



# City of Hobart Youth Strategy 2014 – 2019

## Introduction

### **History / Background**

The City of Hobart has demonstrated its commitment to the development and support of young people in the Hobart municipal area over many years.

The City has provided direction for activities and programs for young people and over the years has provided a framework to assist in engaging with and prioritising actions in response to the needs and interests of young people.

In 1998, the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre, formerly called the Youth Action and Resource Centre, was established as a central hub for young people to gather, have fun and seek assistance in training and employment and to engage in creative and recreational programs.

In 2007, the City of Hobart reviewed the focus of its youth programs. Recommendations were adopted to focus on entertainment, arts and learning opportunities for young people. From 2007 onwards, these recommendations have been implemented through a range of youth programs activities that focus on music, art, dance, digital media and recreation.

## Community Engagement Process

The review of the Youth Strategy and the development of the new Youth Strategy 2014 – 2019 involved a community engagement process that was implemented over an eight month period and engaged over 300 young people in the process, as well as representatives from the youth sector within Southern Tasmania.

This involved small group discussions with young people from six high schools, two colleges, two alternative education programs, Youth Arts & Recreation Centre users, a group of young people who access Hobart Headspace and through two public consultation sessions held in Franklin Square and Elizabeth Mall.

During the review process, the context for discussions included the current level of resourcing, the current environment of financial restraint, the activities currently being undertaken by the City of Hobart and the City's social inclusion roles.

The engagement process provided background information on what the City of Hobart had focused on in the past and what the City currently focuses on. Young people were also asked about the issues that were important to them, where they believed youth programs should focus resources into the future and how they viewed safety in the city.

## Issues

The major issues that have been identified by young people and the youth sector during the review of the previous strategy and development of this draft are:

- The need for more, and the greater promotion of, recreational, arts and cultural activities, events and programs within Hobart. This includes the creation of additional public artwork as well as more live entertainment for young people.
- Additional learning and skill development opportunities in creative areas such as music and art.
- Safety in public spaces such as Franklin Square and the Elizabeth Bus Mall.

## Demographic Context

The 2011, ABS Census identified that in Greater Hobart 13.4% of the population are aged from 15 to 24.

In the Hobart Local Government Area, with its population of 48,703, 16.8% of the population (approximately 8,200) are people aged from 15 to 24, with 10.6% being people aged from 20 to 24.

Amongst Hobart's young people under 25 years, 3,126 were university students, 2,762 were secondary high school students and 483 were attending technical or further education. Approximately 435 or 5.3% of young people aged 15 – 24, need assistance for a core activity such as self-care, mobility or communication.

It should also be noted that many young people who live outside the Hobart municipal area work, study and recreate within Hobart on a daily basis.

This strategy generally applies to all young people between the ages of 12 and 25 years old, who live, study, work in and/or visit the City of Hobart.

### **Hobart 2025 – A 20 Year Strategic Framework**

Hobart 2025 was an extensive community visioning process that produced a framework for the City of Hobart's long term strategic planning. It gives a solid picture of what the people of Hobart want the city to be like in 2025.

