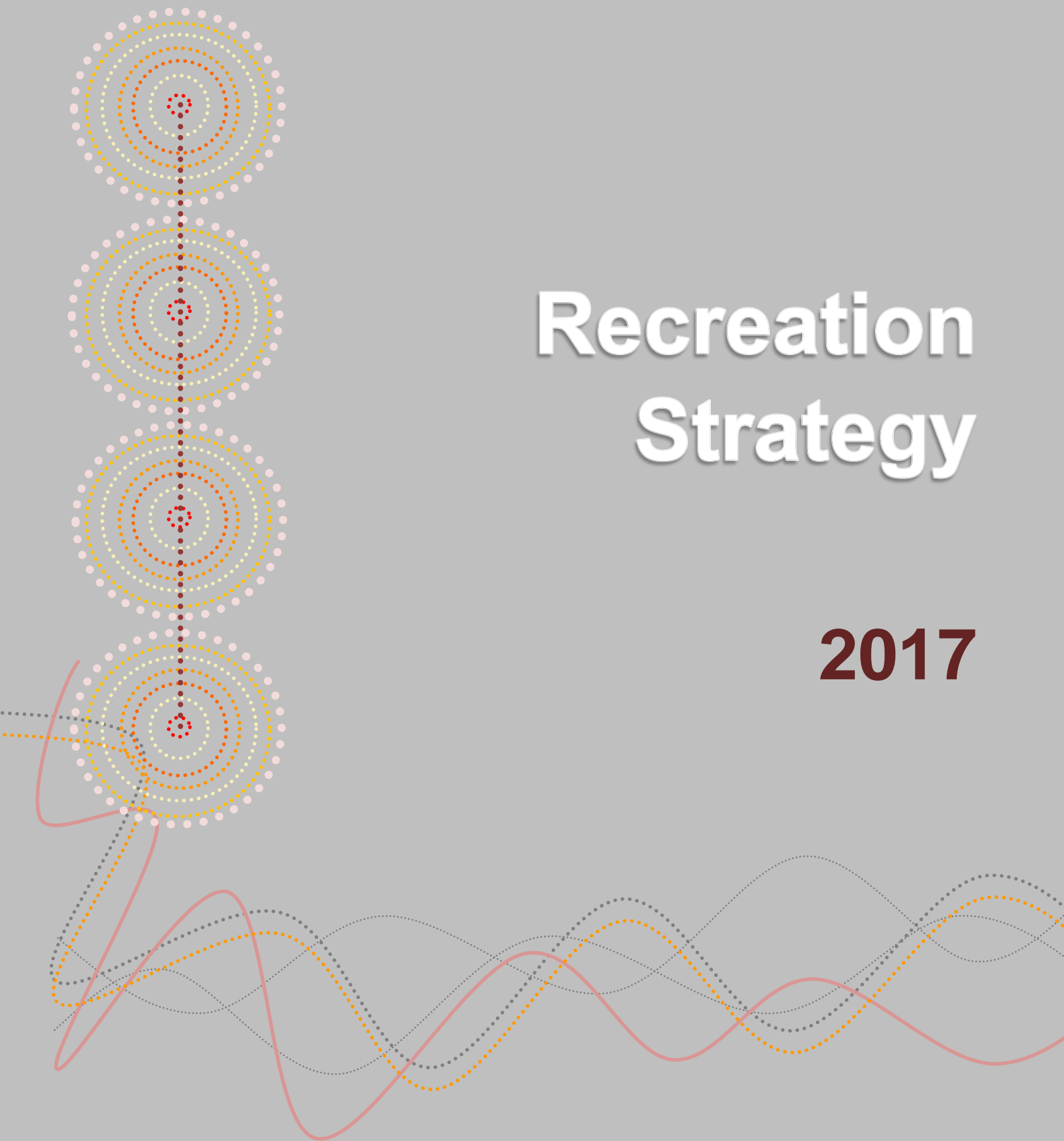


**SHIRE OF GOOMALLING**

**Recreation  
Strategy**

**2017**





For Further Information please contact  
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Shire of Goomalling  
PO Box 118, Goomalling 6460

P: 08 9629 1101

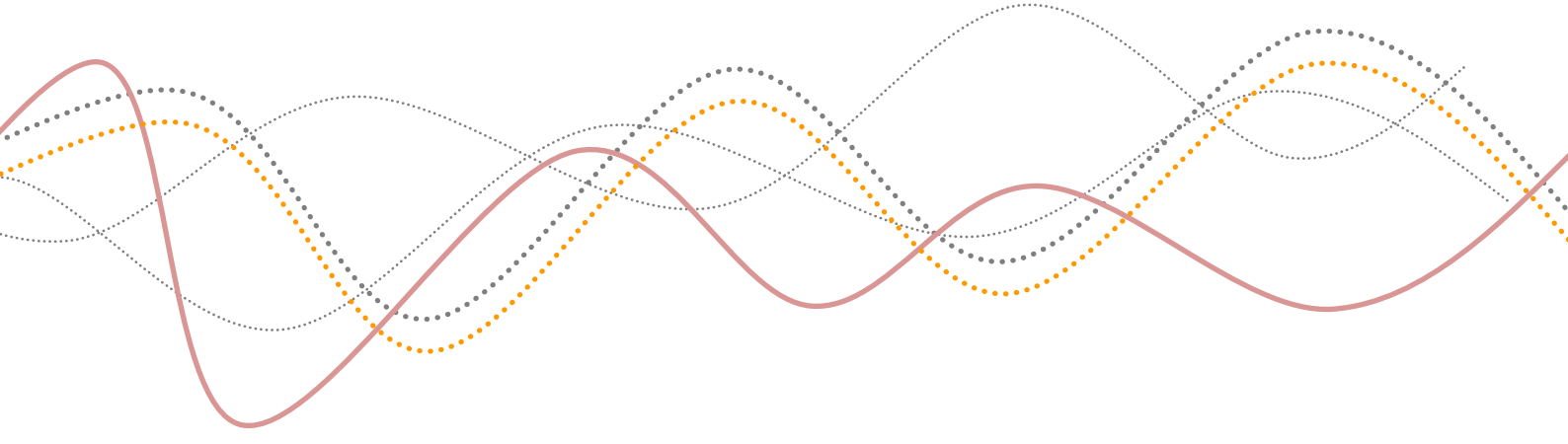
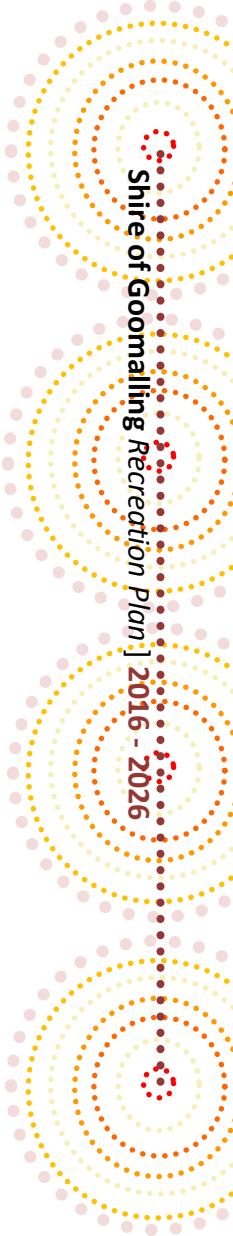
W: [www.goomalling.wa.gov.au](http://www.goomalling.wa.gov.au)

