

Community Development Strategy

City of Armadale | 2026-2031





Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Armadale acknowledges the Traditional Owners and the Custodians of the land upon which we stand, work and play. We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the First Peoples of this land and their connection to the lands and the waters, as they are part of them spiritually and culturally. We acknowledge their ancestors, the Elders past and present, who have led the way for us to follow in their footsteps and the emerging leaders of today and tomorrow.

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Executive Summary

The City of Armadale's Community Development Strategy 2026–2031 outlines a coordinated approach to strengthen community cohesion, equity and resilience across the City's 20 suburbs.

The Strategy enacts *Aspiration 1 – Community* in the City's Strategic Community Plan 2026–2035 and is informed by community feedback and other suburb-level insights. This includes the 2025 Living in Place survey (1,464 residents) and the 2024 Youth Survey (472 young people) and relevant data sets including the ABS Census, WA Police crime statistics and the Australian Early Development Census results. The City's community development approach is based on empowerment, inclusion, social justice and community-led action. Aligned with these principles, the City facilitates six major sector networks of more than 800 members to share knowledge, build capacity, support community connection and coordinate services.

Across the Strategy's sections of Social Priorities, Aboriginal Development, Access and Inclusion, Children and Families, Young People, Seniors, Financial hardship and homelessness, Volunteering and Community Safety, the City outlines five-year goals and practical actions. These include supporting children's early development, creating more engaging opportunities for young people, improving access to services for people with disability, facilitating participation opportunities for culturally diverse residents, helping older people stay active and connected and identifying pathways

for those experiencing homelessness or financial hardship.

The Strategy explains the work at the Champion Centre, which is staffed by the Aboriginal Development team and serves as a cultural gathering place and key service hub that reflects the City's commitment to meaningful reconciliation. Beyond the services offered at the Centre, the City also supports broader community participation through Armadale Volunteer Services, which assists more than 100 organisations and connects residents with volunteer opportunities. Community Grants and Donations aim to build capacity in community groups to deliver local initiatives, with an increase in demand of this support over the past four years.

Community safety remains a top priority for residents. The Strategy outlines the City's role in crime prevention, neighbourhood connection, safety education and regular collaboration with WA Police and Armadale Neighbourhood Watch.

Overall, the Community Development Strategy 2026–2031 provides clear direction for strengthening social cohesion, improving access to services, supporting vulnerable residents and contributing to a community where people feel safe, connected and proud to belong.

Alignment with the City's Strategic Community Plan

The City of Armadale's Strategic Community Plan 2026–2035 outlines the vision for the City and identifies community priority areas for the next 10 years. It is categorised into four aspirations – Community, Environment, Economy and Leadership & Innovation.

The City's Community Development approach aligns with the aim under *Aspiration 1 – Community* in the Strategic Community Plan:

The City of Armadale will continue to foster and strengthen the community spirit that has been a binding force in the region since its earliest days. It is this sense of collectivity and vitality that has made Armadale a desirable and welcoming community where people continue to choose to make their home.

Specifically, the actions in this Strategy align with the following objectives in the Strategic Community Plan:

1.1 Foster and strengthen community spirit

1.1.1 Facilitate a dynamic calendar of events, festivals and cultural activities that activate suburbs, foster community connections, celebrate community diversity, and encourage a sense of place for residents.

1.1.3 Support the development and sustainability of a diverse range of community groups.

1.2 Improve community wellbeing

1.2.2 Align services and programs with the community's social priorities, and support community safety initiatives.

1.3 Community facilities meet community needs

1.3.1 Provide facilities and services to meet the growth demands and diverse needs of the wider Armadale community.

1.4 An inclusive and engaged community supported by diverse voices and active participation

1.4.1 Support a culture of volunteerism in the community and celebrate the contribution volunteers make to the City.

1.4.2 Encourage the provision of inclusive and accessible facilities, services and programs within the community.

1.4.3 Ensure the provision of culturally appropriate services and programs within the City.



Our Community Profile



The estimated resident population for the City of Armadale in 2026 was approximately 117,474. The population is projected to grow to 155,707 by 2046, representing a 32.5% increase over two decades, equivalent to an average annual growth rate of approximately 1.42%.

Source: ABS and Forecast ID



Household size and composition - Average household size of 2.67 made up of:



Source: Census of Population and Housing 2016 - 2021



15.7%
Seniors aged between 60-84



4.6%
People living with a disability



15.6%
Young people aged between 12-24

Source: Community Profile ID 2021

Community Feedback on Local Strengths and Issues

Living in Place Community Survey

In 2025 a Living in Place survey was conducted with responses from 1,464 residents representing key demographic groups. Of the respondents, 33% were male, 66% female and 1% other. Please note for the 'other' category, there is limited data on the numbers of LGBTIQ+ people in Australia, however in December 2024 the Australian Bureau of Statistics reports the first estimates to be that over 900,000 of all Australians are LGBTIQ+, with 178,000 transgender or gender diverse.

Other demographic insights from the Survey included that 15% of respondents spoke a language other than English at home, with 64% born in Australia followed by 14% born in the United Kingdom, and 11% born in Asia (between 1% and 4% of respondents were born in New Zealand, Europe, African and the Americas).

33% of respondents were in a household composition of a couple with dependent children, followed by 19% of a couple with no children, 18% of a couple with non-dependent children, 13% of other type of household, 11% of lone people and 6% one-parent family with dependent children.

With regards to employment, 69% were employed in some capacity, with 25% retired and 6% seeking employment. The majority of respondents either own or are purchasing their home.

Of 1,313 respondents, 33% stated they have a mental health condition, and 37% stated they do not have a long-term health condition.

It was found that residents highly valued the following experiences:

Areas of strength:

- Access to the natural environment
- A sense of community
- High quality health services
- High quality education opportunities.

Attributes of high importance:

- Feeling safe
- Shopping, leisure and dining experiences
- Affordable decent housing
- Reliable and efficient public transport.

Youth survey

In 2024, young people aged 12 to 25 years who live, study or work in the City of Armadale were invited to respond to the survey. There were 472 responses, with the majority of those responding aged 12 to 17 years. Of the respondents, 50 identified as belonging to the LGBTIQ+ community, 41 stated they were Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD), 28 identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and 20 young people said they were living with disability or chronic condition.

Responses indicate young people strongly value getting along with their family, followed by doing well at school or study, and being independent. Other important values were being accepted by friends, keeping fit and healthy, and getting a job.

The top concern reported by young people was around feeling safe in the community, followed by getting a job, poor mental health, and having somewhere safe to live. Other concerns were around family conflict, making friends, having things to do and places to hang out with friends, as well as adequate transport options.



What is the City of Armadale's Approach to Community Development?

Community Development: A definition

The following definition of Community Development resonates with the City of Armadale's approach:

Community development is a holistic approach grounded in principles of empowerment, human rights, inclusion, social justice, self-determination and collective action (Kenny & Connors, 2017). Community development considers community members to be experts in their lives and communities, and values community knowledge and wisdom. Community development programs are led by community members at every stage – from deciding on issues to selecting and implementing actions, and evaluation. Community development is intended to empower community members and create stronger and more connected communities.