### **Key Future Direction Statements**

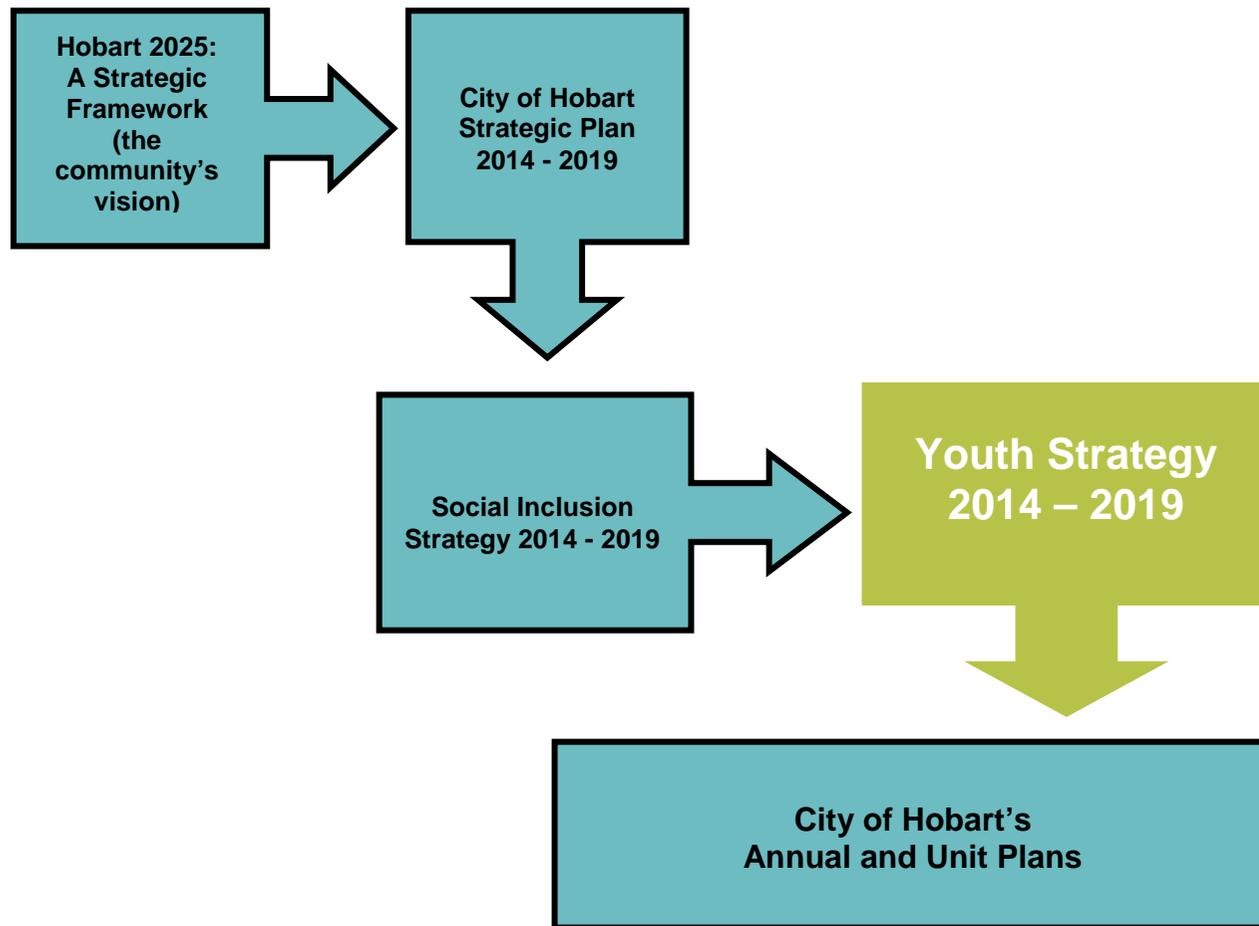
This picture is expressed in seven Future Direction Statements, three of which specifically target social inclusion outcomes.

- *Offers opportunities for all ages and a city for life*  
In 2025 Hobart will be a city that provides opportunities for education, employment and fulfilling careers. A city that is able to retain its young people and provide a lifestyle that will encourage all ages to see the city as a desirable location and lifelong home.
- *Builds strong and healthy communities through diversity, participation and empathy*  
In 2025 Hobart will be a city that reflects a spirit of community and tolerance. By valuing diversity and encouraging participation by all ages in the life of their community a friendly and compassionate society will underpin a safe and healthy city.
- *Is dynamic, vibrant and culturally expressive*  
In 2025 Hobart will be a city that is a destination of choice and a place for business. Clever thinking and support for creativity will help build a strong economic foundation, and entertainment, arts and cultural activities promote the distinctive character of the city. Lifestyle opportunities and strong communities will ensure a vibrancy and a way of life that is Hobart.

