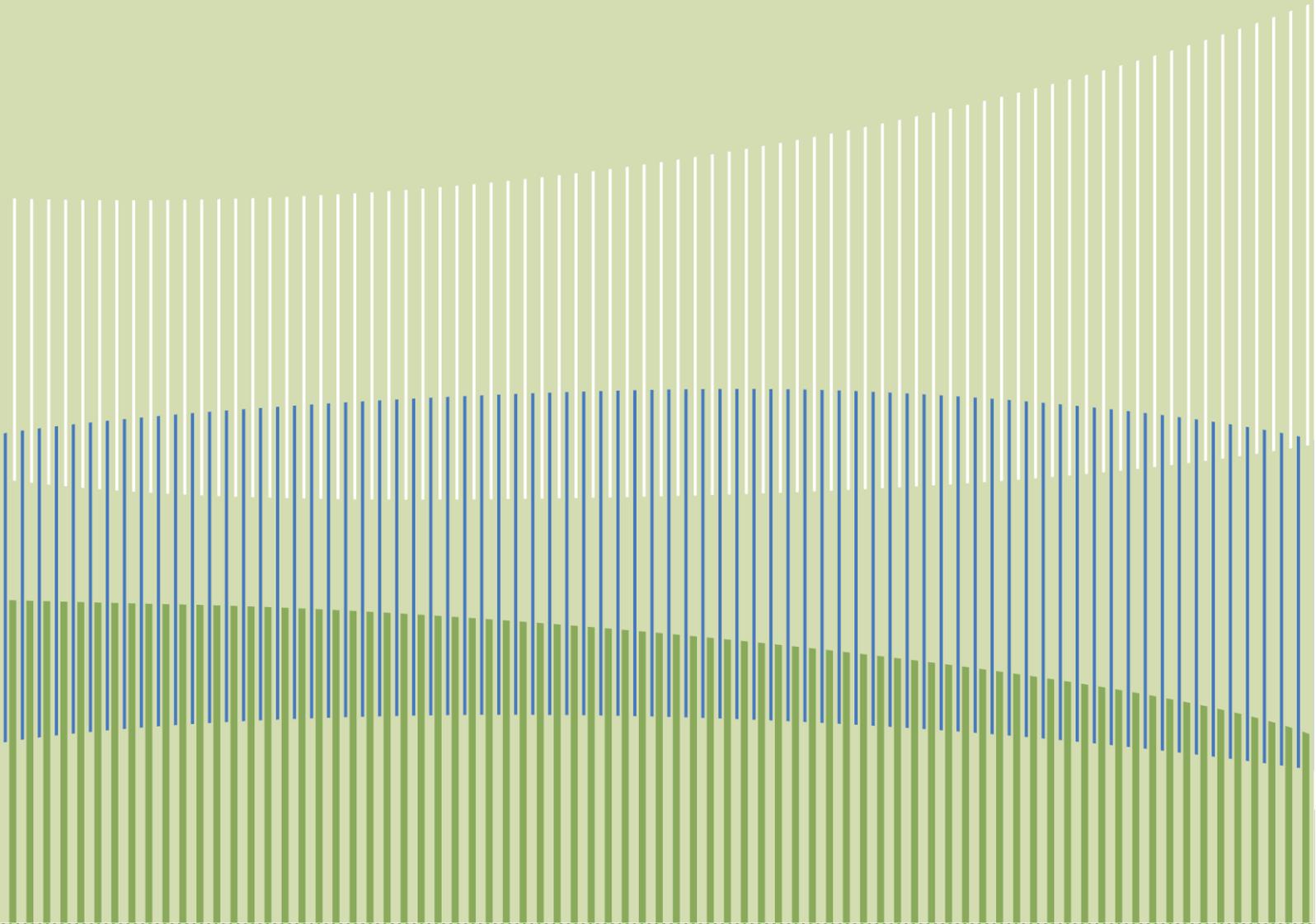


Age Friendly Communities Plan

2016 - 2021





Department of
**Local Government
and Communities**

The development of this Plan has been supported
by the Department of Local Government and
Communities.

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Disclaimer

Storybox has prepared this report to meet the project terms to the best of its ability. In doing so every effort has been made to source the most comprehensive and up-to-date data as possible. All reasonable care has been taken in preparation of the report however no liability for the accuracy of third party data can be entered into. The information contained in this report is advisory only.

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Message from the Shire President

I would like to thank the many people and organisations who have contributed to the development of the Shire of Murray's very first Age Friendly Communities Plan.

This includes not only the people in our community and the service providers that have given their time, but also the members of the Age Friendly Communities Working Group that have given us the benefit of their experiences, their support and input along the way. It is hoped that they will continue to work on the implementation of the actions within this Plan.

It is also important to acknowledge the funding that the Department of Local Government and Communities provided to assist with the development of this Plan which used the World Health Organisation's Guidelines for age-friendly communities to develop a state wide approach to age friendly communities.

This Plan recognises the role of the community in determining its future direction and needs as this becomes the key strategic document to guide the Shire's development over the next 5 years to meet the needs of older people and assisting them to age better in the Shire of Murray.

This Plan will help us provide an accessible and positive environment that recognises, encourages and supports the participation and contributions of our older residents. Feedback throughout the many forums and workshops reflected that the Shire is already an attractive place to age with its slower pace, enjoyable natural environment and rural lifestyle options. The Shire wants it to be a great place to age, where older people can stay healthy, active and engaged. Importantly, becoming an age-friendly Shire will benefit the wider community, young and old alike.

The Plan is for 5 years but will be reviewed every 2 years to ensure it remains relevant.

It gives me great pleasure to present the Age Friendly Communities Plan.

Councillor Maree Reid

SHIRE PRESIDENT



Glossary

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AFWG	Age-Friendly Working Group
Comm. Dev.	Community Development (Officer / Department)
Coolup PA	Coolup Progress Association
Council	Refers to the Shire of Murray elected Council and administration
CRC	Community Resource Centre
DCC	Dwellingup Community Compact
DCV	Dwellingup Community Village
DLGC	Department of Local Government and Communities
HACC	Home and Community Care
LGA	Local Government Authority
PCC	Peel Community Care
PDC	Peel Development Commission
Peel CCI	Peel Chamber of Commerce and Industry
RDA Peel	Regional Development Australia Peel
SBDC	Small Business Development Corporation
Shire	Refers to the geographic local government area of Murray
SYRRA	South Yunderup Residents and Ratepayers' Association

Executive summary

The Shire of Murray is experiencing rapid growth as one of the fastest growing local government areas in Australia. Given the close proximity to Perth and Mandurah whilst maintaining the rural character and charm of a country community, Murray has become a popular location to live and retire.

The local population of people in their senior years continues to increase, with around a quarter of our residents aged 60 years and over.

With this expanding senior population, the Shire of Murray is keen to ensure that an age-friendly community is created – one which has appropriate housing, transport, physical infrastructure and social and civic supports that enable seniors to maintain participation in the community.

In order to understand the current level of age-friendliness of our community, the Shire of Murray worked collaboratively with the Shire of Waroona, to engage with service providers and residents from across both Shires. A program of focus groups, interviews and surveys, combined with guidance, support and contributions from the Age-Friendly Working Group, enabled the Shire to better assess the features, barriers and improvements needed to work towards a more age-friendly community.

Key issues identified that contribute or detract from the age-friendliness of our communities were identified as follows:

- There is a need for more **affordable and diverse mix of housing options** for seniors including smaller property and dwelling sizes, particularly in outlying communities such as Dwellingup and Coolup
- A continuing shortfall in the allocation of **residential aged care** places in the Shire will impact on people's ability to remain in the community they call home. Bedingfeld Park has plans for expansion of its aged care facility and this should be strongly supported by the Shire and community
- Access to **in-home care, health and community services** is vital to assist people to remain in their homes and communities as they age. Currently, access and reliability of services is piecemeal in some areas and a concerted advocacy effort is required to address this challenge. Upcoming changes to the provision of aged care services are causing confusion and uncertainty for some residents
- Limited **public and community transport** options for local residents is a significant barrier for seniors to be able to age in place. Heavy reliance upon family and friends for transport is essential particularly for outlying communities. Alternatively, residents must relocate to areas that are better serviced by public transport. The community is strongly welcoming the Shire's community bus trial in late 2016

- The **rural character and lifestyle** on offer in the Shire of Murray is seen as a huge attraction for the area, one that featured heavily in all feedback received from participants. Generally the built environment including community facilities, footpaths, lighting, seating and public toilets are considered adequate and highly regarded in some locations however an audit of some of this infrastructure is required to ensure continuing commitment to upgrades and improvements

Over the next five years, the Shire of Murray officers will work together with stakeholders to identify the resources needed to implement the actions of this plan. The Shire recognises that the responsibility for some of the challenges lies with other organisations and agencies. However, the Shire accepts its role to sometimes lead, and at other times facilitate, advocate for, and partner with others to ensure resources are applied to address the gaps and explore opportunities that will lead to a more age-friendly community.

What is an age-friendly community?

An age-friendly community encourages active ageing by optimising opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age (WHO, 2007).

It is a community that –

- 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 flexibly to ageing-related needs and preferences.

An age-friendly community is one that has appropriate housing, transport, physical infrastructure and social and civic supports that enable people to maintain participation in the community, as they grow old. Being age-friendly also means that a community has reviewed and adapted its physical and social infrastructure to help older people age in place.

As of 30 June 2013, there were more than 440,000 people aged 60 years and over living in Western Australia (17.6% of the population). By 2021, it is projected that this will have increased by 50% to just under 595,000 people (21% of the population) (DLGC, 2015). Notably, there are increasing numbers of older people in rural areas, with population growth at a more rapid rate than in most urban and regional centres.

This increase in the ageing population reflects the combined impact of the ageing baby boomer generation, longer life expectancies and decreased fertility rates.

The seniors' population now spans more than 40 years (from 60 to 100+ years) making it very diverse in terms of health, family, economic, emotional, physical, financial and household circumstances.

Ageing well requires planning to enable older Western Australians to age with dignity, maintain their independence, play active and valued roles and have their rights respected and upheld (DLGC, 2015). The WA government's planning approach for seniors is underpinned by the following principles:

- An individual's choices, rights and dignity are fundamental
- Ageing well is a lifelong journey
- 'Ageing in place' benefits everyone

It benefits both seniors and their communities to have opportunities to stay connected, to have a say in the services that affect them, and to remain mentally and physically active. When seniors benefit, the whole community benefits.

Planning for an age-friendly WA means:

- Promoting health and wellbeing,
- Access to essential services,
- Economic security and protection of rights,
- Welcoming and well-planned communities, and
- Opportunities to contribute (DLGC, 2015).

The key outcomes of such an approach include – seniors being involved, friendly communities and key services and supports being available and accessible.

Adapted from the World Health Organisation's Active Ageing Framework, the WA government has developed an Age Friendly Communities Toolkit and grants scheme to assist local governments to establish their own Age Friendly Community Plans. The framework encourages local governments to self-assess against a range of criteria across eight pillars or areas of focus. These eight areas have provided the basis for our research and engagement with the community.

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Outdoor spaces and buildings | 5. Social participation |
| 2. Transport | 6. Respect and social inclusion |
| 3. Housing and accommodation | 7. Volunteering and employment |
| 4. Community support and health services | 8. Communication and information |

The Shire of Murray's Age-Friendly Community Plan follows this framework.

Ageing in the Peel region

The Peel region is located 75 km south of Perth, covers an area of 5,648km² and with a population of over 112,000 includes the local government areas of Mandurah, Murray, Waroona, Boddington and Serpentine-Jarrahdale.

The region's population is growing at 4.4% per annum, with most growth occurring in the City of Mandurah, which is where more than half of the region's population lives (Verso¹). In 2011, Mandurah had the largest population of people aged 70+ in the three LGAs of Mandurah, Murray and Waroona, with 10,036 (ABS, 2011). However, other LGAs are experiencing rapid growth in terms of the percentage growth of their older populations.

The table below provides the projected 70+ populations to 2026. The growth in older populations has implications for the planning, funding and delivery of services including in-home care, residential aged care, affordable housing, health services and infrastructure, and transport.

Table 1: Current and projected 70+ population

Area	2011 Census	2016 Projected	2021 Projected	2026 Projected	% change in population 2011-2026
Mandurah	10,036	12,297	14,318	15,586	+55.3%
Murray	1,791	2,363	2,954	3,268	+82.5%
Waroona	404	480	602	744	+84.2%
WA	188,552	237,955	306,256	378,654	+100.8%

Source: Verso, 2016

The Peel Development Commission (PDC) is committed to the development and maintenance of strong and resilient communities as one of the key objectives in its Regional Investment Blueprint, released in December 2015. The PDC recognises that as residents age, they will have differing accommodation and support requirements and an increasing desire to age in their own communities (PDC, 2015). Consequently, the PDC intends to implement a range of strategies to support the ageing population, which address employment opportunities; health and aged care services and infrastructure; the use of technology for safety, information dissemination and new employment; and support for local governments to develop age-friendly communities.

¹ Statewide Ageing in the Bush Project is an unpublished report however permission has been provided by the Peel Development Commission for use of this data for the purposes of this plan.

About our community

Located in the centre of Western Australia's Peel region, the Shire of Murray is 80km south of the Western Australian capital of Perth. The Shire continues to experience rapid growth, as new residents flock to enjoy a rural lifestyle with the benefits of near city living.

Easily accessible from the Kwinana Freeway with modern train services nearby, Murray is within close proximity to the Peel Health Campus and city shopping, whilst boasting a country lifestyle in an attractive natural environment.

The Shire of Murray consists of various localities including Barragup, Coolup, Dwellingup, Furnissdale, Nambelup, North Dandalup, North Pinjarra, North Yunderup, Pinjarra, Ravenswood, Stakehill and South Yunderup.

Number of residents

The Shire of Murray has an estimated residential population in 2015 of 17,262 (Profile ID, 2015). Around a quarter of the local population was aged 60 years and over as at the 2011 Census, which is considerably higher than the state average of approximately 17% (Profile ID, 2011).

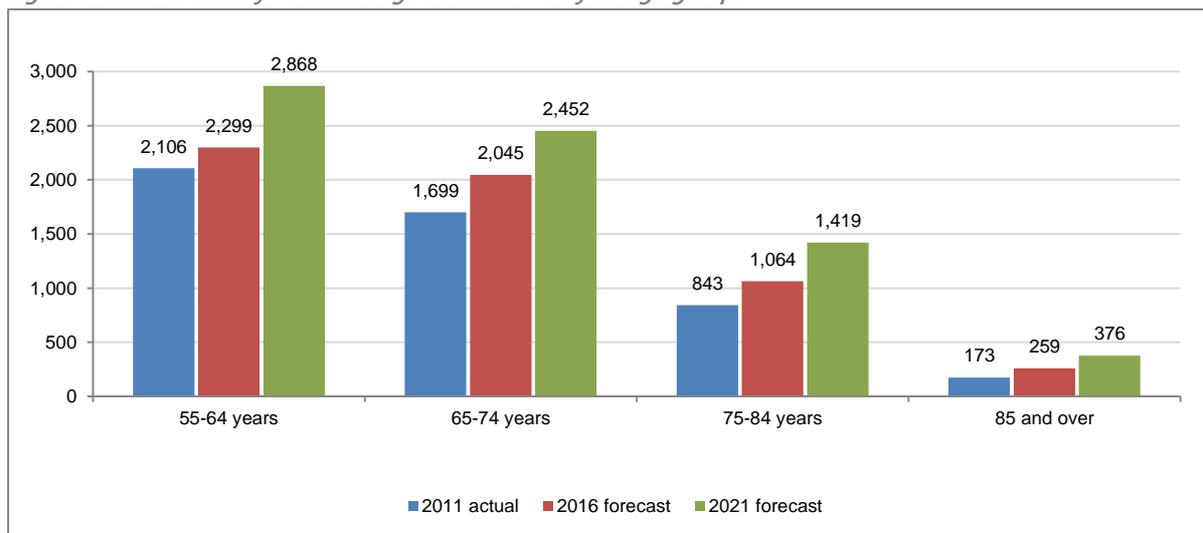
The Shire of Murray is one of the fastest growing local government authorities in Australia and is expected to remain in this growth phase until 2031. The population is forecast to expand by over 4.7% annually over the next two decades.

In 2011, the dominant age structure for persons in Shire of Murray was ages 60 to 64, which accounted for 7.7% of the total persons. The largest increase in persons between 2011 and 2016 is forecast² to be in ages 65 to 69, which is expected to increase by 235 and account for 6.8% of the total persons.

Between 2011 and 2016, the age structure forecasts for Shire of Murray indicate a 15.9% increase in population under working age, a 24.1% increase in population of retirement age, and a 14.5% increase in population of working age. The figure below shows the forecast population growth to 2021 for people aged 55 years and over.

² The 2016 ABS Census data will not be available until late 2017; hence the population estimates for 2016 are considered 'forecast'.

