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1.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

A range of relevant reports and literature were reviewed to determine policy directions and strategic directions that may impact on Katandra West now or in the future. Key points arising from these documents include:

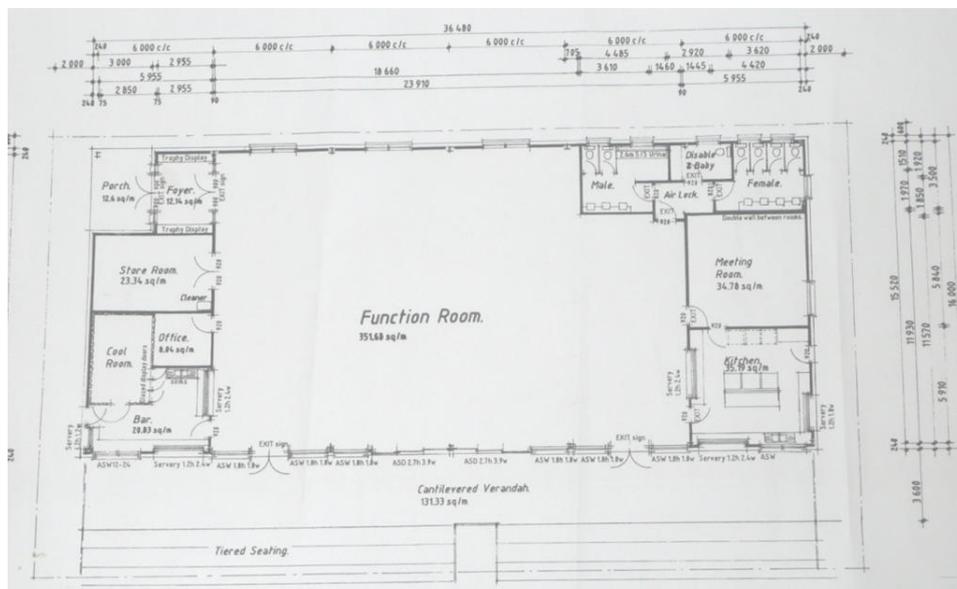
1.1 GREATER SHEPPARTON COUNCIL PLAN AND STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN (2009-2013)

Council's vision is: "Greater Shepparton. As the food bowl of Australia, a sustainable, innovative and diverse community. Greater Future".

Its six strategic objectives are:

- Settlement and Housing – A commitment to growth within a consolidated and sustainable development framework.
- Community Life – To enhance social connectedness, physical and mental health and well being, education and participatory opportunities in order to improve livability and a greater range of community services.
- Environment – The conservation and enhancement of significant natural environments and cultural heritage.
- Economic Development – To promote economic growth, business development and diversification with a focus on strengthening the agricultural industry.
- Infrastructure – The provision of urban and rural infrastructure to enhance the performance of the municipality and facilitate growth.
- Council Organisation and Management – To deliver best practice management, governance, administrative and financial systems that support the delivery of Council programs to the community of Greater Shepparton.

Of particular relevance to Katandra West is the following strategy: "Develop a joint funding model for a Katandra Community Centre and pursue funding" (pg 24).



1.2 KATANDRA WEST URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK (2003)

Katandra West community supports a model of 'gradual development and evolution'

Highest priorities by residents include: improvements to the town entrances and recreation reserve; and town centre enhancement.

Some major constraints identified include:

- Septic systems leak into grey water and are smelly – need sewer treatment for town.
- Flooding in town – new developments need to be able to discharge storm water from sites and develop retention basins to store runoff prior to discharge into overland drainage system.
- Supply of water and water pressure – need to expand the capacity of the water treatment plant (Goulburn Valley Water).

Some major opportunities identified include:

- Potential to develop land north east of town (within the township zone), providing servicing can be achieved.
- Potential for commercial development within the southern block of Queen St.
- Potential for medium density housing (particularly for older adults) between Queen and Black Streets either side of Bankin St and also to north east of Recreation Reserve north of Donohue St and south of Lincoln St.
- Potential for new residential areas within and outside current township zone – encouraging new homes with sewer and grey water treatment, shared paths and consistent street trees.
- Shared cycling / walking paths – to be developed on Queen St, Bankin St, Lincoln St, Coleman St, Hickey Ave, Black St, King St and around the Recreation Reserve.

Proposed works:

- Town entrances – new town signs, new tree planting, incorporate roundabouts and pedestrian intersections.
- Recreation Reserve – new entry off proposed roundabout in Hickey Ave, develop shared hard courts, develop compact car park on existing netball courts, construct a new community centre, modify existing football / cricket pavilion for netball and tennis change facilities, relocate cricket practice nets, relocate and enhance play facilities, develop shared paths, plant trees, construct new gate house at road entry, retain and improve halls.
- Town Centre Development – develop a t-junction at Queen St and Hickey Ave to improve pedestrian crossings, develop median strip in Queen St, develop designated parking areas, install new lighting, landscape open space areas, pave footpaths, develop picnic shelter and construct bus stop shelters.
- Residential Areas – develop consistent planting plan for each street, improve crossings, improve storm water drainage, develop new shared paths, review lighting, provide paved areas and footpaths.

1.3 GREATER SHEPPARTON HOUSING STRATEGY (2011)

The Katandra West Housing Change Area Plan identified minimal change for the built up areas of Katandra, with potential for low density housing in the area to the east of King St and to the north of Hickey Ave; and a potential rural living zone further east along Hickey Ave; and also west of the end of Coleman St and north of Hickey Ave.

The Katandra West Growth Management Plan identifies:

- the next area of growth, i.e. in 0-5 years time west of the end of Coleman St and north of Hickey Ave (the same area zoned for rural living in the west);
- the following area of growth in 5-10 years time east of King St and to the north of Hickey Ave (the same area zoned for potential low density housing);
- the third area for growth in 10-15 years time further east along Hickey Ave; and
- the last area for growth in 15+ years north east of Katandra West Primary School.



1.4 EARLY YEARS SERVICE REVIEW AND FUTURE DEMAND ANALYSIS: DRAFT REPORT (2011)

- Katandra West has been identified in Planning Region 3 (North East), which also comprises of Congupna, Tallygaroopna and Dookie.
- The general population is expected to grow by 6% between 2011 and 2016, and then by 9% between 2016-2021 in this Planning Region.
- Between 2016 and 2021 the number of young people in Planning Region 3 between 0-8 years of age is expected to grow by 8-11%.