## Strategic Plans

The City of Hobart's Strategic Plan 2014 – 2019 identifies the actions the Council will take over the five year period to achieve the community's vision. The Social Inclusion Strategy specifically identifies the social outcomes for the city and informs the Youth Strategy 2014 - 2019. These documents inform the Annual and Unit Plans produced each year by the Council.

This strategic framework is provided as a visual representation below.



## Guiding Principles

The City of Hobart's youth policy position sits within the context of the City of Hobart's Social Inclusion Guiding Principles, as outlined below.

### **Social Inclusion – Guiding Principles**

In recognition of the fundamental right of all citizens of Hobart to have the opportunity to participate fully socially, culturally, economically, physically and politically in the life of their community, the City of Hobart is committed to the following guiding principles:

- Recognising that diversity in the community is one of its greatest strengths
- Acknowledging that all individuals and communities have strengths, and building capacity through a whole-of-community approach
- Ensuring that the needs and aspirations of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the community are addressed in partnership with other key stakeholders
- Understanding and being informed about all aspects of the community
- Engaging the community as identifiers of community needs and aspirations and participators in the responses
- Identifying and understanding the underlying causes of social exclusion and giving priority to supporting early intervention and prevention approaches
- Promoting and providing equity and access to all City of Hobart's activities, programs, facilities and services
- Ensuring the City of Hobart's practices, policies and procedures actively build social inclusion and do not contribute to social exclusion
- Utilising a whole-of-organisation approach to address the barriers that exclude people from full participation in community life through the implementation of the Social Inclusion Strategy

## Role of the City of Hobart

The City of Hobart has a unique role in promoting and providing for young people in the Hobart municipal area. With this in mind, the City's role in youth programs is fully aligned with its social inclusion roles, which are defined as follows:

### **Leadership**

Hobart has a unique role as the capital city and regional hub. Many people who live outside the municipal area look to the City of Hobart as a key driver in addressing social issues.

### **Advocacy**

There are many issues and opportunities where the City of Hobart can use its voice to advocate for outcomes that will benefit all.

### **Management**

The City of Hobart has a key role in the strategic planning, development and management of land, infrastructure and facilities in order to benefit the community.

### **Connection**

The City of Hobart has a significant lead role in bringing people and organisations together and establishing relationships in order to achieve community outcomes.

### **Informing**

The City of Hobart as an organisation has access to a vast array of information, is a collector and source of information for the community and has a vital role in raising awareness on issues.

### **Facilitation**

The City of Hobart is in a unique position of being able to provide a broad range of support to facilitate innovative community-based initiatives that respond to local need, and may include delivery of services when there is a clear need and a lack of capacity in the community to provide the required service.

## Accountability

In terms of monitoring the City of Hobart's performance in the delivery of its Youth Strategy, the following approach will be utilised:

- Regular reporting to the Council. This is done three times a year for all City of Hobart operations, and annually through the Annual Report that is also presented to the community at the Council's Annual General Meeting held in November.
- Regular engagement with Youth Arts & Recreation Centre users, young people in public spaces, high schools, colleges, youth organisations and alternative education programs.
- Utilisation of various sector networks such as the Youth Action Priorities (YAP) and Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT).

## Areas for Activity

### **Priority Area 1: Youth Development & Strategic Planning**

Youth development and strategic planning focuses on how best to partner and network with government, the youth sector and the broader community to create greater participation opportunities for young people.

- Implement and review the Youth Strategy priority areas for activity every year.
- Convene and participate in relevant networks, engage in discussion and provide available support, in collaboration with other organisations, to assist the sector to achieve economic, social, environmental and cultural goals.
- Develop key partnerships to create opportunities for young people to participate in creative programs and in the life of the city.
- Support and develop opportunities for vocational experience in youth work and related disciplines.

### **Priority Area 2: Youth Arts & Recreation Centre**

Youth Arts & Recreation Centre focuses on maintaining and improving the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre facility for young people in the city.