Australian Institute of Family Studies, 2023.

<https://aifs.gov.au/resources/resource-sheets/what-community-development>

Key principles

The City's approach to Community Development is based on the following key principles:

- Listening to the aspirations and needs expressed by the community
- Collating and analysing relevant suburb-level data sets
- Researching good practice examples in similar communities to help inform local responses
- Approaching local government and non-government organisations to establish shared objectives and determine the City's role
- Participating in multi-agency government leadership groups and forums to determine strategic community-wide responses
- Determining the appropriate response: advocacy, contracting a service, capacity building, sector coordination, and/or service delivery including the presentation of community and major events.

This approach aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- A connected, vibrant and proud community
- Community members having access to what is needed the most
- Effective community services sector collaboration

Working with sector stakeholders

The City leads the following sector networks:

1. Armadale Volunteer Managers Network meets twice per year with information and training for people who manage volunteers in their work.
2. Armadale Gosnells Access and Inclusion Network meet four times per year for community members and workers who have an interest in improving access, inclusion and participation opportunities for people with disability. This network is in collaboration with City of Gosnells.
3. Armadale Early Years Network is a forum that meets bi-monthly for individuals and organisations to work together to shape a healthy, happy and thriving community for families with children under 12 years.
4. Armadale Youth Network is a collaborative group of organisations meeting bi-monthly to improve support and services for local young people by sharing knowledge, resources, and planning joint projects.
5. South-east Metro Emergency Relief Network is a quarterly forum for community services to provide coordinated assistance for people in financial hardship seeking food or bill assistance, and linking people to broader support including housing, financial counselling and mental health services.
6. Neighbourhood Connections Network is a bi-monthly forum for leaders of existing community groups to get together, increase their knowledge and discuss concerns and opportunities.

City of Armadale influencing strategies and policies
Strategic Community Plan 2026-2031
Corporate Business Plan
Long Term Financial Plan
Reconciliation Strategy
Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
Community Health and Wellbeing Plan
Art and Culture Strategy
Policy: Engagement with Aboriginal Elders
Policy: Financial Assistance Policy
Policy: Homelessness

Social Priorities

The City's Social Priorities approach is based on identifying the most important aspirations and issues in the City's individual suburbs. The City asks residents about the strengths in their community and the issues they're experiencing, then analyses this feedback alongside suburb-level data captured in the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census, the Australian Early Development Census, Child Safety data, WA Police crime statistics and feedback from local sector stakeholders. Good practice examples in similar communities, both nationally and internationally, are also considered to inform the optimum response by the City.

The first iteration of Social Priorities for 2019 - 2021 was endorsed by Council in 2019, followed by priorities identified for 2021 – 2023, 2023 – 2026 and 2026 – 2029. Initially to be reviewed every two years, the Social Priorities are now updated every three years based on an analysis of the latest data and fresh feedback from the community.

The 2026 - 2029 Social Priorities are as follows:

Neighbourhood and Community Connections
Harrisdale, Haynes, Hilbert and Piara Waters

Access to Essential Supports
Armadale, Brookdale and Kelmscott West

Home and Community Safety
All suburbs

Early Childhood Development
Armadale, Brookdale, Hilbert and Kelmscott West

Valuing Young People
Armadale, Seville Grove and Kelmscott West

The City's responses to the Social Priorities comprise services, programs and activities in the categories of:

- Capacity building (grants, donations, access to Armadale Volunteer Services, professional development for groups, training, group facilitation)
- Coordination of sector networks (six networks are led by the City of over 800 members collectively)
- Service agreements (contracting external organisations to deliver services)
- Community engagement and events.

The next iteration of the Social Priorities will commence in July 2026 and conclude in June 2029.

Feedback from community members and local organisations in recent years include:

"After a big year of dealing with emergencies, we really appreciated the City of Armadale putting on a free event to acknowledge the work of our volunteers." - Armadale SES

"It was good to see all abilities in different capacities of physical activity and participation, it was a fantastic community event." – All Abilities Active Participant

"It's more than just food – it makes me feel part of something." – Recipient of AMURT Service Agreement, Armadale

"It was valuable to meet other sector providers, hear about the incredible services offered to the community, and discover good synergies for the work we all do." – Let's Connect Exhibitor

"It is great to have a space and time where organisations can meet and learn about each other's groups." – Neighbourhood Connections Network member.

"Your acknowledgement and the activities you put on for seniors is greatly appreciated by all." – Seniors Week participant

"There is a growing need in the community for this type of engagement and it's wonderful to see the City take the lead." Let's Play Children's Week event participant

"I've found it to be the best place to know the services that are happening and building relationships with the community." – Armadale Youth Network member

"Makes you feel safer in your home." – Security Incentive Scheme recipient

"A great way to bring the community together. It really showcased the diversity and spirit of Armadale." – Armadale Multicultural Fair participant

Aboriginal Development and the Champion Centre

The City of Armadale has a long-standing positive relationship with the Aboriginal community and is committed to meaningful reconciliation.

Aboriginal Development is a core part of the City's community development approach, extending beyond individual programs to influence initiatives across the organisation. The Champion Centre is staffed by the Aboriginal Development Team as a service hub that supports coordinated services, cultural leadership and community engagement.

The Centre has space to accommodate up to 15 organisations via its hot desk working hub, provides support to community members daily, partners with government and non-government organisations to deliver services and receives on average 800 community member visits per week.

By combining big-picture planning with culturally grounded local work, the City improves long-term outcomes for Aboriginal families and embeds Aboriginal perspectives in its planning across its services.

Focus areas

These key focus areas reflect the broader environmental, social and cultural conditions within the City of Armadale and at a national level.

- Cultural governance and Aboriginal-led decision making
- Culturally safe places for development and partnership
- Coordinated access to essential supports
- Connection, health and social inclusion
- Respecting and supporting Elders
- Cross-sector partnerships for aligned outcomes.

