



# Trails Plan

2023-2028



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# Vision

Trails in the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes will cater for local people and visitors. Our focus will be on quality trails that are well maintained and promoted to enrich the users' experience and knowledge of the natural beauty and the rich history of the shire. This focus will deliver economic, health, well-being and other benefits to visitors to the region and the local community.

To achieve this vision the following objectives have been adopted in line with the WA Trails Blueprint:

- **Access**  
Consideration is given to ease of access for all members of community including local residents and visitors.
- **Consumer Focus**  
Trails are planned and developed to match current community and market needs and respond to future change.
- **Consistency**  
Lead agencies and relevant stakeholders work together to ensure planning, development and management of trails within the Shire
- **Sustainability**  
Trails planning and development takes into account short and long-term community, health, social, economic and environmental considerations.
- **Evidence Based**  
Effective monitoring and evaluation are undertaken to contribute to planning.
- **Innovation**  
Advances in trail development are reflected in local trails development, planning, construction and improvements. Creative trails design and placement are considered.
- **Community Benefit**  
Trails offer economic, health, wellbeing and community connection outcomes for local residents and visitors.
- **Visitor Economy Contribution**  
Opportunities are realised for trails to support growth in tourism resulting in increased visitors, spend, new business enterprises and job creation.
- **Engagement**  
The community and user groups have the opportunity to inform the trail sector through consultation, feedback and active participation in trail use and events.
- **Quality Trails**  
Good planning, maintenance and support networks result in a diverse network of fit-for-purpose, sustainable and high quality trails.
- **Aboriginal Participation**  
Opportunities are realised that contribute to awareness of Aboriginal culture and values through trail initiatives with a focus on the Indigenous history.
- **Environment and Culture**  
Trails help protect, interpret and conserve environmental, cultural and heritage values.



# 1. Executive Summary

## 1.1. Introduction

The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Trails Plan 2023-2028 has been developed to inform the planning, implementation and promotion of existing and proposed trails throughout the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes and to work towards developing Bridgetown as a trails town.

Located approximately 300km south of Perth, Bridgetown is known for its lifestyle opportunities, with beautiful landscapes, heritage architecture, a strong sense of community, a vibrant arts community and access to a wide range of unique natural and built assets.

Located 18km north of Bridgetown lies Greenbushes, a historic timber and mining town founded in 1888 after the discovery of tin in a creek in 1886. Surrounded by natural bushland and pioneering heritage Greenbushes offers a unique experience for community members and visitors alike.

The majority of the Shire lies within the Blackwood Catchment area. The Blackwood River and its tributaries remain a highlight of the Shire surrounded by the undulating landscape which provides a picturesque backdrop to the town of Bridgetown and the Blackwood River. The many hectares of national park and state forest surrounding Bridgetown, Greenbushes and the smaller townships provides the perfect environment for a variety of nature based activities such as walking, canoeing, swimming, mountain bike riding, bird watching, horse riding and camping along with simply exploring the magnificent forest areas.

A wide range of gourmet foods, wines and beer are available from local primary producers through door sales, or available to enjoy in local cafes, restaurants, the Cidery and the pubs. There is also a strong and vibrant arts and creative sector within the community, which is strongly reflected in the public art installations in both Bridgetown and Greenbushes.

The community values the benefits of trails and the opportunities that develop as a consequence of providing well planned and promoted trail networks. Being able to provide a unique experience by offering a network of multi-disciplinary, single and mixed use trails is seen as an important way of attracting additional visitors to the Shire, increasing the length of time visitors stay and ensuring a greater number of return visits.

## 1.2. Definition of Trails

For the purpose of this plan and to accurately reflect the variety of trails already in existence, currently being developed or planned within the Shire and drawing a line between formal pathways and trails, (as is generally the case in Australia) the definition used throughout this plan is;

*“A recreation trail is any corridor, route or pathway identified for recreation, tourism and appreciation of natural and cultural values.”*

## 1.3. Purpose of This Plan

The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Trails Plan is part of a broader approach by Council to encourage growth and development that supports the community's environmental goals and encourages a strong, diverse and resilient economy that supports local employment and enhances the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Shire.

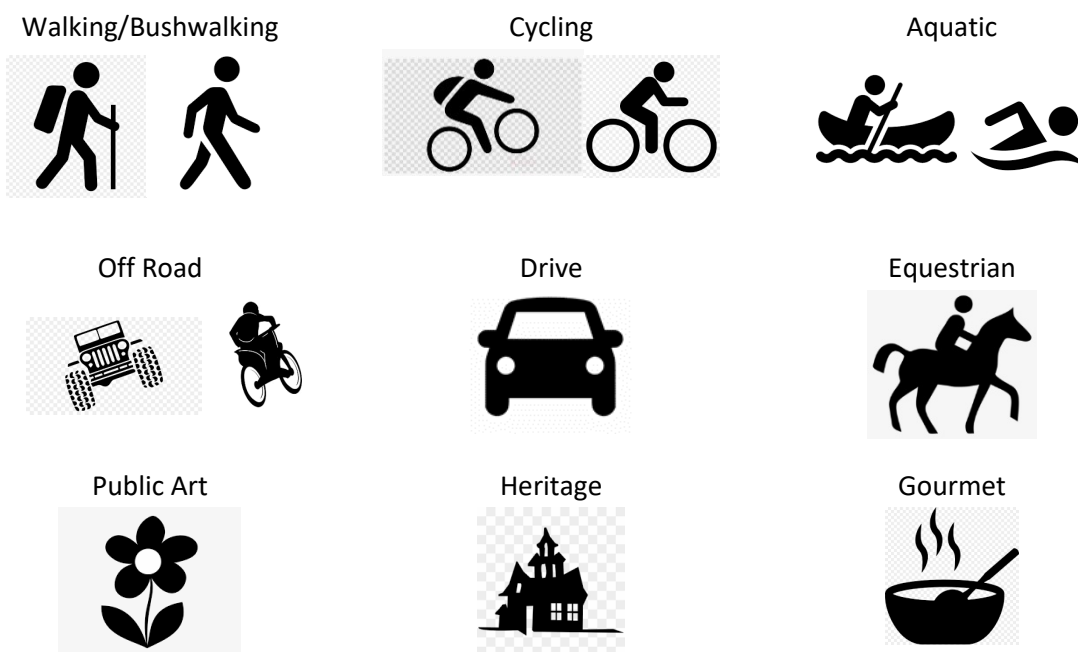
The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Trail Plan is an informing document to be used for the consistent and coordinated planning, development and management of quality trails and trail experiences throughout the Shire. It provides a vision, guiding principles and actions for Council and the community.

Trails planning is not an isolated endeavour – it links in with a whole range of other planning processes including tourism, open space planning, economic development and resource management. The Trails Plan places trails planning and development within a wider context.

The Trails Plan has been developed to investigate opportunities to increase and enhance trails and trail-based activities throughout the Shire in a considered and sustainable way. This document will allow Council to plan and prioritize trail development and maintenance to ensure community and Shire resources are available and appropriately allocated to ensure the trails networks remain safe, enjoyable, user friendly and sustainable.

#### 1.4. Plan Scope

The scope of this Plan includes the trail types available or proposed within the Shire boundaries. For simplicity, several trail types have been grouped together e.g. Walking includes bush walking, urban walking and trail running.



#### 1.5. Trail “Clusters”

The Western Australian Strategic Trails Blueprint identifies that the opportunities linked with trails, for local people and visitors, are enhanced by the development of clusters of linked trails in localities. The different categories of trail clusters are;

**Trail Town** A population centre which has been assessed and accredited as a destination for its trails offering through the provision of high quality:

- Trails (single or mixed use);
- Outdoor experiences that encourage extended visitation;
- Trail-user related facilities and services (including accommodation);
- Trail-user related businesses; and
- Trail branding and signage

**Trail Centre** A managed multiple trail facility with dedicated visitor services supported by high quality:

- Trails (single or mixed use);
- Outdoor experiences that encourage single day visitation;

- Trail user related services; and
- Trail branding and signage

A Trail Centre can stand alone in an individual location or may be positioned within a Trail Town.

**Trail Network** A multiple trail facility with limited or no visitor services, supported by high quality:

- Trails (single or mixed use);
- Outdoor experiences that encourage single or part day visitation; and
- Trail branding and signage

A Trail Network may be a stand-alone facility or form part of a Trail Town or Trail Centre.

## 2. The Benefits of Trails

Worldwide, trails have been shown to provide a variety of impactful benefits for the environment, the economy of the town and region in which they are situated, and the health of the community, locally, regionally and for visitors to the area. Some of those benefits include:

*Encouraging more frequent outdoor physical activity leading to improved physical and mental wellbeing and a reduction in lifestyle diseases and associated medical expenses*

*Improved lifestyle due to opportunities for outdoor recreation by individuals, groups, education and community organisation.*

*Providing low cost facilities for recreation accessible to many different groups in community.*

*Economic benefits from employment and business opportunities in trail development, management, maintenance, events and supporting products and services.*

*Tourism growth to trail destinations with resulting economic stimulus of local economies.*

*Protection and showcasing of natural, cultural and historic area by providing for sustainable access routes.*

*Improved sustainability of local communities by making them more attractive places to live.*

*Opportunities for social interaction and development of community identity through participation in trail activities, maintenance and conservation.*

Trails are considered a unique community asset, creating economic, social and environmental value for individuals, local communities, Western Australia and Australia.

## 3. Trends in Trails

It is widely recognised that there has been a global increase in the development, use and demand for trails to service growth and change in participation in outdoor activities across the globe.

The popularity of individual fitness and recreation activities is increasing while that of organised team sport is static or declining. This is accompanied by a growing diversity in recreation activities aided by developments in technology and affordability of equipment. Many of these activities have a strong lifestyle

and adventure focus and motivated supporters who are closely involved in the development and maintenance of the trails developed in their area(s).

While these trends are positive for the health and wellbeing of communities, the increase in demand for outdoor spaces can put pressure on natural assets (ultimately resulting in environmental degradation). Trail activities and infrastructure therefore needs to be developed and managed carefully to ensure that the trail corridor can sustain the potential use by trails enthusiasts.

Walking, bushwalking and horse-riding are long established ways of experiencing natural environments, and have been joined by mountain biking and trail running over the past decade. These trends are growing rapidly with the emergence of electric assist bikes (e-bikes).

The growth of paddling and under-water sports has led to a demand for water-based trail facilities while the popularity of two and four wheel off-road motor activities has resulted in requests for the development of additional trails and routes to cater for these activities.

There has also been a marked growth in tourism based around cultural trails including public art, gourmet and heritage trails. These trails provide a sense of place for community, a point of difference for visitors to the region and offer opportunities to diversify trail based tourism. Cultural trails help to educate visitors and locals about the rich history of the Shire and the wealth of talent and creativity of the local community. These opportunities offer a unique experience and stimulate the local economy.

Understanding the changes in trends is crucial to understanding current participation and potential future demand in trail based activities. Drivers of trail based activities include:

**Covid 19** The consequences of lockdown and social restrictions, especially inside buildings has meant that the number of people seeking outdoor recreation and cultural opportunities has seen a large and sudden increase since the beginning of the relaxation of COVID restrictions.

**Changes in Lifestyle** There are a wide range of demands for trails; on one hand the population is living longer and healthier lives and wish to continue with recreational pursuits later in life. This is often supported through technological developments and the availability of different difficulty levels within trail networks. People are also seeking more adventurous nature based activities such as mountain bike riding, trail running and hiking, canoeing, enduro motorcross and horse riding. Demand for trails is on the increase and evident in all cohorts of the population. This supports the evidence suggesting the increase in popularity and participation in non-organised/flexible recreation activities.

**Increased health and environmental awareness** People are becoming increasingly aware of their health, with conditions such as obesity and stress on the rise. This, combined with society's growing awareness of the environment and climate change, has facilitated a growth in visitation to natural areas. Returning to nature is a term now used where people feel the desire to become reconnected to their natural environments from which they can escape their modern lives.

**Increased affluence and expectations of recreation** As individuals become more affluent the proportion of income spent on goods and leisure increases. As people spend more money on outdoor recreation and associated equipment an increase in outdoor recreation activities previously offered by commercial operations has been observed. As such, a diversification for natural areas offering unique experiences and higher levels of infrastructure are often in demand.

**Technological advances** Significant technological advances in equipment design and function have created new forms of outdoor activities and extended the scope and levels of participation for the general population such as e-bikes for mountain bike enthusiasts.

With the pervasive influence of the internet, smart phones and apps, people are able to obtain information, communicate with each other very quickly and provide feedback on their recreation experience at any time. Many outdoor recreation enthusiasts make their decisions on where to recreate based on the information available via the internet including blogs, forums and social media.

Changes in technology for recreation are also bringing about an increasing divergence of outdoor recreation activities. Participants are able to map and record their journey, recording times and uploading digital images of their experience allowing them to compete and compare results with past and future users. Growth in these activities has encouraged research into more refined technologies to encourage wider participation such as geocaching and mountain biking.

In general people are making increased lifestyle choices that are associated with greater access and contact with the natural environment. Furthermore, findings from the AusPlay 2020 report shows:

*Across Australia participation in sport related activities hasn't increased, while at the same time non-sport physical activities have increased significantly – by more than 20 percentage points from 2001 to 2020.*

*Of the top 10 sport and recreational activities in Australia, listed in the AusPlay report, 7 are recreational and 3 are organised sports activities*

### 3.1. Walking Trends

**Walking** is by far the most popular form of physical activity including sporting and recreational activities. In 2020, 47% of all people undertaking sport and recreational activities were walking. This has increased from 28.85% in 2001. The peak age for participation is 65+ for males and 55-64 for females with the gender participation rate of 38% male and 62% female. In the AusPlay 2020 report, this does not include bushwalking which accounts for a further 8.9% of all people undertaking sport and recreational activities. Bushwalking was recorded as the 6th most popular sporting/recreational activities. Combined, walking accounts for 55.9% of all sport and recreation activities.

Trails are now seen to be an important resource for walkers as well as the smaller, more traditional bushwalking community. The peak age for recreational walkers is 55–64 for females and 65+ for males. Hiking is also having a positive influence on the popularity of longer distance trails. However, there is still a general preference for shorter walks (up to 6km and taking between 30 minutes and two hours to walk). The success of the Great Short Walks of Tasmania program is testimony to the fact that there is a significant market for these walking distances. While a trail network should cater for a range of trail users it should focus on those areas of most demand.

There is limited research on the demand for long walk trails. There are long walk trails in Australia aimed to cater for those seeking such an experience. In the case of the Bibbulmun Track (WA), many users access the track for short to medium walks (2 hours up to a weekend), rather than attempts to walk the entire trail (some 7-8 weeks). Long walk trails need significant investment and often cross local government boundaries and, thus, require significant coordination between land managers.

The Trails Development Advisory Committee has been instrumental in developing, mapping and marking a number of walk trails around the Shire. Walking is one of the most enjoyed forms of recreation as it is free, can be done at an individual pace, provides a sense of belonging and improves mental and physical health.

### 3.2. Cycling Trends

**Cycling** is the fourth most popular form of non-organised sporting/recreational activity. Cycling has been amongst the top five activities during the past decade and has had a notable increase in participation rates from 11.3% (2010) to 14.3% (2020) of the total number of people in Australia undertaking sport and recreation activities are participating in cycling.

Cycling attracts 12% of the Australian population with a peak participation age of 45-54 for both adult males and females, and the gender participation rate of 38% female and 62% male. There are more males than females cycling at each age range. Cycling has a higher rate of participation in the major cities than it does in either regional or remote areas, with 59% of participants taking part in cycling at least once per week.

**Mountain biking** attracts 1.3% of the adult population with its peak participation age between 35–44 for both males and females with the gender participation rates 17% female and 83% male. The highest participation is located in regional centres with 45% of participants taking part in mountain biking at least once per week.

Mountain biking and cycle tourism more broadly, is dubbed one of the fastest growing recreational activities globally. In the last 5 years, Mountain Bike Australia reported a membership increase of 60%, resulting in a membership record of 17,625 members nationwide.

