

**WHAT WE
MAKE IT**

**STRATEGIC
COMMUNITY
PLAN REVIEW**

COMMUNITY VISIONING ENGAGEMENT REPORT



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

Every four years the City of Karratha (City) reviews its Strategic Community Plan. This plan is the guiding document in every local government in Western Australia¹. It shows the community's vision and goals, and how the City will work towards the vision, with and for the community.

For this review, the Council wanted to engage with the community on a wider and deeper level. The *What We Make It* engagement program consisted of a series of conversations, some more structured, some less so. It took the engagement to where the people were in their own communities. There were specific conversations to capture the voices of community groups who are sometimes not heard. Online opportunities for input were provided. If none of those options worked for a particular person, business or group, they could call, email or arrange to meet the City's engagement officers.

The questions were open ended and invited everyone to speak their mind freely.

This report groups and summarises the feedback to draw out insights for developing the Strategic Community Plan 2025 – 2035. The analysis has been led by what the community has told us. As much as possible, we have retained the authentic voices of the community.

Overview

The community's input was thoughtful, constructive and positive. Overall, 945 people contributed. There was largely a sense of optimism, and confidence that the Council would listen and respond to the community's feedback. It is likely that this reflected 'self-selection bias' to some extent. In other words, the people who participated were likely to be more positive on average. However, the engagement shows there is a large core of committed organisations and individuals who have a vision for the future of their place and will play their part in achieving it alongside the Council.

Many of the people who participated spoke of their special connection to this unique place. Whether people have been born and raised here, or have moved here and made this place their home, the Pilbara has their heart. It has a lifestyle and identity that is highly valued and innate.

People enjoy having the best of both worlds – the perks of a city but still with a small-town, easy-going lifestyle. The community treasures the easy access to breathtaking coastal areas, islands, reefs, national parks, and inland areas. Importantly, for the Ngarluma people, we heard this land is and always will be their Country.

"I LOVE IT HERE – THE RED DIRT GETS IN YOUR BLOOD."
SENIORS' FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANT

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Report independently prepared by Localise, based on the community's feedback as gathered by the City of Karratha and Aha! Consulting.

Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Karratha acknowledges the Ngarluma people as the Traditional Owners of this land and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to Yandi for Change, Ngarliyarndu Bindirri Aboriginal Corporation (NBAC), and Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation Ltd (NYFL) who partnered with the City of Karratha to facilitate the *What We Make It* conversation in Ieramugadu.

The City of Karratha thanks everyone who joined in the *What We Make It* conversation.

You've contributed to developing a plan that will guide the direction of the City of Karratha into the future. This journey has involved conversations with people at workshops, schools, events, online and out and about in our towns.

We heard many people's stories and aspirations for this place.

We thank you and look forward to working together as we strive to achieve the City's vision.

¹ Available at WA Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Themes

Seven key themes emerged from the engagement. While not every theme was raised by every participant, the themes capture the essence of the community's overall feedback. The themes are used in this report to present the community's input and the findings on what the community values, the community's vision and the community's priorities. The themes and a brief description follow.

- We respect Traditional Owners' cultural authority and connection to Country
- Our community is connected, vibrant, healthy, and safe
- Everyone is included
- Our places and spaces are attractive and reflect our unique identity
- We respect and care for the natural environment
- The local economy is thriving, with opportunities for all
- Our civic leaders are innovative, listening and balanced in meeting community needs.

We respect Traditional Owners' cultural authority and connection to Country

We heard our community is enriched by the culture and heritage of the Traditional Owners – the Ngarluma people – and all Aboriginal people living in our City. There were calls for greater recognition and celebration of Aboriginal culture, which includes truth telling, history, and reconciliation. Cultural knowledge and passing this on to new generations is critical and is intertwined with ongoing access to Country and practicing culture. Cultural awareness is important to both Traditional Owners and the community in general. Leadership and working together at the governance level is a desired platform for decision-making.

"The knowledge and language of our Elders is protected and preserved, and is passed down from generation to generation."

Ieramugadu (Roebourne) interview participant

"[I hope to] work alongside Elders to protect and preserve flora and fauna...working through bush food...protect what is rightfully theirs."

Ieramugadu (Roebourne) interview participant

"The City leans into their unique Indigenous population as a positive asset and supports their prosperity."

Karratha resident, online survey

Our community is connected, vibrant, healthy, and safe

Connection with family, friends and community is a core value for many people. Many things that people do in their spare time bring families, friends and communities together, such as community events, arts and cultural activities, sport, recreation and leisure. Connection, vibrancy and healthy activity are closely inter-woven.

Being and feeling safe is vital. This includes safety in public spaces and in the home. Anti-social behaviour and family domestic violence were highlighted as impacting community members' wellbeing. Access to health and community services is also key to this theme, as is public health (e.g. dust and mosquito control).

"It's being safe. No stealing. No violence."

Senior High School Student, pop-up stall

"More than a place to work. People can have a life here, more activities from cultural, sports or outdoors."

