

Youth Action Plan 2024 -2027



Acknowledgement of Country

City of Salisburyrlu tampinhi, ngadlu Kurna yartangka inparrinhi. Kurna miyurna yaitya mathanya Wama Tarntanyaku, purkarnanti puki-unangku yalaka kuma. Parnaku yailtya, parnaku tapa purruna, parnaku yarta ngadlu tampinhi. Yalaka Kurna miyurna itu yailtya, tapa purruna, yarta kuma puru martinhi, puru warri-apinhi, puru tangka martulayinhi.

The City of Salisbury acknowledges that we are meeting on the traditional Country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.



Clock Tower Artwork by Paul Herzich

Mayor's Message



Mayor Gillian Aldridge OAM

I am excited to present our Youth Action Plan 2024-2027, a comprehensive plan designed to empower and engage our young citizens in our vision for Salisbury to be a progressive, sustainable and connected community.

With boundless energy, creativity and passion, our City's young people possess the power to drive transformative change, to challenge the status quo, and to help build a brighter, more inclusive future for all.

The Youth Action Plan is a comprehensive framework designed to empower, engage and elevate the voices of our young people. It has been developed after deep engagement with young people in our community to understand their needs and the most pressing issues impacting their lives and how we might support them. It was inspiring to see desire for empowerment and collaboration to achieve positive change for young people in our community.

This plan is a commitment to providing our youth with the tools, resources and platforms they need to thrive, lead and make a meaningful impact in their communities and beyond.

Through targeted initiatives, partnerships and investments, our Youth Action Plan aims to address challenges facing our young people—from access to mental health services, supported housing options, career planning and employment opportunities, to civic engagement. By fostering collaboration between government, schools, businesses and community organisations, we will create a supportive environment where every young person can fulfil their potential and contribute positively to a fully connected community.

The plan highlights opportunities and builds on our strengths, while celebrating the diversity of talents, ideas and perspectives that young people bring to the table. It aims to nurture a culture of innovation, entrepreneurship and social responsibility, ensuring a city where every young person feels valued, heard and supported.

This plan shows we are committed to working with younger people in our community to shape a city that is inclusive, resilient, and thriving for generations to come.

Ngaityala — thank you.



Introduction

The City of Salisbury recognises the vital role young people play in shaping our future. To harness their energy, creativity, and passion for positive change, we have developed a comprehensive Youth Action Plan 2024 - 2027.

Key principles:



Engagement

We will engage young people in meaningful ways, ensuring their voices are heard and their ideas are valued in decision-making processes.



Empowerment

We will empower young people to take on leadership roles, develop new skills, and build confidence in their ability to effect change across our City.



Strengths-based

We will identify and amplify young people's strengths to deliver youth led projects and initiatives that contribute to positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes.



Partnerships

We will forge partnerships with a range of stakeholders to leverage resources and expertise in support of our Youth Action Plan, including government agencies, non-profit organisations, businesses and schools.

Strategic context

The Youth Action Plan recognises that Federal and State Government policies are essential in shaping opportunities and addressing challenges young people encounter around education, health and employment.

At a local level, our Youth Action Plan directly contributes to the City of Salisbury's vision of becoming a progressive, sustainable and connected community, as outlined in the [City Plan 2040](#), Council's strategic and highest level plan.

Young people are at the forefront of our aspirations for 2040 and they are also reflected in our directions to be a welcoming and liveable city, and a growing city that creates new opportunities.

Further to this, the City Plan includes a range of critical actions that both directly or indirectly support the needs and aspirations of our young people today, but also into the future.

Council also has a range of policies that foster a thriving community for young people, including:

- [Ability Inclusion Strategic Plan 2020-2024](#)
- [City of Salisbury Wellbeing Plan 2023-2028](#)
- [Intercultural Strategic Plan 2017-2027](#)
- [Sustainability Strategy 2035](#)
- [Thrive Strategy](#)



Salisbury Aquatic Centre



Salisbury Community Hub

Young and diverse: A look at our youth

City of Salisbury’s young people are a diverse group, with many different interests, backgrounds, lifestyles, abilities, plans and needs.

