

Wyong Shire Lifelong Learning Strategy



Why a Lifelong Learning Strategy?



Profile of Wyong Shire – School retention rates, participation in higher education, tertiary education & further training.

During the community consultations for the Wyong Shire Community Plan held in 2007, the community indicated:

That there is a need to focus on Lifelong learning, and this has been influenced by:

- Information Technology (IT) developments;
- Longer working life
- Shifting job requirements
- Range of job types increasing; and
- Less focus on lifetime careers (people changing careers regularly)

That learning and obtaining knowledge to increase understanding or awareness is a most important and valuable element; and

That the continual obtaining of knowledge and skills makes us best able to take advantage of the opportunities that life and society offer, including for work, family life and community;

As a result of the Community Plan consultations, Community Plan Action number 12.3.1 was developed:

'Explore the feasibility of implementing alternative models that promote Lifelong Learning and address literacy and numeracy as a key priority area for the Wyong Shire Community e.g. The Global Learning Village Model in Hume City Council Victoria'.

Links to the Shire Strategic Vision (SSV)



The SSV process has re-enforced Education as a Key Priority for the Shire as we look to the future.

The SSV describes Wyong Shire as a place *'Where you are always learning'*.

'The community will be well educated, innovative and creative. People will attain full knowledge potential at all stages of life'.

This will lead to residents valuing lifelong learning, strengthening community and participation and lead to a skilled workforce. For many this will generate income and attract businesses.

Source: Our Shire Our Future. Our Strategic Vision for Wyong Shire September 2009

- Resulting from the SSV process, Education is a Priority Objective in Council's Annual Plan.
- For the 2010/11 year, a key action of the Annual Plan is to:
'Undertake research for the Lifelong Learning Strategy'

Research for Wyong Shire Lifelong Learning Strategy



Key tasks include:

- Define 'Lifelong Learning' for the Wyong Shire Community;
- Obtain information/ knowledge on best practice Lifelong Learning models nationally and internationally, and liaise with best practice learning communities and cities which will inform the development of a lifelong learning strategy for Wyong Shire;
- Develop an education/ learning profile of the Wyong Shire community;
- Map the current learning and education service system in Wyong Shire/ Central Coast;
- Identify key stakeholders and partners to move forward in developing the lifelong learning strategy;
- Recommend a model for Wyong Shire in developing the Lifelong Learning Strategy; and
- For the 2011/12 year, a key action of the Annual Plan is to develop the Wyong Shire Lifelong Learning Strategy.