Karratha resident, online survey participant

"(WE) CONTINUE TO GROW BUT STILL FEEL CONNECTED."

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, POP-UP STALL

Everyone is included

People want everyone to be free to participate in community life, with no discrimination, taking into account diverse needs across all ages and stages of life, cultural backgrounds and abilities.

“A more diverse population, especially with different ethnic groups and the elderly choosing to retire here.”

Senior High School Student, focus group

“I WANT US TO ALL FEEL INCLUDED AND NOT LEFT OUT.”
WICKHAM RESIDENT, ONLINE SURVEY



Our places and spaces are attractive and reflect our unique identity

Community members take pride in their towns. They want them to be attractive, welcoming, clean, green and well-maintained. Public art is a desired feature. Parks and foreshore areas are highly valued, along with playgrounds and picnic facilities. Good footpaths, lighting, shade, seating and water fountains are seen as basic needs.

People want to retain the distinctive character of their towns. They welcome development, but at an appropriate scale and style. Transport between towns is important, especially for young people.

“(I want our town) to feel like a home, with fruit trees and native trees on (the) streets.”

Ieramugadu (Roebourne) interview participant

“...lots of places to go with a different feel, without even having to travel outside the region. Five towns each with their own character.”

Participant, online survey

“Invest in public transport opportunities, like trams, from Karratha to surrounding towns.”

Senior High School student, focus group

We respect and care for the natural environment

The community as a whole has a deep affinity with the natural environment. For the Traditional Owners, connection to Country is intrinsic to life. Protection, access and enjoyment of the natural environment is fundamental. The community aspires to the sustainable use of resources, particularly with respect to renewable energy and waste minimisation.

“Industry and environment can better co-exist.”

Karratha resident, online survey

“Incentivise households and industry to use green (solar) energy options.”

Dampier community workshop participant

“TURN NGURIN RIVER INTO A FUNCTIONING AND HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM.”
KARRATHA RESIDENT, ONLINE SURVEY

The local economy is thriving, with opportunities for all

People want the City of Karratha to be an affordable place to live and do business. Housing availability, affordability, and choice are key to this theme, as is a wide range of local retail, hospitality and entertainment options. The community desires a prosperous small business sector, and strong tourism industry. Education and training opportunities are seen as key to local jobs for local people. Direct inter-state and international air travel options are also seen as key levers for economic strength. Some consider diversification beyond the resources sector important to ‘future proof’ the local economy.

“Affordability...I want to still be able to live here until 100.”

Point Samson community workshop participant

“The focus is on understanding: if you are an entrepreneur, what do you need to do business here? How do you stay here?”

Karratha professional services business, interview

Our civic leaders are innovative, listening and balanced in meeting community needs

The community expressed sentiment for strong, dynamic, innovative and proactive leadership. Community members value engagement that is meaningful. They want action and are interested to know if implementation is on track.

Recognition of Traditional Owners’ role in leadership and governance is important.

People understand that other parties, particularly industry and State and Federal Governments play a key role in the community’s future. They strongly support Council going to bat for them.

The community wants balanced investment across all the towns in the district, especially in townscapes and facilities.

“You need your strategic plan to have markers and show the community when you are ticking off achievements.”

Seniors’ focus group participant

“No more Wangka (talk), we need action.”

Ieramugadu (Roebourne) interview participant

“I understand this isn’t all of the City’s responsibility however they can advocate on the community’s behalf.”

Participant, online survey

“Distribute funds equitably between towns to match need.”

Participant, online survey

What the community values, community vision and community priorities

Based on the engagement findings, Table 1 summarises three key areas of what the community values (i.e., what they value about how things are now), an overall ‘community vision’ (i.e., what they want for the future), and priorities (what the focus should be to achieve the vision). These elements will be considered as key inputs in the drafting of the new Strategic Community Plan, along with the community’s priorities identified in Section 3.

The priorities are not listed in rank order. The City was committed to listening to a broad spectrum of the community and ensuring that minority voices were included. This means that the end result isn’t numerically driven across the whole set of community responses. Some of the priorities are common to many participants. Others come from a small number, but for that part of the community, are seen as key to a thriving future.

Table 1: What the community values, community vision and community priorities

What the community values	Community vision	Top Community Priorities
<p>Our heartfelt connection to each other, our towns, and the natural wonders on our doorstep.</p> <p>Our relaxed, balanced lifestyle and sense of freedom.</p> <p>The rich culture and heritage of the Ngarluma people.</p>	<p>This is Ngarluma Country. It is the place we are proud to call home, where we have the opportunities and lifestyle of a City, the close-knit community of a country town, and one of the greatest natural environments in the world.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts, culture, markets and community events. • Sport, recreation, leisure, and community facilities and activities. • Health services and wellness support. • Welcoming newcomers. • Healing, truth telling and reconciliation. • Attractive, clean, green, shaded and well-maintained towns. • Inter-town transport solutions. • Increased amount and diversity of housing. • Small business and start-up support. • Tourism development. • Direct inter-state and international air travel options.

