



# AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PLAN



June 2016

Final Report

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

It is our great pleasure to introduce the Shire of Victoria Plain's *Age Friendly Community Plan*. This is a vital document to meeting the needs of all residents and community members, both young and old, living in the Shire.

The elderly population in the Shire of Victoria Plains is projected to increase 118.6% or 129 people by 2027. Planning for this increase is crucial and this plan has been created to assess the needs of the Shire of Victoria Plain's ageing community members. In consultation with a reference group, focus group and community survey, and council we have produced the following action plan for creating an even more age-friendly shire. We are very excited to be sharing this plan with you because it is one of the most effective approaches the council can take towards ensuring a smooth transition for our Shire.

An age friendly community is one which recognises the great diversity among older people, respects their decisions and lifestyle choices, and responds flexibly to ageing-related needs. The Shire is committed to helping the community members continue to live in our many localities. After all, the Shire of Victoria Plains offers "one perfect lifestyle" and "a place to grow" old in.

It is also our pleasure to endorse this *Age Friendly Community Plan*. Although we will undoubtedly face many challenges in the upcoming several years, we are confident that this framework will provide the needed support and goals for us as a community to work towards as a community.

**Cr David Lovelock**

President, Shire of Victoria Plains

**Mr Harry Hawkins**

Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Victoria Plains

## KEY POINTS OF THE PLAN

The engagement activities undertaken as part of the development of this Plan found that those who participated enjoy living in the Shire of Victoria Plains. They value the quality of outdoor spaces within the Shire and the social and recreational opportunities available to them. The critical issues, as identified by the community are:

- Need for health and medical services
- Lack of public and/or community transport services to Perth and other Regional Centres
- Provision of safe and suitable footpaths
- Need for improved communication by the Shire

The Shire of Victoria Plains is committed to developing an Age Friendly Community and this plan identifies a number of actions in response to the findings of the community engagement. The high priority actions identified include:

- Actively seeking opportunities to increase health and home care service provision in the Shire
- Increased provision and ongoing maintenance of roads and footpaths
- Construction of ramps to footpaths at critical intersections
- Advocacy on regional transport issues
- Seeking opportunities to increase aged care accommodation
- Working to increase the number of younger volunteers
- Improved Shire communication to ensure residents and visitors can readily access information

This plan sits under the Shire of Victoria Plains Strategic Community Plan, and the Corporate Business Plan. It will be used as an informing strategy, providing direction and a framework for assessing expenditure proposals in future strategic and corporate planning by Shire of Victoria Plains.

A range of key indicators will be used to monitor the success of the Plan.

### **Date of Adoption and Review Schedule**

The Age Friendly Community Plan was adopted by Council on 15 June 2016.

The Age Friendly Community Plan is a long term plan, looking forward for the next 10 years. However; it is not fixed for ten years – it would be long out of date by then. The Shire intend to review the plan annually as part of normal budgetary processes within Council with community input if and where required.



## WHAT IS AN “AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PLAN”?

Age Friendly Communities are those that encourage “active ageing by optimising opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance the quality of life as people age” (World Health Organisation)<sup>1</sup>. An Age Friendly Community is one which:

- recognises the great diversity among older people;
- promotes their inclusion and contribution in all areas of community life;
- respects their decisions and lifestyle choices; and
- anticipates and responds to ageing-related needs and preferences.

A community that exhibits these qualities is not only an Age-Friendly Community it tends to better cater for the whole population, where a wider range of abilities and needs are met.

The Shire of Victoria Plains considers age-friendly community planning vital to undertake for the following reasons:

- By 2027, Wheatbelt population over 70 will have increased by 75.3%
- The proportion of people 70+ will have increased from 10.4% in 2011 to 17% in 2027<sup>2</sup>
- The increase projected for Victoria Plains is 118.6% to 129 people 70+ in 2027.

In addition to this, older adults generally prefer to remain in their own home and continue to be part of their community. Older adults feel safe, valued and respected in their own community and local governments have a key role in ensuring this can occur.

The Age Friendly Community Plan has been developed and structured using the Wheatbelt Development Commissions Age Friendly Community Planning Guide (based on the World Health Organisation Guide to Age-Friendly Cities and Communities). The WHO eight domains of an age friendly community have been configured to reflect Wheatbelt perspectives: health and community services; outdoor spaces and buildings; transport and movement; housing; sport and recreation; social participation; respect and social inclusion; and communication and information.

An Age Friendly Community Plan identifies the priorities and actions discovered in the resulting process. It identifies the age friendly barriers and areas for improvements that have been recognised by the community and council. An Age Friendly Community Plan is an Informing Strategy under the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Framework and needs to be resourced and prioritised in the Shire’s ongoing corporate planning process.

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<sup>1</sup> Note that the Western Australia State Government has adopted the World Health Organisation’s model (see <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/communities-in-focus/seniors/Pages/Age-Friendly-WA-.aspx>).

<sup>2</sup> Verso Consulting 2013, Wheatbelt Integrated Aged Care Plan.

## REGIONAL CONTEXT

This section on the Avon Regional Organisation of Councils (AROC) sub-region has been extracted from the Wheatbelt Aged Support and Care Solutions (WASCS) Report<sup>3</sup>, with a focus on the following sub-sections.

### Demographic Trends

The 70+ population in AROC is increasing at a higher rate than any other sub-region in the Wheatbelt. AROC also has the largest amount of people aged 70 or over in the Wheatbelt. There were 2,100 people aged 70+ in 2011, projected to rise to 4,120 by 2027, an increase of 96.2% or 2,020 people.

The largest increases are projected to occur in Chittering (326 people 70+ in 2011 rising by 191.7% to 951 in 2027), Victoria Plains (59 people 70+ in 2011, rising by 118.6% to 129 in 2027) and Toodyay (428 people 70+ in 2011, rising by 108.4% to 892 in 2027). Northam local government area (LGA) has the largest population of people aged 70+ in the whole of the Wheatbelt. As of the 2011 Census there were 1,087 people aged over 70, and this number is projected to increase to 1,821 by 2027.

Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) scores reflect 'Highly Accessible' through to 'Accessible' areas for localities within the AROC sub-region. Scores range from 1.3029 (Northam Town LGA) to 3.3433 (Dowerin LGA). No LGAs in the sub-region qualify for the viability supplement as these commence at an ARIA score of 3.52 or higher. The AROC sub-region has the highest number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents of any in the Wheatbelt. Most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons live in Northam LGA. 75 of 121 persons aged 50-69 identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in the sub-region live in Northam. Dementia needs are projected to increase rapidly in the AROC sub-region. In 2011 there were an estimated 180 people aged 70+ living with dementia, rising to 252 in 2017, and 386 in 2027.

Insecure tenure numbers for those aged 70+ in AROC sub-region are consistent with WA percentages. Five of six LGAs in AROC sub-region considered relatively disadvantaged according to Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) 2013 Index. Chittering LGA is the only shire scored above 1,000 meaning it is considered relatively advantaged. The highest percentage of people aged 70+ living on a weekly income of less than \$400 reside in the AROC sub-region. This translates to 63.4% of those aged 70+, or 1,331 people throughout the sub-region.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.wheatbelt.wa.gov.au/our-projects/aged-care/>

### AROC Aged Care Support and Solutions Summary

Age Friendly Communities	Home Support and Care			Residential Care
	Home and Community Care (HACC)	Home Care	Respite Care	
All shires to start/progress action in line with WA Seniors Planning Framework (SPF)	Research reported areas of lower availability and shortfalls in available service types. Plan to address gaps.	Providers coordinate to ensure wide Wheatbelt coverage. Plan for high demand growth.	Provide coordination to maximise availability and to utilise available funding	Consult with Juniper re expansion plans and/or new provider to establish facility funding

### Current AROC Service Levels and Provider Summary

HACC	Home Care	Residential Care	Respite Care	Providers
Good but gaps in some Shires	Good but likely covers residential gap	Major supply shortage against planning ratios	Shortages and lacking key forms of respite care	Mainly not for profit. Scope for major expansion in residential care

### AROC Residential beds summary and growth estimate

Currently available	2011 planning ratio target	2027 planning ratio target
97	185	350

## Transport

Transport was identified as the standout deficiency restricting people's mobility and connection as well as access to health care. Addressing this issue at a sub-regional and state level requires a concerted approach. Particular difficulties arise for people living in smaller towns or on farms where there is a lack of organised transport to centres such as Northam. This creates a risk of social isolation.

Difficulties also include access to medical facilities in the Metropolitan area, particularly from Midland to the hospital. Residents of Chittering, Northam and Toodyay do not qualify for the Patient Assistance Transport (PAT) Scheme for medical appointments, adding to the logistical demands of the travel and throwing a financial burden onto family or friends.

## Older Persons Housing

All shires in the AROC sub-region, except for Northam, reported waiting lists for available older persons housing (Northam information may have been incomplete). Population projections imply escalating demand, with a near doubling of the sub- regional 70+ population in the next 15 years.

The shire roles will need to be shared with housing organisations and/or supported with new resourcing. State government agencies can play a positive role by working with the sub-region to develop innovative approaches. Varied ownership options need to be examined to meet the range of older people who may be seeking appropriate, well located housing.

Where shires are required to be involved they will be understandably reluctant to assume all the burden of assessing, planning and facilitating the building of required housing. A collaborative approach will be needed, involving local housing organisations, shires, AROC and state government.

## Care at Home

Most sub-region shires report good levels of HACC service but Chittering and Victoria Plains show a lower level of HACC availability according to state HACC data. Evidence gathered for this project indicates that there is a variable range of HACC services delivered in different shires. For example, delivered meals are not available in Chittering or Victoria Plains. That shire, along with Dowerin and Chittering, appear to have a smaller available range of HACC services. Goomalling reports the largest available range of HACC services. There is reportedly good current availability of the higher level Home Care packages in most sub-region shires, although some report deficiencies (Dowerin and Victoria Plains).

The generally good availability of Home Care is likely because many of the Wheatbelt's Home Care providers are based in the sub-region. However, there is a major challenge facing the AROC sub-region. By 2022, the new Home Care planning ratios will have increased dramatically and the projected 70+ population in the AROC is predicted to be 3,319. After applying the new ratios to the higher population, the number of available Home Care packages in the sub-region should rise to 153. There will need to be 100 new Home Care places made available in AROC over the next nine years.

Note that on available evidence the locally based supply of Home Care may be masking the current Residential Care gap (see below), but, in addition, it is suspected that this is also tending to 'capture' Home Care places in the sub-region to the detriment of the remaining Wheatbelt. There was also evidence of difficulties in accessing support or care in the home in some of the shires within the sub-region e.g. Dowerin.

## Residential Care

Residential Care is available primarily at not for profit facilities in Northam and at the Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) Multi-Purpose Service at Goomalling. There are 97 operational/funded beds in the sub-region. This is far short of the numbers that should be available under Commonwealth planning ratios which, on a 2011 population of 2,100, stood at 185 beds under the then ratios.

Looking to the future, predicted 70+ population growth to 4,120 by 2027 yields a planning requirement for around 330 total beds to be available inside 15 years i.e. more than 230 additional beds will likely be needed over current capacity within a relatively short planning timeframe.

Many Residential Care facilities are of fairly old design or built as low care “lodges” and many are not suitable for delivery of modern aged care despite the best efforts of staff.

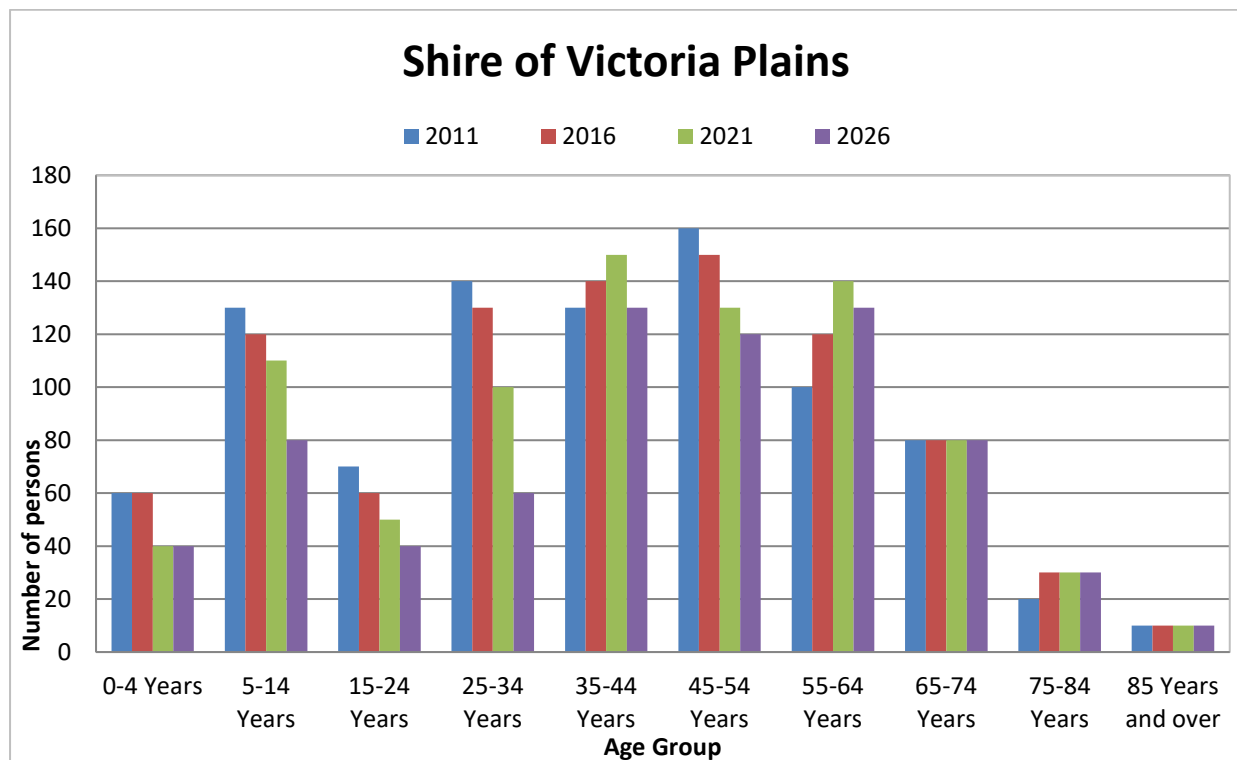
Likely solutions to future aged care needs in this sub-region will have to involve consideration of the essential role of non-government providers. Investment decisions by providers will be needed soon. The level of potential demand for Residential Care could be regarded as a positive in this context. It gives the opportunity for the existing provider to invest in substantial expansion or alternatively offers the chance for a new provider to establish in the sub-region on an economic scale.

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Shire of Victoria Plains comprises the towns and localities of Bolgart, Calingiri, Gillingarra, Mogumber, New Norcia, Piawaning, Waddington and Yerecoin. It is located approximately 160 kilometres north of Perth and covers an area of 2,569 square kilometres. The Shire has a population of 1000 residents.

Figure 1 below, is indicative of the Shire's projected age profiles from 2011 to 2026. The graph illustrates a noticeable increase in the age cohorts from 55 to 85 years of age and older. The largest difference is expected to occur in the cohort of 55 to 64 years of age. The number of persons in 2011 was recorded as 100 and this number is expected to rise to 130 in 2026. This accounts for a 30% increase of this age cohort. The amount of 75 to 84 year olds will also see an increase. The recorded number of this age cohort was recorded as 20 in 2011 and is projected to reach 30 in 2026, accounting for a 50% increase in population size. This aging population will place a significant amount of pressure on existing services in the Shire of Victoria Plains unless they are accounted for.

