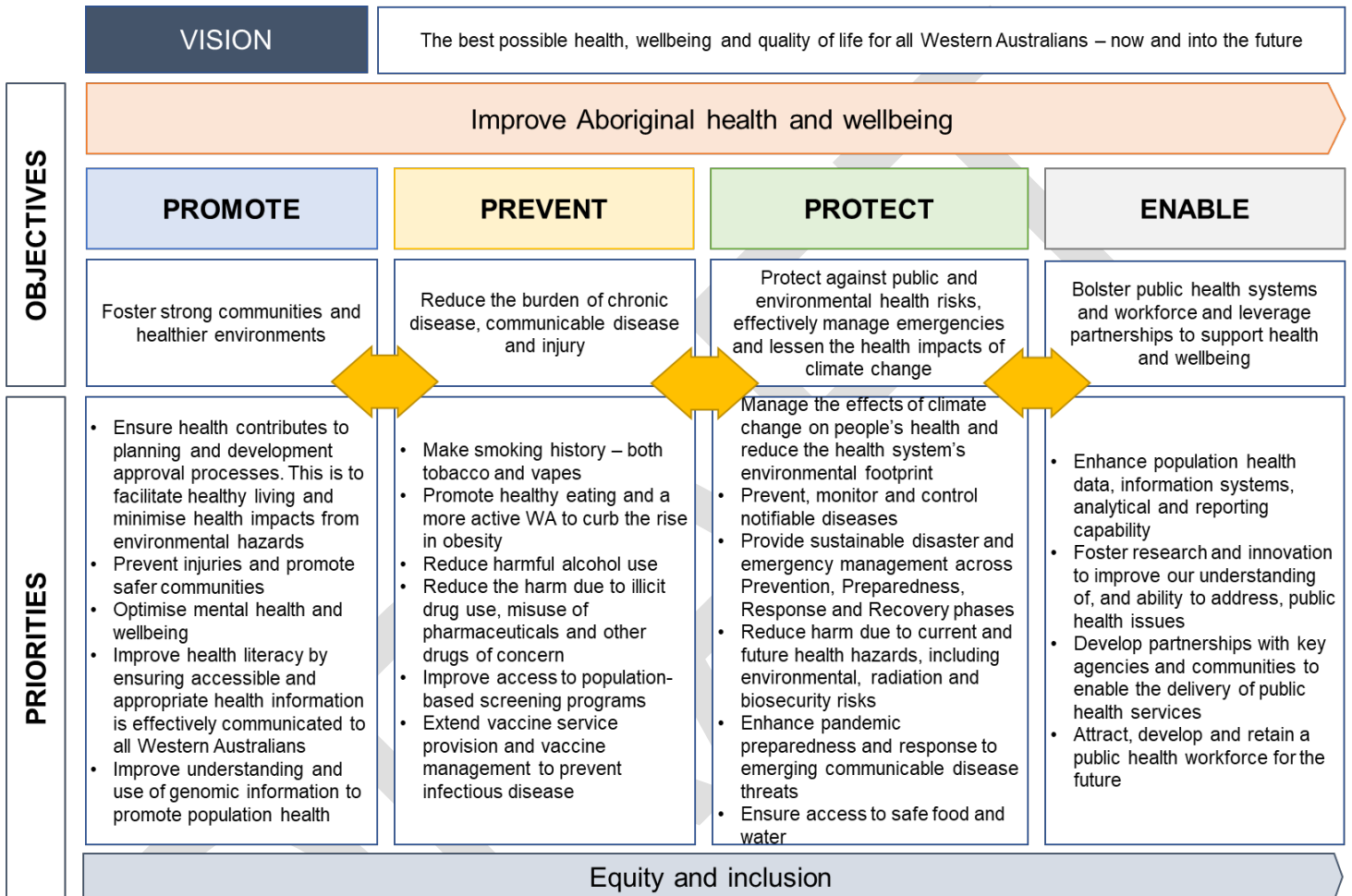




State Public Health Plan for Western Australia 2024–2029

Objectives and priorities

Proposed framework for the plan



Objectives

The proposed high-level **objectives** are:

- **Promote:** foster strong communities and healthier environments.
- **Prevent:** reduce the burden of chronic disease, communicable disease, and injury.
- **Protect:** protect against public and environmental health risks, effectively manage emergencies, and lessen the health impacts of climate change.
- **Enable:** bolster public health systems and workforce, and leverage partnerships to support health and wellbeing.