“EVERYONE IS PROSPEROUS AND SHARES IN THE BENEFITS.”
KARRATHA RESIDENT, ONLINE SURVEY

1. INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the process, results and findings of the engagement that the City of Karratha (City) undertook in 2024 to gather community feedback for the major review of their Strategic Community Plan 2020 – 2030. The process represented a significant shift in community engagement, which was both broader and deeper than in the past. The investment in this process reflects the Council’s strong commitment to developing a community-driven vision, goals and priorities.

The results show the benefit of relating to the community as involved partners in designing and planning for the future. The thoughtful contributions reveal strong common themes and point to the distinctive needs and aspirations of communities of place, interest and life-stage.

The report first summarises the process, then presents the results and findings.



2. ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

How we engaged

The engagement process was guided by an engagement framework, which has four core principles:

1. **Evidence-informed** – leveraging primary and secondary quantitative and qualitative data
2. **Place-based** – addressing local residents’ needs and aspirations across all towns that make up the City of Karratha
3. **People-focused** – inclusive approach capturing the diversity of our community members
4. **Innovative** – community driven and creative approach to identifying community aspirations.

The process was designed to achieve the “involve” level in International Association of Public Participation’s (IAP2) spectrum of impact on the decision, as shown in the yellow highlighted areas in the figure below.

The approach was comprehensive and enabled the diverse voices in the community to be heard. Using a variety of best practice techniques, there were multiple in-person and online opportunities for community members to have their say. This included informal pop-up engagements, yarning (wangka), focus groups, independently facilitated workshops, and a variety of online methods².

Figure 1: IAP2 spectrum of impact on the decision

		INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION →				
		INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL		To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
	PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

² Available at whatwemakeit.karratha.wa.gov.au

A key feature of the methodology was the separate geographic, demographic, and interest-based opportunities for community input. In-depth stakeholder mapping meant a breadth of community member perspectives were captured, including people who are traditionally less likely to participate. As well as the general community engagement, there were specific opportunities for input from:

- Each town that makes up the City of Karratha.
- Stages of life from early years to seniors.
- Community from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Key sectors that make up our community including the business sector, not for profit (NFP) sector, and creative industries sector.

As noted above, the engagement activities were diverse to maximise opportunities for participation. This meant that the questions were not strictly uniform across all engagements. In the less structured conversations, the questions were used as discussion points and the participants responded however came naturally to them. This approach catered for the reality that people do not always think about or discuss topics in a linear way.

The questions consisted of all or a subset of the following:

1. What does our community value about living and working in the City of Karratha?
2. What are the challenges and what could improve?
3. What is our community's 10-year vision for the City of Karratha?
4. What does the community believe we need to focus on to achieve their vision?

The online engagement also included the opportunity for people to highlight what they loved and what they wanted to improve in relation to specific physical locations.

For consistency, the results were compiled into three categories of values, vision and priorities.

Note that some of the responses received related to operational issues rather than strategic or longer-term vision. These responses were welcomed and have been referred directly to the relevant areas of the organisation. Several have been actioned already. These responses are not included in the report.

Promotion of the engagement process

To promote community participation and awareness of the engagement program, the City created a promotional campaign supported by the creation of the *What We Make It* brand (Figure 2).

The brand aimed to reflect the City's new direction for engagement and create a 'call to action' for the community to have their say. It was designed to create a look and feel that was friendly and inclusive of all members of the City of Karratha and to encourage community ownership of our collective vision for the future. The *What We Make It* campaign anchored the public engagement program across digital and print media, including a new online engagement platform.

Table 2 outlines the range of tools that were used to communicate the engagement program. Overall reach through the engagement campaign was estimated to include approximately 32,765.

Figure 2: *What We Make It* engagement brand



Table 2: Communication tools and reach

Tool	Description	Reach
<i>What We Make It</i> website	Dedicated website as a key platform for communication and feedback.	2,963 visits as of 23 September 2024
Billboard	Two billboards with <i>What We Make It</i> brand on Dampier Highway.	Not available
Social media	A mix of native and paid posts on Facebook.	39,654 views
Advertising	Print, digital and advertising across various publications and platforms, including the Pilbara News.	Not available
Media release	A media release was issued on 5 April 2024, calling on the community to participate in local workshops or engage online. The release was picked up by ABC Pilbara, with Mayor Daniel Scott conducting a radio interview at the local station.	Sent to 402 recipients, 39.05% of recipients opened the release.
Radio	Radio advertising announcements on local radio stations, including Triple M.	Not available

Summary of the engagement process

Figure 3 visually summarises the engagement process and timeline. The specific engagement events are then outlined in Table 3. Overall, 945 people directly contributed.

