excludes tenure type not stated)



17.4%

WA: 70.1%

Completed year 12 or equivalent

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
2021, ABS Census



36.1%

WA: 62.6%

Housing diversity

Semi-detached house,
townhouse, flat or apartment
2021, ABS Census
(excludes not stated)



7.6%

WA: 19.5%

Volunteering

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
Among 15+ year olds
2021, ABS Census
(excludes not stated)



13.9%

WA: 17.2%

Businesses and jobs

Shire of Derby / West Kimberley
2024, Kimberley Development Commission

Businesses

245

Annual change: -2

Jobs

2,304

+306 offshore jobs

Main industries of employment

2021, ABS Census (% of residents)

Education and Training	Health Care and Social Assistance	Public Administration and Safety	Retail Trade	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Construction
21.9%	20.1%	13.2%	6.3%	5.7%	5.7%
WA: 9.2%	WA: 14.2%	WA: 6.2%	WA: 9.2%	WA: 2.4%	WA: 9.2%

Our community vision

A welcoming community
with opportunities to thrive



Community values

Our shared community values represent what is most important to our community, helping to guide the way we act and the choices we make.

B

Belonging

Everyone feels welcome, valued and included.

O

Open-minded

We listen, learn and embrace different perspectives.

A

Accountable

We act with integrity and take responsibility.

B

Better together

We collaborate, support one another and achieve more as one.

S

Sustainable

We care for our environment and use resources responsibly.

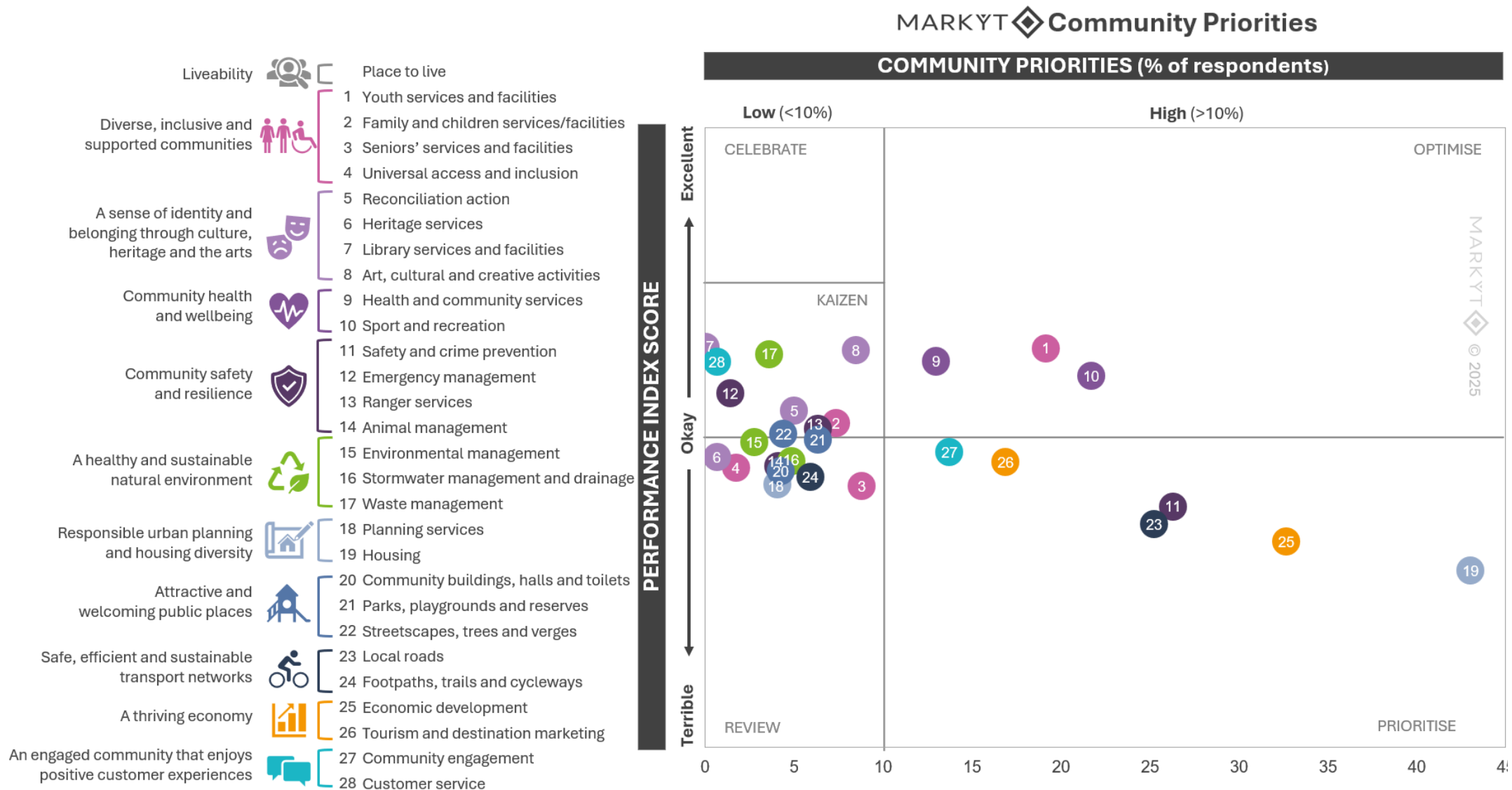




Strategic Community Plan 2026-2036

Community priorities

To understand perceptions of service levels and community priorities, Shire of Derby/West Kimberley commissioned an independent review. In 2025, 154 community members completed a MARKYT® Community Scorecard. The highest performing areas were library services, art and culture, youth services and waste management. Housing was the top priority to focus on improving, followed by economic development, safety, tourism and recreation.



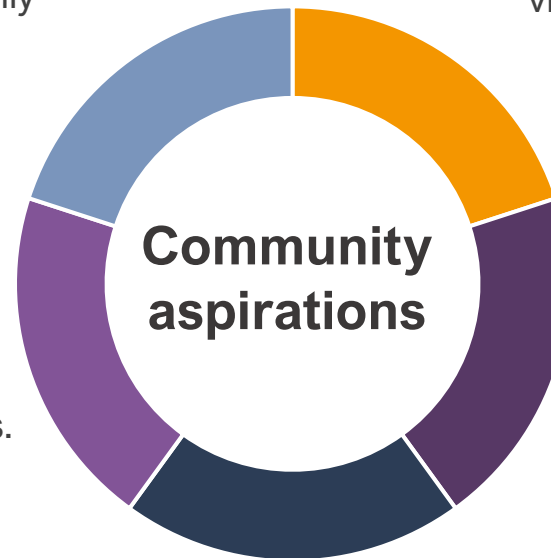
Community aspirations

More and better housing

Advocate for new and repaired housing to improve access to affordable, quality housing and accommodation, especially for workers and vulnerable groups.

