

ORDINARY MEETING 22 NOVEMBER 2017	7
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CAIRNS YOUTH INITIATIVES 2017

Mariko Molleneaux | 1/3/22-28 | #5548826

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. notes the report of youth initiatives in 2017 including National Youth Week events, Cairns Youth Survey summary, Youth Service Managers Network meetings and the Youth Practitioner Forum; and**
- 2. provides continued support for these initiatives in 2018.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In 2017 Council led and supported a number of youth initiatives across the Cairns area. These initiatives had a focus on young people aged 12 to 25 years. Council provided in-kind assistance, venue hire and financial assistance to support these initiatives in the region. Partnerships with community further enhanced the work that Council delivered. Partnerships and collaboration are expected to continue in 2018.

This report summarises youth initiatives in 2017 including:

- National Youth Week (NYW) events and activities
- Cairns Youth Survey indicative findings
- Overview of the Cairns Youth Service Managers Network meetings
- Cairns Youth Practitioner Forums.

Key outcomes:

- Delivery of youth-friendly activities and events across NYW to celebrate the contribution of local young people, and encouraging their participation in community life
- Encouraging the voice of young people through the Cairns Youth Survey
- Promoting and raising awareness of local issues and youth support services through high school engagement events
- Providing forums for youth service leaders and staff to develop and strengthen partnerships, enhance service delivery, reduce duplication and improve support to all young people.

BACKGROUND:

The young Cairns population are an important group within the community. A healthy and engaged youth population has wide benefits. Research shows that feeling valued and being connected to community, family and friends is vital to the positive development of young people. Engagement and participation enables young people to “experience a good quality of life, which encourages positive outcomes in education, employment and wellbeing”.

Young people are key agents for economic growth, technological innovation and social change. Development of the Cairns youth population is an important aspect of the region’s growth. Council demonstrates commitment to supporting young people through a number of initiatives, including those detailed in this report. Significant collaborations and partnerships are occurring between Council, government and Not for Profit organisations, and also across Council workgroups to maximise outcomes for young people.

National Youth Week

NYW is an annual week of celebration to recognise the contribution of young people. An important focus of NYW is to encourage youth involvement and participation in community life. In 2017, NYW was celebrated from 31 March to 9 April. The theme was ‘Be Bold, Be Brave, Be You’.

Each year NYW events are planned and organised with the aim of reaching young people in the central and outer suburbs of the Cairns Local Government Area (LGA). Cairns NYW is a collaborative effort between Council and other key stakeholders from the community. Local youth service providers supported NYW by running youth events, school engagement initiatives and conducting surveys with young people.

In 2017, eight events and seven school engagement events were held during NYW, with over 3,500 youth turning out to be involved. In addition to attendees, numerous young people assisted with planning, promoting and running the activities and events. A full list of activities and events can be found in Attachment 1.

Cairns Youth Survey

The Cairns Youth Survey is an initiative led and developed by Council. The survey was conducted at events and school engagement activities by a group of young leaders (peer-to-peer engagement), Council staff and youth service provider staff. The survey was also accessible for all young people online. A total of 460 young people from suburbs across the LGA responded to the survey. The survey provides a snapshot of useful information for Council and youth services. Survey topics included what young people would like to see more of from Council, ways to include them more in the community, issues that affect young people and how they would like issues resolved or reduced. A brief summary of indicative findings are attached with this report (Attachment 4).

Cairns Youth Service Managers Network

Another key youth initiative is the establishment of the Cairns Youth Service Managers Network (YSMN). The Network is led by Council in partnership with Cairns Safer Streets Taskforce (Queensland Government). The network consists of leaders from local youth service providers. The aim of the YSMN is to develop and strengthen partnerships in the youth service sector, share information, collaborate, coordinate and support sector development. This initiative builds a more resilient service sector better able to identify issues and challenges for young people and collectively address identified issues.

The YSMN has met five times in 2017 with a total attendance to date of 79 leaders from over 20 youth service providers.

Cairns Youth Practitioner Forums

Council is proud to provide in-kind support for the regional Youth Practitioner Forum. The forum is designed to build the capacity of frontline staff that work directly with young people. It will increase the knowledge and connections of workers on the ground such as youth workers, case managers, school support staff and youth counsellors. This initiative is led by PCYC Cairns, Cairns Youth Justice Service Centre (Queensland Government) and James Cook University. The forums will occur quarterly with the first meeting due to commence in November 2017.