In a report completed by AusCycling in March 2021 *“Mountain biking in Australia: an Economic and Participation Analysis”*, researchers considered the estimated economic contribution of mountain bike riders riding at their local trails throughout Australia, based on average expenditure and both the participation rate calculated as part of this project and the AusPlay participation rate. Based on the participation rate calculated as part of this project, mountain bike participants directly spend \$136.9 million and support a total of 1,323 full time equivalent employees annually through riding at their local trails.

Based on the AusPlay report 2020 participation rates, mountain biking participants directly spend \$630.8 million and support a total of 6,095 full time equivalent employees annually through riding at their local trails. The top three industries which are supported the most from mountain bike riders within Australia are the retail trade, accommodation and food service,s and the professional, scientific and technical services industries.

**Table 3: Economic contribution of mountain bike riders to Australia, per annum**

Impact2	Output (\$M)	Value Add (\$M)	Wages and Salaries (\$M)	Employment (FTE)
Based on participation of 73,823 (identified as part of this project)				
<b>Direct Impact</b>	\$136.9	\$77.7	\$50.7	903
<b>Indirect (Type 1 Impact)</b>	\$73.6	\$33.9	\$17.1	167
<b>Indirect (Type 2 Impact)</b>	\$96.2	\$50.9	\$21.7	252

Cycle tourism is a growing market within the Australian tourism sector, particularly within the nature based tourism sector.

Over the past decade, mountain biking has been a growing recreational pastime and is creating an ever growing demand for off-road cycle trails. Much of the trail planning and building activity across Australia has focused on mountain bike trails, either within reserves or in specifically prepared mountain bike parks.



### 3.3. Horse Riding Trends

Horse riding is an activity undertaken by 1.0% of the Australian adult population, approximately 198.8K participants, with the peak age of participation for males between 55-64 and 18-24 for females and a gender participation rate of 85% females and 15% males. Participation for horse riding is situated mainly in regional and remote locations with 67% of participants taking part in equestrian activities at least once per week. Equine based trails tourism is very popular and providers are very limited so there is an opportunity for business development in this area to take advantage of the completion of the Warren Blackwood Stock Route.

### 3.4. Canoe

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes is built around the Blackwood River Valley providing the perfect opportunity for canoe trails to be a focus of local and visitor participation. Approximately 1.5% of the Australian adult population participate in canoeing/kayaking annually (at least once per year). The peak ages for participation is 55-64 for males and 45-54 for females. Adult participation in canoeing by gender is 42% female and 58% male. The majority of canoeing/kayaking is focused in regional and remote areas, with 17% of people that participate in canoeing do so at least once per week.

### 3.5. Trail Bike

Recreational off road motorcycling attracts 0.9% of the Australian adult population with peak participation ages of 45-54 for males and 15-17 for females and a gender participation rate of 10% female and 90% male. The majority of this activity is undertaken in regional and remote areas. WA is the only state in Australia that allows unlicensed riders and non-road registered bikes to ride in specially designated legal off-road vehicle areas of which there are currently 5 in the state. Trail bikes are not permitted in national parks or on walk or mountain bike trails. There are many trail bike participants riding in state forest unlawfully, for safety and to protect the environment, there may be a need to support community to develop a designated area, for example a ride park.

### 3.6. Nature Based Tourism Trends

#### Tourism Trends

The events of 2020 have changed the landscape of travel; from how tourism businesses operate to what travellers prioritize when planning a trip. Tourism Australia's managing director, Phillipa Harrison, identified Australia's top forecasted travel trends for 2021 and into the near future:

#### ***Trend 1: Naturally wide-open and remote destinations deemed safer***

*With people craving wide-open spaces, fresh air and nature more than ever, Australia's nature will be more desirable over the next 5 years. Tourism Australia's most recent consumer research, called the Consumer Demand Project, demonstrates that destinations with wide-open spaces feel safer for travellers—and, after spending more time at home during the pandemic, than ever before, people are developing a new appreciation for being out in nature.*

#### ***Trend 2: Safety is key***

*In the eyes of international travellers, Australia's association with safety and security has risen from 43 percent to 49 percent, and from 47 percent to 56 percent in relation to nature and wildlife. This shift shows elements that were once perceived as Australia's barriers—isolation from the rest of the world and a large, sparsely populated land—are more desirable amongst travellers, post-COVID-19. Tourism Australia's most recent research shows global travellers' perceptions of Australia as a safe destination is increasing, and Australia is now the country most associated with safety and security, moving ahead of Japan.*

#### ***Trend 3: Travel as a force for good***

*Today's travellers are increasingly seeking out brands and experiences that are not only good for them, but good for the world around them. This can take many forms, from supporting local businesses by shopping big at a local winery, bakery or butcher, to getting hands-on with bushfire restoration efforts via recovery tours and experiences such as planting a tree to help re-establish koala habitats in affected areas. Tourism Australia's consumer research supports this "force for good" trend, showing that 91 percent like to travel to become more open-minded and knowledgeable about the world, and 74 percent are actively seeking out travel experiences that allow them to give back to a destination.*

#### **Trend 4: Indigenous experiences on the rise**

*Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a rich, living culture dating back at least 60,000 years. Year on year, more and more travellers actively seek out and discover Indigenous tourism experiences throughout the country that allow them to connect with and learn more about Australia's First Nations People. Warm, welcoming and generous of spirit, they offer a means of connecting with Australian places and cultures quite unlike anything else. According to the International Visitor Survey, in 2019 alone, approximately 1.35 million international visitors took part in an Indigenous experience on their holiday—a figure that has grown by 5 percent each year over the past six years.*

#### **Trend 5: Travel to regenerate**

*Following the turbulence of 2020, the desire to use travel as a moment to reconnect and regenerate will dominate in 2021. Soft adventure experiences like multi-day walks and wellness travel (i.e., spa holidays, yoga retreats) have been growing in popularity over the past few years, and the pandemic has only amplified the desire for this style of holiday. Destinations and experiences that leave travellers feeling calm and rejuvenated—whether it's an all-inclusive multi-day hike or an off-grid eco-cabin stay—are expected to be popular with travellers.*

Based on the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils Visitor Servicing Business Plan, tourism across the three LGA's of the Warren Blackwood (Manjimup, Nannup and Bridgetown-Greenbushes) is primarily distributed amongst:

- Nature/recreation, which accounts for 30% of product,
- Water activities, which comprise 12% of product; and
- Museum/historical, comprising 12% of product.

It is critical to consider the needs of visitors as they provide much of the economic benefits associated with trail development. Recreation trails provide an important piece of tourism infrastructure and provide experiences in the eco-tourism market.

Visitors are interested in what is local and authentic. Successful tourism destinations are built on factors that give a place its own distinctive character. These factors are lifestyle, heritage, cultural activities, landscape, flora and fauna; characteristics of the basic tourism product of a destination. Recreational trails provide opportunities to highlight many of these characteristics.

### **3.7. Cultural Trails Tourism Trends**

Globally, heritage tourism has become one of the largest and fastest growing tourism sectors, with the United Nations World Tourism Organisation estimating that more than 50% of tourists worldwide are now motivated by a desire to experience a country's culture and heritage.

Gains from heritage tourism are amplified throughout the global economy with economic, social and environmental benefits generally much larger than direct spending levels. Research indicates that visitors to heritage-based activities are more likely to seek high value experiences and deliver a higher spend than nature-based activities.

Of all international visitors to Australia in 2017, 43% participated in a cultural activity and 33.9% in a heritage activity. Cultural and heritage sectors have grown at 7.5% and 11.2% respectively over the past four years. These growth rates and the spend per visitor night demonstrate the enormous potential for further growth if attractive new products and experiences can be established to meet the needs of visitor markets.

Heritage tourism activities contribute to longer stays, as well as attracting new visitor markets to regional Australia.

Tourism across the globe is becoming more about journeys and experiences than simply viewing or visiting places and destinations. Research has repeatedly found that what encourages a visitor to a certain destination is its ability to engage in unforgettable and truly inspiring experiences that touch visitors in an emotional way and connects them with special places, people and cultures. Excelling in the art of storytelling and using innovative presentation skills to connect the visitor to a desired time and place are essential for Australia's heritage tourism attractions to compete on a global scale.

*Successful heritage tourism creates an environment where:*

- *Authenticity and significance of heritage places can be conserved, protected and shared by investing in people and place;*
- *Heritage can deepen, drive and strengthen the tourism story;*
- *Mutually beneficial partnerships can be fostered and grown;*
- *Enjoyable and enriching visitor experiences can be delivered through engaging story telling;*
- *Customers are embraced at all levels as our greatest ambassadors;*
- *Commercially robust products, services and sustainable business models are established; and Skills and capacity are nurtured and fostered, particularly in regional*

Cited: "Australian Heritage Tourism Directions Paper" National Trusts of Australia 2018.

## 4. Stakeholders

### 4.1. The Trails Development Advisory Committee

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Trails Development Advisory Committee (TDAC, herein "the Committee") was established in 2011 under the powers given in Section 5.8, 5.9(2) (c) and 5.17(c) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

The official Instrument of Appointment for this Committee identifies that the purpose of the Committee is to provide advice to Council on four key objectives relevant to trails development:

1. Implement Council's economic strategies via identified and proposed tasks;
2. To advise Council on the establishment of priorities and review the progress on the implementation of the strategies identified in the relevant Local Trails Plan;
3. To formally report to Council annually on the implementation of the Local Trails Plan; and
4. To recommend to Council any changes to the priorities identified in the Local Trails Plan either as part of the annual review process, or if necessary at other times of the year.

The Trails Development Advisory Committee (TDAC) is an advisory committee to Council working on the identification and development of trails, locally and regionally, over the last 10 years. The committee of volunteers consist of members with varied trail focused interests including walking, mountain biking, art, motorbike and horse riding and canoeing.

The Committee works closely with the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions Parks (DBCA) and local community groups and business to support the development of local walk, mountain bike, canoe, motor bike, art and heritage, gourmet and bridle trails.

Regionally, the Committee has completed two regional trails projects. The first was a detailed map of the Blackwood River from Boyup Brook to Nannup and the second was the completion of the Warren Blackwood Stock Route, a 320km bridle trail with camp sites and horse facilities across three Shires of Nannup, Manjimup and Bridgetown-Greenbushes. Both projects were identified as high priority in the Warren Blackwood Regional Trails Master Plan.

The Trails Development Advisory Committee also commissioned the regional trails website for the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils to promote regional trails to trail enthusiasts locally, nationally and internationally: [www.totaltrails.com.au](http://www.totaltrails.com.au)

## **4.2 Trails Development Advisory Committee Achievements**

### **2012**

- Ongoing allocation in Councils annual budget
- Attendance of Committee members to trail conferences
- Template of trail head signage in partnership with DBCA for ongoing use across trails traversing land managed by different government bodies
- Marked Old Abattoir Walk – trail markers
- Marked River Walk – trail markers

### **2013**

- Regional trail website launch
- Canoe signage complete;
  - Winnejump
  - Sunnyside
  - Maranup Ford
  - Rocky Bluff
  - Evans Bridge
  - River Park
- Regional Canoe Map complete
- Support for the incorporation of the local horse riding club – Bridgetown Equine Inc.
- Revival of the Golden Horse Shoe annual endurance ride

### **2014**

- Warren Blackwood Stock Route – Regional Bridle Trail Feasibility Study presented to Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils
- Installation of Heritage Trail Walk plaques
- Golden Horse Shoe endurance ride
- Collection of farming families oral histories of stock droving in the region complete

### **2015**

- Completion of the Old Abattoir Walk including;
  - Shelter
  - Trail head signage
  - Interpretative signage
  - VRM
  - Trail markers
- Ocean to Ocean MTB race complete

## **2016**

- Wandoo Walk complete
- Golden Horse Shoe endurance ride
- Maintenance Guidelines for the Old Abattoir and Wandoo Walks between DBCA and Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
- Little Schools Trail – Map and official opening
- Support for the local Mountain Bike riding club – Blackwood Mountain Bike Club Inc.
- Trail Locator signage installed
- Consultation with local Aboriginal consultant regarding the potential naming of the Mountain Bike Trails Network
- Geegelup Mountain Trail Network, with the first trail loop to be called the Yonga Trail
- River Walk trail head and interpretive signage installed
- Second stage planning for the Warren Blackwood Stock Route Bridge Trail complete
- Trail counter installed at the Old Abattoir Walk

## **2017**

- Greenie Loop trail markers replaced
- Geegelup Mountain Bike Trail Network GPS complete
- Jarrah Park trail loops cleared
- Little Schools Trail included on Shire maintenance schedule
- Funding for the construction of Regional Stock Route approved
- Sub-committee for development of Mountain Bike Network
- Planning began for the Blackwood River Foreshore Development
- DBCA Funding for Jarrah Park

## **2018**

- Walk Trail Booklet, 2nd edition, reviewed and reprint
- Aboriginal Heritage Survey on Blackwood Foreshore complete
- Bird Watching Trail brochure designed and printed
- Signage design for Jarrah Park

## **2019**

- Bird Watching brochure launch
- Wording of signage for Jarrah Park complete
- Mountain Bike Session with the High School by Bridgetown Mountain Bike and Cycling Club
- Annual Jarrah Park clean-up by Bunbury Pre-release Unit
- Bridgetown Art Trail
- Warren Blackwood 2050 Cycling Strategy endorsed by Council
- 5 year priority actions for cycling endorsed by Council

## **2020**

- Draft detailed Plans for the Blackwood River Foreshore completed
- Removal of boardwalk in preparation for Blackwood Foreshore Development
- Inclusion of Gourmet Trails representative on committee
- Inclusion of Trail Bike representative on Committee
- Review of Trail Bike plan

## **2021**

- Completed construction of Warren Blackwood Stock Route
- Framework finalized between Bridgetown Mountain Bike and Cycling Club and DBCA
- Trail Plan reviewed
- Construction of the Rectory Walk Trail and Shelter
- Resurfacing of a large section of the River Walk
- Completion of the Hygiene Report and the Flora Survey for the Geegelup Mountain Bike Trail Network

- Agreement with Bridgetown Golf Club to use facilities as the Trail Head for the Geegelup Mountain Bike Trail Network

## 2022

- **Successful Heritage Council funding for the Bridgetown Heritage Walk**
- **Completed the review, extension and reprint of the Bridgetown Heritage Walk**
- **Completed the design and print of the Bridgetown Heritage Walk booklet**
- **Undertaking consultation with property owners regarding plaque installation for the Bridgetown Heritage Trail**
- **Completed the Review Of the Trails Plan**
- **Successful funding application to Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries for the planning, corridor assessment and concept design of the Geegelup Mountain Bike Trail network**

### 4.3. The Walking Groups

There are several Walking Groups in the Shire. There is an informal group of local walking enthusiasts that meet every Thursday morning. The group consists of up to 40 walkers of all age groups and walking capabilities. They generally use a “buddy-up” system to ensure no-one is left behind. The group meets in a central location to select a walk trail. The group sets off for between 1-2 hours. Once completed, they share morning tea and social networking.

### 4.4. Bridgetown Mountain Bike and Cycling Club

Interest in cycling and mountain bike riding has continued to grow since the incorporation of the Bridgetown Mountain Bike and Cycling Club (BMBC) in 2016. The membership in 2020 was 50 riders. The members of the mountain bike club participate in mountain bike riding locally and regionally, they are passionate and focused on the development of mountain bike trails and a potential pump track within the Shire to encourage the development of skills and new mountain bike enthusiasts.

BMBC have been working closely with DBCA on the trails approval process for 36km of off road mountain bike trails to the north of Bridgetown. Once complete these two loops will form the first stage of a two stage trail network development. An additional 20km of trails is already identified and will comprise the second stage of mountain bike trails development.

### 4.5. Running Groups

The Bridgetown Primary School are providing opportunities for students to increase their fitness through participation in a running club. The club meets two times per week before school. Parents and children are invited and participant numbers range from 20-50 children and parents.