Figure 1: Shire of Murray - forecast age structure – 10-year age groups

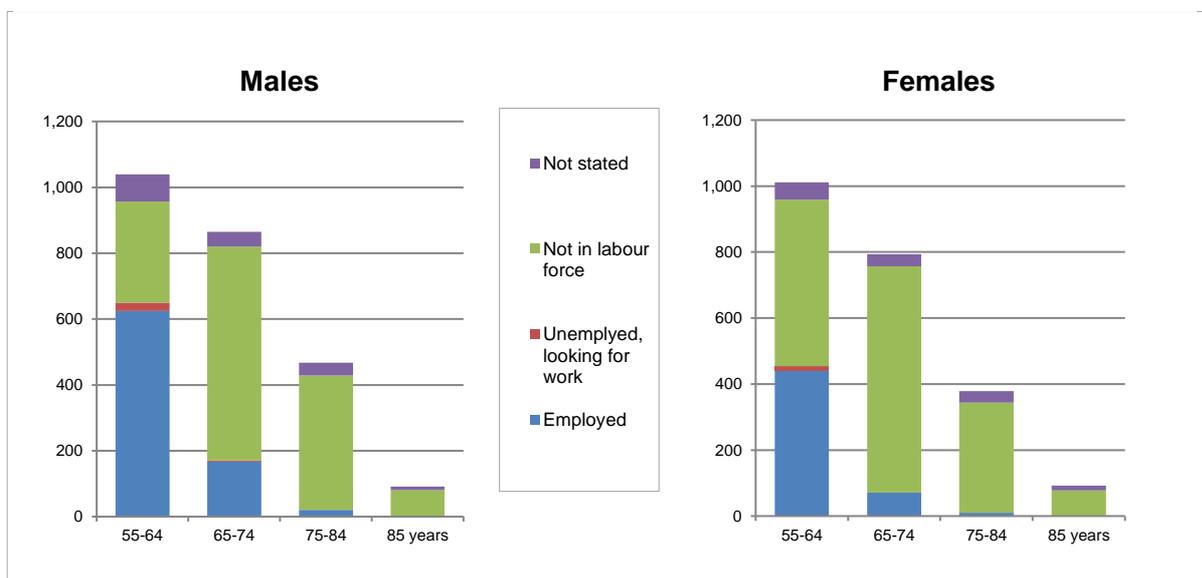


Source: Forecast ID, 2013

Labour force

The Shire of Murray has a large retirement population with participation in the labour force diminishing substantially for people aged 65 years and over, as shown in the figure below.

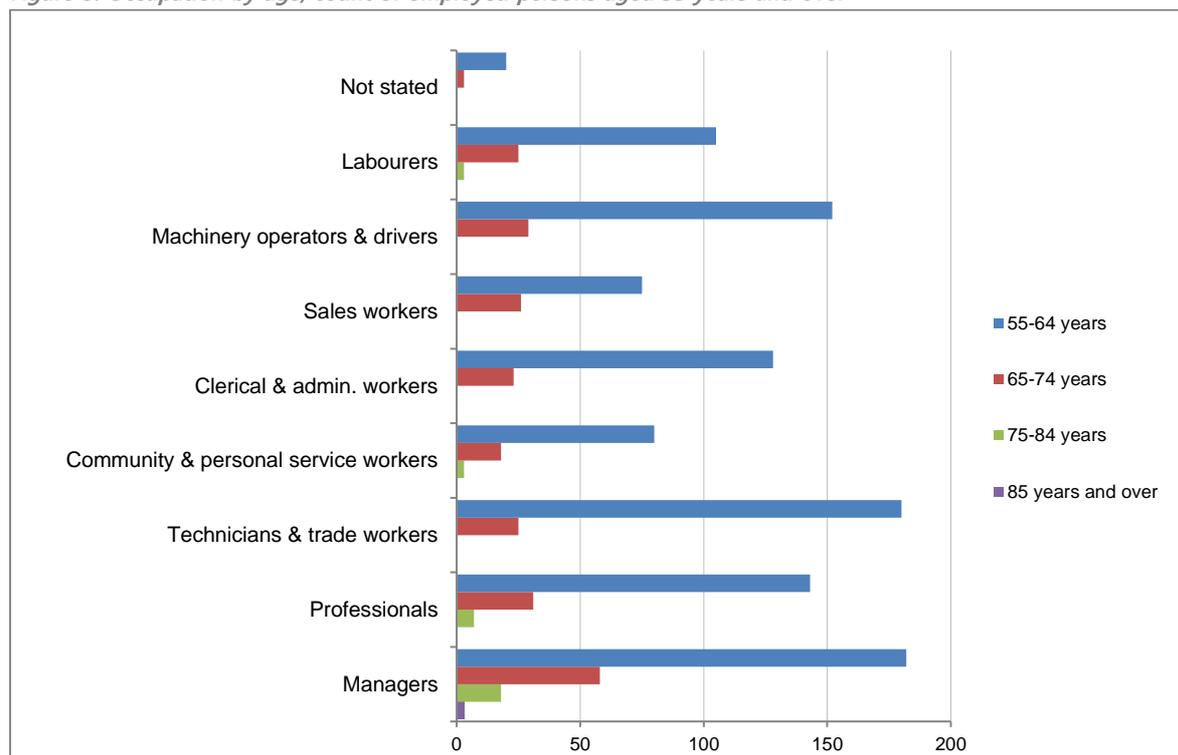
Figure 2: Participation in the labour force by Shire of Murray residents, aged 55 and over



Source: ABS, 2011

The figure below shows the occupation by age for residents of the Shire of Murray aged 55 years and over.

Figure 3: Occupation by age, count of employed persons aged 55 years and over



Source: ABS, 2011

Housing

The majority of dwellings within the Shire of Murray are separate houses with three or four bedrooms, as depicted in Table 2 below. A lack of housing diversity in some areas may have implications for seniors wishing to downsize their home and remain in their community. Table 3 demonstrates the tenure of dwellings, showing the majority of housing to be privately owned. Around 21% of dwellings are rental properties.

Table 2: Shire of Murray - dwelling structure by number of bedrooms (occupied private dwellings)

Number of bedrooms	0 bedrooms (includes	1 bedroom	2 bedroom	3 bedroom	4 bedroom	5 bedroom	6+ bedroom	Not stated	Total
Separate house	17	103	543	1,670	2,053	245	58	88	4,777
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse	0	21	61	35	10	5	0	7	139
Flat, unit or apartment	0	3	46	18	0	3	0	3	73
Other dwelling	12	88	49	11	6	0	0	17	183
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
Total	29	215	699	1,738	2,069	253	58	115	5,176

Source: ABS, 2011

Table 3: Shire of Murray - tenure and landlord type by dwelling structure (occupied private dwellings)

<i>Dwelling structure</i>	<i>Separate house</i>	<i>Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse</i>	<i>Flat, unit or apartment</i>	<i>Other dwelling</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>
Owned outright	1,690	26	20	108	0	1,844
Owned with a mortgage (b)	1,869	13	9	17	0	1,908
Rented:						
Real estate agent	391	21	15	3	0	430
State or territory housing authority	61	23	7	0	0	91
Person not in same household (c)	355	13	11	5	0	384
Housing co-operative/ community/ church group	18	0	0	0	0	18
Other landlord type (d)	79	11	0	35	0	125
Landlord type not stated	44	0	0	0	0	44
Total	<i>948</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1,092</i>
Other tenure type (e)	139	22	3	3	0	167
Tenure type not stated	132	11	6	14	0	163
Total	4,778	140	71	185	0	5,174

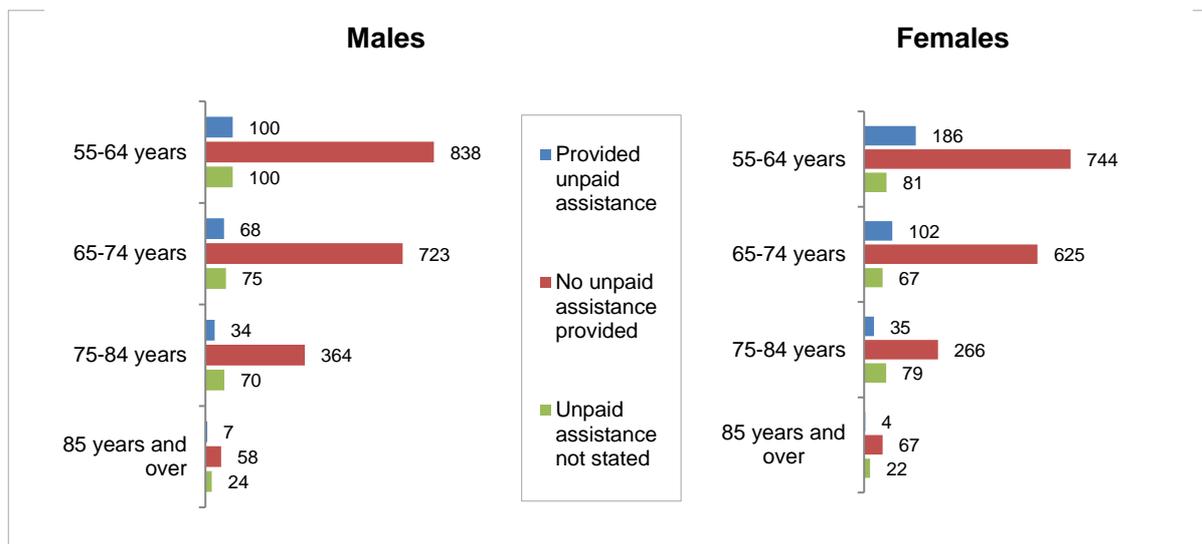
(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other non-classifiable' households.
 (b) Includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme.
 (c) Comprises dwellings being rented from a parent/other relative or other person.
 (d) Comprises dwellings being rented through a 'Residential park (includes caravan parks and marinas)', 'Employer - Government (includes Defence Housing Authority)' and 'Employer - other employer'.
 (e) Includes dwellings being occupied under a life tenure scheme.

Source: ABS, 2011

Carers providing unpaid assistance or informal care

The figure below shows the number of people who in the two weeks prior to the 2011 Census Night spent time providing unpaid care, help or assistance to family members or others because of a disability, a long term illness or problems related to old age. This includes people who are in receipt of a Carer Allowance or Carer Payment. It does not include work done through a voluntary organisation or group.

Figure 4: Unpaid assistance to a person with a disability, by persons aged 55 years and over in the Shire of Murray

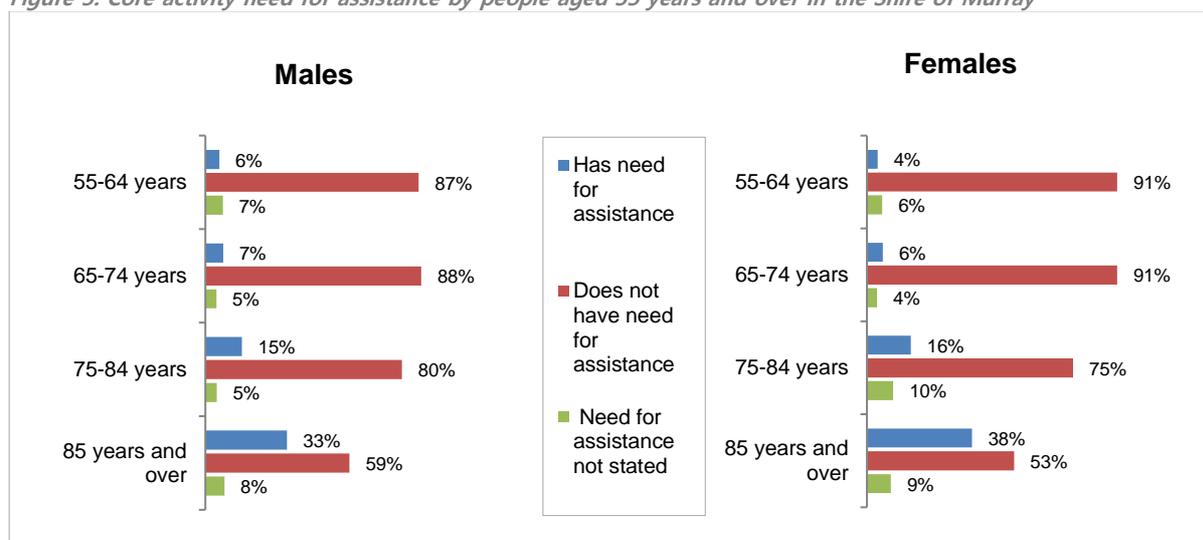


Source: ABS, 2011

Need for assistance

The following figure depicts the number of people with a profound or severe disability: that is, those people needing help or assistance in one or more of the three core activity areas of self-care, mobility and communication, because of a disability, long term health condition (lasting six months or more) or old age.

Figure 5: Core activity need for assistance by people aged 55 years and over in the Shire of Murray



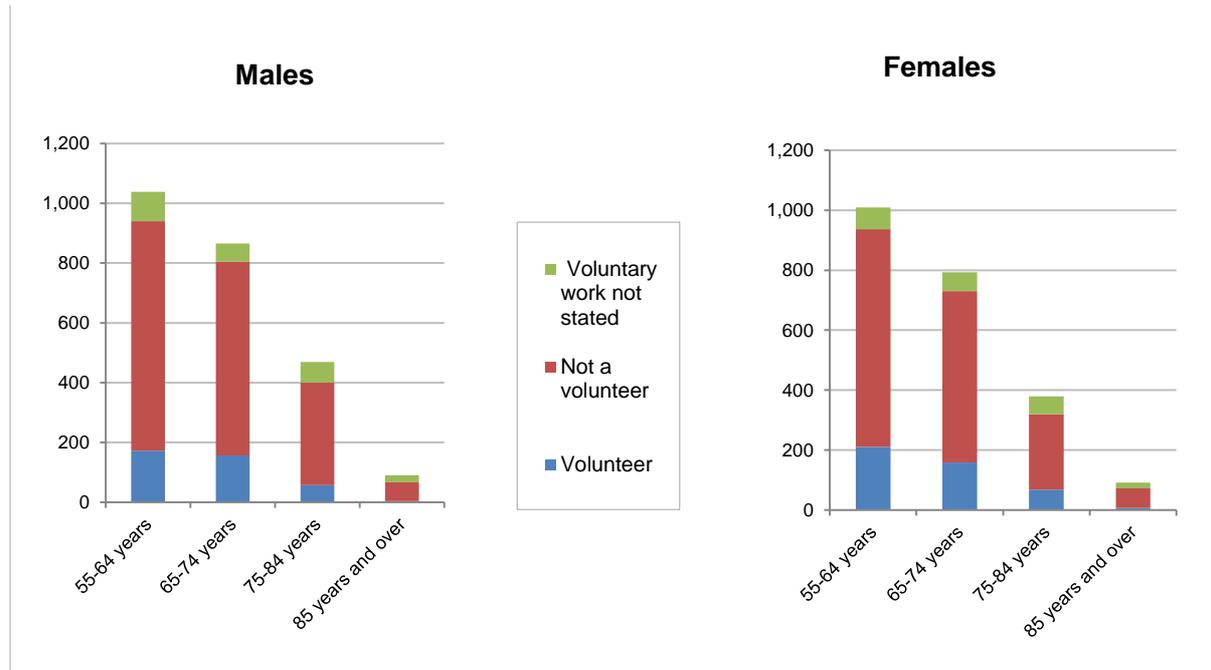
The rates for the Shire of Murray are below state and regional averages.

Source: ABS, 2011

Volunteering

The figure below shows the number of people aged 55 years and over who spent time doing unpaid voluntary work through an organisation or group, in the twelve months prior to Census Night. It excludes work done as part of paid employment, if the main reason is to qualify for Government benefit, or in a family business

Figure 6: Voluntary work for an organisation or group by persons aged 55 years and over in the Shire of Murray



Source: ABS, 2011

Developing our plan

Collaboration with the Shire of Waroona

The Shires of Murray and Waroona chose to collaborate on the development of our Age-Friendly Community Plans given our neighbouring positions in the Peel region. There are similarities in the demographics as well as the challenges facing some of our communities including outlying towns, rural landholdings and proximity to regional centres.

Working together on this project, the Shires have been able to share some resources and learn from each other about programs, services and infrastructure solutions that assist in making our communities more age-friendly.

Grant funding from the Department of Local Government and Communities (DLGC)

The Shires of Murray and Waroona jointly applied for and received funding from DLGC under the Age-Friendly Community planning scheme for the development of this plan. Both Shires are appreciative of this support.

Establishment of the Age-Friendly Working Group (AFWG)

Expressions of interest were called for residents of the Shires of Murray and Waroona, and for service providers interested in the project to work together with the Shires to explore the age-friendliness of our communities. The AFWG was formed in December 2016, comprising 19 representatives from both Shires.

The purpose of the AFWG is to create a forum and opportunity for community members and local stakeholders to provide recommendations and feedback with regard to the development, implementation and ongoing monitoring and review of the Shire of Murray and Shire of Waroona Age-Friendly Community Plans. It will also remain a forum to consider a range of issues and discuss opportunities that will assist older people to age well in our communities.