Improve Aboriginal health and wellbeing: an overarching objective that should be considered when applying all other objectives. Applying an Aboriginal cultural lens across all areas of public health is essential to address racism and strengthen the cultural determinants of health for Aboriginal people in WA.

Equity and inclusion are guiding principles of the plan that should be addressed across all objectives.

Priorities

The proposed objectives and priorities are mapped out below.

Objective	Priority	Alignment
Improve Aboriginal health and wellbeing	Address racism and strengthen the cultural determinants of health for Aboriginal people in WA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Framework 2015–2030 • Sustainable Health Review (SHR) Recommendation 3 • Independent Governance Review (IGR) 2022 Recommendation 6d • National Agreement on Closing the Gap • High impact actions and recommendations of the 2023 WA Aboriginal health executive roundtable
Promote: foster strong communities and healthier environments	Ensure health contributes to planning and development approval processes. This is to facilitate healthy living and minimise health impacts from environmental hazards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s.3(1) object: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (d) encourage individuals and communities to plan for, create and maintain a healthy environment
	Prevent injuries and promote safer communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Promotion Strategic Framework (HPSF) 2022–2026 • National Strategy for Injury Prevention
	Optimise mental health and wellbeing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA State Priorities Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs 2020–2024* • WA Mental Health Promotion, Mental Illness, Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Plan 2018–25* • SHR Enduring Strategy 2: improve mental health outcomes
	Improve health literacy by ensuring accessible and appropriate health information is effectively communicated to all Western Australians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s3. (1) object: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (c) promote the provision of information to individuals and communities about public health risks • SHR Recommendation 4: commit to new approaches to support citizen and community partnership in the design, delivery and evaluation of sustainable health and social care services and reported outcomes • National Health Reform Agreement- Addendum 2020–2025: (c) long term reform (ii) empowering people through health literacy
	Improve understanding and use of genomic information to promote population health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA Genomics Strategy 2022–2032

Objective	Priority	Alignment
<p>Prevent: reduce the burden of chronic disease, communicable disease, and injury</p>	<p>Make smoking history – both tobacco and vapes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPSF 2022–2026 • Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) January 2024 changes • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s3.(1) object: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (a) promote and improve public health and wellbeing and to prevent disease, injury, disability, and premature death • National Tobacco Strategy 2023–2030
	<p>Promote healthy eating and a more active WA to curb the rise in obesity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPSF 2022–2026 • SHR Recommendation 2a: halt the rise in obesity in WA by July 2024 and have the highest percentage of population with a healthy weight of all states in Australia by July 2029 • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s3.(1) object: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (a) promote and improve public health and wellbeing and to prevent disease, injury, disability, and premature death • National Obesity Strategy 2022–2032 • National food regulation priority 2: reduce chronic disease related to overweight and obesity
	<p>Reduce harmful alcohol use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPSF 2022–2026 • SHR Recommendation 2b: reduce harmful alcohol use by 10 per cent by July 2024 • WA Mental Health Promotion, Mental Illness, Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Plan 2018–25* • IGR 2022 Recommendation 15a • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s3.(1) object: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (a) promote and improve public health and wellbeing and to prevent disease, injury, disability, and premature death • National Alcohol Strategy 2019–2028
	<p>Reduce the harm due to illicit drug use, misuse of pharmaceuticals and other drugs of concern.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA State Priorities Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs 2020-2024* • WA Mental Health Promotion, Mental Illness, Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Plan 2018-25* • IGR 2022 Recommendation 15a • Public Health Regulation Directorate real time prescribing monitoring and poisons management • National Drug Strategy 2017–2026

