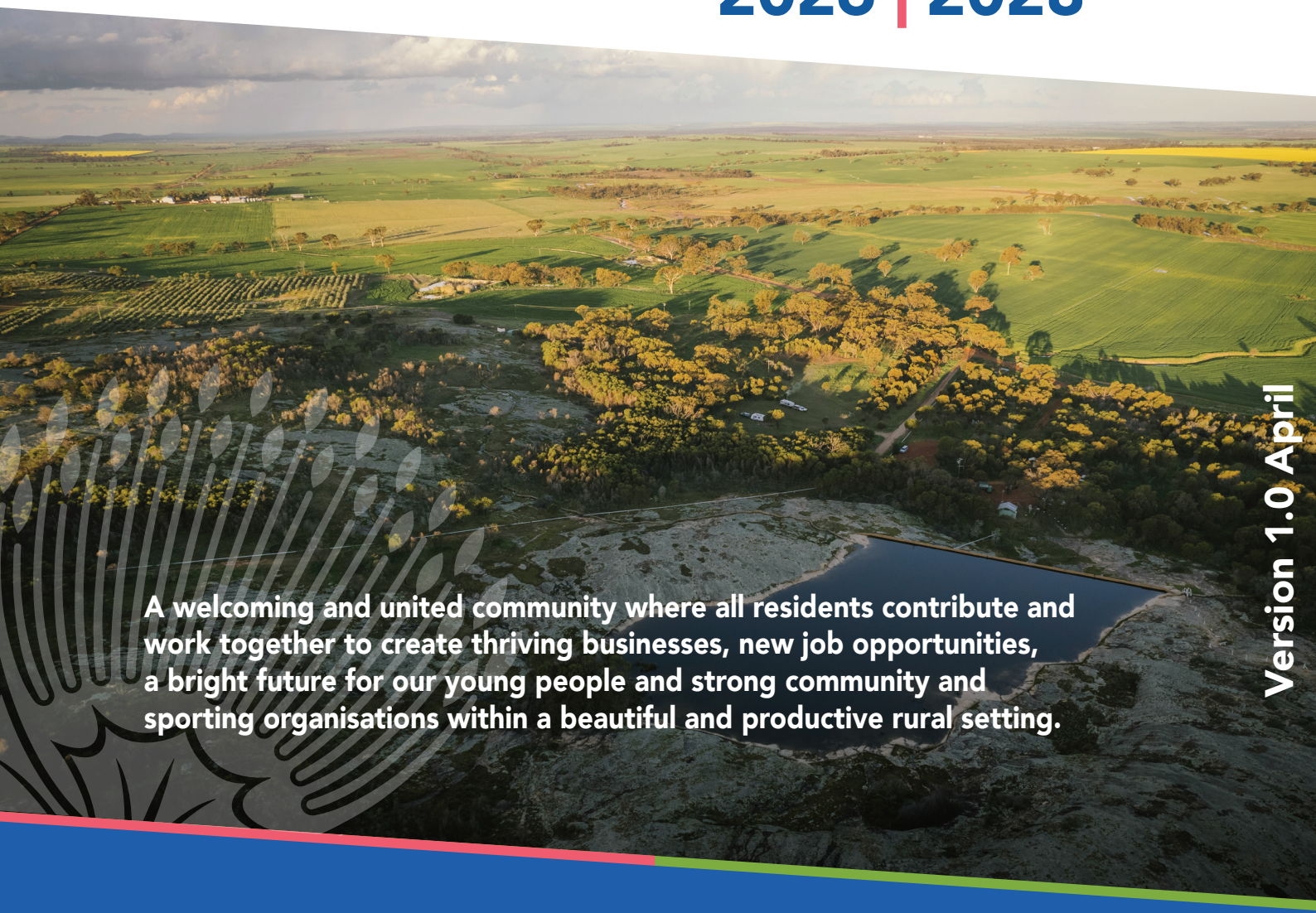
SHIRE OF Quairading
Take a closer look

PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN

2026 | 2028



A welcoming and united community where all residents contribute and work together to create thriving businesses, new job opportunities, a bright future for our young people and strong community and sporting organisations within a beautiful and productive rural setting.