Desktop review of relevant plans and publications

A review of existing plans, publications and strategies was undertaken to identify information already in the public domain that would inform and guide the consultation and planning processes. The following documents were reviewed as part of the development of this plan:

- *Statewide Ageing in the Bush Project (Vol 2)(Peel extract, unpublished) - WA Government, 2015*
- *An Age Friendly WA: The Seniors Strategic Planning Framework - WA Government, 2012 - 2017*
- *Peel Regional Investment Blueprint – Peel Development Commission, 2015*
- *Residential Aged Care and related service planning (extract only) - Bedingfeld Park, 2016*
- *Strategic Community Plan 2025 – Shire of Murray 2016*

Engagement with the community

To better understand the current age-friendliness of our community, engagement with residents and service providers was undertaken during May and June of 2016.

Focus groups with residents

Within the Shire of Murray, four focus groups were held with residents from across the Shire. These sessions were held in Pinjarra, South Yunderup, Dwellingup and Coolup.

These sessions were promoted throughout the Shire and held at the Pinjarra Senior Citizens Building, South Yunderup Sports Club, Dwellingup St John Ambulance Training Room and the Coolup Hall.

Each three-hour focus group followed the prescribed discussion points as per the WA government's Age-Friendly Community Toolkit and provided an interesting view of participants' experiences and opinions about living in this Shire. Details of the focus group participants are provided at Appendix 1 and a summary of the focus group discussions is provided in Appendix 2.

A 'garden' theme was chosen for the focus groups, to assist participants to analyse aspects of the community in a way they may have not considered previously. To identify the features, barriers and improvements in each of the eight focus areas, a roundtable format was used to discuss -

- 'Roses' – i.e. features – the things seniors love and that are great,
- 'Thorns' – i.e. barriers – the things that are not so great or make life harder, and
- 'Buds' – i.e. improvements – the ideas and new ways of thinking about the issues that need to change, including what individuals can do to contribute to the solutions.

For each of the eight areas of focus, participants discussed the topic in a small group led by a facilitator, and identified the key roses, thorns and buds for each. These views were then presented back to the whole group and displayed on posters around the room.

At the completion of the round table discussions, a prioritisation process was undertaken whereby all participants were provided with eight black 'sticky dots' and one green 'super dot'. Time was allocated for participants to wander the room, re-read all items raised for each of the focus areas, talk about the items informally with others and then prioritise items most important to them, using their dots.

Black dots were placed on any of the items they felt were the most important for achieving an age-friendly community – this could be on a rose, thorn or bud, and dots could be 'spent' as people chose i.e. they could place more than one black dot on an item or spread them out across many items as they saw fit. The green super dot was placed on the single most important item that had been raised during the forum. This enabled the identification of priority items for consideration in the action plan.

Community survey

A community survey was distributed both online and in hard copy around the Shire for interested community members to complete. 83 respondents completed the survey. Of these,

- 74% were aged 65 years and over,
- 63% were female, 37% male
- 40 respondents lived in Pinjarra and 16 lived in South Yunderup
- 99% lived in the Shire on a permanent/fulltime basis, and
- 40% have lived in the Shire for 11 or more years.

Details of survey respondents are included in Appendix 3 and a summary of survey results is provided in Appendix 4. Feedback from the survey has been incorporated into each focus area of this plan.

Service providers

A small focus group was hosted for providers of service to seniors. Subsequent discussions were conducted with other local organisations to ensure a more comprehensive view of services available. Services providers consulted include -

- Bedingfeld Park, Pinjarra
- Peel Community Care, Pinjarra
- Quambie Park / Pam Corker House, Waroona
- GP Down South (by telephone)
- Disability Services Commission
- 360 Health & Community

AFWG members were very helpful as champions for the project, recruiting participants for the focus groups and distributing the surveys. Members have also provided insight into the factors impacting both positively and negatively on local people who wish to age in place in their own local communities.

Links to other Council plans

Local governments in Western Australia are required to comply with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, which includes development of a Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan as well as other Informing Strategies and Plans, such as the Age-Friendly Community Plan.

In the process of developing this Age-Friendly Community Plan, the Shire’s Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan were considered to ensure alignment with Council’s priorities. Specifically the Age-Friendly Community Plan addresses the following objectives of the Strategic Community Plan.

Table 4: Links with Shire of Murray Strategic Community Plan

Objective	Outcome	Strategy
1. Strong and collaborative leadership which engages in effective partnerships and reflects the aspirations of our community	1.3 Effective collaboration with other government agencies, political representatives and industry	1.3.1 Foster strategic alliances to deliver key infrastructure projects and initiatives in partnership with key stakeholders
3. A connected, safe and inclusive community that provides for, and lobbies for accessible services for all residents.	3.1 A healthy and connected community with a strong sense of community spirit and pride	3.1.6 Identify and respond to community health risks
	3.2 A community that provides opportunities to learn, grow, work and increase quality of life	3.2.1 Advocate and promote programs and services that enhance the wellbeing of seniors 3.2.4 Promote and foster a culture that is inclusive and welcoming to all 3.2.6 Undertake a feasibility study into provision of a Community Bus and/or Community Car
	3.3 Identify and lobby for services for our community	3.3.1 Advocate for expanded health services for the region 3.3.2 Advocate for an improved public transport service to the district
4. Well planned, integrated and active places that embrace and respect our rural lifestyle, built and natural environment and heritage	4.1 Growth is managed in a sustainable and responsible way that protects our lifestyle and the natural environment	4.1.3 Provide for a diversity of lifestyle and housing choices to facilitate housing affordability, ageing in place and community needs
	4.3 Public open space, recreation areas and facilities are accessible and well utilised	4.3.1 Plan, provide and manage recreation infrastructure to meet the needs of our community

Source: SoM, 2015

Limitations

The following limitations should be considered in any interpretation of the data:

- The project necessarily comprises the amalgamated views of those who participated.
- Overall there were 154 participants including:
 - 7 individuals representing 6 service providers who were interviewed one-to-one or in small groups,
 - 46 residents who participated in one of four focus groups,
 - 83 survey respondents, and
 - 19 working group members.
- There was no participation in any focus groups or the survey from some of the localities in the western areas of the Shire such as West Pinjarra, Nambelup and Stakehill.
- Some people declined to participate and there were likely many who remained unaware of the project despite its wide promotion.
- Aboriginal people were not present in any of the focus groups and despite representatives being invited and supported to participate in the Working Group, they were unable to attend.
- Not all seniors who wished to attend a meeting were able to do so due to other commitments/activities. Where possible, these seniors were given the opportunity to complete the written survey instead.
- Greatest emphasis has been given to issues and suggestions that were expressed by a number of participants. Singular comments within the survey results on issues that an individual feels strongly about, whilst still important, may not reflect the views of the whole community – the rating average should be considered as a more accurate reflection of the broader community view.
- Those who participated were, in the main, active and engaged senior members of the community.
- The most readily available and reliable population statistics were from the 2011 ABS census. This data should be updated in 2017 following the 2016 census data release.
- The ABS data uses different age bands from the target group proposed by the Department of Local Government and Communities for age-friendly planning. In most instances, the data considered in the preparation of this report looks at residents aged 55 years and over.
- It proved difficult to identify and engage with carers, although support services were asked to have their carers assist clients to complete the survey. 11% of survey respondents indicated they were currently caring for a family member, other than a child under 18.
- Although minor issues raised have been included within the report, these items should be readdressed prior to actioning to ensure it fully represents the views of the greater community.

Summary of findings

Outdoor spaces and buildings

The outside environment and public buildings have a major impact on the mobility, independence and quality of life of older people, and affect their ability to 'age in place' (WHO, 2007).

Residents value the rural lifestyle, peace and quiet, and sense of community that living in the Shire of Murray offers. Most parts of the Shire are well resourced with community facilities. Parks and open spaces, and street lighting and footpaths, are generally well considered, however a number of troublesome spots were identified where improvements are needed. This includes some footpaths, public toilets, ACROD parking and pedestrian crossings on busy roads.

An audit of selected footpaths, signage and seating in each of the town centres, in consultation with the AFWG was suggested as the preferred way to identify any urgent improvements needed.

Residents reported feeling safe in their communities and placed a high value on the local natural environment.

Key issues raised –

- Murray Leisure Centre, Murray Library and Dwellingup Community Village identified as highly valued facilities
- Continuing improvements to footpaths required
- Public toilets needed in Ravenswood, improvements to toilets in Dwellingup
- Additional seating for Pinjarra town centre
- Pedestrian crossings for South West Highway and Pinjarra Road require review
- Additional ACROD parking needed
- Review of community meeting spaces needed for North and South Yunderup
- Lighting for Don Spark oval in Coolup

Transport

Accessible and affordable transportation enables older people to move around a community and influences social and civic participation, and access to community and health services (WHO, 2007).

Most survey respondents and focus group participants still drive and feel confident driving within the community. Limited public transport operates within the Shire of Murray. The Australind train travels through Pinjarra to Perth and Bunbury daily. Transperth operates a bus service between Mandurah station and Pinjarra on weekdays only.

This service travels along Pinjarra Road and does not enter into the communities en route with the exception of Pinjarra. Adequate parking areas at bus stops are limited and in some areas such as South Yunderup and Murray River estate, walking to the bus stop on Pinjarra Road is too far for most elderly residents. No safe bicycle storage is available at bus stops either.

The lack of transport for Shire of Murray residents was raised as a key barrier to ageing in place, particularly in the outlying communities of the Shire. Coolup residents have a strong desire for the Australind train service to reinstate its siding and regularly stop at Coolup. Non-driving residents rely heavily on family and friends for transport to appointments. The proposed community bus trial being implemented by the Shire of Murray was strongly welcomed.

Whilst Home and Community Care providers offer a transport service for eligible residents, accessing this service is not always possible or affordable for some residents.

In neighbouring Waroona Shire, the community car service is extremely popular and successful. A similar service could be explored for the Shire of Murray.

Key items raised –

- Lack of public or community transport services for outlying communities
- Lack of public transport on weekends
- Buses do not come into South Yunderup or Murray River due to turning requirements, however residents noted that the school buses manage ok.
- Community bus trial welcomed
- Community car service and access to school bus for Dwellingup to be explored
- Australind Train siding and stop for Coolup

Housing and accommodation

Appropriate and affordable housing influences the independence and quality of life of older people and enables them to age safely within the community (WHO, 2007).

Whilst there is a range of housing sizes and types across the Shire of Murray, in some communities the lack of housing diversity within that location provides little or no options for older residents to downsize or source alternative accommodation. Particularly Dwellingup and Coolup residents expressed this concern and a desire to be able to subdivide or build additional dwellings for family members on larger landholdings.

Once people's individual health and mobility needs change, residential aged care is a vital next step for those who are no longer able to live independently in their own homes. Over the next ten years, there is an anticipated continuing shortfall in the number of residential aged care places available in the Peel region.

The federal government allocates funding for Residential Aged Care and Home Care packages using a 'Planned Benchmark Ratio'. In 2011, the ratios were 88 Residential Aged Care places and 25 Home Care packages per 1,000 people aged 70+ years. In 2021, there are planned to be 80 Residential Aged Care places and 45 Home Care packages per 1,000 people aged 70+ years (DoSS, 2016).

Based on the current allocated and operational Residential Aged Care beds in the region, assuming no further allocation since 2012/13, and including the projected population growth for the Shire of Murray, there will be an estimated shortfall of 216 residential aged care places by 2026 in the Shire and an estimated total shortfall of 727 places across the Peel region (Verso, 2016).

Currently, within the Shire of Murray the following accommodation options exist for seniors, in addition to privately owned and rental properties.

- Murray Hospital, Pinjarra - provides (temporary) Care Awaiting Placement services for patients transitioning from hospital to an aged care facility either within or outside the Shire of Murray.
- Bedingfeld Park, Pinjarra - a residential aged care facility with 45 places including a 10 bed secure unit for residents with challenging behaviours and 1 respite bed. Bedingfeld has future plans for expansion including the Riverside Wellbeing Neighbourhood, which may incorporate additional residential aged care and independent living units.
- Belswan Lifestyle Estate retirement village, Pinjarra - has a range of 3 bedroom homes and 2 bedroom cottages/townhouses (75 dwellings) including clubhouse, theatre, library, café, bowling green, pool, spa, sauna and gym.
- Settlers Lakeside over 55s lifestyle village, Ravenswood - offers a range of 2 and 3 bedroom housing options (243 freestanding homes) and community facilities.
- Dwellingup Community Village - due to commence construction in late 2016 of seven universal access dwellings for seniors independent living. Planned completion is in mid 2017.

During the engagement activities for development of this plan, the key items raised regarding housing and accommodation within the Shire of Murray included –

- Good variety of house and lot sizes in newer areas such as Ravenswood and South Yunderup
- Lack of alternative housing / smaller lot options in some localities such as Dwellingup and Coolup resulting in a need to relocate
- Housing affordability concerns for those with limited means or on a pension
- Continuing shortfall in the allocation of Residential Aged Care beds
- More assistance is needed to keep people in their own homes. There is difficulty accessing affordable home maintenance services, particularly in outlying communities

- Difficulty accessing Home Care services, even when deemed eligible and required, particularly in outlying communities, which can eventually result in a need to relocate
- Long waiting lists for residential aged care and no guarantee of a local placement
- Good variety of retirement village options in nearby Mandurah but concerns raised about affordability

For a number of respondents, there was a general lack of awareness about the housing options available, costs associated and future planning needed for accommodation.

Community support and health services

Having access to health and support services that are affordable, of good quality and appropriate is vital for older people to maintain health and independence in the community (WHO, 2007).

Within the Shire of Murray there is a range of medical, health and community service providers including the hospital, three medical centres, dentist, physiotherapist and other allied health professionals in Pinjarra, and a new medical centre in Ravenswood. The Murray hospital offers general hospital services and Care Awaiting Placement. Emergency services are only available at the Peel Health Campus in nearby Mandurah. There are no services available in Dwellingup or Coolup, and at times, transport to access medical or allied health services remains a problem for some residents. Most residents access specialists in Mandurah or Perth. GP Down South provides some mobile health services for local residents and dedicated services for Aboriginal people.

The Murray Leisure Centre (MLC) including the hydrotherapy pool is a valued community asset. Concerns were raised about the heating problems with the hydrotherapy pool. Dedicated fitness programs for seniors operate from the MLC including Fab 50's Aqua, Gentle Joints and Living Longer Living Stronger.

Several organisations are funded to provide Home and Community Care (HACC) services for residents of the Shire as part of the South West Metropolitan region, however the accessibility of these services in outlying communities was reportedly inconsistent with the stated availability of services. Similarly, residents deemed eligible for Home Care packages sometimes found access to services difficult or impossible. For communities such as Dwellingup there is little or no choice of providers and often no services are actually available, despite having been assessed and deemed eligible.

Both Bedingfield Park (Pinjarra) and Quambie Park (Waroona) expressed their intention to become Home Care providers in the region. With the upcoming changes to the provision of Home Care, using a consumer-directed model, there is potential for more providers to offer services within the Shire and potentially address gaps in outlying communities. This requires further investigation.

Key items raised –

- Silver Chain and Peel Community Care provide an excellent service in some parts of the Shire and this needs to extend to other areas
- Accessibility / reliability of in-home and health services for residents in outlying communities
- Lack of knowledge about services available, the process to access HACC and Home Care services, and upcoming changes to aged care services to be consumer-directed (including what this means for local people)
- Transport to get to medical appointments
- Potential for a Nurse Practitioner model at the Dwellingup Community Village

Social participation

Social participation and social support are strongly connected to good health and well being throughout life. Participating in leisure, social, cultural and spiritual activities in the community, and with family, allows older people to exercise their competence, enjoy respect and esteem, and to build and maintain relationships (WHO, 2007).

Overwhelmingly, the feedback indicated that local residents love the sense of community in the place where they live. This was reflected in both the survey responses and focus group discussions. There is a wide range of social activities, clubs, groups, sports, and hobbies on offer within the Shire of Murray.

The community education programs offered by Murray House and the Murray Library in Pinjarra are highly regarded and strong interest was expressed in seeing these programs outreach to Dwellingup and possibly other locations within the Shire. Peel Community Care offers a day centre in Pinjarra and a range of community outings and social activities for local residents.

It was recognised that some older people can become socially isolated as a result of poor health, reduced mobility and/or lack of transport. The existence of close community networks and good neighbourly relations were considered strengths for combatting this isolation.

The value of men's sheds for connecting men and keeping them involved in their communities was identified as important and warranted further investigation of the establishment of men's sheds in South Yunderup, Coolup and other areas of the Shire in the future.

The Blue Wren café in Dwellingup and General Store in Coolup were both identified as the 'heart' of their communities, where people connected and socialised regularly.

