

JUNE 2026

Welcome to Makuru | The coldest and wettest time of year

THIS MONTH...

A message from our
Shire President
and CEO

Place Innovation
Award

Community Grants



Full issue can be found on our website www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au
Council > News and Information > [Gnowangerup Shire Newsletter](#)



Contact us:

-  28 Yougenup Road
-  gnpshire@gnowangerup.wa.gov.au
-  08 9827 1007
-  www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au

Shire President - Kate O'Keeffe Monthly Message



May was an incredibly busy month for Council and executive staff as we worked to make sound financial decisions regarding the 2026/2027 budget, which of course is strongly focused around service delivery and meeting community expectations. Our budget decisions are based heavily around addressing the three priorities set by Council at the strategic planning workshop in January — Roads, Rates and Rubbish. We went back to basics so we could attempt to meet the expectations of the community and improve our delivery of service in these areas. I would like to thank all staff and my fellow Councillors for making the time and for working through the process so diligently. Announcements regarding the 2026/2027 budget will be made once it is formally passed at our meeting on 17 June.

While I am giving thanks I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the CRC for the incredible community volunteer event held on 15 of May. It was a wonderful opportunity to come together with volunteers from throughout our Shire and celebrate their remarkable contributions. Shelley Hmeljak, a long-term CRC board member, presented both St John Ambulance and the SES with cheques from the proceeds raised by the CRC at the Fly in Fair.

Congratulations also to the Community Development team for the Early Years Expo event held at the Gnowangerup Sporting Complex on 11 May. It was well attended and provided an excellent opportunity to showcase what is already on offer within our Shire, alongside services available from across the region. It is exciting to see the work being produced by our Community Development team — whenever I attend meetings at a zone and regional level, I am always complimented on the work that happens within the Shire of Gnowangerup when it comes to our community.

We continue to make progress on our Land and Housing Strategy from 2025/2026, and it has been exciting to see the Cuneo Close industrial land taken up so quickly. There is one block available for any businesses looking to relocate — I would encourage anyone interested to get in touch with the Shire. Residential housing continues to be in high demand and, whilst we are working very hard to free up land for residents and government housing alike, we welcome open and opportunistic discussions with community members at any time.

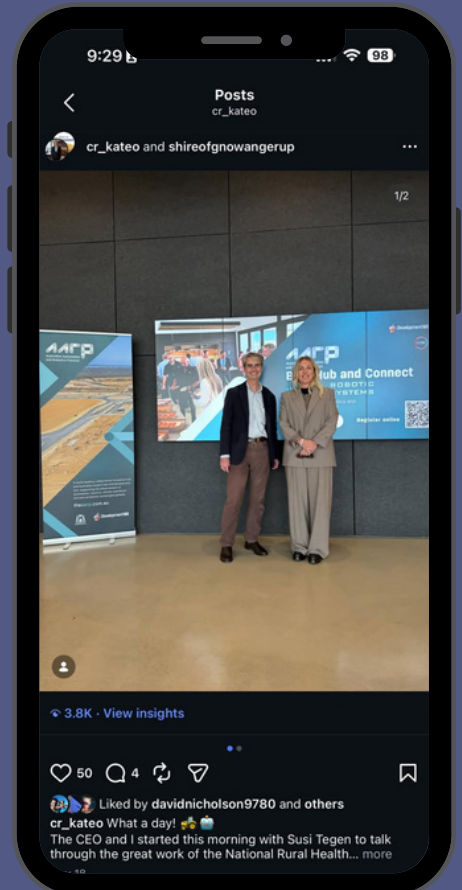
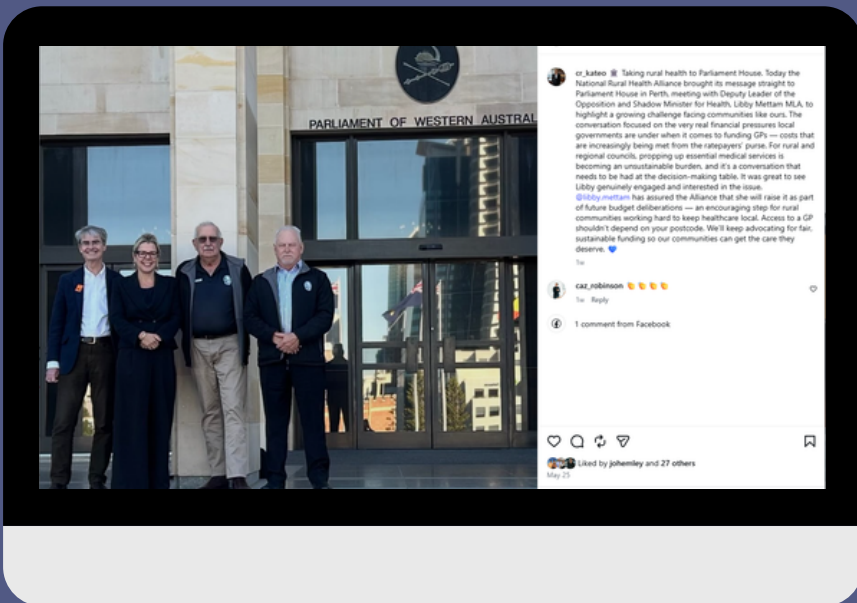
The CEO and I also travelled to Perth this past month to pursue further opportunities to promote the work of the National Rural Health Alliance, and we are very much hoping that our State and Federal Governments will acknowledge the work of rural local governments in supporting the provision of GP services. On Wednesday 3 June, members of the Alliance, myself included spoke to Nadia Mitsopoulus on ABC Radio Perth discussing the work we are doing. I sincerely hope this platform will enable some progress for the Alliance and we can see some much needed financial relief.