Figure 3: How we engaged with community

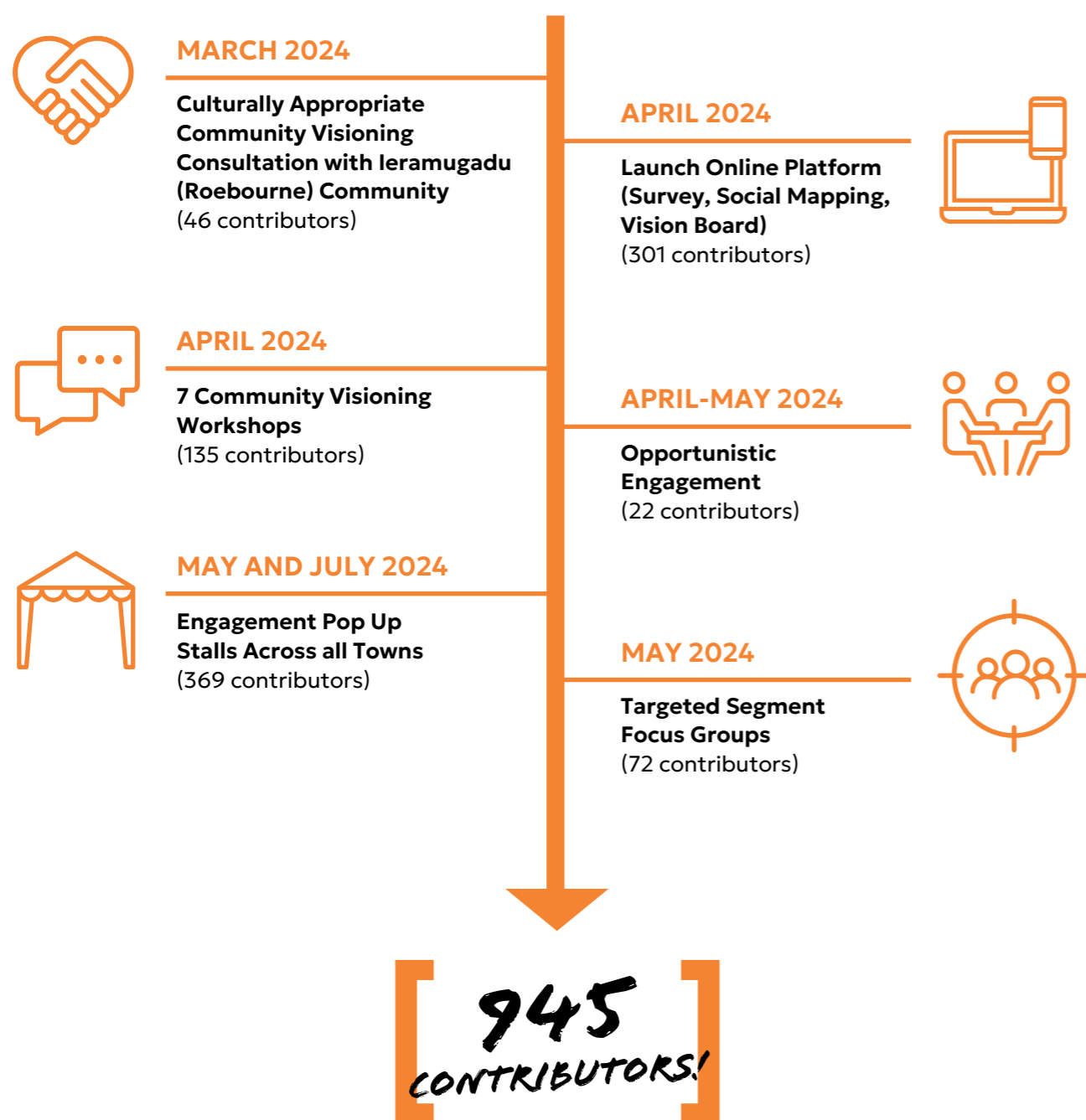


Table 3: Engagement events

What	Who	Where	When (2024)	Number of Participants
LOCAL COMMUNITIES				
In-person workshop	Dampier community	Dampier	15 April	15
Pop up stall (children's activity)	Dampier community	Dampier	5 May	50
In-person workshop	Wickham community	Wickham	16 April	11
Pop up stall (children's activity)	Wickham community	Wickham	3 May	38
In-person workshop	Point Samson community	Point Samson	17 April	32
Pop up stall (children's activity)	Point Samson community	Point Samson	19 May	32
In-person workshop	Karratha community	Karratha	18 April	30
Pop up stall (children's activity)	Karratha community	Karratha	10 May	45
In-person interviews	Ieramugadu (Roebourne) community	Ieramugadu (Roebourne)	25 – 28 March	46
Pop up stall – close the loop activity	Ieramugadu (Roebourne) community	Ieramugadu (Roebourne)	5 July	37 ³
EARLY YEARS				
Targeted focus group	Early Years	Karratha Leisureplex	21 May	1
YOUNG PEOPLE				
Targeted focus group	Karratha Senior High School students (12-17 yrs)	Karratha	29 May	44
Pop Up (at recess)	Karratha Senior High School students (12-17 yrs)	Karratha	29 May	167
Individual/opportunistic	Youth Advisory Group	Karratha	1 May	12
SENIORS				
Targeted focus group	Seniors	Red Earth Arts Precinct	16 May	15
BUSINESS				
In-person workshop	Business Sector	Karratha	16 April	14
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES				
In-person workshop	Creative Industries Sector	Karratha	19 April	8

³ This activity was undertaken after the engagement phase and is not included in this report.