Economic and tourism development

Improve overall attractiveness of the shire as a place to live, work and own a business with better housing, infrastructure, facilities and services and improved workforce attraction, training and retention initiatives. Revitalise visitor services and attractions, such as the jetty precinct, to attract more visitors.



Enhanced sport and recreation

Improve sports facilities, parks and playgrounds and recreational marine facilities. Suggestions include oval lighting, new playground equipment, more shade, BBQs and toilets in local parks and a boat ramp walkway.

Safe communities

Advocate for initiatives that continue to manage and reduce crime, including more support for WA Police, lighting and CCTV, youth support programs to address youth crime and antisocial behaviours and better support for people affected by family and domestic violence.

Better, safer roads

Improve road safety with a focus on improved road maintenance and fixing potholes, and more regular grading and sealing of dirt roads.

Community outcomes

Shire of Derby/West Kimberley will work towards achieving 11 core outcomes¹ to meet community needs.



¹ These outcomes align with the FUTYR-11 Community Outcomes for Local Government framework. This framework remains the intellectual property of CATALYSE® Pty Ltd and may not be reused or republished without permission.

Objectives

Local government contributes to overall quality of life in five key performance areas – our people and community, planet, place, economic development (prosperity) and performance. For each of these areas, the Shire engaged the local community to co-create objectives to support achievement of desired outcomes. Our Corporate Business Plan provides further details about principal activities and priority projects Council will deliver to meet community needs.

Outcomes		Objectives
People	 1. Diverse, inclusive and supported communities	1.1 Deliver inclusive facilities and services to enhance quality of life for all ages, cultures and abilities.
	 2. A sense of identity and belonging through culture, heritage and the arts	2.1 Raise awareness and respect for local history, heritage and cultural diversity. 2.2 Grow participation in the arts, creative industries and community events.
	 3. Community health and wellbeing	3.1 Improve access to quality health and community facilities, services and programs. 3.2 Grow participation in sport and recreation activities.
	 4. Community safety and resilience	4.1 Support Police and other key partners to reduce crime and improve community safety. 4.2 Improve the ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from natural disasters and emergencies. 4.3 Encourage responsible animal management.
Planet	 5. A healthy and sustainable natural environment	5.1 Increase awareness and adoption of sustainable practices to care for local resources, habitats and ecosystems.
Place	 6. Responsible urban design and housing diversity	6.1 Support responsible planning and development to meet changing economic and population needs. 6.2 Increase access to diverse and affordable housing options for everyone.
	 7. Attractive and welcoming public places	7.1 Enhance community buildings, parks, streetscapes and other public places.
	 8. Safe, efficient and sustainable transport networks	8.1 Facilitate the delivery of safe roads, paths, supporting infrastructure and transport services.
Prosperity	 9. A thriving economy	9.1 Diversify and strengthen the local economy. 9.2 Facilitate access to quality education and training to meet local needs.
Performance	 10. Effective governance and partnerships	10.1 Maintain a high standard of leadership, advocacy, governance and asset management. 10.2 Enhance community capacity by creating and supporting partnerships and volunteering opportunities.
	 11. An engaged community that enjoys positive customer experiences	11.1 Enhance community engagement and customer experiences.

Our role and responsibilities

Shire of Derby/West Kimberley exists to meet the needs of current and future generations through an integration of environmental stewardship, social advancement and economic prosperity. We strive to achieve the community vision, outcomes and objectives by delivering, partnering and advocating for facilities, infrastructure and services to meet local needs.

Advocate

Council gives voice to the needs and aspirations of the community by advocating for changes in policy and action at relevant levels of government and private industry to bring about the best outcomes for our community.

Deliver

Council is responsible for asset management, compliance and service delivery in accordance with Local Government regulations or as endorsed by Council.

Asset Management

Council maintains, upgrades and operates various public assets, including:

- Local roads
- Paths and trails
- Lighting
- Stormwater infrastructure
- Community buildings and public toilets
- Parks and playgrounds
- Sporting reserves
- Streetscapes
- Shire buildings, vehicles and equipment

Compliance

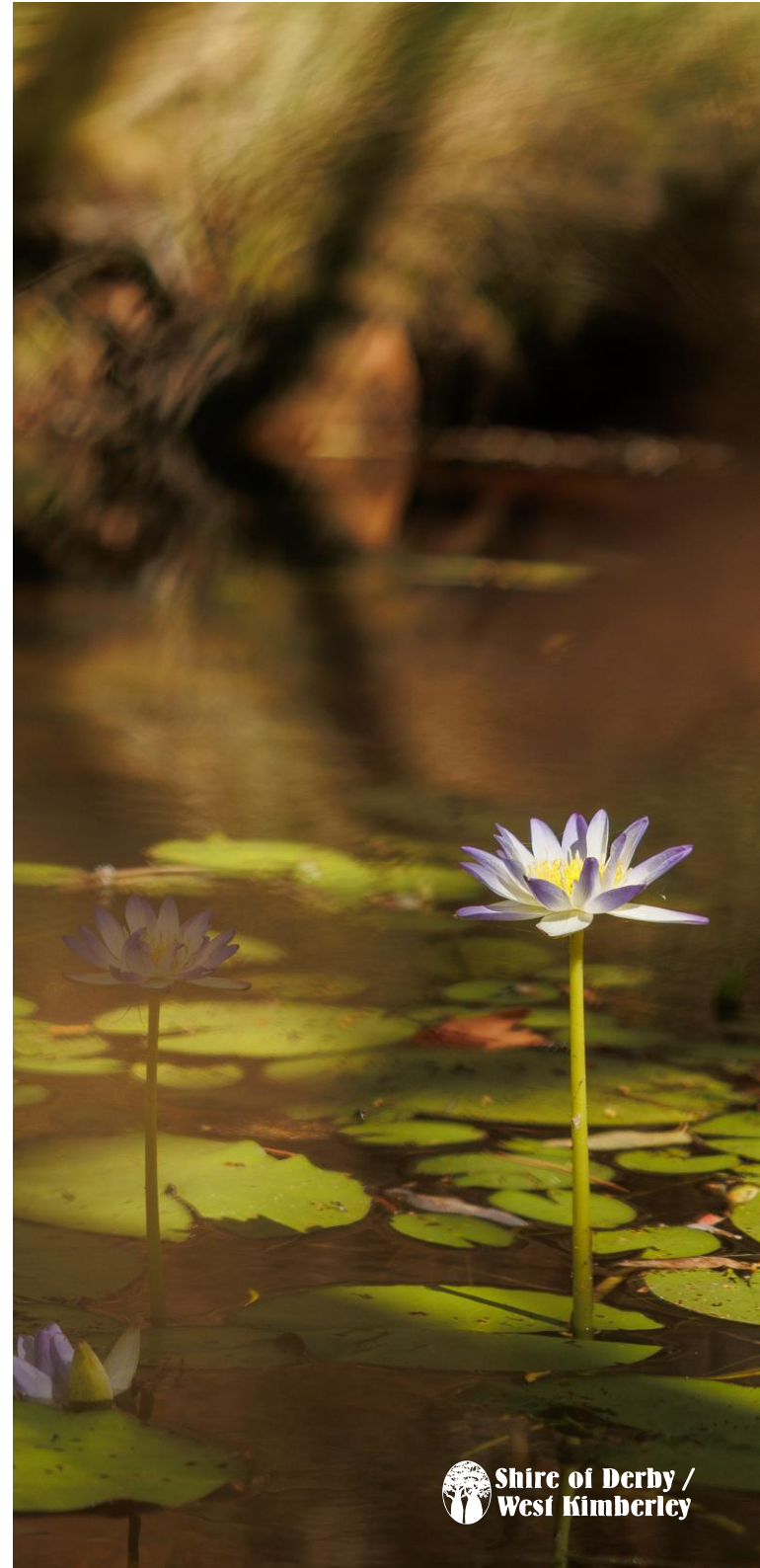
Council ensures compliance with local regulations, policies and by-laws relating to:

