

# Young Persons' STRATEGY STATEMENT

2008-2011



Young Persons' Strategy Statement 2008-2011



*“Council respects the capabilities and potential of all young people. It aims to help young people to achieve positive futures and to participate in community life.”*



## WHO ARE YOUNG PEOPLE?

The international definition of ‘youth’ or ‘young people’ is 12-25 years. This age range may sometimes involve those slightly older or younger to suit a particular topic or context.

## MEANDER VALLEY FAST FACTS

Total population:	18,938	
10 – 24 years old:	3,475	(18.3%)
Indigenous status:		3%

AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
10 -14	738	718	1456
15 -19	604	555	1159
20 -24	419	441	860
Totals	1761	1714	3475

ABS Census 2006

This strategy statement is endorsed by Council’s Strategic Plan 2004 – 2014. It has been developed from research undertaken between 2000 and 2007. It seeks to clarify Council’s commitment to local young people, which is delivered through a partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

# COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council will support the needs of local young people by:

**FACILITATING**

**FUNDING**

**INFORMING**

**NETWORKING**

**PROMOTING**

**TRAINING**

Council will seek sustainable outcomes by focusing on:

**DEVELOPING PEOPLE FIRST**

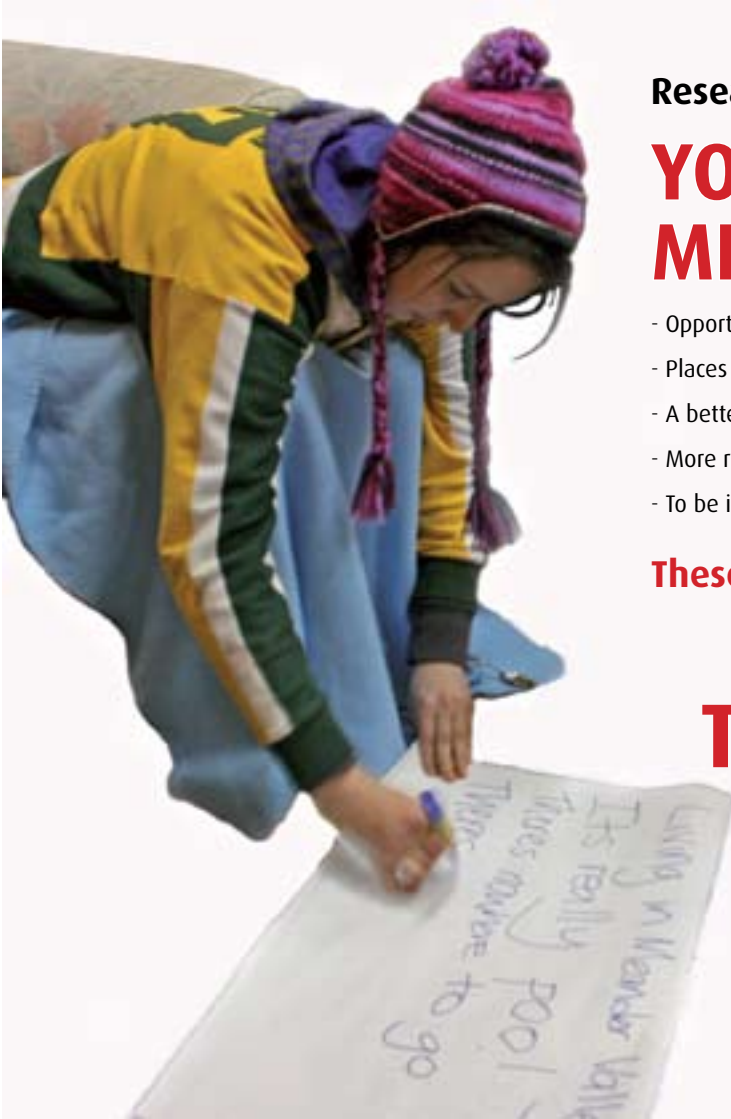
## WITH PROGRAMS THAT EXPLORE...

- Active recreation
- Arts
- Citizenship
- Cultural and international awareness
- Environment
- Health
- Life and social skills

## PROMOTING PRINCIPLES OF...

- Equal opportunities
- Lifelong learning
- Mutual respect
- Participation in decision making
- Personal growth and development
- Social and community development
- Spiritual awareness





Research indicates that ...

# YOUNG PEOPLE in MEANDER VALLEY WANT:

- Opportunities to succeed regardless of ability or background
- Places to go and things to do as well as ways of getting there
- A better understanding of healthy lifestyles
- More respect and support from their community
- To be involved in making decisions about things that affect their lives

These have been brought into 5 priorities:

## TO BE:

**CONNECTED  
CREATIVE  
HEALTHY  
SAFE  
SUCCESSFUL**

# BEING CONNECTED

*Young people want to feel valued and have a voice in their community.*



## **COUNCIL WILL:**

Promote and celebrate young people's achievements

Facilitate community mentoring programs

Provide training for adults who want to work positively with young people

Provide young people with a link to Council and seek their ideas on issues

Maintain a register of community services and organisations

Provide support to families

Increase opportunities for young people to contribute to their communities

Work with young people and communities to improve transport opportunities

Provide information on the benefits of community development and participation

## **CURRENT EXAMPLES:**

National Youth Week, Individual grant support, Australia Day Awards, Meander Valley News

Co-Pilots, Metal trades (DHHS)

Working Well With Young People, Community Recreation Leaders' Award, Co-Pilots

Email link via Council website, Stepping Stones Leadership Camps, Youth Development Officer

Meander Valley Community Service Directory

Deloraine Men's Group (DHHS), Counselling (DHHS)

Provide specific information on how young people can make their views heard in their communities, Support intergenerational projects  
e.g. Westbury Community Garden (DHHS)

Conduct subsidised trials, Single event subsidies  
e.g. Locally Famous Concert, Community buses (DHHS)

Meander Valley Health & Wellbeing Map 2007  
Meander Valley News

*Young people want to develop their understanding of the world and express themselves as individuals.*

**COUNCIL WILL:**

Promote and support creative programs.