COMMENT:

The Cairns Youth Survey has been the most recent targeted initiative to gather the views of young people since the Cairns YEA Crew! Advisory Group cessation in 2014. The benefit of the survey is that it provides a snapshot of a diverse range of young people from across the LGA. Young people acknowledged the great work that Council already delivers, and have provided their views about how Council can better meet their interests and needs.

There has been an absence of formal regional youth service interagency networks since 2012. The commencement of the YSMN and Youth Practitioner Forum is a great asset to the local community and would not have been possible without the commitment and support from Council. Feedback from the YSMN has been highly positive to date. The YSMN is already producing partnerships to improve support and delivery to young people in the region.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Corporate and Operational Plans

These Council initiatives strongly advance Council's Corporate Plan (2017-2022) strategic objectives in the following ways:

- Build vibrancy through community events and activities
- Support a rich and diverse culture through accessible public facilities and community initiatives

- Collaborating and building working partnerships between community and government to plan and deliver better services
- Considered decision-making based on collaboration, transparent and accountable leadership.

Partnerships complement and enhance the work officers do for community. This work demonstrates Council's commitment to growing and supporting emerging leaders and the future community.

Council Finance and the local economy:

National Youth Week 2017

	Actuals	Budgeted	Variance
Operating Expenses			
Printing and Marketing	3,168	6,000	2,832
Miscellaneous Supplies	178	500	322
<i>Youth Week Activities</i>			
Pasifika Sports Day	5,455	5,000	-455
Trinity Skate Jam	3,260	4,000	740
PCYC Hip Hop Dance	2,727	3,000	273
WAK Festival	1,364	3,000	1,636
PCYC Youth Expo	909	2,000	1,091
TOTAL EXPENSES	17,060	23,500	6,440

In-kind time of Community Services Officer (coordination, support, advice, planning, implementation, completion).

Cairns Youth Survey

In-kind time of Community Services Officer (survey development, delivery, data collation, analysis).

Youth Service Managers Network

Operating expenses	Total
Catering (3x meetings)	\$750

In-kind time of Community Services Officer (planning, coordination, delivery and follow up from meetings).

In-kind venue hire.

Youth Practitioner Forums

In-kind time of Community Services Officer (planning and advice).

In-kind venue hire.

CONSULTATION:

Significant consultation has occurred at all levels in planning and implementing the above initiatives, including but not limited to:

- Broad range of young people
- Youth service sector leaders and direct service-delivery staff
- State government agencies
- Internal Council teams (Economic Development, Cultural Services).

ATTACHMENTS:

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|----|---|------------|
| 1. | Cairns National Youth Week Activities | |
| 2. | Cairns National Youth Week 2017 Flyer | DM#5549021 |
| 3. | Cairns National Youth Week Photos | DM#5578335 |
| 4. | Cairns Youth Survey Indicative Findings | DM#5578581 |
| 5. | Youth Service Managers Network Newsletter | DM#5461152 |
| 6. | Youth Practitioner Forum Flyer | DM#5579679 |



Brett Spencer
Manager Community Development



Linda Kirchner
General Manager Community, Sport and Cultural Services

ATTACHMENT 1: Cairns National Youth Week Activities

Event	Date	Description	Location	Attendance
School Engagement & Promotion Events (Council & Anglicare)	16-31 March 2017	Engagement across Cairns High Schools to promote Youth Week and awareness of local youth support and services.	Cairns High Trinity Bay High Gordonvale High Bentley Park High Woree High Redlynch High TAFE	Over 2,000 students
Pasifika Youth Games & Youth Expo (Pacific Communities Council & PCYC)	Saturday 1 April 2017	Cross cultural youth sports day. Interactive Youth Expo showcasing support services, employers, education providers such as universities and training organisations etc.	Edmonton PCYC	600
Swim, Surf, Splash Party (Headspace)	Sunday 2 April 2017	Pool party event to encourage youth participation and connection. Headspace hosted the event with messaging and conversation about mental health awareness and support.	Tobruk Pool	350
Wellbeing & Kulture Festival (Wuchopperen)	Wednesday 5 April 2017	Event cancelled due to wet weather.		NA
Robotics & Coding (Libraries)	Wednesday 5 April 2017	Workshop to learn and design coding.	Earlville Library	20
Robotics – Ozobots for Beginners (Libraries)	Thursday 6 April 2017	Workshops to design coding for robotics.	City Library	20
Virtual Reality & Robotics with JCU (Libraries & JCU)	Friday 7 April 2017	Virtual reality and robotics workshops supported and facilitated by James Cook University.	Smithfield Library	70
Hip Hop Celebrations Workshops (PCYC)	Saturday 8 April 2017	Hip hop workshops led by young local dancers. Suitable for beginners through to intermediate skill levels.	Cairns City	150
Creative Arts Workshops (PCYC)	Saturday 8 April 2017	Creative arts workshops leading to final performance in one evening.	Cairns City	100
Trinity Skate Jam (Council & FNQFRSA)	Saturday 20 May 2017	Skate Jam event to involve all young people regardless of skill level. A collaboration between Council and FNQ Freestyle Roller Sports Association.	Trinity Beach	200
TOTAL				Over 3,510

