







Acknowledgement of Country
The Shire of Gingin is on Yued Nyoongar Country, whose ancestors and their descendants are the traditional owners of this country.
The Shire of Gingin acknowledges their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region.

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Executive Summary

The Shire of Gingin, like many other regional Local Government areas, has been experiencing migration of many young people to the metro area for studies and employment opportunities. While it is important that these young people grow their knowledge, skills and experience there are still a significant number of youth who stay in the Shire and also those who return. To support the return of young people it is imperative they feel valued, engaged, and part of the community while residing within the Shire.

Young people (youth aged 10 to 25) are integral to the sustainability of the Shire of Gingin's communities. Their presence contributes to vibrancy, activity, social interaction, employment, service provision (viability) and the future livelihood of the region. Youth, however, can also be vulnerable members of our community, and in most part rely on others for support (eg, financial, shelter/food, transport/accessibility, emotional, self-identity etc.). This in turn influences their transition to adulthood and resilience. The phrase 'it takes a village to raise a child' demonstrates the community responsibilities needed for the nurture of young people, their safety and fostering an environment in which to thrive. Taking this into account and understanding that youth needs may be diverse, the Shire of Gingin has seen the need for and supports the research and development of a Youth Strategy.

The Shire of Gingin's Youth Strategy has been undertaken with the aim to answer the two overarching questions:

- i. What are the issues and needs of young people within the Shire of Gingin?
- ii. What strategies need to be undertaken to address the identified youth needs/issues?

A comprehensive Youth Services Report was prepared to respond to the above questions to inform Council. The Youth Strategy is a summarised version of this Report.

In the development of the report both primary and secondary research was undertaken and included engagement of 166 young people aged 12 to 24 years and youth stakeholders, statistical data, and youth research.

Analysis of the collated data identified five key themes and strategies for forward focus:

- 1. Education, training and employment to support youth educational and development opportunities that build individual capacity, confidence and workforce participation:
- 2. Community support and health services to support the health and well-being of youth through service access and a positive community environment with the Shire;
- 3. Leisure, recreation and social life to foster a youth-friendly community through the support of youth activities, events and spaces;
- 4. Housing and transport to support young people in housing and transport by building capacity and improving opportunities; and
- 5. Engagement and communication to improve the engagement and communications with young people.

In review of the Youth Services Report, Council have supported the employment of a Youth Officer for one day per week to respond to the above strategies and associated project deliverables listed in the Strategic Direction, pages 9-15 for 2018-19. It is important to note that key themes and strategies are relevant to all youth stakeholders within the Shire of Ginain and therefore a collective and collaborative response will have the most impact to support a better environment for young people to engage, grow and experience.

2. Community Profile



2.1 Our Region

The Shire of Gingin is located in the Wheatbelt Region of Western Australia and is approximately 93km north of the Perth CBD. According to the 2016 ABS Census the Shire of Gingin's population was 5,217 people within a land area of 3,233km² and a population density of .02 person per hectare. From 2011 to 2016, the Shire of Gingin's population increased by 528 people (11.3%).

The following 2016 Census data provides a community overview of the Shire of Gingin. While this information may not be directly aligned with youth, it may have indirect relevance through details about the community in which they reside.

- Shire of Gingin's population has increased by 20.876% from 2006 2016. The youth population has increased by 20%.
- 44% of occupied households have children aged under the age of 15 years.
- 41% own their home outright, 34% pay a mortgage and 19% rent.
- Of the Shire's population aged 15 or over the highest level of school completed being year 12 is 36%, year 11 is 9.95%, year 10 31% and year 9 and 8 is 10.61%.
- For people aged 15 or over 50% are employed and 37% are not in the labour force (not seeking employment).
- The top three industries for employment are Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing at 29%; 10.77% Construction at 10.77% and Retail at 7%.
- 44% of private dwellings are unoccupied.
- 32.6% of the Shire of Gingin's working residents travel outside of the area to work.
- The Gingin District High School is the only secondary school within the Shire and in 2018 has 93 students.