**CURRENT EXAMPLES**

- Community Grants
- Training e.g. Rock Skills and Multimedia (DHHS)
- Meandering
- Westbury St Patrick's Festival
- Young Achievement Australia

**COUNCIL WILL:**

Develop infrastructure and resources to support creative arts and enterprise.

**CURRENT EXAMPLES**

- Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre
- Meander Valley Media Arts Studio

**BEING  
CREATIVE**





# BEING HEALTHY

*Young people want to develop more active, healthy lifestyles.*

## COUNCIL WILL:

Continue to improve recreational facilities across the municipality

Train volunteer recreation leaders

Facilitate regular active recreation programs

Help young people to feel better about themselves and to manage personal crises

Develop strong interagency links to assist young people in crisis

Help to make health information more readily available



## CURRENT EXAMPLES:

Hadspen Community Tennis Court

Community Recreation Leaders' Award Program

Outdoor recreation, Westbury and Deloraine weekly activity programs, Primary and High School Holiday Programs

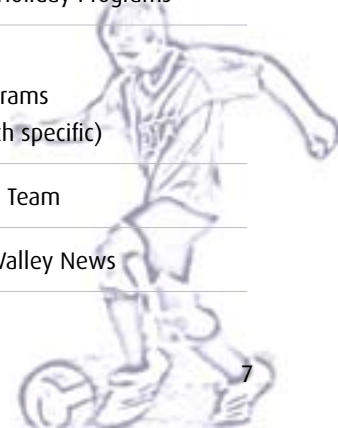
Access to counselling (DHHS)

Personal development through programs

Mental health first aid training (youth specific)

Meander Valley Interagency Support Team

Via activity programs and Meander Valley News



# BEING SAFE

*Young people want to feel confident and safe within their community.*

## COUNCIL WILL:

- Promote safe behaviours
- Work to reduce accidents on the road
- Raise public awareness of the general dangers young people face
- Encourage intergenerational programs
- Improve lighting, access and safety in facilities, playgrounds and open spaces



## CURRENT EXAMPLES:

- Party safe, self defence, mentoring & Rock and Water (DHHS)
- Learner driver program & Wheels 4 Work (DHHS)
- Meander Valley Community Safety Group
- Council's risk management and maintenance programs



# BEING SUCCESSFUL

*Young people want to develop skills and achieve positive goals and ambitions.*

## **COUNCIL WILL:**

- Support the growth of leisure activities
- Encourage work skills training
- Work in partnership with schools to develop new learning opportunities
- Foster leadership and personal development opportunities

## **CURRENT EXAMPLES:**

- Community grants & facility development
- Metal trades, Work for the Dole & Wheels 4 Work (DHHS)
- Meandering
- Young Achievement Australia
- Stepping Stones Leadership Camps



# WHERE TO NEXT?

This strategy statement will guide Council's commitment until 2011. Community feedback on its merits is warmly invited.

In the meantime, Council will continue to:

**LISTEN, RESPOND and WORK TOGETHER**



2008 - 2011



## CONTACTS:

Youth Development Officer  
6393 5300 / 0400 155 690  
mail@mvc.tas.gov.au

Meander Valley Youth Health & Development Worker  
6393 5800 / 0427 543 365

**Website: [www.meander.tas.gov.au](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au)**

# GLOSSARY:

## PROJECT NAME

Community Recreational Leaders' Award  
Co-Pilots  
Deloraine Men's Group  
Individual grant support  
Meandering  
Meander Valley Community Safety Group  
Meander Valley Media Arts Centre  
Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre  
Metal Trades  
Multi-media  
MV Community Service Directory  
MV Health & Wellbeing Map

MV Interagency Support Team  
National Youth Week  
Party Safe  
Rock and Water  
Rock Skills  
Stepping Stones Leadership Camps

Westbury Community Garden  
Wheels 4 Work  
Working Well With Young People  
Young Achievement Australia

## FOCUS

Recreational leadership training  
Community mentoring  
Support for men  
Sponsorship for state & national representation  
Annual Art Exhibition / Artists in Schools  
Safety in the community  
Community media arts studio  
New focus for the Arts  
Employment training  
Practical multi-media education  
Online listing of community groups and services  
Survey of the health & wellbeing needs of the municipality [www.meander.tas.gov.au](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au)  
Professional support for young people and their families  
Annual youth celebration  
Self care and drugs awareness  
Physical and social skill development  
Practical music production  
Residential camps focusing on personal development and community participation  
Community project  
Learner support - 50hrs driving time  
An orientation to effective youth work  
Business enterprise training



# REFERENCES:

- 2007 Meander Valley Health and Wellbeing Map
- 2006 Talking Participation Taking Action – LGAT
- 2006 ABS Census 2006
- 2000-05 Meander Valley Young Persons Strategy
- 2004 Meander Valley Future Search Conference
- 2000-03 Meander Valley Youth Forums

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**supported by**