- Approximately 385 new dwellings will be constructed in the North East Growth Corridor by 2031.
- 1.0% of people living in the North East Region are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; 8.7% are from non-English speaking backgrounds; and 14.3% are not fluent in English.
- The Katandra West Early Childhood Centre is located on land owned by City of Greater Shepparton.
- The Maternal and Child Health Program, which operates from the Katandra West Early Childhood Centre on an outreach basis for one session per week, has an annual birth allocation of five.
- The Katandra West Children’s Centre is licensed to cater for 29 places, but only has 19 children enrolled at present. It currently operates one four year old kinder group per week for a total of 15 hours and one three year old kinder group, comprising of 14 children, for three hours per week. It is considered that the three year old group is not at risk of closure, based on new regulations for four year old groups in relation to increased hours.
- Of the 19 kindergartens in the municipality, Katandra West (along with seven other venues) is listed as a low priority for future investments by Council.
- Additional Maternal and Child Health services are required in the North East region to cater for projected growth.



1.5 KATANDRA WEST RECREATION RESERVE MASTER PLAN (2006)

This report noted the following priorities for development at the Recreation Reserve, as part of a three stage approach, costing approximately \$1,223,040 (2006 prices – excluding allowances):

- Development of a shared, multi-purpose community social facility with change rooms, meeting room and catering facilities.
- Need to replace netball and tennis courts in 5 years time.
- Relocation of cricket practice nets.
- Installation of a drainage system and retardation basin to manage flood water.
- Removal of the CFA shed, Wally Down Pavilion, grandstand, scoreboard, tennis pavilion and netball pavilion.
- Relocation of the war memorial, BBQ and public toilets.
- Potential need to relocate carriage club due to traffic management issues at the Reserve.
- Potential to remove some, or all, of the existing hall.



1.6 DRAFT PROPOSED KATANDRA WEST TWELVE MONTH ACTION PLAN (2005)

Priorities developed by the Katandra West Progress Association for 2005/06 include:

Town and District Growth:

- Obtain broadband internet services.
- Use the internet to promote Katandra West.
- Develop local planning policy.
- Develop best practice in water management to service growth.

- Participate in relevant processes and advocacy opportunities.

Master Plan for Community Facilities:

- Develop an agreed master plan and footprint for the Recreation Reserve.
- Relocate cricket practice nets.
- Consider development of safer pedestrian routes around southern town entrance bend, potentially through Recreation Reserve.
- Build new multi-purpose community centre.
- Develop shared trails.
- Improve relationships and collaborations between all community groups.

Improved Infrastructure:

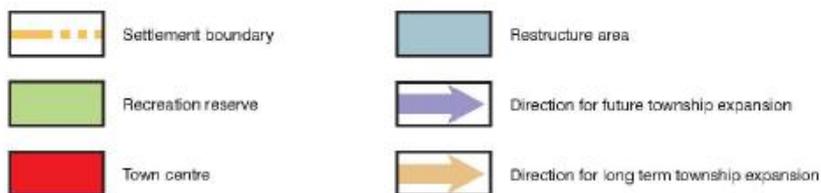
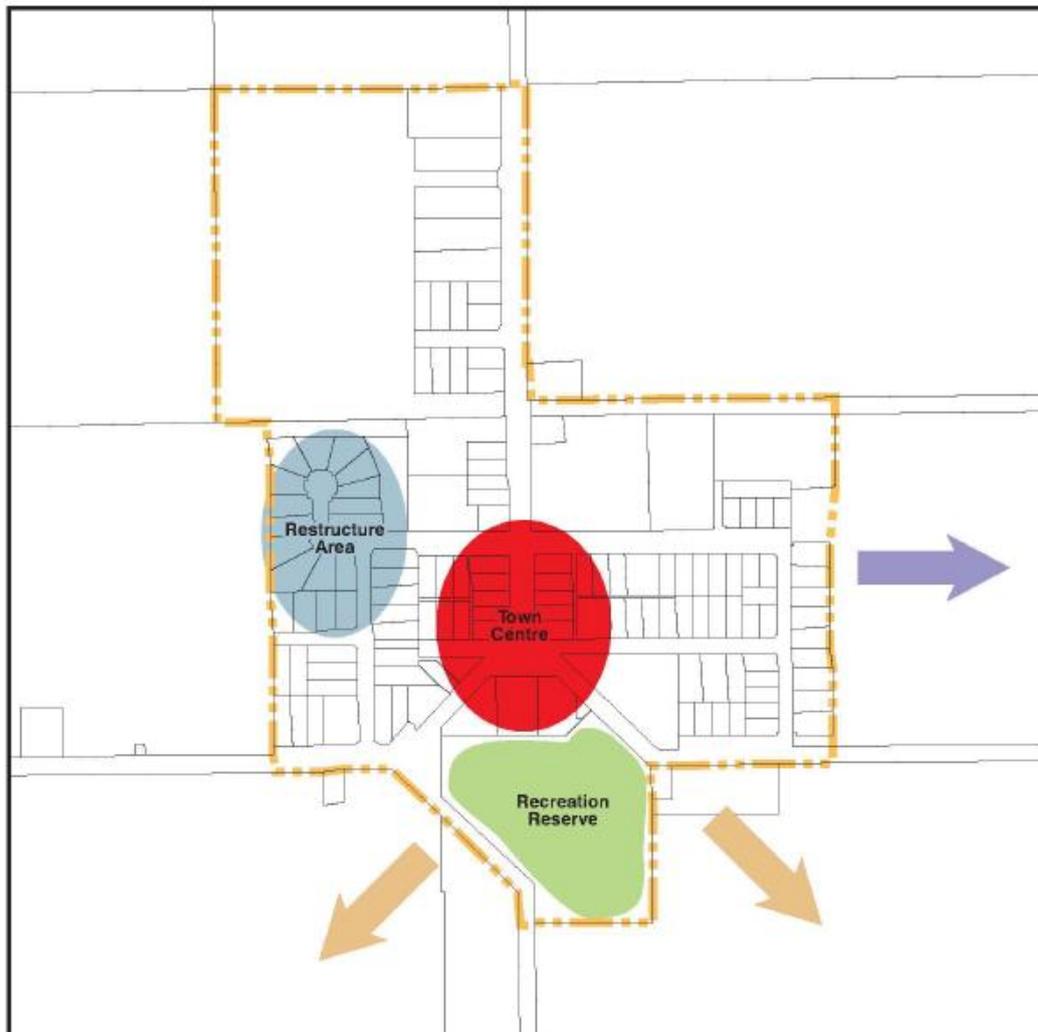
- Control weeds in township – road sides and Recreation Reserve.
- Develop improved and more attractive town entrance.
- Improve safety of roadways and footpaths in town.

Improve aesthetics of township.



1.6 SHEPPARTON 2030 PLAN (2006)

This document provides a blueprint for building sustainable economic activity and maximising the quality of life in Greater Shepparton City Council over the next 30 years. In relation to Katandra West, the following structure plan has been prepared.



Key aspects of this document are settlement and housing; community life; environment; economic development; and infrastructure.