2.2 Youth Profile

- According to the 2016 Census, young people aged from 12 to 24 years represent almost 12% of the Shire population.
- 13.4 % of children (0-9 years) reside in the Shire of Gingin. This is indicative of the potential for growth within this Youth sector.
- Of the youth population, 12-14 years represented 29.647%; 15-17 years 25%; 18-20 years 21.635% and 21-24 years 23.718%.
- Youth are almost evenly spread across the sub-regions¹ of Rural Gingin (34%), Upper Coastal (34%) and Lower Coastal (32%). The suburbs with the greatest number of young people were Woodridge (92); Gingin (91); Lancelin (84); Gabbadah (67); and Neergabby (47) respectively.
- 15% of young people migrate out of the Shire of Gingin as they seek employment and educational opportunities in larger centres.

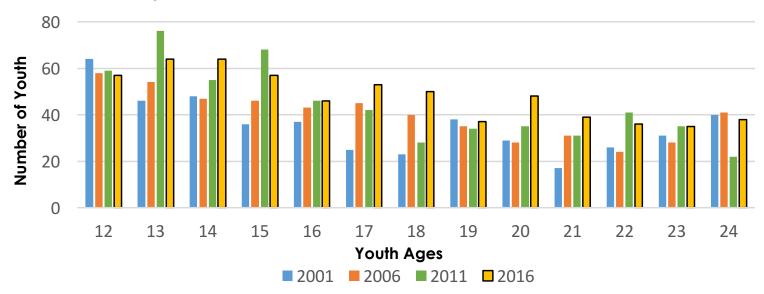
¹Shire of Gingin sub-regions are as follows:

Rural Gingin: includes Bambun, Beermullah, Boonanarring, Breera, Coonabidgee, Cowalla, Cullalla, Gingin, Ginginup, Granville, Lennard Brook, Mindarra, Moondah, Moore River National Park, Muckenburra, Neergabby, Orange Springs, Red Gully, Wanerie and Yeal.

Upper Coastal: includes Karakin, Lancelin, Ledge Point and Nilgen.

Lower Coastal: includes Breton Bay, Caraban, Gabbadah, Guilderton, Seabird, Wilbinga and Woodridge.

Youth Population - Age Breakdown over 15 year period



As Census Statistics have limited breakdown with reference to aged based information, the following data is based on two age groups: 15 – 19 years and 20-24 years.

Marital Status	15-19 years	20-24 years
Registered Marriage	-	6.748%
Defacto	-	21.472%
Not married	100%	71.779%
Total Personal Weekly Income	15-19 years	20-24 years
Negative/Nil income	44.785%	12.565%
\$1-\$149	14.113%	2.094%
\$150-\$299	4.435%	9.948%
\$300-\$399	2.016%	5.236%
\$400-\$499	2.419%	3.665%
\$500-\$649	3.629%	13.089%
\$650-\$799	2.823%	17.801%
\$800-\$999	3.226%	14.136%
Not Stated	16.935%	7.33%

Volunteer for Org/Group	15-19 years	20-24 years
Volunteer	14.113%	12.042%
Not a Volunteer	63.71%	84.293%
Not Stated	18.549%	5.236%
Labour Force Status	15-19 years	20-24 years
Employed		
Full-time	13.71%	44.503%
Part-time	18.548%	16.532%
Away from work	1.21%	21.466%
Hours of Work Not Stated	2.016%	2.094%
Unemployed		
Looking for full-time work	3.629%	5.759%
Looking for part-time work	2.823%	1.57%
Not in the Labour Force	47.177%	17.801%
Not stated	7.661%	9.424%



It is important to understand young people's transition to independence and adulthood in order to determine the types of support they may require. Youth needs vary depending on their age, family support, accessibility, economic factors and well-being.

In the development of the Youth Strategy, research was undertaken for the purposes of understanding youth development needs and barriers, as well as information relevant to the Shire and the Shire's youth. Below is a summary of the 11 key elements which are essential to youth support and development and fostering a youth-friendly community (by Mission Australia's Youth research and the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY).) These were considered in the development for the Youth Strategy.

1. Inclusion and Connection

Youth need to feel welcomed and part of the community through inclusion and sense of belonging. The environment must also support the building of connections with not only their peers but all people within their community. This can be achieved through shared community spaces, their local community's support and provision of opportunities to develop bonds with the people who will support their growth.

2. Learning & Development

All young people ideally would have the best foundation for learning and development including a supportive environment that creates opportunities for their effective growth. This includes community attitudes towards learning, and encouragement and respect for the vast scope of individual capacity and strengths. Supporting learning and development also supports the young person's ability to participate as a valued member of society.