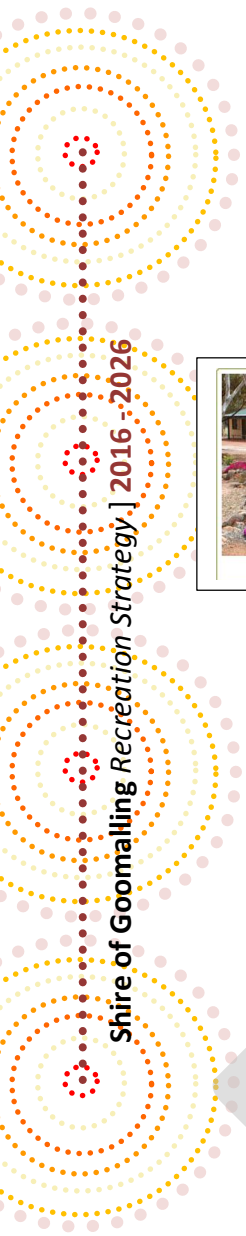
Administration Office  
32 Quinlan Street, Goomalling

# Message from the Shire President

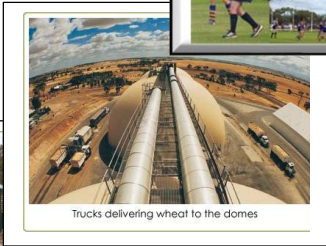
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**Barry Haywood** } *Shire President*





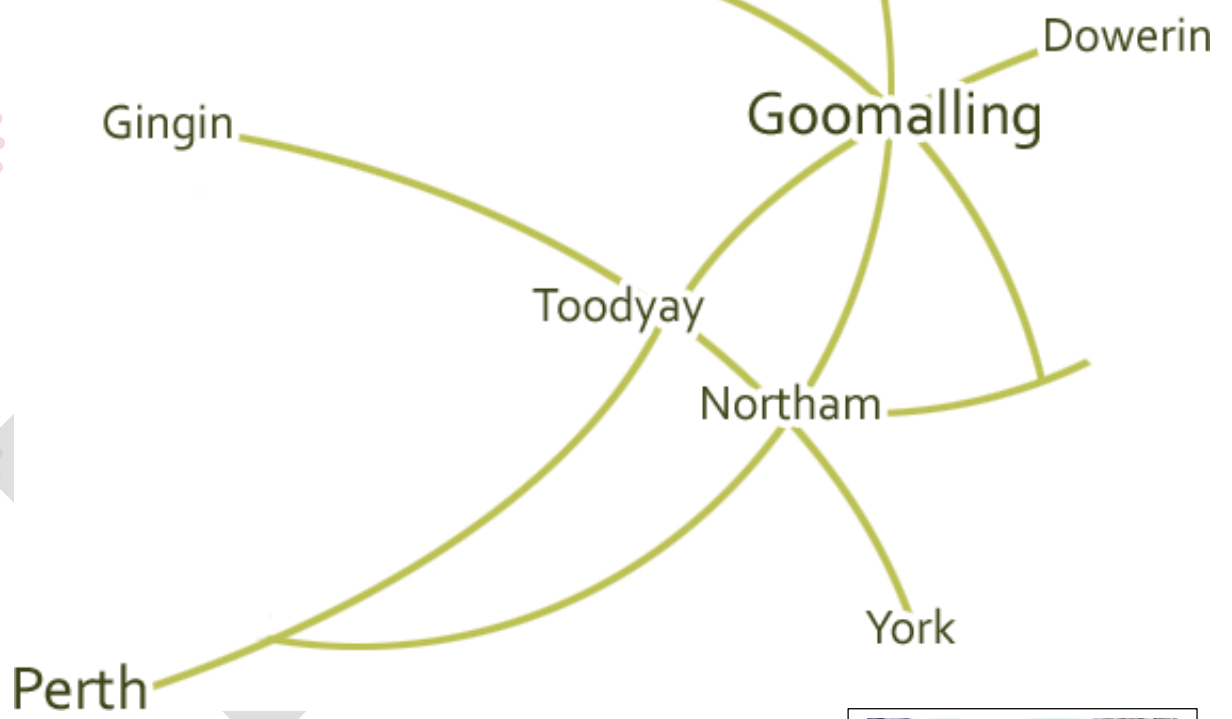
Shire of Goomalling Recreation Strategy | 2016 - 2026