Figure 1: Projected age profiles for the Shire of Victoria Plains from 2011 to 2026<sup>4</sup>.



<sup>4</sup> <http://www.planning.wa.gov.au/publications/6196.asp>

# HOW THIS PLAN WAS DEVELOPED

## Overview

The planning model used in this Plan consists of a four step solution-focused process. It has ultimately produced an Informing Strategy consistent with and complementary to the Shire of Victoria Plains' Strategic Community Plan. The first step is to gain an understanding of each unique local community. A collaborative process involving service providers and seniors themselves is then used to develop a three to five-year plan. Each stage naturally progressed into the next, with the first three steps providing the essential information for understanding the current and longer term needs and preferences, as the basis for strategic planning and action.

## Grant Funding

The Shire of Victoria Plains applied for 2014 – 2015 Age-Friendly Communities Regional Local Government Strategic Planning Grants Program. This program, run by the Department of Local Government and Communities, seeks to “optimise opportunities for health, participation, and security by establishing policies, services and structures that improve the quality of life of community members as they age.” The grant funding itself is to assist local governments in regional Western Australia to collect and analyse given findings in respect of the Age-Friendly Communities Framework. Funding was awarded at up to a rate of \$10,000 per project.

## Partnership with Chittering

In order to reap the most benefit from the Age-Friendly Communities grants, Shires were encouraged to team up with another, similarly geographically located Shire in order to ensure funding of both projects. As the Shires of Chittering and Victoria Plains are part of the Avon Regional Organisation of Councils and are geographically adjacent, they agreed to collaborate on completing their Age Friendly Community Plans, in order to take advantage of the regional perspective and economies of scale.

The two Shires decided to follow the Wheatbelt Development Commission's Age Friendly Community Planning Guide. They have a strong shared commitment to becoming age friendly communities and a common view of how the planning will benefit their communities, the approach, project outcomes and how the objectives will be met.

## Audit

The Shire of Victoria Plains undertook an Age Friendly Community Planning Audit in February 2015 and then again in November 2015. This audit was designed to capture information for the purposes of identifying whether the community is an Age Friendly Community across eight “domains” that are particularly relevant to the wellbeing of seniors. Each domain contains a number of components, sometimes divided into sub-domains. This information enables the Shire and the community to assess where improvements are needed and assist in informing the wider age friendly community planning that will guide future activities and investments. The Report was prepared using the Wheatbelt Development Commission's Age Friendly Community Planning Audit Tool.

## **Reference Group**

As part of the conditions of fulfilment for the grant, the Shire of Victoria Plains established a reference group that guided and supported the project, liaised with the Department of Local Government and Communities and reviewed the draft reports.

## **Consultation**

The Shire conducted both focus groups and a survey in order to consult with community members. The Shire of Victoria Plains' focus groups were aimed at both seniors and service providers. They were structured around the eight WHO AFC domains with participants involved in assessing these features in their own communities. A survey was developed and posed a standard set of questions structured around the eight WHO domains. It was promoted to persons within the Shire of Victoria Plains in both electronic and hardcopy forms.

In addition to this, the council was consulted through an issues and options workshop. They were given the results of the community engagement and prioritised various community member concerns that were then used to inform the creation of this Plan.



## LINKS TO OTHER PLANS AND POLICIES

### **Strategic Community Plan**

The Shire of Victoria Plains Strategic Community Plan (2013/14) describes the community priorities for the ten year period from 2013/14 – 2022/23 and the key activities the Shire will focus on to achieve the community aspirations. The Strategic Community Plan presents four goals including “Community - Increase the sustainability of the community”. One of the strategies under this goal states they will develop a ‘Health Services Plan’ that identifies ways to increase the number of health professionals to support the area and provide more aged housing/accommodation.

### **Corporate Business Plan**

The Shire of Victoria Plains Corporate Business Plan (2013/14) translates the community aspirations outlined in the Strategic Community Plan into an implementable work program. The Corporate Business Plan identifies several aspects related to ensuring an age friendly community with a particular focus on health care and accommodation.

### **Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2015 – 2020**

The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) is required under The Disability Services Act 1993 with the aim of planning and implementing improvements across seven outcome areas. These plans benefit people with disability, older people, young parents and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. The Shire of Victoria Plains DAIP identifies a range of access improvement opportunities that will have a particular benefit to older people in the community. Some of these actions are very closely related or a duplicate of the priority actions identified within this Plan. This correlation reinforces the importance of this Plan and the broader community outcomes beyond older people.

## FINDINGS

### Summary of Audit Findings

Contained below is a summary of the extensive findings compiled in an Audit report. The complete Audit can be found in Annex 1.

#### Health and community services

- There is not a GP or health centre located within the Shire of Victoria Plains
- Wongan Hills and Goomalling Hospitals were within 60 minutes of Calingiri and Bolgart. Moora Hospital is within 60 minutes of Yerecoin.
- There are dental services located within 60 minutes of the town in Moora, Bindoon and Goomalling but there are no dental services located within the Shire.
- There is a lack of ambulance volunteers.
- There are no allied health services or pharmacies within the Shire.
- The Health and Community Care Services provided include:
  - domestic assistance, including helping with cleaning, washing and shopping; and
  - social support including social outings.

#### Outdoor spaces

- Several open spaces were surveyed for the audit. Specific results for these parks and outdoor spaces can be found in the report.
- Parks generally have disability access and are adequately wide enough for at least one wheelchair, gopher or walking frame.

#### Public buildings

- Public buildings surveyed include administration buildings, a town hall and library and other public buildings of note. Full details and results for these buildings can be found in the full report.
- Buildings were generally accessible with non-slip floors.

#### Transport and movement

- The newer footpaths in the Shire are built to a high standard. There are older footpaths that are narrow and adequate for one wheelchair, gopher or walking frame. Footpaths are generally well maintained and free of obstructions.
- Traffic signs are generally well placed and visible.
- There is no community transport available in the Shire of Victoria Plains. Other community transport is available in the form of friends, family and neighbours only. Arrangements can be made with the Shire of Chittering and Shire of Wongan for use of their community bus.

#### Housing

- There is not sufficient suitable housing for meet the needs of the ageing population in the future.

Information regarding the following areas is available in the Engagement Report, found in Annex 2:

- Sport and recreation
- Social participation
- Respect and social inclusion
- Communication and information

## Summary of Engagement Report

It is clear from the results of the engagement activities that both survey respondents and focus group participants enjoy living in the Shire of Victoria Plains. However, the research also shows that the community feel that there are some opportunities for improvement regarding the provision of key services in order to create an age friendly community. The full Engagement Report can be found in Annex 2.

The key findings are:

- A total of 12 individuals participated in the focus group (seven seniors and five service providers) and 19 individuals participated in the surveys.
- Of those seniors who participated, 100% of survey respondents and 79% of focus group participants are retired.
- The majority of both survey and focus group respondents believe that improved provision of health and community services and maintenance of footpaths and roads will lead to a more fulfilling experience for seniors in the Shire of Victoria Plains.
- Focus group participants believe the most important issues for aged persons in the Shire of Victoria Plains are:
  - Increased access to full health and community services
  - Increased communication with seniors regarding services the Shire provides
  - Maintenance of footpaths and roads
- Survey respondents believe the most important issues for aged persons in the Shire of Victoria Plains are:
  - Increased provision of medical services
  - Provision of a district nurse or equivalent
  - Access to medical services for those who are unable to drive
  - Communication by the Shire.

## THE PLAN

The Plan is based on the eight domains of an age friendly community (two of which have been combined based on community feedback), each with a number of associated actions as listed in the following table. These are designed to allow Council to respond to changing needs and ensure support for the wellbeing of the Shire of Victoria Plains ageing population. Many of the actions outlined are able to be implemented within existing resources however any new or expanded activity will be considered through the Shires standard corporate planning processes.

Health and Community Services				
Objective	Actions	Priority	Within existing resources?	Others involved
Ensure older people have access to quality and reliable health and community services allowing them to age in place and keep travel to a minimum.	Actively seek opportunities to increase the availability of medical services in the Shire	High	Yes	WA Country Health
	Facilitate and advocate for support services for seniors in their own home	High	Yes	Silverchain Aged Care Service Providers

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings				
Objective	Actions	Priority	Within existing resources?	Others involved
Create outdoor spaces and movement networks that promote mobility, independence and quality of life for older people.	Well planned maintenance of roads and footpaths	High	Yes	
	Increased provision of footpaths	High	No	
	Increased provision of street lights across the Shire	Medium	No	Western Power
	Increased seating on main walking routes	Medium	Yes	
	Gently sloping ramps to footpaths at key intersections	High	Yes	

Transport and Movement				
Objective	Actions	Priority	Within existing resources?	Others involved
Ensure seniors have access to safe and consistent transport options.	Investigate and actively seek opportunities to acquire a community bus	Medium	Yes	Funding Providers
	Advocacy on regional transport solutions	High	Yes	Neighbouring Shires Wheatbelt Development Commission

Housing				
Objective	Actions	Priority	Within existing resources?	Others involved
Investigate and advocate for accessible, affordable and diverse housing options that contribute to the ability of people to stay in their community.	Seek opportunities to increase provision of aged care accommodation	High	Yes	AROC State Government Federal Government Age Care Providers

Sport and Recreation				
Objective	Actions	Priority	Within existing resources?	Others involved
Provide facilities and recreation services that contribute to the social and physical wellbeing of older community members.	Better use of existing facilities	Medium	Yes	Community Organisations
	Facilitate effective succession planning for volunteers	Medium	Yes	Volunteering WA Community Groups/ Organisations

Social Participation/Respect and Social Inclusion				
Objective	Actions	Priority	Within existing resources?	Others involved
Facilitate opportunities for community members to engage with each other through volunteering and events.	Facilitate and actively seek opportunities to increase the number of young volunteers with a particular focus on Calingiri.	High	Yes	Volunteering WA Community Groups/ Organisations
	Increase and promote community involvement with Council decision making (i.e. Maintenance priorities)	Medium	Yes	Community Groups / Organisations

Communication and Information				
Objective	Actions	Priority	Within existing resources?	Others involved
Ensure high quality, reliable and up to date information is made available to older people in the community.	Improved Shire communication	High	Yes	Regional newspapers ABC radio
	Access to information for residents and tourists	High	Yes	
	Facilitate improve communication between agencies providing services in the Shire.	Medium	Yes	

## IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

Implementation of this plan will occur through ongoing corporate planning. Resourcing of any new or expanded initiatives will need to be considered through the due process of the Shire's Integrated Planning and Reporting.

This Age Friendly Community Plan reflects the Shire's strong commitment to optimising opportunities for health, participation and security for ageing community members. This commitment is aligned to the Western Australia State Government an Age Friendly WA: The Seniors Strategic Planning Framework. The Shire is not the only agency with responsibility for ensuring an age friendly community and the exact contribution it makes is difficult to measure. Indicators outlines below will rely on consultation with community, relevant stakeholders and service providers. A large number of other factors influence how the ageing population experience community life across the eight domains of an Age Friendly Community. However, the Shire will monitor a set of key indicators as outlined below to track the progress of the sector in terms of the overall goal of the Plan.

Indicators
Health and Community Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community satisfaction with availability and access to health and medical services</li> </ul>
Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community satisfaction with footpaths</li> <li>Community satisfaction with the provision of seating and lighting across the Shire</li> </ul>
Transport and Movement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquisition of a community bus</li> </ul>
Housing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in the provision of aged care accommodation</li> </ul>
Sport and Recreation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community satisfaction with Shire facilities</li> <li>Succession plans developed with volunteer groups</li> </ul>
Social Participation/Respect and Social Inclusion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consistent or growing number of younger volunteers</li> <li>Increased community involvement with Council decision making processes</li> </ul>
Communication and Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community satisfaction with the provision of Shire information</li> </ul>

## ANNEX 1: AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY AUDIT REPORT





# Shire of Victoria Plains Age Friendly Community Audit

Version 2.0

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## **Audit Title**

Shire of Victoria Plains Age Friendly Community Audit

## **Conducted on**

6/02/2015 1:53 pm

17/11/2015 1:05 pm

## **Prepared by**

Localise

## **Personnel**

Mark Dacombe, Director, Localise

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## INTRODUCTION

### Introduction

The Age Friendly Community Audit Report is designed to capture information for the purposes of identifying whether the community is an Age Friendly Community across eight “domains” that are particularly relevant to the wellbeing of seniors. Each domain contains a number of components, sometimes divided into sub-domains.

This information enables the Shire and the community to assess where improvements are needed and assist in informing the wider age friendly community planning that will guide future activities and investments.



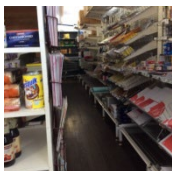
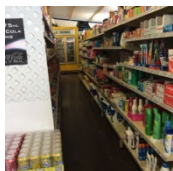
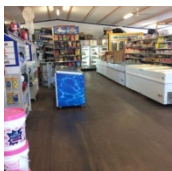
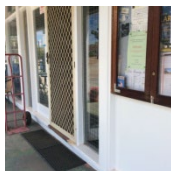
The Report has been prepared using the Wheatbelt Development Commission’s Age Friendly Community Planning Audit Tool.

#### Document History


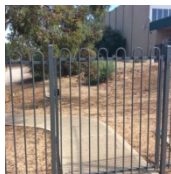



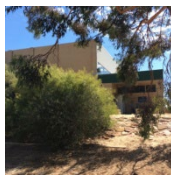
- Version 2.0 is a comprehensive version of the document. All effort has been made to fill existing gaps left in Version 1.0. Completed 17/11/2015 1:05 pm by Jen Perry.
- Version 1.0 is a preliminary version, focusing on the physical site audit, existing knowledge and seniors’ feedback where available to robustly identify small improvement projects that can make a difference to seniors’ wellbeing in the short term. A shortlist of suitable projects will be prioritised through the Wheatbelt Development Commission’s prioritisation tool, and the highest ranking projects will be submitted for grant funding. Completed 6/02/2015 1:53 pm by Mark Dacombe and Harry Hawkins.