Version 1.0 April

Facilities

- Aquatic Centre
- Parks and Playgrounds
- Footpath and Walking Trails
- General Practice Clinic
- Aged Housing
- Club Rooms
- Parks and Gardens
- Rubbish Tip
- Sports Grounds
- Bike Trails
- Aged Care / Senior Support Facility

Services & Programs

- Events Coordination
- Rangers Services
- Environmental Health Services
- Building Services
- Planning Services
- Community Services
- Community Gardens
- Cultural Awareness
- Community Resource Centre

Figure 1: Examples of Shire facilities and services that support local public health and community wellbeing

SHIRE PRESIDENT INTRODUCTION

As this is our first Public Health Plan it is important it is integral to the community priority of seeking a strong, growing and resilient economy which is fundamentally linked to the health and wellbeing of our residents. With this Council recognises its governance roles and responsibilities to provide the correct services and facilities that support positive health outcomes. This Plan informs our integrated planning framework and provides objectives and activities that protect and promote our community's health and wellbeing.

This, being our first Public Health Plan (PHP) has been developed around our existing health services and facilities. It is informed by local population health data and takes an adaptive approach to current and emerging local and regional health data in the context of the State Public Health Plan. It also reaffirms the Shires commitment to proactive, evidence-based planning and to supporting a healthy and resilient community both now and into the future.

Trevor Stacey, Shire President

CEO MESSAGE

Local Government has a fundamental role in protecting and promoting the health and wellbeing of its community. This responsibility is exercised through functions established under the Local Government Act 1995 and the Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1911, including the management of the built environment, the control of environmental health risks, and the provision of services relating to food safety, water quality, waste management, and incident response.

The Public Health Act 2016 further requires all Local Governments to prepare a Public Health Plan. This Plan is to be consistent with the objectives of the State Public Health Plan and is intended to inform and align with the Shire's broader strategic and community planning frameworks. It is informed by local population health data and adopts a strengths-based approach, recognising existing services, infrastructure, and community capacity in addressing local public health priorities.

As the Shire's inaugural Public Health Plan, this document represents a progressive and adaptive approach. It establishes achievable priorities that can respond to emerging evidence, changing community needs, and opportunities for collaboration and investment. The effectiveness of this Plan will ultimately be reflected in improved health outcomes and the capacity of the community to make informed and healthy choices.

Nic Warren, CEO

STATE PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN

The Department of Health published the State Public Health Plan (SPHP) in June 2025 in accordance with section 43 of the Public Health Act 2016. The SPHP establishes the strategic priorities for the promotion and protection of public health, and the delivery of public health services in Western Australia through to 2030.

The Act further requires that Local Public Health Plans be consistent with the objectives of the SPHP. Accordingly, the State's vision and priority areas have been considered as part of the Shire's pre-planning, and will become part of the annual review, and reporting processes, so were practicable, these priorities will become more incorporate with the re-redevelopment of this Plan to ensure alignment with State direction.

> *"The shire is committed to proactive, evidence-based planning and to supporting a healthy and resilient community both now and into the future"*

LOCAL POPULATION HEALTH PROFILE DATA

The Shire of Quairading Population Health and Wellbeing Profile was developed by the State Health Department's Epidemiology Branch. This information has been reviewed in collaboration with WA Country Health Services (WACHS) and presented in a simplified, more accessible Snapshot version (hyperlink).

Local population health data underpins this Plan. However, noting that some data is dated, the Plan also looks to updated data from the 2026 Census. With this it will continue to evolve through community and stakeholder input, annual reviews, relevant health initiatives, and potential funding opportunities that may influence priority objectives

The basis of the Shires population profile is the census data from 2021 which estimates the Shires population was 982. The approach to developing the initial health profile data is strengths based. For example, in 2020, Shire of Quairading residents had 54.5% of population eating the recommended two serves of

fruit daily, 11.3% eating the recommended five serves of vegetable daily and 9.9% eating fast food at least weekly a similar prevalence of sufficient physical activity and a lower prevalence of spending more than recommended time in screen-based sedentary leisure time activities when compared to the WA State average, reflecting some positive health behaviours within the community and providing opportunities to build on recognised healthy lifestyle practices

However, the rate of alcohol-attributable deaths was higher among Shire of Quairading residents (54.8 per 100,000) compared to the WA State rate (33.7 per 100,000) and particularly high among male residents, at 81.2 per 100,000, compared to the WA State male rate of 50.3%. Which is counter to the general understanding for the prevalence of mental health conditions in Quairading such as anxiety, stress and depression which in 2020 were below state the state prevalences.

However the relationship between substance use and mental health is complex, and there may be opportunities for strengthening protective factors, preventative programs and community connections to support improved health outcomes over time.

Overall, future demographic patterns will better inform the annual reviews, the priorities and the consideration of local health initiatives.

