

SHIRE OF



**STRATEGIC
COMMUNITY PLAN**
2021 - 2031

Shire Vision

**Strengthening our community now to grow
and prosper into the future**

Welcome from the Shire President

We are pleased to present the Shire of Corrigin Strategic Community Plan 2021-2031 that identifies the vision and aspirations for the future. The plan outlines how the Shire of Corrigin will work with the community to ensure a positive future for the Corrigin community.

The plan has been developed following a comprehensive community consultation process and the input from the local community was greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who took the time to provide input into the plan and the responses gave us valuable insight into your vision for the future.

We believe we have captured the community's aspirations and the desired outcomes for future growth and prosperity are reflected in the plan. The Shire of Corrigin will work in together with residents, ratepayers, community groups and other key stakeholders to deliver these outcomes using the strategies we have detailed in this plan.

We will continue to provide excellent facilities and services to the Corrigin community and look forward to some exciting new projects that maintain our rural lifestyle, cultural heritage and natural environment.

Cr Des Hickey
President



Key Points of the Plan

- Strong focus on **maintaining and building upon our current assets**
- Renewed focus on **joint planning for the achievement of outcomes in youth** engagement, active citizenship and future employment within the community
- **Long term approach to economic development** with the development of industrial land and coordinated approach to promotion of our community's assets and lifestyle
- **Continuing the care and facilitating services for seniors**
- Retention of key **medical and allied health services**
- Looking after our volunteers
- **Road and footpath** renewal and maintenance
- **Forward planning towards main street and town scape** aesthetics and enhancements
- **Succession planning for key leadership positions** within the Council and workforce

Key Achievements since the 2017 - 2027 Strategic Plan

Our Shire has achieved the following since our last major Strategic Community Plan review.

Outcomes – Economic

- Road Asset Management Plan developed and adopted
- Development of a Footpath Management Plan
- Asset Management Plan reviewed in 2019
- 10yr Road Asset Management Plan developed and adopted
- Participation in the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Project
- Continued advocacy on telecommunications
- Corrigin Planning Scheme amendments submitted and approved to encourage residential density
- Economic and Tourism Strategy developed and Committee formed

Outcomes – Social

- Secured long term contract for the provision of medical services at the Corrigin Medical Centre
- Continued engagement and representation on local community, business, education and volunteer organisations
- Active participation in the Wheatbelt South Aged Housing Alliance which resulted in the construction of additional aged care units
- Ongoing liaison with the Corrigin District High School and Edna Stevenson scholarship
- Leadership and support to the Corrigin Community Resource Centre and their delivery of community projects, events and initiatives
- Participation in the Rural Medical Student Immersion Program to encourage student doctors to consider a career in rural areas
- Maintenance and renewal of the Town Hall, Railway Station, Dog Cemetery and Windmill News building

Outcomes – Environment (Natural and Built)

- Support of the Corrigin Farm Improvement Group
- Swimming Pool upgrades
- Shire Recycled Water Quality Management Plan adopted

Outcomes – Leadership

- Offering employment to local residents who had lost their job, or been stood down, due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Review of integrated planning documentation
- Various professional development and training completed by Councillors and staff
- Shire of Corrigin website upgrade

History

Rev No	Date	Reason for Revision	Council Resolution
1.0	18 July 2023	2 Yearly Minor Review	102/2023

Our Demographics Tell Us

Where we are now

- **1,176**¹ people call Corrigin and the local government area home
- **Our population is steady**
- **We are a community of families:** 32.5% were couple families with children, and 11.9% were one parent families.
- **We also have a lot of couples with no children:** 54.5% were couple families do not have children
- **We have an ageing population:** The percentage of the resident population from 45 to 84 years is noticeably higher than the State average with the percentage over 55 increasing
- **We have varied levels of affluence in the community:** family (\$1,672) and household income (\$1332) is below WA and Australian averages, but personal weekly (\$748) income is above
- **We have low unemployment:** 3.31%² compared to state average of 7.8%
- **Our workforce works more hours a week** than other Western Australians and Australians
- **We have high car ownership rates:** because we have no public transport access. We like to walk to work and social activities but also our geographical isolation requires us to travel longer distances
- **We have high volunteerism:** 40.8% of Corrigin residents undertake voluntary work, well above the state (19%) and national average (19%)
- **A small proportion changed address in the last 5yrs:** 31.1% changed address
- **Just over a quarter rent their residence in Corrigin**³