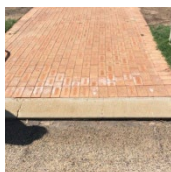
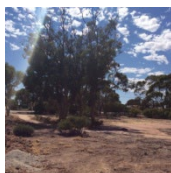



## HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES




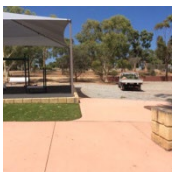

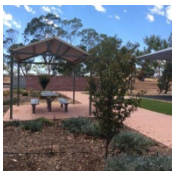

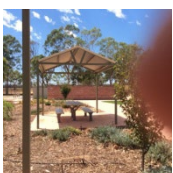
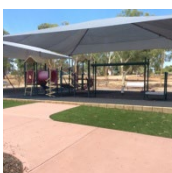

Question	Response	Details
<b>GP/Health Centre</b>		
Is there a GP service in your community?	No	
<b>Hospital</b>		
Is there a hospital within 60 minutes from the town?	Yes	Wongan Hills and Goomalling Hospitals within 60 minutes from Calingiri and Bolgart. Moora Hospital within 60 minutes from Yerecoin
Does the hospital have an Emergency service?	Yes	All 3 Hospitals have Emergency service
Is the hospital in your local government area?	No	
<b>Dental</b>		
Is there a dental service within 60 minutes from the town?	Yes	Moora Bindoon Goomalling
Is the dental service in your local government area?	No	

Question	Response	Details
Allied health services		
Are there allied health services (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, podiatry, physiologist, dietitian etc.) within 60 minutes from the town or visiting services available?	No	
Pharmacy		
Is there a pharmacy?	No	
Shopping		
Is there a shopping complex or precinct?	Yes	Bolgart shop
		
Appendix 1		
Insert address of shopping complex or precinct.	Bolgart	
		
Appendix 2		
Is there disability access into the shops?	No	Small ramps required (see Appendix 3)
<div></div>		
Appendix 3Appendix 4Appendix 5Appendix 6		
Is disability parking available?	No	
Is the shopping complex or precinct accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Health and Community Care Services (HACC)		
Is a Home and Community Care (HACC) service provided?	Yes	
Which HACC services are provided?	Domestic assistance, including helping with cleaning, washing.	
Is the service promoted in the community?	1 – Not at all	
Are seniors satisfied with the provision of HACC services?	See <i>Engagement Report: Towards an Age Friendly Community Plan (2015)</i>	

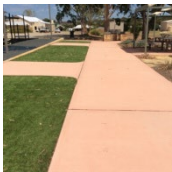
## PUBLIC SPACES AND PARKS

Question	Response	Details
Progress Park		
Address	Yulgering Road, Calingiri	
<div></div> <div>Appendix 7</div>		
Is there disability access?	Yes	Pathway Child proof gate may be a barrier
<div></div> <div>Appendix 8</div>		
Is disability parking available?	No	
Is the park accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the park well shaded?	Yes	Large trees, which are a problem with debris
<div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Appendix 9      Appendix 10</div>		
Are there well scattered benches or seating?	Yes	
<div></div> <div>Appendix 11</div>		
Is the park well lit?	Yes	Under gazebo and spot on hall
<div></div> <div>Appendix 12</div>		
Are there footpaths within the park?	Yes	
Is the footpath wide enough for wheelchairs/gophers/walking frames?	Adequate for one wheelchair/gopher (1.0m - 1.49m)	
Are pedestrian and cycle access separated?	No	



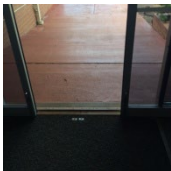
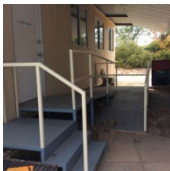


Question	Response	Details
Are footpaths well maintained and free of obstructions?	Yes	
Federation Memorial Park		
Address	Yulgering Road, Calingiri	
		
Appendix 13		
Is there disability access?	Yes	
		
Appendix 14		
Is disability parking available?	No	
Is the park accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the park well shaded?	No	
		
Appendix 15		
Are there well scattered benches or seating?	Yes	
  		
Appendix 16	Appendix 17	Appendix 18
Is the park well lit?	No	Spots on obelisk
Are there footpaths within the park?	Yes	
Is the footpath wide enough for wheelchairs/gophers/walking frames?	Adequate for two wheelchairs/gophers (1.5m or above)	
Are pedestrian and cycle access separated?	No	
Are footpaths well maintained and free of obstructions?	Yes	
Bolgart Memorial Park		
Address	Bolgart	

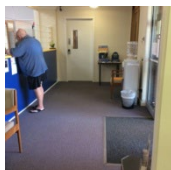
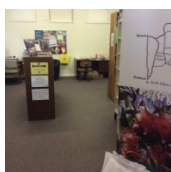
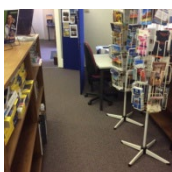
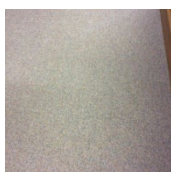
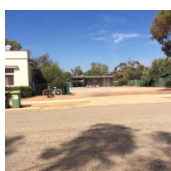

Question	Response	Details
  <p>Appendix 19      Appendix 20</p>		
Is there disability access?	Yes	Behind hall, disabled toilet alongside park
 <p>Appendix 21</p>		
Is disability parking available?	No	Can drive right to hard area
 <p>Appendix 22</p>		
Is the park accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the park well shaded?	Yes	
  <p>Appendix 23      Appendix 24</p>		
Are there well scattered benches or seating?	Yes	
   <p>Appendix 25      Appendix 26      Appendix 27</p>		
Is the park well lit?	No	Light on BBQ
 <p>Appendix 28</p>		
Are there footpaths within the park?	Yes	





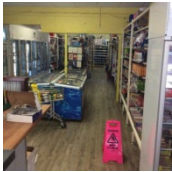
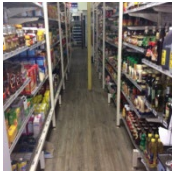
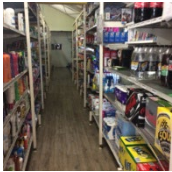

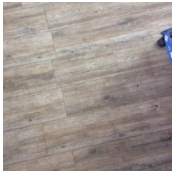
Question	Response	Details
 <p>Appendix 29</p>		
Is the footpath wide enough for wheelchairs/gophers/walking frames?	Adequate for two wheelchairs/gophers (1.5m or above)	
Are pedestrian and cycle access separated?	No	
Are footpaths well maintained and free of obstructions?	Yes	



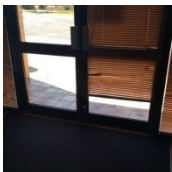
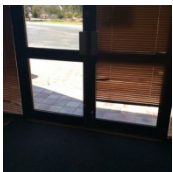
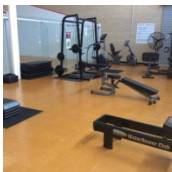
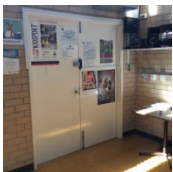
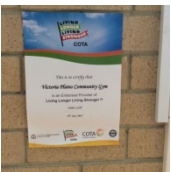

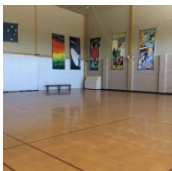
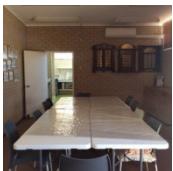
## PUBLIC BUILDINGS





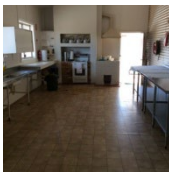

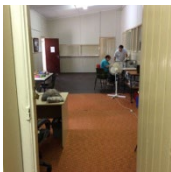
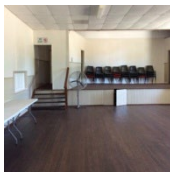
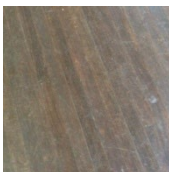
Question	Response	Details
Administration Building		
Address	28 Cavell Street, Calingiri	
<div></div> <div>Appendix 30</div>		
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?	Yes	
<div></div> <div>Appendix 31</div>		
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?	Yes	Small reception area opening into library. Good signage.
Is there disability access into the building?	Yes	Self-opening door Council chambers separate
<div><div><div></div><div>Appendix 32</div></div><div><div></div><div>Appendix 33</div></div><div><div></div><div>Appendix 34</div></div><div><div></div><div>Appendix 35</div></div></div>		
Is disability parking available?	No	Front area being redesigned to include
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?	No	



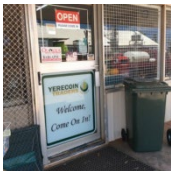
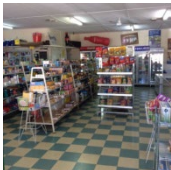
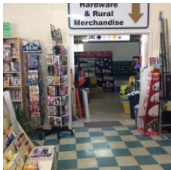
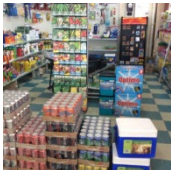
Question	Response	Details
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?	No	1120mm
<div></div> <div>Appendix 36</div>		
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)	Yes	
<div><div><div></div><div>Appendix 37</div></div><div><div></div><div>Appendix 38</div></div></div>		
Are the floors non-slip?	Yes	Carpet
<div></div> <div>Appendix 39</div>		
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?	Yes	Nearest in the Caravan Park
<div></div> <div>Appendix 40</div>		
Road Board Building – Five Roads Cafe		
Address	19 Cavell St, Calingiri	
<div></div> <div>Appendix 41</div>		
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?	Yes	
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?	N/A	

Question	Response	Details
Is there disability access into the building?	Yes	1000 mm double door Counter to door very close Ramp at rear
<div>     </div> <div> Appendix 42      Appendix 43      Appendix 44      Appendix 45 </div>		
Is disability parking available?	No	
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?	No	940mm
 <div>Appendix 46</div>		
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)	Yes	
Are the floors non-slip?	Yes	Wood smooth
 <div>Appendix 47</div>		
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?	Yes	Camping ground next door Also at back of the building
 <div>Appendix 48</div>		
<b>Calingiri Traders</b>		
Address	17 Cavell St, Calingiri	

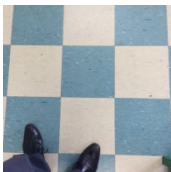

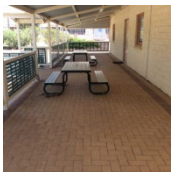



Question	Response	Details
 <p>Appendix 49</p>		
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?	Yes	
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?	N/A	
Is there disability access into the building?	Yes	
 <p>Appendix 50</p>		
Is disability parking available?	No	
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?	No	1000mm no toes
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)	Yes	
    <p>Appendix 51      Appendix 52      Appendix 53      Appendix 54</p>		
Are the floors non-slip?	Yes	
 <p>Appendix 55</p>		
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?	No	
<b>Recreation Hall</b>		
Address	Yulgering Road, Calingiri	

Question		Response	Details
 			
Appendix 56      Appendix 57			
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?		Yes	
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?		Yes	
Is there disability access into the building?		Yes	Level off footpath through double door
    			
Appendix 58      Appendix 59      Appendix 60      Appendix 61      Appendix 62			
Is disability parking available?		No	
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?		No	
			
Appendix 63			
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?		No	
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)		Yes	
 			
Appendix 64      Appendix 65			
Are the floors non-slip?		Yes	
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?		No	
<b>Bolgart Hall and Library</b>			
Address		George Street, Bolgart	



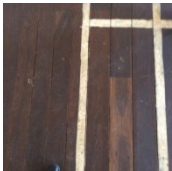


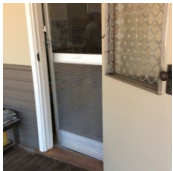

Question	Response	Details
<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Appendix 66Appendix 67Appendix 68</div>		
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?	Yes	
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?	Yes	Basic EXIT signage
Is there disability access into the building?	Yes	Into CWA room only otherwise onto the stage
<div></div> <div>Appendix 69</div>		
Is disability parking available?	No	
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?	N/A	
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)	No	Library doorway 750mm Access to stage by steps
<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Appendix 70Appendix 71Appendix 72Appendix 73</div>		
Are the floors non-slip?	Yes	Smooth wood
<div></div> <div>Appendix 74</div>		
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?	Yes	

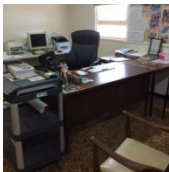
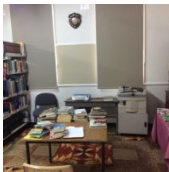
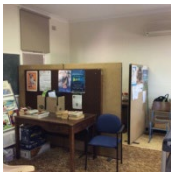
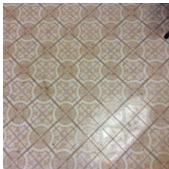
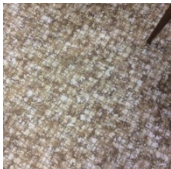
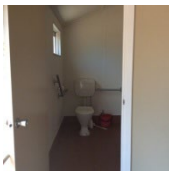





Question	Response	Details
<div></div> <div>Appendix 75</div>		
<b>Yerecoin Traders</b>		
Address	38 Miling Rd, Yerecoin	
<div></div> <div>Appendix 76</div>		
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?	Yes	
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?	Yes	See photos
Is there disability access into the building?	No	Wide door low lip
<div></div> <div>Appendix 77</div>		
Is disability parking available?	No	
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?	Yes	920
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)	Yes	
<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Appendix 78Appendix 79Appendix 80</div>		
Are the floors non-slip?	Yes	Lino

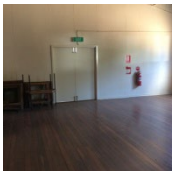
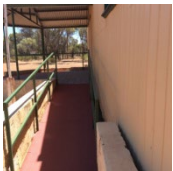


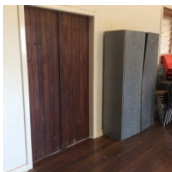
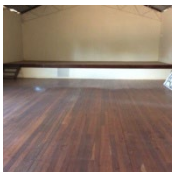
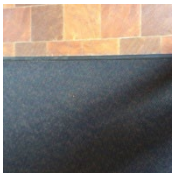
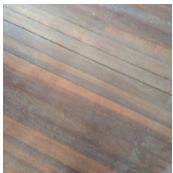


Question	Response	Details
 <p>Appendix 81</p>		
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?	No	
<b>Yerecoin Hall</b>		
Address	Miling Road, Yerecoin	
  <p>Appendix 82      Appendix 83</p>		
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?	Yes	
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?	Yes	Basic EXIT signs
Is there disability access into the building?	Yes	Level off gravel
 <p>Appendix 84</p>		
Is disability parking available?	No	Large gravel car park 1.8 m footpath through town
  <p>Appendix 85      Appendix 86</p>		
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?	N/A	
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)	Yes	








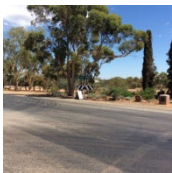
Question	Response	Details
  <p>Appendix 87      Appendix 88</p>		
Are the floors non-slip?	Yes	Wood
 <p>Appendix 89</p>		
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?	TBA	
<b>Mogumber Library and Post Office</b>		
Address	Mogumber Yarawindah Road, Mogumber	
 <p>Appendix 90</p>		
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?	Yes	
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?	N/A	
Is there disability access into the building?	Yes	But there is a small lip at door
  <p>Appendix 91      Appendix 92</p>		
Is disability parking available?	No	Plenty of general parking
 <p>Appendix 93</p>		
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?	Yes	Issue desk 740mm

Question	Response	Details
<div></div> <div>Appendix 94</div>		
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)	Yes	
<div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Appendix 95      Appendix 96</div>		
Are the floors non-slip?	Yes	
<div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Appendix 97      Appendix 98</div>		
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?	Yes	
<div></div> <div>Appendix 99</div>		
<b>Mogumber Hall</b>		
Address	Bindoon Moora Road, Mogumber	
<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Appendix 100      Appendix 101      Appendix 102      Appendix 103      Appendix 104</div>		
Is there clearly visible directional and identification signage?	Yes	
Is there clearly visible navigational signage within the building?	N/A	
Is there disability access into the building?	Yes	

Question	Response	Details
   <p>Appendix 105      Appendix 106      Appendix 107</p>		
Is disability parking available?	No	
Is the building accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the front counter/reception desk no higher than 870mm with 800mm knee and toe plate clearances?	No	Servery 900mm
 <p>Appendix 108</p>		
Is it easy to get around the public areas of the building? (This may include lift access, ramps, wheelchair access doors etc.)	Yes	But disability access is through the front door and the toilets are at the rear over uneven terrain.
  <p>Appendix 109      Appendix 110</p>		
Are the floors non-slip?	Yes	Lino and carpet Wooden in main Hall
  <p>Appendix 111      Appendix 112</p>		
Are there unisex disability accessible toilets?	No	Old and substandard. No disability toilet need to be replaced in the next couple years.