ATTACHMENT 2: Cairns National Youth Week 2017 Flyer

#NYWCairns

Cairns Regional COUNCIL

BE BOLD, BE BRAVE, BE YOU

NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK
31 MARCH - 9 APRIL 2017

FREE EVENTS

<p>SATURDAY 1 APRIL Pasifika Youth Games & Youth Expo 8.00am - 5.00pm PCYC Edmonton, Walker Road <small>Hosted by Pacific Communities Council & PCYC Edmonton</small></p>	<p>SUNDAY 2 APRIL Swim, Surf & Splash Party 1.00pm - 5.00pm Tobruk Pool <small>Hosted by Headspace Cairns</small></p>	<p>WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL Wellbeing & Kulture Festival 4.00pm - 7.00pm Wuchopperen Manooora <small>Hosted by Wuchopperen & Department of Education and Training</small></p>	<p>Robotics & Coding 2.30pm - 3.30pm Earville Library Bookings essential ph 4044 3766 <small>Hosted by Cairns Libraries</small></p>
<p>THURSDAY 6 APRIL Robotics - Ozobots for Beginners 10.30am - 12pm City Library Bookings essential ph 4044 3720 <small>Hosted by Cairns Libraries</small></p>	<p>FRIDAY 7 APRIL Virtual Reality & Robotics with JCU (Ages 13+) 3.00pm - 4.30pm Smithfield Library <small>Hosted by Cairns Libraries</small></p>	<p>SATURDAY 8 APRIL Youth Week Skate Jam 3.00pm - 6.00pm Coastwatcher Park, Trinity Beach <small>Hosted by FNGFRSA</small></p>	<p>Hip Hop Celebrations Workshops from 12.30pm <small>(see website for session times)</small> Creative Arts Workshop 6.00pm - 9.00pm Crosswell Hall, Cairns High School <small>Hosted by PCYC Cairns</small></p>

WIN AWESOME PRIZES - HAVE YOUR SAY IN OUR YOUTH SURVEY!

For more information please visit:
WWW.CAIRNS.QLD.GOV.AU/YOUTH

Program may change. Please check website for up-to-date info.

ATTACHMENT 3: Cairns National Youth Week Photos



Cairns National Youth Week 2017



ATTACHMENT 4: Cairns Youth Survey 2017 Indicative Findings

Cairns Youth Survey 2017

INTRODUCTION

Between March and May 2017, 460 young people from across the Cairns Local Government Area responded to Council's Cairns Youth Survey. The target ages of respondents were people between 12 and 25 years. Young people were able to complete the survey online or through face to face interviews at youth events, service providers or school engagement events. A preliminary summary of the findings are included in this report. This data provides a snapshot of the views of Cairns young people, and should be considered with other data sources. This snapshot provides indicative local data which is useful to assist with better understanding the youth population, tailoring initiatives for young people to meet their interests and needs, and provide data to youth services to assist with their service and program delivery.

INDICATIVE FINDINGS

A diverse range of young people participated in the survey. Almost half of the respondents were aged 15-18 years. Respondents aged 18-25 year old made up 23 percent of respondents (Table 1). Twenty-eight percent of respondents reported being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent. Young people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD) accounted for 18 percent of respondents (Table 2).

