

MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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27 September 2019

Public Health Plan Survey

The Shire of Esperance is commencing consultation aimed at identifying challenges and strategies to providing healthier lifestyle opportunities and environments for our residents. The objective of a Public Health Plan is to maximise community health and wellbeing, and we need your input for this happen.

The survey will gather local information that will make sure the Plan supports and encourages a healthy community, assists people to live healthier lifestyles, be physically active and feel more socially engaged. The Plan needs to be supported by everyone in the community where individuals, groups and support agencies can work together to influence the health and wellbeing of our whole community.

The survey will take approximately six minutes and is available online through the Shire's social media pages and website. Alternatively hard copies of the survey can be completed with these being available at the Shire Administration Building, Library, Home Care and Bay of Isles Leisure Centre.

CEO Matthew Scott said "All local governments must develop a Public Health Plan that accurately reflects their individual community circumstances. Esperance has some challenges due to distance and access to services that are not experienced by local governments in the City. On the other hand we have an abundance of public open space that encourages us all to lead a more active lifestyle.

The questions in the survey are designed to seek out what would encourage you to make healthier choices. The responses given will provide information on service demand for health service providers and the Shire. Please take the time to provide your input to make sure the right areas are giving priority in the years ahead."

A local government Public Health Plan must be developed in preparation for implementation of the *Public Health Act 2016*. Under this Act, local governments must initiate, support and manage public health planning for their respective districts.

The survey is now live and closes on the 29th November.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Esperance_health

Ends

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