Action Plan			
Outcome		Actions	Measure
1.1	Aboriginal priorities, cultural governance, and community-led approaches are embedded across City policy, planning, and service delivery frameworks	• Implement the Reconciliation Strategy • Establish and maintain Elders Advisory mechanisms • Embed cultural authority processes across projects and programs.	Percentage of Strategy actions completed or on track
			Number of cultural governance processes embedded
			Number of Elders Advisory meetings held
1.2	The Champion Centre remains an enduring, strategically significant community facility providing a stable and culturally safe base for Aboriginal development and partnerships.	• Maintain and support the Champion Centre as a high-quality, well-governed, culturally safe hub through consistent service delivery, asset oversight, and partnership coordination.	Number of Elders participating
			Number of recommendations actioned
			Number of projects applying cultural authority processes
1.3	Aboriginal families experience coordinated access to essential services and support	• Coordinate co-location services at the Champion Centre; strengthen referral pathways and multi-agency collaboration • Deliver Koort Marrakool in partnership with local organisations to provide culturally appropriate food relief and emergency assistance.	Number of services delivered at the Centre
			Number of partner organisations engaged
			Number of visitors or participants
1.4	Aboriginal community members are actively engaged in programs that promote connection, health, and social inclusion.	• Deliver culturally appropriate programs and events through the Champion Centre and partner organisations • Deliver an annual NAIDOC event.	Percentage of maintenance actions completed on time
			Facility compliance with safety and cultural-safety standards
			Feedback from community members
1.5	Aboriginal families experience coordinated access to essential services and support	• Coordinate co-location services at the Champion Centre; strengthen referral pathways and multi-agency collaboration • Deliver Koort Marrakool in partnership with local organisations to provide culturally appropriate food relief and emergency assistance.	Number of co-located services operating at the Centre
			Number of referrals made through coordinated pathways
			Number of community members accessing Koort Marrakool
1.6	Partnerships across government, non-government, philanthropic, and research sectors strengthen outcomes and system alignment.	• Coordinate co-location services at the Champion Centre; strengthen referral pathways and multi-agency collaboration • Deliver Koort Marrakool in partnership with local organisations to provide culturally appropriate food relief and emergency assistance.	Number of food relief packages distributed
			Feedback from community members
			Feedback from services
1.7	Aboriginal community members are actively engaged in programs that promote connection, health, and social inclusion.	• Deliver culturally appropriate programs and events through the Champion Centre and partner organisations • Deliver an annual NAIDOC event.	Number of programs delivered at the Centre
			Demographics of people participating
			Number of participants engaged in NAIDOC
1.8	Aboriginal Elders are supported, connected, and actively engaged in community life and governance.	• Provide ongoing Elders' programs, advocacy, referrals, and leadership opportunities.	Feedback from community members
			Number of programs
			Number of Elders supported through advocacy or referrals
1.9	Partnerships across government, non-government, philanthropic, and research sectors strengthen outcomes and system alignment.	• Provide ongoing Elders' programs, advocacy, referrals, and leadership opportunities.	Feedback from Elders
			Quantity, quality and outputs of collaborative relationships and alignment of programs
			Number of advocacy actions undertaken
1.10	Partnerships across government, non-government, philanthropic, and research sectors strengthen outcomes and system alignment.	• Align initiatives with State and Federal Government programs • Collaborate with not-for-profit and philanthropic organisations to progress research initiatives • Advocate for systemic change.	Results of systemic change advocacy efforts

Data

2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census

- In 2021, 3.0% of the City of Armadale's population was of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin compared to 2.0% in Greater Perth.
- The suburb of Armadale South has the highest percentage of Aboriginal people at 6.9%

Disability Access and Inclusion

The City of Armadale is committed to ensuring that people with disability and their families can easily access information and support, participate in planning community events, and enjoy safe, inclusive spaces. City of Armadale facilities and services are designed to be accessible and are developed in consultation with people with disability.

The City adheres to its Access and Inclusion Plan which is overseen by the City's Access and Inclusion Reference Group comprising community members, representatives from disability service organisations and City Councillors. As the Plan is a legislated requirement, it is monitored by the WA Government through an annual Progress Report summarising the City's initiatives across the following outcome areas:

- 1. Services and events
- 2. Buildings and facilities
- 3. Information
- 4. Quality of service
- 5. Complaints
- 6. Consultation processes
- 7. Employment

Department of Social Services

As at March 2025 there were 2,530 residents of City of Armadale receiving a Disability Support Pension.

2024 Australian Early Development Census

- The Australian Early Development Census data showed that 3.9% of children attending pre-primary schooling in 2024 had a status of special needs, and that 25.5% of children were identified by their teachers as requiring further assessment for a potential medical, behavioural or developmental concern.

Focus areas

These focus areas reflect Armadale's environmental, social and cultural context and aligns with the State Government's legislative requirements.

- Access to City services and facilities
- Social inclusion in the community

Action Plan			
Outcome	Actions		Measure
2.1	People with disability and parents of children with disability (or seeking a diagnosis) can navigate systems to get the information and support they need.	• Advocate for funded programs for children with disability to be delivered locally • Provide information to the community on services that support people with disability and their carers.	- Number of advocacy actions undertaken - Number of programs implemented or supported - Number of information resources produced - Number of community engagements or communications
2.2	People with disability are actively involved in planning and delivering community events.	• Promote the Armadale-Gosnells Access and Inclusion Network to community to increase representation of community members.	Numbers of community members participating in the Network and in the planning of events
2.3	People with disability have access to safe and inclusive social activities, spaces and communities.	• Deliver and promote inclusive youth activities that attract diverse audience participation • Advocate for disability-inclusive play and recreation spaces for both children and adults.	- Number of inclusive youth activities delivered - Feedback from young people - Number of advocacy actions undertaken - Number of inclusive design features incorporated into new or upgraded spaces
2.4	City of Armadale services, facilities and events are accessible to people with disability and are designed with consultation and collaboration with people with disability.	• Facilitate the operation of the Access and Inclusion Reference Group • Coordinate the delivery of disability awareness training for City staff • Promote best practice for accessible facilities and services in Local Government • Support City staff to deliver all-ability programs, activities and events.	- Number of meetings held, members participating and recommendations actioned - Number of training sessions delivered, staff trained and staff understanding based on feedback - Number of best-practice guidelines promoted - Number of City projects applying accessibility standards as cited in the DAIP annual report - Number of all-ability programs delivered - Number of participants engaged

Data

2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census

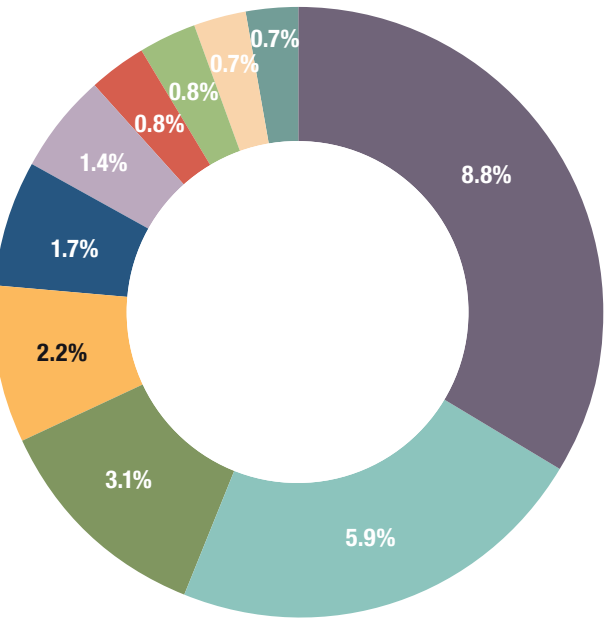
- 4,373 people or 4.6% of the population in the City of Armadale reported needing help in their day-to-day lives
- 9% of the population of City of Armadale reported having a mental health condition.
- In the City of Armadale there were 7,829 carers providing unpaid assistance to a person with a disability, long-term illness or old age.



Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities

In Australia, the term “culturally and linguistically diverse” generally refers to people who were born overseas, have parents born overseas, or speak a language other than English at home.

The City of Armadale is committed to ensuring new residents, migrants, and refugees can easily access local services, build social connections, maintain cultural identity, and participate in community life free from discrimination. City facilities play a key role as welcoming hubs that support inclusion, celebrate cultural diversity, and help residents form strong support networks.