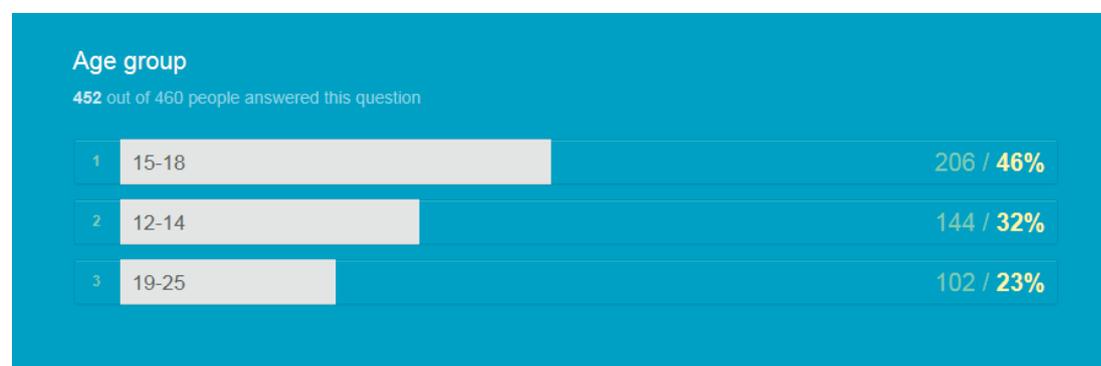


Table 1: Age of respondents

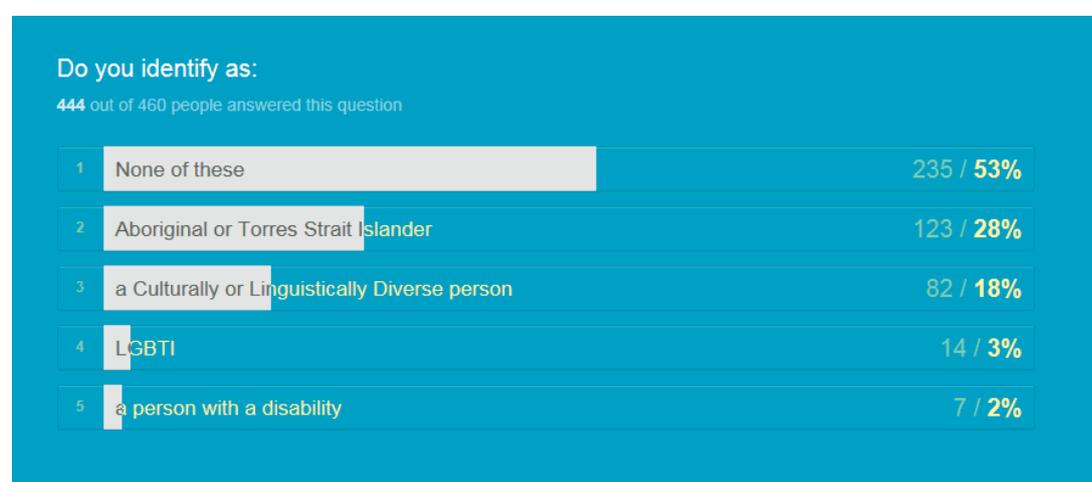


Table 2: Cultural or group identity

A larger proportion of females responded to the survey; 57 percent of respondents were female, and 41 percent were male (2% did not complete this question).

Respondents reported that they were from a range of suburbs across the Cairns area (Table 3). There is a notably high response rate from people living in the southern suburbs of Cairns. The top 5 suburbs reported include: Edmonton, Mt Sheridan, Trinity Beach, Manoora and Gordonvale. Census data indicates that a high proportion of Cairns youth reside in the southern suburbs; Edmonton, Bentley Park, Mount Sheridan and Gordonvale are in the top five suburbs populated with 12-25 year olds. Interestingly, the Census shows that Redlynch has the second highest proportion of young people living in Cairns, however Redlynch did not rate in respondent data.