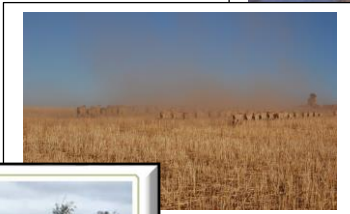
Trucks delivering wheat to the domes



Caravan Park and Motel Units



Wildflowers in September



Open gardens

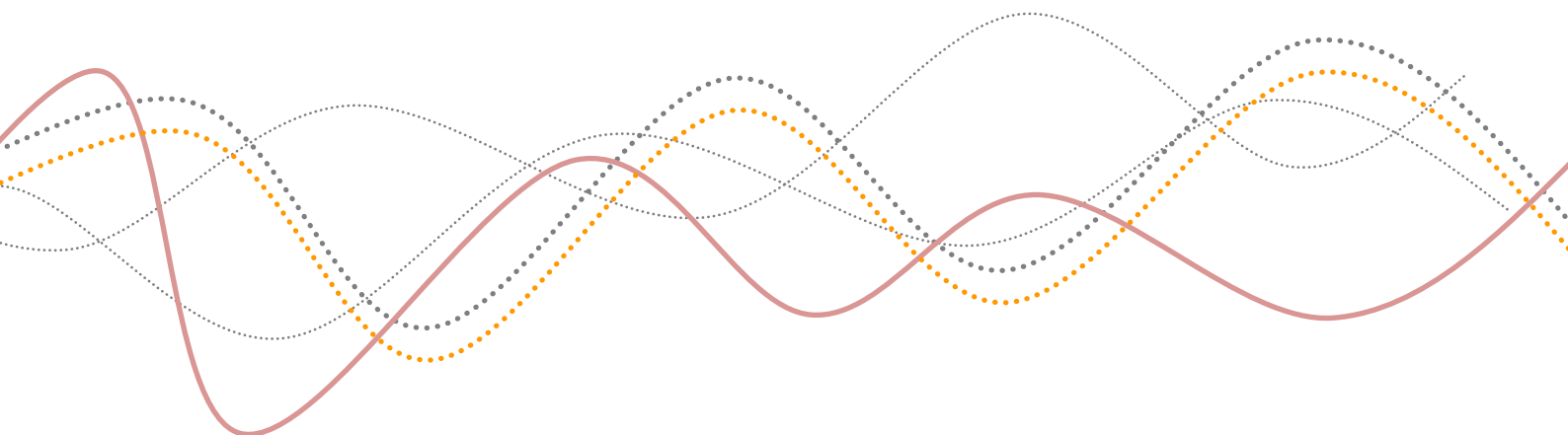
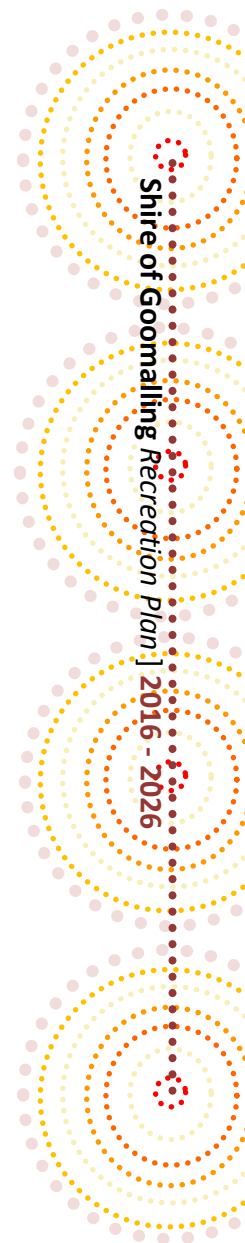


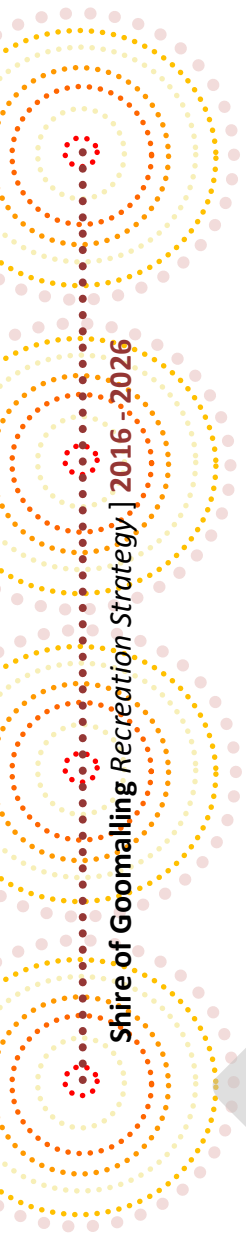


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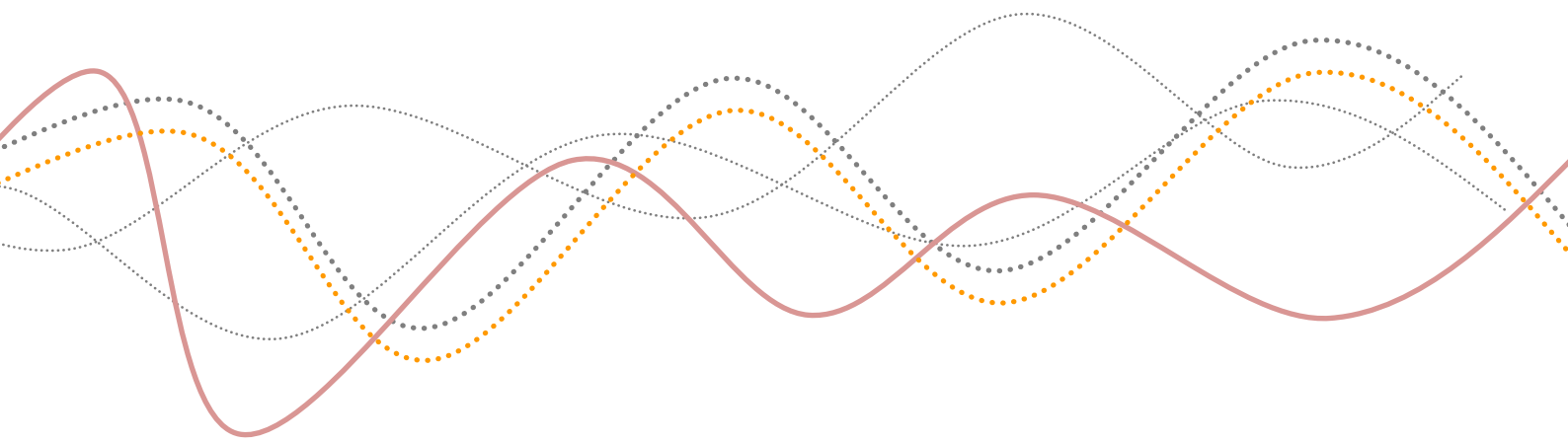
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Shire of Goomalling Recreation Strategy ] 2016 -2026

DRAFT





# Recreation Strategy

## GOOMALLING – *our community...*

### History and Culture

Goomalling is a town in the Wheatbelt region of Western Australia 45 km north east of Northam, Western Australia. The area was first explored by Assistant Government Surveyor Austin in 1854 but there was no great need for a town. The monks at New Norcia, which was about 60 km northeast of the present town, often brought their sheep into the area.

Situated in the Central Wheatbelt, 132 km north east of Perth, Goomalling is a small and friendly rural town with modern sporting and recreational facilities.