Where we will be in 10yrs

- **Population may slightly decline by 2031:** Predicted population of 1,055⁴
- **We will continue to be a major service centre in the Wheatbelt**

¹ .id 2017/18

² .id 2017/18

³ .id 2016

⁴ WA Tomorrow Band C Report 11

How We Developed this Document

Our Strategic Community Plan reinforces our commitment to the people who live, work and visit Corrigin. The purpose of this document is to provide a clear purpose and strategic direction for our Shire, and to source the funding and support required to address the community priorities detailed later in this document.

It was developed based on

- The State Government's Blueprint for the region and other relevant policies, plans and strategies from both the State and Federal Governments.
- Extensive community engagement on what is important to the people that live within our Shire.
- Input from Elected Members and Staff based on feedback they have received and their strong desire to deliver positive outcomes for their community.
- Current partnerships and projects already being delivered.

Progress Reporting

The Shire of Corrigin has adopted a traffic light based Quarterly Update to report progress against the priorities as detailed in the Corporate Business Plan which will be shared via a Council Item and on the Shire web-site. In addition, results are formally communicated to the community annually via the legislated Annual Report.

IPR Reviews

This Strategic Community Plan will be subjected to a minor review in 2023 and a major review requiring extensive community engagement in 2025 as legislated. In addition, the Corporate Business Plan will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect any changes to priorities, service levels and the budget.



Summary of Community Engagement

Engagement	Format	Reach
Thank a Volunteer Breakfast	Informal discussion	30
Seniors Coffee and Chat	Group discussion, survey handed out	6
Shire of Corrigin Administration meeting	Facilitated workshop	8
Community Drop In along the Main Street	Informal discussion, handed out surveys	50
Business After Hours and survey sent to businesses afterwards	Group discussion and handed out surveys	8
Shire of Corrigin Council session	Facilitated workshop	6 Councillors 2 Staff
Phone calls – community leaders, sports groups	Phone calls to identified clubs and leaders	12
Community Survey completed	Hard copy and online survey	128
Facilitated session to Corrigin DHS senior students		16
TOTAL		266

Strategic Priorities

Community members were asked to rank the following strategic priorities in order of importance to them with the resulting order being.

	Medium Priority	High Priority
Access to health services		
Access to services and facilities for people with disabilities		
Bush fire prevention and control		
Community events organised by the Shire and Community Resource Centre (CRC)		
Conservation and environmental management		
Development of the town centre		
Economic development		
Facilities, services and care available for seniors		
Events, arts and cultural activities		
Sport and recreation facilities		
Promotion of our community		
Tourism development		
Safety and security		
Services and facilities for youth		

Emerging issues raised by community members at the various engagement forums:

- The **peaceful rural lifestyle, friendly community spirit, services available and local business** were recurring reasons that people value living in the Shire
- Maintenance and enhancement of the **road transport network and footpaths** across the town site
- The **lack of quality rental accommodation and housing** for employees of local businesses
- The **importance of key services and the desire to maintain and retain** them in our future growth (School, Hospital, Medical Centre, Childcare Centre etc)
- The **importance of volunteering** and the potential for volunteer burnout with the pool of volunteers shrinking.
- The **importance of and potential for tourism**
- **Enhancement of the main street** aesthetics and greening of the townscape
- The **importance of agriculture** to the local economy and the need to maintain rural gravel roads to a high standard
- The need to engage with **young people** and give them a sense of pride and things to do
- **Care for our seniors**, facilities and services to support them