3. Safety

Takes into account actual and perceived safety needs. This includes personal safety such as within their home, their life, their community and public places and spaces. Keeping young people safe, and them feeling safe, is a responsibility of the whole of society.

4. Support & Resourced

Support is essential for young people, whether this be universal or more targeted support. Young people and those around them such as their peers, family and relatives must have access to services to meet their various needs. Services need to be high quality, holistic, collaborative, seeking continuous improvement and, most importantly, must listen to young people including how services can better meet their needs.

5. Actively Engaged

Provide opportunities for youth to participate, engage, have their voices heard and be actively involved in decisions affecting their lives. Invite youth to engage in areas of importance to them and that motivates them to get involved, remembering that they have a vast range of interest areas and views.

6. Valued and Diversity

Valuing youth and valuing their diversity is essential to their well-being and resilience. This includes their views, perspectives, identity, skills, interests, youthfulness and what they offer the community. This also includes valuing youth engagement, participation and their networks within the community. It takes into account that not 'all' young people are the same and one size does not fit all, therefore acknowledging that they may have diverse needs and not the same access to resources.

7. Healthy

Being healthy is a significant contributor to overall wellbeing, and this includes participating in activities such as sport. Health incorporates both physical and mental health. For young people to transition successfully into adulthood, all aspects of health are important.

8. Housed

A supportive and stable home environment is a particularly important aspect of a young person's life. It is essential for good physical and mental health, and has positive impacts on educational outcomes. Stable housing also provides a platform that can connect youth to other supports within the community, through schools or neighbours.

9. Economic Wellbeing

Young people require access to the essentials in life including good financial management skills. It is important for youth to have opportunities that offer pathways to economic participation, fulfilling employment goals and independent living.

10. Space

Spaces that are designed for youth, including community spaces that also support youth interests and engage youth in the planning and design considerations. Spaces include public and community spaces as well as service and business environments.

11. Time

Time is crucial to build rapport and relationships as is time to deliver on and respond to the youth challenges and needs. In saying this, the time pressures of young people and their families can be a significant factor in their ability to engage, participate, seek opportunities and build connections.



Target Group

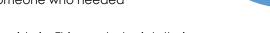
Youth aged in the 12 to 24-year-old age group were the target group for consultation. Youth whom reside within the Shire of Gingin were the primary focus for consultation, however youth who are visitors to the Shire (ea, students from other shires who attended local schools and holidavina families) were also able to participate.

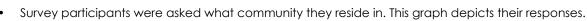
Engagement Methods

Two engagement activities were undertaken with the target group. The first being workshops to identify priorities and gather information about youth activities and services in their residential area. The second being a survey which consisted of multiple choice and written responses, and was made available to Gingin District High School, youth groups, school bus services and at a community event.

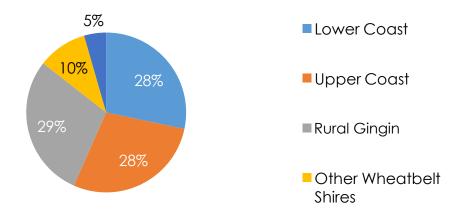
Participants

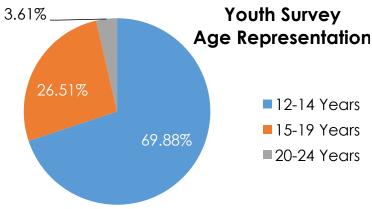
- The Gingin District High School workshops were attended by 40 young people (14-16 years).
- The Youth Survey was completed by 166 youth which equates to 26.6% of the 2016 Shire of Gingin Youth population (ABS Census).
- Genders were evenly divided amongst the respondents of the Survey.
- The age of respondents is represented in the adjacent graph.
- 60% of youth surveyed attended educational facilities outside of the Shire of Gingin. The remaining 40% attended Gingin District High School. In total 30 educational services are utilised by Shire of Gingin youth.
- Of the young people who participated in the Survey 9.64% had English as a second language; 3.01% were Aboriginal /Torres Strait Islander; 3.01% had a disability they need help with: 3.61% were a carer of someone who needed help; and 1.2% were a parent or guardian.