Snuggled in the north eastern section of the Avon Valley area, Goomalling is ideally located within a 90 minute drive from Perth via either Northam or Toodyay and is strategically located as the Gateway to the Wildflower areas to the east and north of the Shire.

The name Goomalling was first shown for a spring found by explorers Hillman & Lefroy in 1846. Hillman noted on his plan "rich grassy country" and squatters subsequently moved into the area. George Slater, who had arrived from England with his parents in 1930, owned a huge selection which covered 100,000 acres from Goomalling to Kalguddering. He moved into the area in the 1850's. His house became a regular stopover point for miners who travelled through the area on their way to the goldfields on their way to Kalgoorlie and Southern Cross.

When the Northam – Goomalling railway line was opened in 1902 the government decided to establish a townsite at Goomalling (gazetted in 1903). The extension of the railway northwards to Wongan Hills was opened nine (9) years later and the eventual extension through to Mullewa was completed in 1915. The branch railway running east from Goomalling was opened as far as Dowerin in December 1906 and



eventually, to Merredin in 1911. Twenty years after its opening Goomalling was listed in the working timetable as being an electric staff station with loco watering facilities and a turntable.

The name "Goomalling" was derived from the Koomal Possum (silver-grey possum) which inhabited the area when the district was first established in the Wongamine area in the late 1830's.

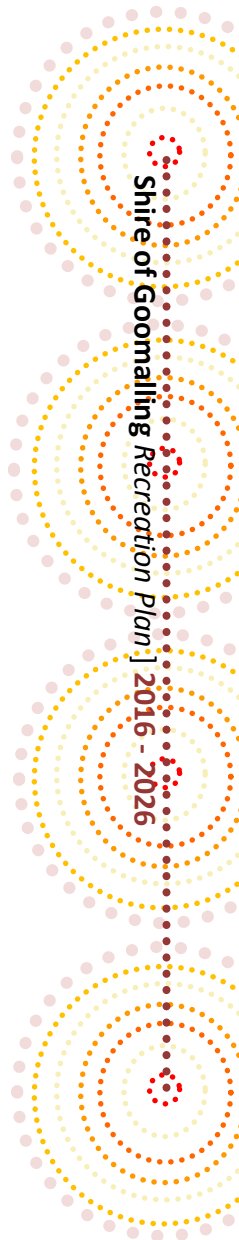
Goomalling is highly dependent upon the agriculture industry. The industrialisation of agriculture, uncertain weather conditions, opening of global markets and declining terms of trade have been major factors impacting on farm production. This has had implications for businesses dependent on farms for their main source of income and has had a negative economic impact on the Goomalling town and surrounding districts.

Another factor has been the increasing mobility of its community as they have been able to extend the distance range for shopping and access to government services. With modern transport Goomalling is also very accessible to Midland, which has a very diverse retail and business service environment.



In the past 10-15 years Goomalling has been rebuilding and revitalising its community which has resulted in a growing population base. Members of the community are immensely proud of their Shire, positive, proactive, hard-working and willing to support each other and work together for the benefit of all. There is recognition that the future growth is dependent upon the ability to maintain a sense of place that is responsive to the local community.

As the urban drift continues and the town offers excellent medical, hospital, tourist, recreational, banking and local facilities/services it is expected that population growth will be positive at 1-2% pa.



## Census 2011

In the 2011 Census, there were 985 people in the Shire of Goomalling, of these 49.8% were male and 50.2% were female. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 7.5% of the population. The median age of the population was 42 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 23.5% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 16.8% of the population.

Age	Goomalling (S)	%Western Australia	%	Australia	%	
<i>People</i>						
0-4 years	90	9.1	151,262	6.8	1,421,050	6.6
5-9 years	70	7.1	142,774	6.4	1,351,921	6.3
10-14 years	70	7.1	146,035	6.5	1,371,054	6.4
15-19 years	47	4.8	148,208	6.6	1,405,798	6.5
20-24 years	29	2.9	159,010	7.1	1,460,673	6.8
25-29 years	52	5.3	167,944	7.5	1,513,236	7.0
30-34 years	42	4.3	156,152	7.0	1,453,775	6.8
35-39 years	66	6.7	161,526	7.2	1,520,138	7.1
40-44 years	66	6.7	166,731	7.4	1,542,879	7.2
45-49 years	69	7.0	159,859	7.1	1,504,142	7.0
50-54 years	72	7.3	150,369	6.7	1,447,404	6.7
55-59 years	69	7.0	133,894	6.0	1,297,244	6.0
60-64 years	73	7.4	120,531	5.4	1,206,116	5.6
65-69 years	53	5.4	86,324	3.9	919,319	4.3
70-74 years	49	5.0	66,219	3.0	708,090	3.3
75-79 years	29	2.9	49,832	2.2	545,263	2.5
80-84 years	24	2.4	38,284	1.7	436,936	2.0
85 years and over	16	1.6	34,217	1.5	402,681	1.9
Median age	42	--	36	--	37	--

Source - Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011 Census (Released at 11:30 AM (AEST) 28/03/2013)

There was 24.3% of people were attending an educational institution; 41.8% were in primary school, 14.2% in secondary school and 9.6% in a tertiary or technical institution.

The most common ancestries in the Shire were Australian 41.5%, English 28.3%, Irish 6.5%, Scottish 5.5% and Dutch 2.1%, of which 82.8% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were England 4.1%, New Zealand 1.2%, Zimbabwe 1.2%, Netherlands 0.8% and Scotland 0.4%. Whilst 75.2% of people had both parents born in Australia and 13.6% of people had both parents born overseas.

Some 93.4% of people only spoke English at home.

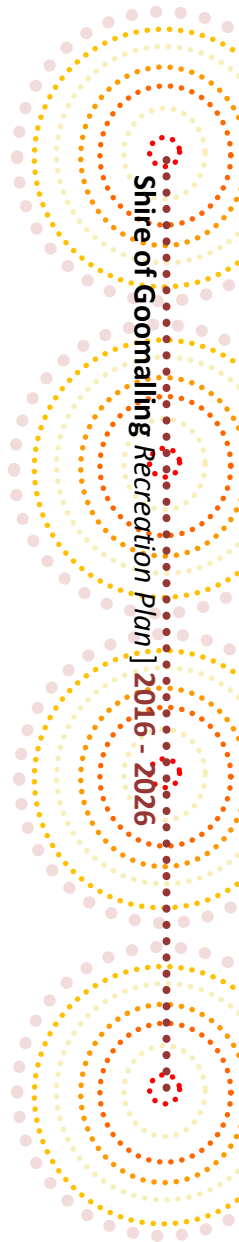
There were 455 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in the Shire. Of these 59.6% were employed full time, 32.7% were employed part-time and 3.5% were unemployed.