Shire President - Kate O'Keeffe Monthly Message

I am expecting June will be equally as busy. We are hosting the Great Southern Development Commission on June 10 for a luncheon prior to our Council meeting. On 17 June we have our budget meeting, and we will also be welcoming some new Australian citizens at a ceremony in Council Chambers. Our WALGA Zone meeting is also on this month — these meetings are an excellent opportunity to workshop issues facing the region and to develop strategies where neighbouring Shires can work together to address them and seek better outcomes.

As always, I welcome any opportunity to meet with community members to discuss any matters — please remember that your elected members are here to work with you and genuinely welcome the opportunity to do so. I will be taking some time off at the end of June, and Deputy Shire President Rebecca O'Meehan will be stepping into the role of Shire President during that period.

*Stay up to date with Shire President
Kate O'Keeffe on socials*

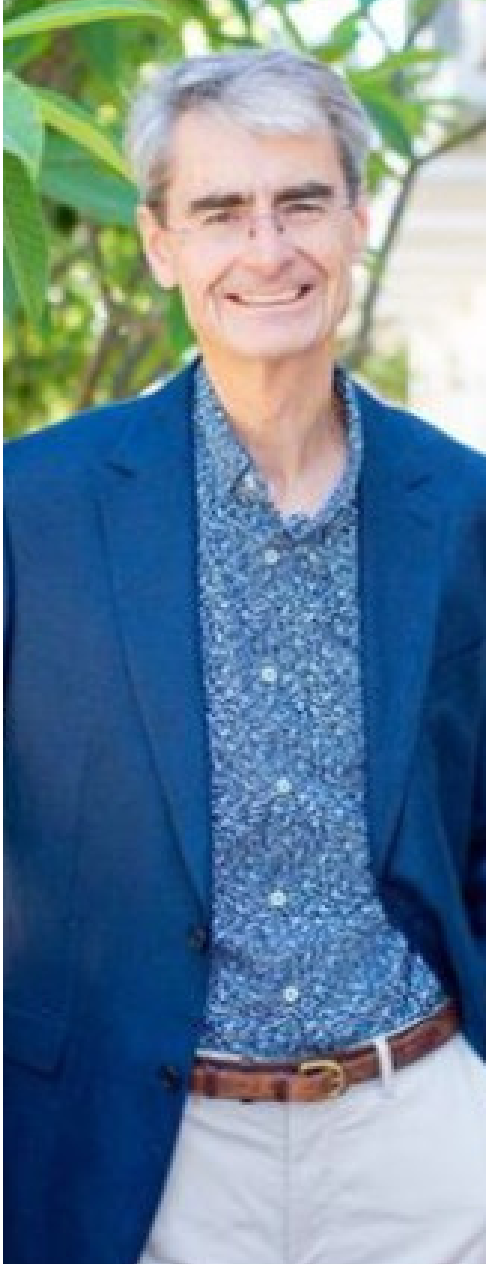


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Councillor KateO

From the CEO's desk



As we move through another busy and productive period across the Shire, I've been reminded once again of what makes our community so special: people who contribute and care deeply about where they live. Recent Anzac Day services across our towns were a powerful example. They brought together locals and visitors in a spirit of reflection, gratitude and community pride and it was heartening to see such strong attendance.

