



Youth Service Priorities

2020-2022



Introduction.

The voice of our young people has informed the new youth plan.

Between August 2018 and December 2019 over 820 young people provided input via online and paper based surveys, public forums, face-face consultations, focus groups, and existing programs, and events. In addition, consultation was undertaken with parents, carers, youth and community service and education providers and local government.

Young people provided valuable information and insights about the issues that mattered most to them. Of the priorities identified, three key focus areas emerged for action over the next three years – Youth Voice, Youth Development and Youth Participation.

The Moyne Youth Plan 2020-2022 provides a clear direction for Council and partners over the next three years to better support outcomes for young people and make the Moyne Shire a vibrant place of opportunity where young people are supported to be heard, develop skills, belong and contribute.



What is Council's role?

Council will focus on helping young people access and experience local opportunities to live, learn, work, stay healthy, be safe and feel included in their community.

This is a whole of community plan for delivering better outcomes for young people in Moyne.

In the South West Region many organisations work to deliver services for young people and cater to their different needs and priorities.

Council's role is to support and strengthen the work already happening in the local region.

We do this by building the capacity of local groups, service providers and our stakeholders.

Council is committed to working in partnership with young people, community groups, service providers and other levels of government to coordinate programs and joint responses to important issues and improve outcomes for all young people in the Moyne Shire.

Guiding Principles.

Moyne Shire will ensure young people are engaged in a meaningful way. They will have opportunities to inform Council decisions, build their understanding and capacity, learn new things, create relationships and build trust.

Moyne Councillors and Officers acknowledge that young people impacted by decisions about their community have a right to be part of planning and decision-making processes.

We will proactively listen and talk to young people to strengthen our relationships with them, build collective knowledge and inform the Shire's decision-making.

To do this we will:

RESPECT YOUNG PEOPLE'S VOICE Respect young people's voice as equal to everyone else's and be open to two-way learning. Follow up (close the feedback loop) and acknowledge contributions made by young people to the process or decision. Demonstrate empathy.

YOUTH LED Council will listen to and respond to the needs, priorities and solutions young people identify and we will ensure our young people are involved in designing, implementing and evaluating programs, facilities and services for young people.

BE CLEAR We will use easy to understand language and promote opportunities to be involved via appropriate and accessible communication channels.

GO TO THE PEOPLE We will go to young people - we don't expect them to come to us to be involved. Go where they are - their schools, community facilities, their sport and recreation groups and the places they meet.

BE OPEN Leave young people better informed than before they were engaged. Be open to using creative techniques and new technology. Think of new ideas for engagement activities that suit young people best and use more than one method. Invite young people to design their own engagement. Host the activity as something fun, like a community event, BBQ or party.

IDENTIFY OTHER ORGANISATIONS OR LEADERS WHO CAN HELP Acknowledge that you might not have the right experience to design and implement engagement activities for everyone. Reach out to other organisations or community leaders that better understand young people's needs or who already have trusted relationships and invite their ideas and partnership.

ALLOW ENOUGH TIME Allow enough time to give young people time and space to participate and to try different engagement approaches.

Moyne Shire acknowledges our Aboriginal young people as traditional custodians of the land.