- Planning services
- Building services
- Heritage services
- Universal access and inclusion
- Ranger services
- Waste management
- Environmental health services

Service Delivery

Council delivers a wide range of services to meet community needs, including:

- Community development
- Reconciliation
- Sport and recreation
- Art and culture
- Library services
- Museum services
- Community engagement
- Customer service
- Volunteer support services



Partner

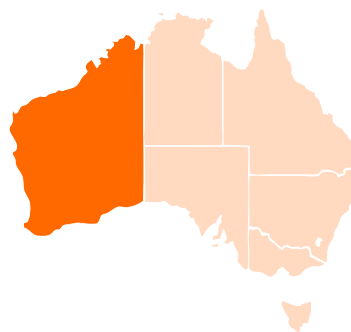
To deliver this plan and meet local community needs, Council builds strategic partnerships with Australian and State Government agencies, non-governmental organisations, the private sector and others whose work contributes towards the community vision and achieving the objectives.



Australian Government

The Australian Government plays a central role in managing national affairs and addressing issues that impact the country, including:

- Indigenous affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Immigration
- Defence
- Welfare programs
- National infrastructure
- Medicare
- Economic regulation
- Education: tertiary
- Environmental protection
- Emergency management



State Government

The Government of Western Australia addresses state-wide issues and needs, including:

- Police, law and order
- Public housing
- Hospitals
- Public health
- State roads
- Public transport
- Economic development
- Tourism
- Education: primary, secondary and vocational
- Land use planning
- Land administration
- Heritage
- Community services
- Emergency services



Other partners

Council collaborates with a range of other stakeholders to address community needs:

- Regional Development Commission
- Neighbouring councils
- Industry and peak bodies
- Major employers, including Rio Tinto, Mount Gibson Iron Limited, and Buru Energy Limited
- Local businesses
- Non-government organisations
- Environmental groups
- Community and cultural groups
- Sporting clubs
- Event organisers
- Funding bodies



Corporate Business Plan

2026/27-2029/30

Diverse, inclusive and supported communities



Objective

1.1 Deliver inclusive facilities and services to enhance quality of life for all ages, cultures and abilities.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Community services	Facilitate access to services and programs for children, youth, families and seniors to meet community needs across different ages and life stages. ♥
Universal access and inclusion	Maintain and update Shire facilities, services and communications to ensure universal access and inclusion for all ages, cultures and abilities. ♥

Supporting strategies and plans

- Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Collaborate with private childcare providers to apply for federal and state government grants and advocate for extra support to meet local childcare and after school care requirements.	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Advocate for the State Government to work more closely with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, schools and businesses to strengthen local youth engagement and employment pathways , including developing more effective programs to address truancy.	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Review Shire facilities to ensure they meet universal access and inclusion standards and recommend a costed works program for Council's consideration to address requirements. ♥	Disability Access and Inclusion Plan	✓				

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

A sense of identity and belonging through culture, heritage and the arts



Objective

2.1 Raise awareness and respect for local history, heritage and cultural diversity.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Heritage services	Support the preservation, maintenance and promotion of local heritage, including Wharfinger's House Museum, Boab Prison Tree, Old Derby Goal, Frosty's Pool, Myalls Bore and Cattle Trough, Derby Jetty, cattle yards, Bungarun, The Centenary Pavillion and Derby and Fitzroy Crossing pioneer cemeteries with cemetery records dating back to 1908.
Citizenship ceremonies	Host citizenship ceremonies to issue certificates and celebrate new Australian citizens.

Supporting strategies and plans

- Economic Development Strategy

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Identify and promote available grants, grant writing assistance and other support services to assist and encourage Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, local artists, schools and community groups to produce stories, film, social media content and town art to promote and celebrate local culture, history and heritage.	Economic Development Strategy		\$			

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

Grow participation in the arts, creative industries and community events.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do	
Service	Service description
Library services	Promote and deliver a range of art, culture and literacy services, programs and events at Derby Public Library.
Art, culture and community events	Host and support cultural, creative and community-building activities and events, such as the Kimberley Art and Photographic Prize and Community Citizen of the Year Awards.
	Support event managers, traders and stallholders to host events and work within the shire by issuing event, trader and stallholder permits.
	Promote local arts activities and events through the Shire's website, "What's on" community event calendar and local noticeboards.

Strategic initiatives						
Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Develop an Arts, Culture and Events Plan including plans to leverage key events like the 2028 Solar Eclipse.			\$			
Establish a new service delivery model for library services in Fitzroy Crossing and remote Aboriginal communities.		\$				

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required



Objective

3.1 Improve access to quality health and community facilities, services and programs.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Community health and wellbeing	Support local community organisations to deliver health and community services to meet local needs, including maternal and infant health and preventative health services (i.e. immunisations). ♥
	Deliver Department of Health community education initiatives to: - Promote public health, food safety, healthy eating and active living - Reduce the burden of chronic disease, infectious and communicable disease, and injury.
	Advocate for improved access to health and community services to address local priorities. ♥
Environmental health services	Monitor registerable premises, such as food businesses, public/private swimming pools, caravan parks and camping grounds, public buildings and public events to identify, prevent and remedy health and environmental related hazards and risks. ♥
	Address environmental health complaints relating to mosquitos, rodents and other pests, food safety, light, noise and odour nuisances, asbestos, and hoarding and squalor. ♥
	Deliver environmental health services in remote and town based Aboriginal communities, including clinical referrals, healthy home assessments, dog health, animal and pest management, community education, animal desexing program and mobile washing machine. ♥

Supporting strategies and plans

- Public Health Plan

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Advocate for improved regional health and wellbeing by supporting the establishment of integrated health and community service hubs in Derby and Fitzroy Crossing, securing mobile dental services for Derby, Fitzroy Crossing and Aboriginal communities, and promoting the need for a local drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre and support services. ♥	✓				