Birthplace

8,310 United Kingdom	1,324 Malaysia
5,582 India	799 Sri Lanka
2,953 New Zealand	798 Singapore
2,100 Philippines	678 China
1,566 South Africa	639 Zimbabwe

Mapping Social Cohesion Report 2024

According to the following data cited in the Scanlon Foundation’s Mapping Social Cohesion Report 2024, it is important to most Australians to embrace multiculturalism:

- In 2024, 82% of respondents agreed that immigrants improve Australian society by bringing new ideas and cultures
- In 2024, 92% of respondents agreed that ‘someone who was born outside of Australia is just as likely to be a good citizen as someone born in Australia’,
- In 2024, 86% of respondents liked meeting and getting to know people from different ethnic and cultural groups
- In 2024, 85% of adults agreed that ‘multiculturalism has been good for Australia’ and 71% say that ‘accepting immigrants from many different countries makes Australia stronger’
- 63% of adults said that racism is a very big or fairly big problem in Australia, a similar proportion to those recorded in 2021, 2022 and 2023
- 65% of people born in Australia and 64% of those whose parents were both born in Australia saw racism as a ‘very big’ or ‘fairly big’ problem in Australia – at least as high as overseas-born Australians from non-English speaking backgrounds at 59%.

Data

2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census

36% of all residents in the City of Armadale were born overseas. 23.6% of the City of Armadale’s population spoke a language other than English, compared to the Greater Perth average of 20%. 2.4% of the City of Armadale population are not fluent in English. The top ten countries of birth were:

Focus areas

These key focus areas for new residents reflect the broader environmental, social and cultural conditions within the City of Armadale and at a national level.

- Easy access to information
- Addressing racial and religious discrimination
- Opportunities to meet people and participate in community life.
- Celebrating diversity

Action Plan

Outcome	Actions	Measure
3.1 New residents to City of Armadale know how to access City services and facilities and find other services they can access locally.	• Provide information targeted at new residents in multiple formats including print and online welcome packs.	Number of packs produced and distributed Feedback from community members
3.2 New residents have opportunities to establish social connections and support networks with their neighbours and other community members.	• Deliver and promote activities in neighbourhoods that facilitate neighbour interaction.	Number of activities delivered Attendance numbers and feedback received
3.3 Migrant residents have opportunities to maintain connection with and practice their home cultures.	• Promote the Community Grants program to local organisations to deliver events and activities that celebrate diverse cultures.	Number of grant applications received from local organisations Numbers of events and activities delivered Feedback from recipients including via acquittal reports
3.4 Migrants and refugees in the City of Armadale can engage in community life free of racial or religious discrimination or harassment.	• Inform the community about diverse cultures and celebrate diversity via the City’s major and community events and activities.	Number of communications promoting cultural diversity Feedback from community members Incidents of reported racial or religious harassment to community organisations (including the MAG) and the City
3.5 People who live or work in the City of Armadale recognise and celebrate the growing cultural diversity in the City.	• Promote the Community Grants program to community-based groups to provide opportunities for resident participation and social connection.	Number of CaLD-focused grant applications received Number of CaLD-focused activities delivered through grants Feedback from recipients including via acquittal reports
3.6 City facilities act as service hubs to provide a safe space for information and connection	• Advocate for design of new and renovated City facilities to accommodate service hub activities.	Number of advocacy actions undertaken Number of new or renovated facilities incorporating service-hub design features



Children and Families

The City of Armadale is committed to supporting strong early childhood development by supporting parents and carers to understand children’s needs, navigate services, and build community connections.

The City is dedicated to strengthening collaboration across child, family and parenting services, promoting child safety and wellbeing, and ensuring City facilities and programs actively foster healthy development. The City also supports community groups to deliver safe, accessible programs for all children.

With a significant proportion of our residents being families with children, the City is home to:

- 30 primary schools
- 15 secondary schools
- 42 early learning centres
- 27 Out of School Hours Care services
- One Family Day Care Scheme
- One Child and Parent Centre
- Three Family Centres
- and many other child and family-focused support services.

There are 10 community-based and eight school-based playgroups offering 32 sessions per week. The majority of the playgroups are free and supported by the host organisation. Support may include facilitating the sessions or providing the venue and use of resources.

Focus areas

These key focus areas reflect the broader environmental, social and developmental conditions within the City of Armadale and at a national level.

- Child Safety
- AEDC-informed decision making
- Sector integration including City services such as libraries, museums and recreation
- Access to services such as child health nurses and immunisation
- School transitions (pre-school to primary school, primary school to high school)
- Reducing barriers for families with complex financial, health or social challenges
- Resource development – Nature passports, Community Maps, Me@ booklets, AEDC awareness
- Continuous improvement on communication to community members through emerging technologies, effective promotion and engagement activities.

2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census

Data type	City of Armadale	Greater Perth	Western Australia
Percentage of households that are couples with children	36.4%	32%	30.2%
Percentage of households that are one parent families with children	12.3%	10.3%	10%
Percentage of population aged 0-4 years	8.0%	6.1%	6.1%
Percentage of population aged 0-4 years forecast for 2031	6.7%		
Percentage of population aged 5 -11 years	8.0%	9.0%	9.1%
Percentage of population aged 5 -11 years forecast for 2031	10.3%		

2024 Australian Early Development Census

Data type	City of Armadale	Western Australia
Percentage of children on track on all five AEDC domains	46.7%	53.1%
Percentage of children vulnerable on one or more AEDC domains	30.9%	24.1%
Percentage of children vulnerable on two or more AEDC domains	17.7%	12.6%

Action Plan

Outcome	Actions	Measure
4.1 Enhanced early childhood development.	• Support early learning activities such as playgroups and library programs • Implement the Nutrition in Schools program for school breakfast clubs.	Number of playgroups and library early-learning sessions delivered Number of children and parents participating Feedback from parents Number of schools participating in the Nutrition in Schools program
4.2 Parents and other carers understand how children develop, and can navigate sector systems (health, education, early learning and care).	• Provide opportunities for parents and services to interact • Promote relevant resources and information on child development to parents.	Number of parent-service interaction events delivered Number of services participating Attendance numbers and feedback received Number of resources promoted
4.3 Families increase their connections with other families, neighbours and community.	• Deliver engagement activities in neighbourhood locations. • Deliver the City’s Major Events program.	Number of activities delivered and the locations selected Attendance numbers and feedback received Number of family-focused activities included at the City’s major events Feedback from families attending the City’s major events
4.4 Strengthen service integration of child, family and parenting sector services.	• Facilitate sector networks to maximise information and resource sharing • Advocate for organisations to deliver services in the City.	Number of attendees at the sector networks Number of advocacy actions undertaken Number of new or expanded services delivered locally
4.5 Improved understanding of child safety and wellbeing throughout the City.	• Implement the National Principles of Child Safety throughout City services and practices.	Number of child-related services applying Child Safety Principles Number of staff trained Number of child safety improvements implemented
4.6 Increased opportunities for City facilities and programs to be catalysts for optimum child development and safety.	• Advocate for the use of data, including AEDC results, Family and Domestic Violence data and Child Protection data to inform decision making on matters that affect families and children.	Number of advocacy actions undertaken Number of data informed planning actions
4.7 Community groups and organisations are adequately resourced to provide safe and accessible programs for children.	• Promote the Community Grants program to local organisations and community groups to facilitate child development.	Number of child-development grant applications received Number of child-focused activities delivered through grants Feedback from recipients including via acquittal reports

Young People

The City of Armadale supports young people by working with key stakeholders to maximise their local access to education, employment and positive social opportunities.