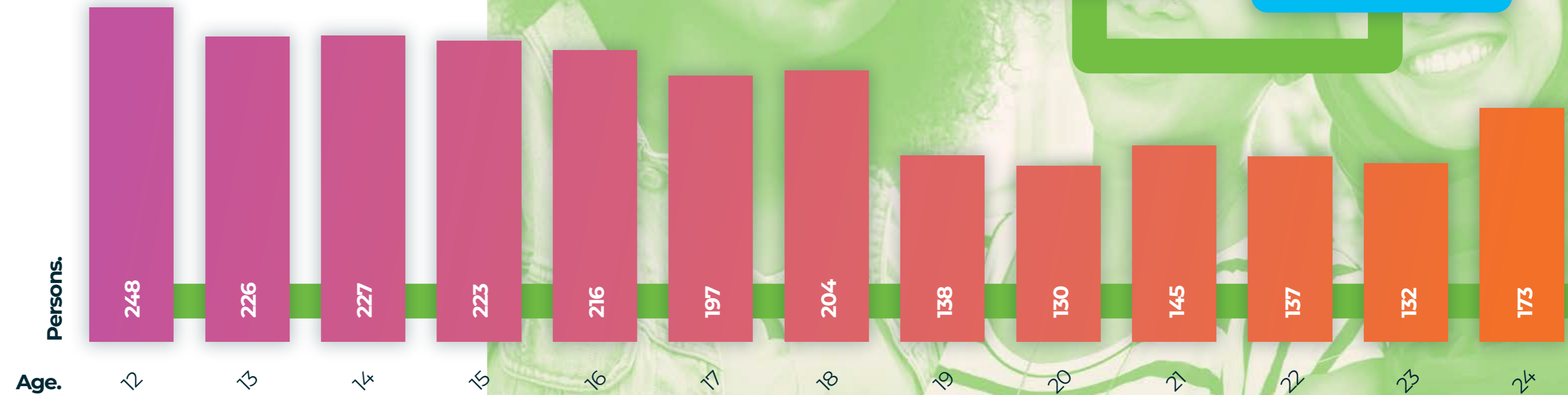
The Action Plan.

GOAL	OUTCOMES	FLAGSHIP PROJECTS	NEW / EXISTING PROGRAM	SUCCESS FACTORS
We provide opportunities for young people to have their say	Multiple mechanisms for young people to have a voice to Council	Annual/biannual survey of young people in Moyne Shire	NEW	Increased mechanisms through which young people can have a voice
		Develop Communication Strategy	NEW	
		Redevelopment of Moyne Youth social media / website		More young people from across the having a say about issues that affect them
		Community Plan 2040	NEW	
		Youth Advisory model to drive leadership and connection to council (e.g. Youth Council)	EXISTING	
We provide opportunities for young people to be involved in, and influence decision making	The views of young people are visible in policy design and service design	Research and investigate a Youth Summit / Forum	NEW	Increased young people actively influencing the design of policies, programs and services
		Pilot Youth Parliament	NEW	
		Youth Advisory model to drive leadership and connection to council (e.g. Youth Council)	EXISTING	
		Pilot Lead4i (Lead for innovation program)	NEW	
We increase collaboration to strengthen partnerships, networks and advocacy in priority areas	Young people are represented in partnerships, networks and advocacy activities	Pilot Lead4i (Lead for innovation program)	NEW	More young people from across the Moyne Shire can access programs and activities
		Research and investigate Live4Life program	NEW	

We provide innovative opportunities for young people to develop skills	Young people have leadership skills and visible in leadership roles across the LGA	FLOI (Future Leaders of Industry)	NEW	Young people from across the Moyne Shire can participate in programs and activities to develop skills
		Youth Advisory model to drive leadership and connection to council (e.g. Youth Council)	EXISTING	
		Pilot Youth Parliament	NEW	
		Engage! - Leadership and skill develop programs and projects	EXISTING	
		FReeZA – skill development workshops	EXISTING	
		FReeZA – Performance Development Program	EXISTING	
We promote young people as valuable citizens who make a positive contribution to the community	Young people are recognised for their contribution and promoted as leaders	Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year Awards	EXISTING	Increased nominations for Young Citizen of the year award
		Youth Awards	EXISTING	Increased diversity of young people celebrated for their contribution to community Increased proportion of young people who feel valued by society
We provide opportunities for young people to access and contribute to hosting local events and activities	Local events and activities are attractive to and supported by young people	FReeZA – art, music and cultural activities and events	EXISTING	Increased number of co-designed, free and low cost place based programs/activities and events across the Moyne Shire
		Pilot Youth Week activities	NEW	
We provide programs and initiatives that support the health and wellbeing of young people	Young people across the shire have access to programs that build their capacity to better support themselves and their peers	Research and investigate Live4Life	NEW	Increased the mental health knowledge of young people, schools and communities
		Research and investigate The Resilience Project (Grade 5/6)		Increased resilience of school aged young people, schools and communities
		Pilot mobile fitness program (Mortlake)	NEW	Increased number of young people who are physically active

Youth Snapshot.

The shire spans 5,478km². According to the 2016 Census data the Moyne Shire has a total population of 16,499 total residents across its townships. Youth represent 15% of the total population which equates to a total of 2,405 young residents aged between 12 and 24 years.



