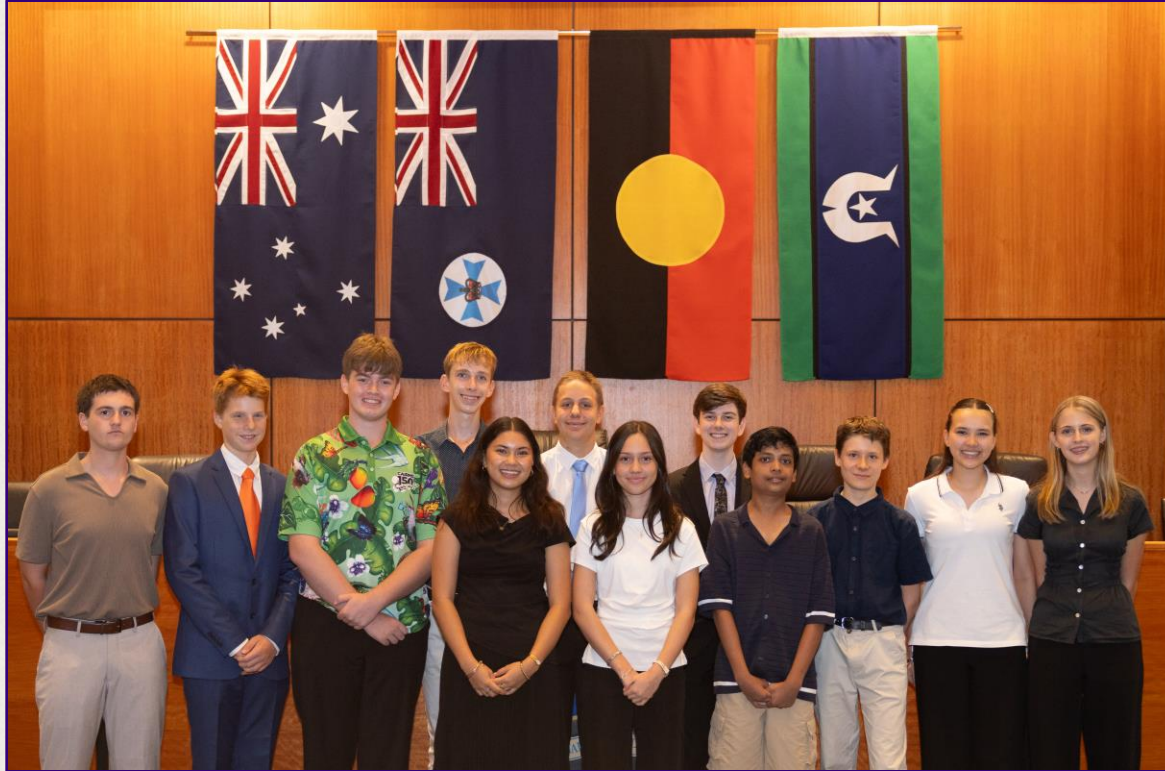


Cairns Youth Council



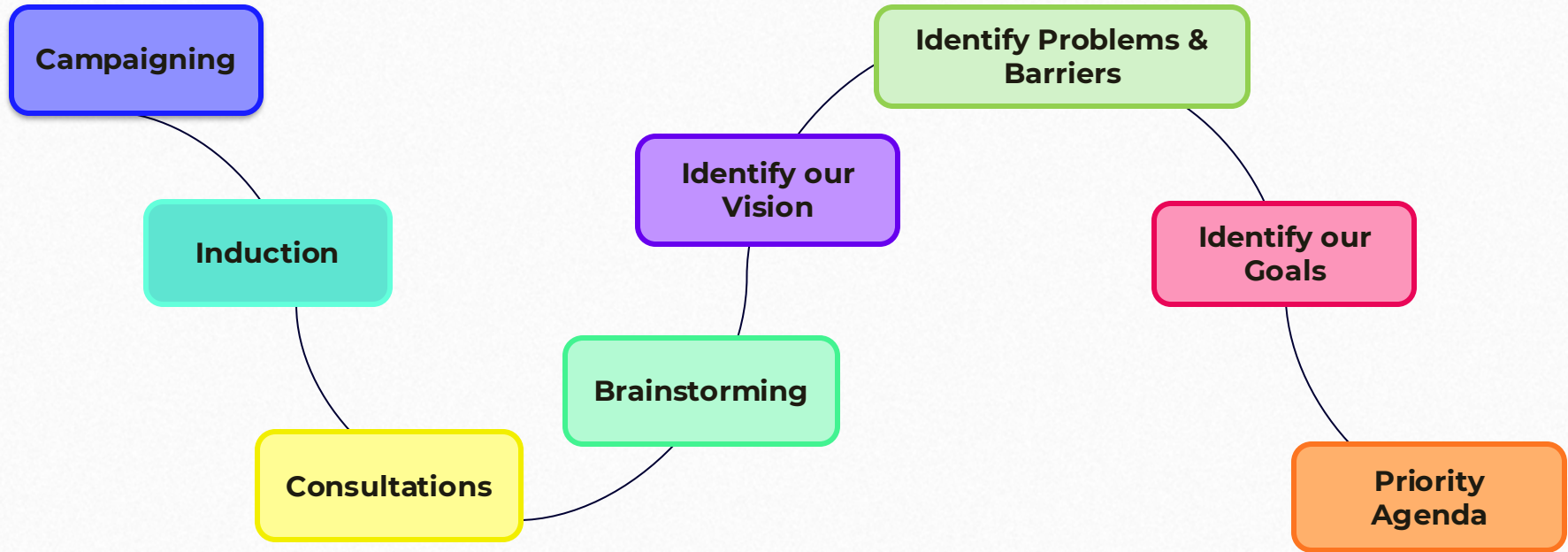
Priority Agenda Presentation 2026-27



We acknowledge.

Cairns Regional Council acknowledges and pays our respects to the Traditional Custodians of our region, the Djabugay; Yirrganydji; Buluwai, Gimuy Walubara Yidinji; Mandingalbay Yidinji; Gunggandji; Dulabed and Malanbara Yidinji; Bundabarra and Wadjanbarra Yidinji; Madjandji, Mamu and NgadjonJii peoples. We extend this respect to all elders past, present and future, and other First Peoples within our region.