1.7 A FUTURE WITH LESS WATER REPORT (2012) - DRAFT

This report features a case study of Katandra West, noting that whilst Katandra West has excellent soils, the small size of farming blocks limits the potential for mixed farming and even for dairy farming. It states that in order to be viable, dairy farmers need to milk between 300 to 400 cows and generally need to be located on blocks in the vicinity of 200 to 250 hectares. Mixed farming requires areas of around 1,000 hectares. In order to achieve blocks of these sizes, a number of farms would need to be sold and amalgamated. This however, is likely to be cost prohibitive in many instances. Another serious economic challenge to local farmers is the cost of maintaining the pipelined irrigation supply. Water tariff reform is seen as an important action.

As a result of the recent drought, a number of dairy farmers sold up their herds and sought employment off the farm. Many of these farmers have not re-entered the market. Even attracting relief workers is proving difficult. The area has a high proportion of non-agricultural use (19% in 2009) and a very high proportion of inactive irrigation (40% in 2009).

There is potential for Katandra West to move away from dairying and mixed farming to intensive horticulture. Such a farming practice is more suitable to the existing block size in the region. The good soils and access to irrigation will also be seen as a positive for the establishment of this type of farming.

The report states that a number of Katandra West residents cannot relocate because their house must be sold with their farm. However, they are unable to sell their farm at a price which would enable them to move into town. This then results in occasional problems of appropriate land management. In addition to this particular issue, the report also notes that a number of people who have relocated from Shepparton for the cheaper housing available in Katandra West may not necessarily have their social support needs met.



2.0 DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Based on the 2011 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census, Katandra West (State Suburb) has a population of **747**; 50.3% of whom are males and 49.7% of whom are females. The largest age groupings are 10-14 year olds and 45-49 year olds, with the median age of residents being 40 years of age.

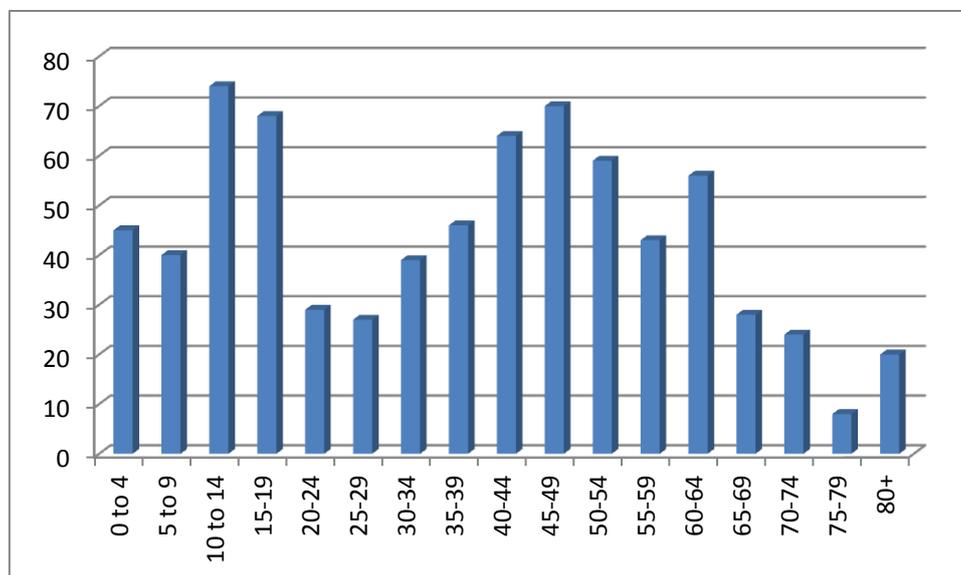


Figure 1: Age distribution of Katandra West Residents (Source: 2011 Census)

Approximately 92.1% of our residents were born in Australia, compared with the national figure of 69.8%; and 2.0% of us are of indigenous descent, compared with 2.5% for Australia. Countries of birth for those not born in Australia include New Zealand, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany, Greece and Malaysia. English is the only language spoken at home by 96.4% of us. Italian and Dutch are the only other languages spoken at home by our residents, according to the 2011 Census.

In 2011, we had approximately 16 children from Katandra West (state suburb) attending pre-school and 164 attending primary or secondary school (not necessarily in Katandra West). The average number of children per household is 1.8 and the average household size is 2.7 people per house.

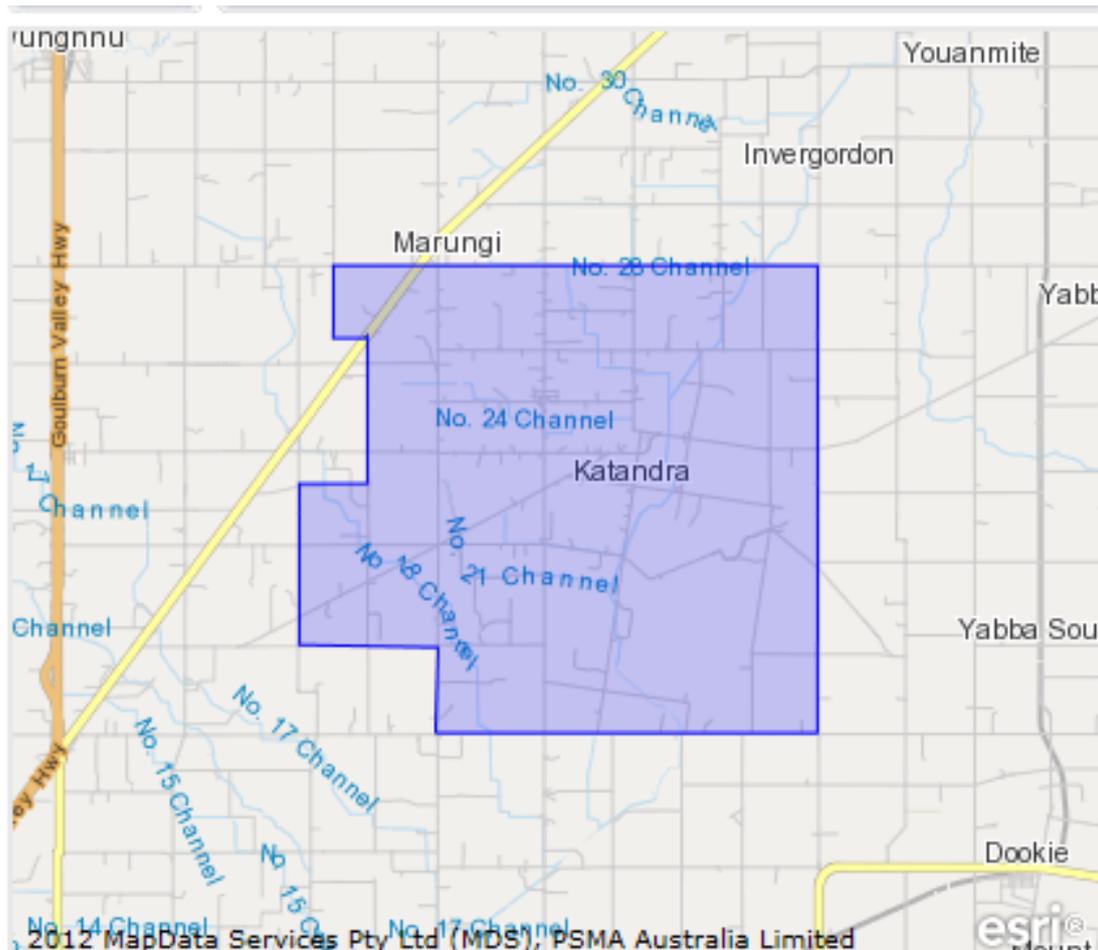
167 people over 15 years of age (28.4%) in our community claimed that they undertook some form of voluntary works for an organisation or group in 2010/11, compared with 17.8% of Australian residents. The age groups which most thoroughly embraced volunteer work included 45-54 year olds, followed by 35-44 year olds.