Behind the scenes, our team continues to make steady progress across a wide range of priorities. From reviewing council actions and integrated plans to monitoring contracts, tenders and service delivery, there is a great deal of work happening every week to keep the Shire running well. It has been pleasing to see positive performance at the caravan park, particularly through strong chalet occupancy, while essential community services such as the library and swimming pool continue to provide value well beyond dollars and cents. These places help make our towns liveable, connected and welcoming.

I also want to acknowledge the many staff members whose efforts often go quietly unnoticed. Whether it is delivering excellent customer service, presenting welcoming public spaces, supporting events, or responding after hours when someone needs help, these everyday actions make a real difference. I've also been encouraged by the success of recent community activities, including the Early Years Expo and the growing momentum behind Wild Gravel 2026, which is already attracting interest as a signature event for our region. Wild Gravel 2026 will build on the Shire's reputation for creating experiences that celebrate both our landscape and our community.

Looking ahead, a major focus for us is planning responsibly for the future. Budget preparation for 2026/27 is well advanced, with careful consideration being given to roads, parks, equipment and housing, including new staff accommodation. At the same time, we are working on practical improvements to strengthen our depot operations, attract and retain staff and better manage both road and non-road assets. These are important steps in making sure we can continue to meet community expectations in a sustainable way.

Advocacy also remains a key priority. We continue to work with others across the region on important matters such as health access, infrastructure investment and economic development. Locally, it is exciting to see fresh thinking around housing solutions and to watch community-led projects gather momentum. The work of GNP360 to help transform local accommodation and visitor opportunities reflects the kind of vision and collaboration that will shape a stronger future for the Shire.

From the CEO's desk cont.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the life of our Shire — staff, volunteers, community groups, business owners and residents alike. Progress is always a shared effort and I am continually encouraged by the commitment and resilience I see across our towns. As always, your feedback matters. Whether it is on how we communicate, the services we provide, or the opportunities you would like to see developed, I encourage you to stay engaged and keep the conversation going. Together we can continue building a Shire that is connected, capable and full of possibility.

How you can contribute and collaborate with your Shire



Contact your elected members

Your Councillors represent you. Share ideas, ask questions or raise concerns



Councillor email addresses are available on the Shire website

www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au/councillors



Snap, Send, Solve

Report local issues quickly and easily using the Snap Send Solve app

Download the Snap, Send, Solve app from the App Store or Google Play

**Snap
Send
Solve**



Use a Customer Request Form

Let us know about issues, request services or provide feedback.



Online: www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au/council/customer-request-forms

Or visit the Shire office

28 Yougenup Rd, Gnowangerup



Attend Community Events

Come along to local events and celebrations. It's a great way to connect

Check out our website, socials or noticeboards for upcoming events



Shire of Gnowangerup



Have Your Say at Consultation Sessions

We value your input on plans, policies and projects that affect our community

Opportunities are advertised on our website and social media pages



www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au



Get Involved in Your Community

Volunteer, join a local group or committee and make a difference



Pick up a copy of our Welcome Pack or check it out online

Roads with Rick – Infrastructure and Assets

Road Safety – Smile 😊

The Shire of Gnowangerup continues its commitment to local road safety with the purchase of seven new digital speed display signs recently installed at town entry points in Gnowangerup, Ongerup and Borden.

As a recognised RoadWise Council, the Shire supports initiatives that promote safer travel through local communities. The new signs provide real-time feedback to motorists by displaying their speed as they enter townsites, encouraging safer speed awareness and safer driving. Make sure you see and receive the green smile as you enter town.



What's happening around the roads ?

General maintenance grading, road repairs and drain cleanouts were some of the activities for the following roads in May 2026: Roads graded included, Rabbit Proof Fence Rd, Magners Rd, Day Rd, Park Rd, Gleeson Rd, Corackerup Rd, Hart Rd, P Jones Rd, Strathaven Rd, Jackitup Rd, Moores Rd, Parker Rd, Jackitup Nth Rd, Jackitup West Rd, Soldiers Rd, Black Rd, Hinkley Rd, Woodlands Rd and Sandalwood Rd.