The City supports parents and carers with understanding young people and accessing services, while strengthening coordination across local youth organisations. The City will continue to progress a shared understanding of youth safety and wellbeing, design youth-friendly facilities and programs and support community organisations to deliver safe and inclusive programs for all young people.

2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census

Data type	City of Armadale	Greater Perth	Western Australia
Percentage of population aged 12-17 years	7.8%	7.4%	7.4%
Percentage of population aged 12-17 years Forecast for 2031	9.5%		
Percentage of population aged 18-24 years	7.8%	8.6%	8.2%
Percentage of population aged 18-24 years Forecast for 2031	10.2%		
Percentage of disengaged young people (not in work or study)	11.1%	7.8%	8.8%

Youth Survey 2024

A survey of young people was conducted in 2024 with 472 respondents. Many showed young people strongly value getting along with their family, doing well at school or study and being independent. Other important values were being accepted by friends, keeping fit and healthy, and getting a job.

The top concern reported was around feeling safe in the community, accessing employment, managing mental health, and having somewhere safe to live.

35% of respondents would like to have access to sport activities, sports clubs or sporting infrastructure and 24.7% of respondents requested safe places and spaces suitable for young people to hang out with friends and family.

Focus areas

These key focus areas for young people reflect the broader environmental, social and developmental conditions within the City of Armadale and at a national level.

- Safe youth-friendly spaces
- Understanding current issues impacting young people to inform decision making through data, and direct consultation with young people and those who support them
- Supporting and connecting services that support young people including City services such as libraries, museums, Armadale University Study Hub and recreation services
- Access to health and education services
- Primary to high school transition
- Reducing barriers for young people in families with complex financial, health or social challenges
- Supporting groups at higher risk – LGBTIQ+, disengaged from school or work, young people with disability.

Action Plan

Outcome	Actions	Measure
5.1 Young people have local access to employment, education and social engagement.	• Support activities for young people such as recreation and library programs • Implement the Nutrition in Schools program for school breakfast clubs • Advocate for education providers to deliver services in Armadale including alternative schooling and the Armadale University Study Hub.	- Number of youth programs delivered - Number of young people participating - Number of partner organisations involved - Number of advocacy actions undertaken - Number of new or expanded education services delivered locally - Number of schools participating in the Nutrition in Schools program
5.2 Parents and other carers understand the development needs of teenagers and young adults and can support their young people to navigate sector systems.	• Provide opportunities for parents and services to interact. • Promote relevant resources and information on youth development to parents.	- Number of parent-service interaction events delivered - Number of parents engaged - Number of services participating - Feedback from parents and young people - Number of resources promoted - Number of communications issued
5.3 Young people increase their connections with peers and build their communities of interest.	• Deliver and support a wide variety of activities that cater for different interests • Facilitate the Armadale Youth Advisory Council (AYAC) and support the AYAC's projects.	- Number of activities delivered - Number of participants engaged - Diversity of participation (age, background, ability) - Number of AYAC meetings held, members participating and projects delivered
5.4 Strengthen service integration of youth sector services.	• Facilitate sector networks to maximise information and resource sharing • Advocate for organisations to deliver services in the City.	- Number of sector network meetings held - Number of organisations participating - Number of advocacy actions undertaken - Number of new or expanded youth services delivered locally
5.5 Improved understanding of safety and wellbeing for young people throughout the City.	• Implement the National Principles of Child Safety throughout City services and practices.	- Number of youth-related services applying Child Safety Principles - Number of staff trained - Number of child-safety improvements implemented
5.6 Increased opportunities for City facilities and programs to be catalysts for young people to successfully navigate their options.	• Advocate for City facilities to be designed to meet the needs of young people.	- Number of advocacy actions undertaken - Number of new or renovated facilities incorporating service hub design features
5.7 Community groups and organisations are adequately resourced to provide safe and accessible programs for young people.	• Promote the Community Grants program to local organisations and community groups to facilitate youth activities • Provide advice and support for organisations seeking funding for programs.	- Number of youth-focused grant applications received - Number of youth activities delivered through grants - Number of organisations supported - Number of successful funding outcomes - Feedback from recipients including via acquittal reports



LGBTIQA+ People

The City of Armadale is committed to supporting the rights of all members of our community to be safe and free from discrimination, and to participate in cultural and community activities in ways that reflect their individual choices.

Many members of the LGBTIQA+ community are fearful of expressing their identity in public spaces, and many with their own families. The City supports LGBTIQA+ people of all ages, ethnicities and interests to be active members of the Armadale community without fear of discrimination.

Data 2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census

Data on the numbers of LGBTIQA+ people in Australia is limited, with no Armadale-specific data available. The 2021 Census collected data on relationships with people Australians lived with, including same-sex couples living together. The Census reported:

- In Australia there are 78,425 same-sex couples living together, an increase from 33,714 in 2011 and 46,767 in 2016 including 6,513 same-sex couples in WA - an increase from 2,576 in 2011 and 3,385 in 2016.
- 17% of same-sex couples were couples with children. There were 13,554 same-sex couples with children in Australia at the 2021 Census, up from 4,081 in 2011 and 6,915 in 2016.
- Compared to 'All Couples', same-sex couples tended to be younger in age and more likely to live in Cities and urban areas, have mental health conditions, be employed and be born in Australia.

ABS data from December 2024 reports these first estimates of the LGBTIQA+ Australian populations:

- Over 900,000 (4.5%) of all Australians are LGBTIQA+.
- 178,000 (1%) of Australians are trans or gender diverse.
- The percentage of the population in each age category that is LGBTIQA+ is greatest in the youngest age category of 16 – 24 years (9.5%) and progressively decreases with each age category.
- Over half (52%) of Australians who are Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual (LGB+) are aged 16 – 29 years.

City of Armadale data

The Living in Place Survey of City of Armadale residents conducted in 2025 invited respondents to identify their gender, of which 1% stated their gender as Other, reflecting national data. In comparison to Males and Females, respondents that identified as Other gender reported Cultural facilities and Good job prospects as being of greater importance. They felt their physical and mental health was less likely to get worse over the next year than males and females, but less likely that their social wellbeing will get better. They are twice as likely as males and females to access Libraries, and Entertainment and Arts services within City of Armadale, but also more likely to access Entertainment, Arts and Culture services outside of the City. 57% of respondents of Other gender were likely or very likely to remain living in the City of Armadale in the long term.

Fifty (11%) of the 472 respondents to the City of Armadale Youth Survey 2024 aged 12 – 25 identified as LGBTIQA+, a slightly higher percentage than the Australian LGBTIQA+ population aged 16 – 24.