Key items raised -

- Communities well serviced with social activities, events, clubs and hobbies
- Potential for men's sheds to be explored

- Outreach programs from Murray Library to be considered for outlying communities

Respect and social inclusion

The extent to which older people participate in the social, civic and economic life of a community is closely linked to their experience of inclusion. It is important that we create environments where older people are respected, recognised and included in the community and family (WHO, 2007).

Respondents reported a strong sense of community within each locality of the Shire. It was felt that community members are respectful of older people and their opinions and ideas are valued. The Shire Administration was considered respectful and accommodating of seniors' needs and the Shire's volunteer awards are regarded as an appropriate way to recognise people's community contributions.

Respondents feel respected by younger people and highly regard the intergenerational activities that occur between Belswan and the school and Bedingfeld Park and the school. The close-knit communities of Coolup and Dwellingup are cohesive and inclusive of older people. It was felt that local events are accommodating of all ages.

Key items raised –

- Strong sense of community in each locality
- Senior people are respected and included in community life
- Intergenerational activities are valued and people would like to see more of this
- The involvement of prisoners on supervised work orders in Dwellingup was highly valued as a way to have physical works completed in community spaces

Civic participation (volunteering) and employment

An age-friendly community provides options for older people to continue to contribute to their communities through paid work or volunteering and to be engaged in the political process (WHO, 2007).

A wide variety of volunteering opportunities exists across the Shire and often it is the more senior residents who are the most active volunteers. Groups and committees are considered welcoming of volunteers of all ages. The idea of a Men's Shed for Coolup and South Yunderup was highly supported and identified as a way to transfer skills and knowledge between generations, particularly between men and boys.

Barriers to volunteering for older people are the costs (fuel, materials), access to transport, lack of computer literacy and the requirement for Working With Children checks and police clearances.

Respondents felt there were very few local employment opportunities for older people unless you are self-employed, however recognised Coles at Pinjarra for their diverse workforce. There are no job-seeking support

services available in Pinjarra or elsewhere in the Shire. People must travel to Mandurah to access these services and again, the lack of public transport is a barrier.

Key items raised -

- Very limited local employment opportunities for older people
- No job-seeking support services available in the Shire of Murray
- Wide variety of volunteering opportunities
- Men's Sheds for Coolup and South Yunderup
- Barriers to volunteering include cost, transport, red tape and the need for computer literacy

Communication and information

Staying connected with events and people, and getting timely, practical information to manage life and meet personal needs is vital for active ageing. It is essential to provide access to relevant information that is readily available to older people with varying capacities and resources (WHO, 2007).

Respondents stated that the most frequently accessed communication mediums were local community newsletters and the local newspapers. More and more seniors are accessing the Internet to seek information from websites and use email and social media.

However, concerns were expressed at the assumption that everyone has access to a computer and the Internet, and is computer literate. Even the push towards paying bills online, sending and receiving text messages and the reliance upon email was of concern to respondents. The threat of online scams targeted at older people was identified as a worry for older people. In some locations such as Dwellingup and Coolup there are areas of no mobile reception or Internet service and this remains a significant barrier to communicating and accessing information.

Word of mouth and information obtained 'at the local shop' were also considered reliable sources for finding out about events and activities in the community. Community noticeboards are seen as an important tool for communicating about local news and events.

Key items raised -

- Most frequently accessed communication mediums are local newsletters and newspapers
- Internet service and mobile reception is inconsistent in outlying areas including Dwellingup and Coolup
- Computer literacy and familiarity with technology is of concern to seniors
- Community education programs about technology, computers and the Internet are needed
- Community noticeboard needed for Dwellingup

Age-Friendly Community Plan

Outdoor spaces and buildings

Table 5: Actions for outdoor spaces and buildings

ITEM	Priority Actions	Stakeholders / partners	Role of Shire	Priority
MUR_OB1	Conduct an audit of signage, seating and handrails in the town centres to identify improvements needed.	Shire – Tech Serv & Comm Dev. AFWG	Lead	High
MUR_OB2	Review local footpaths and roads (identified in the focus group discussions) to determine improvements needed.	Shire – Tech Serv. AFWG	Lead	High
MUR_OB3	Conduct safety review of South Yunderup access road to identify and implement improvements needed for vehicles and pedestrians.	Shire – Tech Serv Main Roads WA Property Developer	Lead	High
MUR_OB4	Assess need for public toilet provision in Ravenswood.	Shire – Tech Serv & Comm Dev Property Developers	Lead	High
MUR_OB5	Review location and arrangements of highway pedestrian crossings to ensure they provide appropriate crossing locations and safety for pedestrians.	Main Roads WA Shire – Tech Serv AFWG	Facilitate	Medium
MUR_OB6	Review provision and use of community hall / spaces in North and South Yunderup and Ravenswood including use of existing buildings for Men's Shed.	Shire – Comm. Dev, Planning & Tech Serv SYRRA	Lead	Medium
MUR_OB7	Review provision of buildings for Men's Shed locations. Priority area identified was South Yunderup. Other areas to follow.	Shire – Comm. Dev. SYRRA	Lead	Medium
MUR_OB8	Review and address cleanliness of public toilets at Hancock Pavilion, Dwellingup.	Shire – Building Mntnc	Lead	Low
MUR_OB9	Establish need and investigate potential for solar lighting at Don Spark Reserve.	Shire – Tech Serv., Ranger Coolup PA	Lead	Low
MUR_OB10	Establish need and investigate potential for CCTV in Coolup town centre.	Comm Safety & Crime Prev Working Group Coolup PA	Lead	Low

Other minor issues identified for consideration (subject to support of the wider community):

- Assess and address the uneven ground within the carpark at Coolup Hall
- Consider progressing the rail crossing in Coolup
- Provision of more ACROD parking bays, especially at Dome Pinjarra
- Consider the requirements of park furniture and set standards eg. Park seats require backs and arms
- Consider additional seating in public places
- Improve signage in Pinjarra town centre for toilets and Cantwell Park
- Consider viability of accessible public toilets in Coolup
- Improve the standard of facilities within Dwellingup Hall eg. Fix fridge shelving, provide crockery etc
- Lack of public toilets in Dwellingup
- Lack of street lighting at Church St, Dwellingup
- Assess the provision of shade and shelters at North Yunderup's Kingfisher Park
- Consider replacing the bush across from the Coolup Shop to green space and incorporate seating
- Development of walk trails in Coolup

Transport

Table 6: Actions for transport

ITEM	Priority Actions	Stakeholders / partners	Role of Shire	Priority
MUR_TR1	Continue to assess the feasibility of a community bus service via the proposed trial currently being planned. Ensure adequate promotion to seniors via a range of local communication methods (refer Communication & Information)	Shire – Comm. Dev & Marketing	Lead	High
MUR_TR2	Investigate the feasibility of a community car service to provide volunteer driven transport for residents to medical and other personal appointments, particularly for outlying communities such as Coolup and Dwellingup.	DCC DCV Coolup PA Shire Comm. Dev. Peel Comm. Care Lotterywest Pinjarra CRC Murray Hospital	Facilitate	High
MUR_TR3	Investigate barriers for buses coming into South Yunderup and work with Transperth to identify opportunities for the review of routes, timing and bus stops (including pick up and drop off spaces).	Shire – Tech Serv Transperth	Facilitate	Medium
MUR_TR4	Identify and better promote the transport service available via Peel Community Care	Peel Community Care Shire - Comm. Dev. AFWG	Facilitate	Medium
MUR_TR5	Investigate potential for residents to use the school bus service in/out of outlying communities such as Dwellingup and Coolup, plus South Yunderup..	Shire - Comm. Dev. Dept. Education Local MP	Lead	Medium
MUR_T6	Host an information session about Uber to encourage local residents to consider operating as an Uber driver, particularly in outlying communities	Shire - Comm. Dev. Uber	Facilitate	Low

Other minor issues identified for consideration (subject to support of the wider community):

- Consider the safety issues surrounding Culleenup Rd and South Yunderup Rd
- Assess the state and functionality of Sollya Cres and whether it is meeting current requirements
- Promote the use of the South Yunderup school bus if appropriate
- Assess the state of the road at the railway crossing in Dwellingup
- Assess the state of the road at the corner of Newton St and McLarty Rd
- Assess the viability of a road crossing at Blue Wren/General Store in Dwellingup

- Request the reinstatement of an Australind stop at Coolup
- Request the consideration of a slip lane on South West Hwy into Coolup
- Provide clearances along roads to allow for horse riding (Coolup)
- Consider the lowering of speed limits on Fishermans Road, Coolup
- Investigate innovative alternatives for transport in Dwellingup including a volunteer driver service, car pool register, time bank etc

Housing and accommodation

Table 7: Actions for housing and accommodation

ITEM	Priority Actions	Stakeholders / partners	Role of Shire	Priority
MUR_HA1	Clarify Shire position on additional dwellings on rural properties and advocate for additional housing on farm lots to allow seniors to remain on rural landholdings.	Shire – Planning & Env. Health WAPC	Lead	High
MUR_HA2	Investigate Home and Community Care service provision in Dwellingup to determine availability of affordable home maintenance services for eligible seniors. Identify gaps in service provision and advocate for improved/increased services	Shire – Comm. Dev. Dept. Health – Aged & Continuing Care Directorate Peel Community Care DCV DCC	Lead Advocate	High
MUR_HA3	Host an information session/s with housing providers, Bedingfeld Park, Belswan and the Seniors Housing Centre to provide local residents with information about options available, costs, where to get more information and considerations for moving.	Shire – Comm. Dev. AFWG RSL Murray House Bedingfeld Park Belswan	Lead	Medium
MUR_HA4	Continue to support Bedingfeld Park's proposed age-friendly precinct and expansion of accommodation facilities to meet current and future needs of our seniors	Bedingfeld Park Shire – Planning Peel Dev. Comm. RDA Peel	Advocate	Low
MUR_HA5	Work with property developers to identify potential provision of age-friendly accommodation and aged care facilities within future subdivisions.	Shire – Planning Peel Dev. Comm. Dept. Housing Property Developer	Facilitate	Low
MUR_HA6	Promote a local self-employment opportunity for home handyman / maintenance services in outlying communities such as Dwellingup. Consider the potential for this to be a social enterprise.	Shire – Comm. Dev. DCC SBDC / Business Foundations Peel CCI	Facilitate	Low

Other minor issues identified for consideration (subject to support of the wider community):

- Investigate alternative solutions to coordinating trade and home maintenance services
- Inform Belswan of residents' desire to see next level of care offered

Community support & health services

Table 8: Actions for community support and health services

Item	Priority Actions	Stakeholders / partners	Role of Shire	Priority
MUR_CH1	Host an information session/s / mini roadshow to provide seniors with information on changes to services for seniors (My Aged Care reform), home care packages, costs, eligibility and assessment processes, and local providers.	Bedingfeld Park Belswan Peel Community Care Shire Comm. Dev. GP clinic/s AFWG Local community associations Local service groups / clubs	Lead	High
MUR_CH2	Engage with local Aboriginal community to understand the needs of all seniors and ensure the activities and services available are inclusive of all community members.	Shire Comm. Dev. Murray Aboriginal Corporation Local Elders Shire's Reconciliation working group Nidjalla Waangan Mia	Lead	High
MUR_CH3	Understand Home and Community Care, and in-home care service provision in Dwellingup and Coolup to determine availability of in-home care services for eligible seniors. Identify gaps and advocate for improved service delivery. Explore Nurse practitioner model for DCV.	Shire Comm. Dev. Dept. Health Peel Community Care DCC DCV Coolup PA.	Facilitate Advocate	High
MUR_CH4	Encourage Murray Hospital to better promote the services and allied health professionals they have available	Murray Hospital Shire Comm. Dev. AFWG	Advocate	Medium
MUR_CH5	Provide community education sessions on topics of interest in outlying communities. – Consider having sessions hosted by Murray Library, CRC or Murray House	Shire Comm. Dev. Pinjarra CRC Murray House Murray Library	Lead	Low

Other minor issues identified for consideration (subject to support of the wider community):

- Consider alternative models for a range of basic medical services in Dwellingup and some to Coolup
- Request emergency services be available at Pinjarra Hospital
- Utilise prisoner work groups for maintenance
- Provide local printed directory for those lacking technology
- Promote emergency planning with older people

- Consider developing a skills bank or similar to support people

Social participation

Table 9: Actions for social participation

Item	Priority Actions	Stakeholders / partners	Role of Shire	Priority
MUR_SP1	Engage with local Aboriginal community to understand the needs of all seniors and ensure that social events, programs and services available are inclusive of all community members	Shire Comm. Dev. Murray Aboriginal Corporation Nidjalla Waangan Mia	Lead	High
MUR_SP2	Support Progress / Community Associations to host events specifically targeted at Seniors. Consider transport to events and intergenerational activities.	Shire Comm. Dev. Community Associations	Facilitate Advocate	High
MUR_SP3	Support the inclusion of North Yunderup residents in South Yunderup social activities and promotions	SYRRA	Advocate	Medium
MUR_SP4	Investigate home delivery service from Murray Library to local residents and outlying communities.	Murray Library Local service groups / clubs / churches	Lead	Medium
MUR_SP5	Develop a skills-bank register to assist local people to access voluntary support from amongst their own community.	Local community associations Shire Comm. Dev.	Facilitate	Low

Other minor issues identified for consideration (subject to support of the wider community):

- Investigate programs such as 'Know your neighbour' and 'Adopt a Pensioner' to address isolation
- Attempt to increase volunteer participation by men and older people
- Information on groups to be provided in welcome packs and investigate opportunity for welcome packs to be provided to renters.
- Provide access to more opportunities to learn about IT related elements.
- Consider extending Library workshops and forums to outlying areas

Respect and inclusion

Table 10: Actions for respect and inclusion

Item	Priority Actions	Stakeholders / partners	Role of Shire	Priority
MUR_RI1	Provide opportunities for seniors to learn about computers, the internet, mobile technology in a safe and supportive environment	Pinjarra CRC Shire Comm. Dev. Local comm. Assoc. Murray House Murray Library	Facilitate	High
MUR_RI2	Continue to create opportunities for intergenerational activities between children and seniors at Bedingfeld and Belswan	Bedingfeld Belswan Local schools Playgroup & childcare centres	Advocate	Medium

Other minor issues identified for consideration (subject to support of the wider community):

- Investigate option to provide a regular morning tea for older people (Coolup)
- Liaise with schools in relation to programs where older people can be involved

Volunteering and employment

Table 11: Actions for volunteering and employment

Item	Priority Actions	Stakeholders / partners	Role of Shire	Priority
MUR_VE1	Support community groups to identify opportunities for seniors to volunteer in a manner appropriate to their skills, availability, capacity and mobility.	Shire – Comm. Dev. Community groups Peel Volunteer Resource Centre	Facilitate	High
MUR_VE2	Investigate the establishment of a Men's Shed in each local community, commencing with Coolup and South Yunderup.	Shire – Comm. Dev. Local community associations	Facilitate	High
MUR_VE3	Liaise with local Chamber of Commerce / business community to identify strategies to promote employment of older people. Consider the development of 'age-friendly businesses'.	Shire – Comm. Dev. Peel CCI business community Visitor Centre / tourist operators AFWG	Lead	Low

Other minor issues identified for consideration (subject to support of the wider community):

- Attempt to increase volunteer participation by men and older people

Communication and information

Table 12: Actions for communication and information

Item	Strategy	Stakeholders / partners	Role of Shire	Priority
MUR_CI1	Advocate for improved mobile and internet coverage at Dwellingup and Coolup	Shire – IT & Tech Serv PDC RDA Peel	Advocate	High
MUR_CI2	Shire website to have dedicated page for community services and those available for seniors	Shire – Marketing	Lead	High
MUR_CI3	Work with Pinjarra Shopping Centre to identify suitable location and installation of a community noticeboard at Pinjarra	Shire - Comm. Dev & Building Pinjarra Shop Centre	Lead	Medium
MUR_CI4	Promote warning and notification systems to those in rural communities in times of emergency	Shire - Ranger Services	Lead	Medium
MUR_CI5	New residents information pack to include information about services available to seniors	Shire - Comm. Dev. AFWG	Lead	Low
MUR_CI6	Work with Dwellingup Community Compact to identify suitable location and installation of a community noticeboard at Dwellingup	Shire - Comm. Dev. DCC	Facilitate	Low

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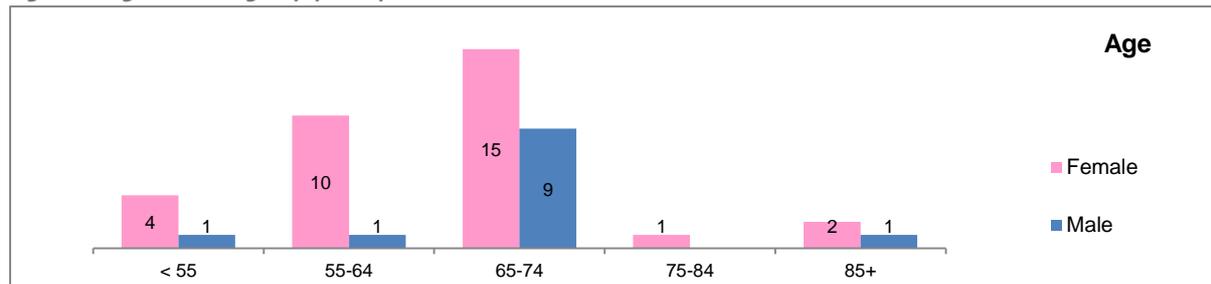
Appendices