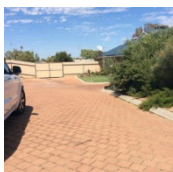

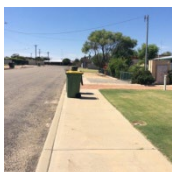



## TRANSPORT AND MOVEMENT



Question	Response	Details
<b>Pedestrian Movement</b>		
Are the footpaths wide enough for wheelchairs/gophers/walking frames generally?		The newer footpaths are built to a high standard. There are older foot paths that are narrow and adequate for one wheelchair/gopher (1.0m - 1.49m) only, in particular the footpaths in Edmonds Street and Yulgering Road.

Question	Response	Details
Are pedestrian and cycle access separated generally?	No	
Are footpaths well maintained and free of obstructions generally?	Yes	
Are footpaths well lit generally?	Yes	Lighting on every second pole
Is there adequate seating along major pedestrian routes?	No	No seating
Are there adequate footpaths provided on key access routes generally (e.g. Residential to facilities etc.)	Yes	Note Cavell St footpaths quite narrow at 1.2m
 <p>Appendix 113</p>		
Are there any footpaths that require attention?	Yes	People provide intelligence from time to time that is acted on
Are pedestrian crossings adequately provided generally?	Yes	No formal “zebra” pedestrian crossings but crossing points are provided
Are there pedestrian crossings on key access routes? (e.g. To community services and public facilities)	Yes	
Are there accessible, sloping curbs at pedestrian crossings?	Yes	Every intersection has been modified
  <p>Appendix 114      Appendix 115</p>		
Are there any pedestrian crossings that require attention?	No	None that were observed
<b>Road Signage</b>		
Are traffic signs visible and well placed generally?	Yes	
   <p>Appendix 116      Appendix 117      Appendix 118</p>		
<b>Public and Community Transport</b>		
Is public transport available?	No	
Is there any other form of community transportation available? (e.g. Community bus, HACC transport)	Yes	Friends, family and neighbours

Question	Response	Details
What are the other forms of community transportation?	Arrangements with Shire of Chittering and Shire of Wongan. Community bus hire for things like seniors week.	
Is the service promoted in the community? 1 - Not at all 2 - Very little 3 - Somewhat 4 - Quite a bit 5 - A great deal	3	
Is a taxi service available?	No	

## HOUSING

Question	Response	Details			
<b>Housing Stock</b>					
Is there sufficient suitable housing to meet the needs of the ageing population in the future? (e.g. Smaller homes, 2-3 bedroom, single story, wider entrances, located close to services)	No	Is an unmet need. Shire building 4 new units. Advertised once and got nine applications.			
<b>Maintenance and adaptation services</b>					
Are sufficient and affordable home maintenance and adaptation services available?	Yes	Most trades represented in Shire. Adequate trades in Wongan Toodyay and Moora			
<b>Retirement Village/Seniors Housing</b>					
Name of Retirement Village/Seniors Housing precinct	4 aged persons unit				
Insert address of Retirement Village/Seniors Housing precinct.	Harrington Street, Calingiri				
<div></div>					
Appendix 119	Appendix 120	Appendix 121	Appendix 122	Appendix 123	Appendix 124
Is there disability access into the village/precinct?	Yes	Access is restricted by the shape of the paths and curbs to each unit. Wheelchairs and are not able to access easily.			
Is disability parking available?	No				
Is the village/precinct accessible by public or community transport?	No				
Is the village/precinct close to services and the community?	No	500-600 metres			
Name of Retirement Village/Seniors Housing precinct	Bolgart				
Insert address of Retirement Village/Seniors Housing precinct.	George Street Bolgart				

Question	Response	Details
 		
Appendix 125	Appendix 126	
Is there disability access into the village/precinct?	Yes	
Is disability parking available?	No	Each unit has its own parking
Is the village/precinct accessible by public or community transport?	No	
Is the village/precinct close to services and the community?	Yes	100 metres

## SPORT AND RECREATION

Question	Response	Details
Facilities		
Are seniors satisfied with the provision of sport and recreation facilities?	See <i>Engagement Report: Towards an Age Friendly Community Plan (2015)</i>	
Clubs		
Are seniors satisfied with the provision of sport and recreation clubs?	See <i>Engagement Report: Towards an Age Friendly Community Plan (2015)</i>	

## SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

Question	Response	Details
Volunteering		
Are seniors satisfied with provision of volunteering opportunities?	See <i>Engagement Report: Towards an Age Friendly Community Plan (2015)</i>	
Community events and activities		
Are activities accessible by community or public transport?	No	
Are activities at night well lit?	N/A	

## RESPECT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Question	Response	Details
<b>Respect and Social Inclusion</b>		
Do seniors feel respected by the community?	See <i>Engagement Report: Towards an Age Friendly Community Plan (2015)</i>	
Do seniors feel included in the community?	See <i>Engagement Report: Towards an Age Friendly Community Plan (2015)</i>	

## COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Question	Response	Details
<b>Communication and Information</b>		
Are seniors satisfied with the provision of information about services and activities in their community?	See <i>Engagement Report: Towards an Age Friendly Community Plan (2015)</i>	



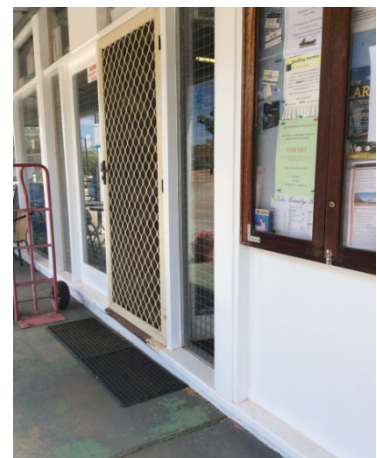
## PHOTOGRAPHS



Appendix 1



Appendix 2



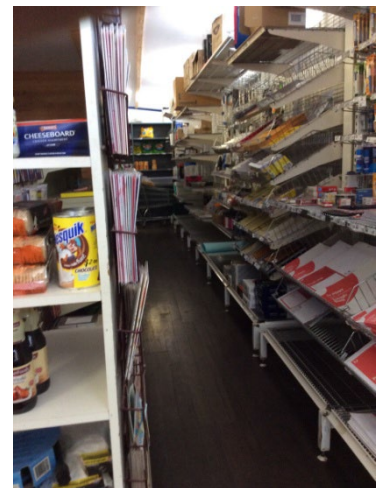
Appendix 3



Appendix 4



Appendix 5



Appendix 6





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Appendix 12





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Appendix 14



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Appendix 16



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Appendix 18



Appendix 19

Appendix 20

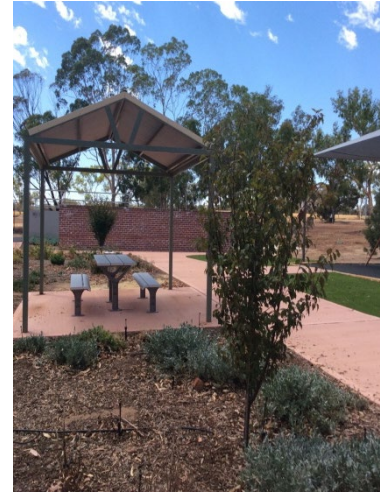
Appendix 21



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Appendix 28



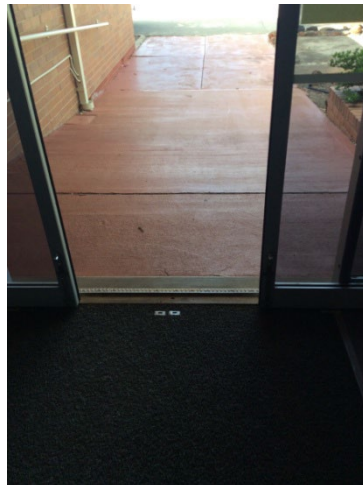
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Appendix 30



Appendix 31



Appendix 32



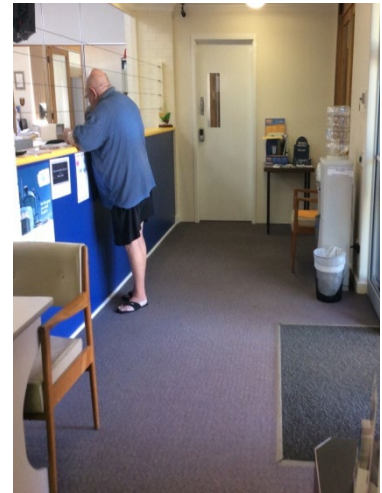
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Appendix 34



Appendix 35



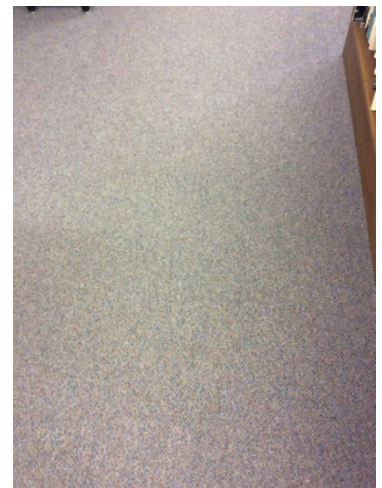
Appendix 36



Appendix 37



Appendix 38



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Appendix 40



Appendix 41



Appendix 42



Appendix 43



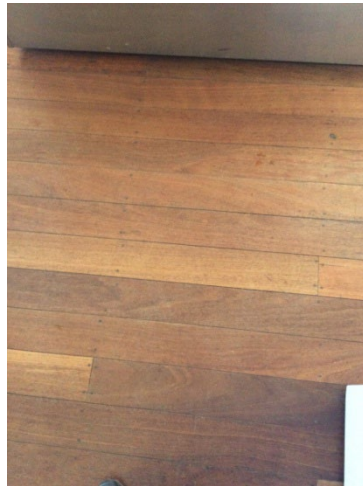
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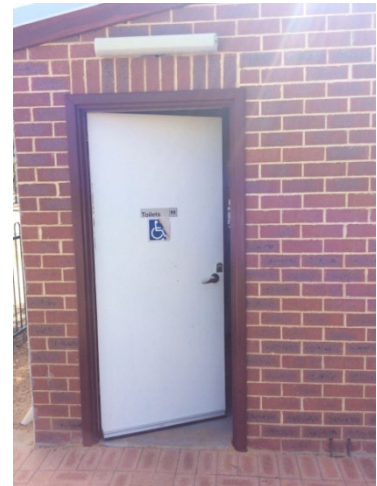
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Appendix 47



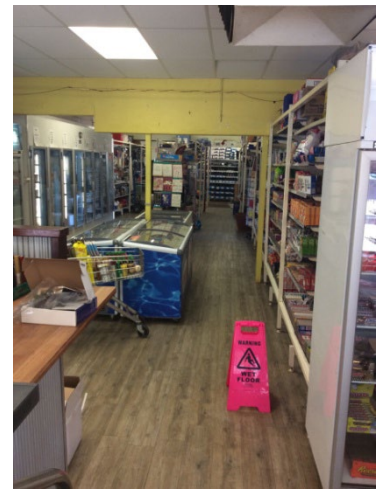
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Appendix 51

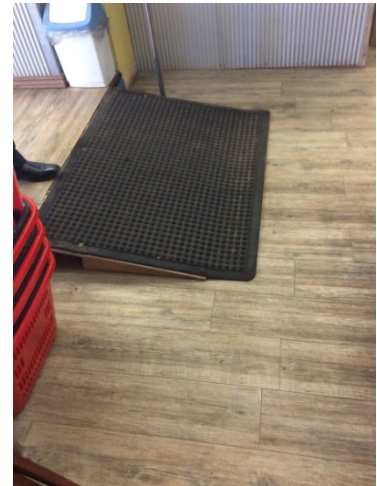




Appendix 52



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Appendix 56

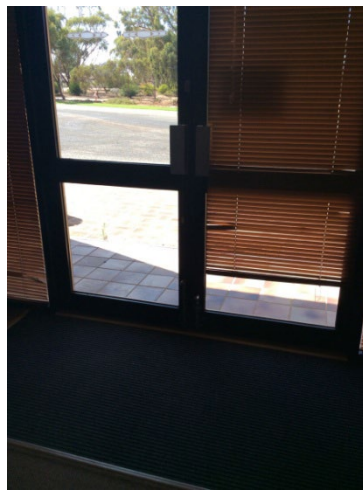


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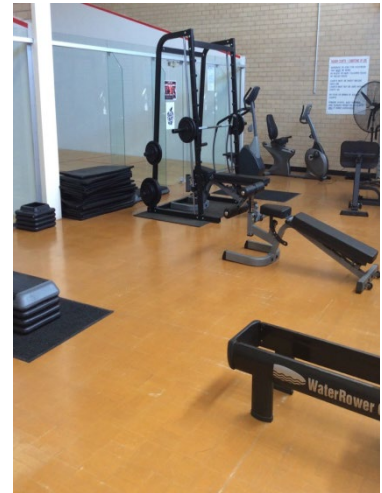




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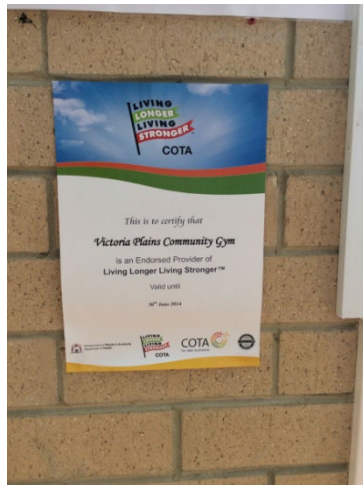
Appendix 59



Appendix 60



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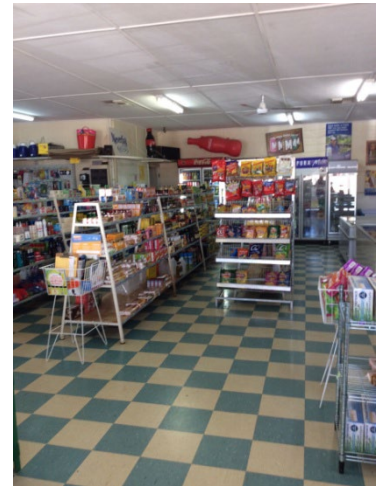
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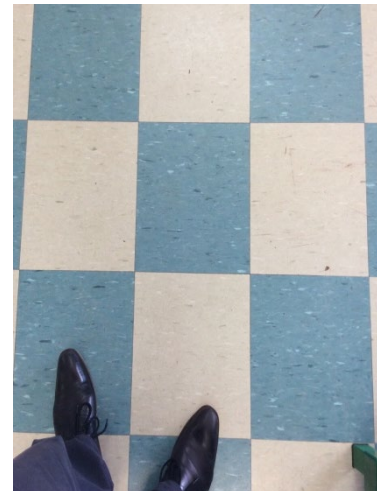
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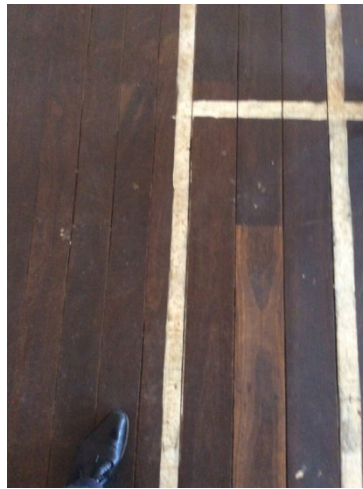
Appendix 86



