



TOWN OF
VICTORIA PARK

Youth Annual Report



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If you're a young person living in or visiting Vic Park, you might be interested to know that the Town of Vic Park's Community Development Team and our Vic Park Young Leaders group have been working together to create fun and meaningful events and programs just for you!

This report highlights all the exciting things that happened between April 2022 and June 2023, such as events and programs designed to meet the needs of young people in Vic Park. Each of these activities is linked to an Action from the Town's [Youth Action Plan 2021-2024](#), which is all about making Victoria Park a better place for young people like you.

You can also check out the list of upcoming initiatives. So if you're looking for ways to get involved in your community and meet other young people, make sure to check out these events and programs!



Delivered Events & Programs

Victoria Park Young Leaders (Action 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3)

The Vic Park Young Leaders (VPYL) is a youth advisory group made up of young people aged 16-25 who work closely with community stakeholders and Town of Victoria Park staff to; provide their input and perspective on important issues, run events, design programs, and engage in training opportunities.

- In April 2022, the first round of recruitment for VPYL began, and we onboarded eleven young people on Saturday, April 19th.
- We were joined by YACWA, who conducted a session on being on a Youth Advisory Group (YAG) and how to run a successful YAG. Surveys and data can be found on our website.
- By mid-2022, we had filled all sixteen spots on the VPYL with a diverse range of young people from the Vic Park community.
- As of April 2023, seven young people remain on the team for the current year, and we will begin recruitment again shortly.
- The team met every fortnight in 2022 and once every three weeks in 2023.
- During 2022, we ran several training sessions with the group, including
 - Mental Health First Aid with the Sharing Shed
 - Intro to Local Government with WALGA
 - Access and Inclusion with YDAN
 - Youth Empowerment & Advocacy with YACWA
 - Peer Research with YACWA
 - Public Speaking Bootcamp with Purposeful
- The group also attended several events together in 2022, including:
 - Urban Forest Tree Planting
 - Youth Week 2022 Activation
 - Pride Flag Raising 2022
 - National Headspace Day 2022
 - Dinner with the Mayor 2022
- Additionally, the group consulted with several organisations in 2022, including:
 - Youth Fusion
 - Metronet
 - Curtin University



Spill the Beans (Action 3.3)

- Headspace Cannington collaborates with the Town of Victoria Park to run the Spill the Beans program.
- This program is aimed at 18–25-year-olds and involves weekly coffee catchups at different cafes in the Town, with a focus on mental health.
- Participants can enjoy a free coffee and cake while engaging in relaxed conversations with the help of board games and fidget toys.
- By the end of the program in 2022, up to twelve participants were attending each week.
- The program has continued into 2023 and has seen a significant increase in registrations, with 10-15 participants attending each week.
- Positive outcomes have been observed, including an increase in participants accessing Headspace's services and the formation of friendships within the group that extend beyond the program.
- The success of this program has led other local governments to work with the Town of Victoria Park to develop their own Spill the Beans programs across Western Australia.
- More information can be found on our [website](#).

Vic Park Young Leaders Instagram (Action 2.4)

- Another major project Vic Park Young Leaders (VPYL) has been working on is an Instagram account: Vic Park Vibe www.instagram.com/vicparkvibe
- The VPYL collaborated with the Town's Communications team to organise three photoshoots that produced content for the Vic Park Vibe Instagram account. Included were themed shoots for Halloween, New Year's, and summer.
- Each VPYL member has access to the Instagram account so that they can plan, create and manage Posts and Stories.
- Group members focus on promoting Town events and programs in ways that appeal to a younger audience.
- As of May 2023, they have 115 followers and 27 posts.

Local Drug Action Group/ Amazing Race (Action 3.3)

- The Belmont, Vic Park & South Perth Local Drug Action Group (LDAG) launched the Youth Alcohol Action Plan in 2022 and have started to work on the Actions collaboratively.
- The group meets regularly and has several initiatives planned for 2023.
- During Youth Week 2022 and 2023, they helped to organise and run a blender bike stall at the LDAG Amazing Race Event at the Manning Hub in South Perth.
- These were well-attended events with half of participants attending an interactive Constable Care performance about alcohol.
- Others visited stalls from youth and health providers and received Amazing Race card stamps after answering questions about alcohol misuse.

Urban Forest Planting Day (Action 3.3)

- In 2022 the Town's Community Development team ran an Urban Forest Community Planting Day alongside the Place Planning team.
- Six VPYL members helped to run a pot painting and planting stall which was very successful.
- Community members attended to help plant and paint a pot and each took home a Kangaroo Paw for their own gardens.
- We are planning for another youth planting date in late 2023.

Youth Focus Quiz Night (Action 3.3 and 4.4)

- In September 2022, we collaborated with Youth Focus to organise a networking event for the Youth Sector.
- The event was held at Vic Park Bowls Club and featured a quiz night.
- Before the quiz, attendees played barefoot bowls and a pizza van provided food all night.
- Representatives from nearly 40 organizations, including Mission Australia, YACWA, Youth Focus, Headspace Cannington, City of South

Perth, our Community Development team, and the Town's Library staff participated in the event.