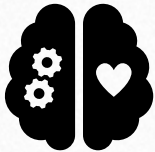
Priority Agenda Setting Process



Combined campaign ideas



Increased opportunities for youth engagement and participation



Improve mental health and wellbeing



Youth safety and crime prevention



Environment

Who we have talked to

Cairns South LEOS

Headspace Cairns YRG

Former Youth Councilors

Trinity Bay SHS Yr 10 Students

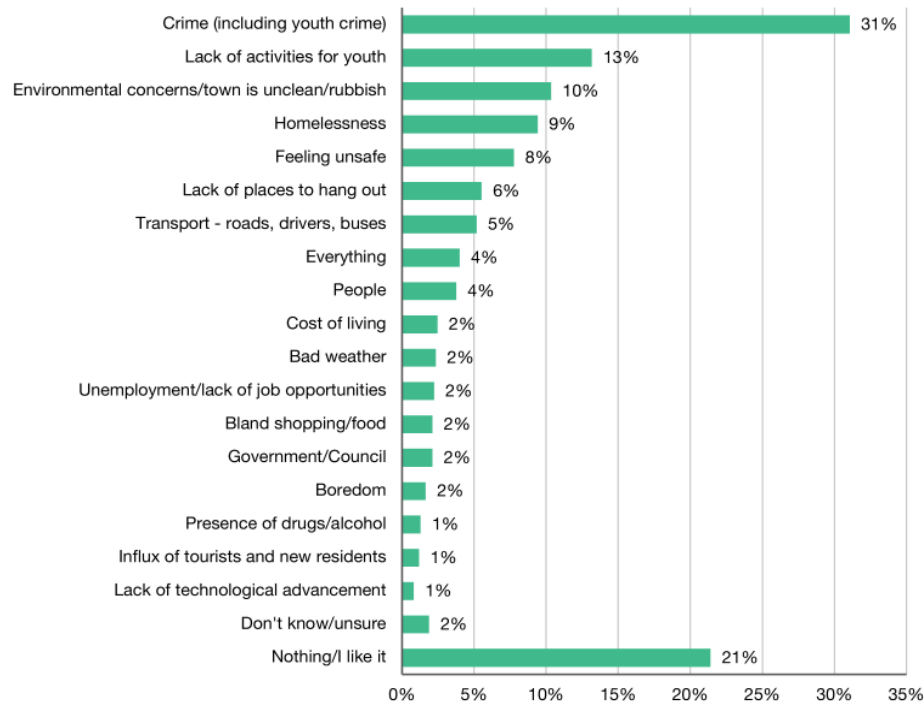
Mission Australia's Youth Survey
2024 – Top 4 issues for young

