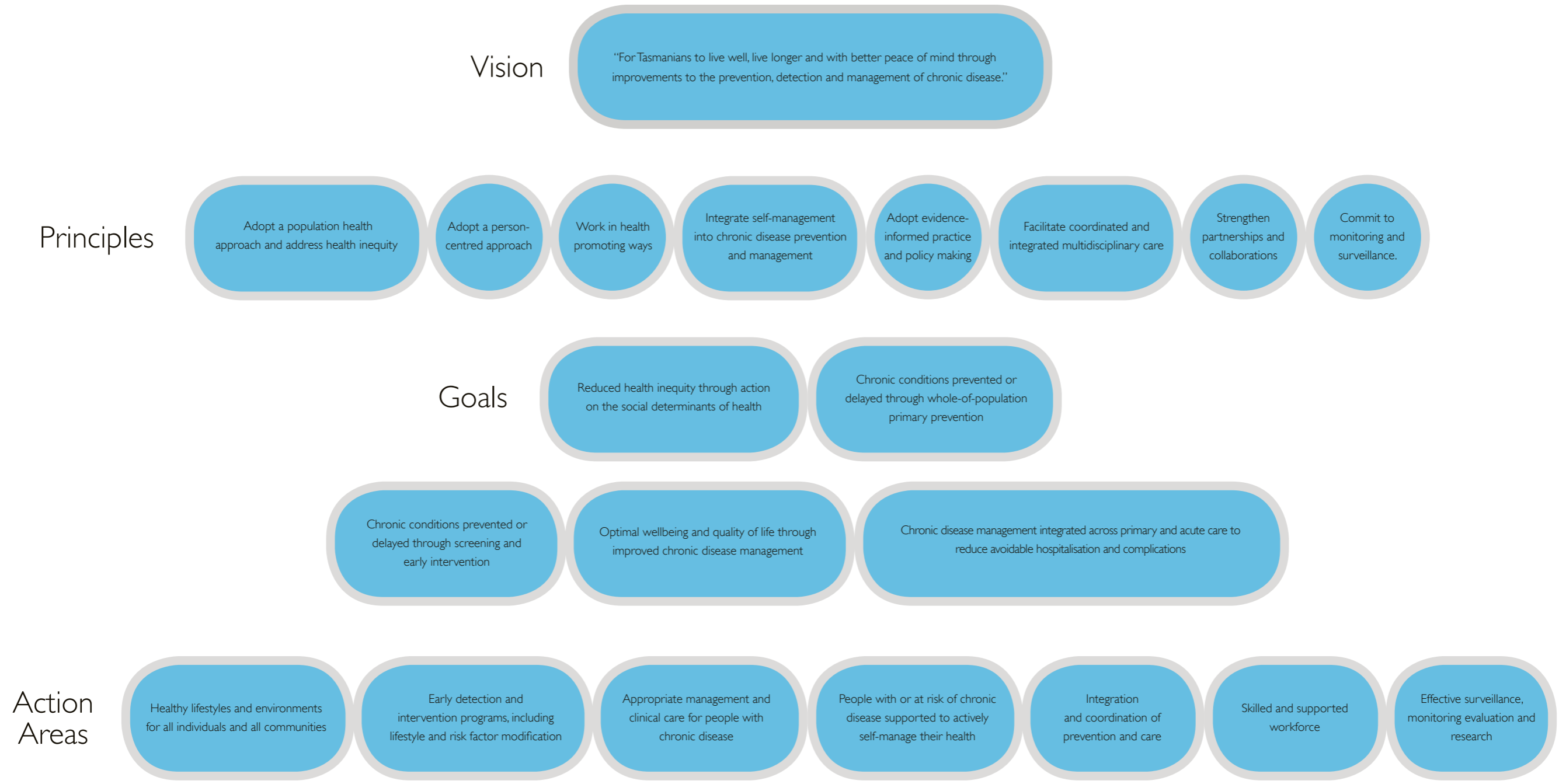


# Connecting Care at a glance

*Connecting Care* charts the direction for a coordinated and strategic approach to improve the prevention, detection and management of chronic disease in Tasmania over the next four years. It presents a shared vision, principles, goals and action areas that can guide all individuals and groups working to improve the health and wellbeing of Tasmanians.

**Chronic diseases:**

- Have complex and multiple causes
- Usually have a gradual onset, although they can have a sudden onset and acute stages
- Occur across the life cycle, although they become more prevalent with older age
- Can compromise quality of life through physical limitations, disability and psychological consequences
- Are usually long term and persistent, and may lead to a gradual deterioration of health
- While usually not immediately life threatening, they are the most common and leading cause of premature mortality.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Adapted from: National Health Priority Action Council. *National Chronic Disease Strategy*. Canberra: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, 2006.

Figure 3.A conceptual framework for the prevention and management of chronic disease in Tasmania