The median household income on a weekly basis is around \$1,064 per week and the median family income is \$1,219. Individuals earn a median income of \$488 per week. Of the 300 private dwellings in Katandra West, 33.2% are fully owned; 48.8% are in the process of being purchased; and 12.9% are being rented. The median mortgage repayment is around \$1,300 per month, and the median weekly rent is approximately \$200. The majority of homes have two motor vehicles (or an average of 2.3 motor vehicles per home) and 97.0% of households are connected to the internet either via broadband or dial-up, compared with only 59% for Australia.

In 2006*, 352 of our residents 15 years of age or over (72.1%), were in the labour force, working either full time, part time or presently away from work. Our unemployment rate was 4.5%, compared with 5.2% for Australia. Of our residents who are over 15 years of age and in the workforce, primary industries of employment included: dairy cattle farming (18.5%); sheep, beef cattle and grain farming (7.1%) and hospitals

(6.5%). Within these industries, the most common occupations included managers (29.8%); technicians and trades workers (12.5%); labourers (12.2%); and clerical and administrative workers (12.2%). Compared to Australia as a whole there are more people in Katandra West working as managers and labourers and less people working as technicians/ trade workers.

Greater Shepparton is expected to grow at a rate of 1.17% over the next 19 years (between 2012 and 2031), however the Rural North East region, in which Katandra West is situated, is expected to grow at a very moderate rate of 0.05% per annum between 2012 and 2021. This represents a net gain of 20 people in the Rural North East region. The biggest losses are expected in the under 15 years of age bracket (-7.3%) and the biggest growth is expected in the number of people over 65 years of age (55.1%).



*Some Census information regarding employment and inward / outward migration will not be released until October 2012.

Sources:

1. ABS 2006 Census QuickStats: Katandra West (State Suburb):
<http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/ABSNavigation/prenav/ProductSearch?&areacode=SSC25853&producttype=QuickStats&action=401>
2. ABS 2011 Census Basic Community Profile: Katandra West (State Suburb):
http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2011/communityprofile/SSC20689?opendocument&navpos=230
3. ABS 2011 Census QuickStats: Katandra West (State Suburb):
<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/quickstats?opendocument&navpos=220>
4. forecast id: <http://forecast2.id.com.au/Default.aspx?id=272&pg=5110>

3.0 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

3.1 KEY STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

Thirty-three (33) key stakeholders representing twenty-three (23) organisations were interviewed during the course of the Community Plan to identify issues, gaps and opportunities in relation to the further development of Katandra West. These stakeholders included:

Name	Organisation(s)
Garry Wallden	Katandra and District Historical Society; Katandra West Landcare Group; Katandra West Cemetery Trust
Paul Harry	Katandra Cricket Club
Wilma Black	Red Cross; Uniting Church
Leanne Ireland	Katandra West Community Planning Group; Katandra West General Store
Brian Ireland	Katandra West General Store
Laura Ireland	Young person
Jillian Beecroft	Katandra West Lawn Tennis Club; Katandra West Girl Guides
Edna Lievre	CWA
Colin Opray	CFA
Peter Tomlinson	Marungi War Memorial
Col Senior	Katandra West Football and Netball Club
Greg Barr; Alan Bassett	Katandra West Bowls Club
Gabrielle Crowe	Katandra West Catholic Church
Haydon Beaton; Amelia, Jessie; Lachlan; Jake, Rex	Katandra West Primary School
Jenny Heaps; Michelle McClusky; Jayne Loveridge; Joanne Harry	Katandra West Kindergarten
Meredith Stephens	Katandra West Landcare Group
Marge Earl; Les Earl	Katandra West Anglican Church
Kevin Teague, Kaye Teague	Katandra West Cemetery Trust
David Whelan	Katandra West Community Centre Planning Committee
Nick Andrews	Katandra West United Dairy Farmers of Victoria
Robert Godden	Godden's Garage (School Buses)
Linda Wilkie	Hunter's Rural Supplies



A summary of key stakeholder interviews follows:

Topic	Discussion
Business, Retail, Farming and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to identify ways in which to make small dairy farms profitable. • Consider turning a local dairy farm into a golf course with housing around the perimeter. • There is a need for small, low maintenance units / retirement village in Katandra West to enable local residents to move in to town / stay in town as they age and are no longer able to maintain a larger house and yard. • Need to try to attract market gardeners and equestrian businesses to the area to use the small dairy farms in the district and to utilise the water infrastructure that has been established. • Need a pub in town where people can go out for a counter meal. • Don't need a pub in town. • Need to install sewerage in Katandra West to help attract more residents and to enable smaller house blocks suitable for retirees (currently need a half acre block to allow sufficient space for a septic system). • Need to improve mobile phone reception. • Need to retain general store and Hunter's Rural Supplies. • Need to identify where housing should be developed in the town. • Need to identify locations where drainage needs to be improved, e.g. near Ned's place. • Need to hold a think tank to identify ways in which to advance the town. • Need to develop a marketing tool to attract more residents to move out to Katandra West from Shepparton. • Consider developing a reality TV show which shows city people the benefits of living in the country. • Council should encourage residents to live in townships. • An older couple recently purchased a house in town and will use it as a base to store their belongings while travelling around Australia in their caravan – this is one potential way to increase the population and sell homes. • There is a desire to retain young people in the community, but recognition that there needs to be employment options and community activities of interest to them.
Community Services and Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is concern that volunteers are ageing and not being replaced with younger members of the community. • Need to produce an annual community directory. • A town website is useless unless it is regularly updated. • Membership of the Catholic, Anglican and Uniting churches is declining and there is concern about the long term viability of these institutions. • Churches may need to work together and form a united church. • Girl Guides are struggling with numbers. • CWA only has a small membership and is in danger of folding. • Important to hold mums / parents groups or playgroups in Katandra West so that young families develop networks within the town rather than in Shepparton. • There is concern by some in the community that money raised through some local charities does not necessarily benefit local people; instead the money goes to Melbourne head office for distribution across the