The most common occupations included Managers 34.0%, Clerical and Administrative Workers 12.1%, Technicians and Trades Workers 10.7%, Professionals 10.1%, and Machinery Operators and Drivers 9.2%. Of the employed people, 30.6% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included Local Government Administration 9.6%, School Education 5.6%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 2.9% and Hospitals 2.7%.

Of the people aged 15 years and over, 74.3% did unpaid domestic work in the week before the Census. During the two weeks before the Census, 31.9% provided care for children and 11.0% assisted family members or others due to a disability, long term illness or problems related to old age. In the year before the Census, 35.8% of people did voluntary work through an organisation or a group.

Unpaid work	Goomalling (S)	%Western Australia	%	Australia	%
<i>People aged 15 years and over</i>					
Did unpaid domestic work (last week)	562	74.3	1,255,935	69.8	12,149,347
Cared for child/children (last two weeks)	241	31.9	507,968	28.2	4,827,808
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability (last two weeks)	83	11.0	168,014	9.3	1,896,957
Did voluntary work through an organisation or group (last 12 months)	270	35.8	304,623	16.9	3,090,874

Source - Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011 Census (Released at 11:30 AM (AEST) 28/03/2013)



## BACK GROUND

### What is Recreation?

*"Activity done for enjoyment when one is not working"*

Recreation is an activity of leisure, leisure being discretionary time. The "need to do something for recreation" is an essential element of human biology and psychology. Recreational activities are often done for enjoyment, amusement, or pleasure and are considered to be "fun".

Recreation is difficult to separate from the general concept of play, which is usually the term for children's recreational activity. Children may playfully imitate activities that reflect the realities of adult life. It has been proposed that play or recreational activities are outlets of or expression of excess energy, channeling it into socially acceptable activities that fulfill individual as well as societal needs, without need for compulsion, and providing satisfaction and pleasure for the participant. A traditional view holds that work is supported by recreation, recreation being useful to "recharge the battery" so that work performance is improved.

### Summary of the SD6 Challenges

(Department of Sport & Recreation Strategic Direction)

01 GOVERNANCE Western Australia's sport and recreation organisations must proactively engage national and state/territory counterparts in developing governance models that are collaborative and strategically aligned partnerships. These models must balance local context and interest as well as national priorities.

02 INTEGRITY AND VALUES Sport and recreation interests must proactively develop responses to safeguard the integrity and wholesome values which make sport and recreation a fundamental part of Australian culture. The integrity that has encouraged participants, partners, sponsors and governments to invest time, effort and resources needs active protection.

03 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AND URBAN FORM Urban parklands and green spaces for sport and active recreation are integral components of urban infrastructure and make a significant contribution to community health and wellbeing. In order to deliver public open space which meets the needs of communities into the future we must be efficient with resources, focus on the function of sites, provide equitable access to facilities and secure strategically important regional scale spaces.

**04 ADVENTURE AND OUTDOOR RECREATION** Western Australia is a destination point for numerous adventure and outdoor recreation pursuits. Stakeholders from the public, private and community sectors must engage collaboratively to deliver high-quality activities, services and facilities to satisfy and sustain the growing demand, while protecting the environments where these activities take place.

**05 COMMERCIALISATION** A small number of high profile sports with significant participation bases and integrated competition structures now have robust commercially oriented business models, while community-based sport and recreation organisations are increasingly reliant on public investment for their survival. Public investment in sport and recreation organisations should factor in the capacity of these organisations to source commercial revenue.

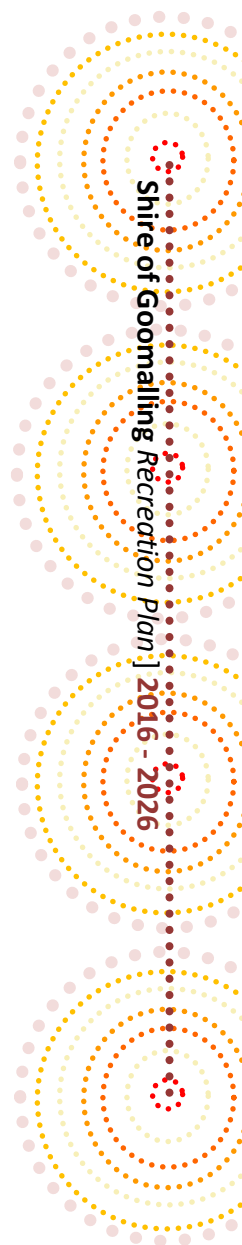
**06 DIVERSITY IN LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT** Initiatives are needed to expedite diversity in Western Australia's sport and recreation landscape at all levels of leadership and management. Sport and recreation organisations must be proactive to increase the contribution that currently underrepresented groups within the community, particularly women, are able to make to the industry. Summary of SD6 Challenges To address current and emerging issues in key strategic areas, the sport and recreation industry in Western Australia must tackle the following Challenges over the next five years.

**07 FINANCIAL [UN]CERTAINTY** The sport and recreation industry must optimise the value derived from public and private funding in tight fiscal circumstances. Sport and recreation stakeholders must be strong advocates for the many benefits that are enabled by continued investment.

**08 LEVERAGING FACILITIES INVESTMENT** Stakeholders must leverage the investment made in sport and recreation facilities and infrastructure over the past decade. Securing high profile events and increasing visitor and local participation will add vibrancy to our communities and convert these places and spaces into business drivers, delivering extensive economic benefits to Western Australia.

**09 LIFE COURSE AND LIFE STAGE PARTICIPATION** The achievement of improved participation rates in sport and recreation, and more broadly active lifestyles, will require innovative responses to the life course and life stage circumstances of Western Australians. A combination of expanding pioneering initiatives and adapting successful concepts from other jurisdictions can stimulate healthier and socially beneficial outcomes for our community.

**10 MONITORING, EVIDENCE AND RESEARCH** Research and evidence-based decision making are increasingly important for sport and recreation. Availability and utilisation of reputable information will be vital for future policy development and strategic planning.



11 PARTICIPATION, CULTURE AND AFFORDABILITY Sport and recreation provides opportunities to embrace those otherwise often excluded in the community. Opportunities should be affordable and provide equitable access to encourage participation of people from diverse social, cultural and economic backgrounds.