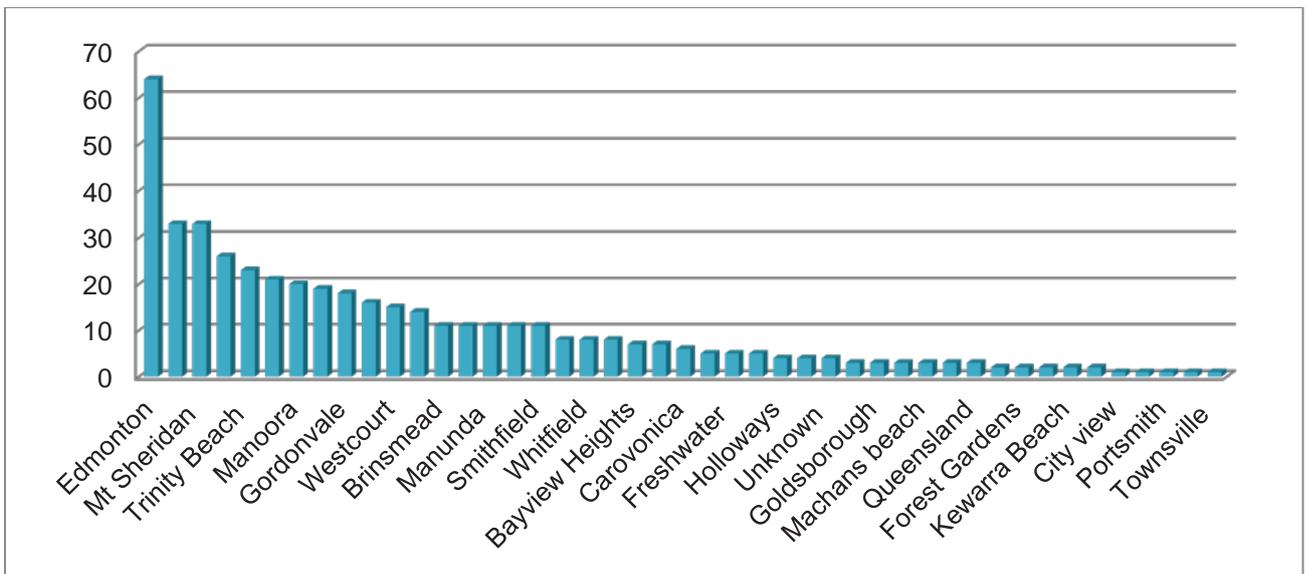


Table 3: Respondents by suburb

One quarter of respondents stated that they felt their voices were not heard about decisions about their community (Table 4). This is of particular interest to Council as it is important that young people have a voice in influencing and connecting with their community to shape the future. Young people stated that they would like to connect more with Council through 1) Facebook, 2) Online and face-to-face surveys, 3) Newsletter, magazine or comic book and 4) face-to-face forums.

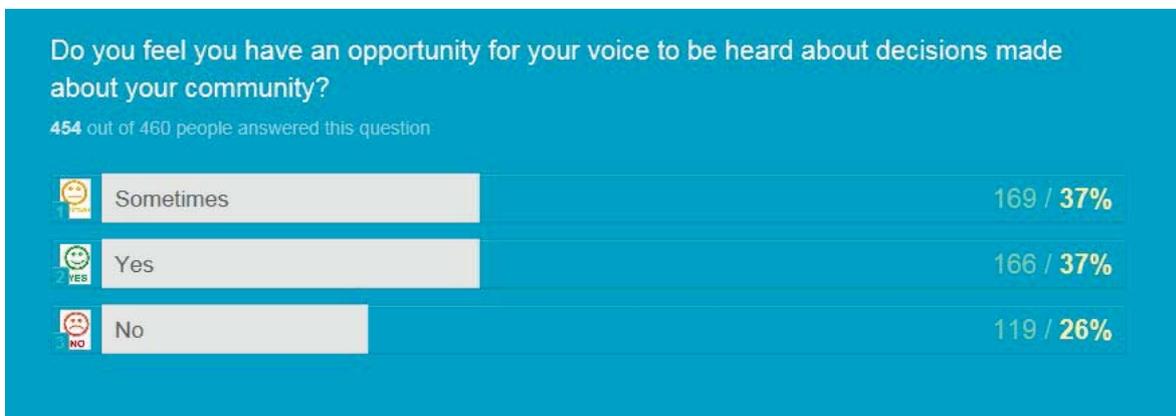


Table 4: Opportunity to be heard about decisions made about the community

Young people stated that their favourite places to spend their free time (Table 5) include The Lagoon and Esplanade, local creeks, Cairns Central Shopping Centre and other shops, Beaches, Parks, Sporting facilities, Cairns Libraries and Home.