Topic	Discussion
	<p>state.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would be good to develop a library in town with computers.
<p>Education, Childcare and Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to develop a community garden at the school. • Opportunity to work with school to develop programs such as woodwork and knitting involving local older adults. • Would like to expand outdoor Kindergarten program by purchasing or leasing land next to the Kindergarten. • Restrictions with Occasional Care (capped at 15 children and available only once per fortnight to families) makes it difficult for working parents to access childcare with any certainty. • There are no people offering family day care in Katandra West at present, possibly due to the amount of training and regulations required of carers. • Need to re-establish before and after school / kindergarten programs as many parents work in Shepparton.
<p>Environment, Sustainability and Township Appearance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to have a hard rubbish collection once per year. • Need to improve street lights. • Need to improve directional signage in town and fix up entrance signs. • Need to improve town entrances through planting of native indigenous species. • Need to encourage hobby farmers to plant up their blocks with more trees. • Need to protect the remnant patch of native vegetation on Inverness Rd and to link this site with other areas. • Water pressure in Katandra West is poor and needs to be upgraded.
<p>Health and Wellbeing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile doctor and health services would encourage older people to move into town from farms.
<p>Heritage, Arts, Culture and Tourism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to identify a secure building in Katandra where historical artifacts and photographs can be stored and displayed by the Historical Society. The old school building and / or the community hall have been suggested. • Need to develop a tourism initiative in Katandra West to attract visitors to the area. • Need to construct a new unisex / disabled self-composting toilet block and an ashes wall at the Katandra West Cemetery.
<p>Sport, Recreation and Entertainment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to develop a new community centre able to cater for functions (birthday parties, weddings, funerals, conferences, training days) and to be designed so that a variety of activities can take place in the facility such as discos and table tennis. • Limited activities for young people (such as unstructured youth group, skate park / BMX, dance classes, discos, music groups, book clubs, computer clubs, movies, trampoline, motocross, etc), who are not interested in sport such as football, netball, cricket or tennis. • Could purchase a projector and hold movie nights in Katandra West and could also have trivia nights, talent shows, patchwork group, cake decorating group, Men's Shed, etc. • If young people do not continue to come back to Katandra West on weekends to play football in the future; the football club may no longer be viable. • Very hard to retain 20-25 year olds in the cricket club and players from Shepparton don't want to travel out to Katandra West. • Concern that 20-20 mid week cricket competition will spell the demise

Topic	Discussion
	<p>of weekend cricket.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult for parents to get to Friday night junior cricket matches due to work commitments of many in Shepparton. • Would like to have a swimming pool in Katandra West. • Left tennis nets up on a court up to allow people to play social tennis. However, the net was damaged, so this option is no longer available. • Difficult to attract and retain tennis players – only have juniors at present. • There is insufficient communication between all users of the Reserve, and clubs are focusing on surviving rather than strategic planning. • Struggling to attract sufficient ladies to play bowls during the day on Tuesdays. • Consider running swap meets and a country and western festival in Katandra West to raise funds for the new community centre. • Consider organising or attracting events to town, e.g. farmer’s market, craft market, circus or a town show. • Need to upgrade playground at Recreation Reserve.
<p>Transport and Movement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to upgrade roads leading in and out of town. • Need to paint a white line down the middle of the road (particularly near the Recreation Reserve) as it gets very foggy in winter and it is difficult to see the correct side of the road. • Desire to change the 40km zone to just during school drop off and pick up times as there is a divided road and a service lane in this area. • Need to develop walking / cycling paths in town. • May be a need to instigate community transport in the future. • Not realistic to expect to have public transport to Katandra West. • Transport Connections program was very restrictive. • Lack of public transport keeps undesirable people from moving to town or coming out to town during the day. • Need to promote and utilise Red Cross Car program more effectively.



3.2 COMMUNITY SURVEY

A survey was distributed to every household in Katandra West and also made available at the store, at the school, at the Recreation Reserve, at Hunter's Rural Supplies and at each of the community consultation events, i.e. outside the store, at the football and at the art exhibition. A total of **106** completed surveys were received. Of those who filled out the survey, 52.0% were male, and 48% were female. The majority of survey respondents lived in four person households (37.3%), with households of one, two, three, five and six or more fairly evenly distributed (i.e. between 10-14% each). There was a disproportionately high number of young people who filled in or contributed to the survey (possibly lured by the free hot chocolate on offer in front of the general store and at the football), as the following table shows:

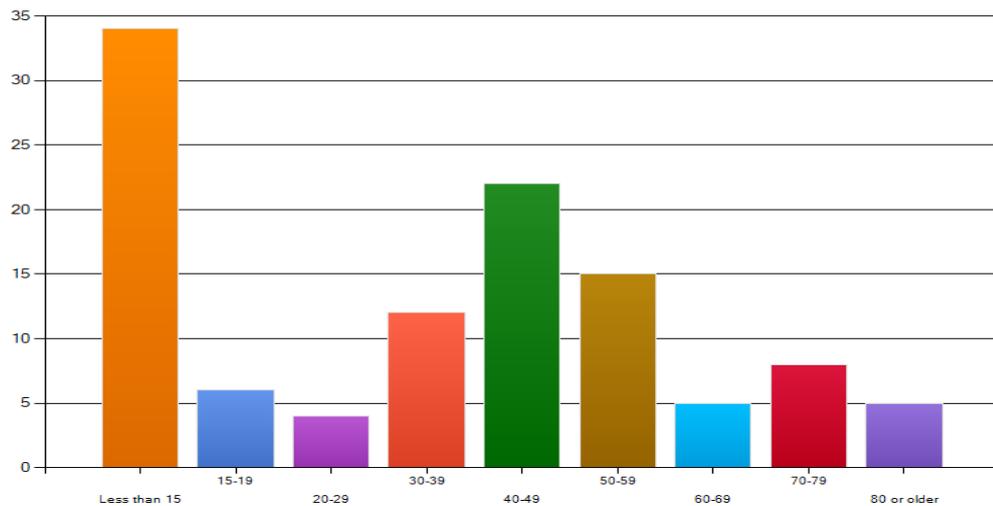


Figure 2: Age of Survey Respondents / Contributors

Hence survey results need to be viewed in the context of the age data.

It must be noted, that a large number of the surveys were completed at the football match, hence there may have been some bias towards developments at the Recreation Reserve. Key issues arising from the survey are included in the following section.



3.2.1 WHAT WE LIKE ABOUT KATANDRA WEST

Survey respondents were asked to identify what they like most about Katandra West. The answers received demonstrate that it is essentially the human capital, or the people of Katandra West, that make the town a pleasant place to live, work and recreate. A strong community spirit is also recognised by many people as a positive attribute of the town, as well as the variety of clubs and organisations available and its quiet, peaceful feeling. The top 17 responses to this question include:

1. Friendly, kind people (37)
2. Strong community spirit / people help each other out (36)
3. Variety of clubs and organisations (19)
4. Small compact town (16)
5. Quiet, peaceful, tranquil town (12)
6. Safe town (8)
7. Good sporting facilities (7)
8. Country atmosphere / rural living (7)
9. Good school (7)
10. Proximity to other towns (6)
11. Everyone knows everyone (6)
12. Shop (6)
13. It's home / where friends live (6)
14. Family environment (5)
15. Good kindergarten (3)
16. Cow sculptures (2)
17. Football / Cricket Club community teas and functions (2)

Responses with only one answer have not been included in the list above.