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Appendix 91



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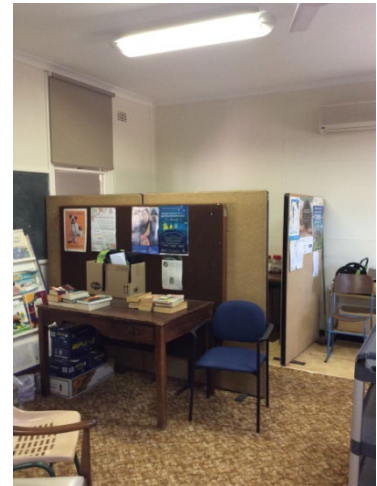




Appendix 94



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Appendix 101



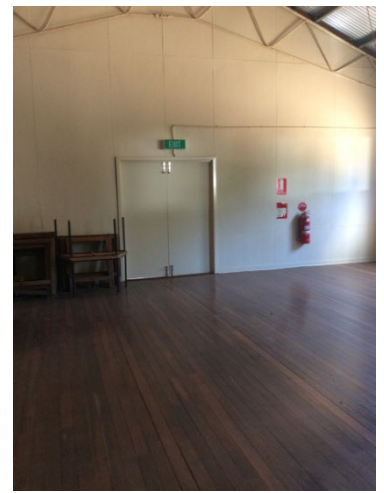
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Appendix 105





Appendix 106



Appendix 107



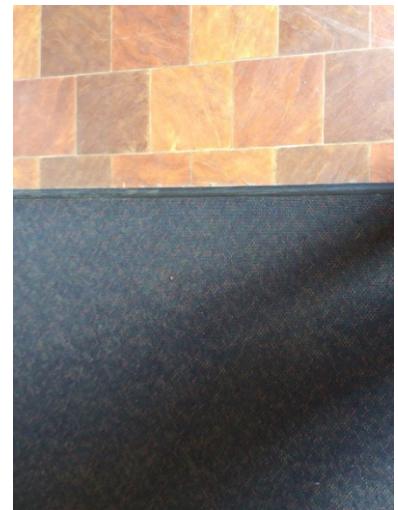
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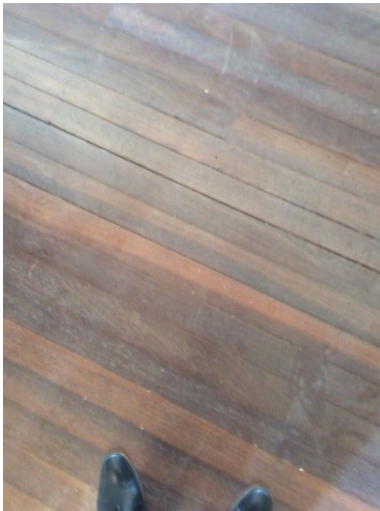
Appendix 109



Appendix 110



Appendix 111



Appendix 112



Appendix 113



Appendix 114



Appendix 115



Appendix 116



Appendix 117





Appendix 118



Appendix 119



Appendix 120



Appendix 121



Appendix 122



Appendix 123



Appendix 124



Appendix 125



Appendix 126

## ANNEX 2: ENGAGEMENT REPORT: TOWARDS AN AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PLAN



### ENGAGEMENT REPORT



Nov 2015

Towards an Age Friendly Community Plan



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## KEY FINDINGS

It is clear from the results of the engagement activities that both survey respondents and focus group participants enjoy living in the Shire of Victoria Plains. However, the research also shows that the community feel that there are some opportunities for improvement regarding the provision of key services in order to create an age friendly community.

The key findings are:

- A total of 12 individuals participated in the focus group (seven seniors and five service providers) and 19 individuals participated in the surveys.
- Of those seniors who participated, 100% of survey respondents and 79% of focus group participants are retired.
- The majority of both survey and focus group respondents believe that improved provision of health and community services and maintenance of footpaths and roads will lead to a more fulfilling experience for seniors in the Shire of Victoria Plains.
- Focus group participants believe the most important issues for aged persons in the Shire of Victoria Plains are:
  - Increased access to a full health and community services
  - Increased communication with seniors regarding services the Shire provides
  - Maintenance of footpaths and roads
- Survey respondents believe the most important issues for aged persons in the Shire of Victoria Plains are:
  - Increased provision of medical services
  - Provision of a district nurse or equivalent
  - Access to medical services for those who are unable to drive
  - Communication by the Shire

# INTRODUCTION

## Background

Age-friendly communities are those that encourage “active aging by optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance the quality of life as people age” (World Health Org). An Age Friendly Community is one which:

- recognises the great diversity among older people;
- promotes their inclusion and contribution in all areas of community life;
- respects their decisions and lifestyle choices; and
- anticipates and responds to ageing-related needs and preference

The Shire of Victoria Plains considers age-friendly community planning a vital exercise for the following reasons:

- By 2027, the Wheatbelt population over 70 will have increased by 75.3%
- The proportion of people 70+ will have increased from 10.4% in 2011 to 17% in 2027
- The second largest increase is projected for Victoria Plains (118.6% to 129 people)

In addition to this, older adults generally prefer to remain in their own home and continue to be part of their community. Older adults feel safe, valued and respected in their own community and local governments have a key role in ensuring this can occur.

Age-friendly community planning is also a state and regional issue. In 2012 the State Government adopted “An Age-friendly WA: The Seniors Strategic Planning Framework 2012-17.” The following actions have also been undertaken:

- 2013 the Wheatbelt Integrated Aged Care Plan was published
- 2014 the Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC) published a guide for Age-Friendly Community Planning
- 2015 WDC provided a small value grants program for minor improvement works targeted at improving age-friendliness (the Shire of Victoria Plains was successful in getting funding for three projects)
- 2015 Department of Local Government and Communities Grant program to prepare plans (Victoria Plains again successful).

## Community Engagement Methodology

The broad approach adopted by the Shire of Victoria Plains in preparing an Age Friendly Community Plan consists of a four step solution-focused process to produce a strategy that will be consistent with and complementary to the Strategic Community Plan:



Figure 1: Age friendly planning community process



The third step of the process concerns engagement. As part of the Age Friendly Planning process, and to obtain the knowledge and views of seniors and those who care for them, a Community Reference Group has been established. This group guides and supports the project, liaises with the Department of Local Government and Communities, reviews draft reports and will endorse the final plan. In addition to this, the group has provided input into the design of a community survey and focus groups. Both the survey and the focus group sessions were structured around the eight WHO domains with participants involved in assessing these features in their own communities.

The Shire of Victoria Plains conducted one Focus Group that included both service providers and community members. The Shire advertised the Focus Group and Community Survey (available in hard copy and online) using the following channels:

- Shire of Victoria Plains Community Newsletter
- Shire of Victoria Plains website
- Shire of Victoria Plains Facebook Page
- Personal phone calls to service providers within the shire and outlying areas who service the Shire of Victoria Plains.

See Annex 1 for a copy of the Focus Group promotional flyer. Annex 2 contains a copy of the Community Survey.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the Engagement Report is to present the results of the Focus Groups and Community Survey. It will be used to inform and guide the next steps in the development of the Shires' Age Friendly Community Plan.

## FOCUS GROUP RESPONDENTS

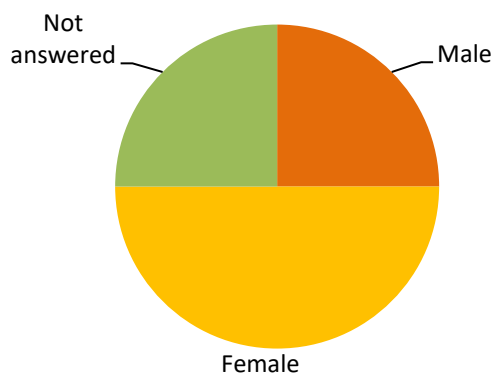
The Shire of Victoria Plains conducted one Focus Group as part of the development of the Age Friendly Community Plan. The session was jointly aimed at seniors, carers and service providers with seven seniors, four service providers and one carer in attendance. The Focus Group was designed and conducted in line with the Department for Communities Age Friendly Toolkit and the Wheatbelt Development Commissions Age Friendly Community Plan Guide. See Annex 3 for a copy of the Participant Information Form used to collect the data presented below.

### Service Providers

A total of four service providers and one carer attended the Focus Group representing the voluntary (not for profit), public (local government) and private sectors. Of the service providers present, 100% have been employed with their current Service Provider over five years. Half of the service provider participants indicated that they have a moderate amount of experience with older people and half indicated they have a lot of experience.

Of the service providers and carers in attendance at the focus group, 50% are female, 25% male and 25% did not answer the question (refer to Figure 2).

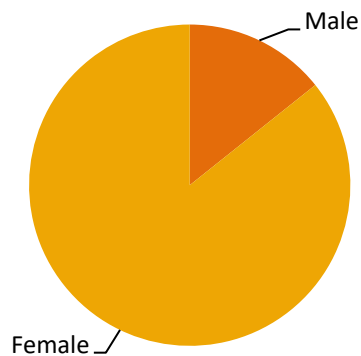
Figure 2: Service Provider and Carers respondent sex



## Seniors

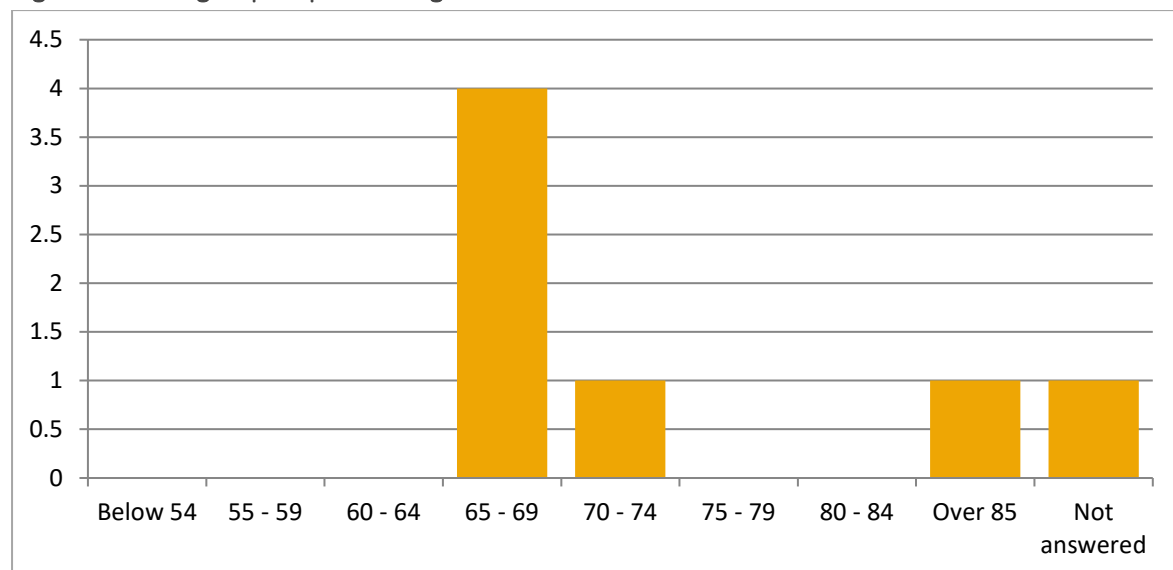
Seven people in the Shire of Victoria Plains attended the community focus group. Of those, 86% or six are female and 14% or one are male.

Figure 3: Senior focus group respondent sex



Respondents range from 65 to over 85 years of age (refer to Figure 4). The majority of focus group participants are between 65 and 69 years of age.

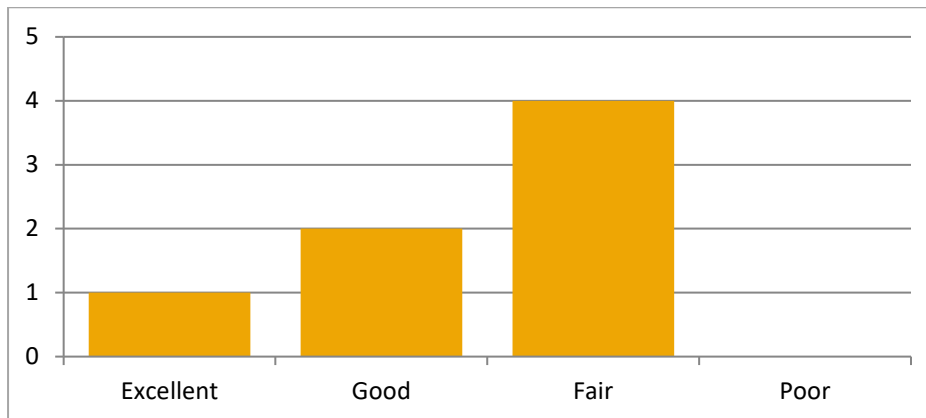
Figure 4: Focus group respondent age



All 100% of focus group respondents are retired.

57% of respondents indicated their health was fair, 29% indicated their health as good and only 14% indicated their health was excellent.

Figure 5: Current respondent health



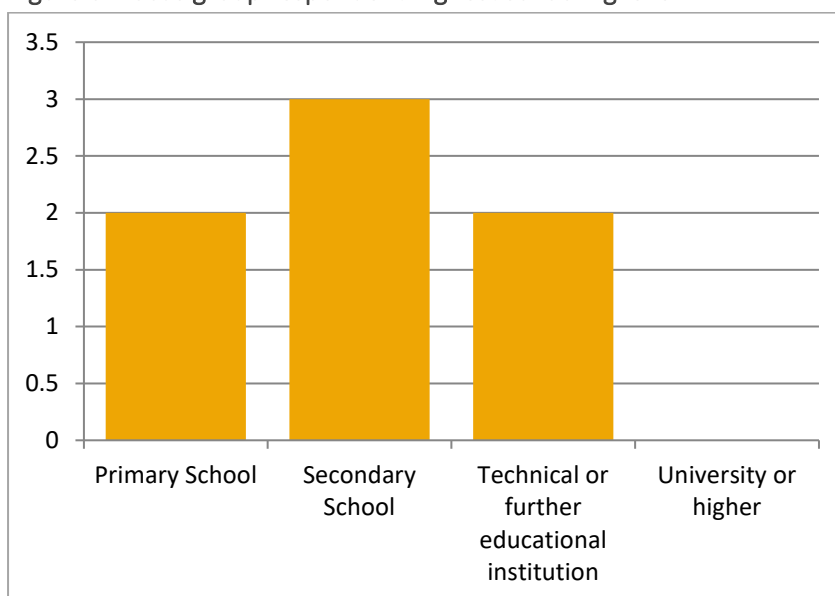
Two out of seven respondents reported that they have health problems that limit their ability to do normal daily activities.

Table 1: Focus group respondent limiting health problems

Answer Options	Response Count	Response Percent
Yes	2	29%
No	5	71%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>

Two respondents have completed primary school as their highest level of education, three have completed secondary school and two have completed technical or further educational institution.