18,929 young people aged 12 to 25 years live in City of Salisbury.



16.9%
of the population are 12 to 25 years.



3.6%
14 to 25-year-olds identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.



16%
of 15 to 19-year-olds report experiencing poor overall mental health and wellbeing.



32.4%
of 14 to 25-year-olds are born overseas.



65%
are currently attending secondary or tertiary education.



13%
of 15 to 19-year-olds report concerns about having a safe place to stay.



5%
of 15 to 19-year-olds are at risk of not completing SACE or tertiary education.



Salisbury Community Hub

What do we offer young people?

Council delivers services and programs, facilities, and infrastructure used by young people and acts as an advocate for outcomes that support young people and the future of the city.

Council is also an employer of young people and provides work experience and volunteering opportunities. Complementing this is a well-developed and connected youth services sector providing programs and services for young people across the Council area.

Community

Libraries, Hubs and Community Centres

- ① Bagster Road Community Centre
- ② Ingle Farm Library
- ③ Morella Community Centre
- ④ Para Hills Community Hub
- ⑤ Pooraka Farm Community Centre
- ⑥ Salisbury Community Hub
- ⑦ Salisbury East Neighbourhood Centre
- ⑧ The Hive Community Resource Hub
- ⑨ The Mawson Centre
- ⑩ Twelve25 Youth Centre

Education

High Schools, TAFE SA and UniSA

- ① Endeavour College
- ② Garden College
- ③ Indie School
- ④ Para Hills High School
- ⑤ Parafield Gardens High School
- ⑥ Paralowie R-12 School
- ⑦ Salisbury East High School
- ⑧ Salisbury High School
- ⑨ TAFE SA Salisbury Campus
- ⑩ Temple Christian College
- ⑪ Thomas Moore College
- ⑫ Tyndale Christian School
- ⑬ UniSA Mawson Lakes Campus
- ⑭ Valley View High School