Community Priorities 2021 - 2031

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES	WE KNOW WE ARE SUCCEEDING WHEN
1. SOCIAL : <i>An effectively serviced, inclusive and resilient community</i>	
1.1 Joint planning with local and external key stakeholders to help improve the sense of place and access to opportunities for young people	Young people are engaged and contribute as active citizens
	Retention of key services including the Childcare Centre and DHS
1.2 Facilitate and advocate for the provision of quality health services, health facilities and programs in the Shire	Retention of health facilities and visiting services
	Corrigin Medical Centre has a sustainable business model and Centre is enhanced
	Ageing in place can occur. We achieve outcomes in the Aged Friendly Community Plan
	Encourage the development of health, medical and aged care service industry in our Shire
1.3 Support and help facilitate community events and inclusive initiatives	Well attended local events and activities
	CRC jointly plans with the Shire and local groups to deliver diverse and inclusive events
	Arts and cultural activities feature strongly in our identity
1.4 Support local volunteer organisations through initiatives that reduce volunteer fatigue and strengthen their resilience	Volunteers feel supported by the Shire
	CRC jointly plans with and reflects the needs of local groups
	Community Grant Scheme well subscribed
1.5 Support emergency services planning, risk mitigation, response and recovery	We collaboratively plan service delivery and respond to emergency situations (LEMC)

2. ECONOMIC: A strong, diverse economy supporting agriculture, local business and attracting new industry

2.1 Support the diverse industry across the Shire	Achievement of initiatives in our Tourism and Economic Development Strategy
	Retain existing and attract new business to the Shire
	Demonstrated progress with stakeholders to facilitate industrial land identification and expansion
2.2 Coordinated planning and promotion of the visitor and tourist experience	Visitors receive timely and accurate information about our attractions and services
	Visitors and tourists extend their stay in Corrigin
2.3 Active engagement, participation and planning in regional groups	Regional groupings help us achieve improved telecommunications reliability
	We work collaboratively to achieve local benefit
2.4 Local businesses and the Shire have access to diverse skills and experiences	Shire housing stock assists in attraction and retention of the local workforce
	We advocate for improvements in State Government housing policy
	Pathways for apprentices and trainees in the Shire business
	Retention of the child care service

3. ENVIRONMENT: An attractive natural and built environment for the benefit of current and future generations

3.1 Safe, efficient and well maintained road and footpath infrastructure	The road asset management plan has been reviewed and updated to include network hierarchy and service levels
	Achievement of the 10yr footpath replacement program aligned to our resource provision
	Less impact on our roads due to extreme weather events and increased vehicle tonnage (road engineering, stormwater management)
	Footpaths, verges and trails are well maintained and managed according to their need and use
3.2 Parks, gardens, recreational and social spaces are safe and encourage active, engaged and healthy lifestyles	Sport and Recreation facility and surface improvements are planned in a coordinated manner
	Parks, nature reserves and community spaces are provided to ensure they are green, tidy, accessible and activated
3.3 We prepare and maintain our assets for the current and future community	Shire assets and facilities support the delivery of services and meet community need
	Shire owned heritage buildings and places of interest are maintained and managed appropriately
3.4 Maintain a high standard of environmental health and waste services	Compliance with environmental health and waste legislation
	Community education and engagement in waste avoidance, reduction and reuse
3.5 Conservation of our natural environment	Management of nature reserves and invasive species
3.6 Demonstrate sustainable practices of water management	We implement Waterwise practices to minimise mains and ground water consumption

4. GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP: Strong governance and leadership

4.1 Succession planning for key leadership roles (Council and workforce)	We are an employer of choice, attracting and retaining people with the right attitude and skills in a diverse and productive workplace
	Our community spirit is a quality of our leadership and workforce
4.2 Communication to the workforce and community is consistent	We listen and we do what we say we are going to do
	Maintain a high standard of customer service
4.3 Forward planning and implementation of plans to achieve strategic direction and service levels	We develop and maintain partnerships with government and non-government organisations to achieve positive outcomes for the Corrigin community and wider region
	Communication is clear, consistent and across multiple channels
4.4 Provide informed and transparent decision making that, meets our legal obligations, and the needs of our diverse community	Performance against targets – Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plans goals
	Elected members are trained and supported to make well informed decisions
	Sound financial and asset management
4.5 Implement systems and processes that meet legislative and audit obligations	Compliance with the Local Government Act 1995 and all relevant legislation and regulations

Strategic Risks for the Shire of Corrigin:

The following risks were identified by Council and mitigation of these risks are included in the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan, Workforce Plan and Long Term Financial Plan.

<p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment opportunities and diversity Quality public and private accommodation Attraction and retention of resident population Volunteer fatigue Loss of important services 	<p>Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telecommunication reliability and coverage Education opportunities Loss of population Available land
<p>Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changing of the climate Waste and recycling management 	<p>Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor and staff succession and renewal Staff attraction and retention Compliance Access to funding to achieve community aspirations