On the grading front the Shire also welcomed a new grader driver at the end of May which is good news for our winter grading program.

Rural Road verges on our bitumen sealed network has been receiving some attention recently and you may have seen our skidsteer with brush cutter and tractor with slasher doing the rounds of key roads. They commenced back in April on Strathaven Rd, Airport Rd, Gnowangerup Tambellup Rd, Hinkley, Old Ongerup Rd, Kwobrup Rd and Tieline Rd and will continue a circuit with Ongerup Pingrup Rd, Gleeson Rd, Nightwell Rd, Boxwood Hill-Ongerup Rd. Salt River, Sandalwood Rd and finish with Borden Bremer Bay Rd. This continues our approach for a safer road network for all motorists.

Roads with Rick – Infrastructure and Assets cont.

Roadworks

The works to upgrade floodways and road widening on sections of Tieline Rd (East of Kwobrup Rd) is largely complete with some noted final inspection repair work to be completed mid June. The contractor then enters into a 12 months defects liability period to warrant the work they have undertaken for the shire. With the road closures for this project the community patience and cooperation was appreciated. The road was opened at night time and unfortunately video evidence showed some truck drivers were not doing the right thing speed wise and this does have a detrimental impact on new roadworks. Just a reminder to obey the signs and posted speed restrictions when travelling through any worksite.

The Borden Bremer Bay Rd upgrade is the remaining major project which is on track for completion by mid June, subject to the weather. The road from Nightwell Rd Sth intersection is being widened to a 7 metre carriageway seal with 0.5m shoulder seal each side for about a length of 2.5km. This project is being funded externally with Secondary Road Network funding administered through Main Roads WA. This will be a major improvement, and the Shire will continue to seek future extra funding for this road. Completion of these works will see the complete delivery of the 2025/26 annual road program and planning has already started for 2026/27.

A
3070146
Borden - Bremer Bay Rd
0017.34
Lat/Long: -34.233131, 118.403180
Created on: 26/05/2026 11:20:46 AM
SINGLE



A
3070003
Tieline Rd
0024.35
Lat/Long: -33.813182, 118.218392
Created on: 11/05/2026 10:24:33 AM
SINGLE



Roads with Rick – Infrastructure and Assets cont.

Gravel Resheet Program

This project delivered by a local contractor saw 26.4 kms of gravel resheets of various roads throughout the shire to improve our road network.

How the Community Can Help us Help you....



Drive to conditions, especially when dusty or rough in summer or after rain in winter. Save the roads and avoid heavy-vehicle/truck use on soft, wet roads.



We want you to share if you have gravel or know where some is, as this helps us to look after the Shire roads as efficiently and cost effectively as possible.



Report directly to the Shire, hazards/suggestions or storm damage on 9827 1007 or via shire website/email or free phone app 'Snap Send Solve' – This helps us to target and deliver our service to you and requests are logged and tracked to completion.



Did you know that the following roads in the Shire are the responsibility of Main Roads WA and you can contact them anytime on **138 138** to report issues or hazards.

- Broomehill- Gnowangerup Rd,
- Gnowangerup Jerramungup Rd,
- Formby Rd South and
- Chester Pass Rd

Take care around graders, road crews and worksites – enjoy our great views and slow down.



Gnowangerup Wins State Place Innovation Award!!

The Shire of Gnowangerup has been recognised on the State stage, taking out the Regional WA category at the 2026 Minister's Local Government Place Innovation Awards for its project, *Partnering Together: The Stirling Range Cultural and Tourism Precinct*. The award was announced at the Town Team Movement Festival of Doing and celebrates innovative projects that strengthen communities and create better places to live, work and visit.

The award recognises the collaborative partnership between the Shire, GNP360 and the wider community in developing a shared vision for the future of Gnowangerup. Through extensive community engagement and genuine shared decision-making, the project has helped shape plans for key local assets including the recreation precinct, cultural spaces and tourism opportunities that will support the community for generations to come.

In announcing the award, judges highlighted the project as an example of how local government can build trust, strengthen community relationships and deliver meaningful outcomes through collaboration. The recognition is a testament to the many residents, community groups, businesses and stakeholders who contributed their ideas, time and passion throughout the planning process. The Shire thanks everyone involved and looks forward to continuing the journey of bringing the community's vision to life.