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

3.2 Grow participation in sport and recreation activities.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Sport and recreation	Maintain recreational facilities, including Derby Recreation Centre, Fitzroy Crossing Recreation Precinct, Derby Memorial Swimming Pool, Fitzroy Crossing Swimming Pool, and Derby Golf Course. ♥
	Maintain town ovals, including Derby Town Oval and Fitzroy Crossing Town Oval. ♥
	Facilitate access to sport, recreation and leisure programs. ♥
	Manage facility and equipment hire to support sport and recreation activities and events. ♥
	Support sporting clubs and community groups to access grant funding with letters of support and other assistance. ♥
	Promote local sports and recreational activities and events through the Shire's website, "What's on" community event calendar and local noticeboards. ♥

Supporting strategies and plans

- Sport and Recreation Strategy: Derby and Fitzroy Crossing

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Complete a feasibility study to build a centralised recreation facility in Derby. ♥	Kimberley Investment Prospectus 2021		✓ \$			
Install lights on Derby Oval . ♥		\$				

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required



Objective

4.1

Support Police and other key partners to reduce crime and improve community safety.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Law, order and public safety	Facilitate an inter-agency approach to crime reduction planning and programs, with participation in regional forums for improved coordination across local, state and federal agencies. ♥
	Host the Shire's CCTV network and lighting in public places, with continued advocacy for State Government to expand and fund improvements and ongoing maintenance programs. ♥
	Adopt Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) concepts to facilitate provision of safe buildings and spaces in all town planning and urban renewal projects. ♥
	Promote community engagement initiatives to improve community safety. ♥

Supporting strategies and plans

- Public Health Plan

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Improve community safety by identifying poorly lit areas and advocating for lighting upgrades, supporting local injury-prevention initiatives , and developing a Community Safety Plan in partnership with Police, service providers and the community. ♥	✓	\$			

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

Objective

4.2 Improve the ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from natural disasters and emergencies.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Emergency management	Provide and maintain sufficient facilities, with Federal and State government funding, to enable the community to respond to cyclones, flooding, bushfires and other natural disasters and emergencies. ♥

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Upgrade and strengthen community resilience by scoping required improvements to Derby and Fitzroy Crossing multipurpose recreation/evacuation centres and building cash reserves to enable rapid Shire response following natural disasters or emergencies. ♥	\$ ✓	\$ ✓	✓	✓	✓

Objective

4.3 Encourage responsible animal management.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Emergency management	Deliver ranger services, including public education, patrols, investigation of complaints relating to barking, wandering and lost pets, dog attacks etc. and issuing infringements to encourage responsible animal ownership and compliance with local laws. ♥
	Promote animal advocacy and protection services delivered by key partners. This includes the RSPCA which is responsible for investigating concerns relating to animal cruelty, welfare, neglect or abandonment, and animal shelters that care for and rehome abandoned pets.

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Improve domestic animal management by introducing new initiatives to reduce stray dogs and dog attacks , and encouraging responsible cat ownership – aligned with upcoming State reforms – to minimise impacts on native wildlife. ♥	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

A healthy and sustainable natural environment



Objective

5.1 Increase awareness and adoption of sustainable practices to care for local resources, habitats and ecosystems.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Conservation and environmental management	Support key stakeholders, including the Government, Derby Landcare Group, local businesses and community to manage and conserve local nature reserves and wetlands, including feral animal management.
Pest and mosquito management	Support pest control and public education programs to address priority environmental health concerns, including mosquitos, cane toads and sentinel chickens (through Department of Health Sentinel Chicken Program). ♥
Water management	Promote efficient use and management of water resources.
	Promote safe and effective disposal of wastewater.
	Deliver waste management services including landfill site management, waste collection, operation of septic tanks and litter control.
	Deliver community education campaigns on waste separation, resource recovery, and circular economy practices.
	Promote the Containers for Change scheme; delivered by Nirrumbuk Environmental Health and Services in Derby and the Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health (FISH) in Fitzroy Crossing.

Supporting strategies and plans

- Economic Development Strategy

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Develop a Waste Management Strategy with consideration for a regional approach to recycling, materials recovery, green waste composting and landfill.	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Close and rehabilitate Derby landfill site as this site has reached the end of useful life., new site to be progressed					\$6.6M	
Collaborate with key partners, such as Horizon Power, Energy WA and the Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia, to pilot community-scale renewable microgrids in priority locations.	Economic Development Strategy			\$		
Collaborate with key partners, such as Aboriginal ranger organisations and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, to investigate opportunities for a pilot carbon offset or biodiversity restoration project .	Economic Development Strategy			\$		
Advocate for inclusion of local energy innovation projects in the Northern Australian Action Plan 2024-2029 and State Government renewable energy transition programs.	Economic Development Strategy			\$		

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

A sense of identity and belonging through culture, heritage and the arts



Objective

6.1 Support responsible planning and development to meet changing economic and population needs.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Town planning	Advocate for government and private industry to deliver sufficient, fit for purpose land, infrastructure and utilities, including telecommunication and internet services, to meet current and changing needs.
	Oversee implementation of the Local Planning Strategy and Local Planning Scheme, and assessment of planning applications, to ensure sufficient land availability and optimal land use.

Supporting strategies and plans

- Local Planning Strategy
- Local Planning Scheme
- Economic Development Strategy

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Advocate for the Government to repurpose underutilised Crown land for housing. Identify and promote opportunities to release industrial and commercial land to support economic development.	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Develop Precinct Plans for key sites including Derby Wharf, Derby town centre and Fitzroy Crossing to guide coordinated investment, infrastructure and housing infill projects.	Economic Development Strategy		\$			
Implement subdivision strategies to release land for new housing. Promote land release incentives and flexible development pathways for private sector developers and community housing providers.	Economic Development Strategy		✓			
Work with community to identify sites and land tenure agreements to be investment-ready for renewable infrastructure projects .	Economic Development Strategy		✓			
Continue to review the Local Planning Scheme and infrastructure policies to encourage investment readiness , consistent with infrastructure and workforce goals.	Economic Development Strategy	✓	✓	✓	✓	

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

6.2 Support responsible planning and development to meet changing economic and population needs.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Housing advocacy	Advocate for and support the Australian Government, State Government, private industry and community service providers to deliver diverse and affordable housing to meet local community needs.
Planning and building approvals	Provide planning and building approvals in a timely manner to support land and property owners to increase housing supply and quality.
Worker housing	Provide staff housing to attract and retain essential Shire workers.