12 TECHNOLOGY Western Australia’s sport and recreation landscape must embrace opportunities to progress the industry through new and emerging technologies. Astute sourcing of technological innovations that enhance core values, support participation and performance outcomes and promote organisational sustainability will be crucial.

13 VITAL VOLUNTEERS The engagement of volunteers in sport and recreation is vital for the industry to thrive and deliver personal and social benefits. Sport and recreation organisations must devise responsive and accommodating approaches to recruit, support and retain the vital volunteer base which facilitates the delivery of sport and recreation activities.

### GOOMALLING STRATEGIC PLAN

The Strategic Community Plan was adopted in 2013 which outlines the community’s long term (10+ years) vision, values, aspirations and priorities, with reference to other Shire plans, information and resourcing capabilities.

The Plan is not static and is reviewed regularly. It is intended to establish the community’s vision for the Shire’s future, including aspirations and service expectations. It is intended to drive the development of other plans, resourcing and other informing strategies.

An objective is the integration of asset, service and financial plans so that the Shires resource capabilities are matched to the community’s needs.

Extract from the Shire of Goomalling’s Strategic Plan – Objectives and Strategies

<p><b>SOCIAL - S 3 Provide active and passive recreation facilities and services</b></p> <p>S 3.1 <i>Develop a broad recreation master plan for the Shire (short term)</i></p> <p>S 3.2 <i>Develop, maintain and support appropriate recreation facilities throughout the Shire (ongoing)</i></p> <p>S 3.3 <i>Facilitate and develop a regional recreation facility in the town of Goomalling (medium term)</i></p> <p>S 3.4 <i>Partner with stakeholders to achieve greater community participation in recreational facilities and services (short term)</i></p>
---

The Shire of Goomalling Corporate Business Plan (2013) outlines several sport and recreation projects for the next four (4) years.

- Swimming Pool Upgrades (\$32,250)
- Goomalling Sports Complex Upgrade (Complete)
- BMX track / Skate Board facility (\$61,350, part complete)
- Foot paths / Dual use paths improvement program (271,065)

## **SPORT AND RECREATION IN GOOMALLING – *what we have...***

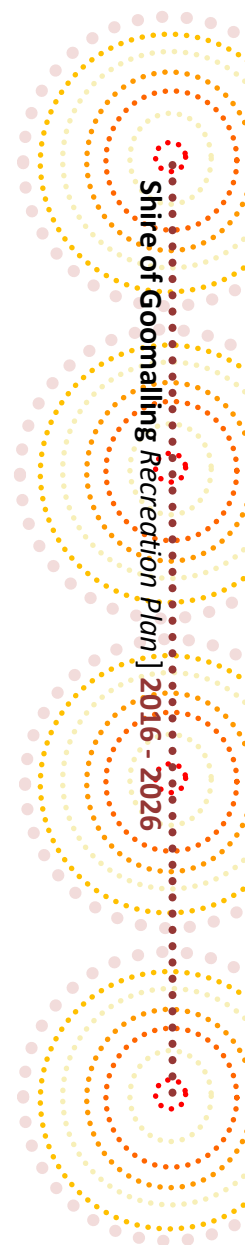
### **Goomalling town site**

The Goomalling town has the ‘basics’ in terms of sport and recreation facilities typically found in similar sized Local Governments. The Goomalling Recreation Grounds is the ‘hub’ of sport and recreation within the community housing the main oval for football & cricket, a rectangular oval for hockey, 6 plexi-pave tennis courts with 2 multi marked for netball, 2 cricket practice nets and a newly established 8 rink synthetic bowling green. Goomalling has active senior groups which include the Senior Citizens group and Mens Shed, as well as activities for the youth through the Goomalling Youth Group.

The recreation ground also has a large shed located at the hockey oval which was built in 2015 by the Goomalling Ladies Hockey Club and the Shire of Goomalling. The shed includes seating and lockable storage for the hockey and cricket club. There is also a shed for the grounds keepers to store their relevant equipment.

The lighting of the facilities is at an adequate standard, with all surfaces covered with the exemption of the hockey field, which is lit by 2 free standing poles. In recent years 2 lights from the tennis courts have been rotated to light the eastern side of the field, however the lighting remains well below the required standards.

There are three (3) main buildings at the recreation grounds. The tennis complex was built in 1997 which tennis, netball and hockey utilise for lunches, morning and afternoon teas with shower and toilet facilities. The old pavilion was the main function room and kitchen for larger events including football games, however since the establishment of the Goomalling Sport and Community Centre, it is now the Goomalling Community Gym with 24 hour access. This building also houses the home and away change rooms.



The Goomalling Sport and Community Centre (GSCC) was built in 2015 and is now the main hub for the sporting and social activities in the community. It was built adjacent to the new bowling rink with views over the entire recreation precinct. The building houses a function space for 150+ people, a commercial kitchen, cool rooms, meeting room and bowls store room. The GSCC has a full time Club Licence and is managed by the Mortlock Sports Council.

Adjacent to this site is an area proposed for the Goomalling Youth Precinct. In 2016 the BMX track was built however future plans for the youth precinct are currently being refined to potentially use existing buildings are cleared land within the townsite.

The Goomalling Town site also includes a Go-Kart track, Horse and Pony arena and 18 hole golf club. Karate is currently available in the town hall which to this date, houses to the Goomalling Gym before its relocation to the old pavilion at the recreation grounds.

The Goomalling Community Gym is located in the old pavilion and is available for 24 hour access. Classes including pilates / pump / circuit are available.

The Goomalling Farmers Club was originally the home of the Goomalling bowling club with a grass 8 rink green before its relocation to the recreation grounds in 2015. The Farmers Club is now a standalone Club facility.

In terms of passive recreation, Goomalling has a number of groups and activities which include CWA, Men's Shed, Senior Citizens, Youth Group, Historical societies, nature walks and more.

### **Jennacubbine**

Jennacubbine is a small community made up of a few houses, a church and a Pub. The recreational facilities include a go-kart track, hall and decommissioned tennis courts.

### **Konnongorring**

Konnongorring is similar to Jennacubbine which includes 2 tennis courts ran by the Konno tennis club out of small club rooms. There is a hall used for local functions and a decommissioned oval.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF SPORT AND RECREATION FOR OUR COMMUNITY?