Intersectional data

A survey of WA Aboriginal LGBTIQA+ people in 2021 reported that 73% of respondents had experienced discrimination whilst going about their daily lives within the last twelve months, and that they felt the least comfortable when 'using public transport, going to the gym, visiting government offices such as Centrelink and attending sporting events'.



LGBTIQA+ people and mental health

LGBTIQA+ people have higher rates of poor mental health and are at greater risk of self-harm than the wider population. The ABS reports that 74.5% of people in Australia who identified their sexual orientation as other than heterosexual (LGBTIQA+) have had a mental health disorder, compared to 41% of heterosexual people. 41% of LGBTIQA+ people had self-harmed at some point, compared to 7.4% of heterosexual people. Further to that, 73.6% of people who described their sexual orientation as something other than heterosexual, gay, lesbian or bisexual had self-harmed in their lifetime. Young LGBTIQA+ people were found to access mental health services at a greater rate than older LGBTIQA+ people.

headspace is a mental health support service for people aged 12 to 25 years. The headspace Armadale service data for the first three quarters of the 2025/26 financial year indicates an average of 6% of clients accessing mental health support as identifying as Gender Diverse and 30% of clients identified as LGBTIQA+.

Further data will be available following the 2026 Census as questions on gender and sexual orientation of people aged 16 years and older will be included for the first time. Considering significant increases in numbers of people identifying as LGBTIQA+ and living in same sex relationships is increasing (doubling) with each Census period from 2011, this population group is likely to increase in significance in the 2026 Census and beyond and apply to City of Armadale as much as the rest of Greater Perth.

Focus areas

These key focus areas for LGBTIQA+ people reflect the broader environmental, social and economic conditions within the City of Armadale and at a national level.

- Inclusion as one of the many aspects of Armadale life
- Connection with social, cultural and economic opportunities
- LGBTIQA+ people of all ages are visually represented
- Respect is demonstrated through understanding.

Action Plan

Outcome	Actions	Measure
6.1 Improved data of LGBTIQA+ demographics in Armadale to inform planning of facilities and services.	• Review 2026 Australian Census data and invite survey respondents to provide Sexual orientation and gender identity data.	Percentage of City surveys that include these questions Percentage of respondents who provide this information
6.2 LGBTIQA+ people at all life stages feel safe to express their identity in public spaces, when they choose to.	• Use correct language, pronouns in communications.	Percentage of communications reviewed for inclusive language
6.3 Services, businesses and facilities in Armadale are welcoming to LGBTIQA+ people.	• Promote activities as welcoming to LGBTIQA+ people, Include LGBTIQA+ support services in relevant events.	Number of events promoted as LGBTIQA+-inclusive Number of events that include LGBTIQA+ support services Attendance numbers and feedback received
6.4 LGBTIQA+ people, their families and friends share their experiences and express their needs to decision makers.	• Consult with community and stakeholders to maintain current knowledge and inclusive practices.	Number of LGBTIQA+ organisations engaged and feedback received
6.5 Being LGBTIQA+ is seen as one of the many ways of being a person in Armadale.	• Promote LGBTIQA+ inclusion as one of the many ways Armadale is inclusive of all people.	Number of communications highlighting LGBTIQA+ inclusion Number of inclusion campaigns featuring LGBTIQA+ representation Feedback from community members

Older People

The City of Armadale is committed to supporting residents transitioning into and throughout retirement to remain active, socially connected and engaged in community life.

The City will support opportunities for older people to build social connections, participate in educational and cultural activities, feel safe in their homes and neighbourhoods, and access appropriate services, particularly for those experiencing financial hardship.

2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census

Data type	City of Armadale	Greater Perth	Western Australia
Percentage of older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59)	10.8%	12.4%	12.6%
Percentage of older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59) Forecast for 2031	10.2%		
Percentage of empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	8.8%	10.2%	10.6%
Percentage of empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69) Forecast for 2031	7.8%		
Percentage of seniors (70 to 84)	6.9%	9.1%	9.3%
Percentage of seniors (70 to 84) Forecast for 2031	7.2%		
Percentage of elderly (85 and over)	1.1%	1.9%	1.9%
Percentage of elderly (85 and over) Forecast for 2031	1.4%		
Older people (65+) living alone	7.2%	9.6%	9.6%

Focus areas

These key focus areas for older people reflect the broader environmental, social and economic conditions within the City of Armadale and at a national level.

- Reducing social isolation
- Safety and perceptions of safety
- Financial hardship and housing
- Accessing Aged Care services.



Action Plan

Outcome	Actions	Measure
7.1 Residents of City of Armadale transitioning to retirement have opportunities to remain active and create new social connections.	• Promote Armadale Volunteer Services to residents who are newly retired or planning to retire.	- Number of promotional activities targeting newly retired residents - Number of referrals reported by the AVS from newly retired residents
7.2 Older people feel connected to their neighbours and community.	• Promote and support activities that focus on reducing social isolation and culturally inclusive activities for older people • Promote the Community Grants program to local organisations and community groups that offer opportunities for older people to connect with others • Deliver the City's Major Events program • Continue to provide Dale Cottages with an annual operational subsidy to deliver programs for older people at the Greendale Centre.	- Number of socially inclusive activities delivered - Attendance numbers and feedback from participants - Number of seniors' focused grant applications received - Number of seniors' activities delivered through grants - Number of organisations supported - Feedback from recipients including via acquittal reports - Feedback from older people attending the City's major events - Number and impact of programs delivered at Greendale Centre as cited in an annual report from Dale Cottages Inc.
7.3 Older people have opportunities to engage in educational and cultural activities.	• Support and promote the delivery of events and activities for older people.	- Number of senior-focused events supported or promoted - Attendance numbers and feedback from participants
7.4 Older people feel safe in their homes and community.	• Promote the Security Incentive Scheme as this provides additional assistance for applicants with a Seniors Card or on an Aged Pension • Support Neighbourhood Watch to provide safety messages and resources to seniors • Provide information to older people on navigating the aged care system and financial literacy through workshops, links to information and upskilling of staff.	- Number of promotions targeting seniors - Number of senior applicants to the SIS - Number of Neighbourhood Watch activities - Number of financial literacy workshops delivered - Attendance numbers and feedback from participants
7.5 Older people in financial hardship have access to services.	• Deliver the <i>Let's Connect Expo</i> to promote services and information on financial hardship and housing • Promote the City's Hardship Resource Directory.	- Attendance numbers and feedback from participants - Number of participating service providers - Number of seniors accessing financial hardship or housing information - Number of promotions of the directory

Financial Hardship and Homelessness

The City of Armadale takes a compassionate approach to the issue of primary homelessness by its support and when possible, coordination of the relevant departments, sector organisations and service agencies involved in this area.

City staff and its contractors who interact with people experiencing primary homelessness will do so with an attitude of empathy and a disposition to assist.

This approach extends to people experiencing broader forms of hardship, recognising that financial stress, family breakdown, mental health challenges and other pressures can place individuals at risk of homelessness or social isolation. The City also works to build community understanding of the complex causes of homelessness and hardship with the aim of fostering empathy.



