

## Context Snapshot: Strategic Community Plan Review

The Shire of Kalamunda is currently reviewing its Strategic Community Plan. The plan has a number of key priority areas. These include the following.

- Kalamunda Employs: Supporting our industries and business
- Kalamunda Clean and Green: Caring for the natural environment
- Kalamunda Develops: Using our land and assets diversely and effectively; and
- Kalamunda Cares: Looking after our people and Kalamunda Interacts: Providing our people with social and cultural enjoyment
- Kalamunda Leads: Providing good government

The following provides a quick overview of some considerations for each of the priority areas.

### **ECONOMIC - Kalamunda Employs: Supporting our industries and businesses**

This Priority focuses on modern industrial precincts, a state of the art business centre, the Shire being a thriving eco-tourism destination and the home of boutique and specialised retailing and franchises and development of a collaborative and active business community.

In recent years, there has been a perceptible slow-down in the Western Australian economy.

An analysis of the jobs held by the workforce in Shire in 2011 shows the three most popular industry sectors were:

- transport, postal and warehousing (1,984 people or 15.1%)
- manufacturing (1,658 people or 12.6%)
- retail trade (1,515 people or 11.5%).



## **NATURAL ENVIRONMENT - Kalamunda Clean and Green: Caring for the natural environment**

This Priority focuses on biodiversity conservation leadership, community involvement, environmental sustainability, modern waste management and low carbon efficient energy.

Environmental issues remain a significant challenge for local governments. Responding to and mitigating climate change, protecting biodiversity, monitoring water quality and managing resource use, waste and recycling, continue to be important. In the last 60 years, autumn and winter rainfall has declined by 20% and is projected to decline even further. This has a direct impact on groundwater levels in the Gnangara groundwater system — the key fresh water source for the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area.

The Shire of Kalamunda has undertaken bushfire hazard assessment mapping to assist with the introduction of suitable town planning scheme provisions for housing developments within identified bush-fire prone areas.

Considerations for the Shire of Kalamunda.

- Ensuring continuing improvements in the management of water quality and reduction of water usage
- Managing natural areas to maintain biodiversity of bushland areas
- Managing and responding to the impacts of climate change
- Optimising retention of significant vegetation types and habitat in urban-zoned land to maintain amenity, local habitat and canopy cover
- Implementing energy reduction initiatives and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Balancing urban development and community access with the protection and appropriate management of the Shire's environmental assets
- Monitoring any emerging carbon and water policies that will impact on the Shire



## **BUILT ENVIRONMENT - Kalamunda Develops: Using our land and assets diversely and effectively**

This priority focuses on a high quality built environment, accessible and modern public open spaces, activity centres activated and modernised; town centres being improved and developed; rural areas that have clarity about future development.

The Shire of Kalamunda is a residential and rural area, with some industrial areas. It encompasses a total land area of 349 square kilometres. The Shire includes rapidly growing urban areas in the foothills, such as High Wycombe, Maida Vale and Wattle Grove. Rural land is used mainly for orchards, horticulture, grazing, animal agistment, sawmills and poultry farming.

Over the long-term of the forecast, significant residential urban investigation areas have been identified in Maida Vale and Wattle Grove and increasing amounts of infill development is expected in the centres of Forrestfield, High Wycombe, Kalamunda and Maida Vale.

Considerations for the Shire of Kalamunda.

- Increased costs and environmental impacts of buildings, facilities and open spaces and recreation areas
- Meeting demand for housing choice and affordability – housing options and finding developable residential areas
- Ensuring land and infrastructure is made available to support economic development
- Ensuing existing assets and infrastructure are maintained to a high standard.
- Promoting and facilitating tourism opportunities
- Ensuring enhanced transport connectivity and advocating for an integrated transport plan. Development of train line at Forrestfield will drive growth.
- Increased demand for pedestrian and cycle routes
- Cooperating with State Government and other agencies to ensure awareness of policies that support economic growth



## **SOCIAL - Kalamunda Cares & Interacts**

The Kalamunda Care priority area focuses on inclusive and healthy communities that are safe and secure and have sustainable quality facilities. The Kalamunda Interacts priority area focuses on providing the Shire's people with vibrant and fun events and activated cultural facilities, opportunities for expression through the Arts and a connection through history and education and ensuring the people are fit and healthy. These two priorities are intrinsically interrelated and interdependent upon each other for success to be achieved.

The Shire's population in 2011 was 58,905 and forecast for 2016 is 61,640, with a further forecasted growth to 77,130 by 2036. This represents a forecast population growth of 36.53% at an average annual change of 1.25% between 2011 and 2036. The largest suburbs by number of residents in 2011 were Forrestfield and High Wycombe and it is forecast that they will remain the largest suburbs in 2036. It is anticipated, however, that the Forrestfield North NSP area will have the largest residential growth rate during that period with a forecast average annual change of over 11%.

Considerations for the Shire of Kalamunda.

- Ensuring the ongoing provision of high quality services and facilities for people of all ages, particularly youth and aged
- Ensuring residents and visitors feel safe in the community
- Ensuring demand for neighbourhood connectedness, services and amenity is met
- Ensuring an accessible and inclusive community for people with disability
- Ensuring social and cultural inclusiveness
- Ensuring an accessible and inclusive community for culturally and linguistically diverse groups
- Ensuring opportunities for lifelong learning



## **GOVERNANCE - Kalamunda Leads: Providing good government**

This priority focuses on participative democracy, corporate capacity and capability, outstanding leadership and wide and diverse representation. The Shire of Kalamunda is committed to delivering the best governance it can to its community.

The *Local Government Act 1995* regulates the civic and decision-making responsibilities for local governments in Western Australia. The most significant policy in recent times has been the cessation of the local government reform process and its impact on State Government/local government relations, as well as the relationships between neighbouring local governments. Whilst reform is no longer on the State Government's agenda, there remains ongoing pressure to increase local government effectiveness and accountability including a move towards performance benchmarking and integrated planning and reporting. Cost-shifting from State and Federal Government, and an increasingly constrained funding environment will maintain pressure on the City to demonstrate and realise efficiencies in service delivery.

Considerations for the Shire of Kalamunda.

- Facilitating partnerships and relationships with stakeholders
- Ensuring a good customer experience — clear line-of-site to customers
- Ensuring front-line staff have good technology competency
- Ensuring ongoing good governance, including efficient and effective financial sustainability, workforce capability and innovative solutions
- Ensuring community inclusiveness and engagement
- Advocating on behalf of our community

[Want to know more about Kalamunda? See some of the Key Statistics here.](#)