The Future
Projected growth increase
0.6% between 2016 and 2041.
2,026 – 2,488
2,036 – 2,486
2,041 – 2,495

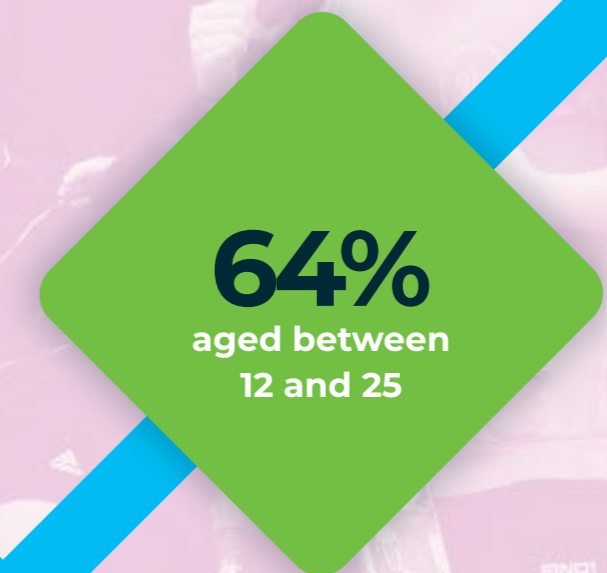
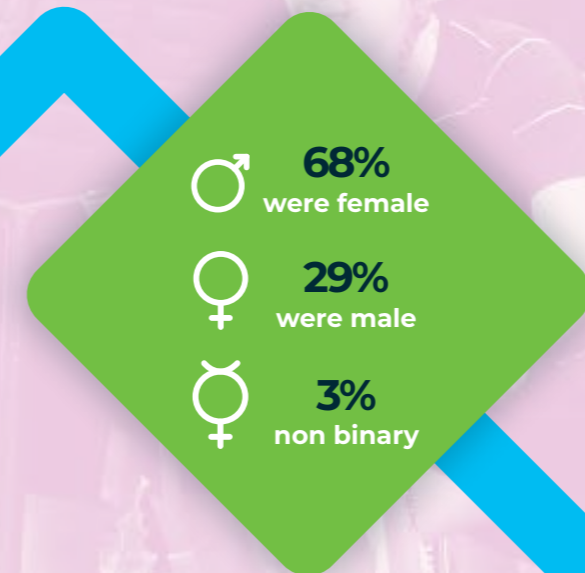
Total:
1209 Males
1196 Females

How we engaged.