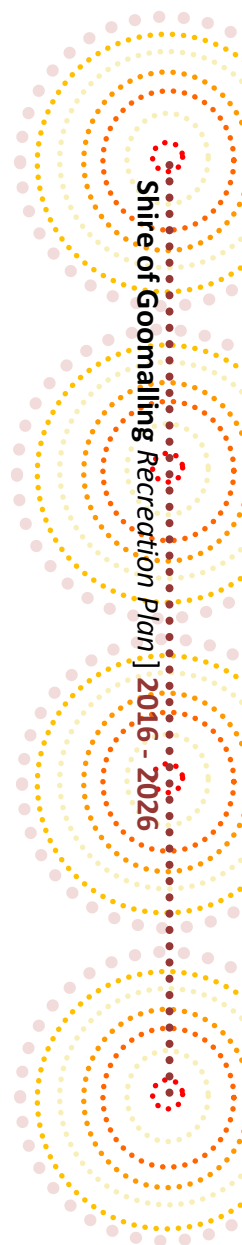
Sport and recreation is not about winning, it's about helping build stronger, healthier, happier, and safer communities. The Department advocates and supports projects to strengthen communities through sport and recreation.

Communities that participate in sport and recreation develop strong social bonds, are safer places and the people who live in them are generally healthier and happier than places where physical activity isn't a priority.

Sport and recreation builds stronger, healthier, happier and safer communities.

### 30 ways sport and recreation benefits people and communities

1. Brings people together, providing opportunities for social interaction.
2. Empowers, inspires and motivates individuals.
3. Keeps kids away from the TV or computer screen!
4. Kids who participate learn better and are more likely to enjoy school.
5. Improves mental health.
6. Eases pressure on the health system.
7. Contributes to social capital.
8. Healthy workers are more productive and take less sick days.
9. Creates positive alternatives to youth offending, antisocial behaviour and crime.
10. Reduces pollution – promotes use of active modes of transport like walking and cycling.
11. Provides a vehicle for inclusion, drawing together people of different races, religions and cultures.



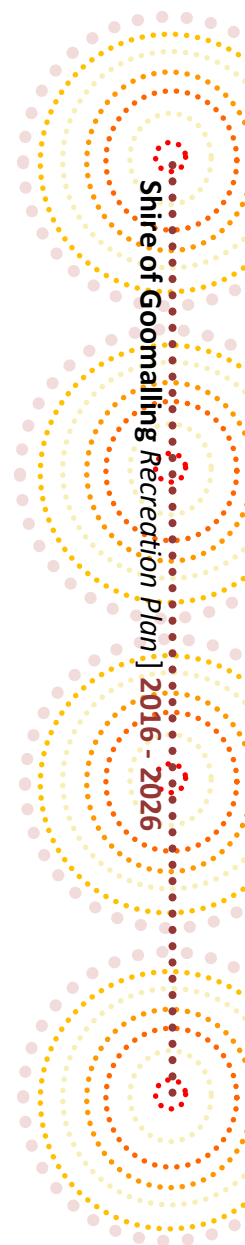
12. Creates opportunities for, and promotes, volunteering.
13. Contributes to higher levels of self-esteem and self-worth.
14. Helps to sustain the environment through protecting open space and natural areas.
15. Sport and recreation clubs are the hub of community life, especially in the regions.
16. Provides work/life balance.
17. Binds families and communities through shared experiences.
18. Helps shape our national character and pride.
19. Creates employment opportunities.
20. Promotes a healthy, active lifestyle.
21. Develops life skills and leadership abilities.
22. Provides a sense of belonging.
23. Fosters community pride.
24. Tones and strengthens the body.
25. Galvanises communities in times of need.
26. Economic growth through business investment, employment, major events and tourism.
27. Contributes to lifelong learning.
28. Great opportunities for networking.
29. Reduces obesity.
30. Can help to prevent cardiovascular disease, diabetes and some cancers.

## THE RIGHT DIRECTION – *and how to get there*

### Summary of Issues (Goomalling)

Goomalling boasts an excellent range of sport and recreational infrastructure for a community of its size and location, however to ensure the quality and access to such facilities are enhanced, this recreation strategy reflects the current and future issues of such facilities. The three major issues facing the Goomalling Community include

1. Lack of Youth & unstructured activities. Goomalling is home to the usual sporting activities like most country local governments, but lack in anything unstructured for children and youth. Skate parks & public playing courts available all year around are not available in Goomalling which from evidence gathered from other communities, are the most used facilities by these ages as well as public open spaces. Goomalling is moving in the right direction with the construction on a BMX track and plans to incorporate a skate park in the future. Plans to develop a skate park have been done but we need to also focus on unstructured, unconscious physical activity opportunities. Nature playgrounds, walk trails, jungle gyms are all opportunities that people do for fun but subconsciously for fitness, health and wellbeing.
2. Lack of quality shared pathways. Unstructured fitness is one of the most popular activities undertaken in Goomalling but one of the biggest barriers is the current state of some of the footpaths. Missing links, cracked, damaged paths cause trip hazards and uneven surfaces which can lead to unpleasant experiences when undertaking walking or running.
3. Aging assets. Council has a large number of assets all requiring ongoing maintenance. If Council is to keep all current assets the financial implications are unknown. A facility audit and maintenance schedule is a must so Council can make recommendations on which facilities are worth keeping, selling and maintaining into the future.
4. Community's attitudes to physical activity. A recent survey of Goomalling identified that 77% of the community does not participate in enough physical activity. Why?

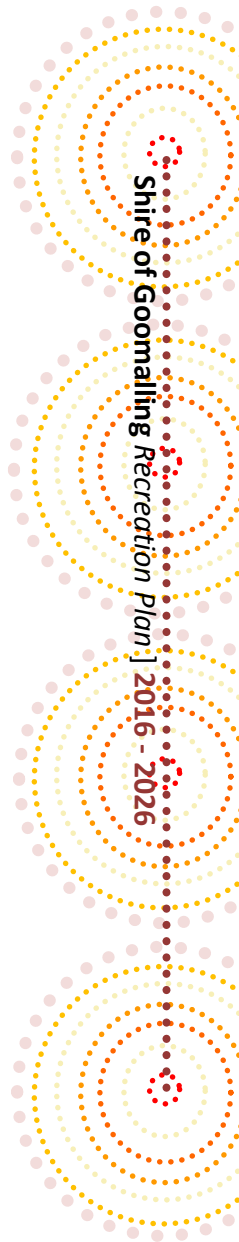




## Shire of Goomalling Sport and Recreation Assets

(as outlined on the Shire of Goomalling's asset register)

1. Goomalling Sport and Community Centre (Peppercorn lease MSC)
2. Goomalling Sports Pavilion (24hr Gym)
3. Goomalling Complex (Tennis, Netball & Hockey)
4. Goomalling Recreation Grounds (Football & Hockey Oval, Netball & Tennis courts & 8 rink synthetic bowling green, BMX track)
5. Goomalling Golf Club & Building (Peppercorn lease, also the men's shed)
6. Goomalling Go Karts land & building (Peppercorn lease)
7. Goomalling Swimming Pool (Swimming club)
8. Horse & Pony land (Peppercorn lease)
9. Goomalling Town Hall (Karate & Youth Group)
10. Konnongorring Tennis Club & building (Peppercorn Lease)
11. Konnongorring Hall
12. Jennacubbine Hall & Tennis Courts
13. Jennacubbine Go Karts (Peppercorn Lease)



## Implementation of this Plan

The directions outlined in this Strategy provide guidance to Council in facilitating the best possible recreation outcomes for the Goomalling community.