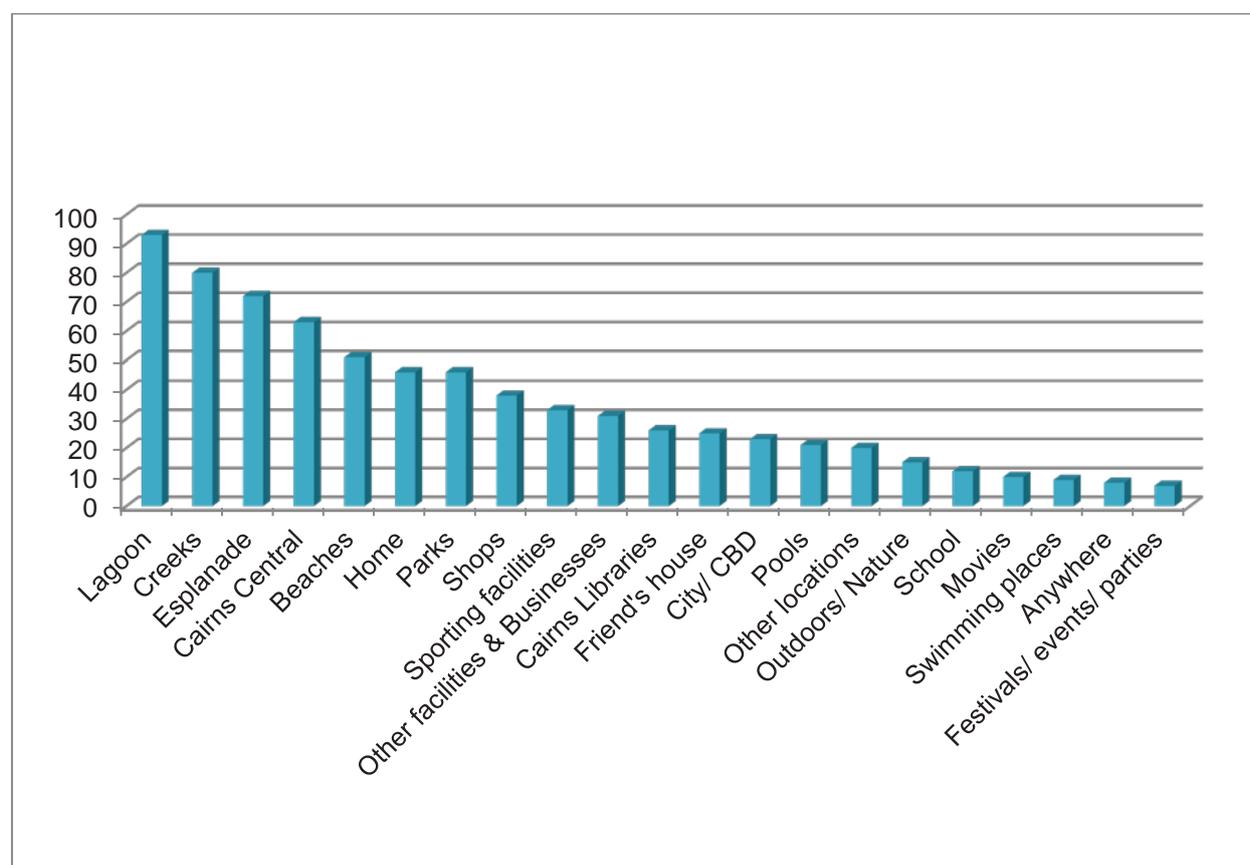


Table 5: Favourite places to spend free time

Respondents stated that the top challenges facing young people include finding employment as the leading challenge, followed closely by drugs, school and study pressures, alcohol and bullying (Table 6). It must be noted that whilst mental health did not appear to rate highly in this survey, other national research indicates that mental health and suicide are significant concerns for young people. In relating national data to the Cairns Youth Survey data, this may not have been reflected due to the interpretation of categories. Some fields may fit into mental health-related issues such as 'self-image & self-esteem', 'dealing with diversity & discrimination' and 'health'.