Community Grants OPEN

Community Assistance Grants are now open. The program offers two funding streams, with grants of up to \$5,000 available through Stream 1 and grants between \$5,000 and \$10,000 available through Stream 2.

Applications are assessed as they are received, and support is available through workshops and one-on-one assistance to help groups develop strong applications.

A new "Shark Tank" style event will also be introduced later this year, giving community groups the chance to pitch ideas for grants of up to \$1,000.

Community organisations with ideas that will benefit the district are encouraged to apply. For more information or to access the application forms, visit the Shire website or contact the Shire office.

COMMUNITY

Assistance Grants

SUPPORTING LOCAL INITIATIVES,
STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY



SMALL GRANTS

Up to **\$5,000**



COMMUNITY GRANTS

\$5,000 - \$10,000

Shire of Gnowangerup Local Planning Scheme No.2.

The Shire of Gnowangerup Local Planning Scheme No.2 (Scheme) was endorsed in 1990. The Scheme consists of text and mapping data, which can be found at the below website



[www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/
shire-of-gnowangerup-planning-information](http://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/shire-of-gnowangerup-planning-information)

The Scheme is used to inform the community, development industry and governments on the type of development that can be considered within the Shire.

The Scheme covers things like:

- Zoning (residential, commercial, industrial, etc.)
- Building heights and setbacks
- Permitted land uses
- Environmental or heritage considerations

The Scheme classifies areas by a zone or reserve and then assigns provisions to coordinate development within the different zones and reserves.

Prior to undertaking land use or development, it is important that landholders first understand what their property is zoned, whether an intended use is permitted or requires approval, and any conditions or limitations that need to be met.

All Local Planning Schemes are developed in accordance with the Model Provisions, contained within the [Planning and Development \(Local Planning Schemes\) Regulations 2015](#)



Light Industrial Land For Sale In Gnowangerup

Cuneo Close Industrial Land Update

Council is continuing to support development in the Cuneo Close light industrial area, with strong progress across the estate. Recent advice confirms that most lots have now been settled, with additional sales nearing completion. This reflects ongoing interest in industrial land within Gnowangerup and helps strengthen local business opportunities and investment in the community.

With only one lot currently still available for purchase, the Shire is keen to promote the opportunity to prospective buyers and encourage continued development in the precinct. Community members and interested businesses are encouraged to explore the available land and contact local real estate agent Glen Phelps for more information.



Lot 96 Still available.

9,585sqm

- Serviced with underground power and water
- To continue the development of a vibrant rural community, purchasers are required to build within 36 months from settlement.
- Certificate of title available



Nutrien Harcourts WA
Glen Phelps | 0400 092 075
glen.phelps@nutrien.com.au

LAND FOR SALE

LOT	ADDRESS	LOT AREA SQM	PRICE (EX GST)
93	Cuneo Close	4,136	UNDER OFFER
96	Cuneo Close	9,585	\$150,000



WILD GRAVEL NEWS

Thank You for Supporting Community Promotion

The Shire would like to thank the former members of the Gnowangerup Rotary Club for generously allowing the continued use of the community billboards located at each end of town.

Installed by Rotary more than 20 years ago, the billboards have played an important role in promoting local events, projects and community activities. Following the closure of the local Rotary Club, the signs have continued to be used informally by community groups and organisations.

The Shire is now working to reactivate the billboards as a dedicated space for promoting community events and initiatives, beginning with signage for the upcoming Wild Gravel event. This would not be possible without the support and goodwill of the former Rotary members, and their contribution to the community is sincerely appreciated.

WELCOME
TO THE
HOME OF



24 OCTOBER
2026

Out and about with Wild Gravel



Catch us this
weekend
Saturday 6
June at
Gnowangerup
Sports!





Bushfire Mitigation Works

The Shire of Gnowangerup will commence a series of targeted bushfire mitigation works across priority locations as part of its ongoing commitment to reducing bushfire risk to the community. These works form part of the Shire's broader Bushfire Risk Management program, which focuses on reducing fuel loads and improving resilience around townsites, key infrastructure, and high-risk areas.