What	Who	Where	When (2024)	Number of Participants
NFP SECTOR				
In-person workshop	NFP Sector	Karratha	19 April	25
ONLINE – GENERAL COMMUNITY				
Online and paper-based survey	General Community	Online and paper-based	4 April – 29 May	228 (170 online; 58 paper)
Online Visioning Board	General Community	Online	4 April – 29 May	27
Online Social Map 1	General Community	Online	4 April – 29 May	24
Online Social Map 2	General Community	Online	4 April – 29 May	22
OTHER				
Individual/opportunistic	Dampier Tourism Business	By post	8 May	1
Individual/opportunistic	English Speaking' Class Participants	Karratha	15 May	17
Individual/opportunistic	NFP – Community interest group	Karratha	30 April	2
Individual/opportunistic	Karratha Resident	By Email	19 April	1
Individual/opportunistic	Karratha Professional Services Business	Online	9 May	1
TOTAL				945

Other community input

The summary of priorities from the annual community survey and business scorecard were also considered in preparing this report.

Table 4: Other community input

What	Who	Where	When (2024)	Number of Participants
Annual Community Survey (summary)	General Community	Online and paper based	9 February – 8 March 2024	2,075
Business Scorecard (summary)	Business Sector	Online	2023	141
TOTAL				2,216

Analysing the community's feedback

The engagement process generated a large goldmine of information. As mentioned in the executive summary, the process of analysing this data was deliberately designed to be more than just a 'numbers game'. This means the findings are based on all the issues, aspirations and priorities raised by community members, not just the majority views. Analysing the feedback involved the following steps:

- The first step was to read through all the data and look for general patterns in the feedback. These patterns helped to identify broad themes.
- The second step was to comprehensively group all the feedback into the theme to which they matched best.
- Once all data was placed in the themes, the third step was to order and sub-group the information into specific topics, and choose representative words to describe the sentiment in each area.

The analysis aimed to be as consistent as possible. In most cases, it was straightforward to allocate responses to a particular theme and allocate an item to a particular topic. However, in some cases this required judgment to be applied.



3. ENGAGEMENT RESULTS

Themes

The table below shows how the community’s feedback has been grouped into broad themes, and the how the topics have been allocated to these themes.

Table 5: Themes and what they include

Topic	Examples from engagement feedback
We respect Traditional Owners’ cultural authority and connection to Country	
Empowerment, truth-telling and reconciliation	Role in civic leadership; truth telling and collective acknowledgement of history.
Enhancing connection to Country and culture	Cultural knowledge and passing this on to new generations; strengthening access to Country and customary locations; practicing language and culture; dual use of Ngarluma and English language.
Community awareness and cultural education	Increasing cultural awareness and knowledge in the community and amongst service providers; Aboriginal Liaison Officer employed by the City.
Our community is connected, vibrant, healthy, and safe	
Arts, culture and events	Performing arts; creative expression; celebration and sharing of Aboriginal heritage and culture; markets; carnivals; community events.
Community cohesion	Volunteering; welcoming and informing newcomers.
Sport and recreation facilities, programs and activities	Leisureplex upgrades; shaded courts; gyms; enhanced public pools; waterpark/water play facilities; ovals/grounds for all sporting codes; bounce; BMX; ninja style obstacle course; indoor activities for summer.
Outdoors recreation facilities	Jetty; boat ramp; yacht club; hiking trails; off-road trails for trail and mountain biking; boardwalks.
Community facilities	Red Earth Arts Precinct (REAP); community centres and spaces; teen spaces; Seniors’ centre; Hindu cultural centre; Men’s Shed; men’s and women’s spaces; restore/ upgrade/ activate existing facilities; museums; crematorium.
Community safety	Policing and patrolling; security services; CCTV; road safety; addressing anti-social behaviour.
Health and community services	Hospital; general practitioners (GPs); medical treatments allied health services (various); culturally-based place for healing; mental health support; addressing family and domestic violence (FDV); not-for-profit services.
Public health	Control of dust and mosquitos; removing asbestos; enhanced access to fresh and healthy food.