1. Focus group participants
2. Focus group results
3. Survey respondents
4. Survey results

Appendix 1: Focus group participants

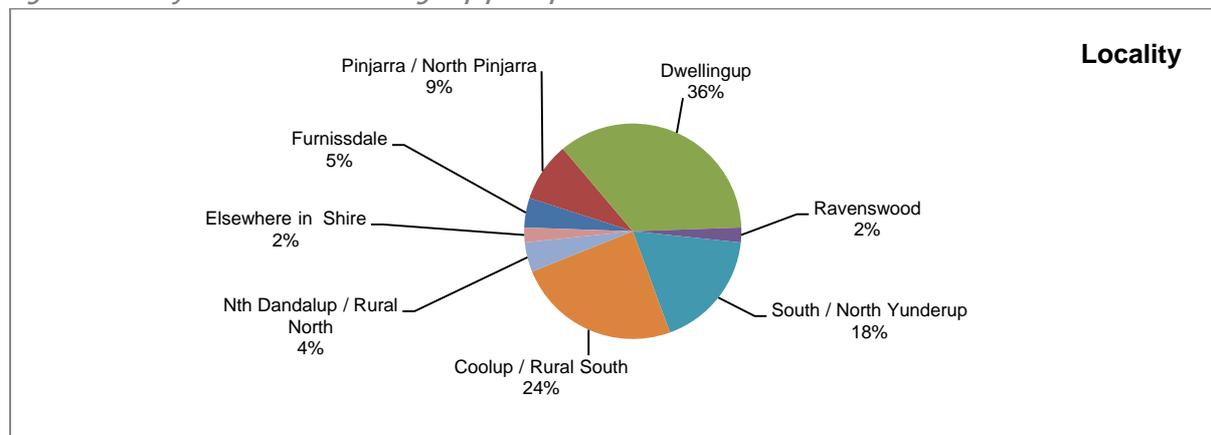
Four focus groups were held within the Shire of Murray in Pinjarra, South Yunderup, Dwellingup and Coolup. 44 local residents attended these focus group discussions and provided interesting insight and views on what makes a community age-friendly. Whilst this is only a small sample of the community, respondents were from varying backgrounds, age groups and localities, and have lived in the Shire for anywhere from one to more than 20 years.

Figure 7: Age of focus group participants



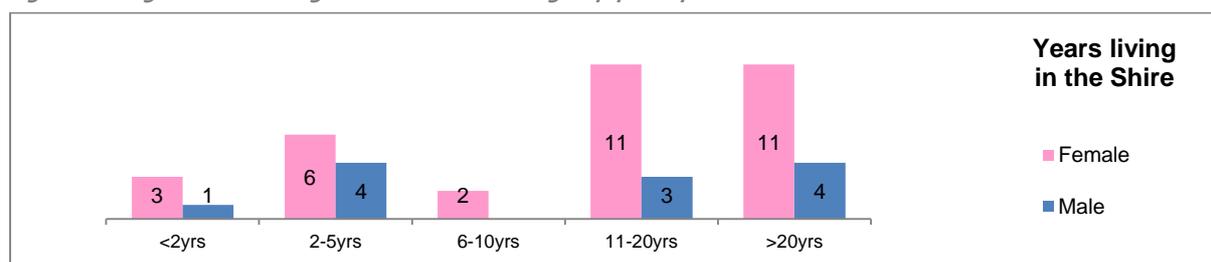
Participants came from across most areas of the Shire, however there were no residents from Barragup, Stakehill, Nambellup, West Pinjarra or Point Grey.

Figure 8: Locality of residence of focus group participants



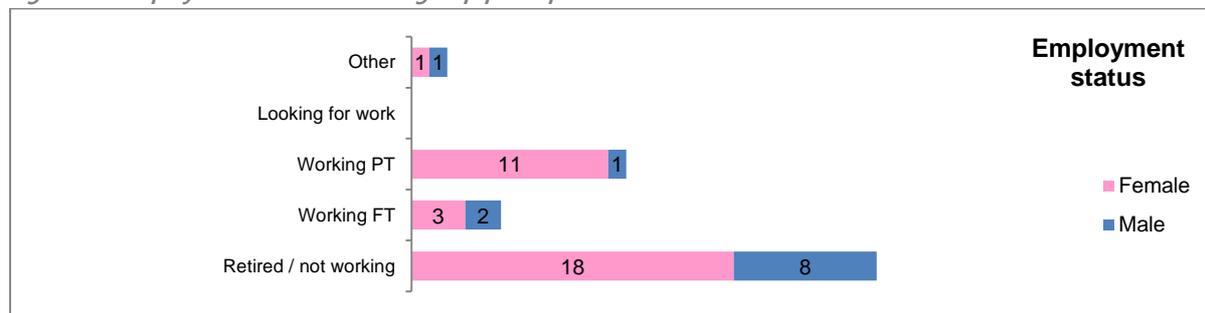
Long term residents and those who have lived in the Shire for anywhere from 1 to 20 years were represented in the focus groups. Interestingly, there were fewer people who had lived in the Shire for 6-10 years than any other grouping.

Figure 9: Length of time living in the Shire of focus group participants



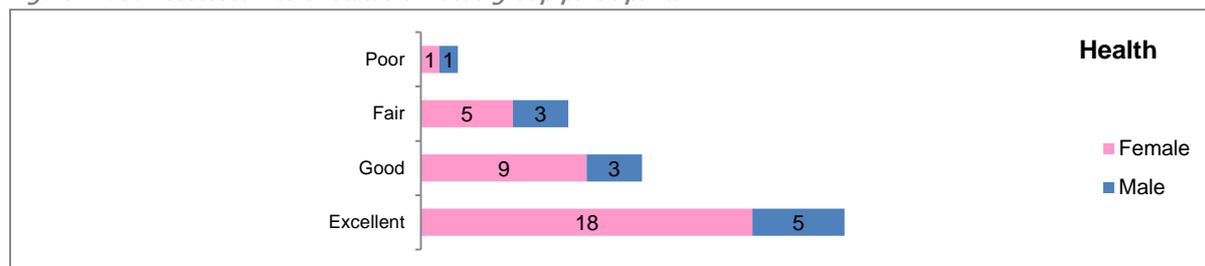
Most focus group participants are retired or not working although 12 are still working part time and 5 are working full time. No participants indicated that they are currently looking for work.

Figure 10: employment status of focus group participants



Only two participants reported their health as poor, whilst the majority of participants indicated their health was good or excellent.

Figure 11: Self assessed health status of focus group participants



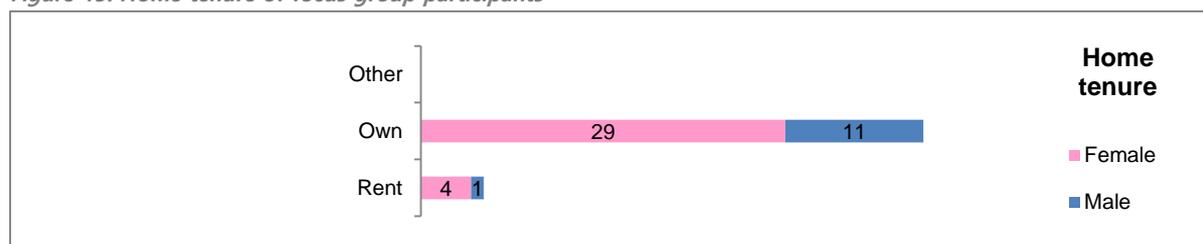
Ten females and one male indicated that they live alone, whilst other participants lived with their spouse/partner and/or their children.

Figure 12: Household structure of focus group participants



The majority of people participating in the focus groups own the home where they live. Five people are currently renting.

Figure 13: Home tenure of focus group participants



Appendix 2: Focus group results

Focus group participants identified items listed in bold font as important priorities.

Outdoor spaces and buildings

Table 13: Outdoor spaces and buildings – responses from focus group discussion

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
FEATURES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths are good, especially Murray Estate and are wide enough for gophers from Belswan to MLC • Library • Parks are excellent - Pinjarra Meadows, Ravenswood, Cantwell - well loved and used. • Murray Leisure Centre especially the hydro pool (when working) • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingfisher Park - North Yunderup • Ravo Pub - Ravenswood • South Yunderup -BUND walking loop • River & natural environment • Interconnected walk / bike paths - South Yunderup • North Yunderup - Wilgie Creek walk • Swim beach - North Yunderup • Fitness stations - North Yunderup • SY sport and rec club • Foreshore - North Yunderup • Centenary Park & playground • Sense of belonging • Everything is flat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local shops + markets • Equestrian Centre • Don Spark Park • Own hall • Tennis courts • Lighting OK around town • Green Space between Equestrian Centre & hall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage garden • Wheelchair ramp to hall • Playground area / space • Nursing post/village • Hotham Valley Railway • Facilities in walking distance • School • Friendly community • Dual use path • Ramps a footpath edge • Access bays • DHVIC • Info bays • Lighting good (where it exists) • Dwellingup Craft Centre • Community hall • Community gardens
BARRIERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need more pedestrian crossings over the highway • Footpaths - • Murray Bend to Furnissdale - no footpath • Forrest St (broken) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Community hall - North & South Yunderup • Lack of toilet facilities - Ravenswood • South Yunderup road - safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uneven surfaces of hall car park • Hooning • No accessible public toilets (near tennis) • Difficult to cross railway line 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coal drilling • Toilets at Hancock (Disgusting) • Speeding through town • Road at the railway crossing needs work

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From MRCE along PJ road is broken in parts (unsafe)" • Seating - need seat backs and need more seats in parks and open spaces • Signage to show where the public toilets and Cantwell Park are, needs to be better • There is a balance between the need for security and feeling safe • Hydrotherapy pool heater needs to be fixed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of meeting places in Nth+Sth Yunderup and Ravenswood (for groups/committees) • Suitability of meeting spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give way markings Cnr Fawcett St, Murray St (Nth) • Fencing of Don Spark • More seating in Park (Don Spark) • Lack of footpaths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sollya Cres Road is bad, needs 2 lanes • Shade – Kid's playground • Need things for young people • Footpaths (all areas) • Fridge shelving to be fixed and need crockery in kitchen at Dwellingup Hall • Road noise during ANZAC service • Crossing road @ Blue Wren & General store • Inequity. Can't serve scones + creams (PJ can) • Trail bike noise (doesn't bother everyone) • Not enough public toilets • Train access at HVT • Motorbikes parked on footpath at pub • Street lights needed near Church St • Playground has no shade • Access btw HVT + VC needs better path • Lack of main St seating • Newton/McCarty holes at the corner of the road
IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of ACROD bays needs to increase with the population • Signage for Cantwell Park and its parking • Additional park benches or resting places • ACROD bay at Dome Café 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall - Kingfisher Park /+ Ravo, North Yunderup • Shade & shelters Kingfisher park, North Yunderup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar lighting at Don Spark • Development of green space (retic) • CCTV in town • Green Space across from shop (Currently bush. Inc seating) • ? Murray St 50 k speed sign? Is it there? • Development of walk trails / pathing options • Need to maximise opportunities with equestrian Centre (come self contain) • Keep trees watered @ Equestrian Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sollya Cres Road Bowling green? • Dwellingup Village funding • Signs to show public toilets • Designated area for trail bikes • Close road for ANZAC service • Bench seat as memorial (donated) • Community social meeting space • Signs on trees between HVT, oval + VC

Transport

Table 14: Transport - responses from focus group discussion

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
FEATURES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belswan has its own bus for outings (goes to Pinjarra and Spud Shed 2 x week) Buses are affordable Buses are well maintained Feel safe driving around the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community bus trial Good street signs Good roads \$500 seniors fuel card (aged pensioners) Public transport 2-3 times per week - North Yunderup Taxi service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Own transport Roads are improving Taxis do come but very \$\$ Community care but in high demand Bus fortnightly. Waroona to Mandurah 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taxis will come from PJ (do they charge more) Vets can access transport for health appointments Neighbours, family & friends
BARRIERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Pinjarra taxis Lack of public transport Buses do not come into Murray River and other areas like Yunderup (have to walk 3.5km to bus stop) Lack of continuity of bus times PJ <-> MH No public transport on weekends Bus only goes to Mandurah station not to the foreshore or shopping centre. Have to change buses No transport to specialist appointments Placement of bus stops - they don't stop near the retirement villages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timetable clashes with train and bus Positioning of bus stops Limited bus timetable Parking at bus stops No lighting in special rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus - People don't know details Lower confidence to drive (road condition) No footpaths (1 at the shop) Australind doesn't stop here Must book 24 hrs before to get on Australind Waroona community car criteria?? People don't know Narrow roads Horse riding clearance near roads Reliance on family & friends (don't drive) Isolation without licence Taxi's expensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None! No bus If you can't drive you have to move Hitchhiking
IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community bus / transport Local Uber drivers Bus routes to be reconsidered People don't know you can take Sth Yund. School bus - needs promotion Spud Shed to sponsor bus & stop at spud shed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community bus - North & South Yunderup Bus stops and routes North and South Yunderup Culeenup Road requires improving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train Service Reinstate (Australind) Improvement to SW Hwy Intersection (Slip-Lane) Horse riding, clearance near rides Lower speed limits Fishermans Road Australind ticket on spot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of school bus Uber services Set up local volunteer driver services? Coordinate bus hire Car pool register

Housing and accommodation

Table 15: Housing and accommodation - responses from focus group discussion

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
FEATURES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property size diversity (lot sizes) Home care options are available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally feel safe in home Care facilities available - Pinjarra & Mandurah Retirement villages - Belswan & Settlers North Yunderup low crime rate Smaller blocks available - South & North Yunderup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 miles to Pinjarra or Waroona to access services Access to tradesmen Downsizing is an option (definition = still more space) Variety of farm sizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dwellingup village 1 x Palliative care person in town but require cert ref. (in home care) Know most neighbours Feel safe at home
BARRIERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have to relocate if you need next level of (high) care as none locally Very high demand for aged care facilities Nursing homes give preference to high care patients (they get/make more \$ from this) Long wait list at Retirement facility Must take first vacancy (aged care facility) regardless of location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waiting list & demand for care facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tradesmen charge more to come to Coolup No access to scheme water (limits development) No retirement villages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home help - no services No small housing options (renters + owners) (lower maintenance options) Lack of services out to Dwellingup + excessive cost to get trades + services out Housing cost Heritage restrictions Heritage listed areas has too many restrictions. Can't modify home. Discriminated against because had to pay \$800 for planning permit due to heritage area
IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belswan would be great if you could access ongoing care (and not have to move) Another Belswan-type place that guarantees transition to Bedingfeld 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowing additional houses on farms Development of more 1 acre blocks Clarity from shire about ancillary accommodation Is there possibility to coordinate works + services for trades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-ordinate to get trade services to come Regular White ant services

Community support and health services

Table 16: Community support & health services - responses from focus group discussion

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
FEATURES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services are conveniently located Emergency plans are mindful of seniors Assistance is available to move residents in emergencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hydrotherapy pool at MLC Allied health services excellent in Pinjarra Murray health centre - Pinjarra well served Good emergency plans in place 3 medical centres in Pinjarra Silver Chain & HAAC service area New medical centre Ravenswood Care waiting placements at Pinjarra hospital Furnissdale / Barragup near hospital and other services Easy to get a doctors appointment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbour support HACC (Peel home and community care) Close proximity to services Infant health nurses (home visit) (DVA) Veteran home care Silver Chain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informal neighbour support Craft group support each other
BARRIERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No local volunteer transport for medical appointments - need to go through HACC/care provider Lack of knowledge about process for help / services Some older people don't want to ask for help Lack of awareness about services available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of transitional accommodation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport to services People don't know what's available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No medical facilities No outreach medical service No Doctors, nurses, physio, silver chain No health service No Pharmacy
IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire's New Resident Info Pack to include services for seniors Encourage people to find out sooner rather than later i.e. plan for their 'older years' and know what is available before you need it. Determine who is the 'keeper' of the list of all that is available - and promote Better promotion of services available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development plans to include aged care facilities Promoting what's available at Pinjarra hospital Reinstatement of emergency services Pinjarra hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire's website - Community services page Delivered service director (Non-tech-savvy) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nurse Practitioner at DCV Silver Chain Service Coordinated medical service provision Informal neighbour support e.g. adopt a granny Opportunity to attract GP down south after village is built Potential to use Waroona services