### 4.6. Motor-Cross/Off Road Motor Cycling

There is a strong local group of enthusiasts with an interest in motocross and trail bike riding activities. Over the past 12 years there has been a motorcycling event held in September that attracts people from around the state to compete in racing on a motocross/enduro track set up on private property. The event targets all age groups and people camp on site and enjoy a weekend of riding and competing.

There is a proposed off road vehicle area that has been under consideration as a possible site for a motocross practice track since 2006. The site is located near Greenbushes parallel to the South West Highway. The Trails Development Advisory Committee is working with the relevant stakeholders to continue to progress this development. However, until such time as the Off Road Vehicle Areas Act is reviewed by the State Government (currently pending) it is unlikely that State funding will be made available to develop this project.



## 4.7. Horse Riding Groups

There is a strong local contingent of the community that participate in equine pursuits without a formal or organised club or grounds. The Blackwood Horse and Pony Club facilitates monthly rallies for riding enthusiasts interested in developing their horse riding skills, from leadline ponies and bush rides to dressage and jumping. This is held at the Bridgetown Pony Club Grounds on the Bridgetown-Boyup Brook Road.

## 4.8. Arts Groups

The Shire has always had a strong creative contingent in the community including visual and performing arts. A vibrant arts collective is located at the local Rabbit Hole and an incorporated arts group, Blackwood Creatives, exists to represent the local artists and creatives.

The Bridgetown Art Trail was conceived with the goal of bringing the art created in the community to the public and join together new and existing public art pieces to create a comprehensive trail. A bequest by Dr Henry Schapper provided the beginnings of the art trail which was then added to by local community members to create the Bridgetown Art Trail. Local community have worked together to provide an art trail around the Greenbushes town centre. Both of the trails will be further developed as pieces are added to them over time.

# 5. Scope and Methodology

This plan is focused on existing and proposed recreation trails that are:

- Located within the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes boundary;
- Located within Government owned or managed natural recreation areas, namely, state forests as well as natural areas managed by the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes;
- The proposed activity and/or infrastructure must fit the purpose of the tenure vesting;
- The proposed trail must be used for nature-based recreation, tourism, heritage and cultural activities.

## 5.1. Methodology

- a) Background research and desktop analysis**
  - Review documentation
  - Research
  - Desktop assessment of existing natural areas and trails
- b) Site audits and trail mapping**
  - Site audits and analysis of the existing trail network (TDAC)
  - TDAC & stakeholder consultation
- c) Consultation**
  - TDAC & trails interest groups
  - Stakeholders
  - Council
  - Community wide survey
- d) Trails plan**
  - Collating and documenting draft plan:
    - Refining and summarising the findings
    - Setting the direction for the future planning of trails
    - Develop promotions initiatives
    - Staging and prioritizing of proposed trail development
- e) Endorsement**
  - Finalize the draft plan
  - Council endorsement of draft plan for community comment
  - Community and stakeholder comment
  - Amendment of plan based on community comment

- Adoption of plan by Council

## 5.2. Supporting Documentation

State Government and Council have developed a number of documents and plans that have been considered when making recommendations on current and future development of trails in this shire.

The relevant documents of interest;

- The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Strategic Community Plan
- The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Corporate Business Plan
- The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Age Friendly Community Plan
- The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- The Warren Blackwood Trails Master Plan
- The Western Australian Trails Strategy
- The Western Australian Mountain Bike Strategy
- The South West Mountain Bike Strategy
- The Western Australian Recreational Horse Trail Strategy

## 6. Existing Trails

This section of the plan documents the location, extent and provision of the existing trails networks within the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes including the type, length and difficulty of each of the existing formal trails.

### 6.1. Trail Audit

Annual detailed site audits have been undertaken by TDAC and DBCA to document and identify the formal trail routes that have existed within the Shire boundary since 2011. Only recognised trails have been included in the trail audit. “Recognised” means that the trail has some or all of the following characteristics:

- They are recognised by the land manager (DBCA, Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Brookfield Rail, the Water Corporation); or
- They have sign posting (trail directional markers, trailhead signage, interpretive signage); or
- There is available information or mapping pertaining to the trail (map contained in a brochure); or
- Regularly inspected to ensure user safety and trail amenity

The table overleaf lists the existing approved trails within the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes. The table describes each trail type as well as providing relevant information pertaining to that particular trail. Only trails that are regarded as being recognised are included in the table.

Definitions for Difficulty Grades can be found on the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions website, “*Users guide to the Australian Walking Track Grading System*”.

**Table1. Trail Audit**

Trail Name	Location	Type	Land Manager	Trail contact	Features	Length	Rating
<b>Greenbushes Loop Walk</b>	Heritage Park, Blackwood Road, Greenbushes	Walk	Shire & DBCA	Greenbushes Discovery Centre, Talison Lithium and DBCA	Interpretive signage and trail markers, Discovery Centre Walk Trail Map. Joins the Bibbulmun Track	15km	4
<b>Greenbushes Pool Walk</b>	Spring Gully Road, Greenbushes	Walk & Canoe	Shire	Greenbushes Discovery Centre, Talison Lithium and DBCA	Interpretive signage and Trail markers. Toilets, picnic, BBQ and short term camping facilities	513m	1
<b>Mine Heritage Walk</b>	Heritage Park, Blackwood River Road, Greenbushes(?)	Walk	DBCA	Greenbushes Discovery Centre, Talison Lithium and DBCA	Interpretive signage and trail indicator markers. Trail brochure at Discovery Centre and Bridgetown Visitor Centre.	3km	2
<b>New Zealand Gully Walk</b>	Heritage Park Blackwood Park Road, Greenbushes(?)	Walk	DBCA	Greenbushes Discovery Centre, Talison Lithium and DBCA	Interpretive signage and trail indicator markers. Trail brochure at Discovery Centre and Bridgetown Visitor Centre.	7km	3
<b>The Waterbird (Schwenke's Dam) Walking Trail</b>	Spring Gully Road, Greenbushes	Walk	DBCA	Grow Greenbushes Talison Lithium and DBCA	Interpretive signage and trail indicator markers. Trail brochure at Discovery Centre and Bridgetown Visitor Centre.	3.5km	2
<b>Greenbushes Heritage Amble</b>	Town Centre, Greenbushes	Walk	Shire	Grow Greenbushes, Shire, Greenbushes	Interpretive signage at each historic location and trail map. Trail brochure at Discovery Centre and Bridgetown Visitor Centre.	2km	1

				Discovery Centre			
<b>Blackwood River Walk</b>	River Park, Bridgetown	Walk	Shire	TDAC & Shire	Site interpretive signage, Trail head signage, trail markers, map	2.5km or 5.7km	3
<b>Rectory Walk</b>	Timber Bridge, Bridgetown	Walk	Shire	TDAC & Shire	Trail markers	1.7km	2
<b>Somme Creek Fitness Trail</b>	Somme Creek, Bridgetown	Walk	Shire	Shire	Cement path, flat, outdoor gym equipment along walk, map, site interpretive	500m	1
<b>Bridgetown Heritage Walk</b>	Town Centre, Bridgetown	Walk	Shire	Shire	Information booklet at Visitors Centre, interpretive plaques at each stop	2km-5km	1
<b>Bridgetown Jarrah Park</b>	20km from Bridgetown along Brockman Highway	Walk	DBCA	TDAC, Shire, DBCA	Currently working on upgrade, choice of 4 trails, trail head and interpretive signage, trail markers	~7km with shorter options available	3
<b>Wandoo Valley Walk</b>	Power line off Winneup Road, 8.2km from Bridgetown	Walk	DBCA	TDAC, Shire, DBCA	Choice of two trails, trail head signage, interpretive signage, trail markers, map	3.7km with shorter options available	2
<b>Old Abattoir Walk</b>	Boyup Brook Road (1km past Krsuls Road), 5.4km from Bridgetown	Walk	DBCA	TDAC, Shire, DBCA	Picnic area and shelter at trail head - signage, trail markers, interpretive signage, Choice of 2 trails	3.1km with shorter options available	2-3
<b>Blackwood River Canoe Trail</b>	Trigwell Bridge Shire of Boyup Brook – Bridgetown, Bridgetown – Nannup, Nannup-Sues Bridge Shire of Nannup	Canoe & Kayak	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	Shire (access points)	Map identifies access points and difficulty rating along the river.	Various	Seasonal flatwater, Class 1 to Class 4 depending on rains and water flows.

<b>Little Schools Trail</b>	240km drive trail including 23 little school sites.	Drive	Shire & Main Roads	Shire	Map identifies each site including GPS, interpretive and photos. Plaque indicates each site	240km	2
<b>Bird Watching trails</b>	Greenbushes	Walk	Shire and DBCA	Shire	Map shows access points, feature locations	3.3km return	2
<b>Geegelup Mountain Bike Trail</b>	Hester State Forest	Mountain bike	DBCA	Shire and DBCA	Audit and identification of potential features for existing 33.7km unapproved x-country trail, detailed design of 2.3 km of single track. Concept plan for ride park consisting of approximately 20km of trail	36km existing, 20km concept design.	2-4
<b>Bridgetown Art Trail</b>	Bridgetown	Walk	Shire	Shire	17 public art installation in existing trail – under review to be extended to include new artworks.	2-3 km	1
<b>Greenbushes Art Trail</b>	Greenbushes	Walk/Drive	Shire	Shire	Under review to be included in the Shire Art Trail booklet – currently 10 art installations	5km	2
<b>Warren Blackwood Stock Route</b>	Shires of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Nannup and Manjimup	Horse Ride	Shires of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Nannup and Manjimup, DBCA, Department of Water, Mainroads, Western Power	Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils	Completed and under the management of the WBAC and each Shire involved, feature 320km of marked trail, 8 horse friendly camp sites including historical interpretation, 2 stop overs.	320km	

## 6.2. Condition of Existing Trails

There has been a targeted system of trail upgrades over the past 10 years driven by members of TDAC. The trails are subject to an annual inspection and formal audit process based on DBCA's risk management practises either through the Shire or through DBCA. Any identified issues are then passed onto the appropriate party via the TDAC Shire representative and onto the project partner responsible for addressing any maintenance or safety issues; as per the Walk Trail Maintenance Guideline.

Directional signage that conforms to recognised International Mountain Biking Association standards have been installed along all of the recognised trails. Trail head and interpretative signage has also been included to meet State Government Land Management standards. This template is used for all trail signage throughout the Shire on public land managed by the Shire and DBCA, to ensure continuity and branding of trail networks. The trail head signage includes length of trail, duration, difficulty level, points of interest, local access points and connections, safety information and code of conduct for trail user groups.

Attention to trail surfaces, structures (steps, culverts etc.) and trail infrastructure has been an integral component of the trail upgrade program undertaken by TDAC and have included shelters, seating, trail modification and culverts.

## 6.3. Trail Maps

The following trail maps are available at Appendices 1 - 23

- Blackwood River Walk
- Old Rectory Walk
- Somme Creek Fitness Trail
- Bridgetown Town Heritage Walk
- Wandoo Valley Walk
- Old Abattoir Walk
- Blackwood River Canoe Trail
- Little Schools Trail
- Greenbushes Loop trail
- New Zealand Gully Walk I
- Mining Heritage Walk
- The Waterbird (Schwenke's Dam) Walk
- Greenbushes Pool Walk
- Greenbushes Heritage Amble
- Bridgetown Jarrah Park
- WBSR
- Bridgetown Heritage Trail
- Art Trail –Bridgetown
- Art Trail Greenbushes
- Gourmet trail – Shire/region
- Tour of the Blackwood
- Villages in the Valley
- Bird Watching Trail
- Warren Blackwood Stock Route

\* The trails information and maps are also available on the regional Total Trails website: [www.totaltrails.com.au](http://www.totaltrails.com.au)



## 7. The Trails Development Process

It is important to develop well designed trails in the most appropriate locations with the support and approval of stakeholders to ensure that trails are sustainable and an asset to the landowners, land managers, trail users and the community, rather than a liability (*WA Mountain Bike Management Guidelines, 2016*).

Trails, like any other facility development on Shire or State managed land is subject to an approval process. Trails development on DBCA managed land requires a standardised development process as a method of staged approval. This to ensure conservation and sustainability are considered and the quality of trails development is consistent across the state. The TDAC use this process for all trails development across local government and state government managed land to maintain consistency throughout the Shire.

The trails development process involves eight stages and encompasses a consistent evaluation, review and improvement process as trails are being extended or revised. Refer to Table 2 below for a condensed summary of DBCA trail development process. The process is adaptable for the development of every category of trail.

**Table 2. Trail Development Process**

Stage	Outcome
<b>1. Proposal</b>	The proposed area is either supported in principle for trail development or is not supported due to environmental, social or cultural constraints. Or proposal to identify suitable areas.
<b>2. Framework</b>	A project outline developed by project steering group (stakeholders) including: project objectives, project management model, stakeholder roles, target market requirements, standards, execution and ongoing trail management model.
<b>3. Site Assessment</b>	Undertake a broad scale study of the area and identify constraints, soil types, vegetation, venue safety, parking etc.
<b>4. Concept Planning</b>	Identify opportunities and conceptual trail plan including infrastructure requirements produced. Broad trail corridors are physically flagged in the field.
<b>5. Corridor Evaluation</b>	Detailed assessment of corridor where relevant.
<b>6. Detailed Design</b>	Detailed design produced and physically flagged in the field, including; trails classifications, technical trail features (TTFs), construction types and specifications. Relevant approvals where necessary.
<b>7. Construction</b>	Trail is constructed in line with the detailed design, where relevant.
<b>8. Management</b>	Management plan implemented detailing maintenance and monitoring requirements.

## 8. Proposed Trails Projects 2023-2028

The purpose of the Trails Plan is to provide;

- A guide to Council regarding the communities interest and possible future direction of trails development in the Shire,
- Support to Shire staff in planning future maintenance and development works and
- to identify and work collaboratively with trails groups and trail users to ensure the focus of Shire resources is on maintaining the trails already available and working with stakeholders to provide new and exciting trails opportunities into the future.