Data

2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census

255 people in Armadale were classified as experiencing homelessness (these numbers are conservative):

- 39 were sleeping rough
- 26 were in supported accommodation
- 70 were temporarily staying with other people
- 27 living in boarding houses
- 93 in severely overcrowded dwellings

The following groups of people are experiencing homelessness:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – 35%
- Young people – 19.8%
- Children under 18 – 20.5%
- Older people ages 55+ - 19.1%
- People with disability – 5%

Causes and triggers of homelessness include family and domestic violence, poverty, unemployment, sexual assault, young people exiting out-of-home care, mental health conditions, shortage of affordable housing, addiction, and social isolation.

Focus areas

These key strategic focus areas reflect the broader environmental, social and economic conditions within the City of Armadale and at a national level.

- Addressing immediate financial crisis
- Systemic support to alleviate impacts of homelessness and housing insecurity
- Access to services that can address and prevent homelessness and financial hardship
- Understanding factors that contribute to financial and housing crisis
- Affordability of essential goods and services such as food and health care.

Action Plan

Outcome	Actions	Measure
8.1 Rough Sleepers are supported to access accommodation services.	• Adhere to the City's Homelessness Policy • Engage regularly with internal business units, relevant external organisations and WA Government Departments to receive up to date information pertaining to accommodation and other support services.	Homelessness Working Group to monitor efficacy of Homelessness Policy and Operational Directions Number of WA Government Departments engaged Number of service updates shared internally
8.2 People in financial crisis or ongoing hardship have access to support services.	• Promote the Community Grants program to local organisations and community groups to provide support services including food relief, emergency relief and financial literacy information • Advocate for services to be located locally or provide outreach • Promote the City's Hardship Resource Directory • Implement the Nutrition in Schools program for school breakfast clubs.	Number of emergency-relief focused grant applications received Number of emergency-relief projects delivered through grants Number of organisations supported Feedback from recipients including via acquittal reports Number of organisations supported to explore service delivery in the City Number of advocacy actions undertaken Number of Directories distributed Number of schools participating in the Nutrition in Schools program
8.3 Community members understand that factors that lead to homelessness are complex and know how to help.	• Provide timely and relevant information to community members via the City's communication channels • Deliver activities to promote awareness during National Homelessness Week.	Number of homelessness-related communications issued Number of activities delivered for National Homelessness Week Attendance numbers and feedback received Number of partner organisations involved



Armadale Volunteer Service

Overview

Armadale Volunteer Services (AVS) is funded by the Department of Communities and aims to strengthen and connect communities through supporting and recognising the contribution of volunteers to local community organisations and initiatives.

The City of Armadale is home to 240 incorporated not-for-profit groups and associations that rely on volunteer community members to provide governance and deliver services. The AVS assists by working with Volunteer-Involving Organisations (VIOs) to create and promote volunteer roles and offers training to support their roles and responsibilities as volunteer managers. AVS supports volunteers by offering training such as first aid and cultural awareness. In addition, the contributions of volunteers are celebrated every year through National Volunteer Week and International Volunteer Day.

Data

In the 2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census, 9,390 persons (13%) residing in the City of Armadale reported “doing some form of voluntary work”. This figure had dropped 3% from the 2016 Census, consistent with the rest of the country following the COVID-19 pandemic. The numbers of people seeking volunteering positions through AVS has steadily increased since 2021 as follows, indicating the community’s intention to return to formal voluntary work:

Financial Year	Number of individuals (volunteers) who received one-on-one consultations
2021 / 2022	53
2022 / 2023	100
2023 / 2024	124
2024 / 2025	235

As of February 2026, there were 152 organisations registered as VIOs with AVS, receiving information and accessing training. Approximately 50 VIOs are actively recruiting volunteers through AVS at any given time. In the 2024/25 financial year, AVS connected 235 members of the community with 82 agencies and community groups.

Strategic goals

As AVS is funded by the Western Australian Government to develop and support volunteering in local communities, AVS was established to support the achievement of the Volunteering Strategy Outcomes of the WA Volunteering Strategy:

- The volunteering sector can recognise and respond to the changing needs of volunteers.
- More Western Australians, from all backgrounds, are engaged in volunteering and enriched by the experience.
- The volunteering sector harnesses technological innovation to facilitate participation.
- Communities and organisations can involve volunteers effectively for their mutual benefit.
- Volunteers are recognised and celebrated.
- Volunteering is recognised and valued for the contribution it makes to our communities.



Grants and Donations

The City supports local residents by assisting community groups and organisations to deliver activities, events, equipment and programs that enhance community wellbeing.

This support is provided through the Community Grants program, General Donations and the Nutrition in Schools grant. Residents of the City of Armadale can also receive individual assistance through the Sporting, Recreation and Development Donation or the School Scholar Award.

Data

Donations

Individual and general donations had declined in the 2021/22 financial year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of applications increased again from 2022/23 as shown below.

Financial Year	Sporting and development donations; general donations
2021 / 2022	\$9,250.00
2022 / 2023	\$35,450.00
2023 / 2024	\$33,850.00
2024 / 2025	\$39,700.00

Community Grants

Community Grants are available to incorporated not-for-profits and registered charities to support the purchase of equipment and the delivery of events and projects.

Applications in all categories have increased significantly since the 2021/22 financial year, reaching a peak of 50 applications in 2023/24. Reasons for the increase include a return to pre-Covid community activity, population growth, and an increase in the number of community groups in the City including new sporting clubs. Other factors include the increased cost of equipment and services and the increased complexity of delivering events and projects. The numbers of applications and grants offered are as follows:

Financial Year	Applications	Successful	Equipment Grants	One-off project or event	Extended program	Total
2021 / 2022	26	21	\$3,804.00	\$17,000.00	\$25,611.00	\$46,415.00
2022 / 2023	24	19	\$6,993.00	\$21,814.00	\$14,950.00	\$43,757.00
2023 / 2024	50	36	\$10,482.00	\$34,359.00	\$35,253.00	\$80,094.00
2024 / 2025	49	37	\$13,409.00	\$34,315.00	\$25,000.00	\$72,724.00



Nutrition in Schools

Nutrition in Schools donations continues to support local public primary and high schools that operate a school breakfast program with \$300 allocated per school year towards operating expenses. Donations from the 2021/22 financial year onwards are as follows:

Financial Year	Number of schools applied	Total Donations
2021 / 2022	9	\$2,700.00
2022 / 2023	13	\$3,900.00
2023 / 2024	13	\$3,900.00
2024 / 2025	13	\$3,900.00

School Scholar Awards

Secondary schools may nominate a Year 10 student to receive \$300 towards the cost of their schooling in Year 11. In 2025 this was extended to Primary Schools, inviting each school to nominate a Year 6 student to receive a voucher to the value of \$50 to spend on school supplies. Amounts awarded since 2023 are as follows:

Calendar Year	Number of high schools accepted	Number of primary schools accepted	Total value
2023	8	N/A	\$2,400.00
2024	8	N/A	\$2,400.00
2025	6	8	\$2,200.00

Focus areas

These strategic key focus areas for Grants and Donations reflect the broader social and cultural conditions within the City of Armadale.

