



## GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

Reliant on  
partnerships



**Local government:**  
West Coast  
Community Plan 2025

**State government:**  
Healthy Tasmania  
plan, includes Healthy  
Tasmania grants

**Commonwealth  
government:**  
National Preventive  
Health Strategy

WEST  
COAST  
TAS



## HEALTH RISK FACTORS

**39%**  
Current smoker,  
compared with  
12% for Tasmania

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compared with  
12% for Tasmania

**98%**  
Consume less than two serves  
of vegetables per day, compared  
with 91% for Tasmania

**26%**  
Consume 2 or more alcoholic  
drinks per day, compared with  
19% for Tasmania

**49%** consume less  
than two serves  
of fruit per day,  
compared with 53%  
for Tasmania

**24%** don't do  
enough physical  
activity compared  
with 15%  
for Tasmania

**66%** don't do  
enough muscle  
strengthening activity  
compared with 70%  
for Tasmania

**one in ten** people experience high or very high levels  
of psychological distress (same as Tasmania)

## OUR PLACE

"Our people are our greatest strength"

Our Country,  
our people,  
our culture



Mining  
heritage



Strong sense  
of community



Tourism is a key  
economic driver



Emerging arts  
and culture



Spectacular landscapes/  
World Heritage Area

**FACILITIES:** West Coast community hub, pools,  
sporting grounds, museums, mountain bike trails



**4,263  
people**



**8.1%**  
Aboriginal  
compared with  
5.4% for Tasmania

**Median age: 47**  
compared with  
42 for Tasmania

**Median  
weekly  
household  
income  
\$958** compared with  
\$1,358 for Tasmania



WEST  
COAST  
TAS

## WHO IS OUR COMMUNITY?

### DECLINING POPULATION

- Declining numbers of students in schools ↓ reduced budget and resources for schools
- Declining numbers of volunteers for sports
- Reduces demand for health care services ↓ reduces access to health care



**27% of workforce are  
drive-in/drive-out**

**1 in 2 children**  
may not be  
developmentally  
ready for school,  
compared with  
1 in 4 for Tasmania



**24% completed  
year 12** compared  
with 38% for Tasmania

**14%** unemployed  
compared with 7%  
for Tasmania



**95% of 5 year old children  
fully vaccinated**  
compared with 96% for Tasmania



WEST  
COAST  
TAS

## CHRONIC DISEASES

In Australia, about 38% of  
chronic diseases are preventable  
by addressing **risk factors**

**38%**

1 in 10 people have  
Type 2 diabetes

2 in 10 people have a  
respiratory disease

2 in 10 people have  
high cholesterol

3 in 10 people have  
high blood pressure

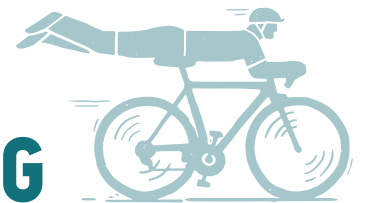
**LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH  
ON THE WEST COAST:**  
Heart disease  
Lung cancer  
Respiratory diseases  
Diabetes



**56% of people** rated their  
health as "excellent/very good"  
or "good" compared with  
78% for Tasmania

**56%**

## ISSUES IMPACTING HEALTH & WELLBEING



**Don't know** what  
health services or  
benefits entitled to  
under Medicare

**Health  
literacy  
challenges**

**COVID-19** has made  
existing issues worse

**Low levels** of  
numeracy, literacy,  
and digital literacy

**Poor access to  
services** = people  
delaying medical  
attention = makes  
health worse

Limited palliative and  
aged care options

**Health  
care**

**System is difficult to  
navigate:** people don't  
know where to go to  
get the help they need

Services are fragmented



No local  
services  
for births

**High dependency  
of locums** = no  
continuity of care



Jobs to workers ratio  
is 1.34: there are more  
jobs than resident  
workers, mainly due  
to mining



Lack of recognition  
of First Nation  
identity and rights  
to Country



Limited access to  
affordable and quality  
food. Demand for  
emergency food relief  
has increased.



Family  
violence



Limited transport  
options



Limited education and  
training opportunities



### Housing

Many not suited to  
weather extremes  
= high electricity bills

Limited options for  
people on low incomes

Rental demand exceeds  
housing availability



Seasonal affective  
disorder → increases  
isolation and loneliness



Reduces physical  
activity levels



Affects mental health



Reduces ability to grow  
your own food