### Stage 1. (2016 - 2019)

Stage 1 should all be based around strategic planning. Without the appropriate planning and community consultation, Council cannot be certain the community is moving in the correct direction and will be meeting the needs of the rate payers. This also includes addressing any current and immediate issues the community or clubs are facing.

The strategic planning will involve the following steps

1. Completing an Audit of the history of sport and recreation in Goomalling, our facilities, current trends and demographics
2. Identify sport and facilities not provided for and stakeholder consultation. This will help gain a clear understanding of the areas sporting, recreation and social needs, aspirations and expectations

After the above points have been investigated, a Sport and Recreation Master Plan should be developed scheduling the works and budget requirements as well as key findings. The list will be itemised in priority order, include an estimate cost and have a time schedule for when they are to be completed.

### Stage 2. (2019 - 2022)

Stage 2 is all about implementation. Putting the plans in place, sourcing funding and budgeting to implement the priorities.

### Stage 3. (2022 - 2026)

Update and maintain. Stage 3 is ensuring all the facilities are meeting their ongoing maintenance, asset replacement funds are in place and the maintenance schedule is continually updated.

## THE PLAN:

### Stage 1.

1. Review existing background and information on the Shire's sport and recreation facilities and identify demographics and trends.
2. Complete a facility audit on all of Council's recreation assets to establish a maintenance schedule. Address any immediate maintenance identified.
3. Identify possible opportunities for facilities not currently provided for.
4. Undertake a new Town Bike Plan to identify the paths requiring immediate attention. Address the immediate items in the following budget.
5. Once all the above is completed develop a Sport and Recreation Master Plan which will include priority projects, cost estimates and time frames.

Council is also to continue with..

6. Continue with the KidSport Program to help encourage those aged between 4 - 18 to participate in organised sports
7. Plan for new youth based activities to include passive recreation such as a Skate Park, Public Open Space, Nature play activities aimed at the youth of Goomalling (Youth 12 – 25 years) and younger children.
8. Investigating a new playground area at a safe / more appropriate location
9. Investigate options to replace the hockey field which requires levelling, new turf and reticulation. Possible reticulation of the football oval for water efficiency.
10. Continue a good working relationship with the sporting & community clubs and where appropriate have a Council represent to attend AGM's.

## Stage 2.

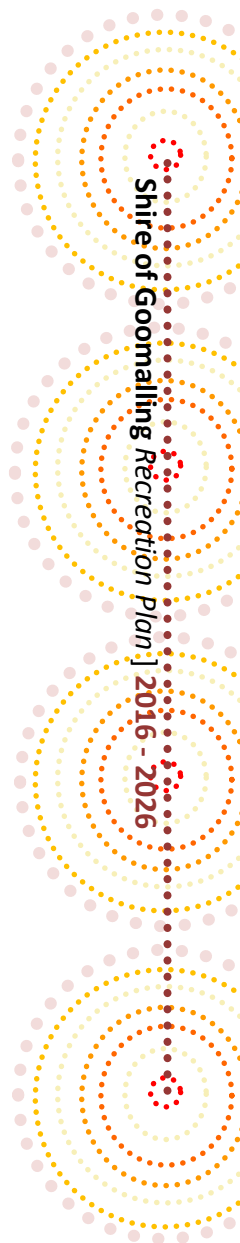
1. Implement projects are required maintenance as scheduled in the Sport and Recreation Master Plan.

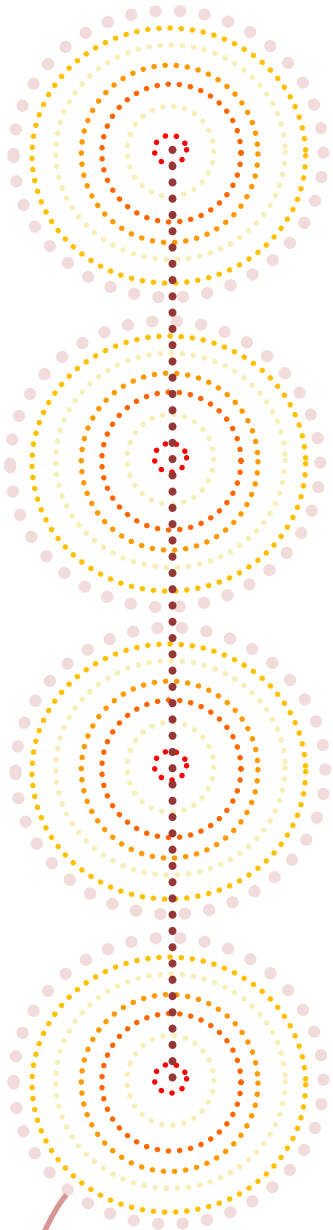
Council is also to continue with..

2. Continue to employ a designated Sport and Recreation officer.
3. Establish and continue school programs to help educate participants in the different sport and recreation activities available in Goomalling and surrounds
4. Introduce new passive recreation activities for Adults & Seniors. Train locals in a variety of programs to implement.
5. Continue to educate club committee members on volunteer retention, good club governance, trainings and player management
6. Continue to promote nature walks, reserves and passive recreation activities (create a community map for locals and tourists, include in welcome pack)

## Stage 3.

1. Address maintenance issues identified in audit that were listed as 'low priority'
2. Monitor all Council assets and buildings and include in asset replacement plans
3. Ensure replacement funds are in place and at the require value for the replacement of facilities when required.
4. Prepare updated Recreation Strategy and Sport and Recreation Master Plan.





**SHIRE OF GOOMALLING  
2017**