- The event was successful with a great turnout, and everyone enjoyed the night.

Fusion Youth Trailer (Action 3.1)

- Fusion Youth Services received a grant to run a Youth trailer in Vic Park and Belmont.
- The trailer was stationed at John Macmillan Park every Monday from 3-5pm during 2022, equipped with sports equipment, craft and games, and manned by youth workers with the aim of engaging at-risk youth.
- The program was offered in Terms 3 and 4 but did not succeed in attracting many young people from Kent St or other high schools.
- A representative from Fusion attended a Young Leaders meeting to gather feedback on how to improve the program's appeal to young people.
- The trailer has since been relocated to South Perth and continues to be utilised for events such as Youth Week and the LDAG Amazing Race.

Youth Week 2022 (Action 3.3)

- The Town ran a small activation during Youth Week 2022 with an inflatable and ice cream truck in John Macmillan Park on the last day of school in Term 1 2022.
- The aim was to have this as part of the library activity, however the library remained closed at this time due to COVID. We also couldn't advertise due to COVID considerations, so instead of attracting young people we had many children and families attend.
- Five of the VPYL team attended and approximately 150 community members.

Youth Week 2023: Neon Youth Festival (Action 3.3 and 3.4)

- The City of South Perth developed a Youth Plan with YACWA which was endorsed in 2022.
- It was identified within the Plan that young people would like a concert as their Youth Week activity.

- Our VPYL team also flagged this as a major interest and as such, the Town partnered with South Perth to launch this new Youth Week initiative.
- The Neon Youth Festival took place on Friday, 21 April and six local bands were on the line-up, as well as food trucks, stakeholder stalls, youth workers, and many other fun activities.
- The event was free and open to anyone 16-25 years old.

Mental Health First Aid (Action 4.5)

- For Mental Health Week, we ran a two-day Mental Health First Aid training course with the Sharing Shed.
- This training was open to all VPYL members and was also advertised to the public.
- Those who attended learned how to recognise the signs of mental health issues, in others and themselves.
- Training was a success and we had twelve VPYL members attend as well as an additional nine community members.

Work Placement Student (Action 4.3)

- Our work placement student, Ella, has been on placement with the Town since October 2022.
- She has worked with the Town's Community Development team and assisted with key initiatives including grant applications, Spill the Beans and the Youth Cheat Sheet.





Future Events & Programs

Advocacy & Arts (Action 3.2)

- In December 2022, we applied for a LGBTQIA+ empowerment grant with YACWA and the State Government to run a new program for queer young people in the community.
- Advocacy and Arts is a free six-week program that aims to empower young LGBTQIA+ people (aged 16-25) within the Town of Victoria Park.
- Over the course of six months, participants will be able to take part in workshops that integrate advocacy education and Pride themed arts activities.
- Advocacy and Arts will partner with youth focused LGBTQIA+ organisations and local suppliers in the delivery of all workshops, with all facilitators identifying as part of the queer community (or at a minimum, having extensive experience working with LGBTQIA+ clients).
- Spanning from mental health and wellbeing workshops, to the history of queer arts and culture, to engaging in local government and politics, this program has a diverse mix of activities designed to create a comfortable and engaging space to learn in, with a specific focus on navigating systemic issues and creating meaningful change.
- We expect this program will increase feelings of safety, connectedness, and community, whilst increasing the ability of participants to create change and advocate for themselves and others.
- We have been successful in receiving the grant and will be delivered later this year.

Careers Expo (Action 4.1 and 4.2)

- We are running a Careers Expo for young people in collaboration with the Belmont, Vic Park, South Perth LDAG in October 2023.
- During the event, Purposeful will invite up to 30 guests from our Innovation Network to join a speed-dating style event with 200-250 students at a time, for a 1-2-hour session.
- We plan to run a half-day workshop involving the speed-dating style activity, followed by related speeches and workshops for schools in the local area.

Other Initiatives (Action 1.5, 3.3, 1.3)

- Youth Cheat Sheet: This document, which will shortly be distributed, was produced via consultation with the VPYL and community members and has been created as a guide for Town of Vic Park staff for best practice when working with young people.
- Youth e-database: The VPYL and the Town's Communications team have established a youth e-database, this will be roll-out during 2023 and will be used as a mechanism for young people to sign up to and provide feedback on the Town's plans and decision making.
- Library Programs: The Town Library will continue to run a variety of initiatives aimed at young people including a CV workshop, Board Games Club and Anime Arvos sessions.
- EM Roundtable: The purpose of this roundtable is to provide the Vic Park Young Leaders (VPYL) with an opportunity to meet the Town's Elected Members (EMs), and vice versa. VPYL will inform EMs on issues affecting young people in the Town and provide a succinct recap of activities from the year and update on progress made for 2023. EMs will ask VPYL members questions and learn about the team more broadly. This event is being held on 28 June 2023.



To view or download a copy of the Town's Youth Action Plan for more info, head to our [website](https://vicpark.info/youth):

vicpark.info/youth





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victoriapark.wa.gov.au