### 8.1. Trail Development Priority Areas

Walk	Cycle	Water	Drive	Bridle	Off Road
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Town</li> <li>- Bush</li> <li>- Heritage</li> <li>- Bird watching</li> <li>- Art</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Road</li> <li>- Mountain bike</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canoe</li> <li>- Swim</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional</li> <li>- Scenic</li> <li>- Gourmet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local loops trails</li> <li>- Shared trails /MTB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4x4</li> <li>- Motocross</li> </ul>

**Walk Trails Goal:** To encourage community members and visitors to the Shire to enjoy the variety of walk trails.

**Strategy Walk – The Shire has a variety of well-maintained, marked and mapped walk trails that cater to different interest groups**

#	Action	Measure	SoBG Role	Estimated Cost	Status	Stakeholders
<b>W.1</b>	Include approved bush walking trails on Shire managed land in the annual works schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walk trails are reviewed</li> <li>• regular maintenance complete once per year</li> <li>• Emergency maintenance completed when required</li> <li>• Signage Audits are complete by TDAC members</li> </ul>	Lead	\$4,000/year	Proposed	Internal – Parks and Gardens, TDAC  External –members, Walking Groups

<b>W.2</b>	Approved bush walking trails on DBCA managed land are maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitor Risk Management is undertaken by DBCA annually</li> <li>• Communication regarding maintenance and safety issues are shared with DBCA</li> <li>• Signage audits are completed by TDAC members with recommendations communicated to DBCA</li> </ul>	Partner	N/A	Ongoing	Internal – CDO, MCS  External – DBCA, Walking Group
<b>W.3</b>	Walk Trail booklets are reviewed regularly to keep up to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walk trail booklets are reviewed by TDAC when the current print has been exhausted to ensure details of the booklet remain accurate</li> <li>• Any newly approved walk trail details are included in the review walk trail booklets</li> <li>• Trails are mapped accurately for inclusion in the booklets</li> </ul>	Lead	\$6,000/year	Ongoing	Internal – CDO, TDAC, Visitor Centre, MCS
<b>W.4</b>	The Bridgetown Heritage Walk review and booklet is complete – plaques are installed identifying new historically significant properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reprint booklet</li> <li>• Promote through VC</li> <li>• Consult with property owners to request permission to install plaques.</li> <li>• Install the plaques on the new sites</li> </ul>	Lead	\$5,000 plaques	In progress	Internal - TDAC, CDO, Visitor Centre  External - Bridgetown Historical Society, building/land owners
<b>W.5</b>	The Bridgetown & Greenbushes Art Trail is revised and Booklet is designed and printed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the Arts community to collate Artist Bios for installations not included in the first edition of the Art Trail booklet.</li> <li>• Work with a local photographer to take photos of works to be included in the new edition.</li> <li>• Map the walk to including new additions.</li> <li>• Design the new booklet including map, photographs and bios.</li> </ul>	Lead	\$8,000	In Progress	Internal – CDO, Maintenance, MCS  External – Local Artists, Building/Land owners

<b>W.6</b>	Complete the Somme Creek Fitness Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organise the installation of the final replacement equipment pieces.</li> <li>Liaise with the Designer and printer re: pamphlets.</li> <li>Order printing</li> </ul>	Lead	\$5,000 installation of fitness equipment and \$4,750 design and print DL	In Progress	Internal – Maintenance Department, MCS, CDO,  Contractor, Works Department
<b>W.7</b>	Formalise the Winnijup Walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Map the Walk</li> <li>Develop trail markers and signage</li> <li>Print map</li> <li>Include on Total Trails website and in the Walk Trail booklet</li> </ul>	Lead	\$5,000	Proposed	Internal - TDAC, Works Department,  External – Aboriginal Groups, Walking Group,
<b>W.8</b>	Investigate Cultural Walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify significant cultural sites.</li> <li>Design route</li> <li>Produce information on each site</li> </ul>	Partner	\$3,000	Proposed	Internal – TDAC, MCS, CIAC, Visitor Centre  External – Cultural/Aboriginal Custodians and regional groups, DBCA
<b>W.9</b>	Seek external funding to assist with the cost of resurfacing the second half of the River Walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete external funding application</li> <li>Include resurfacing in 10 Year Path Maintenance Plan</li> </ul>	Lead	\$200,000	Proposed	Internal – Project Management, MCS,  External – Consultant, funding body, community members, Walking Group

**Cycle/Bike Trails Goal:** To encourage community members and visitors to the Shire to enjoy the natural environment and support a healthy and sustainable lifestyle through dual use pathways and mountain bike trails development.

**Strategy Cycle/Bike – The Shire develops a variety of well-maintained, marked and mapped mountain bike and road cycle trails**

#	Action	Measure	SoBG Role	Estimated cost	Status	Stakeholders
<b>C.1</b>	Investigate developing a shared path along the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult with Stakeholders – shires, Arc Infrastructure, Public Transport Authority</li> </ul>	Partner	N/A	Proposed	Internal – MCS, CEO

	rail corridor from Bunbury to Northcliffe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other Government Departments</li> <li>• Feasibility Study</li> <li>• Cost estimates</li> </ul>				External - Arc Infrastructure, Other Regional Shires, Trails enthusiast/Groups
<b>C.2</b>	Investigate Developing a Blackwood Valley Touring Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult with stakeholders</li> <li>• Map the route using back roads, firebreaks and forestry tracks linking Boyup Brook, Bridgetown, Balingup and Nannup</li> <li>• Identify any gaps in route infrastructure</li> <li>• Cost estimate for development</li> <li>• Trail marking and signage plan</li> </ul>	Partner	Planning stage \$30,000	Proposed	Internal – TDAC,  External - Shire of Nannup, Donnybrook-Balingup Other State Government Departments
<b>C.3</b>	Develop a cycle path along Blechynden and Rowley streets (from Spencer Street to Giblett Road),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design cycle path</li> <li>• Cost project</li> <li>• Include in the Shire 10 year path plan</li> <li>• Improving cycling access to Bridgetown High School.</li> </ul>	Lead	Planning \$3,000 Construction \$30,000	Proposed	Internal - Manager Infrastructure, Works Department, MCS  External - Impacted community members
<b>C.4</b>	Develop a shared path along Bridgetown-Boyup Brook road (from Forrest Street to Les Woodhead Avenue) creating a walking and cycling link to the Bridgetown Sports Ground.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design shared path</li> <li>• Cost project</li> <li>• Include in the Shire 10 year path plan</li> <li>• Improving cycling access to Bridgetown Sports Ground.</li> </ul>	Lead	\$1,000,000	Proposed	Internal - Manager Infrastructure, Works Department, MCS  External - Impacted community members, sporting groups using the Bridgetown Sports Ground, Main Roads
<b>C.5</b>	Extend the Spencer Street shared path south to Layman Street, providing an additional connection to the Blackwood River trail circuit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design shared path</li> <li>• Cost project</li> <li>• Include in the Shire 10 year path plan</li> <li>• Improving access to River Walk</li> </ul>	Lead	Planning \$3,000 Construction \$250,000	Proposed	Internal - Manager Infrastructure, Works Department, MCS  External - Impacted community members

<b>C.6</b>	Develop a local route along Mica Street and Spring Gully Road, linking the town centre to Greenbushes Pool.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design shared path</li> <li>• Cost project</li> <li>• Include in the Shire 10 year path plan</li> <li>• Improving access to pool and picnic grounds</li> </ul>	Lead	\$394,000	Proposed	<p>Internal - Manager Infrastructure, Works Department, MCS</p> <p>External - Impacted community members, Greenbushes Businesses,</p>
<b>C.7</b>	Formalise the local leg of the Tour of Margaret River cycling race.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the feasibility-consult with partner shires</li> <li>• Develop the route along Brockman Highway, Nannup-Balingup Road, Jayes Road, Grimwade-Greenbushes Road and Maranup Ford Road.</li> <li>• Trail marking and signage plan for the 105 km long route</li> <li>• Cost project</li> </ul>	Partner	\$25,000 (signage, signage plan and installation)	Proposed	<p>Internal – MCS, TDAC Manager Infrastructure, Works Department,</p> <p>External - Shires of Nannup, Donnybrook-Balingup, Trails Development Consultant, funding body, Main roads</p>
<b>C.8</b>	Develop the Geegelup Mountain Bike Trail Network including 2 loops and Ride Park and 20km ride park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit the existing 33.7 km (2 loops) of X country track and identify where feature can be included to improvement user experience</li> <li>• Detailed design of 2.3 km of single track</li> <li>• Concept design for 20 km of track for the Geegelup Mountain Bike Ride Park</li> </ul>	Lead	Ride park - Concept Plan, corridor assessment, \$50,000 (in current budget)	Underway	<p>Internal – TDAC, Manager Infrastructure, Works Department,</p> <p>External - Bridgetown Mountain Bike and Cycling Club, Trail Development Consultant, DBCA</p>
<b>C.9</b>	Implement Geegelup Trail 33.7 km Audit suggested features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review proposal design and costs</li> <li>• Seek funding</li> <li>• Construct features</li> </ul>	Lead	\$5,000 Signage	Underway	<p>Internal – TDAC, Manager Infrastructure, Works Department,</p> <p>External - Bridgetown Mountain Bike and Cycling Club, Trail</p>



						Development Consultant, DBCA
<b>C.10</b>	Implement Geegelup Trail 2.3 km single track design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review proposal design and costs</li> <li>• Seek funding</li> <li>• Construct features</li> </ul>	Lead	\$1,000 Signage \$2,000 promotion	Underway	Internal – TDAC, Manager Infrastructure, Works Department,  External - Bridgetown Mountain Bike and Cycling Club, Trail Development Consultant, DBCA

**Water Recreation Goal:** To improve access to recreational water use and encourage community members and visitors to the Shire to enjoy the Blackwood River and other water bodies in a safe and sustainable way.

**Strategy - Water Recreation – The Shire develops and maintains infrastructure to support access to the Blackwood River and other water bodies for recreational activities and events.**

#	Action	Measure	SoBG Role	Estimated Cost	Status	Stakeholders
<b>Wa.1</b>	Review and reprint the canoe map of the Blackwood River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the current map for accuracy</li> <li>• Reprint when required</li> </ul>	Lead	\$15,000	Proposed	Internal - Visitor Centre, TDAC, MCD  External – Canoe WA, Funding Body
<b>Wa.2</b>	Greenbushes Pool – remove camping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove free camping and Maintain surrounding area</li> </ul>	Partner	N/A	Proposed	Internal - Visitor Centre, TDAC, MCD  External - Discovery Centre, Grow Greenbushes,

						Greenbushes Businesses
<b>Wa.3</b>	Support the organisation of events such as the Blackwood 500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process events application</li> <li>• Assist with promotion to community</li> </ul>	Partner	N/A	Ongoing	Internal - Visitor Centre, TDAC, MCD,  External - Power Boat groups, Canoe WA,
<b>Wa.4</b>	Develop Concept Plans and detailed design and cost estimates for the Greenbushes Sports Ground and Recreational Precinct including recreational use of the dam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community engagement</li> <li>• Concept Plans</li> <li>• Community comment</li> <li>• Council approval</li> <li>• Detailed designs and costs</li> <li>• Council adoption</li> </ul>	Lead	Planning \$30,000	Council Approved	Internal - Visitor Centre, TDAC, MCD  External - Discovery Centre, Grow Greenbushes, Greenbushes Businesses, Department of Water,

**Drive Trails Goal:** To encourage community members and visitors to the Shire to enjoy the variety of scenic drives available around the Shire and to support the development of heritage tourism and paddock to plate business development.

**Strategy Drive – The Shire supports the development and promotion of scenic, heritage and culinary drive trails**

#	Action	Measure	SoBG Role	Estimated cost	Status	Stakeholders
<b>D.1</b>	Little Schools Map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reprint when required</li> </ul>	Lead	\$3,000	Ongoing	Internal - Visitor Centre  External -
<b>D.2</b>	Support the existing gourmet trails by including information/booklets at the Visitor Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include WA Gourmet Trails booklets in Visitor Centre</li> <li>• Promote gourmet trails through VC</li> </ul>	Partner	N/A	Ongoing	Internal - Visitor Centre, CDO  External – Local Businesses, Primary Producers
<b>D.3</b>	Develop other scenic drive trails close to the main towns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify potential drive trails</li> <li>• Develop routes</li> <li>• Design booklet</li> <li>• Produce maps</li> </ul>	Lead	\$6,000	Proposed	Internal – TDAC, CDO, Visitor Centre

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Print Booklets</li> <li>• Promote through VC</li> </ul>				
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**Bridle Trails Goal:** To build on the development of the Warren Blackwood Stock Route with loop trails within the Shire.

**Strategy Bridle – The Shire develops a variety of well maintained, marked and mapped bridle and shared trails.**

#	Action	Measure	SoBG Role	Estimated cost	Status	
B.1	Maintain the Warren Blackwood Stock Route (regional bridle trail) within shire boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the Wheatley campsite</li> <li>• Support the annual trail audit</li> </ul>	Partner		Ongoing	Internal – Parks and Gardens crew, Visitor Centre  External - WA Trails, Tourism WA, WBAC, Shires of Nannup and Manjimup
B.2	Assess the feasibility of developing bridle trails within the shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify potential loop trails</li> <li>• Undertake stakeholder engagement</li> <li>• Develop routes with land manager approvals</li> <li>• Concept design and cost estimates</li> </ul>	Lead	\$15,000		DBCA, Local horse riding groups

**Off Road Goal:** To encourage the development of legal off road trails and reduce the amount of unsanctioned trail use.

**Strategy Off Road – Support the development of legal Off Road Driving and Motocross trails and ride parks within the shire.**

#	Action	Measure	SoBG Role	Estimated Cost	Status	
OR.1	Support the development of a Motocross Ride Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with community to support the development of the proposed Ride Park within the planning scheme requirements</li> </ul>	Facilitate	N/A	Planning/Private business	External - Business Developers

<b>OR.2</b>	Investigate unsanctioned DBCA 4x4 Drive trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review available maps of 4x4 drive trails within the Shire</li> <li>• Work with DBCA to assess status</li> </ul>	Advocate	N/A	Proposed	External - DBCA, 4WD Club of WA
<b>OR.3</b>	Investigate the feasibility of 4x4 drive trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review current documents/legislation</li> <li>• Engage DBCA</li> <li>• Engage other stakeholders</li> <li>• Compile feasibility study</li> </ul>	facilitate	N/A	Proposed	Internal - TDAC, CDO,  External - DBCA, community, 4WD Club of WA

## 10. Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
<b>Adventure Tourism</b>	A type of tourism involving travel to remote or exotic locations in order to take part in physically challenging outdoor activities.
<b>Bridle Trail</b>	Designated and approved trail for horse riding.
<b>CDO</b>	Community Development Officer
<b>Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions</b>	DBCA is the state government department responsible for protecting and conserving the State's natural environment on behalf of the people of Western Australia.
<b>Horse Riding</b>	Activities conducted on horseback including cross country, recreational, endurance and long distance horse riding.
<b>MCS</b>	Manager community Services
<b>MTBA</b>	Mountain Bike Australia ( <a href="http://www.mtba.asn.au">www.mtba.asn.au</a> )
<b>Mountain bike riding</b>	While there are a range of forms of mountain bike riding, for the purpose of this document the term refers to endurance mountain bike riding, mountain bike touring
<b>National Park</b>	A national park is a relatively large area set aside by the state government for its predominantly unspoiled natural landscape, flora and fauna, permanently dedicated for public enjoyment, education and inspiration and protected from all interference other than essential management.
<b>Passive recreation</b>	Outdoor recreational activities, such as nature observation, hiking, and canoeing or kayaking, that require a minimum of facilities or development and that have minimal environmental impact on the recreational site. Read more at <a href="http://www.yourdictionary.com/passive-recreation">http://www.yourdictionary.com/passive-recreation</a> .
<b>State Forest</b>	Areas of natural bush land, managed for many purposes—timber, recreation, grazing, wildlife, fish and more.
<b>Tracks and Trails</b>	Any clearly defined track, trail, corridor, route or path.
<b>Trails Development Advisory Committee - TDAC</b>	To provide advice to Council regarding trails and to implement Council's economic strategies via identified and proposed tasks, to progress the development of a mountain bike trail business and concept plan, add value to existing canoe/kayak, walk, cycle and bridle trails including the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils Regional Trails Master Plan projects and to identifying trail based tourism opportunities.
<b>Trailhead</b>	The point where a trail begins. Usually trail heads include information pertaining to the trail (maps, signage, regulatory considerations and other information) as well as other supporting facilities (such as car parking, toilets, seating, shelter, picnic facilities etc.)

## 11. References

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ATHRA, 2015. *Taking the Reins: The Western Australian Recreational Horse Trail Strategy*.

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DPaW, 2014. *Western Australian Mountain Bike Management Guidelines*. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Department of Sport and Recreation, WestCycle, West Australian Mountain Bike Association.

SoBG, 2015. *Sport and Recreation Plan 2015-2025*. Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes, Bridgetown, WA.

SoBG, 2017. *Strategic Community Plan*. Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes, Bridgetown WA.

WA Trails Reference Group, 2016. *Draft Western Australian Strategic Trails Blueprint 2016-2021*. Department of Sport and Recreation.

