



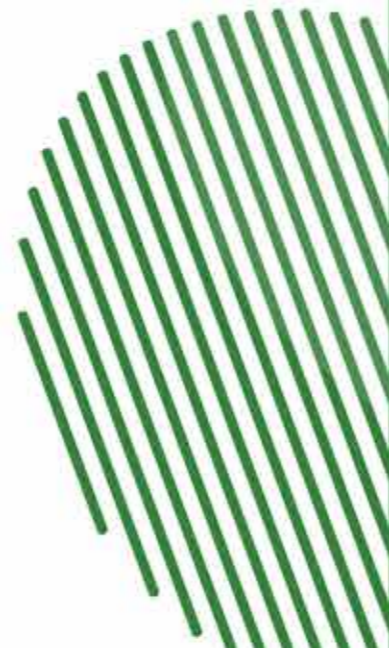
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Litchfield Council

*Youth Strategy*  
and Action Plan

2022-2025



# Introduction

## WHAT

The Litchfield Council *Youth Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2025* has been developed to guide Council on how it will support members of the Litchfield municipality aged 12-25 years to grow and develop through advocacy, empowerment, and connection to build strong foundations for their future.

Litchfield prides itself on the unique rural lifestyle offered, the strength of community and the great natural resources available. This Strategy will ensure the laidback lifestyle, sense of community, and love of nature are maintained.

## WHY

Young people represent nearly 18% of the population of Litchfield, with their parents and carers making up an additional 30%. Recognising the unique needs of this demographic will ensure a vibrant and inclusive community, which benefits everyone and helps to achieve Council's vision of "The best place to live in the Top End".

This Strategy is about working together to support the young people and ensure they have equal access to opportunities to live, work, study and play in Litchfield.

## HOW

This Strategy's Action Plan will acknowledge the work already done by Council, to facilitate future growth as well as outline how existing resources and partnerships can be enhanced to improve outcomes. As a result, Litchfield Council becomes an attractive funding recipient for Territory and Federal grant opportunities to increase service delivery in the youth space.

# Objectives

This strategy has the following objectives:

- 1 Enhance opportunities for young people to live, work, study and play in Litchfield.
- 2 Encourage young people to develop skills and capacity to contribute to the Litchfield community.
- 3 Provide young people the opportunity to have a voice in local decision-making and planning.
- 4 Advocate for young people in Litchfield to State and Federal Government.



# Action Plan

Outcome	Strategic partners	What will Council do	Success measures per year
<b>Objective 1 Enhance opportunities for young people to live, work, play and study in Litchfield</b>			
Young people see Litchfield as a vibrant and dynamic place to live, with everything they need.	Community organisations Northern Territory Government Nearby local councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with government and non-government organisations who deliver services to young people in Litchfield to increase reach and impact</li> <li>Support Litchfield sporting and community organisations to deliver programs and events for young people through Community Initiative Grants and Annual Council Grants</li> <li>Invest in Recreation Reserves to provide facilities for young people to be active and connect with their community</li> <li>Partner with neighbouring Council's to increase participation opportunities for local young people</li> <li>Deliver a Youth Week event each year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote activities of public/NGO providers in the municipality</li> <li>Participation of at least 30 young people in Youth Week Activities</li> <li>Increase in activities delivered in conjunction with Darwin and Palmerston Council</li> <li>Fund more than five projects or events yearly which benefit young people held at Litchfield Recreation Reserves through the grants program.</li> </ul>
Young People are actively engaged with local Education or Employment opportunities.	State and Federal Government Litchfield Schools Vocational education providers Local Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify network meeting opportunities to connect with stakeholders and enable sharing of information and resources to improve outcomes in the municipality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate sector meeting opportunities and the option of facilitating one meeting per year in Litchfield.</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 2 Encourage Young People to develop skills and capacity to contribute to the Litchfield Community</b>			
Young people develop skills and capacity to contribute, in a safe environment.	Community Local community, sporting, and business organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support young people to develop their education and employment opportunities through Council</li> <li>Implement Child Safe policy relating to all Council activities, service providers and affiliates</li> <li>Provide support and resources to young people in Litchfield to improve their education and employment prospects</li> <li>Facilitate opportunities for young people to receive education and training to enhance their volunteer capacity of the youth development grant</li> <li>Offer financial assistance associated with travelling for sport and recreation competitions as well as training and development opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council to maintain current traineeship/ internship program</li> <li>Wi-Fi and public access computers available at the library and identify Wi-Fi opportunities for Council Reserves</li> <li>Include the condition of holding a child safe policy into all relevant grant applications, employment, and service contracts</li> <li>Youth Development Grants offered of up to \$500 to offset travel costs for sport and recreation competitions</li> <li>Taminmin Community Library supporting young people in job seeking and resume writing.</li> </ul>
Young people are recognised for their contributions and encouraged to participate.	Australia Day Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grow outcomes relating to the Litchfield Young Person of the Year Award</li> <li>Provide Youth Development Grants for State, National and International representative opportunities for young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased nominations for the Young Citizen of the Year Award</li> <li>Support of young people through Youth Development Grants</li> <li>Identify events that the Litchfield Young Citizen of the Year can attend and have youth representation.</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 3 Provide Young People the opportunity to have a voice in local decision making and planning</b>			
Litchfield Young people are consulted in local decision making and represented at local, state, and federal youth groups.	Northern Territory and Federal Government NTCOSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage young people in public consultation processes through their schools, sporting clubs and community organisations</li> <li>Advocate for local young people to represent Litchfield on regional and state advisory groups</li> <li>Identify channels for communication between young people and Council.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage Litchfield representation at the NT Youth Round Table</li> <li>Litchfield Council will liaise with representative bodies to ensure representation for relevant opportunities</li> <li>Encourage Litchfield representation in the NT Youth Voices project</li> <li>Improved communication between young people and Council.</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 4 Advocate for young people in Litchfield to State and Northern Territory Government</b>			
Petition the Territory and Commonwealth Governments for the provision of opportunities that build the capacity of young people.	Palmerston and Rural Youth Services (PARYS) Northern Territory Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby Territory and Federal Government for funding for services that cater to young people's physical, mental wellbeing and leadership skills development</li> <li>Advocate for the availability of grant funding from the Northern Territory Government for programs and events in Litchfield</li> <li>Develop an active watch list of strategic funding opportunities and capacity to respond.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendance by a council representative to PARYS meetings as well as other relevant networking and advisory groups as invited</li> <li>Attendance of State and Federal Stakeholders at Litchfield Youth Strategy Launch</li> <li>Produce a quarterly report on youth funding injections into the region.</li> </ul>
Advocate to State and Federal Governments to eliminate barriers for young people to engage and enjoy the rural lifestyle.	State and Federal Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate to the Territory and Federal Government for safer connectivity between public transport and nearby facilities, including shared paths.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shared path networks progressed as part of the Shared Path Plan</li> <li>Contribute to public consultation requests regarding transport in Litchfield</li> <li>Continued discussions with relevant parties regarding the Coolalinga transit of students to Freds Pass Sport and Recreation Reserve.</li> </ul>