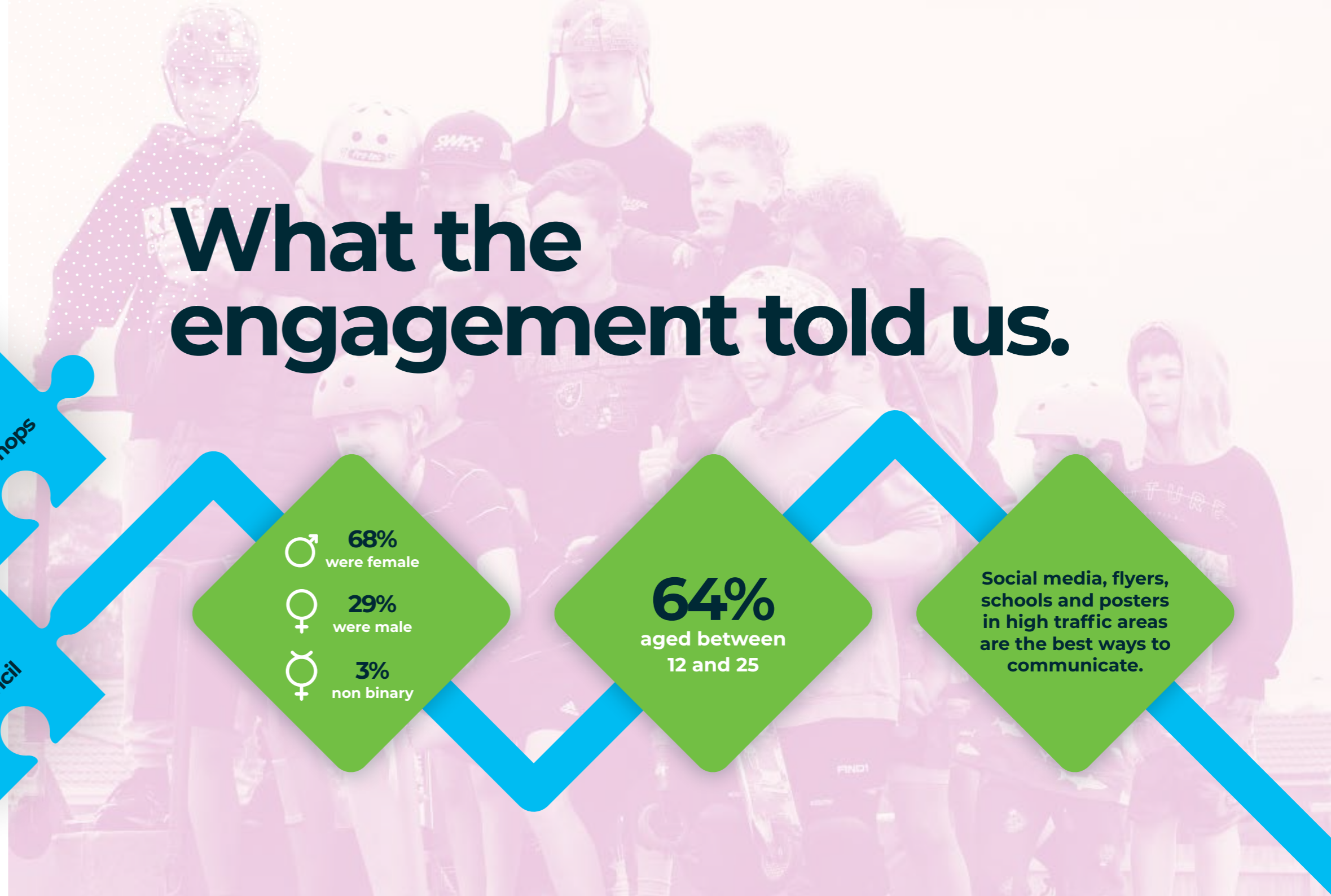
We engaged with 822 young people (33% of the total youth population). In addition, consultation was undertaken with parents and carers, youth service and education providers, Council's full management team, Councillors and Youth Council from August 2018 – December 2019. This is how they participated:



What the engagement told us.



Social media, flyers, schools and posters in high traffic areas are the best ways to communicate.



Positive things.

- Open space
- Close and friendly community
 - The beach
- Accessible to services
 - Its quietness

58%
are keen to be involved in projects

63%
are involved in sporting clubs

89%
are involved in afterschool activities

21%
are involved in music, arts and cultural activities

16%
are involved in volunteering and special interest groups

Feedback from other engagements was consistent with the results of the consultations with young people. Through these engagements a majority of community members and service providers noted that access to employment and training opportunities, education, mental & physical health, safety and connection to community are important issues for youth in the Moyne Shire.

A trend among all engagements also indicate more work needs to be done in promoting the activities, events and recreation opportunities on offer in the shire.

Areas we need to focus on.

The most important:

- Opportunities to participate in decision making
- Physical & mental health and wellbeing
- Education and study
- Safety and connection to community
- Access to employment and training

Concerns identified:

- Bullying
- Drugs and alcohol abuse
- Mental health
- Peer pressure
- Family relationships
- Cost of things

Things young people don't like:

- The lack of activities and events in small towns
- Distance between communities
- The commute and running late to things
- Limited employment opportunities

What young people want more of:

- Arts, music and culture
- Employment opportunities
- School holiday programs
- Activities and events
- Volunteering
- Opportunities to have their voices heard

Small things young people would do to make the community a better place:

- Be included in decision making
- More non-sport activities
- More public art
- More environmental initiatives/projects to be involved in
- More community events & activities
- Greater opportunity for community involvement

Skills young people would most like to have:

- General life skills
- Mental health first aid
- Leadership
- How to find a job and budget money

55%

of young people said they do not have enough opportunities to participate in decision making and an additional 22% were undecided.

Why not – Need more opportunities and platforms for young people to have a voice, old structures don't allow, don't know of opportunities, young people are underestimated.