Topic	Examples from engagement feedback
Everyone is included	
Diversity, access and inclusion	Multi-cultural understanding/celebration; disability access and inclusion (e.g. activities for neurodivergent children).
Daycare/childcare	Daycare; childcare.
Young people	Youth engagement.
Seniors	Aging in place; intergenerational connection; seniors’ liaison officer.
Our places and spaces are attractive and reflect our unique identity	
Townscapes	Cleaning and litter control; public art (sculptures, murals, local Aboriginal art); signage in English and Ngarluma language; trees; parks; gardens; foreshore areas; playgrounds; picnic areas; shade; seating; water; public toilets; lighting; cemeteries upgrades.
Infrastructure	Roads; verges; median strips; footpaths; speed bumps.
Transport	Better connection between towns.
Heritage	Reflect and protect our heritage in the built environment.
Development	Suitable residential sub-divisions; appropriate development; more diversity within residential zoning.
We respect and care for the natural environment	
Sustainability	Renewable energy; sustainable waste management; water conservation.
Environmental protection	Protection of land, waterways, sea, biodiversity.
The local economy is thriving, with opportunities for all	
Affordability	Cost of living.
Housing	More housing; affordable housing; aged housing; diverse housing (e.g. apartments); safe houses.
Jobs	Local jobs for local people; work life balance.
Education and training	Local education and training options for local people and local youth/high school graduates.
Wide choice of good and services	More food and dining options; variety of retail shops; personal services (beauty, spa etc); entertainment.
More businesses, and more diverse businesses	Support for small business and start-ups; local procurement; reduced dependence on resources sector.
Strong tourism sector	The City of Karratha as a tourism gateway to the Pilbara; rail trail out to Point Samson; better accommodation; entry statements; annual tourism events for Wickham/Cossack/Point Samson; Roebourne Heritage Precinct; industrial based tourism.

Topic	Examples from engagement feedback
Globally connected	A global hub for our globally significant local assets (mineral resources, art); local businesses connecting to global market.
Air travel routes	Direct inter-state and international travel options.
Internet, mobile	Bandwidth and data rate; mobile improvements.
Our civic leaders are innovative, listening and balanced in meeting community needs	
Leadership	Dynamic; innovative; proactive; emotionally intelligent; be an example to the rest of Western Australia; listening; effective advocacy; stay on track and report progress.
Balanced distribution of investment across the district	Balance across towns by the City; increased contribution/compensation by resource companies.

Findings

The following table distils the results into the three key areas of what the community values (i.e., what they value about how things are now), community vision (i.e., what they want for the future) and priorities (i.e., what the focus should be to achieve the vision), based on the detailed engagement results which can be viewed in the companion document to this report.

The findings are summarised in Table 1 in the Executive Summary.

The table demonstrates the value of the in-depth engagement. For example, the following elements may not have shown up without opportunities for specific communities of place, interest, or life stage:

- The high value children place in going to school (children)
- Thriving and empowered NFP sector (not-for-profit)

- Appoint someone for seniors, who could connect with everyone, improve communication, help identify government benefits (seniors)
- Healing Hub (Ieramagadu/Roebourne)
- Focus on local procurement and people (business)
- Cultural awareness/cultural recognition training (creative industries sector).

Following the main table, there are two other sections detailing significant aspects of the feedback:

- Placed-based priorities for investment in sport and recreation, and townscapes
- Priorities for additional sport, recreation, and leisure activities for children and young people.

Further detailed planning and engagement will be required to design and plan responses to these priorities. However, they do show the critical importance of each area and provide a starting point for ongoing dialogue and investment planning.



Table 6: What the community values, community vision and community priorities

What the community values	Community vision	Community priorities
<i>We respect Traditional Owners' cultural authority and connection to Country</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rich Aboriginal culture and heritage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City is a leader in Aboriginal cultural representation in decision making and an active example of 'living recognition'. • Recognition of Traditional Owners cultural connection to the land and seas. • Culturally strong, practicing and passing down Lore, language, and cultural traditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen Traditional Owners' role in civic leadership. • Truth telling and collective acknowledgement of history. • Valuing cultural knowledge and passing this on to new generations. • Strengthening Traditional Owners' connection to Country and access to and amenity of customary and culturally significant locations. • Strengthening practice of language and culture, including dual place-naming. • Increasing cultural awareness in the community and amongst service providers. • Cultural recognition training. • Employing an Aboriginal liaison officer at the City.
<i>Our community is connected, vibrant, healthy and safe</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close knit, belonging, sense of community. • Friends and family. • Children love going to school. • Local volunteer groups – community driven. • Arts, culture, markets and events, including art galleries, Ngurin Cultural Centre, FeNaCING Festival. • Safety and security. • Sports and recreation. • Things to do for free. • Wonderful facilities: especially REAP, Leisureplex, libraries, local pools. • Outdoors: camping, hiking, boating, fishing, swimming, whale watching. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming. • Strong community. • Connected, cohesive. • Vibrant, fun. • Healthy people and community. • A full suite of sport, recreation, and community facilities and activities. • Access to a full range of physical and mental health services and facilities, including culturally based healing. • Safe and secure. • Access to fresh, healthy food. • Thriving and empowered NFP sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More arts, culture, markets and events, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – entertainment – more carnivals, especially at night during summer – celebration of local Aboriginal culture and heritage. • More sport, recreation and leisure facilities and activities, (also see tables 7 and 8 below) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – hiking trails – sufficient and quality storage and grounds for all sporting codes across the City of Karratha – hosting high profile sporting events such as WAFL and NBL – catering to multicultural recreational preferences e.g. pool tables, table tennis, chess – indoor activities in the summer months especially for children/families and young people. • New community facilities such as community centres/spaces, Healing Hub (place for healing, especially for stolen generations), Hindu Cultural Centre, Mens' Shed, men's/women's spaces, museums, teen spaces, seniors' spaces. • Welcoming newcomers, especially by having spaces where they can connect with others, find information, and learn about local Aboriginal culture. • Restore/upgrade/activate existing facilities. • More health facilities and services, including mental health services, MRI and dialysis. • Accessible services – Centrelink, medical, police etc., including access to services in language. • Address anti-social behaviour, family and domestic violence, alcohol and drug abuse. • Support initiatives and services that promote positive wellbeing/family support. • Support for NFP sector – volunteering, administration, compliance, and grants support. • Public health – address pests, mosquitos, dog control, removing asbestos in public places.