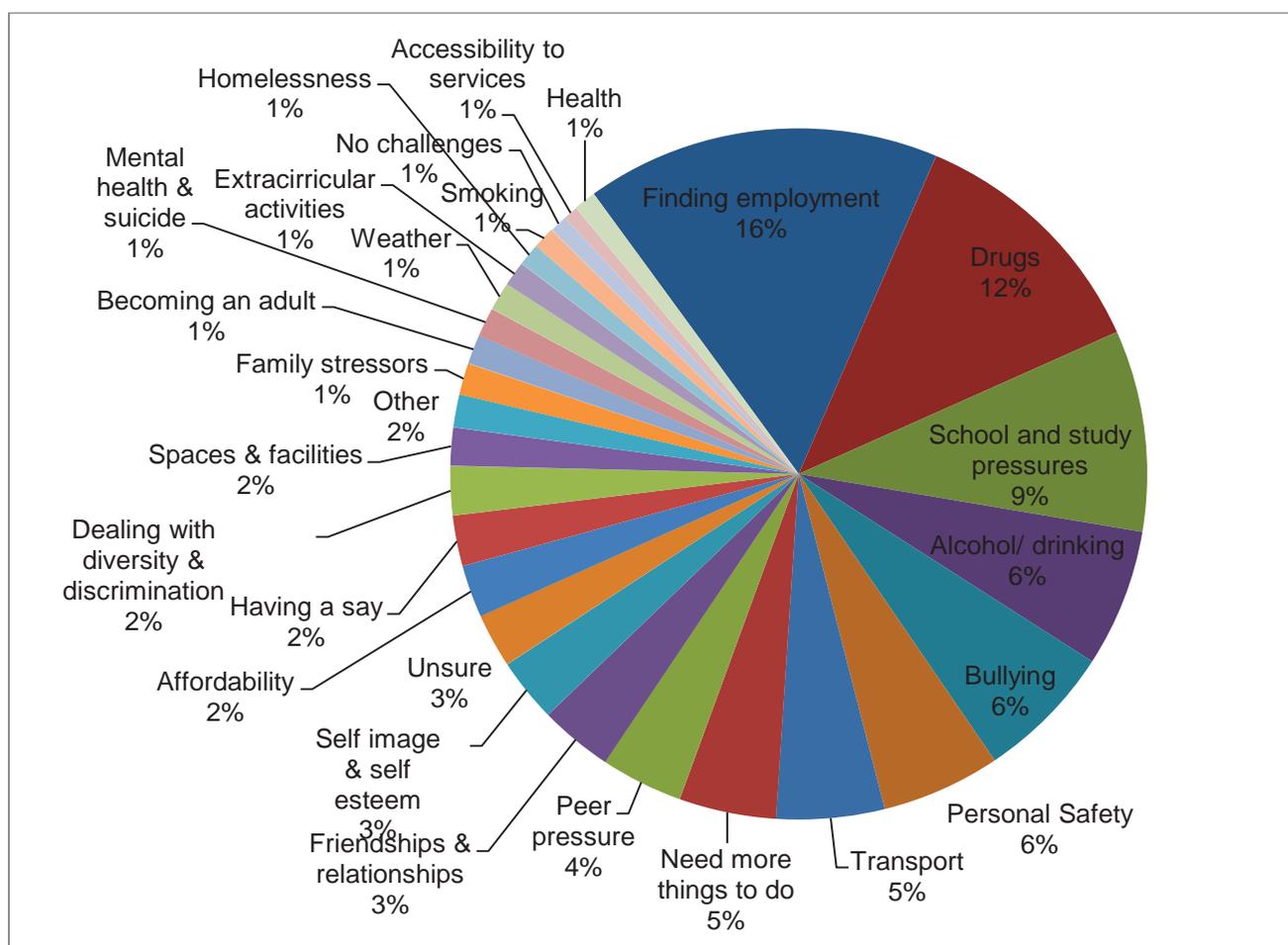


Table 6: Top challenges for young people

Young people would like these challenges solved or reduced in the following ways:

1. More counselling and general support
2. More activities and events
3. Increased awareness and education about issues
4. Support to gain employment

Young people have said that Council can provide more events, activities, programs and more and improved spaces and facilities to make Cairns better for young people. Council can help young people be more involved in community life through providing:

- Work experience
- Volunteering
- Events and activities
- Awareness
- More jobs
- More and improved advertising of what's on
- Job Fairs

ATTACHMENT 5: Youth Service Managers Network Newsletter

Cairns Youth Service Managers Network

NEWSLETTER

6 June 2017

News from the Network

Summary of updates provided by network members about new information or changes to services or programs

Cairns PCYC

- Organisation funded through donations and fundraising to provide programs for young people
- Breaking the Cycle program running to help young people achieve their log book hours for Provisional license.