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve older people in emergency planning - they need to know Alert residents to the My Aged Care website Resident's Associations should include information in their newsletters about what is available Volunteer transport service needed with coordinator, drivers and vehicle - look at what other communities are doing 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work for the dole with HACC via Centrelink? Volunteer Community Bank of skills/services Prescription delivery and/or Chemist Services Promotion of any services e.g. Palliative care

Social participation

Table 17: Social participation - responses from focus group discussion

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
FEATURES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Murray Library E-facilities Murray leisure centre - seniors program Murray library - home delivery unknown?? Good range of activities available Peel Comm Care Outings program Murray resource centre - newspaper Belswan have their own men's shed Supporting our seniors (SOS) gardening etc. NFP volunteers Edenvale excellent activities Murray resource centre - courses - mostly free or affordable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lions and Probus Book clubs New resident welcome pack Craft groups Strong boating community Men of the trees Fishing Friends of the rivers North Yunderup community assoc. Promote events Mahjong SYRRA newsletter South Yunderup clubs / groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Brigade CWA (struggling) Progress Association Craft Pony club Church Gun + Pistol club Kids club Fuel vouchers (Govt scheme) Groups are affordability + Known about + accessibility Murray House + library providing workshops Social group coffee / crafts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Café is the heart Loads of social opportunities Going to get milk takes an hour... Pumpkin fest & Log chop Carriage clubs & RSL
BARRIERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some men are a bit hesitant to be involved Marketing & advertising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of activities in North Yunderup Lack of participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isolation (who are they?) Lack of outreach services? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public liability for facilities

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have to be a member to get information 		
IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT training, access to technology, volunteer service in homes Best if activities are daytime Men's Shed at South Yunderup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men's shed - scout hall? Connecting retirees with youth Promotion of activities in areas Informal groups to be included in welcoming packs New resident packs for renters More activities for the older citizens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homebound library service Mobile library service - linking with shop Potential for bowling club? Lack population? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pinjarra Library info sessions held at Dwellingup such as Info talks e.g. at FHC re Eagles Community events Find a way to share facilities DCV very Pro Co-ordinate between shire library + DCV library

Respect and inclusion

Table 18: Respect and inclusion - responses from focus group discussion

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
FEATURES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belswan involved at schools • Feel respected by younger people • Park named after you! • Red Cross trolley + friends of hospital • Shire volunteer awards • Community members courteous • Shire Listens • Included & considered • Community group involvement • Wilbur - mentor at PPS • Events all inclusive of older people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Awards • Seniors Week • Shire respectful and accommodating • Information sessions for seniors by shire • Library services • Respectful of elders on public transport • Neighbours looking out for each other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events are inclusive • Safe community • Self policing - Shop & Facebook • Seniors are the most respected & involved in groups • Community Recognises Volunteers through awards • Strong, close-knit community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Regularly) Prisoners came + did work + afternoon tea. FANTASTIC. Great rapport • Children are respectful • School kids participation in local events • School + parents support + promote respect • Seniors lunch at Christmas • Australia day breakfast • Not excluded at any events
BARRIERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased criminal activity (recently) • Elder abuse - online scams • Sometimes feel invisible (general basis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community blackboard no more • Some items promoted through school for community but not anywhere else
IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't know of opportunities for older people to be involved at schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills bank - volunteering • Mobile library service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seniors morning tea • Seniors Tool-Kit (make information available) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community notice board and/or blackboard • More utilisation of prisoners • Interconnectivity between young + old • One side of IGA nearly ready but not best spot

Volunteering and employment

Table 19: Volunteering and employment - responses from focus group discussion

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
FEATURES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer opportunities - word of mouth • Pers. Experience leads to volunteering • Committees are welcoming to older volunteers • Mostly older people volunteering • Coles has diverse workforce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community groups grant to reimburse individual volunteers • Volunteer organisations welcoming of any age • Volunteering opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress Association • Strong Volunteering community • Murray Equestrian Association • Older people welcomed & encouraged (volunteering) • Fire Brigade • Some farm hand work • CWA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of volunteers opportunities • Shire volunteer awards • Volunteer Organisations older person friendly • Self employment • Own business e.g. accommodation providers
BARRIERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children not taught to handle responsibility - don't volunteer • Much less volunteering by young people • Cheaper to employ younger people after hours • Limited job opportunities locally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working affects your pension • Accreditation requirements • Age barriers for work • Computer literacy can be volunteering barrier • Lack of employment opportunities for older people • (Volunteering) cost – Fuel, materials, food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance for volunteers (red tape) • Limited paid work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand internet to access job seeking • No job seeking services in Pinjarra • No white collar work
IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claim volunteering costs on tax • Investigate volunteer grant scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men's Shed (Tutoring/skills) • Possible training courses out of hall (young ones teach older ones technology) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to acknowledge & thank volunteers

Communication and information

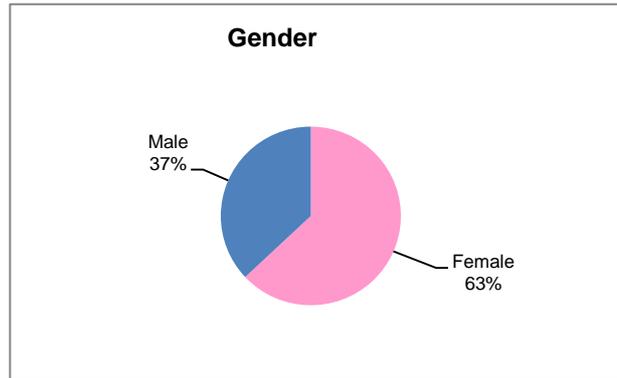
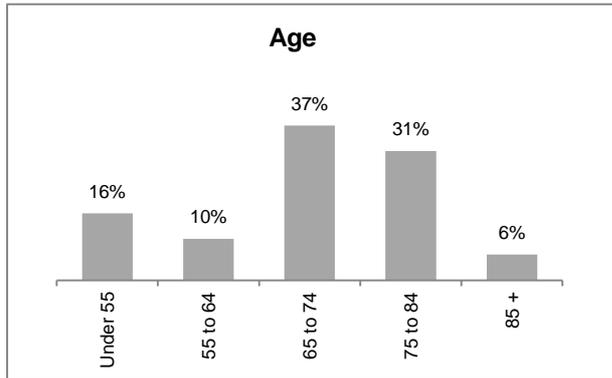
Table 20: Communication and information - responses from focus group discussion

PINJARRA	SOUTH YUNDERUP	COOLUP	DWELLINGUP
FEATURES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library including newsletter • Community news • Community newsletter • School newsletter • Shire website • Mandurah Mail • Coles noticeboard • Corner shop noticeboards • Shire newsletter • Facebook • Radio (MH) 1116+ABC • Murray Times • Word of mouth • Spud shed notice board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SYRRA newsletter • Council e-news • Murray Times • Murray House newsletter (monthly) • Local noticeboards (at deli) • North Yunderup e-news • Word of mouth • Via family • North Yunderup email & Facebook • Email [7] • Web [7] • SMS [8] • Facebook [7] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coolup Newsletter • Local Shop • Progress Assoc. advise emergency numbers into all letterboxes • Good TV & radio coverage (6mm + 973) • Murray House News • Local paper MH Mail, Coastal Times, HY-WAR REP • Chalkboard @ shop • Murray Focus • Shire Community Directory • Shire / Website • Letterboxes • Social media • Internet • Email • Where no internet (DFES) ring local Fire Brigade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly email of what's on • Dwellingup buy + sell • Friends + family • 6MM Radio • Word of mouth [16] • School Newsletter - not everyone [7] • Mandurah Mail • Murray Times • Murray House Newsletter • Signs + Banners at entry • Email [11] • Internet [11] • SMS [7] • Facebook [2]
BARRIERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to internet – fear, knowledge, cost • Word of mouth doesn't reach everyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile communication lacking (still need landline) • Lack internet connection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patchy mobile coverage • Don't all have internet
IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big Community noticeboard at Pinjarra Shops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote how to find out about e.g. fires. Register with Silver Chain • Need Phone book where no internet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Noticeboard? • Classes to teach people e.g. – Internet, phone, Facebook • Promote what's available • Community Newspaper

Appendix 3: Survey respondents

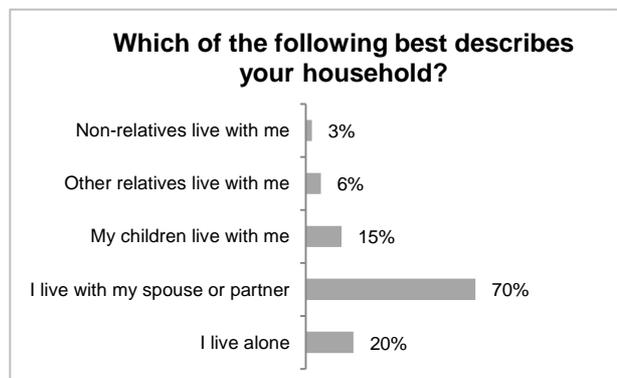
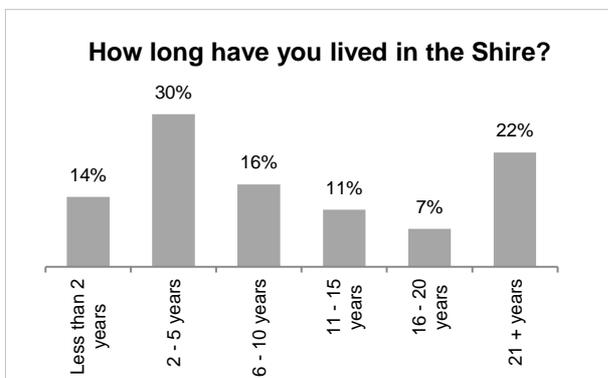
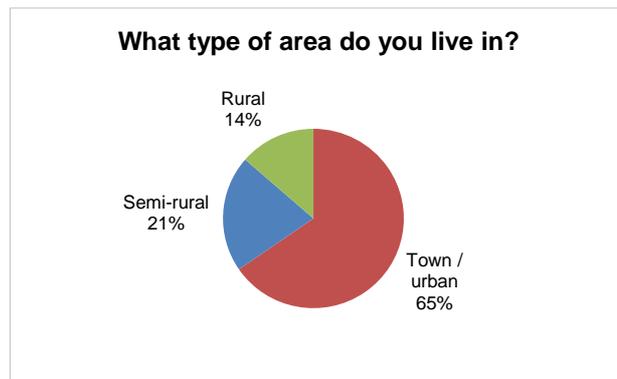
83 residents from the Shire of Murray completed the Age-Friendly Community survey. Hard copies of the survey were made available from the Shire office, Community Resource Centre, library and via members of the Working Group. The online survey was available from the Shire’s website. 99% respondents indicated that they live in the Shire on a fulltime basis. One respondent identified as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

The following figures provide an overview of survey respondents.



In which locality do you live?

Barraqup	1	Furnissdale	2
Birchmont	1	Nambeelup	1
Coolup	7	North Piniarra	2
Dwellinqup	3	Pinjarra	40
Ravenswood	4	South Yunderup	16
West Pinjarra	1	Not stated	5



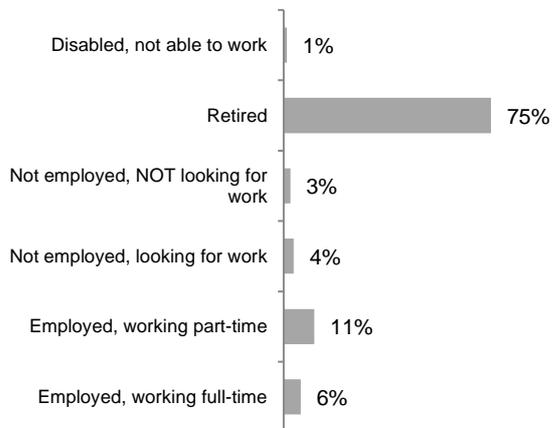
**Do you have family living in the Shire
(apart from those living with you)?**

Yes 28%
No 72%

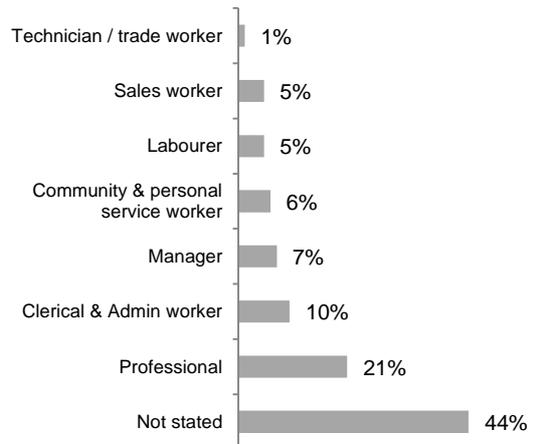
**Are you currently caring for a family
member (other than your own child under**

Yes 11%
No 89%

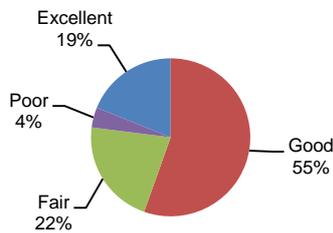
Employment status



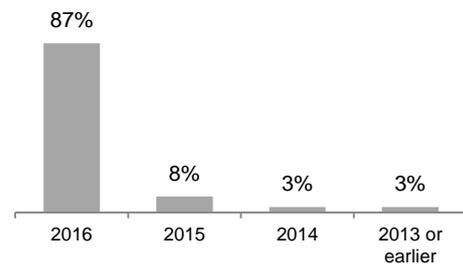
Present or most recent occupation



**How would you describe your current
health?**



When did you last visit a doctor?

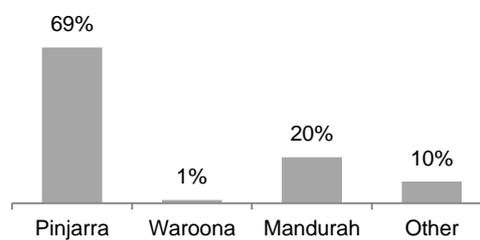


Do you have any health problems that limit your normal daily activities?

Yes 36%

No 64%

Where is your regular doctor located?



Appendix 4: Survey results

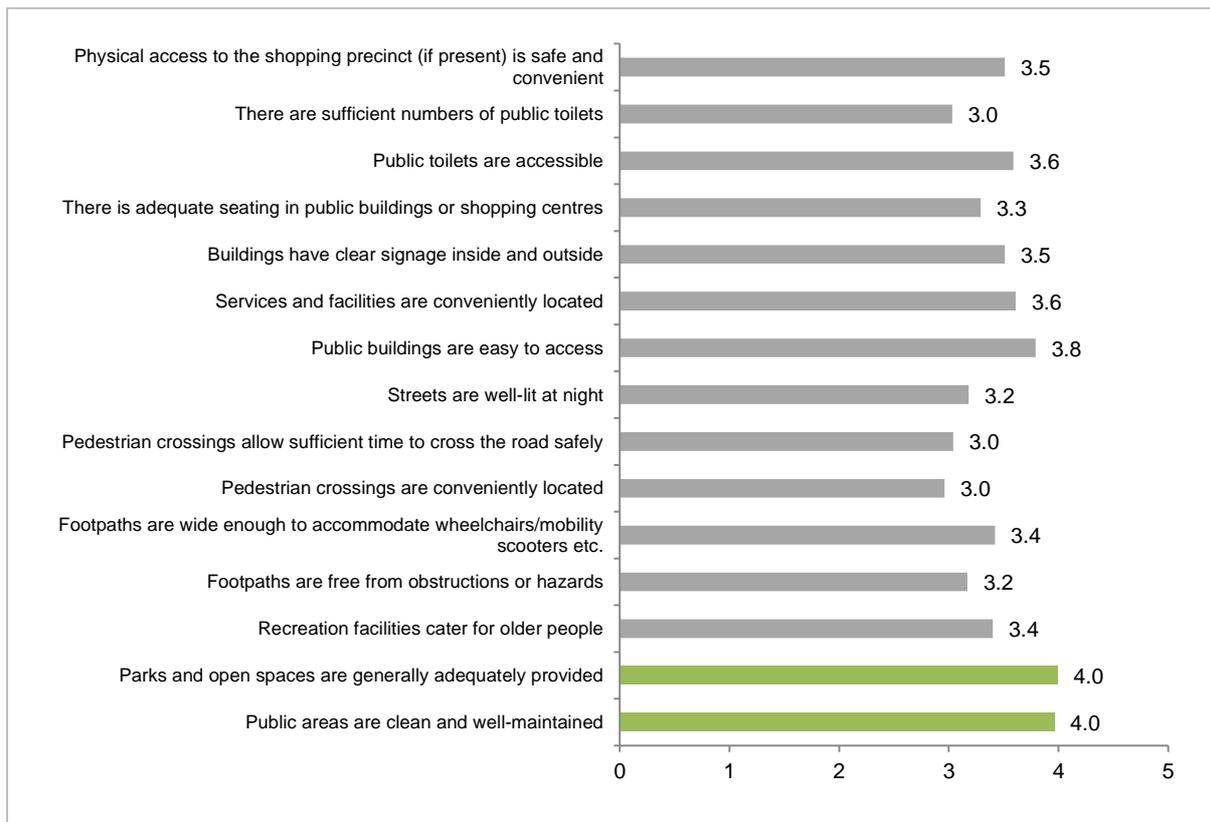
The Age-Friendly Community Survey sought responses from local residents about a range of issues impacting on people’s ability to remain living in their homes and communities, as they get older. Respondents were asked to provide ratings on a range of issues across each of the eight domains of an age-friendly community and offer any additional relevant comments. Below is a summary of the results from the survey.