Figure 6: Focus group respondent highest schooling level



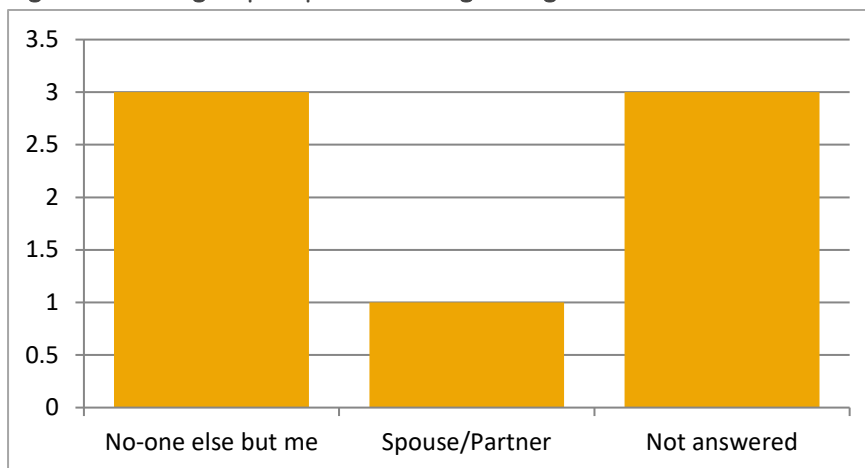
86% of the focus group respondents are home owners. 14% of respondents are renters.

Table 2: Focus group respondent home ownership

Answer Options	Response Count	Response Percent
Home Owner	6	86%
Renter	1	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>

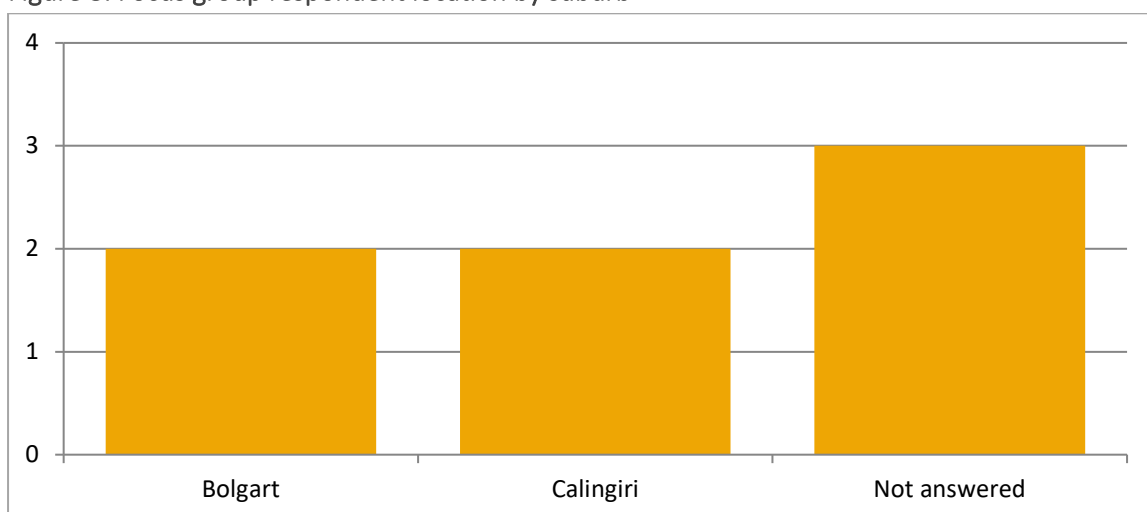
While three respondents indicated they live alone, one indicated they live with a partner or spouse. Three respondents did not answer the question.

Figure 7: Focus group respondent living arrangements



29% of respondents live in Bolgart, 29% live in Calingiri and 43% did not answer the question.

Figure 8: Focus group respondent location by suburb



## SURVEY RESPONDENTS

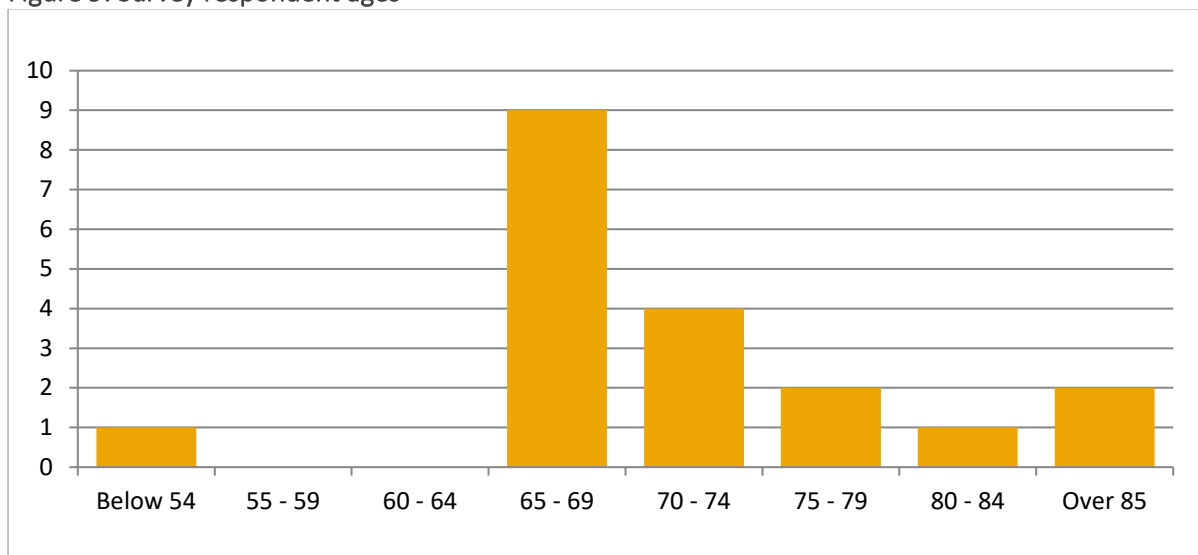
In the Shire of Victoria Plains, 19 respondents completed the surveys. Approximately 68% of respondents are female, 26% are male and 5% did not answer (see Table 3).

Table 3: Survey respondent sex

Answer Options	Response Count	Response Percent
Male	5	26%
Female	13	68%
Not Answered	1	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>

Respondents range predominantly from 65 to 74 years of age. One respondent indicated they were under 54 years of age, and two indicated they were over 85 years of age. Nine or 45% of respondents are between the ages of 65 to 69.

Figure 9: Survey respondent ages



79% of respondents are retired, 11% work full-time and 11% work part-time (refer to Table 4).

Table 4: Survey respondent present employment status

Answer Options	Response Count	Response Percent
Retired	15	79%
Work Full-time	2	11%
Work Part-time	2	11%
Unemployed	0	0%
Not Answered	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>

## FOCUS GROUP RESULTS

### Health and Community Services

It is clear that focus group participants have several areas of concern with health and community services currently provided in the Shire of Victoria Plains. Participants noted that there is a lack of access to a full health and community services. This includes inconsistency in service provision within the Shire as services are accessed from a range of external locations including Moora, Goomalling and Wongan Hills. Participants were also concerned by the lack of Silver Chain or similar service. Lack of communication with seniors regarding which services are provided was also noted by participants. Seniors would also like to see a Meals on Wheels service available in the Shire. Discussions regarding housing led to the following observations:

- Issues with access to existing aged housing with the Shire
  - Poor design of current units
- Lack of residential aged care and high-care housing
- Need to go beyond minimum access standards for new independent living units (ILU)

### Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Participants have noted that current street numbers and signage are poor and lead to difficulty for emergency services and those needing to locate addresses correctly. Pot holes and poor footpaths on key shopping routes have also been cited for needing maintenance and other upgrades. In addition to footpath maintenance, participants commented on the two types of footpaths that are required, those with access to services and those for recreation and physical activity. While participants felt that outside street lighting is adequate in Calingiri, it is inadequate in Bolgart, citing that there are several street lights that have not been functioning in Bolgart for two years. Participants are also concerned with the lack of seating along footpath routes that will become an increasingly important prospect as members of the community age. Lastly, participants cited the possibility of initiating an inspection or audit of the town with Shire representatives and community members to pinpoint problem areas. This inspection would include community members with all levels of accessibility including those who use wheelchairs, gophers, etc.

### Transport and Movement

Participants did not cite any specific comments regarding transport and movement within the Shire of Victoria Plains.

### Housing

Focus group respondents commented that buildings designated as teacher's housing represents a potential opportunity for the Shire as they are often left vacant. No other specific comments regarding the Shire's provision of housing were made.

### Sport and Recreation

Respondents commented that there were varying opportunities for the Shire to maximise the use of the gym in providing classes and guidance for seniors in the community. Participants felt that there are



excellent facilities provided, but they are not being utilised to their full potential by aged persons in the Shire of Victoria Plains. In addition to this comment, it was cited that there needs to be consideration given to succession planning for ground maintenance as it is currently undertaken by senior club members, which may not be sustainable. While women's organised sport is noted as lacking in Calingiri, the excellent sports club in Bolgart was praised by participants.

### **Social Participation**

Participants cited that seniors take more active roles within the community and there is a lack of involvement from younger people in similar roles. The feeling remains that the same individuals volunteer everywhere.

### **Respect and Social Inclusion**

Some focus group respondents felt that unfortunately there is no longer a sense of community in Calingiri and that seniors' opinions in the Shire of Victoria Plains are sometimes neither asked for nor listened to. Conversely, seniors in other towns feel that a sense of community is very strong, particularly over summer months when there is an increase in social activities.

### **Communication and Information**

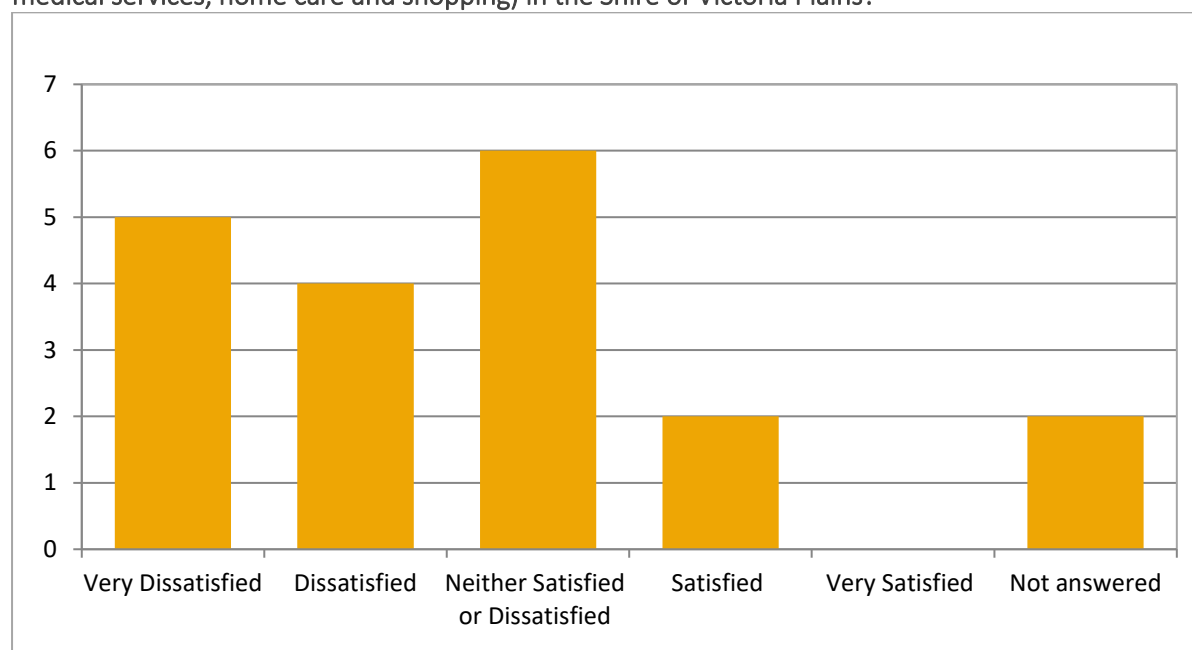
Participants feel that there needs to be a continual and two-way sharing of communication and information between seniors and the Council. In addition to this, participants would like to see mechanisms to improve the distribution frequency of the shire newsletter. Respondents have also commented on the Shire's other options for communication, including email, newsletters and notice boards. In addition to this, the desire for computer accessibility in libraries was also mentioned. It was noted that there are opportunities to provide computer training to seniors, possibly in partnership with local schools.

## SURVEY RESULTS

### Health and Community Services

Approximately 47% of survey respondents indicated that they are either very dissatisfied or dissatisfied with the provision of health and community services in the Shire of Victoria Plains. 32% of respondents indicated they were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the Shire's provision of services and only 22% indicated they were satisfied or very satisfied (see Figure 10).

**Figure 10: How satisfied are you with the provision of Health and Community Services (including GP, medical services, home care and shopping) in the Shire of Victoria Plains?**



Survey respondent comments on health and community services can be grouped according to the following concerns: home care, medical and general comments.

Two specific commentators noted the need for a health and community services gardener in the Shire of Victoria Plains. Other respondents noted the need for a Silver Chain nurse to conduct home visits as well as other medical professionals.

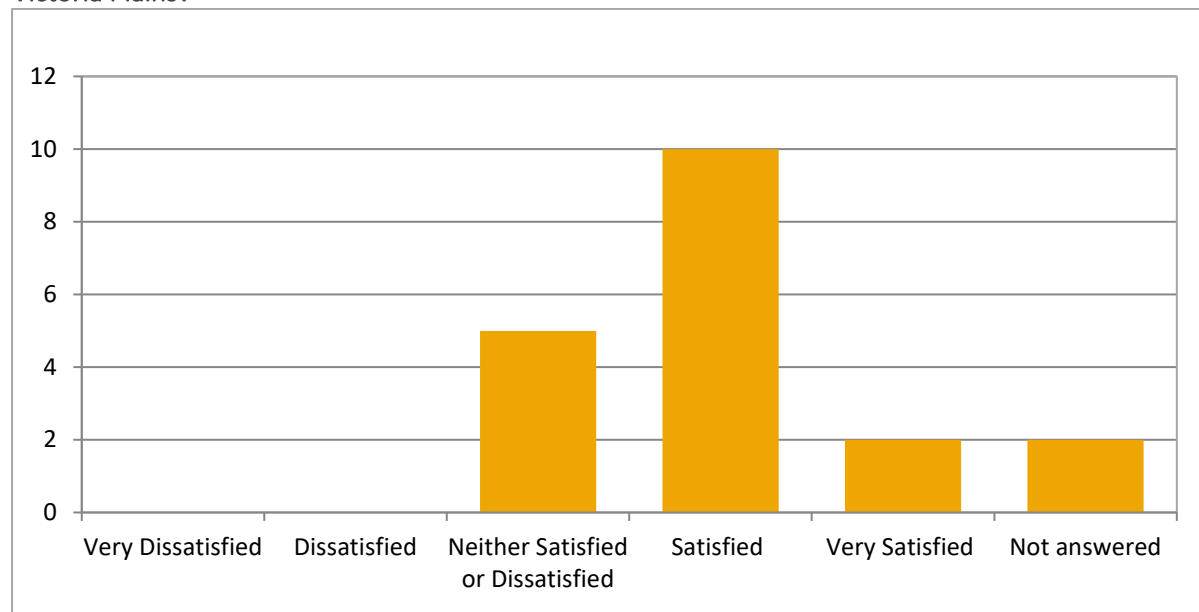
The provision of medical care in the Shire is of concern to the survey respondents. One comment reads that there “is no health service available in VP.” Another respondent has also indicated that they are unaware of any services apart from St John Ambulance. Several participants have noted that in order to receive medical care, they must travel 50-60 kilometres to the Shire of Moora or Perth. The lack of a GP in Calingiri is also noted in one comment.