Recreation

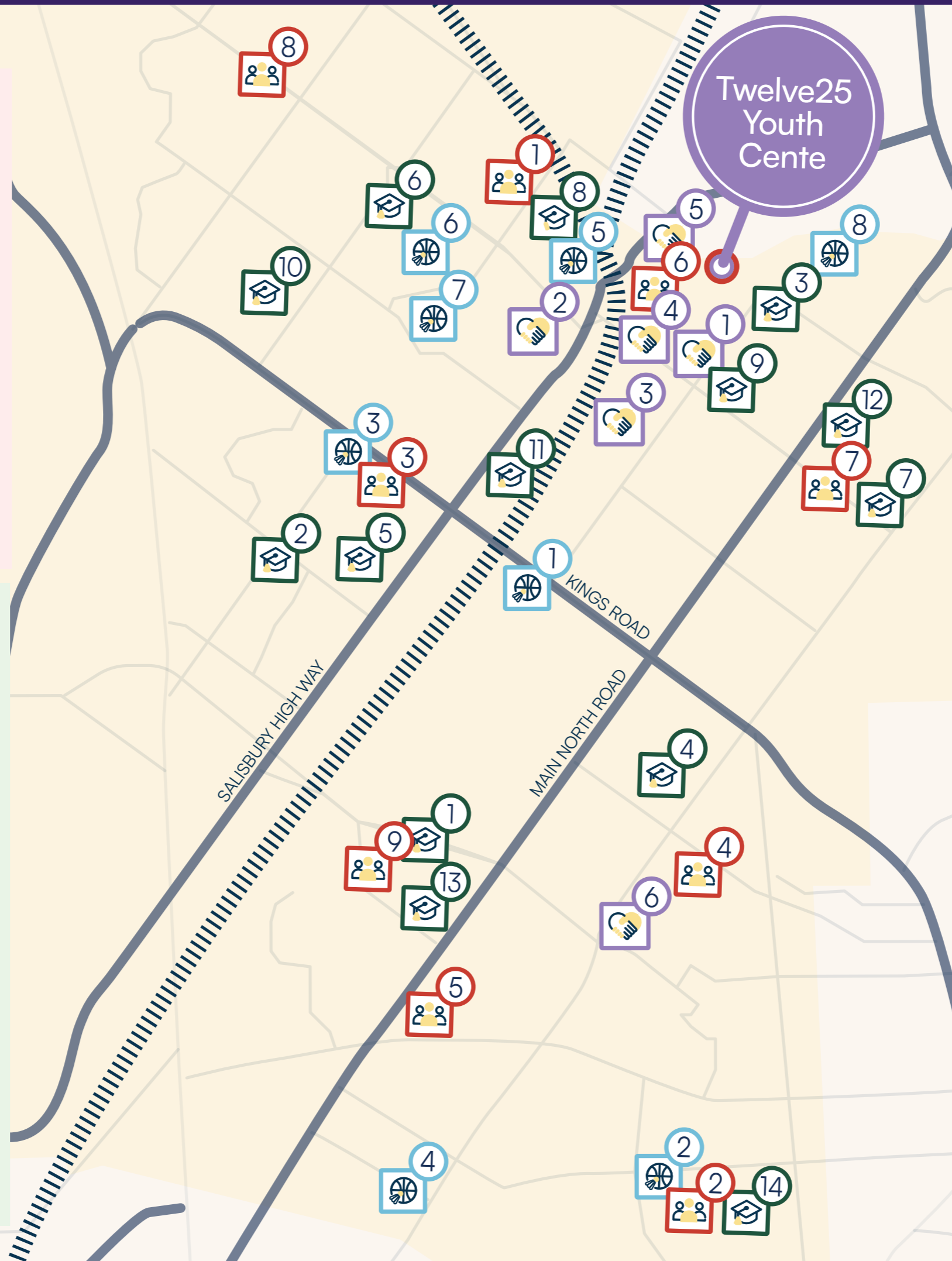
Recreation Centres open for community

- ① Bridgestone Athletics Centre
- ② Ingle Farm Recreation Centre
- ③ Parafield Gardens Recreation Centre
- ④ Pooraka Skate Park
- ⑤ Salisbury Aquatic Centre
- ⑥ Salisbury North Skate Park
- ⑦ Shanx Mini Golf @ Little Para
- ⑧ TreeClimb Salisbury

Youth services

City of Salisbury offers accessible services open for community.

- ① Australian Refugee Association
- ② Incompro
- ③ Novita
- ④ Sonder's Safe Haven
- ⑤ Workskil Australia Transition to Work
- ⑥ Youth Outreach Accommodation Service
- ⑦ Twelve25 Youth Centre, including: L2P Drive With Me, Youth Opportunities and YouTurn



What our young people told us

Engagement with young people was essential in developing the Youth Action Plan, as it ensured the plan was relevant, effective, and genuinely addressed their needs and concerns.

Council took a deliberate and considered engagement approach over two years to ensure a range of voices were captured.

'I love being out and exploring nature and meeting new people.'

Nicole, aged 25*

'My mental health has probably been the biggest challenge for me in the last year. I have been struggling with feeling down, stressed and overwhelmed.'

Ashanti, aged 17*

'Entering the workforce is intimidating, there are so many young people seeking guidance.'

Henry, aged 19*



AGH Cox Reserve

*Name and age changed for privacy



1,624

young people engaged



294

participants across nine focus groups



243

surveys completed for Commissioner for Young People Report



840

high school students engaged in post-summit and post-survey consultations



69

attendees at Youth Summit 2023



148

surveys completed for Mission Australia Report (Salisbury)

SALISBURY COMMUNITY HUB YOUTH MARKET

30

surveys completed at Youth Market 2024



Twelve25 Youth Centre

Timeline

2022

Commissioner for Children and Young people consultation and report released

2023

Mission Australia survey for Salisbury released

June 2023

Council endorses three priority areas for new Youth Action Plan

November 2023

Inaugural Youth Summit at Salisbury Community Hub

March to June 2024

Engagement with high schools

October 2024

Youth Action Plan endorsed by Council



Youth Summit 2023



Key priorities



Health and wellbeing



Equity, discrimination and unfair treatment



Educational engagement and successful transitions



Health and wellbeing

Youth Mental Health



1. Mind Matters pilot

An innovative 12-month pilot program building capacity at the student, teacher, school and community level to support the mental health needs of young people.