Youth Survey - Youth Residential Location







5. Key Findings & Strategic Direction

Following are five tables that each represent the overarching themes raised in the project's development. Within each theme, sub-categories were identified and are tabled as follows:

- Strategy: the high level approach that summarises what needs to occur under that specific theme.
- **Identified Needs:** provides a summary of the key findings identified by youth for that theme and sub-category.
- **Broad Action:** overarching action that needs to be addressed to support the identified needs.
- **Intended Outcomes:** this ideally would be achieved by responding to the broad action.
- Proposed Project Deliverables: the Shire of Gingin has identified a number of project deliverables with the aim to undertake over a five year period should resourcing allow.
- Shire Role: refer below Key for explanation of each of the roles referred to in the five tables that follow.

	KEY: Shire Role in Project Deliverables				
Lead Role	Lead role in the delivery (eg, project manager, service provider) in the delivery; potentially includes project planning, coordination, management, evaluation & reporting.				
Support	Support role that provides assistance through coaching, guidance and some participation in the delivery (although not a lead role).				
Facilitator	Enabler role that brings key players together and guides process, development etc. (is not directly involved in undertaking the deliverables).				
Agent	Broker role that acts on behalf of others including advocacy, partnerships and negotiations.				
Stakeholder	A role that is not defined in the above for example, financial contributor, participates as representative of the Shire etc.				

It is important to note that this Strategy is potentially relevant and beneficial to other youth stakeholders for their planning consideration and response, which in turn may contribute to the youth needs of the region.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

Strategy 1: To support youth educational and development opportunities that build individual capacity, confidence and workforce participation.

Identified Needs	Broad Actions	Intended Outcomes	Proposed Project Deliverables	Shire Role
1.1 Subjects, Courses &		Students have access to	1.1.1 Youth Learning & Development Forum	Facilitator
Training Options: A greater range of subjects, courses, online	support young people's diverse learning and development interests that contribute to personal	choices and local learning opportunities to support	Connecting key stakeholders (including youth) to identify and explore learning/development opportunities to increase course range, life skills and hands-on learning.	
learning and training options to cater for a wide	and career goals.	career goals.	1.1.2 Youth-Led Projects	Service Provider/
range of interests and support further studies.			Engaging youth to develop project, leadership and team skills through the planning, design, coordination and management of youth projects (eg, events, camps, youth engagement, communications etc.).	Support
			1.1.3 School Chaplin Program (Gingin District High School)	Stakeholder
			Shire to continue to support the School Chaplin program which assists with youth resilience, life skills, support and development.	
1.2 Learning Support:	Supporting learning and		1.2.1 Student Council (Gingin District High School)	Facilitator/
Provide learning	development for all young people and their varying	provided various	Shire supports Student Council through mentoring and support.	Stakeholder
support options that accommodate individual	capacities, challenges	learn and reach their full	1.2.2 Alternative Learning Programs	Facilitator
student needs and learning pace.	student needs and and strengths.	potential.	Connecting key stakeholders (including youth) to explore opportunities and program ideas for trial and implementation (eg, mentoring, tutors, online or hands on learning).	
			1.2.3 Youth-Led Projects	Service
			Engaging youth to develop project, leadership and team skills through the planning, design, coordination and management of youth projects (eg, events, camps, youth engagement, communications etc.).	Provider/ Support
1.3 Employment:	Building and advocating	, , ,	1.3.1 Growing Youth Employment	Facilitator
Prepare young people for all types of work opportunities and encourage employers to seek young employees.		proactive employees and are sought after by local	Connecting key stakeholders to identify challenges and implement integrated solutions.	

COMMUNITY SUPPORT & HEALTH SERVICES

Strategy 2: To support the health and well-being of youth through service access and a positive community environment within the Shire.