Supporting strategies and plans

- Local Planning Strategy
- Local Planning Scheme
- Economic Development Strategy

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Host annual Regional Housing Forums with key partners, including Government, private and community representatives, to agree on an approach to address local housing needs and fast-track delivery of new housing.	Economic Development Strategy	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Advocate to the responsible agencies to renovate, demolish and fast-track replacement of houses that are no longer suitable for the Government Regional Officer Housing Program.		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Prepare and promote a register of sites suitable for new housing developments, including social, affordable and modular homes.	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Investigate opportunities to fast-track approval processes for modular and prefabricated housing and housing projects.	Economic Development Strategy		✓			
Investigate workforce and migration programs to address skills shortages in the construction and housing maintenance sectors.	Economic Development Strategy		✓			

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required



Objective

7.1 Enhance community buildings, parks, streetscapes and other public places.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Facilities management	Maintain public buildings and facilities, including Derby Civic Centre and public toilets.
Parks and playgrounds management	Maintain local parks and playgrounds. In Derby, this includes Apex Park, Lytton Park, Madi's Playground, Nicholson Square, Wharf Park and Stanley Square. In Fitzroy Crossing, this includes Fitzroy Gardens and Fitzroy Crossing Park.
Streetscapes	Maintain nature strips and streetscapes, including the planting and maintenance of street trees.

Supporting strategies and plans

- Economic Development Strategy

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Undertake a comprehensive audit of community facilities , including ovals, youth centres, skateparks, town halls and swimming pools, to assess current condition and undertake community consultation to prioritise required works to include in the Capital Works Program. ♥	Economic Development Strategy Capital Works Program	✓				
Develop a Community Facilities Renewal Program to upgrade and activate community, sport and youth facilities in Derby and Fitzroy Crossing. ♥	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Identify and develop Derby and Fitzroy Main Street Masterplans to create a welcoming and vibrant main street experience for community members and visitors to Derby and Fitzroy Crossing.			✓			

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Prepare a Public Realm Masterplan for Derby and Fitzroy Crossing to: - Identify priority streets, intersections and public spaces for improvement. - Install new street furniture, shaded seating, murals and lighting. - Improve pedestrian connectivity between key civic, retail and tourism nodes. - Provide landscaping, wayfinding and shaded community gathering areas to enhance accessibility and comfort. - Build toilets at Derby and Fitzroy Crossing Cemetery.	Economic Development Strategy		\$			
Prepare a business case and seek funding to deliver a safer boat ramp in Derby.		\$				
Develop a costed Wayfinding and Interpretative Signage Plan to include Derby and Fitzroy Crossing entry statements, Gibb River Road junctions and key tourism attractions.	Economic Development Strategy		\$			



✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required





Objective

8.1 Facilitate the delivery of safe roads, paths, supporting infrastructure and transport services.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Roads	Design, construct and maintain local roads and carparks.
Paths and trails	Design, construct and maintain local footpaths and trails.
Transport licensing	Support vehicle registration and licensing services on behalf of Department of Transport.

Supporting strategies and plans

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sealed Roads Management Plan 2026-2031 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kimberley Investment Prospectus 2021 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trails Plan and Playground Strategy |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport and Recreation Strategy: Derby and Fitzroy Crossing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kimberley 2050 Cycling Strategy (Department of Transport) | |

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Lobby for management of Camballin Road and Camballin Myroodah Road to be transferred to Main Roads WA and for these roads to be resealed to provide a safe, all-weather connection to Looma Aboriginal community .	Kimberley Investment Prospectus 2021					
Carry out the Works Program in the Sealed Roads Management Plan 2026-2031.	Sealed Roads Management Plan 2026-2031	\$	\$			
Complete the Fairbairn Street Upgrade construction phase.		✓				
Advocate for Government to maintain unclassified, orphan roads .		✓				

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required



Objective

9.1 Diversify and strengthen the local economy.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Economic development	Support Derby Chamber of Commerce to facilitate business development.
	Participate in economic development forums and meetings to strengthen relations and collaborations across different agencies and partners, including Kimberley Development Commission, Regional Development Australia: Kimberley, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, Kimberley Ports Authority, and other major employers and service providers.
	Manage film permits to support independent filmmakers to work within the shire.
Tourism services	Continue to engage in the Regional Development Commission working group to identify and prioritise activities to grow tourism.
	Support the development and promotion of local tourist attractions, including: - Boab Prison Tree - Sculptures on the Marsh - Joonjoo Botanical Trail - Wharfinger's Museum - Historical sites - Gibb River Road - Buccaneer Archipelago - Bandilngan (Windjana Gorge) - Dimalurru (Tunnel Creek) National Park - Danggu National Park and Geiki Gorge
Airport management	Operate and maintain local airport facilities.

Supporting strategies and plans

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| • Economic Development Strategy | • The Kimberley Regional Tourism Development Strategy 2023-2033 | • Jina Western Australian Aboriginal Tourism Action Plan 2021-2025 |
|---------------------------------|---|--|

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

Strategic initiatives						
Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Support the Derby Chamber of Commerce to develop and embed a Supplier Mentoring Program to help businesses and organisations to meet tendering and compliance requirements.	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Support Derby Chamber of Commerce to facilitate seed funding and business development workshops to help new and emerging businesses and organisations to access grants and finance.	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Advocate for Kimberley Development Commission to assess tourism accommodation gaps and develop an investment attraction strategy to attract new providers, such as luxury hotels, self-contained accommodation, caravan and camping sites, and experiential accommodation (i.e. Aboriginal sites, station stays, agritourism and glamping).	The Kimberley Regional Tourism Development Strategy 2023-2033 Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Collaborate with key partner Derby Chamber of Commerce, to advocate for and promote Aboriginal-led cultural tourism experiences and cross-promote Aboriginal enterprises.	Economic Development Strategy	\$				
Upgrade Fitzroy Crossing Airport .	Long Term Financial Plan					\$30M

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

Facilitate access to quality education and training to meet local needs.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Education and life-long learning	Advocate for improved access to quality education and life-long learning opportunities within the shire to support present and changing social and economic needs, including resume writing and IT training to utilise important government websites such as MyGov.
	Collaborate with key partners to deliver local literacy programs.

Supporting strategies and plans

- Economic Development Strategy
- WA Regional Education Strategy (State Government)

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	Linked strategies	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Embed local employment, training and skills development in major Shire projects by requiring suppliers to demonstrate local workforce participation and creating opportunities for technicians, apprentices and Aboriginal ranger organisations in renewable energy construction and maintenance.	Economic Development Strategy	✓				
Support education and employment programs linked to recycling and waste reduction, including initiatives that support reuse of old tyres, vehicles and discarded “ghost nets.”	Economic Development Strategy		\$			

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required





Objective

10.1

Maintain a high standard of leadership, advocacy, governance and asset management.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Leadership and governance	Develop and oversee local laws, regulation and policies.
	Administer integrated planning and reporting requirements, including the development and administration of a Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan, Long-Term Financial Plan, Annual Budget, Asset Management Plan, Workforce Plan, Risk Management Framework, and various supporting plans and strategies.
	Develop human resource management policies, procedures and systems for current and future workforce needs.
Asset management	Provide responsible management of Shire assets including council buildings, staff housing, vehicles, machinery and the depot.
Stakeholder management	Work collaboratively with other local government authorities in the Kimberley region, and represent and promote the Shire at appropriate regional, State and Federal forums.
	Broker meetings with State and Federal officers, Ministers, and departmental executives to advance critical issues and stakeholder proposals.