Scale

In each area, respondents were asked to indicate how strongly they agreed or disagreed with each statement using the following scale.

1	2	3	4	5	N/a or unsure
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	-

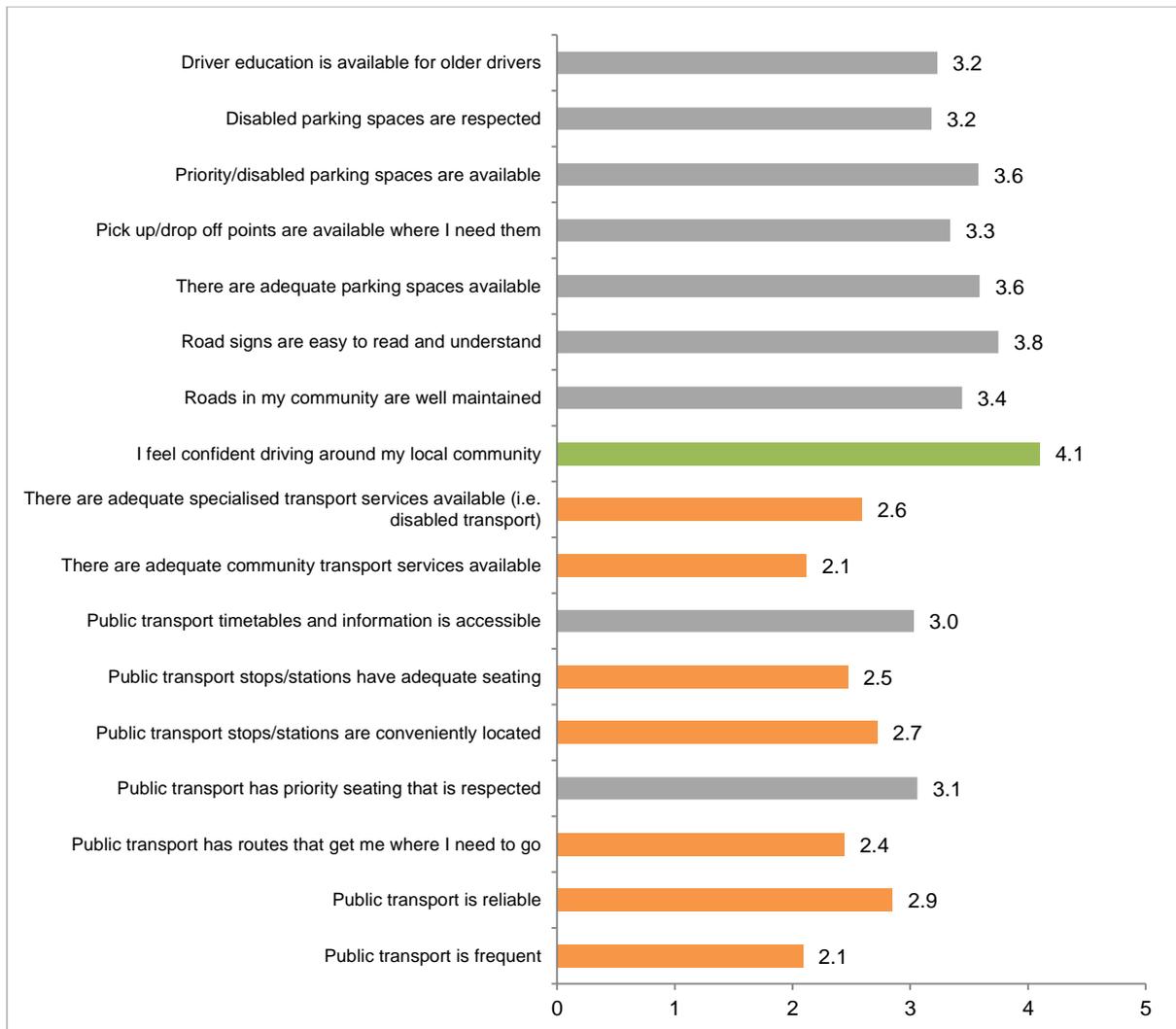
Outdoor spaces and buildings – survey responses



Generally respondents are satisfied with the standard of outdoor spaces and buildings. In particular, the parks, open spaces and public areas are considered adequate, clean and well maintained.

Transport – survey responses

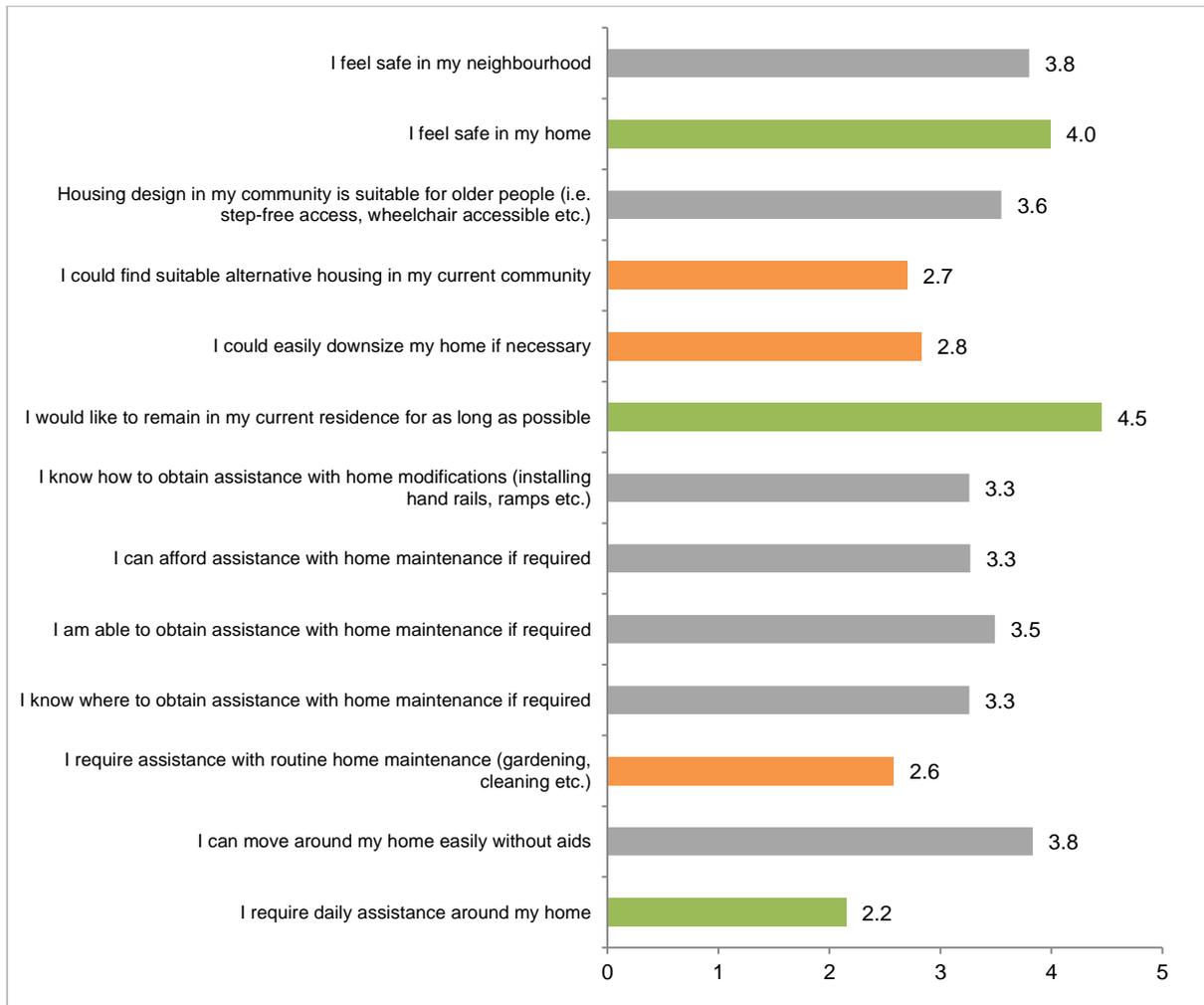
1	2	3	4	5	N/a or unsure
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	-



Respondents highlighted the lack of public or community transport available to Shire of Murray residents as a significant problem. Over 50% of respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed that there are adequate community transport services available. The reliability, frequency and accessibility of transport services scored poorly. This was also reflected in the focus group discussions. However, for those still driving, 82% agreed or strongly agreed that they feel confident driving around their local community.

Housing and accommodation – survey responses

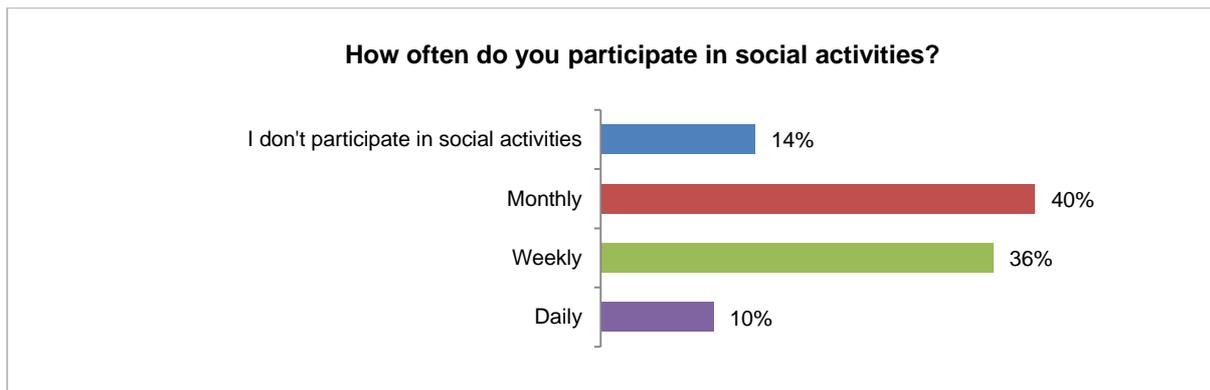
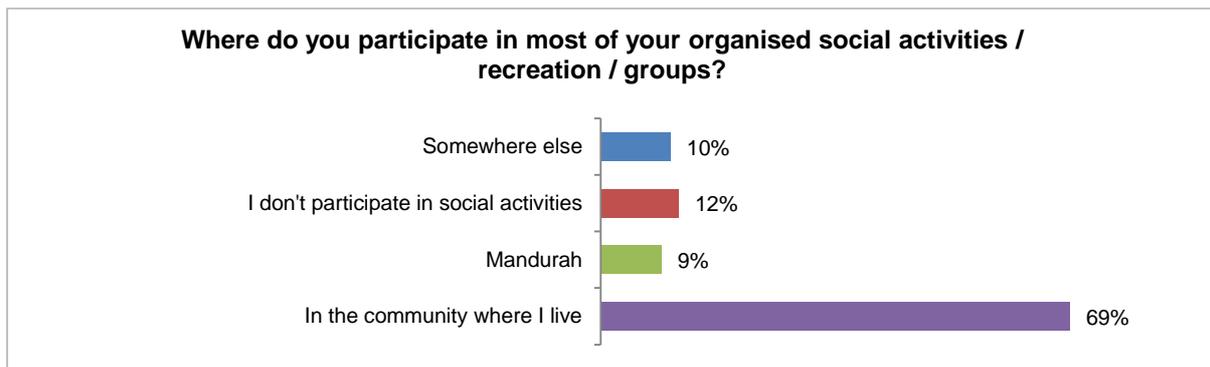
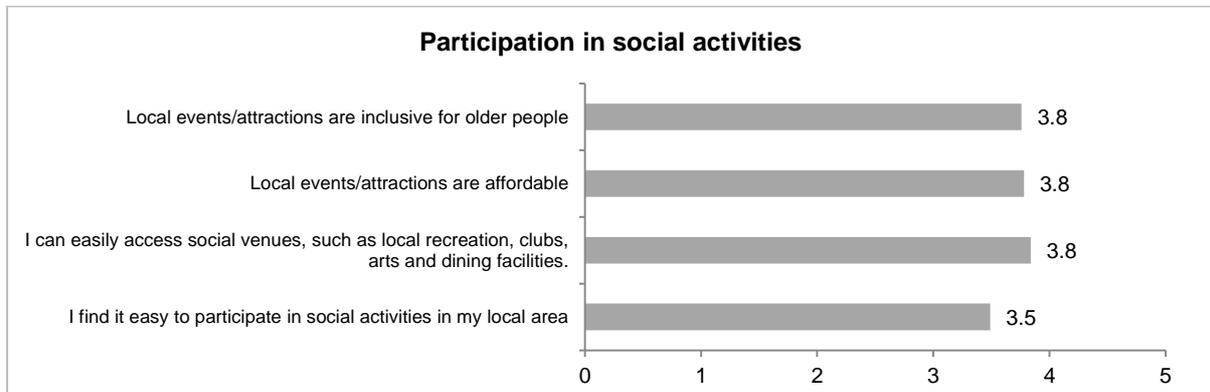
1	2	3	4	5	N/a or unsure
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	-



Concerns were expressed about the ability to find alternative housing or downsize within the local community. 81% of respondents indicated they feel safe in their home and 76% of respondents feel safe in their community. Unsurprisingly, 90% of respondents indicated they would like to remain in their current residence for as long as possible.

Social participation – survey responses

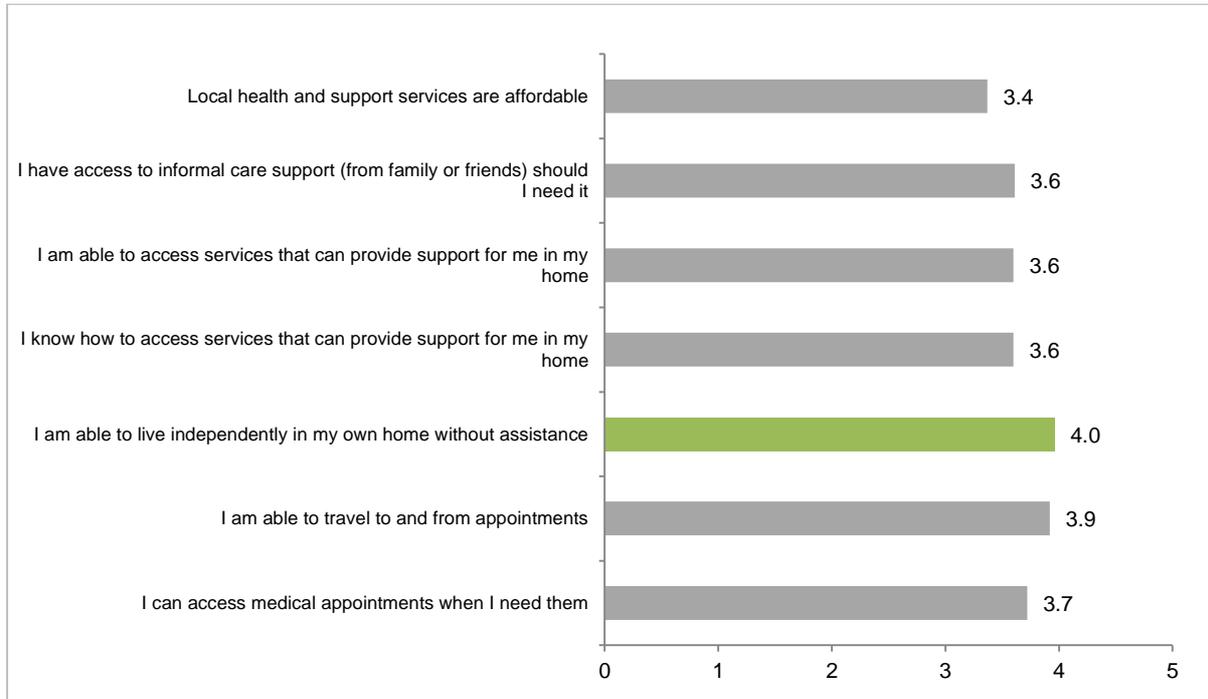
1	2	3	4	5	N/a or unsure
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	-



Generally, respondents are satisfied with the availability, cost and range of social activities on offer in their local communities. A few survey respondents commented on the difficulty of participating in social activities due to the lack of transport.