	Improve access to population-based screening programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA Genomics Strategy 2022–2032 • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s3. (1) objects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (e) provide for the prevention or early detection of diseases and other public health risks, and certain other conditions of health • (f) support programmes and campaigns intended to improve public health
	Extend vaccine service provision and vaccine management to prevent infectious disease.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCD Strategic Framework 2023–26 • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s3. (1) objects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (e) provide for the prevention or early detection of diseases and other public health risks, and certain other conditions of health • (f) support programmes and campaigns intended to improve public health

Objective	Priority	Alignment
Protect: protect against public and environmental health risks, effectively manage emergencies, and lessen the health impacts of climate change	Manage the effects of climate change on people’s health and reduce the health system’s environmental footprint.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHR Recommendation 5: reduce the health system’s environmental footprint and ensure mitigation and adaptation strategies are in place to respond to the health impacts and risks of climate change • Climate Health Inquiry 2020 • WA Health Climate Action Plan 2023
	Prevent, monitor, and control notifiable infectious diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCD Strategic Framework 2023–26 • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s.3(1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • object (b) protect individuals and communities from diseases and other public health risks and to provide, to the extent reasonably practicable, a healthy environment for all Western Australians
	Provide sustainable disaster and emergency management across Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery (PPRR) phases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EHD Strategic Plan 2024–2027 • Disaster Preparedness and Management Directorate (DPMD) remit
	Reduce harm due to current and future health hazards, including environmental, radiation and biosecurity risks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCD Strategic Framework 2023–26 • EHD Strategic Plan 2024–2027 • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s.3(1) object

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (b) protect individuals and communities from diseases and other public health risks and to provide, to the extent reasonably practicable, a healthy environment for all Western Australians • Radiation Safety Act 1975
	Enhance pandemic preparedness and response to emerging communicable disease threats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCD Strategic Framework 2023–26 • Disaster Preparedness and Management Directorate (DPMD) remit
	Ensure access to safe food and water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EHD Strategic Plan 2024–2027 • WA Foodborne Illness Reduction Strategy 2023–2026 (health.wa.gov.au)

Objective	Priority	Alignment
Enable: bolster public health systems and workforce, and leverage partnerships to support health and wellbeing	Enhance population health data, information systems, analytical and reporting capability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epidemiology Directorate Strategic Plan 2022–26 • WA Genomics Strategy 2022–32 • <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s3.(1) objects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (g) facilitate the provision of information to decision-making authorities about public health risks and benefits to public health that may result from certain proposals • (h) provide for the collection, disclosure, and use of information about the incidence and prevalence of diseases, other public health risks in the State and certain other conditions of health, for research or public health purposes • SHR Enduring Strategy 6: invest in digital healthcare and use data wisely • IGR 2022: Recommendation 35
	Foster research and innovation to improve our understanding of, and ability to address, public health issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA Health and Medical Research Strategy: prevention is a strategic focus area. • Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022–2024: preventive and public health research is a priority area.
	Develop partnerships with key agencies and communities to enable the delivery of public health services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Framework 2015–2030 • SHR Recommendation 8: Health actively partner in a whole-of-government approach to supporting children and families in getting the best start in life to become physically and mentally healthy adults

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SHR Recommendation 4: Commit to new approaches to support citizen and community partnership in the design, delivery and evaluation of sustainable health and social care services and reported outcomes
	Attract, develop, and retain a public health workforce for the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Framework 2015–2030 Department of Health workforce strategy National Public Health Workforce Strategy (in development)

<p>Equity and inclusion: ensure public health programs and services are accessible, equitable and culturally secure</p>	<p>This guiding principle should be applied across all priorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SHR Recommendation 3: reduce inequity in health outcomes and access to care with focus on priority populations Guiding principle of HPSF 2022-2026 Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Framework 2015–2030 Aboriginal Health Impact Statement and Declaration Policy <i>Public Health Act 2016</i> s3.(1) object <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) reduce the inequalities in public health of disadvantaged communities
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