It will be important to ensure that strategies and actions do not conflict with the aspects that local residents like about Katandra West.



3.2.2 OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Local residents were asked to articulate both a short and a long term vision for Katandra West. These responses have been combined due to the overlap of many suggestions. Primarily the vision is for the development of a community centre to accommodate a variety of functions, activities and events. There was also strong support for a skate park / BMX track, a pub and more shops. However, at the same time, there was a desire for Katandra West to remain much as it is right now, albeit with moderate population growth.



The top 23 responses include:

1. We have a new community centre (26)
2. Katandra West has remained much the same (15)
3. We have a pub in town (13)
4. We have a skate park / BMX track (13)
5. Our town has experienced moderate population growth (12)
6. We have more shops (11)
7. We have a range of events and activities for all ages including young people (10)
8. There have been subdivisions created to allow for more growth (9)
9. Our football / netball club is still active and strong (9)
10. Water has been retained in the region and more farming enterprises have started (8)
11. We have a new playground and our existing playgrounds have been improved (7)
12. More industries and businesses have opened up (6)
13. Our streetscapes are very attractive (6)
14. Our mobile phone coverage is good (6)
15. We have developed more or upgraded our sporting facilities (5)
16. We have regular and dependable public transport (4)
17. Our school has remained open (4)
18. We have good signage to and within town (3)
19. Our drainage system is able to cater for floods (2)
20. We have sewerage in our town (2)
21. We have good quality footpaths in our town (2)
22. We have good roads leading to and within our town (2)
23. We have a pony club (2)

Responses with only one answer have not been included in the list above.

Additional comments were also received from key stakeholders. These included:

1. Ours is a family and community oriented town
2. Our people respect the efforts of those who went before us in building our town
3. Our population has gradually increased
4. Our town is known for its innovation
5. We have good quality and welcoming sporting clubs
6. Our town is a safe place to raise families
7. We have good quality infrastructure
8. We have access to the services that we need
9. We have a range of activities available for all ages
10. We have a diversity of farming operations within our surrounding area
11. We have a number of new homes in our town
12. Our town has remained much the same as it was in the past
13. We have a vibrant school
14. We are situated within a food producing farming community
15. We are connected to Shepparton via transport
16. We have retained our small town feel

The vision for Katandra West is:

Katandra West is a proud and welcoming community that strives to provide a range of sustainable activities and services for our local residents both within the township and on surrounding farms.



3.2.3 SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS

Survey respondents were asked to identify up to three improvements that they would like to see occur in Katandra West. Numerous different responses were received, mostly revolving around the development of a community centre and the construction of a skate park/ BMX park, as well as additional shops in town. The top 33 responses are:

Suggested Improvement	No. of Responses
1. Develop a Community Centre	34
2. Construct a skate park / BMX park	14
3. Encourage more shops/petrol station/food shops	12
4. Develop a new playground	9
5. Open up more land for housing development	8
6. Construct walking/cycling tracks within and to the town	8
7. Improve condition and maintenance of all roads, including minor roads	7
8. Attract more people to the town and to the school through a promotional campaign	6
9. Improve mobile phone coverage	5
10. Develop activities and a place for young people to hang out	5
11. Improve condition of footpaths	5
12. Construct new netball courts and develop club / change rooms	5
13. Upgrade the existing Katandra West Hall	4
14. Plant more trees and establish more garden beds	4
15. Locate a home for historical group artefacts and photo display	4
16. Encourage the development of a pub in town	4
17. Improve the range of products in the general store	3
18. Construct a swimming pool in Katandra West	3
19. Install a street light at the main entrance to the Recreation Reserve	3
20. Improve drainage in the town	3
21. Improve hard courts at the Recreation Reserve and the school	3
22. Encourage more businesses to establish themselves in Katandra West	3
23. Improve transport options to Shepparton	2
24. Encourage more involvement by residents in local activities	2
25. Construct a basketball court	2
26. Improve the appearance of housing in the main street	2
27. Establish a pony club	2
28. Establish a farmer's market	2
29. Establish a garden program and animal farm yard at the school	2
30. Develop a motocross / motorbike track	2
31. Establish a mail delivery service for people living in the town	2
32. Increase the number of attractions / events in town	2
33. Provide more information on what the town has to offer	2

Responses with only one answer have not been included in the list above.

3.2.4 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN FUTURE INITIATIVES

Survey participants were asked to identify any existing or potential projects that they would like to be involved in some capacity, and to provide contact details for the Community Planning Group to follow up with. A total of **41** respondents indicated their willingness to undertake projects such as:

- Anything needing assistance (10)
- Community centre (9)
- Helping to build a Skate Park / BMX track (4)
- Helping the bowling club to improve its facilities, e.g. constructing a permanent shade structure over bowls green (2)
- Township Protection Plan (1)
- Community Plan (1)
- Repairing wooden signs at entry to town (1)
- Agriculture (1)
- Football Club assistance (1)
- Painting the hall (1)
- Developing a home for the Historical Society (1)
- Cleaning up rubbish on the side of the road (1)
- Driving a community bus (1)
- Dairy discussion group (1)
- Building a pub (1)
- Improving entrances to Katandra West, e.g. planting trees (1)
- Helping with a farmer's market (1)
- Helping to upgrade local houses (1)
- Improving sports grounds and facilities (1)
- Improve facilities at school and kinder (1)



3.3 YOUNG PERSON'S ART EXHIBITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

A community art exhibition and free BBQ was held at the Katandra West Hall on Friday 24 August from 2.30pm to 7.30pm. The intent of this exhibition was to showcase art work produced by local primary school and pre-school students about their vision for Katandra West in the future. 71 works were produced by primary school students and 36 by pre-school students; a total of **107** works. These works included paintings, drawings, written comments and a large number of 3-D designs. The other main focus of the exhibition was to attract local residents to view the artwork, view a summary of the data obtained from community surveys and then to prioritise their three most important issues for the town (using red dots to vote). **145** local residents turned up to this event; 66 students and teachers during the afternoon (none of whom voted) and an additional 79 community members in the late afternoon / evening of all ages (note that some students attended twice). It was observed that few older adults turned up to the Art Exhibition, possibly due to the extremely cold weather on that day.

3.3.1 WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE ABOUT KATANDRA WEST

As part of the art exhibition, young people had the option of identifying what they like about Katandra West or what their vision for the future is through their artwork. Of those who chose to highlight what they like, the following answers were received:

- Good friends to play with (9)
- Good school (6)
- Quiet town (2)
- Safe to ride scooters around (2)
- Availability of grounds on which to play soccer at school (2)
- Safe to ride bikes around town (1)
- Playground at the Recreation Reserve (1).