Supporting strategies and plans

• Council Plan	• Asset Management Plan	• Rating and Property Strategy (proposed)
• Long-term Financial Plan	• Workforce Plan	• Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
• Annual Budget	• Risk Management Framework	

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Review and update Shire IT applications to meet universal access and inclusion standards for staff with disability or medical conditions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Prepare key strategic documents , including a Regional Advocacy and Investment Prospectus and a Rating and Property Strategy, to guide funding priorities and ensure fair, sustainable revenue for public services and infrastructure.	✓				

Objective

10.2 Maintain a high standard of leadership, advocacy, governance and asset management.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Community partnerships	Establish and manage relationships and community partnership agreements with community partners.
Volunteer services	Deliver volunteer support services to grow and strengthen community capacity.
Grant management	Fund, promote and deliver grant programs.

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Facilitate the Derby/West Kimberley Prisoner Work Partnership Program.	✓				
Develop a Volunteer Management and Support Strategy.		✓			

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required



An engaged community that enjoys positive customer experiences



Objective

11.1 Enhance community engagement and customer experiences.

Principal activities – what we will continue to do

Service	Service description
Community engagement	Engage with the community to seek feedback and input into Council decisions.
Communications	Inform community members and other key stakeholders about local services, facilities, projects and Council decisions through Shire of Derby/West Kimberley communication channels, including the website, social media pages, newsletters and noticeboards.
Customer service	Deliver excellent customer service.

Supporting strategies and plans

- Social Media Strategy 2024
- Community Engagement Strategy (proposed)

Strategic initiatives

Priority projects	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Future
Develop a Community Engagement Strategy .					

✓ Covered by operating budget \$ Additional funding or resources required

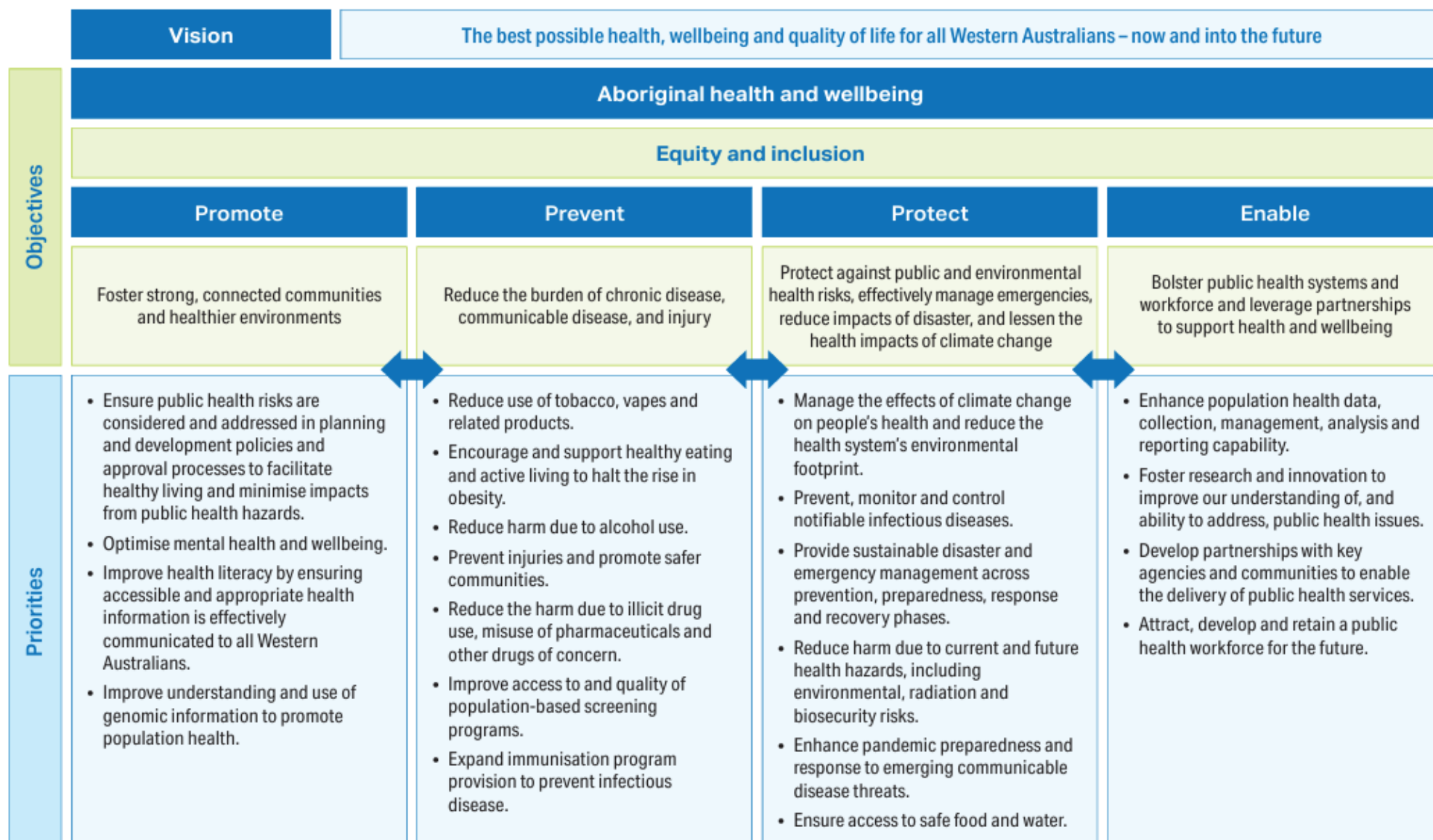




Public Health Plan

Public Health Plan overview

The Shire will support the State Government with localised achievement of objectives and priorities in the State Public Health Plan for Western Australia (illustrated in the diagram below) by implementing a range of services and projects that are indicated with a ♥ symbol throughout this plan.



Supporting strategies and plans

Several strategies and plans informed the creation of this Council Plan and will continue to guide the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley to achieve the community's desired outcomes.

Long-Term Financial Plan

The Long-Term Financial Plan is Council's 10-year financial planning document. It is created with consideration for forecast income, cash flow, rate setting, financial position and equity statements. These statements are supported by details of assumptions on which the plan has been developed, projected income and expenditure, scenario modelling and sensitivity analysis, major capital works schedules, and risk assessments of major projects. As assumptions and forecasts may be impacted by unanticipated social and financial changes, this plan is regularly reviewed and adjusted.

Asset Management Plan

Effective management of local government assets is crucial to the sustainable delivery of services to meet community needs. Asset Management Plans are essential to ensure that assets are created, maintained, renewed and retired or replaced at appropriate intervals to ensure continuity of services at chosen service levels.