	I.			
Identified Needs	Broad Actions	Intended Outcomes	Proposed Project Deliverables	Shire Role
2.1 Medical and Health Services: Health, medical and hospital services that consider young people's experience, capacity and specific needs within their services.	Improving accessable youth-friendly medical and health services.	Youth friendly medical and health services, resources and information are accessible and relevant to youth across the Shire region.	2.1.1 Youth Communications Improving awareness and accessibility to youth services information and resources. 2.1.2 Youth-Friendly Environments Engaging youth and stakeholders to develop and distribute an informative flyer on what makes a "Youth-Friendly" environment.	Service Provider Support
2.2 Mental Health and Support Services: Affordable mental health and support services that cater specifically for young people that is accessible after hours, on weekends and promoted to youth.	services for young people	mental health and support services (including	2.2.1 Youth Support Services Connecting key stakeholders (including youth) to identify resources and specific gaps and ways to overcome and implement (eg, school presentations, community awareness, services' visits, support groups etc.). 2.2.2 School Chaplin Program (Gingin District High School) Shire to continue to support the School Chaplin program which assists with youth resilience, life skills, support and development.	Facilitator Stakeholder
2.3 Personal Safety and Bullying: Bullying is a problem both during and after school hours and needs to be effectively responded to with accessible support for those who have experienced bullying.	Fostering a community that actively discourages bullying and supports the development of youth resilience to bullying behaviours.	reduced through awareness, prevention	2.3.1 Bullying Awareness Engaging key stakeholders to collaboratively improve understanding of bullying in a community and youth environment, and ways to overcome.	Facilitator /Agent

LEISURE, RECREATION & SOCIAL LIFE

Strategy 3: To foster a youth-friendly community through the support of youth activities, events and spaces.

Identified Needs	Broad Actions	Intended Outcomes	Proposed Project Deliverables	Shire Role
3.1 Youth Specific Space		Youth have a wide range	3.1.1 Youth Stakeholder Network	Facilitator
A place young people can meet up that provides a variety of	supporting youth activities and 'spaces'. interests, geographical areas and support youth	that target different	Identify all key youth stakeholders that are located within the Shire and external stakeholders to create a Youth Stakeholder Network (include sub-groups to focus on different needs and potential sub-regions).	
different activities that are accessible, affordable,			3.1.2 Youth Activities & Spaces Information	Service provider
support young people and is safe.		Research and pool information of activities, spaces and annual events that are targeted at youth and make available through Youth communications.		
			3.1.3 Youth-Led Projects	Service provider/
		Engaging youth to develop project, leadership and team skills through the planning, design, coordination and management of youth projects.	Support	
			3.1.4 Activity Trailer	Service Provider /
		Explore the viability, funding and potential partnerships of a youth activity trailer that provides a pop-up space and resources for youth activities that can be loaned by services providers and community groups to engage youth.	Support	
3.2 Events	Supporting events that		3.3.1 Events for Youth	Service provider/
Entertainment and activities that are inclusive for all young people	people. Interests and enjoyment.		Reviewing existing Shire events and Shire supported events to assess opportunities to improve youth engagement (including both community events and youth events).	Support
and are safe, affordable and support social			3.3.2 Youth-Led Projects	Service provider/
connections.		Engaging youth to develop project, leadership and team skills through the planning, design, coordination and management of youth projects (eg, events, camps, youth engagement, communications etc.).	Support	
			3.3.3 Youth Activities & Spaces Information	Service provider
		Research and pool information of activities, spaces and annual events that are targeted at youth and make available through Youth communications.		
			3.3.4 Youth-Friendly Environments	Support
			Engaging youth and stakeholders to develop and distribute an informative flyer on what makes a "Youth-Friendly" environment.	

HOUSING & TRANSPORT

Strategy 4: To support young people in housing and transport by building capacity and improving opportunities.

Identified Needs	Broad Actions	Intended Outcomes	Proposed Project Deliverables	Shire Role
4.1 Housing Affordable, accessible and safe housing options for young people that also offer support for those moving out of home for the first time.	Improving housing (accommodation) opportunities for young people.	Youth are better informed about accommodation and have more housing options available.	4.1.1 Growing Youth Accommodation Connecting key stakeholders to identify challenges and implement integrated solutions.	Facilitator
4.2 Transport Affordable and safe transport options that provide young people from all areas of town and out of town access to specific services, activities and places.		Youth have transport options available that contribute to accessibility and inclusion.	4.2.1 Transport for Youth Connecting key stakeholders to identify challenges and implement integrated solutions. 4.2.2 Community Transport Review Research working community transport models (including Learner Driver programs) to explore what could potentially work within the Shire.	Support/ Facilitator Service provider
4.3 Learner Drivers Inclusive support and assistance to accrue learner driver hours and to grow their awareness and skills to be a safe driver on country roads.	Supporting young people to be educated, informed and respectful new drivers through learning opportunities and experience.	I .	4.3.1 Transport for Youth Connecting key stakeholders to identify challenges and implement integrated solutions. 4.3.2 Community Transport Review Research working community transport models (including Learner Driver programs) to explore what could potentially work within the Shire.	Support/ Facilitator Service provider

ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

Identified Needs	Broad Actions	Intended Outcomes	Proposed Project Deliverables	Shire Role
5.1 Youth Engagement Youth are provided opportunities to be engaged to support their sense of belonging/feeling part of community; having their voice heard (engagement in decisions that have potential	to obtain their input and involvement with purpose of fostering a youth-	to obtain their input and and feel their input and involvement with purpose involvement is valued and of fostering a youth-contributes to a better	5.1.1 Engaging Youth Inform youth and seek their input (and where appropriate involvement in planning/decision making) into existing and new Shire infrastructure that is aimed at or will be of interest to youth.	Service Provider
	5.1.2 Youth-Led Projects Engaging youth to develop project, leadership and team skills through the planning, design, coordination and management of youth projects (eg, events, camps, youth engagement, communications etc.).	Service Provider/ Support		
to impact them) and engaged to support a youth-friendly community.	to impact them) and engaged to support a	5.1.3 Youth-Friendly Environments Engaging youth and stakeholders to develop and distribute an informative flyer on what makes a "Youth-Friendly" environment such as youth engagement.	Support	
			5.1.4 Student Council (Gingin District High School) Shire supports Student Council through mentoring and support.	Facilitator/ Stakeholder
5.2 Wi-Fi & Coverage Accessible free Wi-Fi and internet/phone coverage	to improve digital access better digital connectivity.		5.2.1 Wi-Fi Access Exploring viability of free Wi-Fi at community spaces and other locations, and promoting accordingly.	Service-Provider
across the Shire.		5.2.2 Internet/Phone Coverage Seek youth input regarding issues with coverage to capture data for (regional) digital research and planning.	Support/ Stakeholder	
			5.2.3 Youth-Friendly Environments Engaging youth and stakeholders to develop and distribute an informative flyer on what makes a "Youth-Friendly" environment such as Wi-Fi access.	Support

ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

Identified Needs	Broad Actions	Intended Outcomes	Proposed Project Deliverables	Shire Role
5.3 Communications with Youth Improved and varied communication at ion methods aimed at youth (eg, advertising and promotion).	communications through	Youth are aware and informed of information that is of interest to them.	5.3.1 Informing Youth The communications strategies to ensure specific consideration of youth is included and challenges regarding reaching youth are responded to (eg, diverse means of channels used and promotional material is appealing to youth). 5.3.2 Youth Communications Improving awareness and accessibility to youth services information and resources.	Service Provider Service Provider
			5.3.3 Youth-Friendly Environments Engaging youth and stakeholders to develop and distribute an informative flyer on what makes a "Youth-Friendly" environment such as communicating with/reaching youth.	Support

6. Acknowledgments & Disclaime

The Youth Strategy was developed with input from the local school, youth services and community groups.

The Shire of Gingin would like to thank the following stakeholders for their promotion, contribution and assistance in linking with the target group.

Gingin District High School -

Principal: Kevin Brady

Chaplain: Helena Donoghue

Secondary Science Teacher: Mrs Vis

City of Wanneroo – Youth Officer City of Joondalup - Youth Officer Lancelin Healthy Community Forum - Committee 2018

Bus Services -

Yanchep - Heather Dawe Gingin - Kim Rule

Bendigo Bank Gingin Football and Netball Club – Lynley Fewster Lancelin Football and Netball Club - Simone McClean

Disclaimer

The information provided in this document has viewing this report. While the accuracy of been obtained by consulting with youth from within the Shire of Gingin from January to March 2018.

The key findings and information in this Strategy have been extracted from the Youth Services Report, which includes collation of feedback from the engagement participants and detailed research data.

While every effort has gone into presenting an accurate understanding of the key points of information, there may be some areas where interpretation may differ.

The Youth Strategy analysis conducted may have limitations involving quality and quantity of data collected and should be taken into consideration when

the Census 2011-2016 statistics could be questioned, it is not the intent of this report to do so and information is provided as general overview only.

The Shire of Gingin disclaims all liability to any person in respect of anything, and of the consequences of anything, done or omitted to be done by any such person in reliance, whether wholly or partially, upon any information presented in this publication.

For further information please contact the Shire of Gingin at Ph 9575 2211 or mail@gingin.wa.gov.au.

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