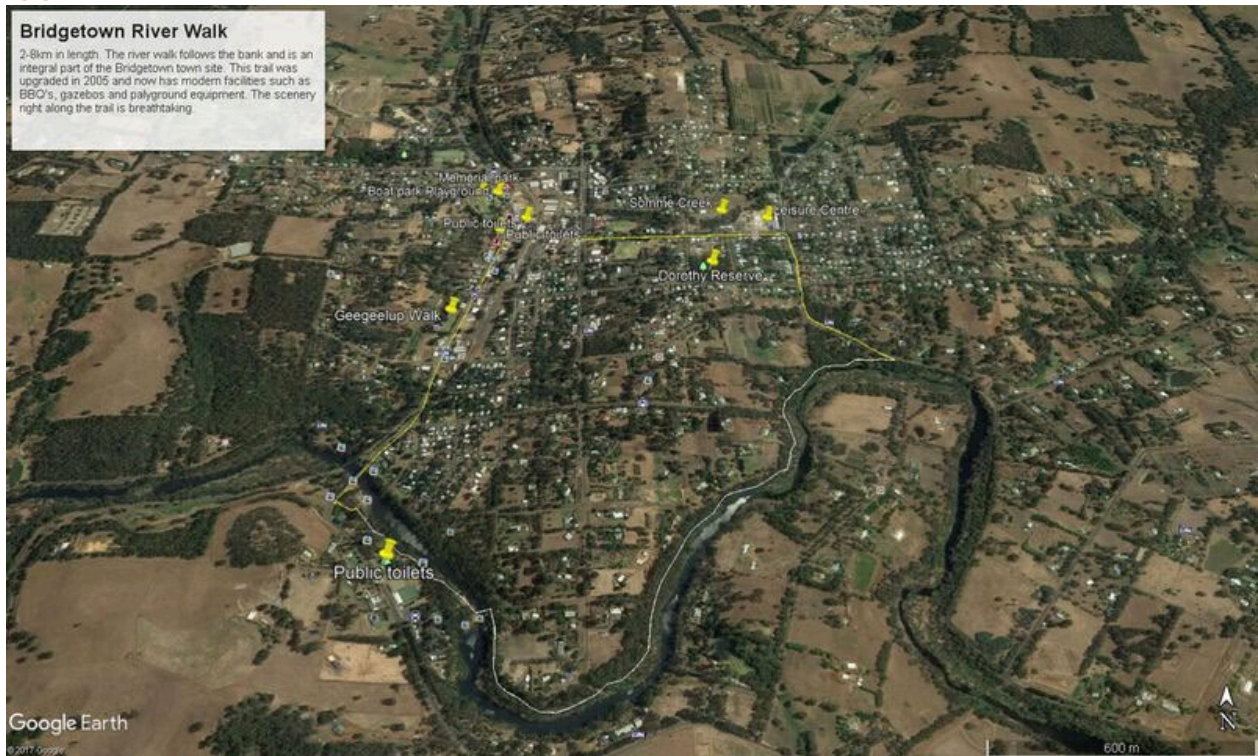
WestCycle, 2015. *Western Australian Mountain Bike Strategy, Unlocking the Potential, 2015-2020*. Department of Sport and Recreation, Department of Parks and Wildlife, West Australian Mountain Bike Association.

## 12. Appendices

- 1) Blackwood River Walk
- 2) Old Rectory Walk
- 3) Somme Creek Fitness Trail
- 4) Bridgetown Town Heritage Walk
- 5) Wandoo Valley Walk
- 6) Old Abattoir Walk
- 7) Blackwood River Canoe Trail
- 8) Little Schools Trail
- 9) Greenbushes Loop Trail
- 10) New Zealand Gully Walk I
- 11) Mining Heritage Walk
- 12) The Waterbird (Schwenke's Dam) Walk
- 13) Greenbushes Pool Walk
- 14) Greenbushes Heritage Amble
- 15) Trails Survey and Results