Workforce Plan

The Workforce Plan helps to shape the workforce now and for the future. It provides a coordinated approach for resourcing key projects, services, and operations to meet organisational objectives and community priorities. The Workforce Plan profiles the current workforce, considers labour market forces and trends, identifies skill, knowledge and resourcing gaps, advises on recruitment, training and retention strategies to close any gaps, conducts risk assessment and proposes mitigation strategies, and monitors and reports on key performance indicators.

Risk Management Framework

The Risk Management Framework comprises a Risk Management Policy and a Risk Management Plan. The Framework encourages and guides Councillors and officers to identify, analyse, evaluate, treat, monitor and communicate risks to maximise the potential to achieve goals and objectives and minimise potential for harm or loss.

Capital Works Program

The Capital Works Program describes planned works to improve Council-managed assets over the next five years, such as Council buildings and facilities, roads, footpaths, parks and gardens, sporting grounds and cemeteries. The Program includes a project description, estimated budget and funding sources.

Annual Budget

An Annual Budget is a financial plan adopted each financial year that outlines the anticipated revenue and expenditure to fund the delivery of services, infrastructure, and operations within the community.

Other supporting strategies and plans

Local government is required to fulfil statutory requirements through the provision of various documents, such as the Local Planning Scheme, Disability and Inclusion Plan and Public Health Plan. Council also prepares various plans and strategies to provide an in-depth review and assessment of strategic options to address local priorities.

Strategies, plans and frameworks may be downloaded at www.sdwk.wa.gov.au or requested from Shire of Derby/West Kimberley.

Forecast Statement of Financial Activity

The Forecast Statement of Financial Activity is extracted from the Long-Term Financial Plan to provide an indication of funding available for operational activities. The forecast statement should be read in conjunction with the full Long-Term Financial Plan and its underlying assumptions and predications.

	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
FUNDING FROM OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES					
Revenues					
Rates	10,530,255	10,951,464	11,389,522	11,845,103	12,318,907
Grants, subsidies and contributions	9,833,684	10,079,527	10,331,516	10,589,803	10,854,549
Fees and charges	4,485,952	4,620,534	4,759,150	4,901,925	5,048,980
Interest revenue	130,709	151,006	159,663	186,542	223,822
Other revenue	2,702,146	2,769,698	2,838,941	2,909,916	2,982,665
	27,682,746	28,572,229	29,478,792	30,433,289	31,428,923
Expenses					
Employee costs	(10,657,871)	(10,924,317)	(11,197,425)	(11,477,362)	(11,764,298)
Materials and contracts	(12,004,162)	(12,304,269)	(12,611,878)	(12,927,185)	(13,250,370)
Utility charges (electricity, gas, water etc.)	(905,752)	(928,398)	(951,606)	(975,395)	(999,781)
Depreciation	(8,022,826)	(8,663,506)	(9,397,614)	(10,093,108)	(10,345,656)
Finance costs	(202,764)	(176,425)	(151,345)	(126,228)	(104,106)
Insurance	(876,348)	(898,257)	(920,718)	(943,736)	(967,331)
Other expenditure	(761,992)	(781,044)	(800,569)	(820,585)	(841,100)
	(33,431,715)	(34,676,216)	(36,031,155)	(37,363,599)	(38,272,642)
	(5,748,969)	(6,103,987)	(6,552,363)	(6,930,310)	(6,843,719)
Funding position adjustments					
Depreciation	8,022,826	8,663,506	9,397,614	10,093,108	10,345,656
Net funding from operational activities	2,273,857	2,559,519	2,845,251	3,162,798	3,501,937
FUNDING FROM CAPITAL ACTIVITIES					
Inflows					
Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	53,071,730	16,855,523	21,834,736	16,230,605	2,185,550
Outflows					
Purchase of property plant and equipment	(13,591,730)	(13,931,523)	(14,279,812)	(14,744,495)	(662,287)
Purchase of infrastructure	(40,250,000)	(4,458,750)	(8,667,656)	(2,584,538)	(9,989,507)
Net funding from capital activities	(770,000)	(1,534,750)	(1,112,732)	(1,098,428)	(8,466,244)
FUNDING FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Inflows					
Transfer from reserves	0	600,000	300,000	0	4,000,000
New borrowings	0	0	0	0	2,000,000
Outflows					
Transfer to reserves	(811,855)	(946,304)	(1,375,148)	(1,491,210)	(632,645)
Repayment of past borrowings	(692,002)	(678,465)	(657,371)	(573,160)	(403,048)
Net funding from financing activities	(1,503,857)	(1,024,769)	(1,732,519)	(2,064,370)	4,964,307
Estimated surplus/deficit July 1 B/Fwd	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated surplus/deficit June 30 C/Fwd	0	0	0	0	0

Development and reporting

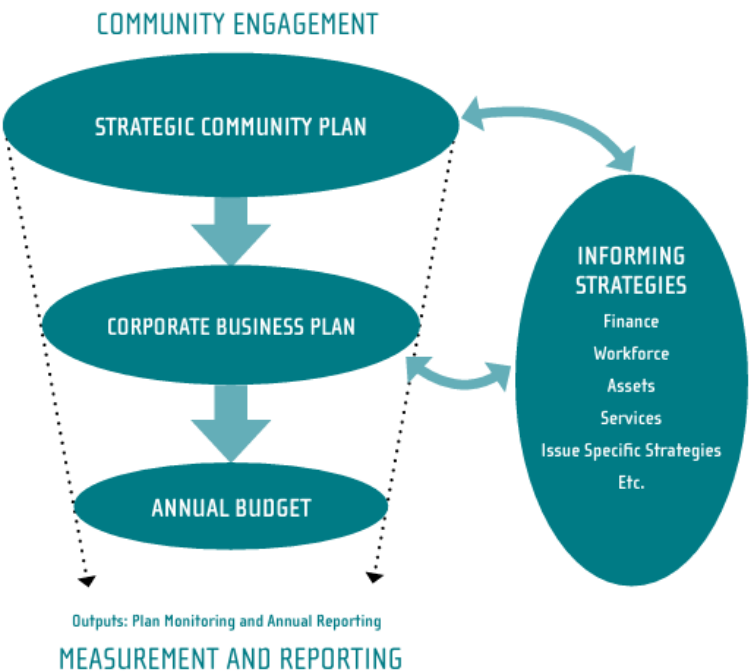
The *Local Government Act 1995* requires that all local governments have a plan for the future. As of 2025, Council was required to adopt a 10-year Strategic Community Plan, 4-year Corporate Business Plan and an Annual Budget. The guidelines suggest these documents are integrated with informing strategies, including an asset management plan, workforce plan, and a long-term financial plan.

To streamline reporting and strengthen integration, the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley is following emerging best practice and has integrated the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan into one succinct document and named it the Council Plan.