What the community values	Community vision	Community priorities
<i>Everyone is included</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity. • Improvements to disability access. • Multicultural community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enriched by diversity in the community. • Equity, accessibility and inclusion in community life and using services and facilities. • People of all ages and stages of life belong and the generations are connected. • Multicultural communities are respected, understood, accepted, and celebrated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced disability services. • A more disability-friendly community (e.g. sensory friendly shopping hours, activities for neurodivergent children). • Celebration of our multicultural community. • Increased community understanding and acceptance of diverse cultures. • Access to childcare/daycare - local supply meeting local demand. • Youth engagement (e.g. Youth Council). • Initiatives, facilities and services supporting ageing in place, (e.g. aged care accommodation). • A Seniors' Liaison Officer (or similar) employed by City.
<i>Our places and spaces are attractive and reflect our unique identity</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and maintained. • Green. • Parks and playgrounds. • Sculpture Park. • Historical buildings/heritage. • Foreshore areas. • Natural landmarks and vantage points. • Footpaths, cycleways and roads – easy to get around, no traffic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive, clean, green and well-maintained towns. • Our places and spaces reflect us – heritage, culture, identity, climate. • Well-connected places and spaces through infrastructure and public transport. • We want growth and development, but the right type and scale. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General townscape improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – murals, sculptures, and other public art (including showcasing local Aboriginal artistic expression) – general town signage in English and Ngarluma languages – tree/shrub planting plan, including edible trees – shade on roads, pathways, parks, playgrounds – good lighting – fully fenced dog park/s – water fountains and dog bowls in parks – more picnic tables – residential speed bumps – vegetate the medium strip of Dampier Highway – improve verge maintenance, stop glyphosate use – litter control – provision/improvement of public toilets, showers. • Town-specific townscape improvements – see Table 7 below. • Enhanced public transport – especially connection between towns. • Appropriate development (right type, right place, right size) to retain community feel.

What the community values	Community vision	Community priorities
<i>We respect and care for the natural environment</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural beauty/landscape/seascape. Waterholes. Beaches. Local bushtucker walks. Access to the Dampier Islands. Unique flora and fauna. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable – especially through renewable energy and waste minimisation. The natural environment is healthy, protected, and enjoyed. Recognition of cultural connection to the natural environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable energy, solar powered city. Improved waste collection – particularly in Roebourne (Ieramugadu) – recycling and composting. Water conservation initiatives. Improved dust control. Enhanced protection of the natural environment (reefs, mangroves, beaches, the Karratha hills, the Burrup Peninsula), including from industry. Return the Ngurin River to a functioning and healthy ecosystem (including weed control and enabling water flow).
<i>The local economy is thriving, with opportunities for all</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Job and business opportunities. Good income. Work-life balance. A resilient small business community. Shops. Good schools. Tourism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable for residents and businesses. Available, affordable and varied housing. More small businesses, more diverse and resilient. A wider range of shops and services. Less reliant on resources sector, future proofing our economy. Growth in permanent population. A focus on local first – procurement and jobs. Expanded education and training opportunities. Globally connected – the potential to be a global hub for local assets that are globally significant; local businesses connecting to global market. Interstate and international travel routes. A thriving tourism sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve affordability/reduce the cost of living (goods, food, transport, insurance etc.). More housing – affordable, diverse (e.g. more apartment living), investment in seniors’ housing including lifestyle village. Support for small business, innovation and entrepreneurs (start-ups). More food and dining options. Attract more and a bigger variety of shops, ‘big box’ retail (Bunnings, CostCo, Aldi, etc), more personal services (beauty, spa etc), and entertainment (Timezone/arcades). Provide new schools and improve opportunities for higher education, training and professional development. Consider boarding school hub for the north. International airport; interstate and international travel routes. Tourism development: e.g. positioning the City of Karratha as a tourism gateway; rail trail out to Point Samson; better accommodation; entry statements; annual tourism event for Wickham/Cossack/Point Samson; restore Cossack and the Roebourne Heritage Precinct for visitors; industry-based tourism. Promote and develop opportunities for Aboriginal economic participation (e.g., growing local bushfoods industry, bush chemistry, training women rangers). Improve mobile/Internet connectivity – bandwidth and data rate, mobile improvements.
<i>Our Civic leaders are innovative, listening and balanced in meeting the needs of the community</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to have a say. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovative, proactive, dynamic leadership. Be an example of civic leadership to the rest of WA. Balanced investment across the whole City of Karratha. Genuine listening to the local community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balanced provision of facilities and services across all towns. Community input into key Council decisions. Transparency in decision-making. Effective advocacy and partnerships with industry and State and Federal Government. Tap into the ideas/insights/innovation of local entrepreneurs to address local issues. Stay on track with implementing the plan and provide regular updates on progress.