One comment notes that extended services are not “viable with [a] very small population” and consider towns only 30 minutes away with excellent facilities to be adequate. Another comment references this thought in an opposing manner, wishing the Shire to develop services for future seniors.

## Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

64% of survey respondents have indicated that they are either very satisfied or satisfied with the Shire's provision of outdoor spaces and buildings. No respondents are currently very dissatisfied or dissatisfied. Approximately 26% or five respondents are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with outdoor spaces and buildings and 11% have provided no answer at all (see Figure 11).

**Figure 11: How satisfied are you with the provision of Outdoor Spaces and Buildings in the Shire of Victoria Plains?**

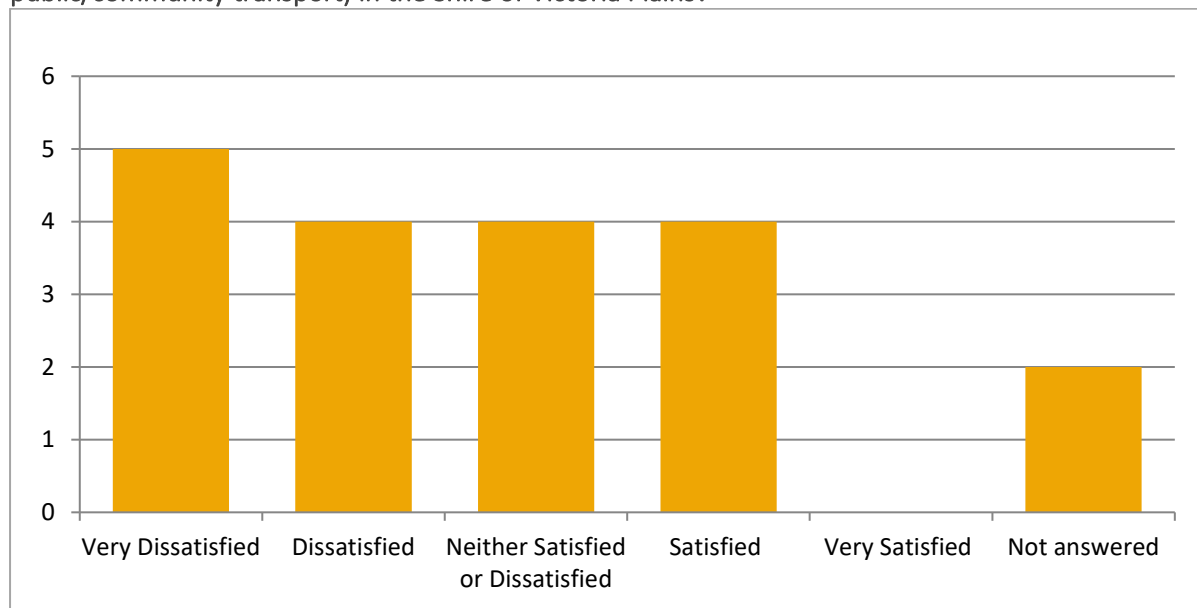


Several respondents noted that “Shire outdoor spaces are very good” and this is evident in the relatively high level of satisfaction seen in Figure 11. Another comment referenced the “lack of co-ordination with major tourist and heritage site New Norcia.” The same commentator indicates confusion over arrangements that see “buildings maintained by Shire and some by community groups.” Another respondent is pleased that Progress Park is “having a makeover” and noted that the hall is a “white elephant.”

## Transport and Movement

47% of respondents answered they were either very dissatisfied or dissatisfied with transport and movement in the Shire (see Figure 12). 21% of respondents were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied and 21% were satisfied. Only 11% of respondents did not answer.

Figure 12: How satisfied are you with Transport and Movement (including roads, footpaths and public/community transport) in the Shire of Victoria Plains?



Comments on transport and movement in the Shire of Victoria Plains were focused primarily on the provision of roads, footpaths, and bus and transport. One respondent noted that while “the Shire works hard to address road maintenance with limited budget,” it appears that “the allocation of funding to certain areas can be seen to favour certain districts over others.” The same participant suggested that provision of maintenance “should be managed on a whole of Shire plan with regular updates as to where the works are going to be conducted and a timeline of future works so that community members know what's happening.” Several comments note specific roads that cause concern. These include the Yarrawindah Road, which without additional widening is “dangerous at the moment between Mogumber and Gt Northern Highway.” Another commentator noted the Yerecoin East Road from Yerecoin to Calingiri is also in disrepair.

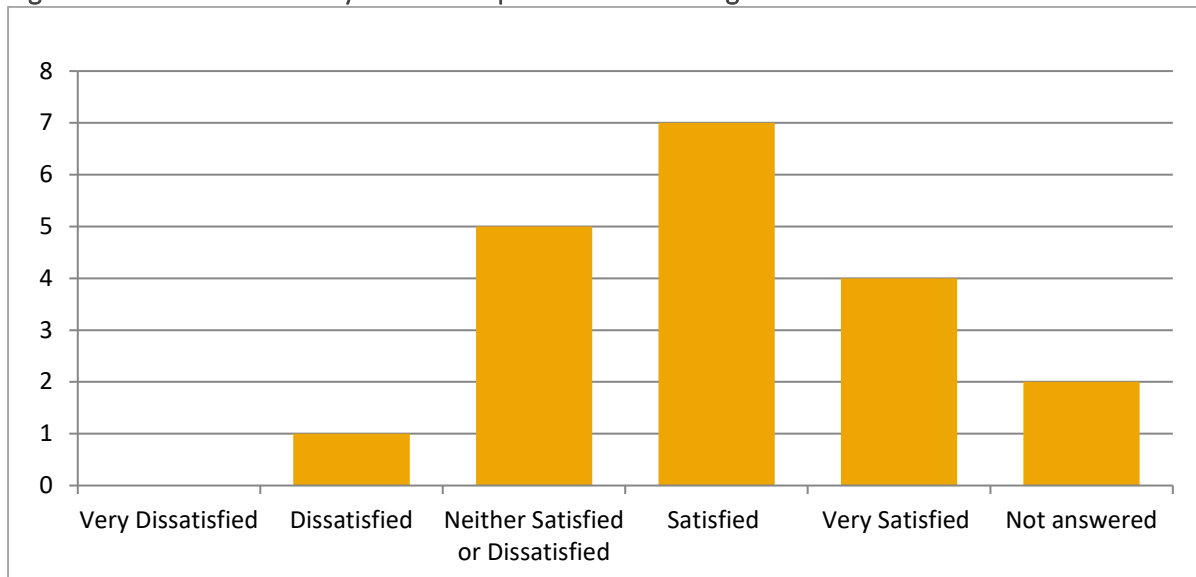
One respondent noted that footpaths “are missing in Cavell Street and Mofflin Street.” The respondent noted the need to “walk on the road and try to ditch the traffic.” Another commentator indicated that footpaths are “okay” and they successfully manage a gopher on them. In addition to increase provision of footpaths, one commentator noted their desire for a greater provision of benches “along from the shop.”

Several respondents indicated that “a community bus would be welcomed, especially as there [are] a lot of people who can’t drive...” This community bus would be required for shopping, medical appointments as well as for general travel. Another consensus appears to be the need for “a roster of willing drivers” throughout the community to provide rides to those in need. This “volunteer driver scheme to help with medical appointments etc. would be appreciated.”

## Housing

26% of respondents noted they were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the provision of housing in the Shire, as indicated in Figure 13. While 5% were dissatisfied, 58% were either satisfied or very satisfied. 11% of respondents did not answer.

Figure 13: How satisfied are you with the provision of Housing in the Shire of Victoria Plains?



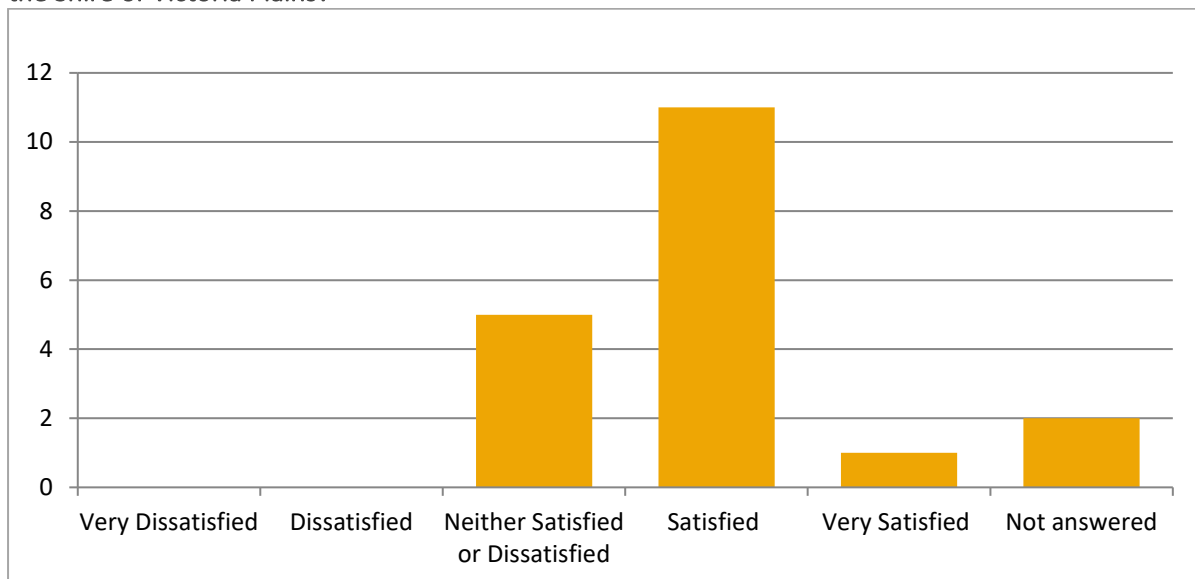
As indicated by the above figure, many respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the provision of housing in the Shire of Victoria Plains. One commentator does note the need for more cupboards in houses provided as well as larger rooms for ambulance gurney access (if needed.) Another respondent indicates little understanding of how “the housing situation works” within the shire. The same respondent notes the appearance of “active discouragement to the development of houses in the smaller towns with lack of connection to water, power and housing unavailable even though blocks are empty/undeveloped.” Another respondent indicated the need for greater aged-persons housing within the shire.

### Sport and Recreation

63% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the Shire’s provision of sport and recreation facilities, and no one is either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied (refer to Figure 14). While 26% of respondents are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 11% of respondents did not answer.



Figure 14: How satisfied are you with the provision of Sport and Recreation facilities and services in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

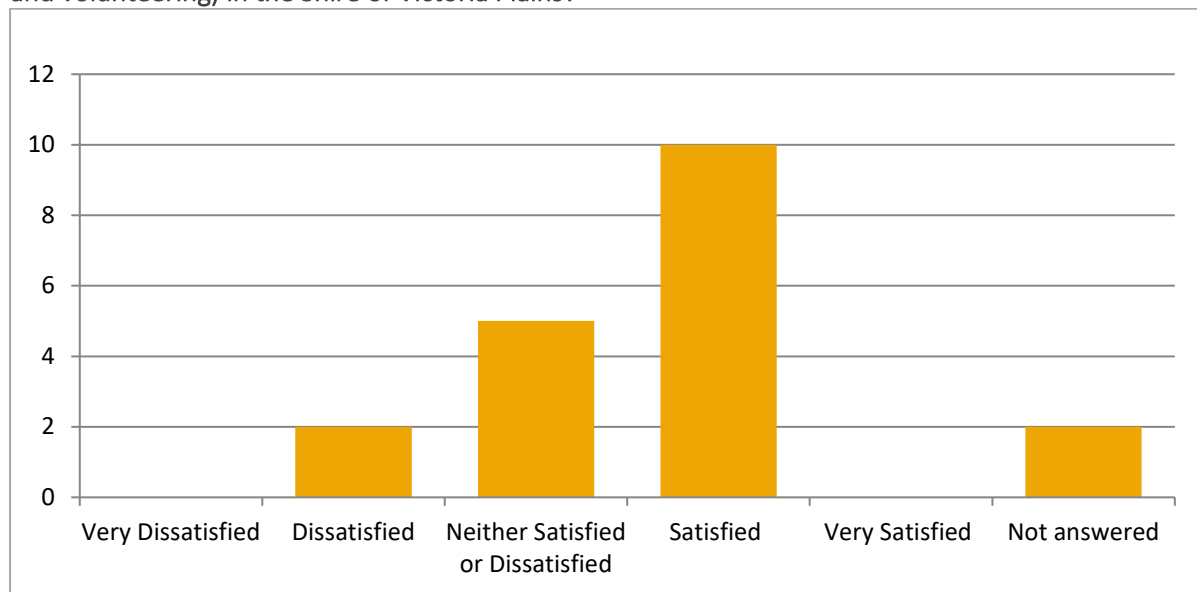


Comments regarding sport and recreation in the Shire of Victoria Plains range from generally very positive to noting minor improvements that could occur. One comment noted that the local oval is “second to none” and that facilities are “very good.” An extensive comment, indicated that while “town sizes and population means that Shire of VP cannot support many different sports across the towns,” they appreciate Calingiri is the centre for football and hockey. The same respondent noted their desire to see “facilities maintained in other towns” but understood budget constraints. Wildflower Walks, Outback Club and Rodeo events were also mentioned as being beneficial events to be continually supported and encouraged by the shire. Several comments noted that while adequate facilities are available, they are under accessed by community members.

### Social Participation

Approximately 53% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the social participation opportunities available in the Shire. Only 11% of respondents cited they were dissatisfied with provision of social participation opportunities, 26% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied and 11% did not answer.

Figure 15: How satisfied are you with Social Participation opportunities (including events, activities and volunteering) in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

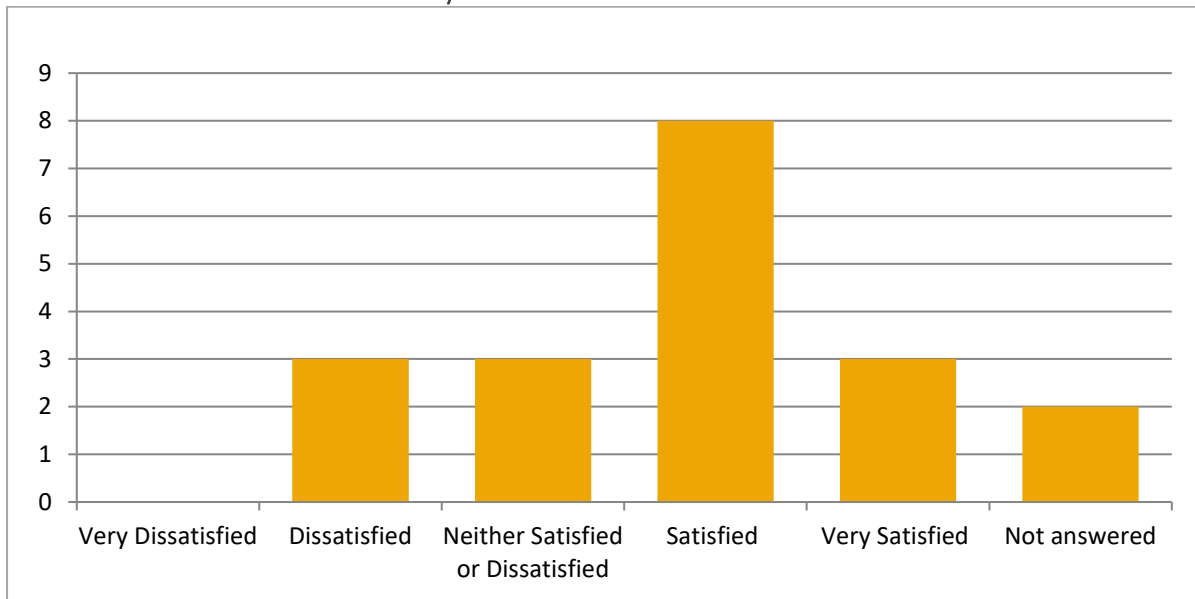


One comment noted that lack of opportunity for social participation in Bolgart except for the CWA. Another commentator, however, wrote that it would be “great to see the CWA form again.” A respondent noted that they “feel there are various organisations available for those looking to participate” if they wish. Another respondent noted that “there is little coming from the Shire to help promote the great events already occurring and encouraging more - bush walks, wildflower events, music, concerts, recitals, school events, movie nights, Xmas Tree events,- it is not well co-ordinated or promoted.” This same respondent did “like the Skateboard Day organised at Bolgart and think the kids loved it - more of this type of activity would be welcome - needs to be well promoted via social media, newsletter, website, email even.” There is also a concern posed by one respondent that in Calingiri the only current summer sport is men’s lawn bowls. Yet another respondent would like a public swimming pool in order to increase physical fitness and participation by seniors in the community.