Edmonton PCYC

- Youth Outreach Programs every week for young people at Ravizza Park Edmonton
- Currently trying to get Breaking the Cycle program up and running

Cairns Youth Justice

- Transition to Success program for youth disengaged from school 15 +
Open to youth on YJ orders or at risk of becoming involved with YJ. Can be referred by school/ TAFE/ DATSIP etc.

DATSIP

- Youth Employment program – ATSI youth into placements and employment.
- Funding to PCYC for Breaking the Cycle places
- Link to businesses to increase opportunities/ connectivity for young people

Envizion

- Reclaim program for youth on orders. Can accept referrals from Monday 19 June.

YouthLink

- Young parenting wellbeing program
- Housing programs
- Next step for children transitioning from Care Outreach office in Kuranda
- Office space or venue available. Contact Dan if looking for space to co-locate

Headspace Cairns

- New program with a focus on improving father/son communication
- National Education modules for anti-bullying and wellbeing running in schools

Clontarf

- Program runs at six schools across Cairns. Employ full time staff in the schools to support indigenous students.

Wuchopperen

- Mens, boys and youth health including social and emotional wellbeing.

Anglicare Youth Support Program

- 12-18 years including 18 year olds
- Residential care & crisis accommodation
- Work with Youth Support Coordinators to look at reengagement
- School bus service for at risk youth + in home support
- Hands on projects e.g. gardening, career support, supported study etc for those with mental health. Referral to appropriate services as needed.
- Boxing program
- Mindfulness program
- Two nights of outreach patrol, support transitions back home

CHOICE Australia Management

- Looking to develop community hub space at Irene Street

Cairns Youth Service Managers Network

NEWSLETTER

6 June 2017

Cairns Regional Council

- Looking to develop partnerships and support local initiatives
- Cairns Youth Survey – 484 responses from local youth
- Go Clubs Youth Volunteer Program to increase opportunity to volunteer with local sporting clubs
<http://www.goclubs.com.au/volunteers>
- Youth Urban Art Project to engage local youth in beautifying their local spaces to commence in the next couple of months

PCYC Indigenous Program

- Super Sports Outreach program in Manunda, Manoora and Mooroolool
- Strong focus on using sport as positive engagement with youth. Looking to increase outreach and giving youth purposeful activities to be involved in

Centacare

- Work with young migrants, resilience and leadership training
- Looking to work more with multicultural youth in school environment

QLD Health

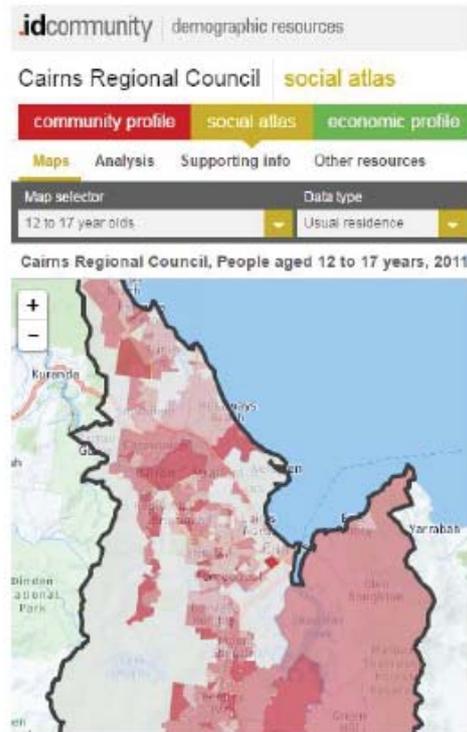
- Assertive mobile youth outreach service
- Evolve and CYMHS

Department of Communities

- Child and Family committee
- Local level alliance attendance

Data Share

Summary of information from the Data Share segment of the network meeting



Overview of the ID.community open data source. Information can be accessed for the Cairns region at a small area scale which may be useful for services when applying for funding/ providing detailed, specific data. Click on the 'Community Profile' or 'Community Atlas' links.

<http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/region/facts>

ATTACHMENT 6: Youth Practitioner Forum Flyer

You are invited to the

CAIRNS YOUTH PRACTITIONER FORUM

**Wednesday
22 November 2017**
9.00am-11.15am (9.15am start)
Cairns Regional Council Civic Rooms

Staff who work **directly with Cairns
youth (12-25 years) are encouraged
to register.**

- Networking
- Presentations
- Panel Discussion

For more information contact Angela Hardy, on 4053 1532 or scc Cairns@pcyc.org.au









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