Mitigation activities to be undertaken include:

- Planned Burning (Prescribed Burning):

Burning operations will be undertaken where conditions are suitable to reduce accumulated fuel loads in a controlled manner.

- Mechanical Treatments:

Works such as mulching, slashing and parkland clearing will be applied in targeted locations where burning is not suitable or requires support.

- Chemical Treatments:

Herbicide application may be used to manage vegetation regrowth and maintain treatment effectiveness over time.

These treatment types are applied in combination to ensure the most appropriate and effective outcomes for each site, aligned with local conditions and risk priorities.

Planned burning activities are expected to occur during the cooler months, subject to suitable weather conditions, with mechanical and chemical treatments to follow or be undertaken where opportunities arise.

The Shire recognises that bushfire mitigation must balance risk reduction with environmental and community expectations. Works are planned to:

- Minimise impacts on sensitive vegetation and environmental values
- Consider cultural heritage and Traditional Owner interests
- Maintain community awareness and support for mitigation activities
- This approach reflects a commitment to delivering practical, locally tailored outcomes while maintaining responsible land management practices.


What the Community Can Expect

Residents may notice:

- Smoke during planned burning operations
- Machinery operating in reserves, road sides and other treatment areas
- Temporary access restrictions in active work zones

The Shire will provide notice of planned burning and other major activities where possible.

Community members seeking more information are encouraged to contact the Shire for updates on works in their area.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Do you want to get paid for giving back to a member of your community?

Hireup is looking for male workers to **provide social and mentor support** to people in the community. This could include attending the mens shed, playing music, surfing or building life skills. No prior experience required, just a desire to help young men in the community to achieve their goals.

- \$42.57 per hour + super
- 2-4 hours per week
- Flexible hours, to suit your schedule
- Support with all onboarding costs
- 24/7 incident response team
- Medibank health insurance discounts



Get in touch with our team today
Liv.nolan@hireup.com.au
0480 802 051

 Registered
NDIS
Provider

 Hireup



Maintaining Smoke Alarms



Once a month

Press the test button on your smoke alarm for up to 10 seconds until you hear the alarm sound. If the alarm does not sound, try putting in a different battery or replace the smoke alarm.

Every year

Clean your smoke alarms

Use a vacuum cleaner with a soft brush to gently clean dust and dirt from your smoke alarm.

Cleaning your smoke alarm helps stop false alarms and makes sure smoke can reach the sensor.

Replace the battery every year, if needed

All smoke alarms have batteries, even smoke alarms connected to mains power.

Replace the battery in smoke alarms that use a 9-volt alkaline battery. Smoke alarms with a non-removable lithium battery will have a warning label saying not to replace the battery.

If you're unsure about the battery type, ask the smoke alarm manufacturer.

Every 10 years

Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years

Smoke alarms do not last forever. Their sensitivity decreases over time, making them unreliable. Replace them every 10 years.

dfes.wa.gov.au



FOR A SAFER STATE



Census

The 2026 Census is happening this August and every answer matters

The next Census is on Tuesday 11 August 2026.

The Census is a snapshot of Australia's people and housing, and tells the story of how we are changing. Census data helps governments, community groups and businesses plan services for individuals, families and communities, where and when they are needed.

Every household and person in Australia on Census night must be included on a Census form, including visitors to Australia, international students and babies.

Instructions on how to complete the Census will be delivered to households from late July. If you know where you'll be on Census night, you can complete your Census as soon as you receive your instructions. You can complete online, by paper, or with help from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The information you provide in the Census is confidential and protected by law. Your information is not shared with anyone, including other government agencies.

In the Census, every answer matters to help us understand what Australia needs now and into the future.

For more information visit www.census.abs.gov.au



Who we are

A team of Psychologists experienced in supporting individuals (children, adolescents and adults), families, and schools, including in regional and remote areas of WA.

Who we help

Therapeutic support for people with a range of mental health concerns (including anxiety, depression, OCD, thoughts about self-harm/ suicide) and assessment of learning difficulties.

How we work

Outreach face-to-face sessions monthly in regional areas based on referral numbers; telehealth between visits. Medicare rebates available with valid GP referrals. NDIS and WorkCover clients accepted.

Our commitment

Evidence-based support, culturally responsive practice, and no waitlist for availability.

Accessible psychological care, wherever you are.

Enquiries: referrals@hkpsych.com.au
0412 615 089

Website: hkpsych.com.au