### Respect and Social Inclusion

58% of respondents indicated their satisfaction with the level of respect and social inclusion seniors experience in the Shire. 16% indicated they were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied and 16% noted they were either very dissatisfied or dissatisfied (see Figure 16). 11% of respondents did not answer.

Figure 16: How satisfied are you with the level of Respect and Social Inclusion seniors experience in the Shire of Victoria Plains community?

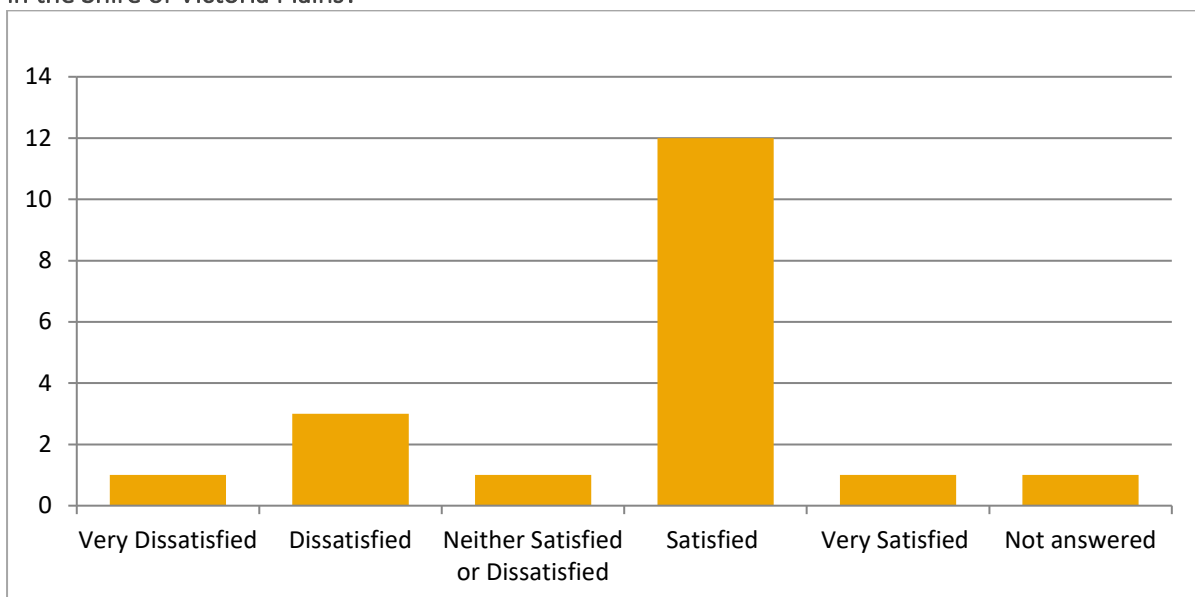


Respondents are generally quite pleased with the respect and social inclusion provided by the Shire of Victoria Plains. A respondent commented that “the Shire Officer has always treated [them] with great respect.” In addition, other respondents noted that “various ages mix together” and the “respect shown to seniors (especially by children) is wonderful.”

### Communication and Information

68% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the communication and information about services and activities in the Shire. 21% of respondents indicated they are either very dissatisfied or dissatisfied and 17% are neither dissatisfied nor satisfied. 5% did not answer.

Figure 17: How satisfied are you with Communication and Information (about services and activities) in the Shire of Victoria Plains?



Many respondents have commented positively on the Shire Newsletter, citing it is “terrific,” “valuable,” and “well put together.” A different comment noted that overall communication “could improve” and that a monthly newsletter is insufficient. In regards to communication, one respondent was particularly upset regarding the unfulfilled promise of a mobile phone tower in Yerecoin. In an extensive comment, a respondent noted that communication provided by the shire “really needs more effort – full time” and suggests “some blogging, social media, newspaper articles, media releases [in] co-ordination with Shire of Moora, Wongan, Ballidu, Chittering, Toodyay etc.” The same respondent conceded that “the Shire Newsletter does a good job of trying to get the message out there” but that “any activity the Shire is doing as far as funding, road maintenance, grant funding projects all needs to be given greater promotion.”

## **Priorities**

Respondents were asked to comment on the following question: “In light of all of the previous questions, what would you say is the single most important issue for aged persons in your community?” Many responses indicated that health care and medical services are the most pertinent issue for aged persons in the Shire of Victoria Plains. In regards to medical services, provision of a full-time district nurse, other medical personnel and better provision of services themselves remain a top concern. Other respondents cite communication and keeping seniors involved in their community as top priorities.

## **General Comments**

Respondents were also asked to comment on the following: “Do you have any other general comments that may assist the Shire of Victoria Plains in the preparation of the Age Friendly Community Plan?” All comments reiterated concerns raised and identified in previous questions.

## NEXT STEPS

The Engagement Report will inform the development of the Shire of Victoria Plains Age Friendly Community Plan. The development of the plan will involve:

- Ongoing liaison with and input from the Community Reference Group
- An “Issues and Options” Workshop with Council to identify:
  - possible quick wins
  - strategic fit and resource implications of larger scale improvements in light of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Suite
  - potential gains from targeted advocacy and partnerships
  - regional and sub-regional implications
- Preparation of a Draft Age Friendly Community Plan to be made available for public comment period
- Council adoption.

The process and output has been designed to dovetail into the Shires Integrated Planning and Reporting processes on an ongoing basis. It is intended to build the Shires capacity (and the capacity of our seniors) and embed seniors’ engagement and age friendly community considerations as a vital part of strategic and corporate planning.



## ANNEX 1: FOCUS GROUP PROMOTIONAL FLYER



### Age Friendly Community Plan – Focus Group Invitation

Interested community members of all ages, carers, stakeholders, community representatives such as Councillors and Progress Associations are encouraged to attend the Age Friendly Community Planning Focus Group session.

The Shire has been successful in obtaining funding from the Department of Local Government and Communities to assist us to prepare an Age Friendly Community Plan that will identify the age-friendly features, barriers, and suggestions for improvement, against each of the following essential features of an age friendly community:

- outdoor spaces and building
- transport
- housing
- social participation
- respect and social inclusion
- civic participation and employment
- communication and information
- community support and health services.

Community and service provider participation in the Shire's consultation process is essential to an age friendly approach to community planning. The Shire therefore is looking for seniors, carers, service providers and other interested parties to attend the focus group session and provide input on the future needs of seniors living in the Shire of Victoria Plains.

The Focus Group will be held on Tuesday 8 September, from 9am at the Council Chambers. Morning tea will be provided.

Please contact Jaime Hawkins or 9628 7004 to register your interest.



Department of  
**Local Government  
and Communities**



## ANNEX 2: COMMUNITY SURVEY

### Shire of Victoria Plains Age Friendly Community Plan Seniors Survey

The Shire of Victoria Plains is preparing an Age Friendly Community Plan that will identify age-friendly features, barriers, and suggestions for improvement. We would appreciate your input on the future needs of seniors living in the Shire of Victoria Plains. All of your answers will be kept confidential.

Please return your completed survey to the Shire by **5pm Friday 9 October**.

Please select your age category:

- |                                   |                                      |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Below 54 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55 - 59     | <input type="checkbox"/> 60 - 64 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 65 - 69  | <input type="checkbox"/> 70 - 74     | <input type="checkbox"/> 75 - 79 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 80 - 84  | <input type="checkbox"/> 85 and over |                                  |

Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Present employment status:

☐ Retired ☐ Work Full-time ☐ Work Part-time ☐ Unemployed

#### 1. Health and Community Services

How satisfied are you with the provision of Health and Community Services (including GP, medical services, home care and shopping) in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

- ☐ 1 – Very Dissatisfied
- ☐ 2 – Dissatisfied
- ☐ 3 – Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied
- ☐ 4 – Satisfied
- ☐ 5 – Very Satisfied

Comments about Health and Community Services (including GP, medical services, home care and shopping) in the Shire of Victoria Plains:

**2. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings**

How satisfied are you with the provision of Outdoor Spaces and Buildings in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

- ☐ 1 – Very Dissatisfied
- ☐ 2 – Dissatisfied
- ☐ 3 – Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied
- ☐ 4 – Satisfied
- ☐ 5 – Very Satisfied

Comments about Outdoor Spaces and Buildings in the Shire of Victoria Plains:

**3. Transport and Movement**

How satisfied are you with Transport and Movement (including roads, footpaths and public/community transport) in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

- ☐ 1 – Very Dissatisfied
- ☐ 2 – Dissatisfied
- ☐ 3 – Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied
- ☐ 4 – Satisfied
- ☐ 5 – Very Satisfied

Comments about Transport and Movement (including roads, footpaths and public/community transport) in the Shire of Victoria Plains:

#### 4. **Housing**

How satisfied are you with the provision of Housing in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

- ☐ 1 – Very Dissatisfied
- ☐ 2 – Dissatisfied
- ☐ 3 – Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied
- ☐ 4 – Satisfied
- ☐ 5 – Very Satisfied

Comments about Housing in the Shire of Victoria Plains:

**5. Sport and Recreation**

How satisfied are you with the provision of Sport and Recreation facilities and services in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

- ☐ 1 – Very Dissatisfied
- ☐ 2 – Dissatisfied
- ☐ 3 – Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied
- ☐ 4 – Satisfied
- ☐ 5 – Very Satisfied

Comments about Sport and Recreation facilities and services in the Shire of Victoria Plains:

**6. Social Participation**

How satisfied are you with Social Participation opportunities (including events, activities and volunteering) in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

- ☐ 1 – Very Dissatisfied
- ☐ 2 – Dissatisfied
- ☐ 3 – Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied
- ☐ 4 – Satisfied
- ☐ 5 – Very Satisfied

Comments about Social Participation opportunities (including events, activities and volunteering) in the Shire of Victoria Plains:

**7. Respect and Social Inclusion**

How satisfied are you with the level of Respect and Social Inclusion seniors experience in the Shire of Victoria Plains community?

- ☐ 1 – Very Dissatisfied
- ☐ 2 – Dissatisfied
- ☐ 3 – Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied
- ☐ 4 – Satisfied
- ☐ 5 – Very Satisfied

Comments about Respect and Social Inclusion in the Shire of Victoria Plains:



**8. Communication and Information**

How satisfied are you with Communication and Information (about services and activities) in the Shire of Victoria Plains?

- ☐ 1 – Very Dissatisfied
- ☐ 2 – Dissatisfied
- ☐ 3 – Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied
- ☐ 4 – Satisfied
- ☐ 5 – Very Satisfied

Comments about Communication and Information in the Shire of Victoria Plains:

In light of all of the previous questions, what would you say is the single most important issue for aged persons in your community?

Do you have any other general comments that may assist the Shire of Victoria Plains in the preparation of the Age Friendly Community Plan?

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this survey, the information collected will guide the Shire of Victoria Plains in identifying the age-friendly features, barriers, and suggestions for improvement.

An online version of this survey can be found at  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VictoriaPlainsAFC>

Please return your completed survey to:

Jaime Hawkins  
Shire of Victoria Plains  
28 Cavell Street  
Calingiri 6569

**The survey will close at 5pm on Friday 9, October.**

If you have any queries about the project, please contact Jaime Hawkins on 9628 7004.

If you would like to be kept informed about the Age Friendly Community Plan please provide your preferred contact details below:

Name:

Phone:

Postal Address:

Email:

## ANNEX 3: PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORMS

## Age Friendly Communities

### Participant Information Form

<b>Older People</b>
---------------------

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this Information Sheet by ticking the appropriate box or writing in your answer. We need this information so we can describe the characteristics of the people who took part in this age friendly planning consultation. If you have any questions, please contact Jaime Hawkins

1. Age at last birthday: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female
3. Present employment status:  
☐ Retired ☐ Work Full-time ☐ Work Part-time ☐ Unemployed
4. Present occupation or last major occupation: \_\_\_\_\_
5. How would you describe your current health?  
☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor
6. Do you have any health problem that limits your ability to do your normal daily activities?  
☐ Yes ☐ No
7. What is the highest level of schooling you completed?  
☐ Primary School ☐ Secondary School ☐ Technical or further educational institution (e.g. TAFE) ☐ University or higher
8. Do you rent, or own the home where you live?  
☐ Renter ☐ Home owner

9. Who lives in your home with you? (Tick all that apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No-one else but me       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other relatives (Number _____ ) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/partner           | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-relatives (Number _____ )   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children (Number _____ ) |  |

10. What suburb do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form to a Shire representative before the end of the focus group.**

# Age Friendly Communities

## Participant Information Form

### Carers of Older People

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this Information Sheet by ticking the appropriate box or writing in your answer. We need this information so we can describe the characteristics of the people who took part in this age friendly planning consultation. If you have any questions, please contact Jaime Hawkins.

1. Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

2. Present employment status:

☐ Retired ☐ Work Full-time ☐ Work Part-time ☐ Unemployed (looking for work)

3. Present occupation or last major occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the highest level of schooling you completed?

☐ Primary School ☐ Secondary School ☐ Technical or further educational institution (e.g. TAFE) ☐ University or higher

5. Are you currently providing support or care to an older person(s) who (check all that apply):

☐ Is physically disabled ☐ Is visually impaired  
☐ Has difficulty moving or walking ☐ Has dementia  
☐ Is hearing impaired

6. What is your relationship to the older person(s) you care for?

☐ Parent/Parent in-law ☐ Other relative ☐ Non-relative

7. Does the person(s) you care for live in your home?

☐ Yes ☐ No

8. In which suburb does the older person you care for live? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form to a Shire representative before the end of the focus group.**

# Age Friendly Communities

## Participant Information Form

<b>Service Providers</b>
--------------------------

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postcode:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this Information Sheet by ticking the appropriate box or writing in your answer. We need this information so we can describe the characteristics of the people who took part in this age friendly planning consultation. If you have any questions, please contact Jaime Hawkins.

1. Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

2. Present occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

3. In what sector of the community are you employed?

☐ Public sector (e.g. local government)

☐ Private sector

☐ Voluntary sector (non-profit)

4. How long have you been employed in this occupation in the local community?

☐ Less than 2 years

☐ 2 to 5 years

☐ Over 5 years

5. How much experience do you have with older people in your work?

☐

A lot

☐

A moderate amount

☐

A little

☐

None

**Please return this form to a Shire representative before the end of the focus group.**