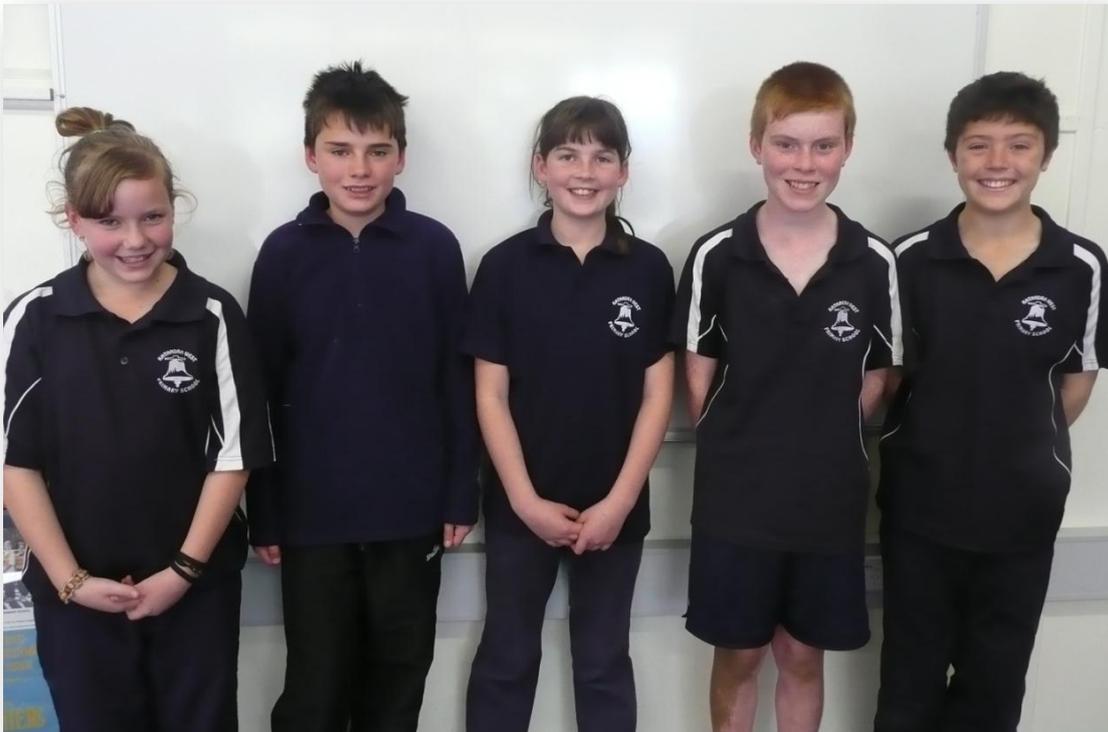


3.3.2 ART WORK PRIORITIES

Key issues arising from Katandra West Primary School students' art work revolved around physical infrastructure, particularly the need to develop a skate park / BMX track, swimming pool / water park, vet clinic, cinema, etc. There was also an element of wanting activities and attractions that will encourage young people from other areas to visit Katandra West. Comments indicated that children want to show their town and its attractions off to other children, but also to meet other children and enjoy activities together. It was not possible to ascertain any themes from the art work produced by kindergarten students. The top ten comments from primary school students included:

1. Swimming pool / water park (9)
2. Skate park / BMX track (8)
3. Vet clinic (5)
4. Activities and attractions that will encourage young people from other areas to visit Katandra West, e.g. Murray Cod fish farm, rock climbing wall, games room, jumping castle, farmer's market (5)
5. Cinema / Drive In (4)
6. Pet store (3)
7. Motocross / motorbike Track (3)
8. Music concerts (2)
9. Equestrian facilities, e.g. pony club and horse track (2)
10. Athletics track (2)

Responses with only one answer have not been included in the list above.



3.3.3 COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

In relation to the prioritisation of issues, local residents who attended the art exhibition identified the following issues in order of importance (after reviewing the results of the community survey):

Issue	Number of Votes
Construct a skate park / BMX park in Katandra West	34
Develop a new community centre	15
Open a pub in town	14
Provide more events / activities, e.g. farmer's market	13
Attract more children to the kindergarten	13
Upgrade / develop a new playground at the Recreation Reserve	13
Construct a grandstand / undercover seating next to the netball courts	8
Provide walking / cycling tracks in town	7
Upgrade netball courts and club rooms	7
Keep water in the area for irrigation and to encourage more farming	7
Upgrade the existing Katandra West Hall	7
Improve mobile phone coverage / reception	6
Plant more trees and establish more garden beds	6
Develop a motocross / motorbike track	5
Install street lighting at Recreation Reserve entrance	4
Attract more people to live in Katandra West	4
Encourage more shops to open	4
Provide regular and dependable public transport, particularly for older adults and young people	4
Provide activities and a space for young people to hang out	4
Improve condition and maintenance of roads, including minor roads	3
Improve drainage in the town	3
Provide dance classes - hip hop and jazz	2
Improve condition of footpaths	2
Attract more students to the primary school	2
Improve street lighting	2
Upgrade sports facilities, e.g. tennis courts	2
Upgrade grandstand at Recreation Reserve	2
Construct an outdoor basketball court	2
Install a fence around the playground	2
Develop an athletics track	2
Open up more land for housing development	1
Encourage more businesses to open in Katandra West	1
Allow subdivision of land to enable retirees to live in or near township on smaller blocks	1
Locate a home for the Historical Society with space for artifacts and photo display	1

3.4 COLLATION OF PRIORITIES

Key priorities for the future development of Katandra West have been obtained from a variety of sources including:

- Previous Plans
- Community surveys
- Key stakeholder interviews
- Children’s art work
- Community prioritisation exercise.

In general, very clear themes have emerged from these different information sources, with the same issues identified in practically every situation. The following table has been developed to pull all of the key issues together and to identify from which source(s) the information was obtained. Issues have only been included in this table if they have been identified from multiple sources and suggested several times (at least twice). Each suggestion has been prioritised. Generally those with a score of 12+ have been rated as high priorities; those between 3-7 as high-medium to medium; and less than 2 as low priorities, unless safety concerns have elevated the position of the action or unless the action is an important component of a higher priority. Some actions have been discounted for various reasons. These reasons have been identified in the ‘Priority / Comments’ column. This table feeds into the Action Plan in Section 7 of the report.