The pilot aims to empower the community to support, improve and invest in young people's mental health and reduce youth suicide.



2. Sonder mental health outreach

In partnership with Sonder, we will increase the availability of local and affordable mental health support for young people.

Based at Twelve25, this new outreach program provided by headspace Edinburgh North will engage a qualified mental health worker to deliver critical local and free mental health support for young people in Salisbury.



Twelve25 Youth Centre



Body and soul

We will improve community wellbeing by providing expanded social and recreational programs for young people aimed at enhancing their physical and mental health and improving social connections.



Youth friendly spaces

We will develop more inviting and inclusive spaces for young people and enhance opportunities for youth involvement in the consultation and design of social infrastructure.



Health equity

We will collaborate with key organisations to provide targeted health and wellbeing services, empowering young people to make informed choices about their physical and emotional health and addressing period poverty.



- Recreation centres, such as Ingle Farm, Parafield Gardens, Salisbury Aquatic Centre, Bridgestone and TreeClimb Salisbury.
- Funding, including youth sponsorship.
- School holiday programs and youth-specific events.
- Creative arts programs, such as the Salisbury Youth Performing Arts Group and Resonate music program.

Key



Foundation



Strategic priorities



Critical areas



Business as usual

◇ 2

Equity, discrimination and unfair treatment

Youth empowerment

① 1.

Housing model

We will identify a model that will provide housing stability for young people and support positive education and employment outcomes.

② 2.

YES! Leadership Program

Youth Empowerment Salisbury (YES!) will provide both formal and informal leadership opportunities, and in doing so, build critical leadership skills for advocacy and employment.

Key



Foundation



Strategic priorities



Critical areas



Business as usual



☑ Embracing diversity

We will prioritise culturally safe and inclusive programs and events and collaborate with Aboriginal-controlled organisations to deliver Aboriginal-led programs and events.

We will offer unique social, skill development and career growth opportunities for our LGBTIQ+ and neurodiverse communities.

☑ Civic engagement

We will implement programs and events that support increased levels of civic engagement and build capacity in young people to advocate for their own needs and rights.



- Intercultural Strategic Plan.
- Affordable Housing Policy and Implementation Plan.
- Cost of Living responses.
- Community Engagement Strategy.
- First Nations' Strategic group and Reconciliation Action Plan.
- Youth Summit and Youth Week.
- Partnerships with key agencies, such as Australian Refugee Association (ARA), Rent Right and headspace.

◇ 3

Educational engagement and successful transitions

Education and employment pathways



🎯 1.

Study Salisbury

We will improve student outcomes by leveraging our assets to provide increased access and supports for young people studying in Salisbury, including the possible expansion of opening hours and open access at key sites.

🎯 2.

STEM careers

We will focus on raising awareness of STEM pathways to access local employment opportunities and increase our skilled workforce.

☑️ **NextGen careers**

We will enhance awareness of local job opportunities and career paths for young people.

Our focus will be on prioritising programs to help young individuals become 'work ready' including micro-credentials.

We will also host STEM-focused events targeting marginalised groups and work to raise awareness of workplace rights.

☑️ **Entrepreneurial youth**

We will promote youth entrepreneurship as a viable pathway by offering entry-level entrepreneurial workshops, hosting an annual youth entrepreneurial market, and actively promoting business incubation opportunities at key Council locations.



- Polaris Business Centre.
- City of Salisbury traineeships and work experience programs.
- Workplace accreditations and employment expos.
- Hub After Dark program.
- STEM and digital programs, such as Beacon.
- Partnerships with industry and key businesses.

Key

- ◇ Foundation
- 🎯 Strategic priorities
- ☑️ Critical areas
- ➡️ Business as usual



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Version 1.

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