In 2025, Council embraced the FUTYR® approach to conduct a major review of its Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan. This is a community-led, integrated and streamlined approach designed specifically for local government. It involved:

- Desktop research.
- Detailed review of current plans and strategies to integrate outcomes and actions.
- Community survey and benchmarking using the MARKYT® Community Scorecard.
- Workshops with councillors, staff, key stakeholders and local community members.

We express our deepest thanks to community members who assisted with development of this Council Plan. We heard from a good cross section of people in the local community, including young people, families, seniors, people with disability, people with diverse cultural backgrounds, local businesses owners and managers, and representatives from local community organisations.



MARKYT 
Community Scorecard

154

Community members

MARKYT 
VoiceBank

3,186

Word count of ideas and suggestions

FUTYR 
Community workshops

3

Community workshops

Council will monitor delivery of this plan and publish regular updates to keep the community informed on progress. In line with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework and Guidelines, Strategic Community Plan components will be reviewed by Council once every two years, with a major review including community engagement once every four years. Corporate Business Plan components will be reviewed and updated by Council annually.

Measuring success

To track progress against outcomes in this plan, Council will use actual and perceived performance measures.

Actual performance data will be regularly updated and reported in the Annual Report.

Community perceptions of performance and service delivery have been measured and benchmarked against industry standards through completion of a MARKYT® Community Scorecard and participation in the MARKYT® Benchmarking Excellence Program.

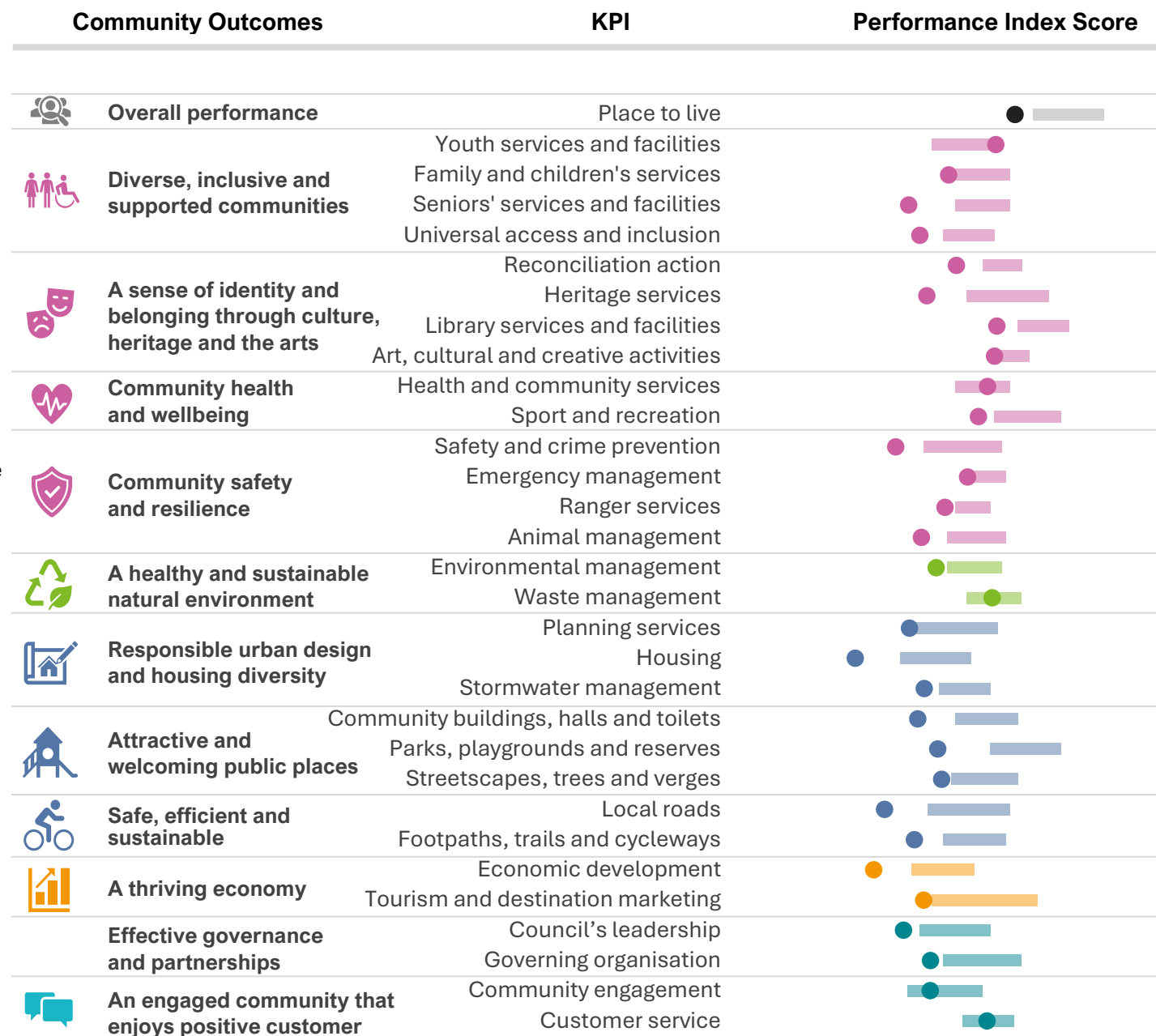
Over the next 10 years, Council has set an aspirational target to be in the Target Performance Zone, shown as the shaded area in the illustration to the right, with performance ratings between industry average and the industry high score.

● Council Performance Score

Source: 2025 MARKYT® Community Scorecard

■ Target Performance Zone

Shading shows industry average to industry high from the MARKYT® Benchmarking Excellence Program. For further information, visit catalyse.com.au



Local Government Financial Index ratios

The Local Government Financial Index (LGFI) provides at-a-glance insights about local government financial positions, based on annual financial year reporting. The LGFI consists of four ratios:

LGFI Ratio	Application	Benchmark
Current Ratio	The Current ratio provides insights to the ability of a local government to meet its short-term financial obligations out of unrestricted current assets.	The benchmark score is 1
Debt Service Coverage	The Debt Service Coverage ratio is the measurement of a local government's ability to repay its debt including lease payments.	The benchmark score is 2
Operating Surplus	The Operating Surplus ratio is a measure of a local government's ability to cover its operational costs and generate funds available for capital funding or other purposes.	The benchmark score is 0
Net Financial Liabilities	The Net Financial Liabilities ratio contrasts the level of debt of a local government to its operating revenue.	The benchmark score is .3



Shire of Derby / West Kimberley

**Do you have feedback or ideas to help
Shire of Derby/West Kimberley continue
to be a welcoming community with
opportunities to thrive?**

Please reach out to Shire of Derby/West Kimberley
to share your thoughts and ideas.

Shire Office	30 Loch Street, Derby
Postal Address	PO Box 94, Derby WA 6728
Telephone	08 9191 0999
Email	sdwk@sdwk.wa.gov.au
Website	www.sdwk.wa.gov.au