- Community group capacity building
- Celebrating achievement in academic, sporting and cultural pursuits
- Affordable community participation and social inclusion
- Delivery of community-led events and activities.

Action Plan

Outcome	Actions	Measure
9.1 Community organisations have the resources and capacity to deliver activities that support their social and developmental goals.	• Promote the Community Grants program to help local clubs cover the costs of events for club members and the Armadale community • Promote the Community Grants program to help local clubs cover the costs of equipment used by the club to improve club operations • Promote the Community Grants program to support local community organisations to deliver programs that provide a benefit to the community • Provide General Donations to community organisations to assist their delivery of activities that provide cultural, social, and wellbeing benefits to residents of City of Armadale • Provide information and training that support the governance and financial management of community groups.	Number of promotions targeting clubs and organisations for each grant category Number of General Donations provided Number of organisations supported Number of activities delivered of benefit to the community Number of financial/governance training sessions delivered Number of community groups attending Feedback from recipients including via acquittal reports
9.2 Residents that are selected to represent the State or Nation in an interstate or overseas competition in a sport, recreational, educational or arts activity have the financial capacity to do so.	• Provide Sporting, Recreation and Development Donations to individual residents of the City of Armadale that have been merit-selected to assist with the travel costs.	Number of donations provided to merit-selected residents Number of residents supported with travel costs
9.3 Residents of the City of Armadale are able to participate in the organisation, delivery and attendance at community events and activities.	• Ensure that events and activities funded through Community Grants are promoted by the City.	Percentage of grant-funded events promoted through City channels as noted in acquittal reports



Community Safety

The City of Armadale is committed to fostering a safe, informed, and resilient community. Whilst research demonstrates that local governments play a significant role in designing and implementing effective crime prevention and community safety initiatives, community safety is a complex area that involves many factors outside the direct control of local government. An example is the role of WA Police in enforcing laws relating to family and domestic violence, hooning and anti-social behaviour.

The City's role is focused on prevention, education and advocacy. This means understanding the underlying factors that contribute to crime, providing practical guidance to residents on home and personal security, encouraging neighbours to connect, cooperate, and take collective responsibility for creating safe local environments, and supporting initiatives that divert individuals from anti social behaviour. The City also plays an important role in supporting the community to recognise risks to child safety and to take proactive steps to protect children from harm.

Achieving meaningful and sustainable community safety outcomes requires coordinated action across all sectors, including state government, local businesses, and the broader community. To this end, the City works closely with Armadale Neighbourhood Watch (ANW), WA Police, and local residents to deliver a range of community safety and crime prevention initiatives.

Data

Comparative data from WA Police across 2024 to 2025 indicate a 26% reduction in motor vehicle theft and a 16% decline in burglary.

Living in Place Community survey

The Living in Place Community survey in 2025 reported that 'Feeling Safe' is an important liveability aspect for 80% of City of Armadale residents, making it the first most important aspect of liveability. A greater proportion of females (84%) rated safety as important more than males (77%). The experience of safety by City residents was rated 5.0 out of 10 by males and females, and with non-binary respondents rating their experience of safety at 3.4 out of 10.

Focus areas

These strategic key focus areas for Community Safety reflect the broader environmental and social conditions within the City of Armadale and at a national level.

- Anti-social behaviour
- Family and Domestic Violence
- Neighbourhood connection and social isolation
- Crime prevention education
- Designing out crime through CPTED
- Family safety in home and community
- Delivery of community-led events and activities.



Action Plan			
Outcome		Actions	Measure
10.1	Residents concerned about home security have access to information and resources to stay safe in the home and in community.	• Support Armadale Neighbourhood Watch community engagement activities • Develop and distribute resources about home safety and security • Respond to localised crime trends with neighbourhood letter box drops and meet-and-greet engagements • Promote the Security Incentive Scheme to encourage residents to purchase and install home security devices.	Number of Neighbourhood Watch activities supported Number of residents engaged Number of resources developed and distributed Number of applications received for the SIS Feedback from community members
10.2	The City's role in addressing community safety concerns is clearly communicated to stakeholders.	• Engage regularly with WA Police and other stakeholders to advocate for targeted resources that address and prevent crime • Provide information to the community on the responsibilities of City and WA Government authorities to respond to crime through the City's website and the Community Safety Handbook.	Number of WAPOL engagement meetings held Number of advocacy actions undertaken Number of copies of the Community Safety Handbook distributed
10.3	Factors that contribute to crime are understood, communicated and addressed.	• Provide resources that encourage residents and businesses to use Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design strategies to design out crime • Support Family and Domestic Violence (FDV) organisations to inform the community about coercive and controlling behaviours in families and other relationships • Support and promote activities that address FDV perpetrator behaviour and support survivors • Provide information to residents on Cybersafety through workshops and written resources.	Number of CPTED resources distributed Number of businesses/residents accessing CPTED information Number of FDV organisations supported Number of coercive-control resources shared Number of activities supported Number of survivors or participants engaged Number of partner organisations involved Number of Cybersafety workshops delivered Number of resources distributed Attendance numbers and feedback received
10.4	People engaged in anti-social behaviour or are at risk of engaging in crime are diverted to pro-social behaviours.	• Support organisations that deliver crime prevention and diversion programs that engage people in pro-social behaviours and direct participants to employment, education and recreational options.	Number of programs supported Attendance numbers and feedback received Number of referrals to education, employment or recreation
10.5	Residents are connected to people in their community they can turn to when feeling unsafe.	• Deliver resources and activities that facilitate neighbourhood connections.	Number of neighbourhood-connection activities delivered Number of residents engaged and feedback received Number of resources distributed
10.6	Community members can identify risks to child safety and take preventative measures to protect children from harm	• Support City departments and community organisations to understand and implement the ten National Principles of Child Safe Organisations • Deliver and promote strategies to keep children safe from accidents.	Number of City departments supported and external organisations engaged Number of child-safety resources distributed Number of accident-prevention activities delivered Feedback from City departments and external organisations

Measuring Success

In the context of the delivery of a community activity, program or event, success relates to many aspects. From a community development perspective, success is reflected not only in participation numbers but in the extent to which community members feel satisfied, build new knowledge or skills, and experience meaningful positive change as a result of the initiative.

To understand these outcomes, the City gathers both qualitative and quantitative insights through tools such as:

- Pre and post surveys
- Recording attendance
- Focus groups
- Ongoing consultation with key stakeholders - local community groups and government organisations including local schools and the WA Police
- Continued engagement with contracted organisations and delivery partners
- Media monitoring.

Using these data sources, the City can be confident an initiative is achieving strong community impact when evidence shows:

- Consistently positive feedback from community members
- Demonstrated increases in awareness, knowledge, or capability
- Clear intentions among participants to make positive change because of the initiative
- Increased attendance and levels of engagement
- Increased involvement from external stakeholders such as community groups, schools, and local businesses
- Validation from stakeholders that the initiative is contributing to positive community outcomes, for example, reduced offending following a community safety program
- An improvement in the opinions and beliefs of residents about the wider community.







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