Note that the priorities in the following table (Table 7) are indicative only. They are taken from the place-specific engagements and do not represent what every participant said about what was needed in their town. As mentioned above, further engagement on priorities and detailed planning will be required.

Table 7: Community placed-based priorities for investments in sport, recreation and leisure, and townscapes

Dampier	Karratha	Point Samson	Wickham	Ieramugadu (Roebourne)
Sport, recreation and leisure				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renew/upgrade/enhance facilities – tennis, squash, Australian Rules football, soccer, bowls, netball, basketball, surf life-saving, waterpolo. • Splash pads at foreshore. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two additional indoor basketball courts at Leisureplex. • Motorsports complex. • Bulgarra playground area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jetty (2nd stage). • Upgrade to public boating facilities. • Clubhouses/storage sheds (e.g. surf lifesaving). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility upgrades. • Basketball court facility (shade and improvements). • More community recreation spaces. • Land based fishing platform. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore Roebourne oval. • Upgrade of basketball court and fencing. • Athletic track. • Community gym. • Bowling. • Mini golf. • Adventure rooms. • BMX track, dirt bike track. • Ninja style playground. • Night fishing facilities. • Pool heated for winter, ATM card access. • Kids splash pad. • River walking trail. • Trail to the hills for cross country.
Townscapes				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade streetscapes. • Jurat Park – memorial park (retain and improve). • Foreshore improvements. • No Caravan Park. • Develop old horse stables. • Put swings back on the beach at Dampier foreshore. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crematorium. • Various safety improvements (footpaths, roads, school zones). • New park in Nickol similar to style at Baynton West park. • Lighting for Bulgarra oval and use for soccer again. • Better lighting in Balyarra Park. • Storage space for athletics equipment at Frank Butler Reserve, and a toilet. • Outdoor gym equipment and play equipment for 10 to 15 year olds in Baynton West Park. • Kevin Richards Oval – new park not engaging for kids. No shady spot for parents to sit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity – footpath from Wickham to Point Samson. • Point Samson entry statement. • Foreshore development. • Enhancement of heritage. • Youth precinct/facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive town centre and shopping centre. • Revitalise Cossack. • Rebuild Wickham boat ramp, have a floating platform (similar to Port Hedland Spoilbank). • Rebuild/convert the existing yacht club. • Create a dedicated turtle watching area. • Board walk/pathway from Boat Beach carpark to Bells Beach. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration and old village upgrades. • Regular street clean-ups, clear broken glass. • Better footpaths on route to new school, pedestrian crossings. • Fruit trees/native trees on the street. • Enclosed shower spaces/area for changing etc. • Toilets (separate genders) and proper hand washing facilities in parks/cemetery. • Cemetery upgrades (2 Mile, Roebourne Town, Roebourne Wickham Cemetery). • Access to water/water fountains, improved shade and seating. • Fenced and accessible playgrounds (e.g. sensory tools, less sand). • Traditional garden. • Big public clock and calendar. • Improve signage, including Aboriginal names. • Improved lighting (including skatepark) in Andover Park.



Table 8: Community priorities for additional sport, recreation, and leisure activities for children and young people

Things on wheels	Water-based things	Other things
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bigger skateparks. • Bigger pump track. • Motorbike track for kids. • BMX track. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big waterslides. • Every beach has a waterslide. • Waterpark. • Splash pad. • Outdoor community pool. • Ice-skating. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bounce/indoor trampoline. • Gaming place, Timezone, arcade. • Ninja style obstacle course. • Bowling. • Mini golf. • Laser tag. • Rock wall. • More play centres. • Toy library. • Circus. • Theme parks. • A rollercoaster. • Monster truck stadium at the speedway. • Animal park/farm/zoo.

4. NEXT STEPS

This report will be shared and made available to the community.

The feedback from the community engagement process will be a major input to the Council's review of the Strategic Community Plan 2020 - 2030. The Council will consider what the community values most about living and working in the City of Karratha, and the community's vision and priorities.

The review will also consider other information, such as population trends, State Government strategies and plans, and the City's financial capacity.

Once the new plan is drafted, it will be released to the community for feedback, before being finalised for endorsement by Council.

The community's views will also contribute to other City strategies and plans.





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