Our Cairns Youth Survey 2024 –
Top 4 issues for young people

Figure 2 Things about Cairns Embarrassed or Sad

Q10. Is there anything about Cairns that makes you embarrassed/sad?

Base: All respondents who answered 2024 (n=850)



Priorities

Youth Engagement

Creating spaces and opportunities that are safe, engaging and inclusive where young people can thrive

Issues

- Lack of access and involvement in activities, safe spaces and events
- Transport opportunities
- Longevity and consistency of programs/ activities
- Issues of advertising and promoting (posters and media)
- Homelessness
- Anti-social behavior
- Activities that are not engaging or young people aren't interested in

Goals

1. Young people participating in planning and consultations
2. Infrastructure for events and programs
3. Better lighting to support use of outdoor public spaces

Mental Health & Wellbeing

A connected Cairns where young people are supported to feel confident, composed and protected to thrive in a positive environment

Issues

- Lack of access and involvement in activities, safe spaces and events
- Stigma around mental health and wellbeing
- Lack of connection
- Inconsistency in access to information, education, and awareness of support

Goals

1. Improve outreach and communication in the community
2. Increasing awareness and engagement in youth only spaces
3. Awareness of mental health in sporting communities

Environment

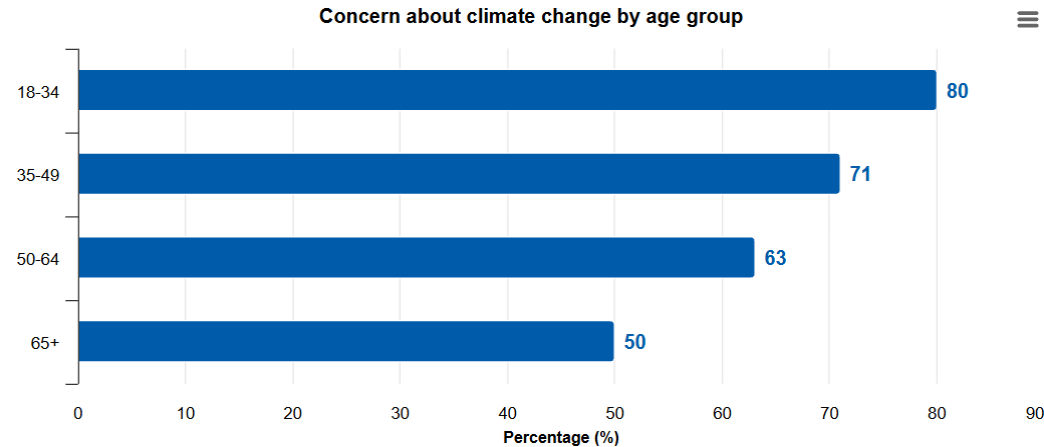
Promoting the protection of our natural assets by encouraging young people to embrace eco-friendly attitudes and behaviors

Issues

- Lack of education and awareness
- Littering and laziness
- Apathy

Goals

1. Incentivise recycling bins in schools and other places
2. Bush walks with environmental education to improve connection with young people
3. Encourage and improve public and active transport