## Appendix 1



## Appendix 2



Old Rectory Walk



## Appendix 3



*Somme Creek Fitness Trail*

## Appendix 4



*Bridgetown Town Heritage Walk*

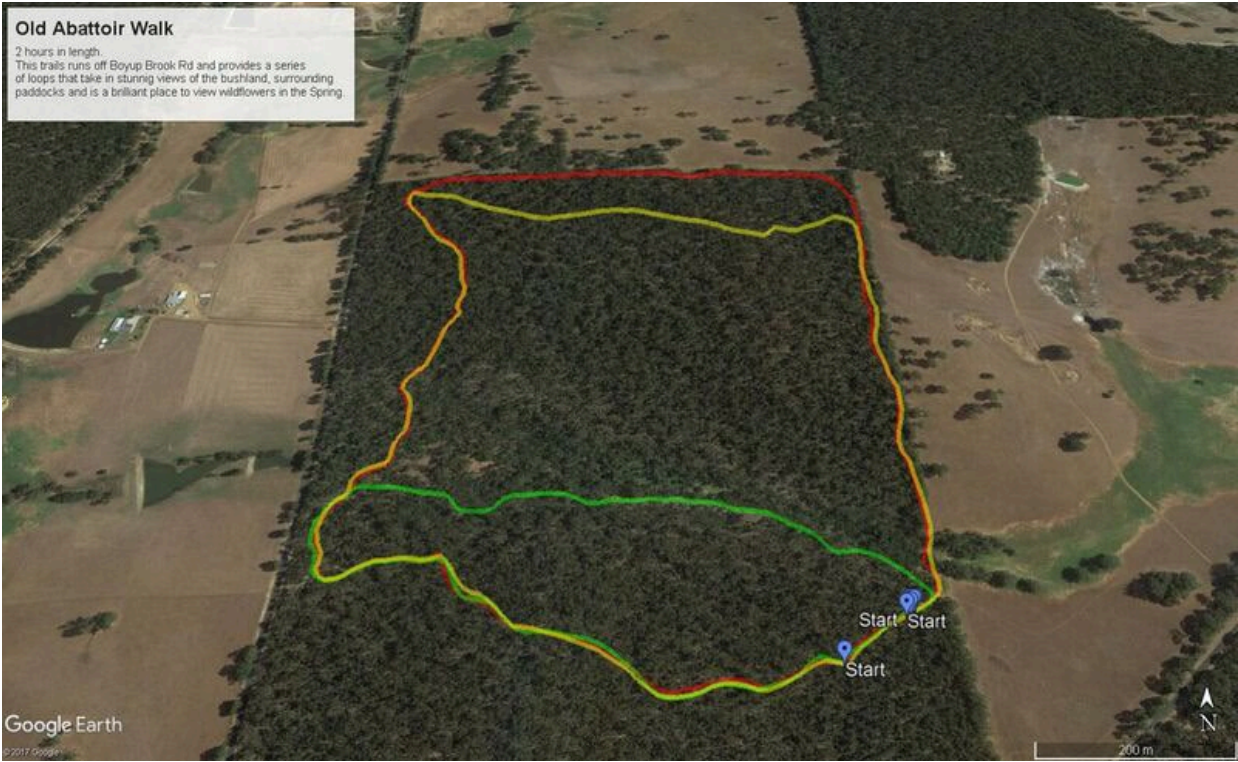


Appendix 5



Wandoo Valley Walk

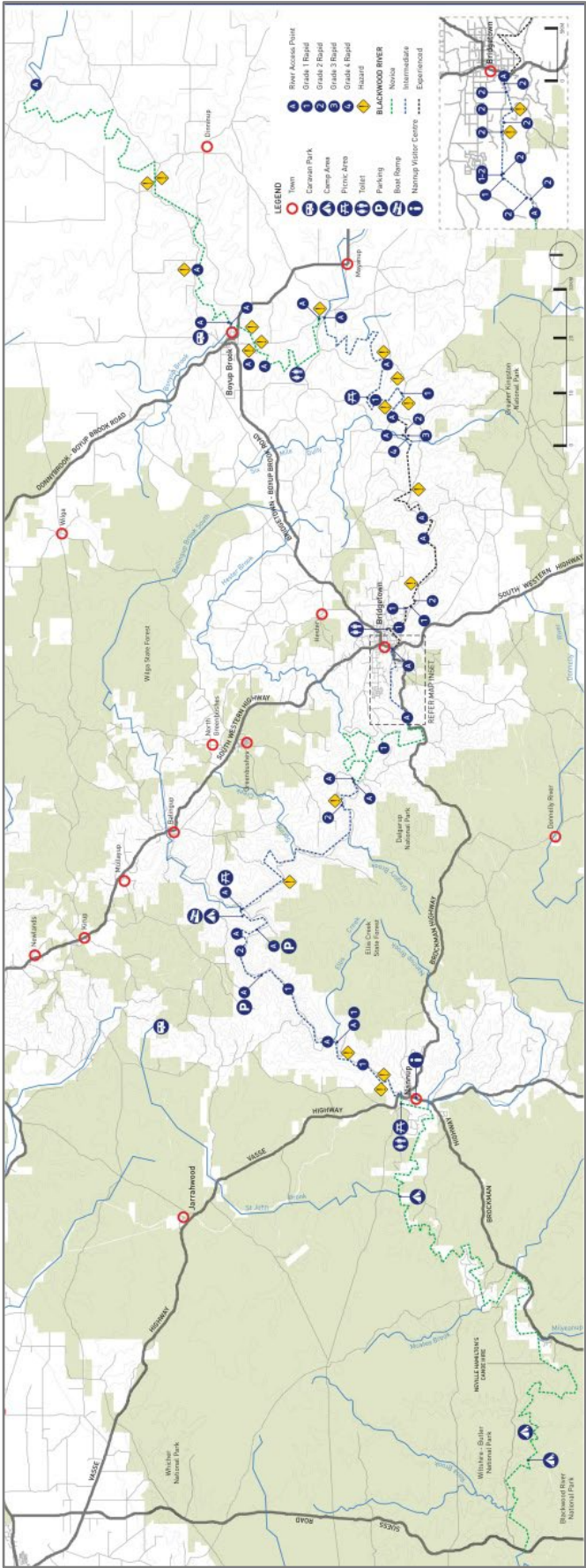
Appendix 6



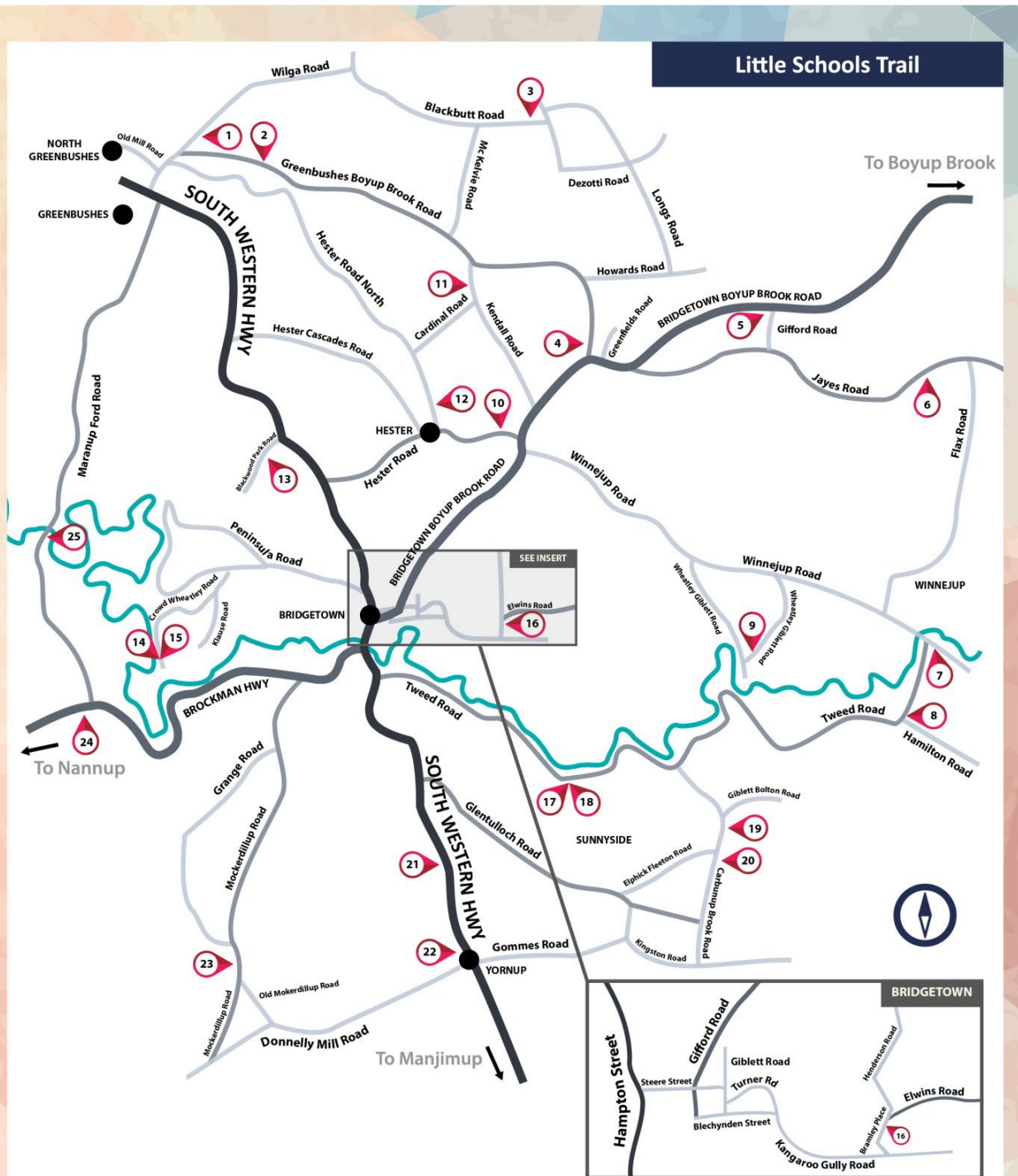
Old Abattoir Walk



Appendix 7



## Appendix 8

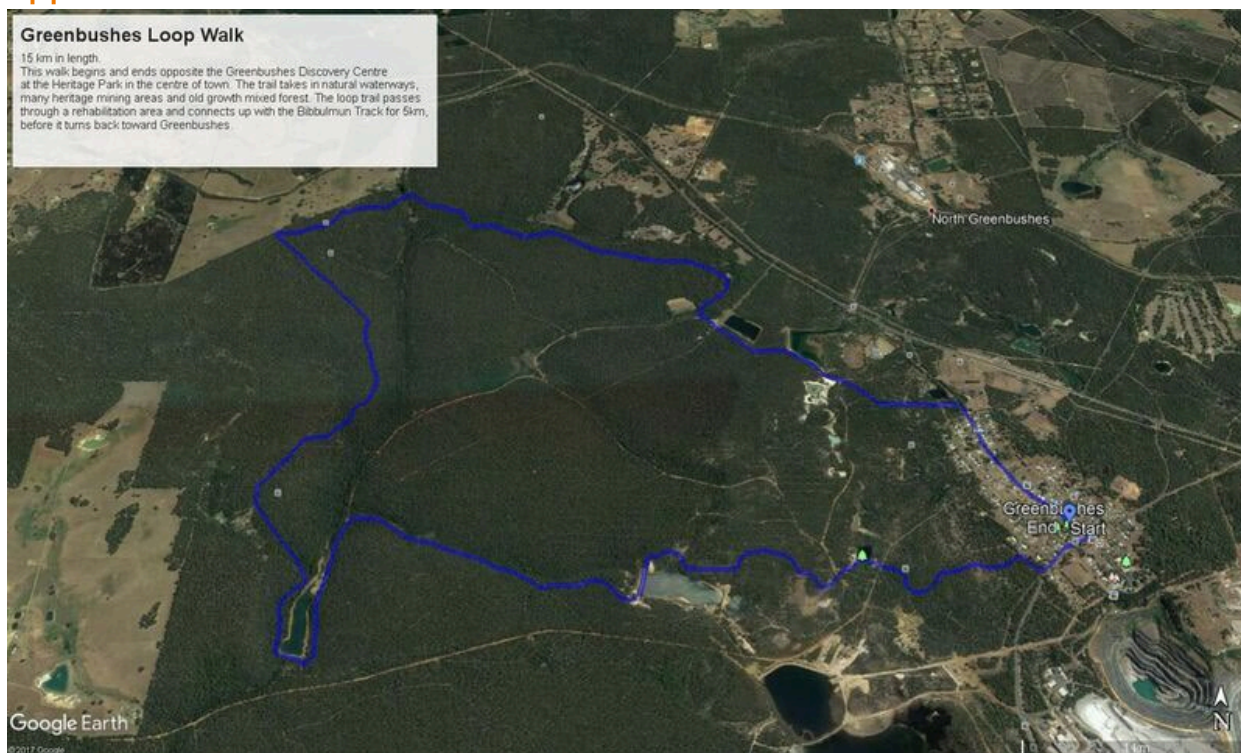


### SCHOOL KEY: INCLUDES GPS LOCATIONS

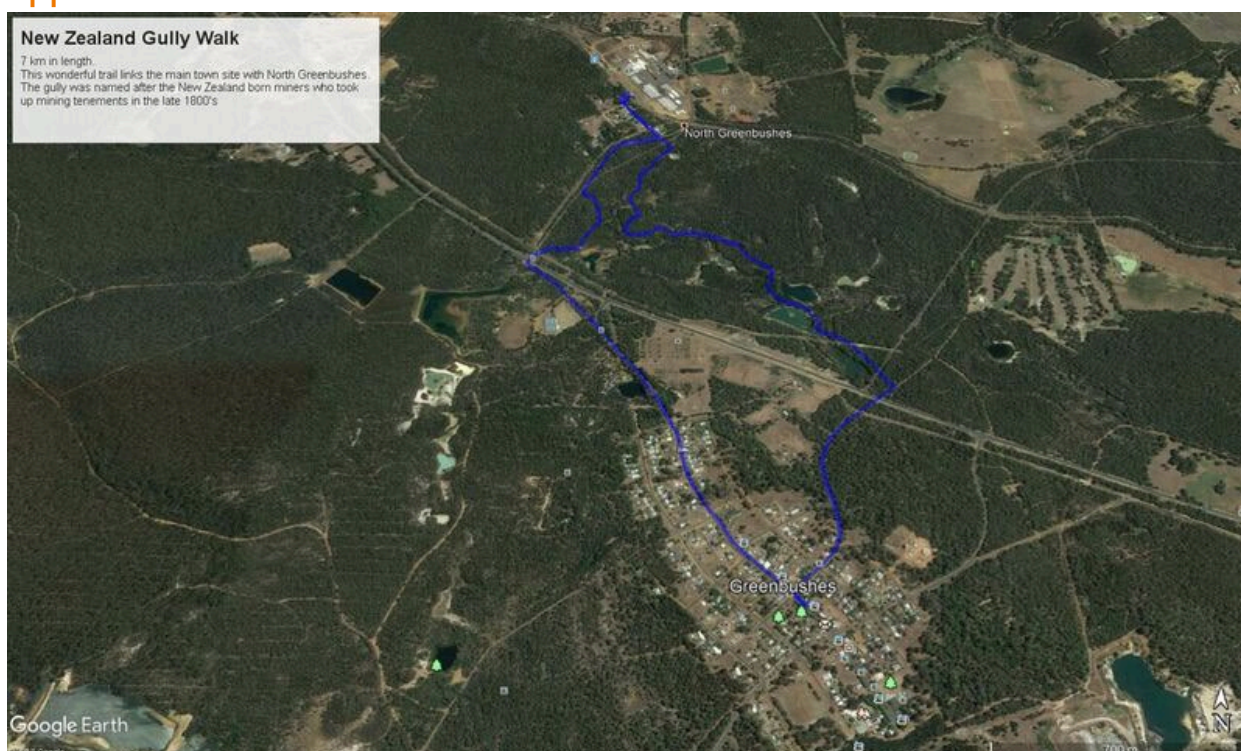
- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Greenbushes Mill School 33°49'28.8"S 116°04'48.06"E | 10. Old Hester School 33°54'38.70"S 116°11'04.92"E           | 19. Glentulloch School 34°01'09.06"S 116°15'20.40"E    |
| 2. Eleura School 33°49'57.18"S 116°06'12.78"E          | 11. Group 126 School 33°52'07.02"S 116°10'17.04"E            | 20. Brooklyn School 34°01'54.12"S 116°15'05.46"E       |
| 3. Group 131 & 132 School 33°49'19.74"S 116°11'41.16"E | 12. Hester School 33°54'19.44"S 116°09'34.14"E               | 21. Springside School 34°01'49.08"S 116°04'08.76"E     |
| 4. Eight Mile Well School 33°53'11.04"S 116°12'36.84"E | 13. Blackwood Park School 33°54'49.32"S 116°05'58.68"E       | 22. Yornup Primary School 34°03'10.74"S 116°10'05.82"E |
| 5. Boronia School 33°52'23.70"S 116°16'21.60"E         | 14. Parkville School (new) 33°58'16.92"S 116°03'58.98"E      | 23. Wandillup School 34°03'22.98"S 116°05'23.40"E      |
| 6. Scammell's School 33°53'36.48"S 116°19'11.70"E      | 15. Parkville School (original) 33°58'16.92"S 116°03'58.98"E | 24. West Bridgetown School 33°59'0.12"S 116°02'33.84"E |
| 7. Winneup School 33°58'08.10"S 116°19'37.86"E         | 16. Kangaroo Gully School 33°57'36.48"S 116°10'59.70"E       | 25. Maranup Ford School 33°56'13.68"S 116°01'25.86"E   |
| 8. Mossvale school 33°59'27.30"S 116°19'07.32"E        | 17. Glenlynn School 34°00'16.44"S 116°12'20.46"E             |  |
| 9. Tee Tree School 33°58'20.82"S 116°15'54.18"E        | 18. Glenlynn-Sunnyside School 34°00'16.44"S 116°12'20.46"E   |  |



## Appendix 9



## Appendix 10





## Appendix 11

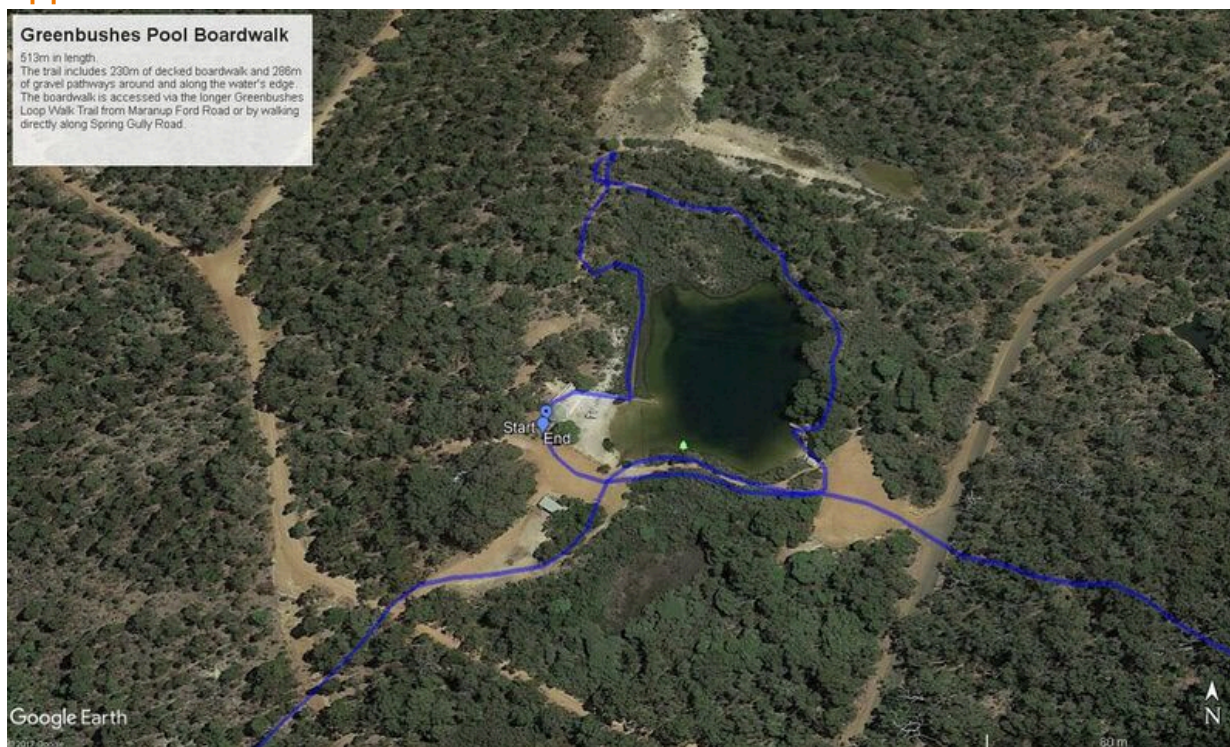


## Appendix 12





## Appendix 13



Appendix 14



Greenbushes Heritage Amble

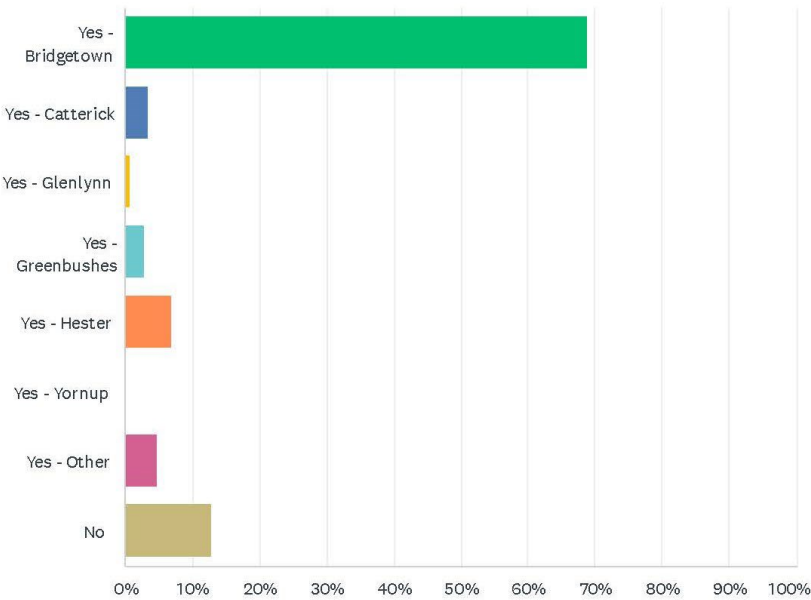


Appendix 15

Trails Survey

Q1 Do you live in the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes?

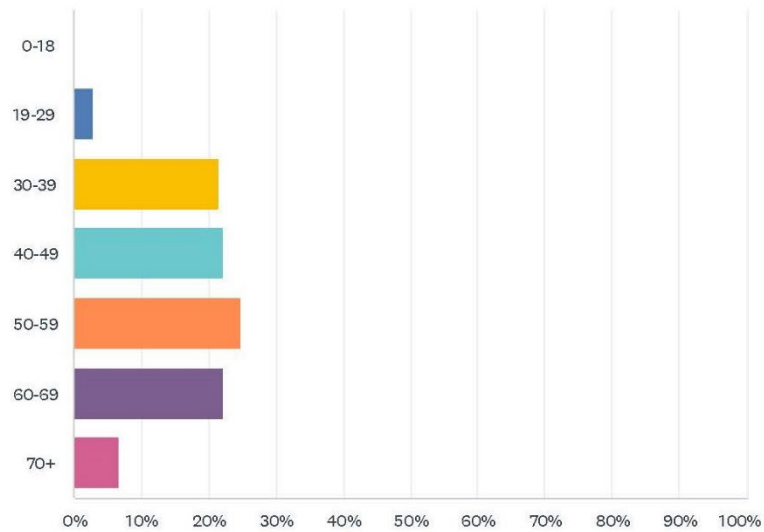
Answered: 148    Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes - Bridgetown	68.92%	102
Yes - Catterick	3.38%	5
Yes - Glenlynn	0.68%	1
Yes - Greenbushes	2.70%	4
Yes - Hester	6.76%	10
Yes - Yornup	0.00%	0
Yes - Other	4.73%	7
No	12.84%	19
TOTAL		148

## Q2 What is your age range?

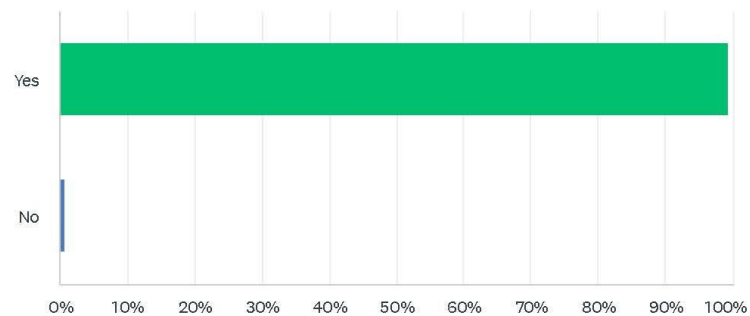
Answered: 149 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-18	0.00%	0
19-29	2.68%	4
30-39	21.48%	32
40-49	22.15%	33
50-59	24.83%	37
60-69	22.15%	33
70+	6.71%	10
TOTAL		149

## Q3 Are you a trail user?

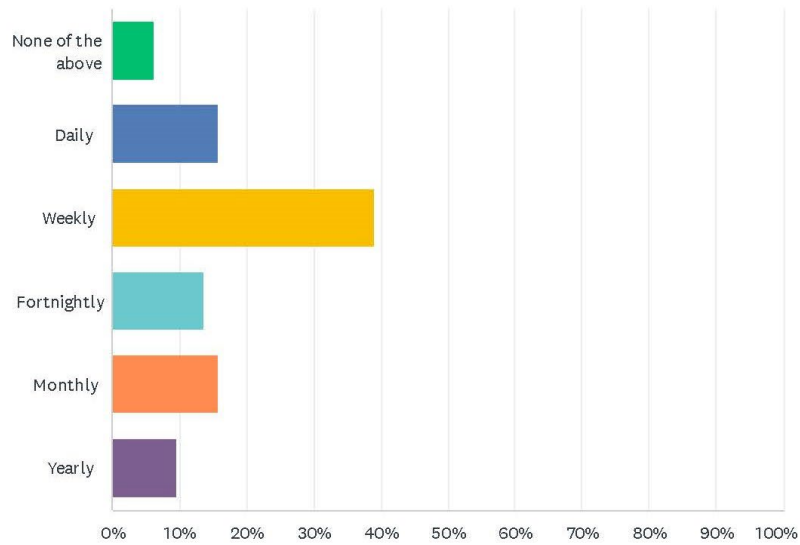
Answered: 147 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	99.32%	146
No	0.68%	1
TOTAL		147

## Q4 How often do you use the trails in this Shire?

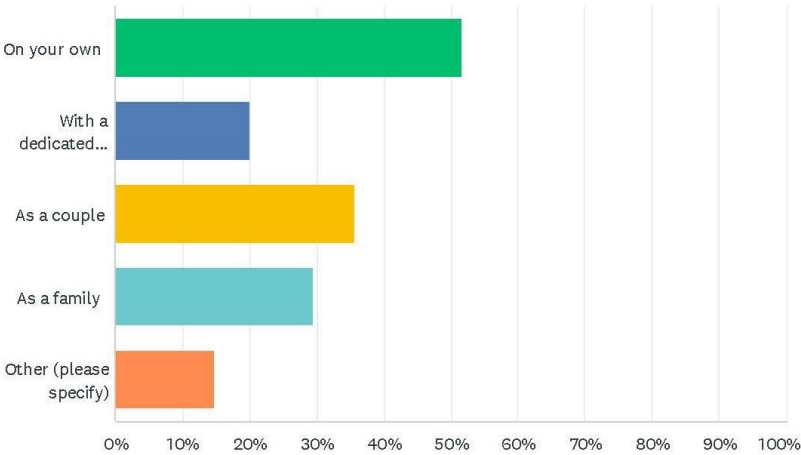
Answered: 146 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	6.16%	9
Daily	15.75%	23
Weekly	39.04%	57
Fortnightly	13.70%	20
Monthly	15.75%	23
Yearly	9.59%	14
TOTAL		146

Q5 How do you normally use trails?