Community support and health services – survey responses

1	2	3	4	5	N/a or unsure
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	-

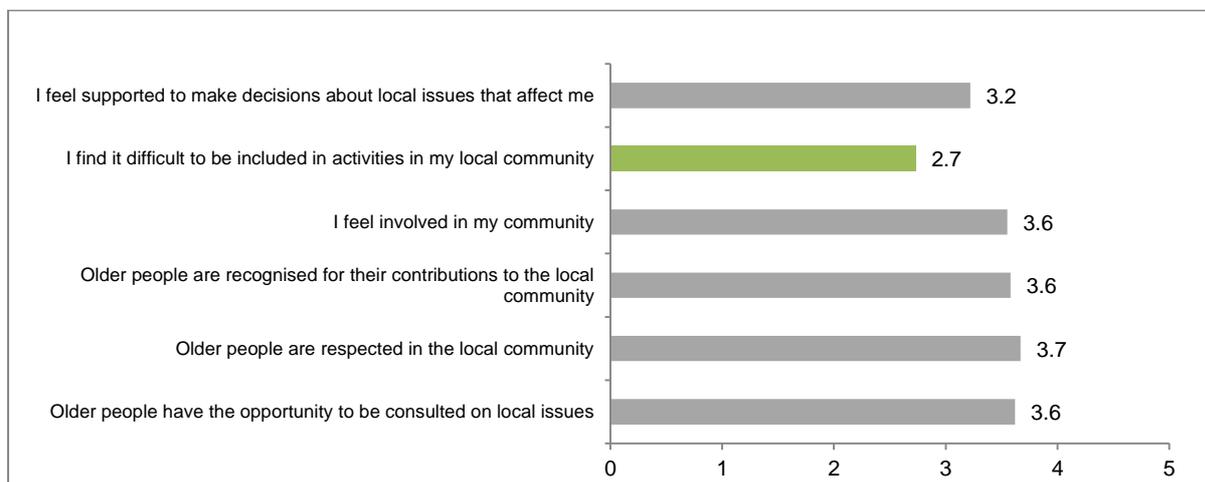


Where do you access allied health services such as physio, dental, podiatry etc.?

- ✓ Mandurah
- ✓ Pinjarra
- ✓ Waroona
- ✓ Rockingham
- ✓ Bunbury
- ✓ Perth / Fremantle

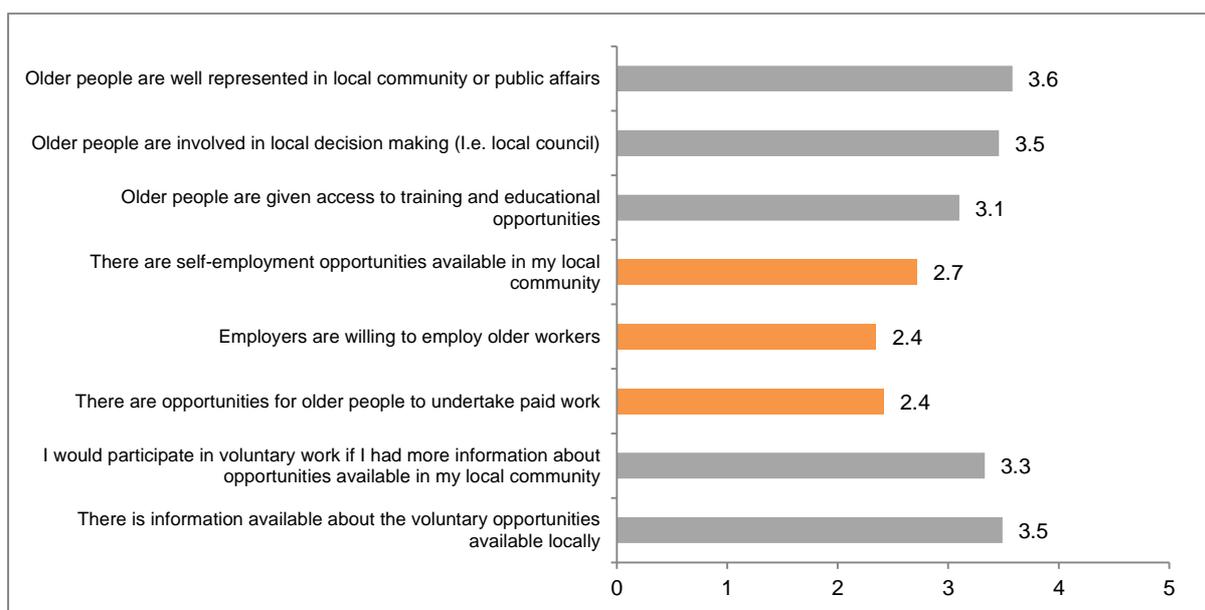
Respect and social inclusion – survey responses

1	2	3	4	5	N/a or unsure
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	-



Generally people feel that their communities are inclusive and respectful towards older people. Respondents feel involved in their community and do not find it difficult to be included in local activities.

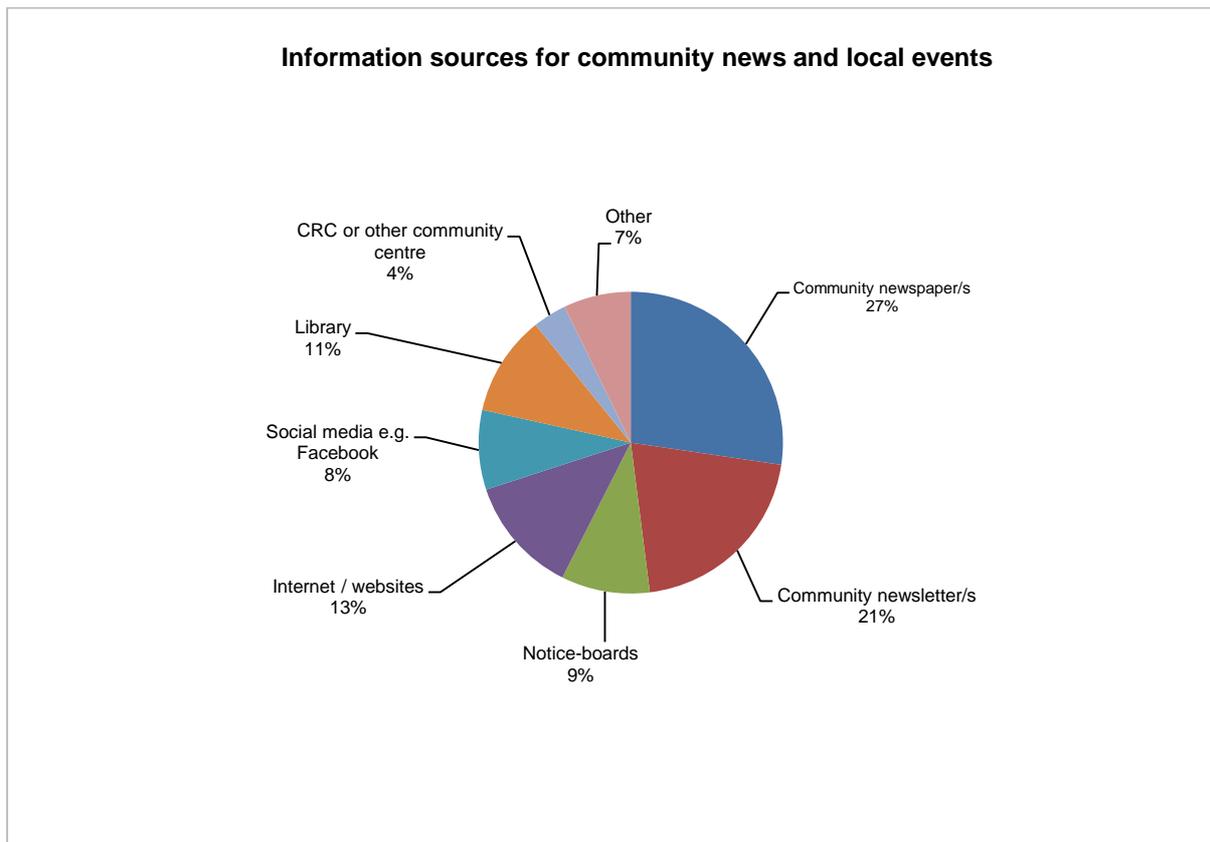
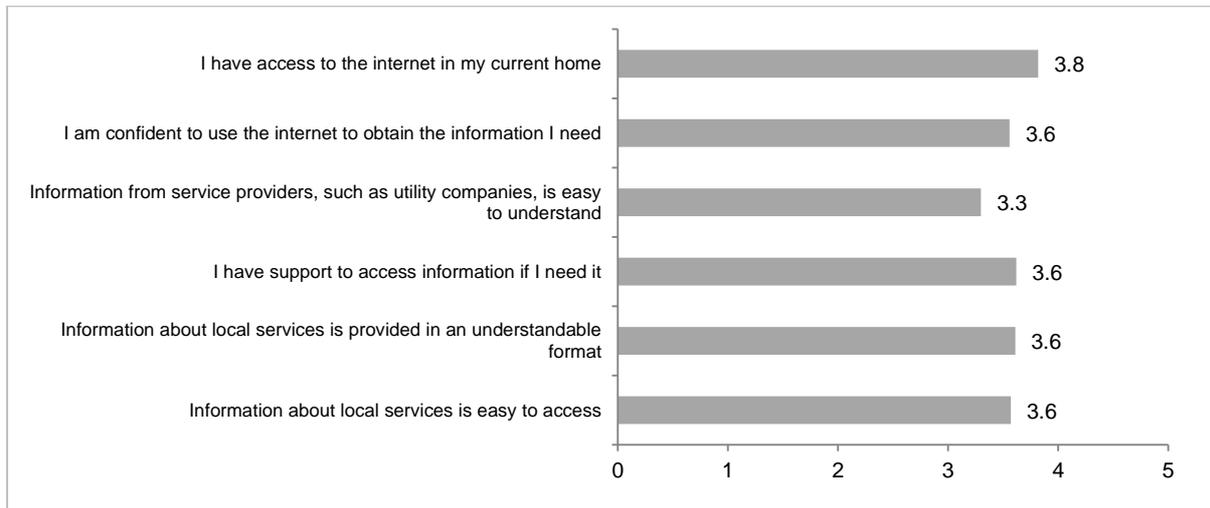
Volunteering and employment – survey responses



Concerns were expressed about the lack of employment for older people during all focus group discussions. This has been reflected by survey respondents as per the figure above.

Communication and information – survey responses

1	2	3	4	5	N/a or unsure
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	-



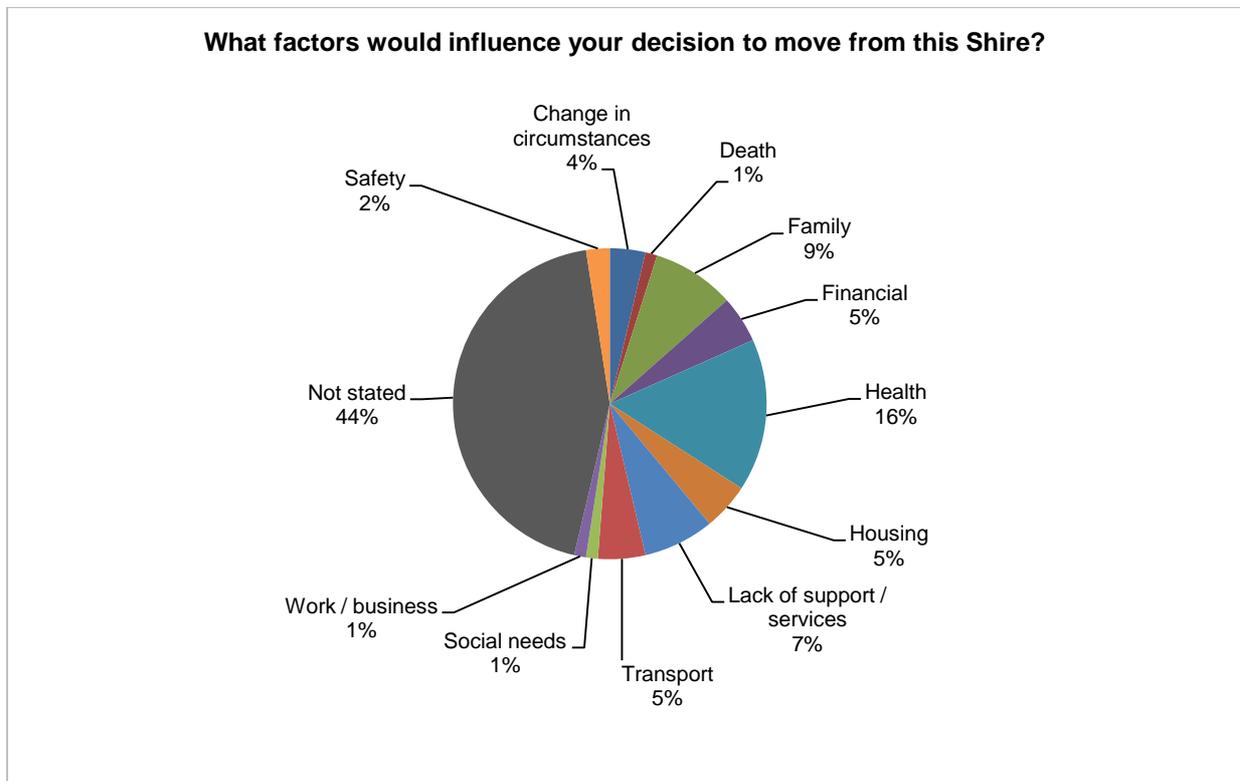
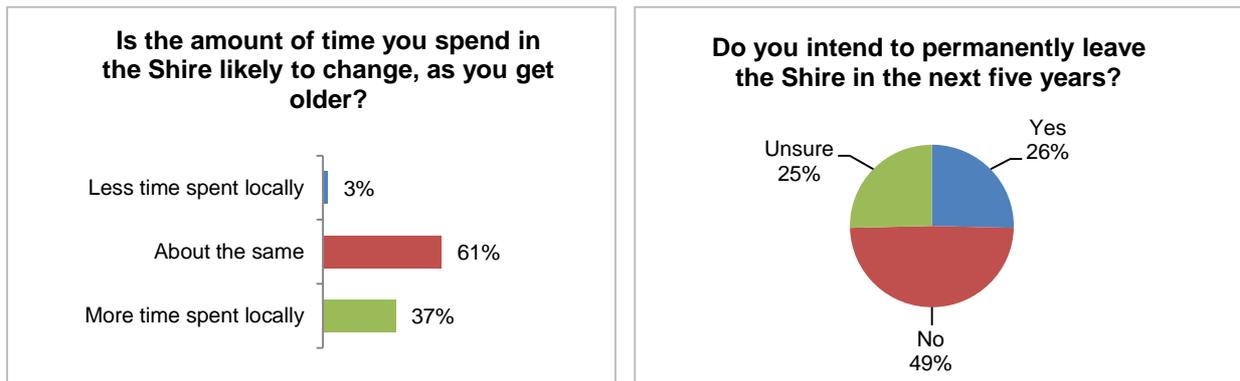
The most regular sources of information that people rely upon are local community newsletters and local newspapers. Noticeboards were raised at most of the focus group discussions with a particular need identified in Dwellingup and Pinjarra.

What could be improved to make our Shire a better place to live as a senior?

Other comments provided by survey respondents -

- Outdoor spaces and buildings
 - Better facilities in our centres - Rec centre in Dwellingup so people didn't have to travel, improved facilities in Ravenswood, Men's Shed, bigger hall and bowling centre
 - Better and better located seniors club and facilities, senior citizens centre
 - Easier accessible footpaths
 - The parking in Pinjarra - more disabled bays or bays just for the elderly.
 - More seats on main roads
 - Improved railway crossing and footpaths
 - Better road crossings, pedestrian crossings
 - Better design/décor/signage principles used.
 - Maybe a cinema
- Transport
 - Better country transport, bus service, weekend bus, transport around suburbs
 - Transport to care - hospital and specialist appointments in Perth
 - Transport and health services available in our home for elderly parents
 - More frequent bus (600) services and weekend bus service
 - Bus stops: Bench and shelter outside high school and hospital terminus
 - Roundabouts across Pinjarra Rd and SW Highway.
 - More control of hoon drivers, especially speeding in built up areas
- Community support and health services
 - Another supermarket/store so we don't have to by Coles Brand groceries
 - Having a hospital with emergency facilities. Not everyone has the means of getting to Peel Hospital - e.g. no car
 - More and better facilities for assisted care living and nursing home facilities.
 - Make village operators/managers more accountable to deliver the services promised to residents (for a hefty price!!)
 - Give seniors a discount to the Murray Shire Leisure Centre

Future plans to stay living in the Shire of Murray



Of those who have indicated they intend to leave the Shire permanently in the next five years –

- 50% are aged 65-74 years
- 28% are aged 75-84 years.
- 22% currently live alone
- 56% currently live with their spouse or partner
- 78% do not have other family members living in the Shire
- 44% have a health problem that limits normal daily activities
- Most currently reside in Pinjarra or South Yunderup

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