- Continue to improve and maintain the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre as a safe and vibrant place for young people to participate.
- Continue to partner with community organisations to create further opportunities for the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre to be utilised by young people.
- Continue to hire the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre to business, community organisations and individuals to build revenue that offset activity costs.

### **Priority Area 3: Youth Participation**

Youth Participation focuses on engaging young people in community arts, cultural activities, events and programs and giving them a voice through engagement processes.

- Further develop and publish Platform online youth culture magazine to give young people a voice and celebrate their achievements. Utilise the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre website and social media to promote their work.
- Market and promote all aspects of youth programs to the community and youth sector in order to increase participation by young people.
- Create opportunities for young people to be involved in events and activities that give them an opportunity to showcase their skills and talents.
- In alignment with the Creative Hobart Strategy develop and deliver a diverse range of recreation, arts and cultural activities, events and programs at the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre through sector partnerships, centre-based activities and special events.
- Utilise various networks to ensure young people's needs are identified and appropriately met.
- Create opportunities for young people to volunteer.

### **Priority Area 4: Outdoor Youth Work**

Outdoor Youth Work focuses on activating public spaces with performances and cultural events and activities for young people.

- In alignment with the Creative Hobart Strategy and through the ICAP Activation of Public Spaces Project (ICAP-AP15), further develop arts, cultural and recreational opportunities for young people in Hobart's public spaces.
- Participate in the implementation of the graffiti/urban art walls initiative that includes community awareness raising, opportunities for young people's artistic skill development as well as the identification of venues for programs or legal art works.
- Work with the skateboarding community to diversify activation of North Hobart and West Hobart skate parks.

## 2016/2017 Action Plan

<b>PRIORITY AREA OF ACTIVITY 1: Youth Development &amp; Strategic Planning</b>		
<b>Priority Areas for Action</b>	<b>Actions / Initiatives</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>
Implement and review the Youth Strategy priority areas for activity every year.	Implement strategy through each priority area of activity.	Youth Strategy priority areas of activity reviewed and implemented.
Review the Youth Strategy priority areas every year, in consultation with young people and the sector.	Send out surveys and reports to the sector and engage young people through the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre.	Youth Strategy priority areas reviewed.
	Establish Youth Advisory Committee (YAC).	Committee established.
Convene and participate in relevant networks, engage in discussion and provide available support, in collaboration with other organisations to assist them to achieve economic, social, environmental and cultural goals.	Convene Youth Actions Priorities (YAP).	Six YAP meetings held and other meetings and networks attended.
	Work in collaboration with other councils on youth based initiatives.	Develop cross council bi-monthly meetings. Partnerships developed.
Develop key partnerships to create opportunities for young people to participate in creative programs and the life of the City.	Promote opportunities to participate through the youth sector and the community. Develop and maintain partnerships with other youth focused services and agencies.	Participation opportunities promoted and partnerships strengthened.

**PRIORITY AREA OF ACTIVITY 2: Youth Arts & Recreation Centre**

<b>Priority Areas for Action</b>	<b>Actions / Initiatives</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>
Continue to improve and maintain the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre as a safe and vibrant place for young people to participate.	Promote to and partner with youth organisations to utilise the youth centre.	Partnerships formed.
	Promote the facility to schools - in particular high schools, as well as Grade 6 school leavers.	Number of school groups brought through the Centre for Open Days.
	Promoting the venue to business, community organisations and individuals.	Youth Centre promoted and young people accessing the Centre.
Continue to partner with community organisations to create opportunity for the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre to be utilised by young people.	Supporting and strengthening partnerships with the Ed Zone alternative education program and Music Tasmania at the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre.	Partnerships continued and support given.
Continue to hire out the Youth Arts & Recreation Centre to business, community organisations and individuals to build revenue.	Promote the venue to business, community organisations and individuals.	Youth Arts & Recreation Centre hired out to the wider community.  Revenue increased.