Issue	Source					Total	Priority / Comments
	Previous Plans N=6	Surveys N=106	Key Stakeholder Interviews N=33	Art Work N=71	Priority Exercise N=79		
Construct a skate park / BMX park	0	14	✓	8	34	57	High
Develop a Community Centre	✓✓✓✓	34	✓	0	15	51	High
Upgrade / develop a new playground at the Recreation Reserve	✓	9	✓	0	13	24	High
Increase the number of attractions / events in town e.g. a farmer's market	0	2	✓	5	13	21	High
Encourage more businesses to establish themselves in Katandra West	0	15	✓	0	4	20	High (although uptake will be dependent upon viability)
Encourage the	0	4	✓	0	14	19	Nil (community

Issue	Source					Total	Priority / Comments
	Previous Plans N=6	Surveys N=106	Key Stakeholder Interviews N=33	Art Work N=71	Priority Exercise N=79		
development of a pub in town							centre will have license and store sells alcohol)
Construct walking/cycling tracks within and to the town	✓✓	8	✓	0	7	16	High
Attract more children to the kindergarten	0	0	✓	0	13	14	High
Attract more people to the town and to the school through a promotional campaign	0	6	✓	0	6	13	High
Construct new netball / tennis courts and develop club / change rooms	✓✓	5	0	0	7	13	High (part of Recreation Reserve Master Plan – funding dependent)
Construct a swimming pool in Katandra West	0	3	✓	9	0	13	Nil (insufficient population to be viable)
Improve mobile phone coverage / reception	0	5	✓	0	6	12	High (needed to attract business and population)
Develop activities and a place for young people to hang out	0	5	✓	2	4	12	High
Improve condition and maintenance of all roads, including minor roads	✓	7	✓	0	3	12	High-Medium (unsafe roads need to be addressed as a priority and others as per Council maintenance schedule)
Upgrade the existing Katandra West Hall	✓	4	0	0	7	12	Medium (the degree of this upgrade may be dependent on the timing of the new

Issue	Source					Total	Priority / Comments
	Previous Plans N=6	Surveys N=106	Key Stakeholder Interviews N=33	Art Work N=71	Priority Exercise N=79		
							community centre and on safety or heritage aspects. It is important not to duplicate facilities)
Develop a motocross / motorbike track	0	2	✓	3	5	11	Medium
Plant more trees and establish more garden beds in town centre	✓✓	4	0	0	6	11	Medium
Open up more land for housing development	0	8	✓	0	0	9	Medium
Keep water in the area for irrigation and to encourage more farming	✓	0	✓	0	7	9	Ongoing
Improve storm water drainage in the town	✓	3	✓	0	3	8	High (due to potential damage from flooding)
Improve condition of footpaths	✓✓	5	0	0	2	8	High-Medium (unsafe paths need to be addressed as a priority and others as per Council maintenance schedule)
Construct a grandstand / undercover seating next to the netball courts	0	0	0	0	8	8	Medium
Install a street light at the main entrance to the Recreation Reserve	0	3	0	0	4	7	High (this is a safety issue)
Improve	0	2	✓	0	4	7	Medium

Issue	Source					Total	Priority / Comments
	Previous Plans N=6	Surveys N=106	Key Stakeholder Interviews N=33	Art Work N=71	Priority Exercise N=79		
transport options to Shepparton							
Improve hard courts at the Recreation Reserve and the school	✓	3	0	0	2	6	Medium (part of Recreation Reserve Master Plan)
Develop a vet clinic in town	0	0	0	5	0	5	Nil (private sector responsibility)
Locate a home for historical group artifacts and photo display	0	4	✓	0	0	5	High (to ensure irreplaceable town history is preserved)
Improve street lighting	✓	0	✓	0	2	4	High-Medium (safety issue)
Establish a pony club / horse track	0	2	0	2	0	4	Nil (pony club exists at Invergordon)
Develop an athletics track	0	0	0	2	2	4	Nil (school responsibility)
Develop a cinema / drive-in	0	0	0	4	0	4	Nil (private sector responsibility – although possible to show movies in town)
Construct an outdoor basketball court	0	2	0	0	2	4	Medium
Provide dance classes, e.g. hip hop and jazz	0	0	✓	0	2	3	Medium (will provide an alternative to sport)
Provide more information on what the town has to offer	0	2	✓	0	0	3	Medium (will form part of promotional campaign)
Encourage a pet shop to open	0	0	0	3	0	3	Nil (private sector responsibility)
Improve the range of products in the general store	0	3	0	0	0	3	Nil (private sector responsibility)
Establish a	0	2	✓	0	0	3	Low

Issue	Source					Total	Priority / Comments
	Previous Plans N=6	Surveys N=106	Key Stakeholder Interviews N=33	Art Work N=71	Priority Exercise N=79		
garden program and animal farm yard at the school							(responsibility of the school)
Encourage more involvement by residents in local activities	0	2	0	0	0	2	Low
Improve the appearance of housing in the main street	0	2	0	0	0	2	Low
Establish a mail delivery service for people living in the town	0	2	0	0	0	2	Low
Install a fence around the Playground at the Recreation Reserve	0	0	0	0	2	2	Low
Upgrade grandstand at Recreation Reserve	0	0	0	0	2	2	Low
Install new town entrance signage	✓✓	0	✓	0	0	2	Medium
Develop a t-junction at Queen St and Hickey St to improve pedestrian crossings	✓✓	0	0	0	0	1	Low
Develop median strip in Queen St	✓	0	0	0	0	1	Nil (already developed)
Develop designated car parking areas in the town centre	✓	0	0	0	0	1	Low
Construct a bus shelter in the town centre	✓	0	0	0	0	1	Medium (will provide protection to students waiting for buses)
Develop	✓	0	0	0	0	1	Medium (will help improve

Issue	Source					Total	Priority / Comments
	Previous Plans N=6	Surveys N=106	Key Stakeholder Interviews N=33	Art Work N=71	Priority Exercise N=79		
consistent tree planting plan for each street							appearance of town)
Promote Katandra West via a webpage	✓	0	0	0	0	1	Medium (part of promotional campaign to attract people)
Develop a library in town with computers	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Low (consider sharing of school library)
Produce an annual community directory to promote clubs / organisations	0	0	✓	0	0	1	High (may help clubs to be sustainable)
Encourage churches to meet to discuss possible formation of a united church	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Low
Meet with water authorities to discuss potential to increase water pressure in town	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Medium
Explore opportunities for mobile visiting health services	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Low
Explore opportunities to reinstate before and after school / kinder care	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Medium
Explore potential to increase child care opportunities in Katandra West	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Medium
Construct a new toilet and ashes wall at the	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Low

Issue	Source					Total	Priority / Comments
	Previous Plans N=6	Surveys N=106	Key Stakeholder Interviews N=33	Art Work N=71	Priority Exercise N=79		
cemetery							
Investigate potential to install sewerage in Katandra West to allow for smaller house blocks	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Medium (this will help to encourage development)
Explore opportunities to purchase land next to Kindergarten to expand outdoor area	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Medium
Organise a volunteer recruitment program	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Medium
Explore opportunities to run more activities in the school with older adults	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Low
Reinvigorate meetings at the Recreation Reserve with all user groups involved	0	0	✓	0	0	1	Medium
Paint a white line down the middle of the road near the Recreation Reserve	0	0	✓	0	0	1	High (this is a safety issue)