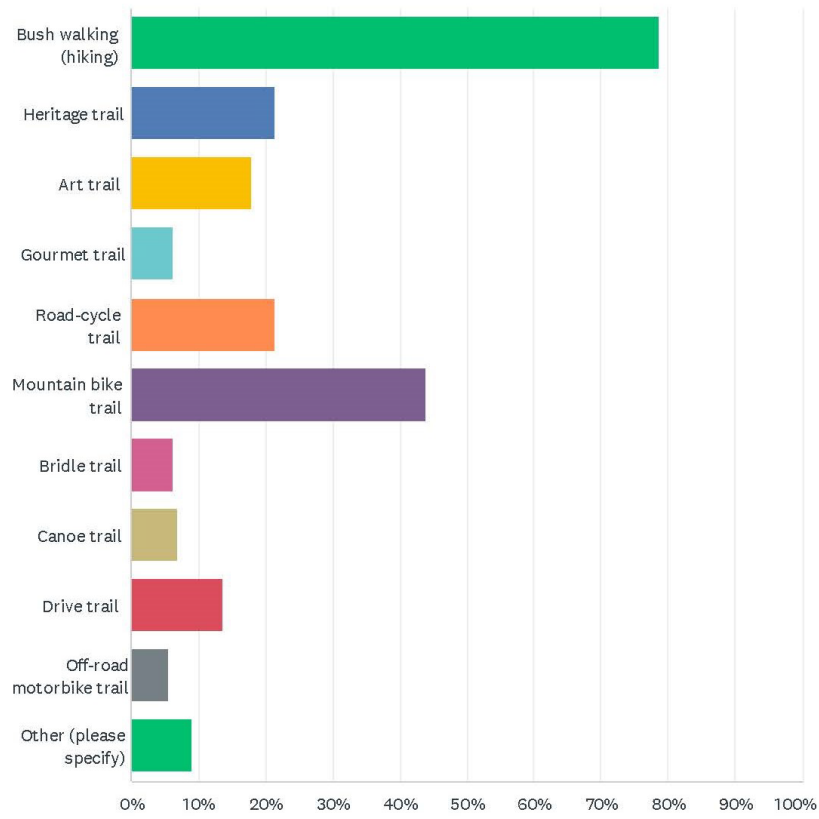
Answered: 149    Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
On your own	51.68%	77
With a dedicated group/team	20.13%	30
As a couple	35.57%	53
As a family	29.53%	44
Other (please specify)	14.77%	22
Total Respondents: 149		

## Q6 What types of trails do you currently use in this shire?

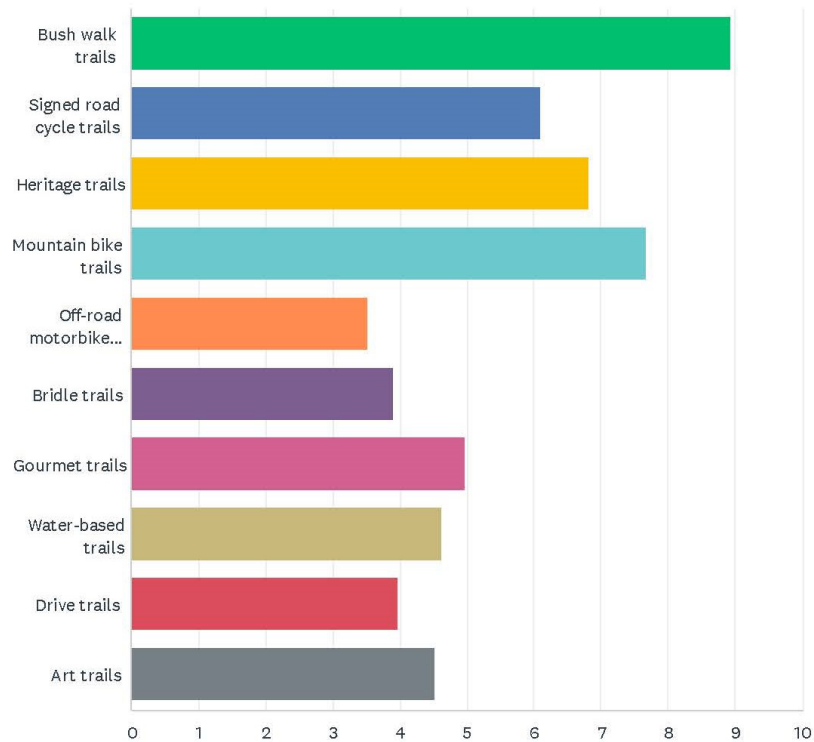
Answered: 146 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bush walking (hiking)	78.77%	115
Heritage trail	21.23%	31
Art trail	17.81%	26
Gourmet trail	6.16%	9
Road-cycle trail	21.23%	31
Mountain bike trail	43.84%	64
Bridle trail	6.16%	9
Canoe trail	6.85%	10
Drive trail	13.70%	20
Off-road motorbike trail	5.48%	8
Other (please specify)	8.90%	13
Total Respondents: 146		

Q7 Which trails do you think Council should prioritise for development?  
Please rank from 1 to 10 with 1 being the top priority.

Answered: 148 Skipped: 2



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL	
Bush walk trails	47.62% 70	28.57% 42	12.24% 18	4.08% 6	3.40% 5	2.04% 3	0.00% 0	0.68% 1	0.00% 0	1.36% 2	147	
Signed road cycle trails	4.17% 6	16.67% 24	18.75% 27	15.28% 22	7.64% 11	7.64% 11	9.03% 13	6.25% 9	8.33% 12	6.25% 9	144	
Heritage trails	4.83% 7	19.31% 28	19.31% 28	15.17% 22	20.69% 30	8.97% 13	3.45% 5	2.76% 4	3.45% 5	2.07% 3	145	
Mountain bike trails	36.05% 53	15.65% 23	8.16% 12	13.61% 20	6.80% 10	6.12% 9	1.36% 2	6.12% 9	3.40% 5	2.72% 4	147	
Off-road motorbike trails	1.40% 2	4.20% 6	2.10% 3	6.99% 10	10.49% 15	5.59% 8	11.19% 16	12.59% 18	16.08% 23	29.37% 42	143	
Bridle trails	3.47% 5	2.08% 3	6.25% 9	2.78% 4	7.64% 11	13.89% 20	17.36% 25	13.19% 19	9.03% 13	24.31% 35	144	
Gourmet trails	1.40% 2	4.20% 6	10.49% 15	5.59% 8	14.69% 21	16.08% 23	22.38% 32	15.38% 22	8.39% 12	1.40% 2	143	
Water-based trails	0.70% 1	2.10% 3	6.99% 10	14.69% 21	10.49% 15	14.69% 21	13.29% 19	20.28% 29	11.19% 16	5.59% 8	143	
Drive trails	0.00% 0	4.20% 6	6.29% 9	6.29% 9	6.29% 9	13.29% 19	13.99% 20	14.69% 21	25.87% 37	9.09% 13	143	
Art trails	0.70% 1	4.20% 6	9.79% 14	14.69% 21	11.89% 17	11.19% 16	6.99% 10	8.39% 12	14.69% 21	17.48% 25	143	

## Q8 Which existing trails in our Shire do you feel need further maintenance or upgrading?

Answered: 99 Skipped: 51

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	All roadside footpaths, and walk trail that used to connect Bridgedale to river walk to the East . Also the old railway bridge needs upgrading to take walkers and cyclists. Existing pedestrian walkway too narrow for dogs, people, bicycles to pass one another. I have never driven a car, so walk everywhere.	1/7/2022 11:45 AM
2	The river walk	1/5/2022 6:41 PM
3	Blackwood river walk. Maybe another dog bag dispenser closer to the start of the trail at the car park for people who don't bring them.	1/5/2022 6:05 PM
4	River side trails	12/29/2021 10:15 AM
5	All trails	12/22/2021 5:11 PM
6	Hester MTB trails Leda MTB trails	12/17/2021 3:50 PM
7	MTB Trails	12/16/2021 4:44 PM
8	The Dugong and Elephant trails	12/16/2021 11:18 AM
9	The mountain bike trail network needs to be sanctioned and advertised to encourage mountain bike tourism. Bridgetown works also benefit from a mountain bike park. The shire would then see the tourism benefits that Margaret River, Pemberton, Dunsborough and now Nannup are all receiving.	12/16/2021 7:09 AM
10	Mountain bike trails	12/16/2021 5:52 AM
11	Mountain bike trail need to be extended and current trails signage updated. Extension of the Blackwood River trail to the east	12/15/2021 9:40 PM
12	Mountain hiking, walking, heritage	12/9/2021 1:58 PM
13	All the mountain bike trails that the shire was supposed to assist with the planning and development of. Developing a walk trail into town from highlands	12/9/2021 9:26 AM
14	All trails	12/8/2021 5:22 PM
15	River trail	12/7/2021 8:12 PM
16	The river trail that was destroyed in the recent floods needs to be a priority	12/7/2021 1:41 PM
17	Mtb	12/7/2021 12:23 PM
18	River park	12/7/2021 11:35 AM
19	Dugong MTB trail need to be signposted, maintained and promoted. I have come across tourists on multiple occasions that have gotten lost whilst riding on them.	12/7/2021 10:59 AM
20	Mtb trails	12/7/2021 9:59 AM
21	Dugong MTB trail need to be signposted, maintained and promoted. I have come across tourists on multiple occasions that have gotten lost whilst riding on them.	12/7/2021 9:49 AM
22	Bridgetown Jarrah Park signs. Abotoir walk wooden bridge that was removed. Damaged riverside walk paths.	12/7/2021 9:40 AM
23	MTB trails are non-existent and the unsanctioned trails that are in place are of a very poor standard, not maintained and mostly are fire trail. Almost every other south west town has some sort of MTB trail facilities, and after visiting Bridgetown last weekend for the purposes of potentially relocating and buying property locally, this was a major disappointment for me and basically made it non-viable as a hub for me and my family.	12/5/2021 5:13 PM



24	Mountain bike trails	12/4/2021 3:39 PM
25	River trail river trail	12/1/2021 7:42 PM
26	<p>The art trail around the Somme Creek - especially where there is no trail to access &amp; view the art sculptures near the pond. These were not included in the recent Art Trail booklet. Currently there is only a rough bush track that can be boggy/slippery in winter &amp; overgrown /snake danger in summer- it is very forgotten about with the shires annual general maintenance. This has been reported this several times over the last few years - as some maintenance has been required. Also signage would be extremely important to include -to direct locals &amp; tourists to see the magnificent 4 art pieces ( that are hidden &amp; hardly anyone knows about) &amp; a path created that would allow access for all - at this stage there is no access for anyone with limited mobility. Signage, access &amp; maintenance would also show respect for the valuable artwork</p> <p>that has been installed &amp; provided for the community. The other trail that needs some upgrading is the path from the River park that leads south to the small bridge across the river - when the river floods there is no access as the bridge is sometimes also flooded - maybe a suspension bridge like the one at One Tree Bridge would allow all year access. Also, it would be great to be able to do a bridge to bridge loop - as the trail kind of disappears when you get close to Bridgedale House &amp; you are then required to walk along the road. Some clear parking near this area would also be useful - as recently I needed to park there &amp; found it confusing as where to park &amp; where the trail was from the gazebo.</p>	11/29/2021 9:34 AM
27	The one along the river. Bridge to The Rectory. It is in shocking condition.	11/28/2021 4:04 PM
28	all	11/27/2021 3:18 PM
29	Post winter, some of the river walk trails need repair.	11/27/2021 11:32 AM
30	Walk trail	11/27/2021 8:25 AM
31	Mtb trails	11/26/2021 1:49 PM
32	The washed out sections of the river trail and bridge across the river would be a priority.	11/26/2021 12:40 PM
33	the ones along the Blackwood river	11/26/2021 12:27 PM
34	Hester Mountain bike trails	11/26/2021 10:07 AM
35	The trails behind the substation on Hester rd. The walking trail along the river going west from the bridge needs to be finished...	11/26/2021 7:59 AM
36	Jarrah	11/26/2021 7:43 AM
37	MTB trail to Hester and back	11/26/2021 6:47 AM
38	All of them.	11/26/2021 6:16 AM
39	Water trails	11/25/2021 10:15 PM
40	Wandoo walk and Abattoir walk	11/25/2021 10:05 PM
41	River side park/ caravan park	11/25/2021 9:24 PM
42	All greenbushes trails	11/25/2021 8:14 PM
43	Greenbushes	11/25/2021 8:11 PM
44	rail trail e.g. bridge repairs to culvert bridge just south of Hester	11/25/2021 7:39 PM
45	Heritage trail through bridgedale house needs clear path and dog litter bags and signage.	11/25/2021 6:55 PM
46	River walks. Completely destroyed, when are they going to be repaired?	11/25/2021 6:17 PM
47	Signs on walk trails out of town	11/25/2021 5:59 PM
48	Blackwood Riverside at Bridgetown. Bridgetown Library walk.	11/25/2021 3:04 PM

49	Be good to have some maintenance done on the Abattoir and Wandoo Tracks just to ensure the tracks are kept safe underfoot for walking and also to enable one to check for snakes! I don't mean bitumenising - just clear of debris.	11/25/2021 12:40 PM
50	River paths	11/25/2021 12:35 PM
51	Complete an official Bridgetown to Greenbushes trail via railway	11/25/2021 11:52 AM
52	Sunnyside reserve needs toilets of some kind & the track down to the river bank needs grading	11/25/2021 9:55 AM
53	Communication I am new to Bridgetown and dont know where the hiking trails are! People love nature. Investing in all of the above will bring visitors and maintain a vibrant community.	11/25/2021 9:44 AM
54	All river trails from Old Rectory to Greys Hill. A link to Geegelup Brook into town. Extend beyond Old Rectory. Extend beyond Grets Hill. This trail area is the most accessible to locals and tourists. More mapped mountain bike trails and more mountain bike trails in general. Compared to somewhere like Collie Bridgetown is far behind and will miss out on a golden opportunity if something isn't done quickly to extend and enhance the mountain bike trail network.	11/25/2021 9:05 AM
55	Maslin Reserve into town	11/25/2021 9:03 AM
56	All	11/25/2021 8:42 AM
57	Bridgetown Jarrah Park - signage gets people lost Stock Route/Horse Trail - no info about where it goes or how to get from hut to hut	11/25/2021 8:17 AM
58	Walking trails	11/25/2021 8:06 AM
59	Riverside trail, old rectory trail.	11/25/2021 8:05 AM
60	Not sure. I like the abattoir and Wandoo trails. I think mountain biking is a huge opportunity but maybe we have missed the boat there.	11/25/2021 7:47 AM
61	Mountain bike trails around Hester	11/25/2021 7:09 AM
62	Not sure	11/25/2021 6:40 AM
63	Bridgetown Jarrah Park	11/25/2021 2:41 AM
64	The river walk under the bridge. Sunny side needs a drop toilet.	11/24/2021 11:48 PM
65	river park trails post-flood damage	11/24/2021 11:40 PM
66	Entry road to Abattoir Walk. And i believe signage at Jarrah Park is dangerously faded.	11/24/2021 9:48 PM
67	Most of them	11/24/2021 9:39 PM
68	All	11/24/2021 9:20 PM
69	Need some dedicated MTB trails	11/24/2021 9:17 PM
70	River Path	11/24/2021 9:16 PM
71	Mtb	11/24/2021 9:07 PM
72	Most of them! The river walk trail is our most used (?) trail and should be constantly maintained and upgraded. The Jarrah Park trails and signage could be top class but are a disgrace	11/24/2021 8:58 PM
73	River walk to north of town	11/24/2021 8:57 PM
74	Road cycle trails - trails to the side of the highways so no chance of car vs cyclist events	11/24/2021 8:54 PM
75	Mountain bike	11/24/2021 8:44 PM
76	Greenbushes heratige trail	11/24/2021 8:39 PM
77	Blackwood river trail	11/24/2021 8:38 PM
78	Around Schenke Dam. The signage is dreadful. There needs to be a drop toilet at the start of each trail, especially the more remote ones.	11/24/2021 8:24 PM