**PRIORITY AREA OF ACTIVITY 3: Youth Participation**

<b>Priority Areas for Action</b>	<b>Actions / Initiatives</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>
<p>In alignment with the Creative Hobart Strategy develop and deliver a diverse range of recreation, arts and cultural activities, events and programs at the Youth Arts &amp; Recreation Centre through sector partnerships, Centre-based activities and special events.</p> <p>Create opportunities for young people to be involved in events and activities that give them an opportunity to showcase their skills and talents.</p>	<p>In 2016/2017 the focus will be on working with young people and our partners to build capacity and resilience in young people. We will do this in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Through art workshops</li> <li>· Through music workshops</li> <li>· Through art exhibitions and the curation of the Substation Gallery</li> <li>· Chill Out sessions (Open Access)</li> <li>· Creative workshops in partnership with schools and service providers</li> <li>· Work with young people and sector to deliver events</li> <li>· Platform Magazine and Platform Online Magazine</li> <li>· Platform +</li> <li>· Performances</li> <li>· Events</li> <li>· Activation of public spaces</li> <li>· Promote Council wide opportunities</li> <li>· Promote and facilitate Bunker Music Studio</li> </ul>	<p>Two magazines published.</p> <p>Two events delivered.</p> <p>Workshops delivered.</p> <p>NYW event delivered.</p> <p>Open Access delivered.</p>

**PRIORITY AREA OF ACTIVITY 3: Youth Participation**

<b>Priority Areas for Action</b>	<b>Actions / Initiatives</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Promote and facilitate Art Studio</li> <li>· Promote and facilitate Substation Gallery</li> <li>· Coordinate and run the National Youth Week event - Light up the Lane</li> <li>· Promote and facilitate art on Victoria Street</li> <li>· Work in collaboration with Public Art on the Urban Art Walls and Community Art Walls Projects</li> <li>· Work with Foundry to develop the creative design behind Platform Magazine</li> <li>· Work with mental health service providers to promote awareness of mental health and suicide prevention.</li> </ul>	
<p>Create opportunities for young people to volunteer.</p>	<p>Promoting volunteerism. Recruiting volunteers.</p>	<p>Young people volunteering in Youth Programs.</p>
<p>Utilise various consultation networks to ensure young people's needs are identified and appropriately met.</p>	<p>Work with high schools, colleges, youth organisations and alternative education programs to engage young people.</p> <p>Reporting on the Youth Strategy implementation to YAP, schools, alternative education programs, colleges and young people.</p>	<p>Young people engaged.</p>

**PRIORITY AREA OF ACTIVITY 4: Outdoor Youth Work**

<b>Priority Areas for Action</b>	<b>Actions / Initiatives</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>
<p>In alignment with the Creative Hobart Strategy and through the ICAP Activation of Public Spaces Project (ICAP-AP15), further develop arts, cultural and recreational opportunities for young people in Hobart's public spaces.</p>	<p>Delivery of four outdoor performances in Elizabeth Mall and Franklin Square.</p> <p>Identify other spaces that can be activated.</p>	<p>Four performances held.</p> <p>Spaces indentified.</p>
<p>Participate in the implementation of graffiti/urban art walls initiative that includes community awareness raising, opportunities for young people's artistic skill development as well as the identification of venues for programs or legal art works.</p>	<p>Delivering eight art workshops at the Youth Arts &amp; Recreation Centre.</p> <p>Partnering with other areas of Council and community to raise awareness of opportunities for legal art work.</p>	<p>Workshops delivered.</p>
<p>Work with the skateboarding community to activate North Hobart and West Hobart skate parks.</p>	<p>Partnering with local skate community to deliver one major event at North Hobart Skate Park.</p> <p>Investigate the opportunity to engage YMCA as a service provider for a local skate program.</p> <p>Partner with Shredability to deliver the female skateboarding competition, 'Queen of Concrete'.</p> <p>Partner with Jimmys Skate and Street to deliver a series of summer skate events, including West Hobart Bowl Jam and SKATE trick comp.</p>	<p>Partnership strengthened.</p> <p>Event delivered.</p>