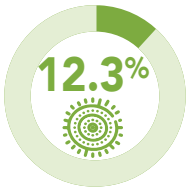
POPULATION PROFILE SNAPSHOT

2026

POPULATION

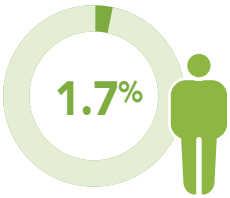
35.7%

PERSONS BORN OVERSEAS



IDENTIFY AS ABORIGINAL

FAMILIES WITH AN ANNUAL INCOME <$64,999



CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED

STUDENTS LISTED AS INDIGENOUS

OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

This is primary to the Shires PHPlan and a functional approach has been applied to identifying readily accountable objectives, firstly listing primary environmental health roles and responsibilities, then key statutory responsibilities as a foundation for the plan, which also provides an adaptive framework for considering regional initiatives and collaborations that may influence future objectives and wellbeing outcomes.

PRIORITIES

Figure 2. Objectives and Priorities

Aim - Is to continue to support health-related services and facilities that promote community health and wellbeing.			
OBJECTIVE	PRIORITY ACTIVITIES	WHEN	WHO
Primary Objective	Prepare and manage public health planning. [Section 16(a) Health Act 2016 - Function of a Local Government]	Ongoing	CEO
Perform Environmental Health Functions	Sustain statutory environmental health protections for. [Section 16(c)&(d) Health Act 2016 - Function of a Local Government] • Food, water and wastewater safety. • Assess built environment health impacts. • Manage hazards, infectious disease. • Assess health and amenity impacts. • Monitor compliance and emerging risks. • Communicate environmental health risks. • Support emergency incidences.	Ongoing	EHO
Align with SPHP and Community Strategic Plan	• Consider SPHP priorities as part of PHP annual reviews, [Sec 45(2). Health Act 2016.]. • Consider relevant provisions of the Community Strategic Plan when reviewing the PHPlan. • Reviews of the Community Strategic Plan should be considered in conjunction with the PHPlan. [Sec 45(3). Health Act 2016.]	Before PHP reviews	Exec
Examine Health Data and Consider Partnerships	• Examine existing and emerging local population health data. [Sec 45(4)(b). Health Act 2016.] • Monitor potential partnerships and key agencies health initiatives to support local priority objectives. [Sec 45(4)(d)&(e) The Health Act 2016]. • Monitor State and regional agency initiatives and funding opportunities that support health and wellbeing outcomes. [Sec 45(4)(d). The Health Act 2016]	Ongoing	Exec
Undertake Reviews & Reports	• Make the PHPlan available to the public. [Sec 46(1). Health Act 2016.] • Review the PHPlan annually and report to Council. [Sec 45(5). Health Act 2016.] • Replace the PHPlan (Within 5 years). [Sec 46(6). Health Act 2016.] • Refer to community feedback as part of reviews and redrafts. [Sec 45(4)(a). Health Act 2016.]	Ongoing December 5 Years Ongoing	Exec
Consider Local Community Feedback	• Develop relevant community consultations to reflect on local health data and public health needs.	Ongoing	Exec

CONCLUSION

The PHPlan has been developed in response to statutory requirements and produced through an evidence-based approach. The plan acknowledges the Shires existing health services and facilities, and sets adaptive objectives that are incorporate, and allow consideration for relevant regional initiatives and funding opportunities. Its strengthens based and supports key environmental health functions.

The Plan is available to the community in a range of formats and encourages feedback that will inform annual reviews of objectives that inform strategic planning, collaborations and shared responsibility for health and community wellbeing.

KEY AGENCIES

Government of **Western Australia**
Department of Health
Epidemiology Branch

Government of **Western Australia**
South Metropolitan Health Service

Government of **Western Australia**
WA Country Health Service

Wheatbelt Development Commission

WA Primary Health Alliance
Better health, together

injury matters
PREVENTION TO RECOVERY

healthway

PLAN PREPARED BY:

LG CONSULTING SOLUTIONS
SERVE AND INFORM

Tony Turner - 0429 411 117

References: Integrated Planning Suite 2020 – 2030. | Shire Population Health Profile, WA Country Health Services Great Southern Population Health Unit. | Government of Western Australia WA Country Health Services, Great Southern Health Profile 2022. | Government of Western Australia Department of Health, State Public Health Plan for Western Australia 2024–2029, Objectives and Priorities, Proposed Framework for the Plan. | Government of Western Australia Department of Health, State Public Health Plan for Western Australia, Objectives and Policy Priorities for 2019-2024. | Government of Western Australia South Metropolitan health Services, Pathway to a Healthy Community, A Guide for Councillors and Local Governments.