79	Foot paths in towns, safe walk space near blind corners and hills.	11/24/2021 8:17 PM
80	River walk at the river park needs an elevated walkway which won't be washed away with flood waters	11/24/2021 8:11 PM
81	River park walk	11/24/2021 8:06 PM
82	Greenbushes loop,	11/24/2021 8:02 PM
83	All of them	11/24/2021 7:39 PM
84	I would like to see more sealed trails suitable for young kids on bikes	11/24/2021 7:28 PM
85	Rectory Walk	11/24/2021 7:26 PM
86	Maslin reserve	11/24/2021 7:21 PM
87	New Zealand gully	11/24/2021 7:21 PM
88	All of them	11/24/2021 7:16 PM
89	River walk near the bridge	11/24/2021 7:10 PM
90	Mountain bike trails need the most amount of work as we may attract more tourists, more money flowing into the shire	11/24/2021 7:09 PM
91	Hester mountain bike trails and the signage is terrible to know where existing trails are or start and finish	11/24/2021 7:04 PM
92	Just needs more mountain bike trails, fire trails are okay for a bit but needs more for sure!	11/24/2021 7:00 PM
93	All of the walk trails need consistent signage and upgrades	11/24/2021 6:56 PM
94	The river walk in both directions from the river walk, the Abbitour walk and wandoo walk	11/24/2021 6:48 PM
95	Greenbushes mining heritage trail, and links to the pool.	11/24/2021 6:45 PM
96	River walk as the flooding has damaged it	11/24/2021 5:44 PM
97	Town walk	11/24/2021 5:21 PM
98	The river walk needs serious fixing up in patches and maintenance from the flooding of the walk bridge also needs fixing up. It's dangerous for walkers and the like.	11/24/2021 5:17 PM
99	No comment	11/24/2021 1:11 PM

## Q9 What is your favourite local trail & why?

Answered: 118 Skipped: 32

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Greenbushes loop - has alot of variety of views/dams/bush/old mine stuff	1/17/2022 10:54 AM
2	The river walk trails, love the water and wildlife and close to my home.	1/7/2022 11:45 AM
3	The river walk	1/5/2022 6:41 PM
4	Blackwood river. Beautiful walk good upgrade on first half from the river.	1/5/2022 6:05 PM
5	river walk. Accessible and maintained.	1/5/2022 5:52 PM
6	Hester forests and Wandoo walktrail, many wildflowers in seison, walking our dogs freely.	12/29/2021 10:15 AM
7	Hester Mountain Bike trail because it's about the only trail in the shire.	12/22/2021 5:11 PM
8	Hester MTB trails, I use them as part of group rides and also training for cross country MTB races	12/17/2021 3:50 PM
9	Dugong Good cross country trail	12/16/2021 4:44 PM
10	Dugong for mountain bike and running/hiking.	12/16/2021 11:18 AM
11	Eagles nest, still one of the best we have to offer.	12/16/2021 7:09 AM
12	Hester, close to our home	12/16/2021 5:52 AM
13	Hester mountain bike trail, Jarrah park, River trail	12/15/2021 9:40 PM
14	River Variety Shade Good surface Dog friendly	12/15/2021 8:33 PM
15	Nil	12/9/2021 1:58 PM
16	The mtb loops. I like to ride mtb trails	12/9/2021 9:26 AM
17	Any Mountain Bike trails	12/8/2021 5:22 PM
18	Wandoo Walk	12/7/2021 8:12 PM
19	The riverwalk- easily accessible and beautiful	12/7/2021 1:41 PM
20	Hester mtb trails	12/7/2021 12:23 PM
21	Abbatoir walk... peaceful	12/7/2021 11:35 AM
22	Dugong MTB trail	12/7/2021 10:59 AM
23	Dugong	12/7/2021 9:59 AM
24	Dugong MTB trail	12/7/2021 9:49 AM
25	Abotoir walk. Close to town, flat and shady.	12/7/2021 9:40 AM
26	River walk and jarrah forest.	12/5/2021 5:13 PM
27	Don't know as don't know where many of the mountain bike trails actually are.	12/4/2021 3:39 PM
28	River trail	12/1/2021 7:42 PM
29	Any that create a loop - from 30 minutes to an hour. Great for exercise, quick walks in lunch breaks & also for tourists -as then they don't need to back track.	11/29/2021 9:34 AM
30	The above. It is convenient, good parking, popular for exercise.it needs to be maintained with a grader annually after river rise.it does not need touristification.	11/28/2021 4:04 PM
31	River trail.	11/27/2021 9:04 PM



32	The river walk, the Blackwood River is beautiful but wish it was longer	11/27/2021 6:03 PM
33	Wandoo valley	11/27/2021 3:18 PM
34	Abattoir walk	11/27/2021 11:32 AM
35	All Live the area	11/27/2021 8:25 AM
36	Dugong	11/26/2021 1:49 PM
37	Regularly walk along the river trail.	11/26/2021 12:40 PM
38	I prefer the river walks - the river is ALWAYS flowing and is always a pleasant backdrop to a walk. Also, innate to being a river, there is less inconvenience to have walks along it in comparison to most other places	11/26/2021 12:27 PM
39	Blackwood River Walk as it's easy to get to, Sidings Rail trail and Timberline trail for mountain- biking - a great trail with beautiful scenery and a good mix of trail and single track riding.	11/26/2021 10:07 AM
40	The river walk trail from the main bridge to grey hills road.	11/26/2021 7:59 AM
41	Wandoo	11/26/2021 7:43 AM
42	River walk. Accessible and picturesque	11/26/2021 7:10 AM
43	Good length and endurance factor	11/26/2021 6:47 AM
44	River walk Tranquility	11/26/2021 6:37 AM
45	Abattoir	11/26/2021 6:16 AM
46	Riverside trail because it is the most relaxing and beautiful walk	11/25/2021 10:15 PM
47	Wandoo its closest	11/25/2021 10:05 PM
48	Trail 2 ( off Winnejump rd)	11/25/2021 9:24 PM
49	Pool	11/25/2021 8:14 PM
50	Greenbushes loop	11/25/2021 8:11 PM
51	Blackwood River northbank footpath	11/25/2021 7:39 PM
52	River trail , beautiful setting and the up grade is well done..	11/25/2021 6:55 PM
53	River walk.	11/25/2021 6:17 PM
54	Walk trails number 2, quiet.	11/25/2021 5:59 PM
55	Along the River	11/25/2021 3:23 PM
56	Blackwood Riverside at Bridgetown. We just love strolling by the river. Peaceful and relaxing. Nature lovers. Good exercise for us older folk.	11/25/2021 3:04 PM
57	NZ gully, its local and has nice wide tracks	11/25/2021 1:14 PM
58	Dwellingup, lots of trails with town and accomodation	11/25/2021 1:11 PM
59	Abattoir and Wandoo; beautiful wildflowers in season, peaceful, safe, rejuvenating to walk in all weathers, always love being out there. My dog is well behaved, stays on the track and never chases anything. She enjoys it too.	11/25/2021 12:40 PM
60	River trail	11/25/2021 12:35 PM
61	Greenbushes loop	11/25/2021 11:52 AM
62	River walk	11/25/2021 10:56 AM
63	Any old bush track. Just hate that they are closing old roads.	11/25/2021 10:54 AM
64	Hester and Catterick because it's so peaceful	11/25/2021 10:52 AM
65	The river walk. It is long, you can start/finish from anywhere and it is beautiful	11/25/2021 10:20 AM
66	Sunnyside as a essential to open grass area, river, shelter & bush tracks all in 1 area. Lack of toilet makes for shortened visits some times though.	11/25/2021 9:55 AM

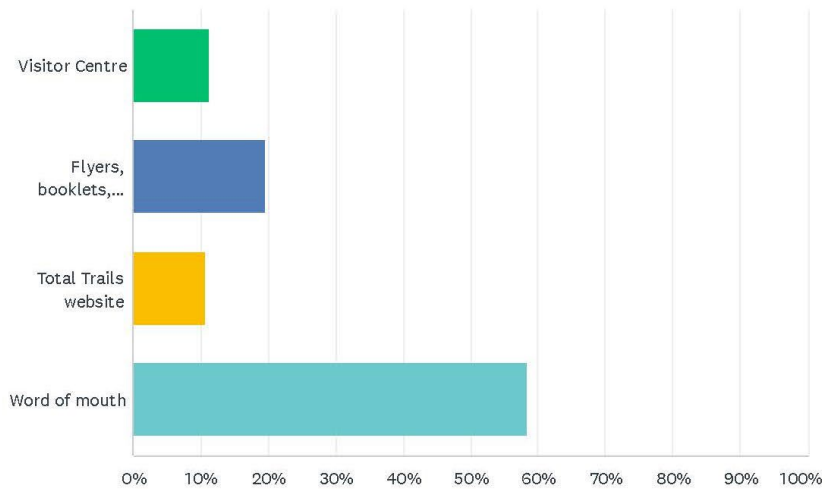
67	River walk	11/25/2021 9:44 AM
68	Maslin Reserve because of location and wildflowers	11/25/2021 9:28 AM
69	Hester beginning at the corner of Boyup Brook Road and Hester Road. It is accessible and hS a number of variations. The Greenbushes Loop is also a great mtb trail	11/25/2021 9:05 AM
70	River walk	11/25/2021 9:03 AM
71	none	11/25/2021 8:42 AM
72	River walk. It is peaceful and passes close by where I live .	11/25/2021 8:39 AM
73	Greenbushes Heritage Trail - it's different. the "pick a person" game/interactive is great. Jarrah Park - it has different walk lengths in the one place.	11/25/2021 8:17 AM
74	Wandoo Valley Trail - good distance, variable loops, lovely flora.	11/25/2021 8:05 AM
75	I love the river trail. From the river park to Mattamatup Rd is my favourite section.	11/25/2021 7:47 AM
76	Eagles nest, is challenging, fast but accessible to everyone	11/25/2021 7:09 AM
77	Kalamunda and goat Farm as they are close to home	11/25/2021 6:54 AM
78	Abbatoir trail & Hester for walking and riding horses. Serenity, peace and is for all kinds of fitness levels. River walk - just beautiful and easy access.	11/25/2021 6:41 AM
79	The road cycling is fabulous and gravel cycling has lots of potential	11/25/2021 6:40 AM
80	We try and explore them all	11/25/2021 6:01 AM
81	Wandoo Quiet and goes through such different country	11/25/2021 6:00 AM
82	Greenbushes, can remember the one of the trail but it's a multipurpose trail that heads out into the bush, perfect for young kids learning to ride. Would be great to link it into a mtb network	11/25/2021 4:10 AM
83	Wandoo Valley Walk Trail or Old Abbatoir Walk Trail, beautiful native flora. Bridgetown River Park- easily accessible for prams and kids scooters	11/25/2021 2:41 AM
84	Sunny side, the wildflowers and along Petterson Road, also wildflowers.	11/24/2021 11:48 PM
85	Abbatoir walk - off lead for dogs, quiet	11/24/2021 11:40 PM
86	Greenbushes, any of them are great out there.	11/24/2021 9:52 PM
87	Abattoir Walk. Close to town. Dog friendly. Well sign posted, with options for how far you want to go. River Walk is excellent too for on lead dog walking.	11/24/2021 9:48 PM
88	River walk and art trail	11/24/2021 9:39 PM
89	River Walk- it's by the beautiful Blackwood River. It highlights the bridge and the river and epitomises so much of the essence of Bridgetown, past and present. As shared with the Council over many years to no avail, I ( and many others) see great potential grossly under- developed and under- utilised trail. It's simply stunning by the river. Could- should already have been - developed as a multifaceted interactive trail for locals and tourists alike. This would cater to and include a broad range of diverse interest groups. Imagine a single river trail including elements of history/art/nature studies/ nature playground/walk/run/cycle/ parkrun and more. One does not to venture far from this Shire to find other community minded and engaged Shires that have developed such trails that are used by SO many in the community!!!	11/24/2021 9:20 PM
90	Wandoo - totally natural experience	11/24/2021 9:16 PM
91	Turnip patch fun and challenging	11/24/2021 9:07 PM
92	The mountain bike trails around Hester. They are easily accessible, close to town and are in pristine bush. They allow us to ride without traffic issues.	11/24/2021 8:58 PM
93	Wandoo walk trail because of its wildflower diversity	11/24/2021 8:57 PM
94	Kendall rd / Boyup Brook- Greenbushes rd loop	11/24/2021 8:54 PM

95	Bush walking	11/24/2021 8:44 PM
96	Greenbushes pool walk. Because its easy for kids to walk too, nice board walk and wide path	11/24/2021 8:39 PM
97	The abattoir walk, lots of wildflowers but no toilet — why?	11/24/2021 8:24 PM
98	River walk, the quiet and the new upgrade work	11/24/2021 8:17 PM
99	River walk as its shady and follows the river	11/24/2021 8:11 PM
100	Greenbushes loop, it has a great range of things to see.	11/24/2021 8:02 PM
101	River trail - easily accessible and close to town for families.	11/24/2021 7:44 PM
102	Old abattoir. Beautiful secenary	11/24/2021 7:39 PM
103	Along the river	11/24/2021 7:36 PM
104	Birds nest trail Hester	11/24/2021 7:28 PM
105	Old Abbatoir walk cos it's closest to Home & a fairly flat trail.	11/24/2021 7:26 PM
106	Maslin reserve close to home	11/24/2021 7:21 PM
107	River trail	11/24/2021 7:21 PM
108	River park trail	11/24/2021 7:16 PM
109	River walk as it is tranquil and full of so many types of birds.	11/24/2021 7:10 PM
110	Abbatoir walk, not far from town, not many people use it, beautiful bush	11/24/2021 7:09 PM
111	Eagles nest for riding with my kids and the abbotoir walk to walk my dog	11/24/2021 7:04 PM
112	Dugong loop trail	11/24/2021 7:00 PM
113	Bridgetown Jarrah Park because of the diversity	11/24/2021 6:56 PM
114	The rectory walk, it is an excellent daily walk to exercise my dog in the early morning. Unfortunately it has been recently closed for upgrades and since ruined due to flooding	11/24/2021 6:48 PM
115	Greenbushes mining trail. It's suitable for most levels, has heritage and could include art.	11/24/2021 6:45 PM
116	The river walk as it's used for exercise, walking to town for coffees and festivals and markets	11/24/2021 5:44 PM
117	The river walk	11/24/2021 5:17 PM
118	No comment	11/24/2021 1:11 PM



## Q10 Where do you normally find local trail information?

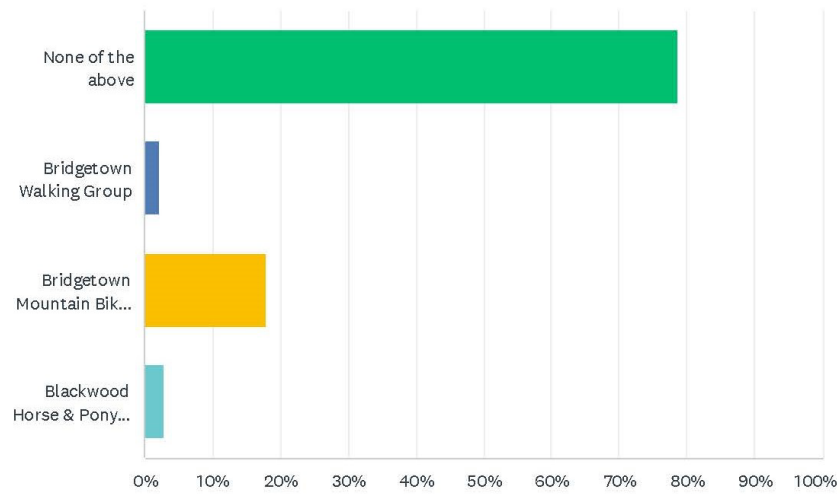
Answered: 132 Skipped: 18



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Visitor Centre	11.36%	15
Flyers, booklets, brochures	19.70%	26
Total Trails website	10.61%	14
Word of mouth	58.33%	77
TOTAL		132

## Q11 Are you a member of any of the following recreational trail clubs in the Shire?

Answered: 145 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	78.62%	114
Bridgetown Walking Group	2.07%	3
Bridgetown Mountain Bike & Cycle Club	17.93%	26
Blackwood Horse & Pony Club	2.76%	4
Total Respondents: 145		