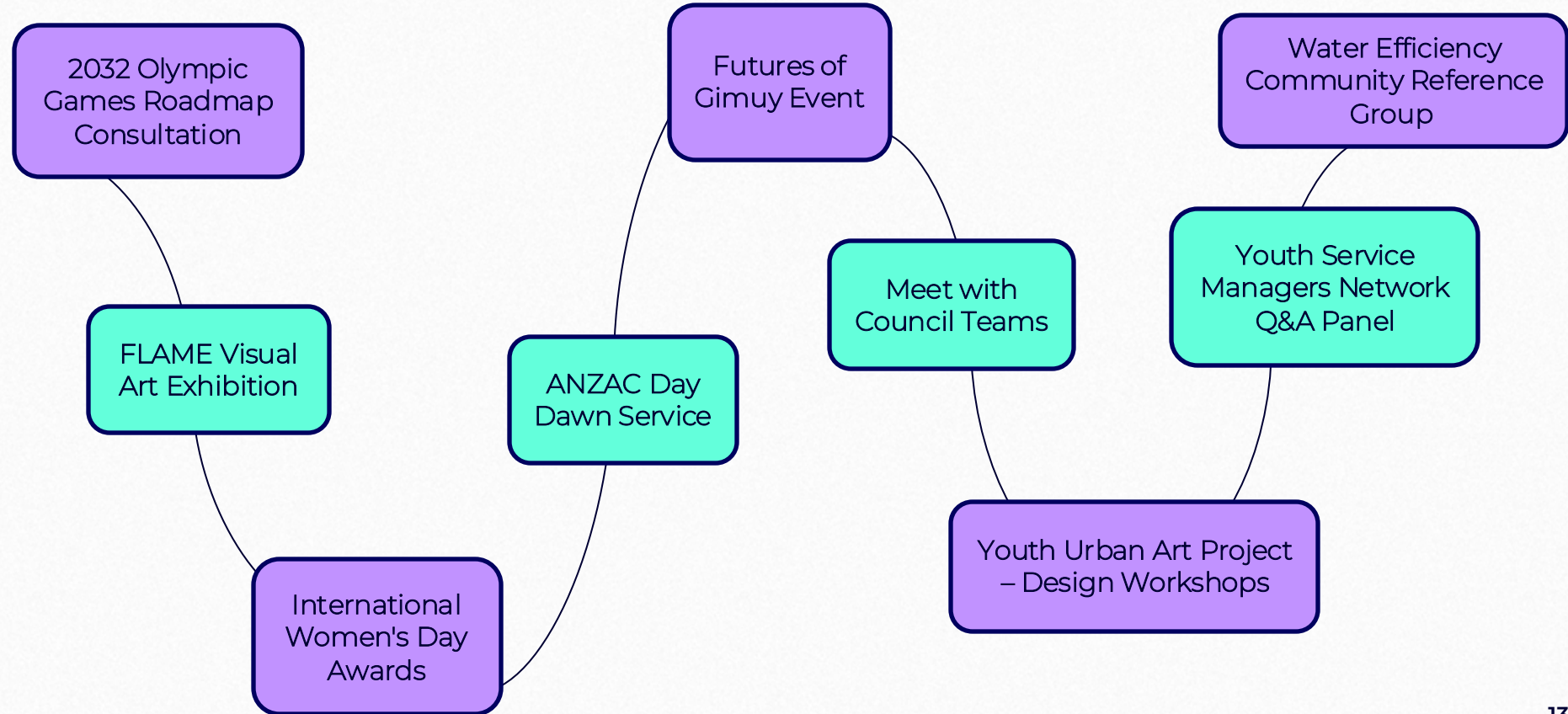
© NCLS Research
Source: 2025 Australian Community Survey, n=1,295



The future of Cairns isn't something we inherit,
it is something we create together...



Events & Engagements so far.....





**Please join us in the Courtyard for some
light refreshments**
